

WEST LANCASHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

HELD: 28th April 2010

Commenced: 6 pm

Finished: 7.30 pm

PRESENT:

Andrew Hill	-	WLBC
Bill Taylor	-	WLBC
Dave Tilleray	-	WLBC
Dean Holden	-	Lancashire Constabulary
Ann-Marie Whaley	-	Addaction
Faye Kellett	-	Safer Travel Unit
Steve Mahon	-	WLBC
Jane Cass	-	NHS Central Lancs.
Mel Ormesher	-	LCC
Chris Dennis	-	Chairman Ormskirk LJA
Jane Cass	-	NHS Central Lancs.
Rachel Walker	-	LF&RS
Christine Coleman	-	Edge Hill University
Bruce Jassi	-	Lancashire Police Authority
Gareth Dykes	-	West Lancs. PACT
Dorothy Shields	-	Probation
Louisa Armitage Parkinson	-	WLBC
Helen Slee	-	Victim Support
Mandy Naylor	-	Help Direct
Adrienne Ledson	-	HMCS
Eleanor Maddocks	-	Womens Refuge
Kiran Gill	-	Victim Support
Greg Mitten	-	WLCVS
Una Atherley	-	West Lancs. Area Committee Parish
Mike Lock	-	Lancashire Probation Trust

IN ATTENDANCE:

Cliff Owens	-	WLBC
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1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from:

Cllr Greenall, Janet Tyrer, Gail Stanley, Sam Jones

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING/MATTERS ARISING

The Partnership were advised that the Graffiti Task and Time Group has held an initial meeting to discuss the recording processes for graffiti and measures for tackling the problem. Bill Taylor presented the Partnership with a brief overview of current council policy on this subject and emphasised the importance of reporting graffiti incidents in order for appropriate action to be taken to remove it.

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record.

4. PERFORMANCE MONITORING

The Chair invited partner agencies to provide a verbal overview of their quarterly performance information, which was contained within members meeting packs.

Representatives of Lancashire Constabulary, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Services, the ASB Team, the Councils Environmental Protection Team, Addaction, Lancashire Probation Trust, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Services and the Women's Refuge provided a brief overview of their performance information.

Overall performance was very positive with agencies reporting strong performance across the board. It was highlighted that we have seen an overall reduction in all crime and significantly a -14.8% reduction against serious acquisitive crime.

Bill Taylor stated that he welcomed this positive performance and added his thanks to the Borough Commander for doing an excellent job in bring performance in the Borough back on track. Bruce Jassi supported Bill's comments and also congratulated Dean Holden on the improvements in performance against serious acquisitive crime but cautioned that we must now focus our efforts against further reductions against the All Crime category.

Steve Mahon provided an overview of performance on behalf of the ASB Team and advised partners that the biggest increase was in respect to follow up action in response to proactive policing initiatives. Steve highlighted two specific cases where reports of graffiti were resolved effectively both internally and by working closely with other organisations. Steve reiterated the importance of reporting graffiti to ensure it is dealt with.

Rachel Walker advised the Partnership that Lancashire Fire and Rescue have seen big reductions over the past year against Primary Fires and Secondary Fires and added that there will not be a formal numerical target set for 2010 – 11 for Home Fire Safety Checks. Rachel advised that instead of a target the service would focus on older and vulnerable people and will look to hit a 50% rate in engaging people considered high risk. The CFS team will target rural areas and especially those living alone. F and R will be working with the

Health and Safety Executive and Merseyside F and R to target migrant workers for HFSCs and carbon monoxide detection.

Dorothy Shields provided an overview of the excellent performance for Skelmersdale Probation Office for 2009/10. Dorothy added that the target for Unpaid Work Completion rate has now been hit and has been upgraded to green. Dorothy stated that the only target not hit was General Programme completion adding that this was a result of not enough orders being made.

Andrew Hill provided a brief overview of performance for the Environmental Protection Team. Andrew stated that overall performance for 2009/10 was very good and highlighted the number of prosecutions commenced for Fly Tipping and Proactive Talks to Schools as significant examples of the teams good performance.

Ann Marie Whaley provided the group with an overview of performance for Addaction which was strong against all performance indicators. Eleanor Maddocks gave a brief overview of performance for the IDVA role and highlighted that this was the first year of performance measures for the IDVA and will enable baselines to be set against the indicators for the IDVA service. Eleanor provided a brief overview of an event held for local businesses and employers to encourage them to develop DV policies and link them to their Health and Safety Policy. Eleanor advised the Partnership that an evaluation will be completed in respect to responses gathered from the event and this will be shared with Partners.

5. FUNDED INTERVENTIONS UPDATE

Andrew Hill introduced this agenda item and advised the Partnership that the funding for 2009/10 was fully spent. All funded CSP interventions were completed and contributed to the overall positive performance against the objectives of the Partnership Plan. Andrew provided the Partnership with an overview of the CSP Funding Plan 2010/11 and highlighted that all proposed interventions would contribute towards delivery of the CSP Plan 2010/11 including LAA and national indicators.

The CSP funding plan in the amount of £71,821 was endorsed by the Partnership.

6. DRAFT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP ACTION PLAN REFRESH

Bill Taylor introduced agenda item six and provided a brief overview of the duty to have in place a Community Safety Partnership Plan. Cliff Owens highlighted key changes for the 2010/11-refresh plan and this included Probation becoming a responsible authority with a new duty for CSP's to formulate and implement a strategy to reduce reoffending by adult and young offenders. Cliff also advised that the plan provided details of the requirement for CSP's to develop a set of ASB minimum standards by March 2010 and deliver against those standards and the increasing emphasis on CSP's to develop public confidence within the crime and disorder agenda.

The refreshed West Lancashire Partnership Plan for 2010/11 was endorsed by the Partnership.

7. PROPOSED RESTRUCTURE OF THE SAFER LANCASHIRE BOARD

Bill Taylor provided the Partnership with a verbal report on the proposed restructure of the Safer Lancashire Board. Bill began by providing a background to Partners on how Community Safety Partnerships were initially set up around local authority areas but have since grown with the introduction of other statutory partners such as the PCT and Probation. Bill added that this is not a position that we would have started from and stated that it is recognised that there is a need to streamline decision making at a County level with the current format of elected members and professionals all addressing problems together not being the normal way of doing business.

Bill advised that the Chief Executives of all the key partners had initiated the review process and the initial key recommendations for the Board were:

1. to split the current Safer Lancashire Board into a Board and Executive
2. to consider merger/alignment of the LCJB and Safer Lancashire Executive
3. all current "strategic partnerships" to report into the new Board

Bill added that if proposal number 1 is supported then power will reside with elected members and the board will be able to focus on dealing with operational issues.

Bill advised that the second phase of rationalisation of SLB and CSP structures will be to look at local governance and a number of options will be put forward including a proposal to put CSP's on a BCU footprint. This will include looking at current human resource capacity and financial capacity in 2011/12. The proposed options paper will be sent out for consultation in June 2010 and the consultation period will last for 3 months.

Bill advised the Partnership that we would need to consult with the Divisional Commander on this proposal and look at how effective the strategic merger of Chorley and South Ribble has been. Bill advised the Partnership that we would revisit this proposal when its ready for consultation and this may result in a special meeting of the CSP being called.

Bill added that the proposals to rationalise local CSP structures would offer significant scope to streamline staffing and current structures. Bill stated that although all staff perform an excellent job there might however be smarter ways of working and maybe on a wider footprint.

Bruce Jassi stated that he agreed with phase 1 of the proposal which makes sense to ensure operational issues are progressed more quickly and will allow more time to be devoted to strategy at a County level.

Bruce added that in respect to phase 2, CSP's should remain on their current footprint and stated that there are concerns in respect to the Chorley and South Ribble strategically merged Partnership. Bruce advised the Partnership that he felt that we represent the people of West Lancashire much better in the current set up rather than as a merged CSP. Bruce stated that it is important that we retain a customer-focused view with an emphasis on local service delivery.

Bill advised the Partnership that in future it was likely that organisations central services and back-office services will be run by someone else but added that Councils are keen to maintain their identifies but recognise that staffing structures may change.

Cliff Owens agreed to circulate the consultation papers on rationalisation phase 2 to the Partnership which will begin in June 2010.

8. ASB MINIMUM STANDARDS AND ASB PLEDGE

Andrew Hill provided the Partnership with an update on the requirement for CSP's to develop and deliver ASB minimum standards by March 2010. Andrew advised the Partnership that CSP's were asked by the Home Secretary to commit to a set of minimum standards in tackling anti-social behaviour by 31 March 2010. The Safer Lancashire Board agreed that this should take place at a pan-Lancashire level in order to ensure that the public could access the same minimum level of service regardless of where they live. In support of the requirement to produce a set of minimum standards, Safer Lancashire on behalf of the Safer Lancashire Board has produced an Anti-Social Behaviour Pledge.

Andrew stated that West Lancashire CSP has adopted the pledge and the pledge will be supported by a locally agreed set of minimum standards, which is currently being progressed in collaboration with key partners. Andrew added that we are committed to recognising and tackling all anti-social behaviour with priority being given to vulnerable people, repeat offenders and problem areas. Andrew continued by adding that we are committed to developing a delivery model for processing ASB complaints and identified hot spot locations and this is currently being progressed with key partners.

Bruce Jassi added that allot of good work has been done by colleagues across the county in a very short timescale. Bruce stated that Stuart Williams has done a very good job in leading this process but added that this work now needs to be translated into hard targets and delivery.

Christine Coleman advised the Partnership that the Streetwise Publication would benefit from incorporating ASB minimum standards and pledge into the publication. Andrew Hill agreed that this would a good proposal and will discuss this opportunity further with Christine.

Mel Ormersher advised that the County Wide Officer Working Group has supported Stuart in the development of the pledge and will continue to support

the development and delivery of the pledge, which provides a uniformed approach across the County.

Greg Mitten added that CVS would like to support this work and stated that allot of positive work is being done by organisations such as Help Direct in supporting vulnerable people and helping to raise public confidence on the issue of actual crime and perceived crime.

Mel Ormersher welcomed Greg's support and added that the initial phase focused on front line delivery staff and the second phase will look at contribution and involvement of supporting services.

The Partnership endorsed the adoption of the Countywide ASB Pledge and the proposals for the development of ASB minimum standards.

9. LSP PERFORMANCE REWARD GRANT FOR CCTV

Bill Taylor advised the Partnership that the CSP have successfully bid for and been awarded £380,000 funding for CCTV. Bill stated that the funding was awarded by the LSP from the performance reward grant. Bill continued by explaining that the CCTV System is now 11 years old and the monies will provide a sinking fund to enable the long term sustainability of the scheme by replacing cameras which are beyond economic repair and updating the current technology to improve performance. Bill added that an element of the funding would also be used to relocate the suite from Westec House, with Ormskirk Police Station being currently looked at as a potential option. Bill thanked the LSP and Cllr Grant for approving the bid.

10. FACE THE PEOPLE EVENT - EVALUATION

Andrew Hill provided the Partnership with a verbal report on the West Lancashire CSP Face the People Event, which was held on the 10th March 2010 at Edge Hill University. Andrew advised the Partnership that the evaluation, which was enclosed within Partners meeting packs, demonstrated that the event was a real success and well received by all attendees. Andrew advised that approximately 180 people attended the event that was significantly better than the other CSP's within our area that only attracted 3 attendees between them.

Gareth Dykes advised the Partnership that he felt it was a tremendous event and added that the evaluation is one of the best he has seen. Gareth stated that the stalls were an excellent idea and recommended expanding this feature at future events to include more agencies.

Bill Taylor stated that although the event was successful he would of liked to see more sparks with respect to the level of debate. Bill added that it was however a very successful event and thanked Christine Coleman for hosting the event at Edge Hill University. Bill continued by stating that he felt the input of the students was excellent and they proved to be very good ambassadors for the University.

11. WLBC OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROTOCOL FOR CRIME AND DISORDER

Dave Tilleray provided the Partnership with a verbal briefing on the Borough Councils Overview and Scrutiny Protocol which has been developed in accordance with Part 3 of the Police and Justice Act 2006. Dave advised Partners that the Act requires every local authority to have a crime and disorder committee with the power to review or scrutinise decisions made or other action taken in connection with the discharge by responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions. The Council has a duty to carry out this function at least once a year in order to fulfil the Councils Statutory responsibility. Dave advised the CSP that a special meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee was held on the 4th March 2010 to fulfil this responsibility.

Dave continued by providing an overview of the protocol that was contained in members meeting packs and can be made available on request.

12. SAFE AND CONFIDENT NEIGHBOURHOODS STRATEGY

Dave Tilleray presented the CSP with a verbal report on the Safe and Confident Neighbourhoods Strategy. A written report was provided in the meeting pack to advise member of this new national strategy from the Home Office / Department for Communities and Local Government.

Dave advised the Partnership that the strategy is the first cross-Government and agency vision for delivering safe and confident neighbourhoods and builds upon the success of neighbourhood policing. Dave advised that the strategy seeks to embed this work into the wider partnership context and critically recognises that keeping neighbourhoods safe and confident is not the responsibility of one agency alone.

Dave concluded with an overview of the financial implications of this strategy and he specifically advised the Partnership that there was very little money available to enable Partnerships to deliver against this strategy. Dave added that a significant amount of funding was initially provided to pathfinder areas but cautioned that no new money is available and added that it will be interesting to see how we will be expected to deliver this strategy.

Greg Mitten advised the Partnership that chapter 3 of the strategy was of particular interest to CVS and added that funding may be available to the third sector. Greg continued that he would welcome the opportunity to work alongside agencies and strengthen the role of CVS on the Partnership.

A discussion on future funding was held by partners with Bruce Jassi stating that the Chief Constable was committed to future funding for PCSO's and added that Local Authorities have also continued to commit matched funding for PCSO's. Bill Taylor stated that post election will see more clarity on bridging the gap and emphasised that if Neighbourhood Policing is the priority then what is the bottom priority.

13. CONFIDENCE PROJECT UPDATE

Dean Holden provided the Partnership with an update on the Confidence Project that is being lead by Lancashire Constabulary. Dean explained to the Partnership that we are now one year into the single top down confidence target and that Lancashire Constabulary is well positioned to achieve the three-year aims.

Dean continued by providing the Partnership with an overview of the force wide, partnership led 'confidence' operation this summer which will focus on six strands:-

- LCJB – Lancashire Criminal Justice Board
- VP – Vulnerable People
- A&V – Access and Vulnerability
- QoL – Quality of life issues
- RS – Road safety
- ASB – Anti social behaviour

Dean advised the Partnership that the British Crime Survey measures 'confidence' once a year and added that Lancashire Constabulary carry out a confidence survey once a month to keep track of performance. Dean stated that we would soon be able to identify cold spots for public confidence at a geographical level, which will enable the Partnership to address the concerns of communities with low confidence.

Dean continued by stating that the Local Priorities Group will be mechanism for delivery against the confidence agenda within the Borough.

Bruce Jassi advised the Partnership that the Police Authority are keen to ensure data on low confidence areas is shared with partners and added that Lancashire is currently performing very well against the target and might hit the 2012 target one year early.

Bill Taylor stated that he is passionate about supporting the role of Cllrs as community champions and is particularly interested in hearing their feedback on local community confidence issues.

14. THE ROLE OF CSP's IN REDUCING REOFFENDING

Mike Lock provided the CSP with a verbal briefing in respect to two reports that were contained within the meeting pack. The first report covered the subject of reducing reoffending and provides an overview of the guidance on New Duties for CSP's. The new duties of the Police and Crime Act 2009 became effective on the 1st April 2010 and include:

- A new duty for CDRP's / CSP's to formulate and implement a strategy to reduce reoffending by adult and young offenders alongside their existing duties to reduce crime.

- Probation will become the sixth responsible body of a CSP having previously been a co-operative body.
- Bodies listed under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 will have a duty to ensure the process of reducing reoffending is incorporated into their core activities (this extends the current duty to exercise their functions with due regard to the likely effect on, and the need to do all they can reasonably do to prevent crime and disorder, anti social behaviour and substance misuse in their area).

The following recommendations put forward for the partner's consideration were supported by the CSP.

- To formulate and implement a strategy to reduce reoffending by adult and young offenders. Work will need to be progressed to deliver tangible outcomes which are relevant to locality needs and partners.
- To consider the implications of the new duty placed on responsible authorities to reduce reoffending.

Mike continued by providing an overview of the second briefing document on the Lancashire Integrated Offender Management Strategy (IOM). The following recommendations put forward for the Partners consideration were supported by the CSP.

- To note and agree the content and recommendations of this report.
- Establish a South Lancashire IOM management Board which would govern the partnership's PPO scheme and IOM arrangements.
- Develop arrangements for partner co-located working and offender management and interventions services at Lancashire Probation Trust, Chorley and Skelmersdale office premises.

15. CONSULTATION ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

Louisa Armitage-Parkinson provided the Partnership with a verbal report on the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy, which is available from: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/vawg-strategy-2009>. Louisa gave a brief overview of the 3 key strands which focus on Protection, Provision and Prevention. Louisa continued by stating that the document seeks to encourage work with local partners to encourage a co-ordinated approach to VAWG services in Local Area Agreements (LAA) areas to encourage them to have a locally driven VAWG strategy in place for April 2011.

Louisa continued by providing the background on the proposed delivery model and the implications for key partners who will continue to have the main responsibility for local services and commissioning. Louisa also emphasised the proposal for every Local Authority to have a coordinated VAWG strategy with a director level champion working across partnership structures in each area.

Louisa provided the Partnership with an overview of the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) and the role of the Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA's) in relation to the VAWG strategy.

Bill thanked Louisa for a comprehensive overview of the VAWG strategy and requested Partners take note of this briefing.

16. COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

Dean Holden reminded partners that the next quarter would bring challenges to services with the World Cup event being held. Dean requested partners notify him of any other scheduled events during this period to ensure they can be included in the strategy, which has been developed by the constabulary to manage this key period.

Andrew Hill advised the Partnership that the West Lancashire Multi Agency Licensing and Tasking (MALT) Group has scheduled a special meeting to discuss its finalised actions for managing the World Cup period. Jane Cass offered the PCT's support to this group and its planned activity.

Eleanor Maddocks requested the Partnerships support in identifying a Portuguese translator to support a client of the refuge. Greg Mitten agreed on behalf of CVS to provide support.

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on the 14th July 2010 at 6pm in the Council Chamber, 52 Derby Street. A buffet will be available from 5.30 pm.