

WEST LANCASHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

HELD: 14th July 2010

Commenced: 6 pm

Finished: 7.40 pm

PRESENT:

| | | |
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| Andrew Hill | - | WLBC |
| William J Taylor MBE | - | Chairman, WLBC |
| Dean Holden | - | Lancashire Constabulary |
| Tina Campbell | - | Addaction |
| Steve Mahon | - | WLBC |
| Mel Ormesher | - | LCC |
| Chris Dennis | - | Chairman Ormskirk LJA |
| Mary Lyon | - | NHS Central Lancs. |
| Steve Wilson | - | LF&RS |
| Stuart Williams | - | Lancashire Constabulary |
| William Cropper | - | Lancashire Police Authority |
| Gareth Dykes | - | West Lancs. PACT |
| Louisa Armitage Parkinson | - | WLBC |
| Helen Slee | - | Victim Support |
| Mandy Naylor | - | Help Direct |
| Adrienne Ledson | - | HMCS |
| Eleanor Maddocks | - | Womens Refuge |
| John Fleet | - | Tenant Forum |
| Cllr Nolan | - | WLBC (observer) |
| County Cllr Aldridge | - | LCC |
| Mike Lock | - | Lancashire Probation Trust |
| | - | Probation |

IN ATTENDANCE:

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| Cliff Owens | - | WLBC |
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1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting. He advised the Partnership that there had been a technical problem and therefore we were unable to view the DVD, which was produced by West Lancashire Women's Refuge. The Chairman advised that an alternative arrangement would be made to ensure partners were given the opportunity to view the DVD which was produced to commemorate 25 years of working in West Lancashire by the Women's Refuge and to raise awareness of the issues and impact of DV. Cliff Owens agreed to liaise with Eleanor to agree arrangements for the screening of the DVD.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from:

Cllr Greenall, Janet Tyrer, Gail Stanley, Sam Jones, Greg Mitten, Una Atherley, Bruce Jassi, Dave Tilleray, Christine Coleman, Faye Kellett, Colin Buckley, Sheila Battersby

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING/MATTERS ARISING

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

4. PERFORMANCE MONITORING

The Chairman 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 Fire and Rescue Services provided a brief overview of their performance information.

Dean Holden advised the Partnership that we have had a very good 1st quarter with improvements shown in all categories with the exception of serious violent crime, which has seen a slight increase. Dean added that for the category of Assault with Less Serious Injuries we have seen a slight reduction. No specific patterns have been identified but much of the recorded crime for this category is attributed to domestic violence and is alcohol related. Dean added that the Constabulary are in the process of refreshing the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy and there is further intensive work being undertaken in the Digmaor area. Dean advised partners that the detection rate is currently the highest in the County.

Dean cautioned that there would be challenges over the next quarter period as the comparative performance period in 2009 was very good. Dean added that Operation Julius would not be running this summer but stated that projections show that we should be on track to meet our targets.

Dean advised the Partnership that he has included performance figures for ASB in the performance information provided in the meeting pack and they show some excellent reductions during the 1st quarter period. Dean added that work is ongoing and progressing positively in respect in developing data sharing arrangements with partners on ASB and stated that operation catchpole will continue to be run periodically.

The Chairman stated that he welcomed this first class performance and added his thanks on behalf of the CSP to the Borough Commander for his excellent leadership. William Cropper on behalf of the Police Authority endorsed Bill's comments.

Steve Mahon provided an overview of performance on behalf of the ASB Team. Steve advised partners that the ASB Team have seen an increase in criminal activity, which is reflected in the performance figures but added that enforcement work has been undertaken in partnership with the police. Steve highlighted cases concerning illegal dogs and the links to drugs and weapons, which have been seized in ongoing operations. Steve added that the ASB Team continue to attend police tasking and added that partnership working

remains strong with some very positive outcomes related to joint attendance for gathering evidence at crime scenes, which saves both time and resources.

The Chairman welcomed this positive partnership approach and added that it was essential that we maximise the publicity of these outcomes to demonstrate value for money to our community. Stuart Williams advised the Partnership that Lancashire Constabulary has just trained up 3 dog officers in identification techniques on illegal dogs. Stuart added that this is a complex issue but added that the officers have received training from veterinary experts. Steve continued to provide an overview of the performance figures stating that the team are undertaking proactive work with the crisis centre for young people to educate them on how to be good citizens and tenants.

Mike Lock provided an overview of the excellent performance for Skelmersdale Probation Office, which is showing green in all categories with the exception of the category for General Programme completions.

Councillor Nolan raised an issue regarding the development of community payback work in the local community and added that there are opportunities for the community payback team to undertake projects, which would be supported by the community. Mike Lock agreed to speak to Councillor Nolan regarding this issue and added that the Probation Service are keen to develop partnership working with local authorities and evidence of this work is ongoing.

Andrew Hill provided a brief overview of performance for the Environmental Protection Team. Andrew stated that overall performance for the 1st quarter period was very positive and added that the team are now using more formal cautions for minor first offences which is in line with Government policy.

Tina Campbell provided the group with an overview of performance for Addaction. Tina advised that they have seen a drop in numbers for the indicator of total number seen at point of arrest. Tina added this is also reflected in other areas and this will also have an impact on the number of clients choosing to engage in treatment.

Steve Wilson provided an update on performance on behalf of Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service. Steve added that performance overall continues to be very good but highlighted two minor blips in performance against deliberate primary fires and deliberate secondary fires. Steve added that these could be linked to ASB in Skelmersdale and the introduction of the wheelie bins which has led to a slight increase against this category. Steve added that the service with partners are continuing to engage and educate the community on fire prevention and are currently targeting the Digmoor area. Steve added that particular problems for the service emanated from the Owl and Pussycat but added that this building has now been secured.

Steve advised that partnership that there has been an excellent example of how smoke alarms and fire education advice can save lives following a very serious house fire in Skelmersdale. Steve advised that the tenants had previously had smoke detectors fitted and followed the advice they had been given from the service and exited the property after the alarm had been raised

with no injuries. The Partnership welcomed this positive news and added that this was an opportunity for some very positive publicity.

County Councillor Aldridge praised the work of the Lancashire Fire and Rescue and highlighted their tremendous achievements in turning around performance in the Dignum ward.

5. FUNDED INTERVENTIONS UPDATE

The Chairman introduced this agenda item informing the Partnership that potentially we might see a 9.4% claw back of the ABG allocation of £71,821. The spending plan was endorsed by the Partnership at the April meeting. Bill added that this would be debated at the next meeting of the Safer Lancashire Board.

Andrew Hill advised the Partnership that the funding interventions update was contained within the meeting pack. Andrew added that approximately £10,000 of the £18,000 allocated to the Local Priorities Group has been committed. The remaining monies will enable the Partnership to cover any claw back and added that it would however be prudent to review current committed funding.

A discussion arose with respect to how the funding allocated to the Local Priorities Group was used. Dean Holden provided examples of how this funding has contributed to positive partnership performance against a range of the performance indicators contained within the Community Safety Partnership Plan.

6. PROPOSED RESTRUCTURE OF THE SAFER LANCASHIRE BOARD

The Chairman advised the Partnership that Phase 1, which proposed the separation of the Safer Lancashire Board into a Board and Executive Group, was rejected. He continued 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. He 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 consider rationalising the current structure.

The Chairman advised that the second phase of rationalisation of CSP structures will be to look at local governance and a number of options will be put forward in a first draft report to the Chief Executives Group. Questions that will be debated would include ‘would you like your own CSP or an amalgamated CSP?’ Bill continued by stating that other questions would have to be considered such as investment in CSP’s against investment in PCSO’s. He advised the Partnership that we would revisit this proposal when it’s ready for consultation and added that no changes will take place to the current structure without the approval of the Community Safety Partnership. Bill added that firm proposals would be considered at the next CSP meeting in October 2010.

7. PUBLIC SECTOR SPENDING

The Chairman advised the Partnership that we have already had two significant statements from the Government in relation to public sector spending. Bill highlighted these statements as being the mini budget and the statement from the chancellor regarding the saving of £6 billion pounds from the public sector. He added that we will have a comprehensive spending review in the October budget and billions will be cut from almost every government department shaping everything we do in future.

The Chairman further commented that public sector services need to continue to focus on reducing back office functions and focus on front office functions which will give efficiency savings more impact. He added that savings can be made on procurement and management etc, but added as an example that front line policing costs what it costs and reductions will impact on service delivery.

The Chairman continued by stating that we must be honest about the impact of taking billions out of public sector finances and focus on what the most important priorities are. He added that we must also identify what efficiency steps we can take to streamline organisations further. He stated that at the Council meeting in December we will have a better understanding of the reductions that we receive to our revenue support grant which will have a massive impact but added that it is better to discuss these issues now and plan ahead. The Chairman continued by adding that we are currently in a better position compared with some authorities, as we have been less reliant on external funding streams, which have been withdrawn. An example of the impact of this is the reduction in PCSO posts in some areas which was an issue of concern raised by County Cllr Aldridge. The Chairman added that the issue of funding for PCSO's was an important one, which should be discussed at a pan Lancashire level.

The Chairman stated that before decisions are made on reductions against community safety they should be first debated within the Partnership meeting and the council clearly informed on the function and impact of community safety. He added that Public Sector Spending should remain as a standing item on the CSP agenda.

Stuart Williams advised the Partnership that the Police and Police Authority are looking at current options along with other statutory partners. Stewart added that they are taking decisions very seriously and informed the Partnership that there is a schedule of meetings arranged between now and October to prepare for the Comprehensive Spending Review.

8. LSP PERFORMANCE REWARD GRANT FOR CCTV

The Chairman reminded the Partnership that the West Lancashire LSP had previously approved a funding bid for the strengthening of CCTV provision in West Lancashire. The LSP awarded funding from the performance reward grant monies in the amount of £380,000. He stated that the funding to the LSP has now been reduced by the government by 50% and funding bids will now be reconsidered at the LSP meeting which will take place on the 16th July

2010. He advised that Andrew Hill would deputise for him at the LSP in respect to the bid.

Andrew advised that the LSP funding is still likely to be split evenly between revenue and capital and if we received the full capital allocation from this remaining funding we will still be in a position to proceed with a scaled down version of the CCTV project.

The Chairman 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.

9. CONFIDENCE CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Dean provided 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 continued by advising the Partnership that although the single top down measure for confidence has now been withdrawn the philosophy is still relevant but cautioned there will be less resource support from the centre.

Dean advised that although the scheme would be Borough wide there would be significant targeting of cold spot areas and Tanhouse was identified as the priority area. The Partnership debated the level of focus for the Tanhouse area and the question was raised following an article in the local press of why there would be so much activity in this area as opposed to other parts of the Borough.

Mel Ormesher advised the Partnership that the advertisement in the local press was commissioned by the Safer Stronger Neighbourhood Board and was focused on the Your Community Matter activities, which were planned to take place before the Confidence Campaign was launched. Mel added that the Board and Neighbourhood Manger have incorporated the positive messages from the Confidence Campaign into the Your Community Matters event.

10. FRESHERS WEEK MULTI AGENCY PLANNING

The Chairman introduced this agenda item stating that the multi-agency Freshers week campaign led by the CSP had been a stunning success last year. He added that the campaign was well received by the local community and supported by all local key agencies.

Andrew Hill advised that the campaign will be replicated this year and rolled out again in September during Freshers week with the support of Edge Hill University. Andrew continued by providing an overview of the planned campaign and added that a multi-agency meeting will take place in the near future to agree the final action plan.

Councillor Cropper stated that this is a brilliant example of multi-agency working and the Chairman added that he was particularly delighted by the input from Edge Hill's Student Union.

11. STREET PASTORS SCHEME FOR ORMSKIRK TOWN CENTRE

Dave Mutch provided the Partnership with a verbal presentation on the proposal to develop a Street Pastor Scheme for Ormskirk Town Centre. Dave advised that the Street Pastor Scheme was first developed in 2003 in response to community concerns with the nighttime economy in London. Dave added that this initiative has now spread nationally with over 500 volunteers operating within the Street Pastor Scheme.

Dave stated that the scheme is managed on a tripartite structure involving Local Authority and Police and the scheme falls under the national umbrella of the Ascension Trust with each scheme operating independently.

Dave stated that a local committee has been formed in Ormskirk and they hope to officially launch it in September 2010 and roll out operationally in January 2011. Dave stated that the roll of the street pastors is to engage with people in the night time economy and provide a caring, listening, calming influence and generally get people home safely. He added that although the scheme is run by the faith sector they are not there to preach to people but to support vulnerable people who use the nighttime economy.

The scheme was endorsed by Stuart Williams who stated that it is a good scheme, which provides a further layer of support and engagement on the street and is both a timely and dynamic resource. The Chairman thanked Dave for the presentation and added that he was very interested in feedback from the scheme with regards to their views on the Ormskirk nighttime economy.

12. DOMESTIC ABUSE REFERRALS

Louisa Armitage-Parkinson introduced this agenda item. Lou advised that at the last Safer Lancashire Board meeting on 28 May a discussion took place regarding the low level of Domestic Abuse Referrals that DV partner organisations were receiving from community safety partners, other than the constabulary. The Board recommended that all partners at each of the CSPs should aim to identify and train a named individual to act as a DV and MARAC lead person and have requested that this be discussed at each of the CSPs.

Louisa provided the Partnership with an overview of the current arrangements and training undertaken to support MARAC referrals. Louisa added that she would lead on this agenda item to ensure we have this discussion with as wide a range of partners as possible.

More information about the LDVP and contact information can be found at: <http://www.saferlancashire.co.uk/domesticViolence/partnership/>

13. DOMESTIC ABUSE WORLD CUP AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Andrew Hill advised the Partnership that a successful campaign to raise awareness of domestic abuse had been run during the World Cup Campaign. Andrew advised that during the 2006 world cup there was a recorded 30% increase in domestic violence cases with one third being linked to alcohol.

The Local Priorities Group on behalf of the CSP had allocated £1,800 in funding towards the project, which was run by the Councils Domestic Violence Coordinator. The campaign involved the development of a range of media, which was disseminated amongst partner agencies and displayed and promoted at key locations both across the Borough and in partnership with Chorley and South Ribble. Early indications show that the campaign was successful but further evaluation of the number of DV incidents recorded during the campaign period by partners will be undertaken.

Eleanor Maddocks advised that the campaign was well received and added that Skelmersdale Football club were keen to continue to promote the message if further marketing materials could be obtained.

14. COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

John Fleet raised an issue with respect to the amount of cars being sold on grass verges throughout Skelmersdale and asked the question of whether this could be linked to increase levels of ASB. The Chairman requested that Andrew Hill raise this issue with the LCC Community Safety Partnership Officer.

Mike Lock provided the CSP with an update on progress on the reoffending agenda and the implementation of Integrated Offender Management (IOM) in Southern Division.

Mike reminded partners that at the previous CSP meeting he provided a briefing in respect to two reports which covered the subject of reducing reoffending and guidance on New Duties for CSP's. The following recommendations had been supported by the CSP.

- To formulate and implement a strategy to reduce reoffending by adult and young offenders.
- To consider the implications of the new duty placed on responsible authorities to reduce reoffending.

Mike continued by stating that the Board has now been established and covers the South Lancashire area and Mike added that he is currently chairing this group. Mike added that in response to the assessment of our progress towards the implementation of IOM we are now developing an implementation plan.

Mike provided a brief overview of progress towards the development of the Southern Division Reoffending Strategy and added that the de-selection and selection criteria are currently being looked at in detail for cohorts. Mike continued by stating that cross border offending issues are also being included within the development of IOM as well as developing a robust performance framework.

Mike advised that the roles of MAPS Team are also being reviewed in relation to IOM and added that collocation across Southern Division is fairly well embedded. Mike added that they are looking at a collocated strategic team with representatives from the Police, Probation and substance misuse services. Mike continued by stating that a way forward has been agreed with the constabulary and added that this would involve mainstream resources.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Adrienne Ledson advised the Partnership that HMCS have published a national consultation paper with a focus on estates and court structures in reference to the current public sector spending reviews. Adrienne advised that there are no proposals that directly affect West Lancashire and added that the consultation period runs to the 15th September 2010. Hard copies of the consultation document can be downloaded at <http://www.justice.gov.uk/news/announcement230610a.htm> - [Google Search](#)

Eleanor Maddocks advised the Partnership that Supporting People are looking at a potential range of funding cuts and added that any support partners could offer would be appreciated. The Chairman stated that Domestic Violence remains an area of priority and added that the Partnership could lobby on behalf of the refuge if cuts are likely to reduce the effectiveness of the service. He asked that Eleanor send details of the impact of proposed cuts to Andrew Hill.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on the 13th October 2010 at 6pm in the Council Chamber, 52 Derby Street. A buffet will be available from 5.30 pm.