

WEST LANCASHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

HELD: 12th October 2011

Commenced: 6.00 pm

Finished: 7.45 pm

PRESENT:

Andrew Hill	-	WLBC
David Tilleray	-	Chairman WLBC
Stuart Williams	-	Lancashire Constabulary
Geoff Hurst	-	Lancashire Constabulary
Steve Mahon	-	WLBC
Mel Ormesher	-	LCC
Mary Lyons	-	NHS Central Lancs.
Anthony Hewit	-	LF&RS
Dorothy Shields	-	Probation
John Fleet	-	Community Member
Roger Merry	-	Ormskirk Bench
Cllr Ashcroft	-	WLBC
Cllr Hopley	-	WLBC
Jill Bradley	-	West Lancashire CVS
David Johnnie	-	Trading Standards
Cllr Atherley	-	WLBC
Anita Gibson	-	LDDAT
Mike Przybysz	-	LCC
William Cropper	-	Lancashire Police Authority
Jill Bradley	-	CVS
Sue Hogan	-	YPS
Gareth Dykes	-	WL PACT
Cllr Aldridge	-	LCC
Steve Wilson	-	LF&RS
David Gallagher	-	Aughton Parish Council
Teresa Fox	-	YPS

IN ATTENDANCE:

Cliff Owens	-	WLBC
Cllr Nolan	-	WLBC

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman welcomed colleagues to the meeting

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from:

Bruce Jassi, Greg Mitten, Christine Coleman, Louisa Armitage-Parkinson, Mike Lock, Shirley Johnson, Eleanor Maddocks, Faye Kellet, Paul Malone

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING/MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record with the following amendment. William Cropper advised that he attended the information exchange at the beginning of the previous CSP meeting on the proposed closure of police stations.

4. SAFER LANCASHIRE BOARD AND LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Andrew Hill provided the group with an update from the most recent meeting of the West Lancashire LSP. Andrew advised that the key message from the LSP is that good work is being done but there is a real need to market their achievements better. All of the major projects commissioned were discussed including CCTV. Andrew advised that the Chairman of the LSP announced that £190,000 in funding is available and bids will be discussed in the January 2012 meeting. For further information colleagues should contact the LSP secretariat, Cath McNamara.

5. PERFORMANCE MONITORING

The Chairman invited partner agencies to provide a verbal overview of their quarterly performance.

Geoff Hurst provided a detailed overview of the Police performance figures against agreed targets and advised that there has been a recorded increase against the category serious acquisitive crime. This has included an increased recording of incidents against burglary none dwellings, metal thefts and shoplifting offences. Geoff advised that significant increases in SAC occurred during the period of national civil unrest when resources were stretched.

Geoff reassured the CSP that there are progressive discussions taking place with the management of ASDA in Skelmersdale to establish a Policing base within the store to help address the significant increase in shoplifting. Ongoing discussions with the management of the Concourse for investment in policing resources are also continuing.

Geoff advised that of the 97 Serious Acquisitive Crimes committed, 60 were committed by two brothers over a very short period of time and both of whom are now in the criminal justice system. Geoff added that quarter 2 was always going to be a challenging quarter compared with excellent figures from the same quarter 2010. Geoff stated that early indications are that performance is improving in quarter 3.

Geoff continued by advising the CSP that there have been good reductions against violence with injury and continued excellent performance against reductions in criminal damage and anti-social behaviour. Geoff reported significant improvements in detections figures for domestic violence offences which now stand at 70%. Geoff advised the partnership that there were good opportunities for reductions against crime categories in quarter 3 and provided

an overview of planned activity and funding resources which have been committed by the CSP.

Discussion took place on the role of CCTV in preventing shoplifting offences. The Chief Inspector advised that CCTV is an invaluable asset and proves a real deterrent in the Town Centre and helps deter offences and secure prosecutions.

Councillor Ashcroft thanked the Chief Inspector for the work carried out by Lancashire Constabulary in response to the potential demonstrations in Banks and added it was reassuring for the local community to see so many police officers in the area. Councillor Ashcroft advised the CSP that investment in CCTV in the Northern Parish areas would be a valuable asset, adding that even a standalone system monitoring local shopping areas would be valued.

Councillor Ashcroft continued by stating that more work should be done through the CSP to prevent the theft of metals adding that dealing for metal for cash should be stopped, with only authorised dealers using auditable accounts should be allowed to trade. Geoff responded that anything we can do to reduce the volume of crimes would be welcomed and continued by providing an overview of the current measures undertaken by Lancashire Constabulary to counteract this threat.

Councillor Cropper raised for discussion a recent incident in Scarisbrick involving 3 vehicles being broken into and asked how this type of incident can be dealt with within the current response policy. Geoff advised that the incidents were a result of crimes committed by cross border offenders who were pursued by the crime car. Geoff continued by adding that the police have in place an immediate response policy and numerous resources including a target team and CID. Geoff added that although we have Neighbourhood policing in place these types of incidents need a more appropriate response and the police have a host of resources to call upon.

Steve Mahon provided the Partnership with an overview of current performance on behalf of the ASB Team. Steve advised that the second quarter had seen 16 new referrals to the ASB Team. These cases were divided between the three new categories for reporting ASB with 6 assigned to personal, 8 to nuisance and 2 were environmental cases.

Steve provided the Partnership with an overview of the illegal use of properties being used for growing cannabis. Steve advised that the Local Priorities Group have agreed to establish a Task and Time Group to look at this issue in more detail from a multi-agency perspective. Steve added that he would report back at the next CSP on progress from this group.

Steve Wilson provided the Partnership with an overview of performance for the second quarter on behalf of Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service. Steve referred partners to the performance information enclosed within the meeting packs which demonstrated that all directions of travel for West Lancashire are showing significant reductions against all reporting criteria for the quarter. Steve added that West Lancashire is currently producing some of the best

performance within the area of Lancashire with many initiatives developed locally now recognised as examples of best practice.

Councillor Aldridge applauded the work of LF&RS and particular their engagement with local communities. The issue of wheelie bin fires was raised and Steve advised that through positive partnership working this issue hasn't transpired to be a major threat and the model of excellence developed locally through partnership working is being looked at by other authorities including Manchester. Councillor Ashcroft in his capacity as Chairman of the Community Cohesion group thanked Steve for the work undertaken in Skelmersdale and the progress made.

The Chairman of the CSP thanked Steve for the excellent performance from LF&RS and for the comments submitted by John Buck.

Dorothy Shields provided the Partnership with an overview of the performance information submitted by Lancashire Probation Service. Dorothy stated that NI 30 (PPO's) continues to show good performance with 54.3% decrease in reoffending. West Lancashire has an adult reoffending rate of 6.0% compare with 11.31% in Lancashire. Dorothy continued by adding that the adult reoffending rate is also one of the best in the County and she continued by providing an overview of performance information and an update against community payback work undertaken locally.

Anita Gibson provided the CSP with an update on behalf of the Lancashire Drug and Alcohol Team. Anita updated the Partnership on progress made during the first year of the new contract with Discover Services. Anita added that although the contract is now running smoothly there is a need to drive a lot more referrals through to drug services and welcomed partners ideas and support in developing local referral pathways. Anita referred partners to the enclosed exceptions summary contained within the LDAAT performance report.

Sue Hogan provided an overview of key performance issues on behalf of Young Peoples Services. Sue provided an overview of the NEET figures adding that the figures showed a significant reduction. Sue cautioned that we have seen significant reductions to staff in West Lancashire with further reductions planned. Sue provided an overview of the partnership working currently being undertaken with LF&RS for Brightsparx.

Louisa Armitage-Parkinson provided an overview of the IDVA performance information stating that the case load is currently right for one full time worker. Louisa added that the feedback on the service is overwhelmingly positive and the role of the IDVA is recognised as a key part of service delivery in response to domestic violence.

Teresa Fox provided an overview of the performance for the Youth Offending Team. Teresa stated that youth crime is lower nationally and across Lancashire. Teresa stated that in West Lancashire young people generally responded well as first time entrants into the criminal justice system. The few that do reoffend have a tendency to commit higher levels of crime. Teresa added that the YOT Team are working closely with the police in the

development of the Revolution service but cautioned that the YOT will acutely feel the cost of the reductions in YPS as they have historically worked very closely.

David Tilleray, Chairman of the CSP thanked all partners for the updates and continued good work.

6. FUNDED INTERVENTIONS UPDATE AND QUARTER TWO PROGRESS REPORT

Andrew advised the Partnership that a written progress report for funded interventions for quarter two was enclosed in members meeting packs. Andrew confirmed that all interventions are currently on track. Andrew reported on the success of the community Beatsweep intervention that was run by the CSP in partnership with the TMD Board and delivered in Digmaor, Tanouse and Moorside. The Beatsweep had excellent community participation and was supported by a host of partnership agencies. Andrew advised that the next Beatsweep is scheduled for October 2011 and will be delivered in Little Digmaor and again in partnership with local community groups.

7. FRESHERS WEEK

Andrew advised the group that having gathered the information back from partner agencies against agreed actions over Freshers Week it can be viewed as a success. Andrew added however that whilst Freshers Week itself is evidenced as being successful, there appears to be some growing evidence that the week following Freshers Week is potentially witnessing minor anti-social behaviour issues on the red routes back to the University, that are impacting on the quality of life of local residents.

Andrew stated that this will be considered as part of the evaluation process and in informing future planning but added that funding reductions to the CSP may impact on future provision.

The Chairman added that feedback against the planned Freshers Week activities has been very positive and thanked partner agencies and voluntary groups including the Street Pastors for their support.

8. BRIGHTSPARX

Steve Wilson provided the CSP with an overview of the plans for this years Go For It event which will be over the 3rd, 4th and 5th of November.

The run up to the event will be supported by LF&RS crews undertaking environmental audits and providing key messages around fire safety during the period and these will be delivered to schools throughout West Lancashire.

The Little Digmaor Beatsweep initiative will also be supported by LF&RS and the planned removal of significant amounts of detritus will support LF&RS outcomes and provide excellent opportunities for community engagement.

The event will be supported by the Young Peoples Services Team and Lancashire Constabulary who will have an enhanced presence during this period.

9. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ISSUES

DV Task and Time Group

Andrew provided the CSP with an update on progress for the Domestic Violence Task and Time Group. Andrew advised that the group was set up in response to an increase in domestic violence incidents reported at the LPG. The group has a specific focus on Digmoor with the objective of broadening outcomes where possible. Andrew stated that to date the group has met five times and has had success in engaging the local University and College. The group continues to engage some of the big employers in Skelmersdale and has received an excellent response from the local employer 'Walkers' with ongoing discussions with other big employers.

Louisa advised that Freshers Week provided an opportunity to engage over 100 students with a short survey which provided evidence that a large proportion of young people have either been the victim of DV or know someone who has been a victim. Lou added that publicity information has been widely distributed and thanked the police and Street Pastors for their support. Lou provided the CSP with details of the upcoming Health Network event which will have a focus on domestic violence and is being run in conjunction with CVS and West Lancashire Domestic Violence Services.

10. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONERS

David Tilleray, CSP Chairman, delivered a brief presentation to the partnership on the role of the Police and Crime Commissioners. The Chairman advised the CSP that the presentation was based upon the presentation delivered at the Safer Lancashire Board. The Chairman advised that a copy of the presentation would be sent out with the minutes (attached).

Mel Ormesher advised the CSP that with the introduction of the Police and Crime Commissioner funding streams that previously supported CSP work would be redirected to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Stuart Williams provided the group with advice gained from his experience as a previous Chairman and deputy Chairman of the Chorley / South Ribble CSP, which operates on a service level agreement. Stuart cautioned that one size does not fit all and added that each area will have to establish what works for them. Stuart recommended that it would benefit West Lancashire CSP to continue to operate within its current structure and develop relationships that best benefit West Lancashire. Stuart added that there are different demographics across Lancashire and different ways of working and we should keep this theme moving forward.

A number of questions were raised on who could apply for the role of the elected police and crime commissioner. The Chairman provided responses

and added that the guidance which has been developed by Lancashire Police Authority will be distributed with the minutes.

11. STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Cliff Owens provided the Partnership with an overview of the process for the development of this years Strategic Assessment. Cliff advised that contained within the meeting packs was a Gantt chart produced by the CSP analyst for this years Strategic Assessment. Cliff proceeded by providing a summary of this process to date.

- On the 14th September I wrote to partners requesting their assistance with answering key critical questions in support of this years strategic assessment.
- The answers to the critical questions were developed to help inform the development of the West Lancashire Strategic Assessment. To date we have received a good response to the questions
- The next stage will be for the partnership analyst to identify where the gaps are in knowledge and further research will be undertaken to help fill those gaps
- A series of meetings will then be arranged by the CSP team with relevant partners - with the aim of filling in the perceived gaps in knowledge.
- A Priority Matrix will then be completed and circulated to partners for their comments and input.
- Themed leads will then meet to discuss the scores and supporting evidence and assess if the priorities and scores accurately reflect their area of business.
- The final draft Strategic Assessment will be produced by the 19th December and will be submitted to the CSP at the January meeting for comments and endorsement.

12. CHILDRENS TRUST AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP LDDAT FUNDING

Cliff stated that partners will recall discussion at the last CSP meeting regarding the decision to set up a joint commissioning group of CSP and Children's Trust representatives. The aim of the group was to develop a mechanism for commissioning funding received from the Lancashire Drug and Alcohol Action Team. The funding is to support local commissioning against a number of outcomes. Example of the outcomes include: -

- Providing good quality education and advice so that young people and their parents to actively resist substance misuse

- Intervene early with young people and young adults
- Break intergenerational paths to dependency by supporting vulnerable families
- Supporting the reduction in the rate of proven re-offending by young offenders
- Support a Reduction in the underage sale of alcohol

It was agreed at the last CSP meeting that we would pool the funding which comes to a total of £37,000 to maximise the impact locally. A task and time group consisting of CSP and Children's Trust members was set up to oversee this commissioning project.

An advert and funding application was sent out via the CSP, Children's Trust and CVS on the 14th September with a closing date of the 6th October and a total of 13 completed applications were submitted against this funding opportunity. Four of the applications have made it through to the second stage pending some further analysis.

It was agreed that any under-spend against the allocation will offered to the CSP for further commissioning against LDAAT outcomes.

13. COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

No issues raised.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman provided the Partnership with an overview of the issues concerning the commencement of the gas drilling operation by Cuadrilla and the issues that have impacted on the local community and statutory partners.

Chief Inspector Hurst advised that Cuadrilla are working positively in partnership with the police and the police had received good intelligence on potential trouble makers. A number of low key events were planned and the police position was to ensure peaceful and lawful protest was adhered to. Geoff stated that approximately 150 protesters were on site with a small majority who wanted to take direct action but the protest was well policed with strong community support. Geoff cautioned that further protests of this nature could have a significant impact on local policing resources and there is a recognised need to encourage these groups to sit around the table. Geoff added that the police would welcome partner support on this issue.

Gareth raised the issue of what plans were in place if we are once again faced with a difficult weather picture this winter. The Chairman assured the Partnership that appropriate plans are in place with high salt stocks secured and new priority and secondary routes identified for gritting.

Stuart Williams provided the Partnership with an update against the recent Police Front Counter and Estates consultation exercise. Stuart advised that the consultation period is now finished and stated a number of responses were received from West Lancashire. The feedback is currently being

assessed and the Police will report back in November 2011 when the Police and LPA have looked at it closely.

The Chairman congratulated Stuart Williams on his promotion and thanked him for his contribution to community safety in West Lancashire and wished him the very best of luck for the future.

Stuart responded by thanking the CSP for their support and adding that West Lancashire is a very vibrant and engaged CSP that makes a difference.

The Chairman also congratulated Mel Ormesher on her appointment as Lancashire County Council Community Safety Manager.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on the 18th January 2012 at 6pm in the Council Chamber, 52 Derby Street.