

WEST LANCASHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

HELD: 18th April 2012

Commenced: 6.00 pm

Finished: 7.35 pm

PRESENT:

Andrew Hill	-	WLBC
David Tilleray	-	Chairman WLBC
Graham Coulston-Herrmann	-	Lancashire Constabulary
Kevin Boyce	-	Lancashire Constabulary
Mary Lyons	-	NHS Central Lancs.
Andy Willis	-	Lancashire Constabulary
Mike Przybysz	-	LCC
Councillor Cropper	-	Lancashire Police Authority
Gareth Dykes	-	WL PACT
Steve Wilson	-	LF&RS
Phil Jones	-	LF&RS
Christine Coleman	-	Edge Hill University
Jan Tyrer	-	Discover Services
Les Newman	-	Skelmersdale Street Pastors
Julie Cummins	-	YOT
Paul Malone	-	Edge Hill Students Union
Dorothy Shields	-	Lancashire Probation Trust
Mike Lock	-	Lancashire Probation Trust
David Gallagher	-	West Lancashire Area Committee
Sue Hogan	-	Young Peoples Service
Jill Bradley	-	West Lancashire CVS
Councillor Atherley	-	WLBC
Gill Rowe	-	WLBC
Steve Mahon	-	WLBC

IN ATTENDANCE:

Cliff Owens	-	WLBC
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1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman welcomed colleagues to the meeting and added a special welcome to new members of the Partnership, Chief Inspector Kevin Boyce, Lancashire Constabulary and Phil Jones, West Lancashire Service Delivery Manager, LF&RS.

The Chairman also requested his thanks be recorded on behalf of the Partnership to Temporary Chief Inspector Geoff Hurst for his work over the past year and his support for the Partnership within his role as Borough Commander.

The Chairman also thanked Steve Wilson for his amazing work over the past several years in West Lancashire in making a significant improvement to fire safety and for his excellent contribution to local partnership working.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from:

County Councillor Aldridge, Steph Powell, David Johnnie, Councillor Hopley, Bruce Jassi, Robert Ruston, Elaine Bilborrow, Sam Jones, Eleanor Maddocks, Roger Merry

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING/MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record with the exception of a point of accuracy raised by Christine Coleman which the Chairman requested Cliff to amend.

4. SAFER LANCASHIRE BOARD AND LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

The Chairman, David Tilleray advised the Partnership that the LSP meeting focused on two key issues which both revolved around funding.

The Chairman advised that Andrew Hill had provided the LSP with a progress report against the £250,000 allocation for CCTV and requested a steer from the LSP regarding how to utilise the unallocated funding from the camera and network upgrade project against proposed new CCTV cameras. The LSP have agreed that the remaining funding should be combined with the Council funding towards new CCTV provision in the Borough. Andrew will produce a report to Cabinet in June 2012 which will include proposed locations against the remaining £310,000 funding.

The Chairman added that the list of proposed sites will be prioritised against their potential impact against both crime and the fear of crime.

Councillor Atherley advised the Partnership that Aughton Parish Council have met to discuss the opportunities for providing matched funding towards the installation of new cameras.

The Chairman advised the CSP that the LSP Executive Group also discussed the allocation of the £20,000 Second Homes Funding. It was agreed at the LSP sub group that this funding should be allocated equally between the LSP thematic groups and the CSP's allocation will be in the amount of £1,690. This will support the delivery of this year's partnership plan.

The Chairman advised the CSP that the predominant issue at the Safer Lancashire Board meeting was funding to support the IDVA posts across

Lancashire. The Chairman stated that in order to ensure sustainability in 2012/13 it was agreed that half of the costs for 6 months of provision would be funded through the Safer Lancashire Board. This would enable breathing space for further consultation across the county to secure mainstreaming for future service provision. This approach was based upon a study undertaken which demonstrated which services and to what extent benefited from the IDVA provision. The Chairman advised that funding has been committed from the Borough Council's Housing budget for 2012/13 to support West Lancashire's BC contribution.

The Chairman added that the information sharing protocol was also agreed at the SLB meeting and discussion also focused on the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner. The Chairman advised that the work is being undertaken by LCC and LPA on this issue.

5. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONERS

The Chairman introduced discussion on the imminent introduction of the Police and Crime Commissioners and opened this discussion to the CSP. Councillor Cropper advised that a meeting was held earlier in the week by Lancashire Police Authority and he advised that there is a certain amount of interest on this subject. The meeting focused on the type of information they should be given and Councillor Cropper added that general guidance is now available for potential candidates and final selections for candidates are set for July 2012. The main properties will likely undertake a selection process.

Councillor Cropper added that it will be an expensive exercise to undertake and will require a lot of resources to promote and will come with logistical challenges. The Chairman advised the Partnership that discussions are ongoing within the Council on the subject of the election process.

6. PERFORMANCE MONITORING

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

Kevin Boyce introduced himself as the new Chief Inspector for West Lancashire and advised the Partnership that he has had previous experience of working in West Lancashire. Kevin continued by adding that he is keen to build on the good work of Inspector Geoff Hurst.

Over the past 3 months there has been a reduction against the category all crime but slight increases against serious acquisitive crime and criminal damage. West Lancashire has also recorded a reduction against violent crime.

Graham-Coulston Herrmann added that it has been a challenging year for the constabulary following the comprehensive spending review but stated that crime figures are still historically low and West Lancashire remains a safe place to live, work and visit.

Andy Willis stated that over February and March we have recorded good reductions against burglary offences with one offender being charged with 45 offences of vehicle crime. These reductions have coincided with Operation Julius which has seen a significant amount of police resources allocated to West Lancashire.

Steve Mahon provided an overview of performance on behalf of the Anti-Social Behaviour Team. Steve stated that the highest numbers of incidents were under the classification of Nuisance which is the type of work his team are most likely to be involved in. Steve added that the team have secured 3 ABC's during the past quarter, one eviction and obtained two further orders for possession. The team have also served five notices seeking possession of secure tenancies and closed sixteen cases.

Phil Jones provided an overview of the performance for Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service. Phil stated that Southern Division is the highest performing area in Lancashire and continued by provided an overview for each of the performance categories contained within the performance template. Phil advised the Partnership that over the year West Lancashire has had 64 accidental dwelling fires against a target of 72 which equates to being 11% under target and a 19% reduction against the previous year. Phil continued by providing an overview of each of the performance indicators and advised that for 2012/13 the targets will be more challenging. Phil advised that LF&RS will continue to look at strengthening their partnership working with the police to develop improved profiling of offenders.

Graham Coulston-Herrmann added that the work undertaken between partners in West Lancashire to tackle secondary fires has proven to be very productive and has assisted in improving detection figures and contributing to good overall prevention work.

Julie Cummins provided an overview of performance on behalf of YOT and advised that YOT are measured against 3 areas which include prevention, remands and custody. Julie advised that a new remand order maybe coming in soon which could potentially be very expensive given that it costs a minimum of £1,000 per week to keep a young person in custody and in high risk circumstances this can be as much as £5,000. Julie stated that YOT will have funding to beef up care packages and develop more weekend engagement. Julie added that the service will need to provide the courts with the confidence not to remand young people who can be managed in the community. Julie added this will involve working closely with CSP partners and agreed to keep the CSP updated and engaged on this issue.

Andrew Hill provided the Partnership with an overview of performance for quarter 4 for the Environmental Health Team. Andrew stated that there are no real concerns with respect to performance. He added that the performance category for Proactive Talks to Schools and Community Groups is linked to the schools academic programme and will improve later in the year.

Jan Tyrer provided an overview of the performance figures for Discover. Jan advised that the first criminal justice managers meeting took place in Digmoor

Community Centre in March 2012 and was well attended. The next meeting which is scheduled for May 2012 will focus on criminal justice themes and Jan agreed to keep the Partnership updated. Jan advised that a cannabis users group is starting at the end of April 2012 and Discover are working closely with the Police and Probation. Jan added that alcohol brief interventions are also being developed to reach wider group in West Lancashire.

Sue Hogan provided the Partnership with an overview of performance on behalf of Young Peoples Services. Sue advised that despite cuts to the team they have over achieved on their local targets. Sue highlighted the reduction against the NEET target with an achievement of 5.5% against the county average of 6.6%. Sue advised the Partnership that by the end of June 2012 she expects to have in place a full complement of staff. The service will aim to target the most vulnerable young people and Sue gave an overview of the vulnerable markers. Due to capacity and finance the service will focus on the 13 to 19 year old age category only and up to 24 years for those young people with disabilities. Sue stated that the team now have some excellent new staff that will prove to be very productive.

Mike Lock provided the Partnership with an overview of performance for Lancashire Probation Trust. Mike stated that with the national indicators now abandoned work is ongoing to actively monitor the Revolution cohorts offending behaviour. The current performance for the West Lancashire cohort is 7.6% compared with 11.11% in Lancashire. Mike continued by providing an overview of performance contained with the submitted Probation template highlighting that violence against the person constitutes the greatest area of convictions for those under statutory supervision in West Lancashire.

7. FUNDED INTERVENTIONS UPDATE AND QUARTER FOUR PROGRESS REPORT

Cliff Owens provided the CSP with an overview of the funding interventions agreed by the CSP for 2011/12. Cliff confirmed that the CSP had committed all of its Area Based Grant allocation of £32,000.

Examples of interventions delivered through this funding included 3 successful Community Beatsweeps & Brightsparx which was delivered in November and was evidenced as a great success.

All of the interventions were supported by a range of partner agencies with good evidence of community participation. A full summary of the funded interventions are contained within the funding template and further details of each intervention are also included in the partnership plan.

8. COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP FUNDING FOR 2012 / 2013

Cliff Owens provided the CSP with an update against confirmed funding for the Partnership for 2012/13. Cliff stated that it is unlikely the CSP will receive any direct Area Based Grant funding this year from the Safer Lancashire Board to support delivery of this years Partnership Plan.

Cliff advised that Lancashire Police Authority have confirmed that we will be allocated £7,000 this year. This funding includes both the £3000 General Grant and the £4,000 2nd d Homes Grant Funding.

This funding must be allocated against at least one of the top four Safer Lancashire Strategic Priorities for 2012-13 and one of the existing Thematic Priorities as outlined below:

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES	THEMATIC PRIORITIES:
Violent Crime	Reducing Re-offending
Domestic Abuse	Protect & Support Vulnerable People
Anti-Social Behaviour	Reduce Substance Misuse
Road Safety	Attitudes and Behaviour

Cliff further advised that the West Lancashire LSP has allocated £1,690 to the CSP to support the delivery of this year's Partnership Plan. The Chairman of the Partnership and Andrew Hill will be responsible for approving the allocation of the funding against agreed priorities and for ensuring the terms of the funding are adhered to.

9. COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2012 / 13

Cliff advised the Partnership that on the 22nd February he wrote to partners to request assistance in developing this year's partnership plan. The draft plan has been designed to be reflective of this partnerships priorities and provide evidence both to the community and the Police and Crime Commissioner that we are commitment to work in partnership to deliver our community safety priorities. Cliff continued by advising that the draft plan requires some further amendments and we are awaiting some additional information from partners to support the Action Plan element of the plan.

The plan will be sent out to community safety partners for a two week consultation exercise to ensure the plan accurately reflects the information partners have contributed. During this period we will allow additional information to be included that will add value. The finalised plan will be made available on the Councils Community Safety website page and will be publicised locally to encourage community engagement to support future planning.

The Chairman stated that the plan represented a good piece of work that reflects well on the partnership and asked the CSP to endorse the document. The CSP agreed to endorse the West Lancashire Community Safety Partnership Plan 2012/13

10. CANNABIS CULTIVATION TASK AND TIME GROUP

Andrew Hill provided the Community Safety Partnership with an overview of the establishment of the Cannabis Cultivation Task and Time Group. Andrew

stated that the group was set up as a result of increasing concerns about residential accommodation being used to cultivate cannabis. Andrew advised that the first multi-agency Task and Time Group was established in March 2012 and was well attended by partner agencies. Andrew advised that a former Chief Inspector who is an expert in this area provided the group with an overview of the key threats which includes strong links with organised crime groups and violence linked to the large amount of profits that can be made from this trade. Other significant issues that can impact on the local community include the targeting of vulnerable people who can be coerced into allowing their properties to be used for the production of cannabis.

Andrew stated that the problem creates issues for a number of services including LF&RS and the Council with properties electrical meters being by passed and the fly tipping of waste products and materials from cannabis grows. Andrew advised that a second meeting of the group will take place in April 2012 and this meeting will seek to develop work streams to tackle the issue and this will be supported by a multi-agency action plan approach. The work streams will include developing stronger working relationships with the electricity suppliers to encourage more enforcement activity, ensuring perpetrators are given the more serious charge of production to increase sentencing and act as a deterrent. Other opportunities to be explored will include identifying funding for multi-agency staff training to improve awareness and reporting procedures.

Andrew stated that as a result of actions agreed at the initial meeting we have already had a successful intervention at a property where 45 plants were recovered and the tenant was charged with production. Other issues highlighted at the property necessitated the involvement of Electricity North West and Trading Standards and the processes for multi-agency working agreed at the task and time group proved very effective.

Andrew agreed to keep the CSP updated on progress.

11. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Chairman introduced this agenda item stating at the last meeting Andrew and Cliff were tasked with looking at opportunities for community consultation which will replace the 'Face the People' event.

Andrew Hill confirmed to the group that the statutory duty to hold a Face the People event has been removed. Andrew advised that the CSP will not receive any funding towards community consultation this year and this will shape how we engage the community. Andrew advised that following the production of the Partnership Plan it will be made available on the Council Website and the CSP will engage the local community by promoting the plan and developing feedback to inform future planning.

Andrew added that other opportunities for community engagement exist through the roll out of further Community Beatsweeps, Brightsparx and Freshers week which have a proven track record of strong community engagement and media exposure. Andrew added that by continuing to encourage community participation and feedback against CSP initiatives we

will develop opportunities towards future improvements against the delivery of community safety.

12. SOUTH LANCASHIRE REDUCING REOFFENDING STRATEGY

Mike Lock provided the Partnership with an overview of the additional statutory duty on CSP's to reduce reoffending. Mike introduced the South Lancashire Reducing Reoffending Strategy which was enclosed in the Partnership meeting pack together with a cover report. Mike advised that although the strategy covers three locality areas, a specific action plan will be developed for each of the CSP's and delivery will be led by the IOM Board. Mike continued by providing a comprehensive overview of the strategy and requested that it be endorsed by the Partnership.

Julie Cummins highlighted that additional information submitted by YOT was omitted from the draft presented to the Partnership. It was agreed that the strategy would be endorsed subject to this additional information from YOT being included and additional changes highlighted by the Chairman to the text of the document, to ensure it distinguishes correctly the different CSP's.

Mike advised that the action plan element of the strategy should be in place in time for the next CSP meeting in July 2012. The plan will establish what can be taken forward locally and what issues need to be addressed across the county.

13. COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

Andrew Hill advised the Partnership that the Council has lost its DV Coordinator and added that DV issues will be picked up by Cliff. Andrew advised that we will soon begin planning for Freshers Week adding that this year will be particularly challenging due to the loss of Area Based Grant funding for the CSP.

The Chairman requested his thanks be recorded on behalf of the Partnership for the work undertaken by Louisa Armitage-Parkinson during her employment as the West Lancashire DV Coordinator.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business recorded.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the West Lancashire CSP will be held on Wednesday the 25th July 2012 at 6.00pm in the Council Chamber, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, L39 2DF