

SAFER HALTON PARTNERSHIP

At a meeting of the Safer Halton Partnership Wednesday, 10 November 2010 Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present	E. Acton	Restorative Justice Lead/PPO - Cheshire Police
	M. Andrews	Community Safety Team
	S. Blackwell	Cheshire Police
	N. Burdekin	PPO - Cheshire Police
	P. Burke	Youth Offending Team
	D. Cargill	Police Authority
	A. Collins	Police Authority
	L. Crane	C & Y P
	S. Eastwood	HBC Adults and Community
	C. Frazer	Riverside Housing
	D. Houghton	HBC Policy and Partnerships
	D. Johnson	HBC Adults and Community
	A. Jones	Democratic Services
	P. Kilgour	Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service
	R. Lyden	Adults and Community, HBC
	D. Parr	Chief Executive, HBC
	N. Sharpe	Halton Housing Trust
	R. Strachan	Cheshire Police
	C. Walsh	Halton & ST Helens PCT
	L. Weston	UK Border Agency

Action

SHP27 WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

David Parr welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made around the table.

SHP28 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Kim Thornden – Cheshire Probation.

SHP29 MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2010 were agreed as a correct record.

SHP30 RESTORATIVE JUSTICE WORK

A presentation entitled 'Restorative Justice Work' was given by Neil Burdekin and Ellie Acton, officers from the PPO team.

The Restorative Justice (RJ) Program had been in place since November 2008 and had started out as a project that was aimed at diverting first time offenders away from crime. Due to the success of this it was then trailed on prolific offenders, people who had been committing crime and were in and out of prison for the most part of their lives. The group were informed that a prolific offender characteristically was an alcoholic, had substance misuse issues, and committed crimes such as shoplifting and burglary to feed their addictions.

RJ was when the offender and victim met to discuss the crime, so that the offender could understand the devastating effect that the crime has had on their victim and how it had affected their lives. The PPO team played the Partnership members a DVD they had produced of one Halton prolific offender who had successfully turned his life around, due to the work of the RJ project. The film interviewed both the offender and the victim so they could both share their experiences.

It was noted that this particular offender had been drug free for the past 14 months and was now in rehabilitation. He had hopes for the future on a personal level and felt inspired to continue his involvement with restorative justice, sharing his experience with and helping other prolific offenders. The Officers commented that this had been the first prolific offender success from within prison for Halton, and it was hoped that the programme could continue as it benefitted all; the Police, the public, victims and communities as a whole.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the presentation and comments made be noted;
and
- 2) Neil Burdekin and Ellie Acton be thanked for their informative presentation.

SHP31 SEASONAL ACTIVITY

The Crime Action Group briefed the Partnership on the seasonal activity plans for 2010-11.

Christmas Car Campaign – this would be launched on 26 November 2010 and would run for 4 weeks. The aim was to raise community awareness of the issues associated with car crime in Runcorn and Widnes and the impact this

presented to individuals and communities in general.

Christmas Purse Dipping Campaign – pick pocketing had always been on the increase during the festive period. The SHP team would be supporting three outreach dates at busy locations which had been problematic in previous years.

Licensing Enforcement – operations would run every weekend during the run up to Christmas. Enforcement of the Underage Sales legislation would continue throughout December. The project would seek to increase awareness of sensible alcohol consumption and reinforce anti-binge drinking campaigns which would help to: reduce alcohol related crime and disorder; violent crime and anti-social behaviour; promote healthier lifestyles and reduce alcohol related hospital admissions. A series of alcohol prevention and enforcement messages would be delivered targeting both on and off licence premises.

Partnership Tasking Vehicle – this would be deployed on two dates in December between the hours of 1800 and 0200 and two members of the Community Safety Team would staff the vehicle.

Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour and Taking Positive Action – this would continue to be a priority throughout the festive season with several tasks being planned in the run up to Christmas.

Stay Safe – the Police, HBC, Partners and Community intelligence would continue to work together to deliver Operation Stay Safe. This aimed to protect vulnerable young people whose behaviour or whereabouts placed them at risk of significant harm. A date in December was planned for the next operation.

Integrated Offender Management (IOM) - this would be implemented in the next few months and would be modified and expanded to include further 20-25 offenders whose offending behaviour was below the PPO's threshold but still necessitated multi agency management.

Domestic Violence – support and promotion of the 'White Ribbon Day' which takes place on 25 November 2010, would continue throughout the festive period. In addition to this awareness and promotional material would be distributed to public buildings, public houses and other suitable venues, containing information and contact details of the Halton Domestic Violence support services.

SHP32 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY UPDATE

The Draft Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) was presented to the Partnership for comments.

The draft SCS set out the strategic direction and long term vision for the economic, social and environmental well being of an area. The targets in Halton's existing strategy run to March 31 2011, so there was a need to produce a new SCS by April 2011.

The Partnership was asked to comment on the strategy and revert to Debbie Houghton so that the final draft could be completed and issued to elected members and Partners for consultation in December.

RESOLVED: That Partners note and comment on the draft SCS for follow up as above.

SHP33 TASK GROUP UPDATES

The group received the task group updates for the following areas:

- a) Performance Management – details provided of progress for those indicators contained within the SCS for Q2 (July to September 2010). It was noted that performance measures may change or be removed when a new LAA is produced.
- b) Alcohol Enforcement – advances and progress regarding alcohol licensing enforcement and related wider partnership activity within Halton continued to progress. Alcohol related enforcement activity was primarily aimed towards the town centres (Night Time Economy) locations, although the Borough as a whole was also being addressed. It was noted that the Cumulative Impact Policy (CIP) would go to full Council for consideration in December and that Members would be asked to reconsider the Licensing Policy in the future.
- c) Quarterly Alcohol Update – WNF project updates were provided: Social Marketing Campaign; C & Y P Outreach Service; ACCE Project/Social Marketing Campaign; The Community Alcohol Project; Licensing & Enforcement; Alcohol Arrest Referral; Domestic Abuse & Alcohol (Adults) and Domestic Abuse & Alcohol (C&YP). The Commissioning of

Substance Misuse Services across the Partnership had been discontinued and the group were presented with the Project Initiation Document (PID) for a redesigned Joint Substance Misuse Service.

Collette Walsh requested all partners to raise awareness of the 'Alcohol Survey' consultation that was being conducted and asked all to participate if possible. Suggestions were made on ways of promoting the survey, which would be pursued.

<http://www.halton.gov.uk/questionnaires/halton.htm>

- d) Anti Social Behaviour & Blue Lamp Reports – the total ASB incidents were down by 14% and youth ASB incidents were down by 38% for Q2. The Runcorn and Widnes Blue Lamp reports gave detailed information on the activities of the proactive teams carried out for Q2.
- e) Crime Action Group – Again seasonal activity was planned and attention was brought to the numerous organisations in Halton that had been involved in delivering the 'Respect Weeks'.
- f) Domestic Abuse – there had been no increase in MARAC referrals from agencies outside of the Police, despite the DASH training. Lauren Saddler was in post and was researching national figures and formula in order to provide data relating to local costs etc. It was noted that the Partnership needed to continue to raise the profile of DA through their agencies.
- g) Drugs – Ashley House (AH) was now an NTA pilot site for a service improvement tool known as 'Patient Opinion' and had received positive comments from service users and carers. It was reported that there was still reluctance amongst service users to visit the JCP Advisor who was attending AH on a weekly basis.
- h) Partnership Tasking & Coordination – Summary of key achievements over the last quarter were reported which included information on the closure of some problem key profiles relating to areas in Halton.
- i) Prolific & Other Prolific Offending Team – The Integrated Offender Management (IOM) in Halton would be modified and expanded from Q3 to include

a further 20-25 offenders.

RESOLVED: That the Task Group Updates be noted.

SHP34 HATE CRIMES - HALTON

The Partnership received the Q2 Hate Crimes Report (July to September 2010). There had been a total of 25 race hate, 6 homophobic and no disability incidents reported to the Police. Nineteen of these had been found to meet the Hate Crime Criteria and all crimes had progressed satisfactorily and were monitored by the Diversity team.

It was noted that the traveller tensions and extreme right wing activity had subsided although both situations were still being monitored.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

SHP35 DRAFT HATE CRIME STRATEGY

The Partners were presented with the Draft Hate Crime Strategy for comment and were asked to identify actions that would help address hate crime in Halton.

The Safer Halton Partnership was required to produce a hate crime action plan by December 2010, as set out in the Cross Government Hate Crime Action Plan. The group were advised that an 'Equalities Day' would be held on 29 November 2010, at which partners would be asked to help identify actions to address Hate Crime in Halton. Partners were requested to contribute to this process, to ensure that a robust and deliverable action plan that was relevant to Halton was put in place.

RESOLVED: That the Partnership members comment upon and note the Draft Hate Crime Strategy.

SHP36 IMPLICATIONS OF FUNDING CUTS

A report was received regarding the cessation of the Working Neighbourhood Fund in March 2011 and the implications of this for each work area. The SHP had utilised this funding to support a significant number of projects within Community Safety such as Blue Lamp, domestic abuse, alcohol and anti social behaviour.

The group discussed the consequences of the loss of funding and were requested to take the report away to give it

some more thought and provide further comments, which should be sent to David Parr. In the meantime all were in agreement that no further spending commitments should be made from the remainder of the budget.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the report and comments made be noted; and
- 2) Partners would not commit to any further spending from the WNF fund, for the remainder of the year.

SHP37 COMPREHENSIVE SPENDING REVIEW

The Partners received a report on the particular points of interest to the Partnership since the publishing of the Comprehensive Spending Review.

Areas within Policing; the Justice System; Cyber Security; The Fire Service; Public Service Delivery; UK Border Agency; the Voluntary Sector, WNF and Performance Management were covered in the report.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

Meeting ended at 4.40 p.m.