

SAFER HALTON PARTNERSHIP

At a meeting of the Safer Halton Partnership Tuesday, 25 September 2012 Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present	M. Andrews	Community Safety
	Cllr D. Cargill	Police Authority
	H. Coen	Performance & Improvement, HBC
	A. Collins	Police Authority
	L. Crane	Children's Organisation & Provision
	S. Eastwood	Commissioning - Communities
	D. Gordon	Community Safety
	D. Houghton	HBC Policy and Partnerships
	D. Johnson	Communities, HBC
	A. Jones	Democratic Services
	P. McWade	Commissioning & Complex Care
	D. Parr	Chief Executive
	C. Walsh	Halton & ST Helens PCT
	J. Williams	Learning Disability, Autism and Transition

Action

SHP40 WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

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

SHP41 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Richard Strachan, John Davidson, Christine Frazer, Gareth Jones, Alex Waller and Linda Smathwaite.

SHP42 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting held on 15 May 2012, were agreed as a correct record.

SHP43 POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER UPDATE

The Partnership received an update on the progress made towards the introduction of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC).

The group was reminded that the first election of the PCC's were scheduled to occur on 15 November 2012, with the successful candidate taking office on 22 November 2012, for a period of four years. Six months after taking

office, the Commissioners would be required to publish a five year Police and Crime Plan. This public document would set out the police and crime priorities and objectives for policing and crime reduction across the force area.

PCCs would set the annual budget in consultation with chief constables and would commission policing services from the chief constable (or other providers – in consultation with the chief constable). These services would be set out in the Plan where their objectives and funding would be publicly disclosed. The Plan must also be published and remain a public document including any updates or amendments made during the five year period. It was noted that at the end of each financial year the PCC would publish annual reports which would set out progress made against the objectives set out in the Plan. Alongside the annual report they would also publish annual financial accounts, showing how resources were consumed in respect of priorities and how value for money was secured.

It was stated that all PCCs would be scrutinised by Police and Crime Panels. In Cheshire this would be formed of a minimum of 10 representatives from the local authorities in the force area; namely Halton, Cheshire West and Chester, Cheshire East and Warrington, who would take the lead on this. It was confirmed that two representatives would be from Halton, Councillors D Cargill and Osborne.

It was noted that in respect of Community Safety Teams, funding would be channelled to PCCs from 2012-13, although the exact size and basis for allocation of this funding had yet to be determined.

The report proceeded to provide information on the preparations for the PCC nationally, and in Cheshire and Halton. Also an update on the candidates for Cheshire was given as follows:

- Cllr John Stockton – Labour Party
- Mr John Dwyer – Conservative Party
- Sarah Flannery – Independent
- Ainsley Arnold – Liberal Democratic Party

It was stated that the elections would be conducted using the supplementary vote system where a voter is asked to indicate first and second preferences. A marketing campaign would soon start explaining this system to voters.

RESOLVED: That the report be received and noted.

SHP44 TASK GROUP UPDATES

The following Task Group Updates were presented to the Partnership:

- a) Alcohol Enforcement – To be renamed Alcohol Harm Reduction Group for next agenda. Incident at The Establishment was noted as was their request for later opening hours, which was being objected too by the Police. Cllr Cargill would be advised of the details of the next 'door staff' meeting, which would be held in the Community Safety Offices.
- b) Quarterly Alcohol Update – Full years' local data for 2009/10, 2010/11 and 2011/12 was provided so that comparisons could be made with regards to improvements or otherwise. Top 3 conditions for alcohol specific hospital admissions remained the same for 2011-12: 1. Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol; 2. Ethanol poisoning; and 3. Alcoholic liver disease. The Alcohol Liaison Nursing Service went live at Whiston Hospital on 17 September 2012.
- c) Anti Social Behaviour – Youth ASB had reduced this quarter by 5.24% when compared to last year, although Widnes saw an increase during April and May 2012. Community Safety team were looking into the possible reasons for this. The Neighbourhood Resolution Panels would convene soon following completion of facilitator training.
- d) Domestic Abuse – Halton MARAC had a current rolling NI 32 performance level of 31% compared with 28% in Q1 last year. It was noted that when comparing this year's Q1 with last year, it should be taken into account that there were now two MARAC meeting per month so the caseloads had doubled. However, HDAF would look into the data. The report on the links between alcohol and domestic abuse was referred to (page 43). Collette Walsh suggested that now the alcohol liaison nurses were in post that there was now an opportunity to link the service up with clients with alcohol and domestic abuse issues.
- e) Drugs – Treatment & Prevention – An update on *The National Drug Strategy* was presented to the Partnership who were requested to support the development of a Local Partnership Drug Strategy Steering Group and Action Plan which would accompany the Strategy. It was noted that the National Treatment Agency (NTA) could

potentially allocate funding according to 'payment by results' for 2013-14 which would have a significant impact for Halton if performance failed to meet the required target level. The success of operation 'Gram' was announced. It was commented that the drug market had changed in recent times which was raising different issues.

- f) Navigate Offender Management – Data presented showed a reduction in convictions for prolific priority offenders and repeat offenders. It was commented that the Welfare Reform Act may have an impact in the future and help from Halton Housing Trust was requested. It was also commented that some adults in the 'troubled families' agenda may be affected by this.
- g) Hate Crimes – Emerging issue regarding the travelling community using other people's private property to graze their horses. Police and gypsy liaison officers are dealing with this.
- h) Partnership & Tasking – There was a spike in activity in the Bechers and Upton Green area of Widnes. Gaphurst Court had seen an increase in ASB attributed to youths drinking and taking drugs. It was suggested that diversionary activities were needed. Lorraine Crane suggested that *Young Addaction* could help with this and it was noted that funding was available for youth activities. It was also helpful that a Partnership approach was being taken with areas such as these. The results of Operation Staysafe for June, July and August were noted and the next Respect week would be around Halloween time.

RESOLVED: That the Task Group Updates be noted.

SHP45 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

The following documents were provided to the Partnership for information:

- Safer Halton Policy Bulletin – August
- Blue Lamp Report – Widnes
- Blue Lamp Report – Runcorn

Meeting ended at 3.05 p.m.