

SAFER HALTON PARTNERSHIP

At a meeting of the Safer Halton Partnership Tuesday, 9 September 2008 Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present	M. Andrews	
	S. Blackwell	Cheshire Police
	D. Cargill	
	A. Collins	Police Authority
	S. Eastwood	HBC Health and Community
	C. Edwards	Cheshire Probation
	G. Finchett	Cheshire Police
	C. Frazer	Riverside Housing
	D. Houghton	HBC Policy and Partnerships
	J. Hunt	HBC
	D. Johnson	HBC Health and Community
	G. Jones	Youth Offending Team
	N. Mannion	Neighbourhood Management
	C. Myring	
	D. Parr	Chief Executive
	M. Simpson	HBC Committee Services
	V. Snelson	Magistrates
	A. Waller	Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service
	D. Williams	Halton Youth Service - Connexions
	Wright	

Action

SHP1 WELCOME

Chief Supt Gary Finchett welcomed everybody to the meeting and introductions were made.

SHP2 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Sue Milner – H&STH PCT, Lorna McEwan – British Transport Police, Graeme Gerrard – Cheshire Police and Derek Robertson – Groundwork Merseyside.

SHP3 MATTERS ARISING - MINUTES FROM 13TH MAY 2008

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13th May 2008 were agreed as a correct record subject to one amendment to Minute number SHP50. The fifth paragraph should have read as follows:

“It was reported that funding for one of the three posts on the Road Safety Team was due to end and would be externally funded.”

RESOLVED: That the Minutes be received.

SHP4 SAFEGUARDING VULNERABLE ADULTS

The Partnership received a presentation from Julie Hunt – Adult Protection Co-ordinator around the Annual Report of Halton’s Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Partnership Board, for the year 2007/2008.

The presentation outlined the following:

- the Board – responsibilities, membership, aims and achievements;
- progress in 2007/2008;
- progress made since April 2008;
- nationally;
- implications;
- working together; and
- thanks and acknowledgements;

Arising from the discussion the Partnership noted that the increase in adult abuse referrals was due to the service being more widely advertised.

The Chairman thanked Ms Hunt for an informative presentation.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Report of Halton’s Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Partnership Board be noted.

SHP5 COMPASS

The Partnership received a presentation from Gareth Jones of the Youth Offending Team, which outlined the following:

- What is COMPASS?
- COMPASS steering group;
- Youth Inclusion Support Panel, (YISP)
- Parenting Practitioner;
- Floating support;
- Witness support;
- Family intervention project;

- Diversion project;
- Targets; and
- Funding.

The Partnership discussed whether there was scope to extend the approach to people over the age of 18. It was noted that the national offender management service may be interested in the approach. It was also reported that the 5 Boroughs Partnership were in agreement with the approach.

RESOLVED: That the Partnership endorse the approach and market the agreement into other services.

SHP6 TASK GROUP UPDATES

The Task Groups provided updates for the 1st Quarter which were circulated and taken as read, in particular the following was noted:

- Alcohol - waiting times for treatments was still high – this was the case nationally;
- anti-social behaviour – the Family Intervention Project (FIP) has gone live with 28 families registered so far;
- problematic areas in Widnes have been identified, in relation to mischief night and an action plan has been formulated to reduce the impact on communities in Widnes. A report would be brought back to the next meeting providing a breakdown of what took place;
- current and repeat crime – a new set of performance targets were being developed along with new action plans;
- more people had been reporting domestic abuse which was reflected in the stats;
- due to the increase in bonfires and attacks on fire fighters during the coming season, various approaches were being investigated to tackle this;
- events were being held within various places such as Phoenix Park, with the aim of young people all being in one area rather than dispersed across the Borough; and
- the tender process for a single provider to take over drug services has begun, this was due to start in April 2009;

The Partnership was advised of proposals for a new indoor karting / mini-moto area in Speke, the group considered a request from the neighbouring authority for the Partnership to give backing to the scheme.

SHP7 COMMISSIONING POT - DEVELOPMENTS SO FAR

The Partnership was informed of a new central commissioning pot amounting to £5.4M over the next three years which had been created from the Working Neighbourhoods budget.

It was reported that the three areas this has been allocated across are as follows:

- Worklessness and skills;
- Health inequalities, with a particular focus on alcohol; and
Community safety, with a particular focus on anti-social behaviour.

Detailed in the report were the actions required to deliver the three agenda over the next three years. More details would be provided at the next meeting regarding the Service Level Agreements (SLA's). It was advised that a new deadline for the revised SLA's was now the end of September.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and comments be forwarded to the Halton Strategic Partnership Board to be considered by the leads in each priority area.

SHP8 CORPORATE ASSESSMENT

The Partnership considered the Corporate Assessment and agreed that the report was very positive. It was advised that Halton Borough Council had retained four star status. The Chairman thanked everybody involved in efforts made to obtain such a great result.

SHP9 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

The following items were noted for information:

- the empowerment white paper;
- engaging communities in fighting crime;
- the future of the LAA reward scheme;
- the equality bill;

- the policing green paper;
- strong and prosperous communities;
- the youth crime action plan; and
- the youth alcohol action plan.

It was reported that in relation to the Youth Crime Action Plan all services and local agencies needed to work together to reduce youth crime. The role of Children's Trusts would be enhanced by many approaches detailed in the document. The Partnership agreed that a formal response from the Children's Trust rather than this Board would be provided. It was requested that should members have any comments, to forward them to Gareth Jones who could feed them back.

The Partnership also considered the Policing Green Paper as community participation was an important aspect of it and the neighbourhood management agenda would integrate more with public engagement. Members welcomed the reduction of performance indicators in this area.

The group was advised that the neighbourhood policing unit Inspectors N. Brew and R. Hill would be changing and the new officers in post would be introduced to the Partnership.

RESOLVED: That all items for information be noted.

SHP10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Dave Williams – Head of Youth Service – informed the Partnership of the Government's Aiming High agenda. The Youth Service had applied for approximately £2.5m as advised by the Big Lottery Fund and the team had looked at properties available to house a world class youth facility for the young people of Halton.

The Partnership was advised of the proposal to refurbish and remodel Kingsway Health Centre. The facility would offer exciting and innovative as well as traditional activities that the young people of Halton had chosen as being the most positive.

It was advised that the location was central to the area and easily accessible by public transport as well as being close to Riverside College and Kingsway Leisure Centre.

It was reported that capital costs would be met

through a bid to the "My Place" fund together with the secured "Youth Capital Plus" monies and some capital secured from the PCT.

The Partnership welcomed and were fully supportive of the proposals.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

It was reported that a letter had been received from the Home Office offering an amount of money to support the post of a neighbourhood crime and justice co-ordinator. The money would be sourced and used to support activities which were already in place. The Partnership agreed to endorse this request for funding as Halton had been one of 60 authorities nominated to apply.

RESOLVED: That the Partnership endorse the application for funding for the neighbourhood crime and justice co-ordinator.

SHP11 YOUTH CRIME ACTION PLAN

Meeting ended at 4.05 p.m.