

SAFER HALTON PARTNERSHIP

At a meeting of the Safer Halton Partnership Tuesday, 24 February 2009 in the Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present	S. Blackwell	Cheshire Police
	Cllr D. Cargill	Police Authority
	S. Eastwood	HBC Health and Community
	G. Finchett	Cheshire Police
	D. Houghton	HBC Policy and Partnerships
	A. Jones	Halton Borough Council
	N. Mannion	Neighbourhood Management
	S. Milner	PCT
	Cllr Osborne	Ditton Ward
	S. Wallace-	
	Bonner	Health & Community
	Cllr Wright	Ditton Ward
	C Frazer	Halton Neighbourhood Office
	K Taylor	Senior Probation Officer
	P Burke	Youth Offending Team
	N Sharpe	HHT
	H Patel	Citizens Advice Bureau
	J Hartley	Illegal Money Lending Team
	B Kennett	Community Safety Team
	P Kilgour	Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service

Action

SHP27 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chief Superintendent Gary Finchett of Cheshire Police Authority welcomed everybody to the meeting and introductions were made.

SHP28 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from David Parr, Clare Myring, Chris Edwards, Mike Andrews, Dwayne Johnson and Lorraine Butcher – Halton Borough Council, and Anna Collins – Cheshire Police Authority, Sean Henshaw – Cheshire Fire & Rescue Services and Derek Robertson.

SHP29 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2009 were agreed as a correct record, with the following comment made in relation to:

SHP 17 - Task Group Updates (Alcohol) -

With regards to the Enforcement Task Group's Action Plan, it was noted that this had not progressed. It was agreed that the exact status would need to be clarified and contact would be made with David Parr in this regard. Inspector Jed Manley and Inspector Simon Blackwell would present the Plan at the next SHP.

And the following should be deleted in relation to:

SHP 17 - Task Group Updates (Neighbourhood Management) -

RESOLVED: That

- (2) on completion of the consultation of 'Assessing the Need' a report be presented to the Board on the findings.*

SHP30 PRESENTATION - TRADING STANDARDS

The Partnership received a presentation by Joanne Hartley entitled 'Loan Sharks and Supporting Victims'.

The presentation outlined the following:

- What a loan shark was and characteristics displayed by them; and that they operate in all areas without boundaries;
- Types of people affected and their lifestyles;
- Relationships between illegal money lenders and their clients;
- What the Loan Shark Project was;
- Current objectives of the Loan Shark Project regarding enforcement and financial inclusion;
- The challenges facing the Loan Shark Project;
- Raising awareness of the Project through branding, poster campaigns, advertising and through dedicated Police Officers working exclusively on the Project;
- Addressing the issues and using current legislation such as Consumer Credit Act 1974, Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, Theft Act 1968 – demanding money with menaces/blackmail; Injunctions and Anti-social Behaviour Orders;
- Statistics regarding targets, victims and arrests;
- Why people use a loan shark and what it is like for their victims;
- Examples of loan shark arrests; and

- Partnerships working with the Loan Shark Project; Credit Unions, CAB's, Money Advice and other Agencies, and Housing Associations.

Following the presentation a video was shown of a reconstruction of a victim of a loan shark, which explained the unfortunate process of how she became involved with him and the terror that pursued.

Following queries it was confirmed that the project was not linked to the credit crunch advice line provided by Halton Borough Council, as they were specialist in offering support only, not financial advice. The project was however working in conjunction with the Credit Union.

It was noted that Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service offered their assistance in distributing the leaflets in the area.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the presentation be received; and
- 2) Joanne Hartley be thanked for her informative presentation.

SHP31 PRESENTATION - WORKING NEIGHBOURHOODS FUND (WNF) COMMISSIONING POT

The Partnership was presented with a report on the WNF Alcohol Harm Reduction Programme: 2008/2011 Overview of years 2 and 3 of the programme.

The money was originally allocated to the Halton Alcohol Strategy Working Group (ASWG) to help deliver different elements of Halton's Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy. This group has now been disbanded and was to be replaced with a new alcohol strategy commissioning group, which covers both Halton and St Helens. The new group would be responsible for ensuring that a new combined alcohol strategy was developed across both boroughs. The group would ensure that the different elements of that strategy were effectively commissioned and performance managed by key stakeholders. Overall responsibility for this WNF alcohol programme would rest with that group.

The report covered the following:

- Details of 08/09 Allocation = £100k already approved
- Details of the proposed 09/10 allocation = £400k
- Details of the proposed 10/11 allocation = £500k (2nd year of a 2 year allocation)

The report continued to provide more details of the proposed projects, which are listed below:

- 1) CYP alcohol outreach service = £100k
- 2) ACCE project with 15-25 yr olds = £50k
- 3) NMT befriending project 'Street Mates' = £100k
- 4) Licensing and enforcement work = £50k
- 5) Alcohol arrest referral scheme = £50k
- 6) Domestic violence and alcohol project = £50k

The group discussed the report and proposed future projects and endorsed the proposals in principle, however it was felt that not enough information was provided in support of item number 3, the befriending project 'Street Mates', and that this would certainly need discussing in more detail.

It was agreed therefore that a more detailed report would be submitted to the group, in consultation with the respective Directors, before the Partnership could offer its full support of all proposals.

With regards to the Anti Social Behaviour monies, the group felt that the same applied and that they would like to dedicate more time to this item as well.

It was agreed that a special meeting of the SHP would be arranged mid March to discuss the WNF Commissioning Pot in more detail. All members of the group would be informed of the time and date and they would advise of their availability accordingly. It was agreed by all that those who were able to attend this meeting would have the dedicated authority to make decisions on behalf of the Partnership as a whole.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) a special meeting of the SHP be arranged for mid March to discuss the Commissioning Pot in more detail; and
- 2) those who are able to attend will have the delegated authority to act and make decisions on behalf of those who are not.

SHP32 TASK GROUP UPDATES -

Arising from the Task Group Updates, the following was noted:

- **Neighbourhood Management** – HBC Executive Board had confirmed its support for the development of neighbourhood management to 2010 and the investigation of the development of a detailed business case beyond that date. A Partnerships Celebration Event had been arranged for 26th February 2009 at 6.30 pm in the Stobart Stadium.
- **Engagement and Liveability Report** – From now on the Runcorn and Widnes Blue Lamp Reports would be removed from the SHP Agenda and be included on the Members Information Bulletin.
- **Prolific and Other Prolific Offending Team (PPO)** – Karen Taylor, Senior Probation Officer, was introduced to the group. Following the retirement of Val Snelson from the Group, it was suggested to replace her with Norman Oldham. It was agreed that an invite would be sent to him through the Halton Bench in this regard.
- **Domestic Abuse** – Alcohol related abuse still an issue. Types of victims are indiscriminate; it had nothing to do with where you live.
- **Alcohol** – Hospital admissions amongst young people were still high.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Task Group Updates be noted; and
- 2) an invitation to join the Partnership be sent to Mr Oldham.

Chief Executive

SHP33 DRUG TREATMENT PLAN & EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 2009/10

The Group received the Safer Halton Partnership Drug Treatment Plan 2009/10, which presented the findings of the needs analysis that supported the drug treatment plan for 2009/10, and also advised of the strategic priorities for the 2009/10 treatment plan.

A multi-agency panel would review the plan and

feedback had been provided to Partnerships in February. The final plans were due to be submitted to the National Treatment Agency for approval and sign off by the end of March 2009.

The Partnership was provided with the Executive Summary for the Drugs Treatment Plan 2009/10 which set out how prevalent drug use was, the types of drugs used, the treatment system, equality and diversity issues and hospital episode statistics, along with the results of the work force skills audit, links with community safety, service user and carers satisfaction rates and instances of hidden harm.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the report be noted; and
- 2) The SHP supports the strategic priorities for the 2009/10 drug treatment plan.

SHP34 SAFEGUARDING VULNERABLE ADULTS

The Partnership received a report from the Strategic Director, Health and Community, which provided an update on key issues and progression of the agenda for the protection of vulnerable adults in Halton.

It was commented that the 'Away Day' event was deemed a success thanks to the commitment of the members who had attended. Councillors present at this meeting expressed an interest in attending the next 'Away Day'. Strategic Director Dwayne Johnson would be contacted on their behalf in this regard.

Furthermore, it was noted that the Haringey case of the death of 'Baby P' was being considered to seek any learning available to inform Safeguarding Adults/Adult Protection arrangements in Halton.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the report's contents be noted; and
- 2) The Strategic Director, Health and Community be contacted with regards to including the SHP Councillors' on the next 'Away Day' event.

Chief Executive

SHP35 MID TERM REVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

The Partnership received a report on the mid term

review of the Community Strategy and was asked to consider and where appropriate amend the draft text, in particular the aim, objectives and targets for the mid term review of the Safe and Attractive Neighbourhoods section of the Community Strategy.

It was agreed that any comments arising following consideration of the above report would be forwarded to Debbie Houghton by Friday 13th March 2009.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Partnership considers and where appropriate amend the draft text, in particular the aim, objectives and targets for the mid term review of the Safe and Attractive Neighbourhoods section of the Community Strategy; and
- 2) any comments arising from the above be forwarded to Debbie Houghton by 13th March 2009.

Chief Executive

SHP36 REVIEW OF PARTNERSHIP PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

The Partnership considered a report on the review of Partnership Performance Management Framework, which updated the SHP board on the progress to date with the review of the Halton Strategic Partnership Performance Management Framework and how this links to the Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA) for the Safer Halton Partnership.

Comments were also requested on the proposed structure of the SNA and the role of the SHP task groups in performance monitoring and it was noted that this was the priority at present.

It was further noted that the SNA report for period 1 April to 31 December 2008 was just received by the group at this meeting so it had not been reviewed in advance. The Group were asked to note that the SNA was a restricted confidential document and must not be circulated outside the group without first being agreed with the Chairs.

The following points were noted during discussions:

- The targets would be broken down by task groups to give more ownership and accountability;
- Although monthly reporting was preferable for some targets to keep the document living, quarterly reports

would be more appropriate for most targets;

- It would be each task group Chairman's responsibility to ensure that performance is discussed at the respective task group meetings and underperformance challenged and acted upon; and
- Performance would be reported back to the SHP as updates of the SNA. Feedback from the task groups would be fed into the SNA.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) The Board noted and approved the revised performance management framework proposed by the Halton Strategic Partnership Board;
- 2) The SHP considers the strategic needs assessment template put forward for comment and approval;
- 3) The SHP notes the links between the SNA and the performance management framework put forward by the Halton Strategic Partnership Board; and
- 4) The role of the task groups in the performance management process would be discussed in more detail with the task group chairs who meet as part of the SHP performance management group.

Chief Executive

SHP37 SHP FUNDING REPORT

The Partnership received a report on the Draft SHP Expenditure for 2009/10 and 2010/11, which requests them to consider the comments received to date, which were attached as Appendix 1 and to discuss the draft spending profile put forward for approval.

Subject to the comments received, the SHP were asked to approve the recommended funding profile, for Working Neighbourhoods Fund and Safer and Stronger element of the Area Based Grant, as set out in the report. The proposals were for a two-year funding agreement.

It was noted that responses received to date were included in the appendices on pages 108,109 and 115 for information. No further comments were received at the SHP meeting and the recommendations were approved subject to satisfactory SLAs being completed and signed off by the SHP chairs.

RESOLVED: That the recommendations be approved subject to satisfactory SLAs being completed and signed off by the SHP chairs.

SHP38 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

The following items were attached for information:

- (A) Policing Crime Bill – December 2008
- (B) Alcohol Related Disorders
- (C) Contact Point Information

RESOLVED: That the items be noted.

SHP39 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Economic Slowdown – As a result of this there has been an increase in the crime figures within the Borough. Chief Inspector Finchett would provide details to Halton Borough Council's Management Team.

Community Safety Team Office Move – A query was raised with regards to when this would happen. In response it was noted that the timescales were being discussed between the Police and HBC.

RESOLVED: That the items be noted.

Meeting ended at 4.30 p.m.