

## SAFER HALTON PARTNERSHIP

*At a meeting of the Safer Halton Partnership Tuesday, 18 February 2014 The Board Room - Municipal Building, Widnes*

Present	S. Bell	Public Health
	K. Bennett	Cheshire Police
	D. Cargill	Police Crime Panel
	L. Crane	Children's Organisation & Provision
	N. Ellwood	Communities & Partnership Officer (PCC - Cheshire)
	D. Gordon	Community Safety
	S. Henshaw	Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service
	D. Johnson	Communities, HBC
	A. Jones	Democratic Services
	D. Parr	Chief Executive
	N. Sharpe	Halton Housing Trust
	E Sutton-Thompson	Policy & Performance, Communities

### *Action*

#### SHP17 WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

David Parr opened the meeting and Introductions were made around the table.

Kevin Bennett was introduced as the new Chief Inspector for Halton, replacing Darren Hebden.

#### SHP18 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Michael Andrews, Jeremy Duff, Chris Frazer, Councillor Osborne, John Davidson, Deana Perchard and John Williams.

#### SHP19 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a correct record.

#### SHP20 SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD UPDATE

Dwayne Johnson presented the Partnership with an update on key issues and the progression of the agenda for safeguarding vulnerable adults in Halton.

Appended to the report was the 'Integrated Adults Safeguarding Unit' (IASU) Activity Report. This was a

statistical analysis of the allegations of abuse reported to them in quarters 1 and 2, but it was noted that this data related to the most complex safeguarding issues so did not reflect the full picture of safeguarding across Halton.

It was reported that the Safeguarding Adults Board agreed for an internal peer challenge review to be undertaken during June 2013 to August 2013, based on the 'Standards for Adult Safeguarding Peer Reviews'. So a Peer Challenge Team was formed along with a number of Lead Officers identified to take forward the review. As part of the review, the Lead Officers undertook a self-assessment against the Adult Safeguarding Standards and produced a report for the Challenge Team.

The recommendations from the report had been converted into an action plan to be worked on throughout 2014; the progress of this would be monitored by Halton Safeguarding Adult Board. A copy of the action plan was also appended to the report.

RESOLVED: That the Partnership notes the contents of the report.

#### SHP21 WIDNES STREET PASTORS

Dave Gordon presented to the Partnership the work of the Widnes Street Pastors from June to December 2013.

He advised that there were presently 15 Street Pastors and it was planned to recruit a further 5 this year. Pastors had no connections to the Police and were all volunteers. All Pastors received extensive training for the role and were all DBS checked.

Since 1 June 2013, a team of at least 4 Street Pastors went out on the streets on Saturday nights between 2300 hours to 0400 hours the next day; which equated to a total of 620 patrol hours.

He announced that over the past 7 months of operation the Pastors had made contact with over 400 members of the public, helping them in many ways, eg; proving flip flops to women who were walking bare footed, dealing with minor injuries, helping people who had lost contact with their friends, providing water and wipes to people vomiting and helping with taxis home, etc. Additionally the Pastors had removed glass bottles and drinking glasses from the High Street, Victoria Road and the Town Square thus making the streets safer.

It was noted that the attitude of the public so far had been very positive and people had welcomed what the Pastors were doing. With regards to door staff, feedback from forums had also been positive and there had been incidents where door staff had sought out the Pastors to assist with injured members of the public. It had been noticed that since the presence of the pastors, some bars and clubs were stopping people leaving with bottles and glasses and some were clearing up the front of their premises.

The Street Pastors had reported that they found the work very rewarding especially when they were thanked afterwards by the very same people they had assisted whilst unwell and vulnerable. There was also a general feeling of respect from the public towards the Street Pastors. It was hoped to expand in the future but this was dependent upon volunteers and funding. Due to a different night time economy in Runcorn, there were no plans to expand there at the moment.

It was commented that the work of street pastors in Cheshire had been supported by the PCC through the Crime Prevention Fund.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

## SHP22 TASK GROUP UPDATES

The Partnership was provided with the following task group updates which were discussed in detail in the reports:

- a) Alcohol Harm Reduction Group – The Chambers and The Establishment were now working well with the Police. The Doctors and The Grapes had reopened in December with no issues to date, however would be still be monitored. *ArcAngel* was launched in Runcorn in December – The Ferryboat, Rockwells Diner, Preston Brook, Evenwood, The Daresbury Park Hotel and the Prospect Arms had been awarded the Cheshire Constabulary standard.
- b) Quarterly Alcohol Update – Data showed that Halton was narrowing the gap with other authorities and reported that under 18's admissions had dropped. Halton had been successful in obtaining LAAA (Local Alcohol Action Area) status. Public Health England will host a meeting on 7 March 2014 with the LAAA staff. Simon Bell would circulate further information and invitations to relevant people.

- c) Anti-Social Behaviour – A further 16.1% decrease in incidents for Q3; and Q4 was looking the same so far. Also, youth ASB was down by 32% when compared to this time last year. The two main areas of concern were still mini motos and neighbour nuisances. Police were liaising with Halton Housing Trust and maintained a good relationship with the staff there who were best able to deal with some perpetrators of ASB who resided within their properties.
- d) Domestic Abuse – MARAC referrals were slightly down on this time last year, as were repeats. However the number of children involved had increased by 7 for Quarter 3. It was announced that the perpetrator programme was about to go live with 12 referrals to start this at the end of February. The Domestic Abuse strategy would soon be up for consultation.
- e) Substance Misuse – Halton was joint 5<sup>th</sup> highest for effective engagement rate in the North West with 91% for problem drug users (PDUs) and for all drug users 18+ Halton was the highest in the North West at 94%. Treatment exits were also improved for both PDUs and 18+ and above the regional average. Again changes to the benefits system continued to cause issues and the fact that clients were reluctant to tell the DWP that they accessed drugs services. A networking event had recently taken place to highlight and discuss this. Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) was now meeting weekly at Ashley House.
- f) Partnership Tasking & Coordination – Bechers and Upton Green ASB was down this quarter compared to this time last year. Cheshire Fire and Rescue football initiative was now up and running, supported by HHT and partners. This profile had now been closed but monthly returns would continue. Halton Youth provision would be hosting a diversionary event on ??
- g) Hate Crime & Community Tensions – Reported incidents and crimes had both fallen in quarter 3. Halton were developing a further permanent Gypsy Traveller site adjacent to the transit site on Warrington Road, Runcorn.

## SHP23 POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

The Partnership was presented with a link to the PCC website which led to the refreshed Police and Crime Plan for

Cheshire.

Members were asked to comment on the Plan. It was agreed that Community Safety would draft a collective response to the Crime Plan, for sign off by the Partnership as a whole.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

#### SHP24 POLICE & CRIME PANEL

Dave Cargill advised the Partnership that the Police Crime Panel (PCP) would be holding a confirmation hearing on 24 February 2014, for the replacement Chief Constable for Cheshire.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

#### SHP25 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

The following items were presented to the Partnership for information:

- a) Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) for Halton 2011-16 Performance Report –

It was noted that this 5 year reporting period was coming to an end in 2016. The Leader of the Council would be contacting Partners for collective input and views with regards to the next period: to identify new priorities, suggest how these would be delivered; and how would they be monitored.

- b) The Stevens Report – *Policing for a better Britain*
- c) Police & Crime Panel – Information Letter
- d) Widnes Blue Lamp Report
- e) Runcorn Blue Lamp Report

*Meeting ended at 3.35 p.m.*