



Safer Halton **PARTNERSHIP**

a member of the Halton Strategic Partnership

Action Points From 1st May 2019

Present:

David Parr	HBC (Chief Executive) : Chair
Cllr Dave Cargill	HBC (Community Safety Portfolio Holder)
Chris Patino	HBC (Operational Director)
Ben McCrorie	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Andy Southcott	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Gareth Jones	Youth Justice Services
John Bucknall	HBC (Childrens Services – Commissioning)
Stuart Devereux	Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service
Mike Andrews	HBC (Community Safety Manager)
Lisa Jenkins	National Probation Service
Sarah Ashcroft	HBC (Domestic Abuse – for part of meeting)
Deana Perchard	HBC Trading Standards
Patricia Preston	HBC (Housing Solutions)
Laura Marler	Cheshire Constabulary
Sarah Johnson-Griffiths	HBC (Public Health)
Shirley Corcoran	Halton Housing Trust
Simon Bell	HBC (Public Health)
Simon Parsonage	Cheshire Constabulary
Shélah Semoff	HBC (Partnership Officer)

1) **Welcome and Introductions**

Action

2) **Apologies**

S Holmes, Rev L Mclver, D Keane, J Davidson, M Cotgreave, M Povall

3) **Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters Arising**

Minutes from 19th February 2019 agreed as a true and accord record, bar one amendment on PCC item regarding the precept – it should read £24 and not 24%.

It was noted that the As4One DNA project would not be delivered in Halton due to capacity issues for the organisation.

Information was also shared with the Board that since the last meeting the PCC had decided not to continued funding the Cheshire Anti Slavery Network but that officers were looking at ways to support the network so that the cooperation and partnership working wouldn't be lost.

4) **Task Group Updates:**

a) **Alcohol** : report noted – bid for capital funding to Public Health England (PHE) has been successful, and is a partnership across Cheshire and

Merseyside led by CHAMPS to purchase five Fibroscan machines which will be used across the community to identify individuals with problematic drinking, the Fibroscans are used to scan the liver and are normally used in hospital settings. £406,000 has been raised and the machines will be used across the region, with local areas applying to use them in innovative community settings – work is still underway through the establishment of the Minimum Unit Pricing (MUP) Northern Coalition to consider the role and function of a local policy for the minimum unit price for alcohol. This work is now being led by David Parr, following the retirement of Margaret Carney and will now move to wider stakeholder engagement. A more detailed report to be brought back to the next meeting.

DP/SB

- b) **Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour and Partnership Tasking** : report noted - additional support given to Upton Rocks following several reported incidents, however Partners will ensure that other areas will not be left without resources – two project/funding proposals have been sent to the PCC for consideration – a wider discussion took place around provision for young people and links to ASB activity, this included information coming out of the ROC community meetings which suggested that the perception is that there is nothing for young people to do – there is currently an opportunity to review current provision as the contract is up for renewal early next year – DP agreed to raise the issue with the Strategic Director for Children’s Services – DP also agreed to liaise with the Council’s Planning Department around the issue of “designing out crime” and what changes could be incorporated into the planning process. SC commented that Halton Housing have re-established their Estate Walks with local partner agencies and these have proved very successful – looking at issues related to cutting hedges, lighting and fly tipping – DC requested a report on the progress of work undertaken by Everton in the Community and how this fits with the wider issues connected to ASB.

DP

DP

MA/SP

- c) **Domestic Abuse** : report noted – there was a discussion around the effectiveness of Protection Orders and the need for a proper evaluation - government has committed to introduce a Domestic Abuse Bill, which will provide a once-in-a-generation opportunity to transform the response to this terrible crime, and in March 2018, the Government set out legislative proposals for this landmark bill, alongside a package of practical action. Halton BC fed into the consultation, both completing the on-line consultation and with staff attending National events which sort the views from victims and survivors, support organisations and frontline professionals, to harness their knowledge and expertise. *The draft Bill will now be subject to pre-legislative scrutiny by a joint committee of both Houses of Parliament* – the Council’s Senior Management team have agreed to a new joint commissioning arrangement of Domestic Abuse Services in Halton, the new integrated service is to include the existing separate adult and children’s services. Furthermore within the new commission a provision for perpetrators is to be included. – with the support of the SHP, additional funding has been found to support the Enhance project until government funding kicks in later in the year.

- d) **Substance Misuse** : report noted – there is a national debate around how to support those clients with long term terminal health issues related to their substance misuse – with dedicated resources and effort there is the possibility to make Halton Hep C free and Partners are working together towards this goal – work is ongoing to implement the Medically Assisted Treatment toolkit to support individuals in titrating to the appropriate dose of medication to support their recovery goals. This will be a collaborative approach between operational and clinical teams at CGL, ensuring a holistic approach to treatment is adopted - following the publication of recent statistics, there is a need to review levels of opioid prescribing across Halton and look at what measures can be put in place to support a reduction in opioid use – JB

questioned if people were potentially re-entering services because they are pushed out of treatment too early and whether this issue is being reviewed. SB and JB to speak outside of meeting to look at this issue.

JB/SB

5) **Prevent and Channel Panel**

Dovetail arrangements have now been in place for two months with monthly Channel meetings looking at low level cases, mostly right wing tendencies – there is a national trend with activists targeting individuals on the Autism Spectrum as they potentially could be easier to radicalise, information was also shared about a national hub based in Manchester looking at vulnerable people with mental health issues, with the Counter Terrorism Team looking at a pilot to share data across wider Partners, it was agreed to share this with safeguarding colleagues – currently looking at one Contest Board for Cheshire and one for Merseyside with the potential of “super panels” in the future with these likely to be at a regional or national level – training package now in place and being rolled out with some mandatory for certain front line staff, and there is an expectation that referral will increase.

SS

6) **Police and Crime Commissioner**

There was general disappointment that the PCC has changed the funding arrangements with little engagement or consultation. The substance misuse funding remains ring-fenced however an element of the community safety funding has been top-sliced for a PCSO and the rest of the funding will have to be bid for, however as Halton already funds PCSOs across the patch it was suggested there were better ways to allocate the funding. It was acknowledged that the PCC is entitled to make his own funding decisions, however it was suggested that earlier consultation would have enabled a better case to be put forward on how to use the funding for local priorities as set by local Partners, as per previous arrangements. This was the same view reflected by other crime reduction partnerships across Cheshire,

DP wished to share this with the whole Board and get their support to engage the PCC on this matter, in conjunction with DT and DC.

DT/DC/DP

BM and AS explained the three current funding streams that sit with the PCC as follows:-

Safer Communities Fund

The Safer Communities Fund has been established to encourage local residents and communities to get involved in the prevention and reduction of crime and to allow community groups to bid for monies to help create safer communities across Cheshire. In order to facilitate a reasonable distribution of the Fund, applications will continue to be limited to a maximum of £5,000. There is no minimum level of funding. Applications must support crime prevention or reduction or the objectives within the Police and Crime Plan, must be located within Cheshire and must focus on local needs.

Community Safety Fund

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 enables the Commissioner to award grants to organisations or groups that will support the achievement of community safety priorities in Cheshire. This is where funding for Community Safety Partnerships, the Youth Justice Service and Youth Engagement service amongst other projects / work is funded.

MoJ Victims Grant

Commissioners are responsible for commissioning local support services for victims of crime in line with the conditions set out by the Ministry of Justice. Since 2013, the Ministry of Justice has provided an annual grant to the Commissioner to enable services which best meet the needs of local victims and survivors of crime to be funded. Each grant has a set of conditions that governs the way the money is spent.

DP requested further information about current levels of PCC funding spent in Halton from all of the above funds, and how this relates – percentage wise – to the PCC’s overall funding and those resources allocated to other Cheshire local authorities.

BMc/AS

7) **Police and Crime Panel**

DT confirmed that the new precept has been accepted without concerns and the Panel has confirmed the appointment of the new Chief Constable, Darren Martland – who at a recent event mentioned Halton several times which was reassuring to hear. The Panel has also recently received an independent report into the PCC’s action against the former Chief Constable, and it was suggested that even though there was no “smoking gun”, few people would have handled the situation any differently than the PCC did.

8) **Serious Organised Crime**

The Board had received the current draft strategy and any comments should be sent to SS.

ALL

DP’s initial comments included that the strategy, as a high level strategic document, needed a more detailed action plan to sit under it, and partnership logos should be included to help provide the “Partnership” impact.

Work is ongoing to look at redesigning the Complex Safeguarding Model which will include newer thinking – in the past exploitation tended to be done by individuals quite close to the victim, even family members, whilst now the trend is that the initial relationship can be quite distant, but perpetrators are taking advantage of vulnerable people. The new model will also focus on prevention issues – how do you stop young people getting involved with criminality in the first place? A report will come to the Board at a later date in the future when the work is ready to be shared with wider Partners.

MA mentioned that he had put Halton forward to be involved in a pilot with the NCA looking at data sharing.

DP raised concerns regarding rogue traders who are currently targeting work that RSLs might be doing around roof repairs. SC will share the information with HH’s development team. Other RSLs have been contacted and this will be followed up.

9) **Information Items**

All items noted.

10) **AOB**

DC asked for an update around Modern Day Slavery ongoing work. DP reported the work that was being undertaken with the support of the Cheshire Anti Slavery

Network (mentioned under matters arising) and promised a written update to be shared with the Councillor as part of his regular briefings.

MA

Deana Perchard of HBC Trading Standards along with Georgina Griffiths and Ian Hampson of Cheshire Police have been chosen to receive the Chartered Trading Standards Institute (CTSI) Hero Award for the Best Consumer Protection Campaign, an incredibly varied campaign to raise awareness of loan sharks. All three will attend a special awards ceremony in London on Tuesday 25 June 2019.

For information, it's the individuals who receive the award rather than the Service or the organisation they represent.

11) **Date and Time of Next SHP Meeting**

17th July 2019 : 10:00 : Ground Floor Boardroom, Municipal Buildings,
Widnes

Agreed As A True And Accurate Record