

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

KENT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

NOTES of a meeting of the Kent Community Safety Partnership held in the Darent Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Tuesday, 19 March 2013.

PRESENT: Mr P M Hill, OBE (Chairman), Mr David Coleman, Ch. Sup. Corbishley, Ms A Gilmour, Mr S Griffiths, Mr R Hales, Ms N Hussain and Ms E Martin, , Mr S Nolan, Ms D Mauldon, Ms K Paterson, Mr M Roberts, Mr S Skilton and Mr C Turner.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr S Beaumont (Head of Community Safety and Emergency Planning), Ms D Exall (Strategic Relationship Advisor), Mr G Mills (Democratic Services Manager), Ms A Slaven (Director of Service Improvement), Mr J Parris (Community Safety Manager) and Ms M Peachey (Kent Director Of Public Health)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

13. Declarations of Interest

(Item A2)

There were no declarations of interest

14. Notes of meeting held on 1 November 2012

(Item A3)

The notes of the meeting held on 1 November 2012 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chairman. Matters arising and actions from the last meeting were noted.

15. Kent Police and Crime Plan

(Item B1 - Report by Mrs Ann Barnes, Police and Crime Commissioner for Kent)

(1) The Commissioner presented a report which summarised the Police and Crime Plan which set out her objectives for policing in Kent, the resources available to achieve them and how performance would be measured. Mrs Barnes said the plan encapsulated her election promises and how these would be achieved.

(2) Mrs Barnes said that since being elected Police and Crime Commissioner she had spent her first few weeks establishing links with the Kent community though undertaking a number of county wide outreach tours. There had also been the first in a number of 'Meet the Commissioner' events as well as the first 'Commissioners Surgery' whereby members of the public can meet the Commissioner face to face to discuss local issues. Both the surgeries and the one to one meetings would be held at regular intervals.

(3) To meet her statutory responsibilities The Commissioner would be holding regular governance meetings with the Chief Constable with the purpose of scrutinising and challenging police performance. Mrs Barnes also spoke of the need to work with in collaboration with bodies such as those represented on the Kent

Community Safety Partnership so as to maximise efficiency and consistency of service levels in achieving common goals and targets.

(4) During the course of discussion members of the Partnership spoke of their support for the objectives set out in the Police and Crime Plan, and in particular the proposed appointment of a Youth Commissioner to act as a bridge between young people and the police. Mr Nolan spoke of the need to undertake some detailed work in order to map out the Kent community landscape and the role partners have within that in order to maximise efficiency and reduce any overlap and duplication. This was fully supported and individual partners spoke of their willingness to work with the Commissioners office on the detail of the review which it was hoped would be finished in the autumn.

(5) At the conclusion of the discussion Mr Hill thanked the Commissioner for attending the meeting and hoped she or one of her members of staff would regularly attend future meetings of the Partnership.

16. Kent Troubled Families Programme Update

(Item C1 - Report by Angela Slaven, Director of Service Improvement, Customer and Improvement Directorate)

(1) Angela Slaven provided the meeting with an update on the progress with the Kent Troubled Families Programme. She said the role of the Community Safety Partnership was critical to the overall delivery of the Kent Programme due to the expertise, information and resources that could be accessed through the partnership. The Programme started in 2012 and the total number of families KCC has committed to work with in year 1 is 1,082 with the indicative number for year 2 adding a further 1094. Combined these numbers represent some 85% of the initial 2,560 families which the DCLG initially estimated needed to be part of the programme.

(2) To date progress with meeting the objectives of the Programme was encouraging but there could be no room for complacency if the Programme was not delivered to target. As the Programme approached the end of year one there was in place the governance, resources and processes necessary to deliver the Programme and engagement with the first cohort was showing good progress. As the programme moved into year 2 there would be a major focus on developing different and better ways of delivering services.

(3) The Partnership noted the report and the good progress made to date to deliver the Kent Troubled Families Programme.

17. Kent Community Safety Agreement - End of Year Review

(Item C2 - Report by Stuart Beaumont – Head of Community Safety and Emergency Planning and Presentation by Ch. Supt. Steve Corbishley)

(1) As part of this report Ch Supt Corbishley gave a presentation highlighting the challenges of the past 12 months which included needing to work within a framework of reducing budgets, structural and governance changes and the unique challenges presented by the London Olympics. Ch. Supt. Corbishley also presented details of changes in the statistics related to anti-social behaviour, domestic abuse, substance misuse, acquisitive crime, violent crime and road safety.

(2) Looking forward Ch. Supt. Corbishley said there would be continuing financial pressures and he urged all partners to maintain their commitment if the progress which has been made is to be sustained. Areas which would be the subject of particular focus would be to work with partners on the design and mapping of collaborative work, actions to reduce levels of re-offending, tackling alcohol related crime and focusing on interventions with young people.

(3) During the course of discussion Angela Slaven said that Kent was above the national average when it came to the successful treatment of drug users and the Kent Drug action Team was among the top performers in the country. Mrs Barnes said the presentation highlighted a number of challenges and shared priorities but expressed concern at the apparent rise in the Kent domestic burglary and violent crime figures compared to the national average. Meridan Peachey said there was ongoing work amongst partners around issues related to domestic abuse and therefore she expected to see these figures improve as a result. Mr O'Brien spoke of the importance of partnership working and said the close working relationship between Kent and Medway was producing positive results.

(4) Following further discussion it was agreed that Sarah Billiald would be asked to present a report to the next meeting on changes to the management of offenders who receive sentences less than 12 months.

Action: Stuart Beaumont to liaise with Sarah Billiald

18. Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs)Update *(Item D2)*

Report by Stuart Beaumont- Head of Community Safety and Emergency Planning)

(1) This report provided an update on the delivery of Domestic Homicide Reviews across Kent and Medway to fulfil the statutory requirements of section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004. To date there had been 9 referrals with one of those being completed and 1 being quality assessed. The other 7 were still in progress.

(2) Mr Griffiths said there was a need to ensure that the outcomes from Domestic Homicide Reviews were shared nationally and therefore it was agreed the Chairman would write to the Home Office on this point.

Action: Stuart Beaumont

19. KCC Select Committee on Domestic Abuse *(Item D3 - Report by Stuart Beaumont – Head of Community Safety and Emergency Planning)*

(1) This report provided an update on the work being undertaken to take forward the 14 recommendations contained in the Kent County Council Select Committee report on Domestic Abuse which was published in December 2012. Mr Beaumont said it was essential that measures were taken to tackle the blight of domestic abuse and therefore he would be working with partners in establishing a working group

under the umbrella of the Partnership with the purpose of looking at ways to ensure that the Select Committee's recommendations were taken forward.

Action: Stuart Beaumont.

20. IDVA Commissioning

(Item D1 - Report by Stuart Beaumont, Head of Community Safety and Emergency Planning)

(1) Mr Turner reported on the arrangements for considering the tenders received for the IDVA Commissioning service due to commence on 1 April 2013. 6 Organisations/partnerships had passed the pre-qualifying stage and these had been invited to submit a full tender. These tenders would be assessed by a panel consisting of representatives from Kent Probation, the Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy Group and the Kent Criminal Justice Board. The successful tenderer would be announced during April 2013 and Alison Gilmour from the Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy Group would act as the contract manager. Mr Hill said he would write to the Leaders of the three District Councils who so far had decided not to make a funding commitment.

Action: Chris Turner

(2) The Partnership noted the report and that there would be a report to the Partnership's meeting in October 2013 in order to provide an update on progress and performance.

Action: Chris Turner

21. KCC Community Wardens - Application for Powers

(Item D4 - Report by Stuart Beaumont, Head of Community Safety and Emergency Planning)

(1) This report provided an update on the KCC Community Wardens Transformation process that is currently being implemented. Following extensive consultation with staff, partners and unions a request had been made to the Chief Constable to enable KCC Community Wardens to be provided with powers to assist them in their day to day work. In addition other changes were being made to terms and conditions to enable more flexible working and closer links with other partnership work-streams.

(2) Mr Hill said he was confident the proposed changes would enable the Wardens to be more effective without changing their role within the community. Mr Coleman stated that Parish Councils supported this measured approach. Mrs Barnes said she would be doing some media work around the role and powers of PCSO's and should the Chief Constable agree to the changes being proposed in respect of Community Wardens then there was an opportunity to do some joint publicity.

Action: Stuart Beaumont

22. Dates of next meetings 17 July 2013 at 2.30pm and 17 October 2013 at 10.00am
(Item D6)

The next meeting of the Partnership would be on Wednesday 17 July 2013 at Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone commencing at 2.30pm