

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 Wednesday, 17 July 2013.

PRESENT: Mr P M Hill, OBE (Chairman), Mr David Coleman (Vice-Chairman), Dr S Beaumont, Ms S Billiald, Mr S Bone-Knell, Ms H Carpenter, Mr J Carmichael, Cllr P Hicks, Ms A Gilmour, Mr J Littlemore (Substitute for Ms Z Cooke), Ms M Peachey, Acting Chief Superintendent A. Rabey, Cllr M Rhodes, Mr M Roberts (Substitute for Mr J A Kite, MBE), Chief Inspector L Russell and Mr C Turner

ALSO PRESENT: Mrs A Barnes, Ms D Cartwright, Mrs K Chapman and DCI A Pritchard

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr J Parris (Community Safety Manager)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

23. Minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2013

(Item A3)

(1) It was noted that the report from Sarah Billiald on changes to the management of offenders who received sentences of less than 12 months would be submitted to the October meeting of the Committee.

(2) The notes of the meeting held on 19 March 2013 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Actions from the last meeting were noted.

Action: Sarah Billiald

24. Update on New Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) Service Provision for Kent & Medway.

(Item B1)

(1) Chris Turner (Kent Criminal Justice Board) presented a report on the new Independent Domestic Advisor Service for Kent and Medway which had commenced on 8 April 2013 and tabled their first quarters performance report. He explained that although in the first quarter they had 412 clients across Kent and Medway it would only be possible to report on outcomes when the cases were closed, so this information would not be available until the second quarter.

(2) Deborah Cartwright (Kent Drug and Alcohol Action Team) reported on funding that had been secured to provide a more intensive service for young people, children and more complex clients. Work was being undertaken to ensure that IDVA were placed in one stop shops in every District. She also referred to the training that was being provided to other professionals including police in order to build knowledge and capacity in other organisations.

(3) The Partnership asked questions and made comments which included the following:

- The importance of ensuring that every District received a consultant service from the IDVA was emphasised.
- Regarding the safeguarding and support for children in Domestic Abuse situations, Mrs Barnes stated that she would welcome views on the possible commissioning of services for these children. Alison Glimour welcomed this opportunity.
- The importance of ensuring that funding arrangements were for a minimum of 3 years was emphasised.
- It was important to ensure that the work of the IDVA service was joined up with the Troubled Families scheme.

It was noted that there would be an item on the future funding of this service at the next meeting of the Committee

Action: Chris Turner

25. Kent Police and Crime Commissioner and Kent Police and Crime Panel - First 6 months

(Item B2)

The Charman reported that this item has been withdrawn and that there would be a joint report from the Police & Crime Commissioner and the Head of Community Safety & Emergency Planning submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

ACTION: Stuart Beaumont and Mrs Barnes

26. Engaging Clinical Commissioning Groups - verbal update

(Item B3)

(1) Hazel Carpenter (NHS – Community Commissioning Groups (CCGs)) gave a short presentation which included a map showing the eight CCG's in Kent and Medway and a summary of the CCG's commissioning responsibilities.

(2) Hazel explained that in relation to funding the CCG's wanted to understand the impact that they could have with partners. She acknowledged that the CCG's were not coterminous with District Council's, but they were learning how to have the most impact in local areas. They were trying to make sense of the West Kent/East Kent situation whilst remaining rooted in the localities.

(3) In response to a question, Hazel explained that formal complaints relating to GP's would go to NHS England for consideration and there was a specific NHS England team for Kent.

(4) The Chairman thanked Hazel for her presentation and update.

27. Living in Fear - better outcomes for people with autism and learning disabilities -Presentation
(Item B4)

(1) Colin Guest (MCCH) and DCI Andy Pritchard (Kent Police) gave the Committee an update on the Living in Fear project for people with autism and learning difficulties. Colin explained that this project had been established with lottery funding in 2010. It was a joint project between MCCH and Kent Police. He would be seeking the partnerships comments and input into the recommendations which were the result of three years of in depth research with a view to publishing the findings in October 2013. He stated that at a recent steering group meeting it was clear that those with autism and learning difficulties were victimised more than others and that most of this victimisation was personal.

(2) Andy stated that there were a lot of recommendations for the police in the report which included support for these type of victims of crime and how to facilitate them speaking to the Police. This was a vulnerable group who found it hard to access support services but were more likely to be the victims of crime. This was a pioneering piece of work and it was important that this was taken forward by a multi agency partnership.

(3) Mrs Barnes offered to facilitate a seminar to look at the outcome of this research.

Action: Mrs Barnes

(4) The meeting noted the report and that the draft recommendations would be shared with partners for comments.

Action: Honey-Leigh Topley (KCC)

28. 'Focus on your Safety' - Kent Fires draft strategy for Community Safety
(Item B5)

(1) Sean Bone-Knell (Kent Fire and Rescue Service) introduced the "Focus on your Safety" strategy and invited comments on this draft five year community safety strategy.

(2) Meradin Peachey (Director of Public Health) welcomed the strategy's focus on prevention and in particular the visits to vulnerable people by a specialist team. She stated that she would talk to colleagues in Health regarding accessing this type of support for vulnerable people returning home from hospital but there may be an issue around sharing confidential data.

(3) Sean explained that the draft report would be going back to the Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority Board for approval in October 2013 and would then be available to partners.

(4) The Chairman encouraged colleagues in the Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Service to get involved with the Troubled Families initiative.

(5) The Partnership noted the draft strategy.

29. Kent and Medway Strategic Plan for Reducing Reoffending 2012-2-15 - Annual progress report and Plan refresh (to follow)
(Item B6)

(1) Sarah Billiald introduced a report on the end of year progress review and proposed plan refresh of the Kent and Medway Strategic Plan of Reducing Reoffending 2012-15. She gave an overview, setting out the headline figures and stated that the reoffending figures in Medway had come down more than those in Kent and it was important that the best practise that had achieved this was shared. The gaps that had been identified in the partnership which supported this strategy were in relation to finance and debt. She stated that welfare reform posed a challenge and that they would be working with Job Centre+. Sarah also referred to the previous Integrated Offender Management Strategic Board and the importance of understanding its successes and the reasons behind them. She emphasised the importance of identifying best practise and sharing it across the County.

(2) Reference was made to the risks set out on page 9 of the report, especially as there would be a diverse range of service providers. Sarah confirmed that there would be a detailed presentation to the Community Safety Partnership in the autumn. She stated that a range of providers would have greater flexibility than one provider, and that the greatest risk would be in the transition.

Action: Sarah Billiald

(3) The Partnership noted the annual report.

30. Briefing Paper on the Current and Future Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) provision in Kent
(Item B7)

(1) Meradin Peachey and Tim Smith (Kent Police) introduced a report which provided an update on the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) provision in Kent in Kent. Meradin stated that although the number of people needed to access this provision was smaller than the number of people needing to access domestic abuse services, it was still a significant matter for those people involved. Tim stated that the level of investment in the SARC remained static, there were positive moves towards integrated care and suites across the county were providing excellent care. For a county the size of Kent it was the collective view that there needed to be a SARC in the county. However, there was a difficult debate to be had around sustainable investment.

(2) Mrs Barnes stated that one of her top priorities was to get a functioning SARC for Kent. She had used all her influence to get a good stakeholder group which had looked at three and possible sites. She stated that the SARC would be centrally sited in Maidstone.

(3) The Partnership noted the progress made to establish a SARC in Kent.

31. Kent Community Safety Agreement - Performance Update and Development of a New Agreement (Item B8)

(1) Jim Parris introduced a report which outlined the development of the next Kent Community Safety Agreement (KCSA) for 2014-17, the progress in relation to the current agreement for 2013-14 and its associated action plans. He explained that it was proposed to hold workshops in the autumn to assist with the development of the new KCSA. It was intended that the new KCSA would be in place in time for the new Police Plan.

(2) Colleagues from Kent Police updated the partners on the reduction in burglary which was due to the successful targeting of the spike in activity by putting in dedicated resources. Violence was still an issue and an operation was being run in Kent Police to focus work on reducing violent crime.

(3) Sarah Billiald referred to the strong case for the use of restorative justice which had been very successful in reducing re-offending.

(4) The Partnership noted the report and the steps to be taken to develop the next KCSA.

Post meeting note: As requested at the meeting the following information has been provided by Angela Slaven in relation to CSA performance monitoring for substance misuse – “The reason the number of successful completions has dropped so markedly is due to a number of issues. One is the way the figure is calculated, last year if 10 people left treatment with five doing so successfully this was counted as 50% success rate. However, now the five are compared to the whole treatment system including those who left treatment within the last year and have not re-presented to the treatment providers. As you can see this impacts hugely on percentages.

We have had new providers in place and when there is a change in provider all existing clients are closed on the old provider and re-opened on the new provider; all these are counted as unsuccessful completions.”

32. Date of next meeting - 17 October 2013 at 10.00am (Item B9)

It was noted that the next meeting of the Partnership would be held on 17 October 2013 at 10.00am.

Committee in closed session

The press and public were excluded for consideration of the following business.

33. Youth Related Issues

(Item B10)

(1) Lee Russell updated the Partnership on a number of Youth related issues in Kent and the action being taken to address them. The importance of information sharing between the partners was emphasised.

(2) The Partnership noted the update.

34. Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs)

(Item B11)

(1) Alison Gilmour introduced a report which provided an update for Members of the Partnership regarding the delivery of Domestic Homicide Reviews across Kent and Medway to fulfil the statutory requirements as set out in Schedule 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004.

(2) The Partnership noted the report.

35. Community Safety Conference on Vulnerable Adults

Jim Parris offered to organise a Community Safety Conference on Vulnerable Adults in 2014. Partners were requested to email Jim if there would be interested in this Conference being arranged.