

## KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

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### KENT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES of a meeting of the Kent Community Safety Partnership held in the Darent Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Monday, 26 September 2011.

PRESENT: Mike Hill (KCC Cabinet Member and Chairman of the Partnership), Stuart Beaumont (KCC), Graeme Brown (Kent Forum), Martin Bradley (Shepway CSP), Nigel Foote (HM Prison Service), Angela Slaven (KCC), Meradin Peachey (KCC/NHS), Tim England (Medway Council), Alison Gilmour (Kent and Medway DA Strategy Group), Robin Hales (Kent and Medway Chief Executives), Sarah Billiald (Kent Probation), Graham Hooper (Kent Police Authority), Mark Rhodes (Tonbridge and Malling CSP), Zena Cooke (Maidstone BC/CSP), Steve Corbishley (Kent Police), David Coleman (Kent Association of Local Councils), Velia Coffey (Canterbury CSP), Gill Ellis (Kent Police), Steve Griffiths (Kent Fire and Rescue Service), Jeremy Kite (Dartford BC), Paul Jackson (Ashford CSP), Kayleigh Nicholson (Kent Police Authority), Matt Roberts (Dartford BC), Jim Parris (KCC), and Andrew Swan (KCC).

#### UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

##### **23. Apologies**

*(Item A1)*

Noted

##### **24. Declarations of Interest**

*(Item A2)*

None

##### **25. Minutes & Matters Arising**

*(Item A3)*

The notes of the meeting held on 20 May 2011 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

##### **Matters Arising**

With reference to Minute 11(2), Steve Griffiths reported that Kent Police were actively monitoring issues around the relationship between Eastern European Communities and the local communities through Community Liaison Officers with specific issues (e.g. housing, overcrowding) being pursued through other forums.

## **26. Frequency of meetings for 2012 (oral)**

*(Item A4)*

- (1) Stuart Beaumont suggested that there should be three meetings of the Partnership in 2012 each planned to coincide with meetings of the Kent Forum.
- (2) The Partnership was in agreement with this proposal, and proposed dates would be notified in due course.

**Action:** Stuart Beaumont/Andrew Swan

## **27. Membership of KCSP**

*(Item B1)*

- (1) This report provided an update on the proposed membership of the Partnership following discussions at its meeting held on 20 May 2011. The Partnership's core membership would be drawn from the responsible authorities specified in the Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007, with others being co-opted as and when required.
- (2) It was noted that Mr Hale was present representing the Kent & Medway Chief Executives and Graeme Brown agreed to seek clarity regarding other representatives who should be invited to attend future meetings on behalf of the Kent Districts.

**Action:** Graeme Brown

- (3) Regarding appropriate Health representation, Meradin Peachey offered to bring a report to a future Partnership meeting detailing changes in the NHS.

**Action:** Meradin Peachey

- (4) It was noted that the co-opted representative for the Kent Prisons Service should be revised from the currently stated 'Chief Executive of Stanford Hill'.
- (5) It was also noted that the Partnership should consider a countywide representative for 'Registered social landlords', this being the Kent Housing Group.

**Action:** Jim Parris/ Andrew Swan

## **28. County Community Safety Fund Allocation Protocols**

*(Item B2)*

(1) This report proposed a countywide Community safety Fund (CSF) allocation process, delegating to the KCSP Chairman power to approve (or not) business cases submitted by the joint KCST (Kent Community Safety Team). The report also recommended that financial and programme monitoring reports should be presented at each KCSP meeting.

(2) The Partnership agreed to the recommendations of this report as follows:

- Agreement to the proposed county CSF allocation process
- The delegation to the KCSP Chairman of power to approve business cases submitted by the joint KCST (Kent Community Safety Team)
- That financial/programme monitoring reports should be presented at each KCSP meeting.

(3) Stuart Beaumont advised that the KCSP would most likely hold the fund for the remainder of the financial year due to delay in the process for appointing Police and Crime Commissioner.

## **29. Domestic Homicide Reviews**

*(Item B3)*

(1) This report outlined procedures in place for Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) across Kent and Medway in order to comply with the requirements of Section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004, which came into effect on 13 April 2011.

(2) These procedures have already been engaged to deal with incidents in Kent and Medway, and appear to be fit for purpose. They would be reviewed each time they were used during the first year.

(3) Partnership members expressed concern that agencies were already involved in a range of safeguarding related joint review processes, and so care should be taken not to duplicate work and costs. Currently the key DHR agencies had agreed to split costs on an equal basis, to work on rationalising and streamlining processes where possible, and to explore joint funding options. The meeting noted that Mr Hill, as KCSP Chairman, had already written to the Home Office regarding the issue of funding for these reviews. Meradin Peachey said she would seek clarification regarding the position of the Health Authority, and also to report this issue to GP committees.

**Action:** Meradin Peachey

(4) Partnership members also expressed concerns around the potential impact of 'out of area' DHRs, where there was a Kent and/or Medway connection. There was also concern expressed regarding the ability to secure a pool of independent chairs for DHRs (in terms of required skills and competencies)

(5) In response to these points it was said that there was already in place an established procedure for dealing with any impact arising from 'out of area DHR's and this scenario, and Also there were now at least four suitable candidates which had been identified as being suitable to chair DHR's . The Partnership noted that consideration would also be given to 'duty of care' in the context of potential for litigiousness around the conduct of DHRs.

(6) Following discussion The Partnership agreed the recommendations set out in paragraph 5 of this report, with the addition that the proposed working group referred to in paragraph 5.5 of the recommendations should also undertake a review of the financial arrangements for DHRs.

(7) Resolved that

(i) Approval be given to the Domestic Homicide Review Protocols for Kent and Medway as set out in the report

(ii) The Domestic Homicide review Steering Group should continue to meet and report relevant issues back to meetings of the Partnership

(iii) In order to allow for periods of annual leave and avoid delays in commencing the review process, the Chair of the Medway Community Safety Partnership be co-recipient of Domestic Homicide notifications along with the Chair of KCSP

(iv) Agreement be given to the interim arrangements for the costs of Domestic Homicide Reviews to be equally shared until a more equitable formula is agreed for delivering a wider range of review activity; and

(v) A working group should be established to consider the issues highlighted in paragraphs 4.4 and 5.4 of this report, and also to undertake a review the financial arrangements for DHRs

### **30. Community Safety Agreement - Action plans**

*(Item B4)*

(1) This report detailed the strategic level action plans developed in support of the agreed priority areas included in the Kent Community Safety Agreement 2011-14.

(2) Partnership members were reassured that these action plans were not in any way intended to undermine or direct existing partnership arrangements, action plans, and performance frameworks.

(3) Partnership members agreed that the action plans should be explicit about links to Community Budgets.

(4) Angela Slaven advised the Partnership that significant themes were being developed in relation to substance misuse and this work would be the subject of a report to the KCSP in due course.

(5) Kayleigh Nicholson stressed the importance of developing a performance framework, as indicated in paragraph 4.5 of the report, and suggested that a report should be brought to the next meeting of the Partnership.

**Action:** Stuart Beaumont/Jim Parris

(6) The Partnership:

(i) agreed to the action plans attached to the report relating to priority areas contained within the Kent Community Safety Agreement 2011-14; and

(ii) noted the progress towards delivering a county wide strategic assessment based on partnership data-streams and focusing on the agreed priority areas

### **31. Critical Funding Requirement 2012/13 - IDVA's**

*(Item B5)*

(1) This report outlined:

- the current position of domestic abuse in Kent
- the role and impact of the IDVAs (Independent Domestic Violence Advisors) across Kent
- the potential pressures on securing funding requirements for IDVAs for 2012/13
- future risks should funds not be secured
- a recommendation for KCSP as to how IDVA services can be maintained

(2) Stuart Beaumont circulated at the meeting supplementary paper which provided further background information on Domestic Abuse.

(3) During the course of discussion the Partnership agreed that the three Court IDVAs were an essential minimum requirement. It was said, and agreed that a significant cultural change was required in terms of public perception around domestic abuse, such as had been seen in relation to drink driving where there was now a sense of community pressure in terms of that being unacceptable behaviour. Partnership members acknowledged that domestic abuse must be a priority, and that there was also a victim agenda.

(4) In terms of future funding strategy there was discussion about appropriate forums for further exposure of this issue and it was also agreed that it was important to have outside scrutiny of IDVA work in order to assess outputs and effectiveness

(5) The Partnership:

(i) Agreed in principle to the amount of funding to be made available to provide a minimum of three Court IDVAs and 13 Community IDVAs, one for each district; and

(ii) Agreed to the establishment of a joint working group consisting of members from the Executive Group of the Kent & Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy Group and the County Specialist Domestic Violence Court Board. The joint working group was tasked with drafting a joint funding mechanism to ensure appropriate resourcing of IDVA services and asked to look at the issues on location and management of these resources. On completion of this work the outcomes would be reported back to the Partnership.

**Action:** Stuart Beaumont/Jim Parris

### **32. Anti-Social Behaviour update**

*(Item C1)*

(1) This report provided a background overview of the requirement for a multi agency Anti Social Behaviour case management system, and progress towards delivering this.

### **33. Police and Crime Commissioner and Police and Crime Panels**

*(Item C2)*

(1) This report provided background on the intended role, powers and responsibilities of Police and Crime Commissioners, and invited Partnership members to consider the necessary preparations required for the arrival of a Police and Crime Commissioner in November 2012.

### **34. Statutory Data Sharing Requirements update**

*(Item C3)*

(1) This report provided an update on the new methods for sharing data with statutory community safety partners.

### **35. Feedback from Community Safety Seminar (oral)**

*(Item C4)*

(1) Steve Griffiths provided an oral update.

### **36. AOB**

*(Item C5)*

(1) Steve Corbishley and Gill Ellis offered to bring an information item to the next meeting regarding CCTV.

**Action:** Steve Corbishley/Gill Ellis

(2) Angela Slaven offered to bring two information papers to the next meeting entitled 'Substance misuse services in prisons', and 'Drug Testing on Arrest as part of the Drug Intervention Programme (DIP)'.

**Action:** Angela Slaven

### **37. Date of next meeting**

*(Item C6)*

Proposed dates for meetings during 2012 will be circulated as soon as possible.