

# SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE GROUP



## Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2010

### Present

Stuart Drummond (Chair)	HBC
Alison Mawson	HBC
Cllr Barker	Cleveland Police Authority
Ann Tarbitt	Chairman of Hartlepool Bench
Joanne Atkinson	Local Criminal Justice Board
Lucia Saiger	Probation
Dave Turton	Fire Brigade
Sue Johnson	HBC
Denise Ogden	HBC
Clare Clark	NDC
Kay Howes	GONE
Sarah Wilson	Police Authority
Louise Wallace	PCT
Elizabeth Carroll	Community Network
Keith Bayley	Community Network
Ch. Insp. Mick Williams	Police
Sheila Atkinson	HBC Community Safety (Mins)
Sarah Wilson	Cleveland Police Authority

Due to the numbers attending the meetings it was agreed to seek an alternative venue.

### Action

#### 1. Apologies

Paul Walker	HBC
Andy Powell	Housing Hartlepool
John Bentley	SITV
Brian Neale	SHP

#### 2. Minutes of meetings held on 21<sup>st</sup> October and notes from Strategic Assessment held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009

Minutes were accepted as a true record.

#### 3. Matters Arising

- Invitations had been sent for the Community Justice Launch Event which will take place on 9<sup>th</sup> February and members were encouraged to attend as this would explain the Community Justice Initiative and some of the arrangements which have been established in the Courts.
- Strategic Assessment – priorities are to continue for this year however will be delivered slightly differently, focusing into the neighbourhoods. Reassurance and Community Engagement group will be renamed as Public Confidence, and will continue to be

chaired by Denise Ogden.

#### 4. **SHP Communication Strategy**

This document was circulated and had been prepared by the Community Safety Team in conjunction with Avanticom, media provider for SHP. The Mayor felt that fear of crime should be included in the evaluation and this was to be amended at page 15. It was also agreed to review the words around theme groups. Lucia Saiger suggested using messages when members are the public are calling HBC and 'on hold' and the Mayor agreed to investigate this. It was also noted that there was no mention of the website at Appendix A although it is mentioned at page 3.

SD

Kay Howes reminded the group that there had been a discussion at the Neighbourhood Management Review Day as to whether the Partnership was receiving value for money from Avanticom and if there was another way of managing press releases across the Partnership. Alison Mawson felt that this should be considered, however it did assist in the co-ordination of press releases. Kay confirmed that other Partnerships in the region did not have this type of arrangement and Denise Ogden agreed to take the strategy back to the Reassurance Group for updating and bring back to the next meeting.

#### 5. **SHP Community Engagement & Consultation Strategy**

This document had also been circulated and Denise Ogden encouraged agencies to consider this document, which gave information and guidance on engaging with communities, when undertaking work under the Partnership's agenda. An action plan was also included to assist with this.

#### 6. **SHP Vision Statement**

The Partnership terms of reference had been reviewed last year, but the vision statement had not changed for over five years. The SHP Business Group had suggested ideas for updating the statement and the group were asked for a decision on this. After further discussion it was agreed that the vision statement should be 'Working together to create a safer Hartlepool', which would need to be incorporated into various SHP documents.

AJM

#### 7. **Proposal for Joint Event – SHP/Local Safeguarding Children's Board/Children's Trust**

A proposal had been received from the Children's Trust to have a shared event with SHP where young people's issues such as under age drinking, risky behaviour and their families could be discussed. This could influence the review of the Children & Young People's Plan next year and it was agreed that this should take place in late summer and ideas were to be brought back to the next meeting.

All

#### 8. **Whatever It Takes Update**

Dave Turton was to give an update on this to the Reassurance Task Group next week. There had been several meetings with Neighbourhood Managers and Brian Neale, and all had been supportive of this initiative. Further developments were to be discussed with Denise Ogden outside of the meeting.

#### 9. **Finance & Performance Report (April – November)**

Finance report had been presented at the last meeting. Performance report was tabled:

- indicators in respect of neighbourhood safety and public confidence were all on track. NI16 and NI20 reducing crime indicators are challenging targets and there was a

problem with the Assault with Injury which the Reducing Violence Group was seeking to address by future activities linking with alcohol and domestic violence.

- Harm caused by drugs and alcohol NI40 figures were fluctuating due to a rolling 12 month number. Percentage increases were not quite reaching target and were therefore showing amber at the moment. Louise Wallace confirmed that issues of shared care with GPs which were affecting these figures would be raised in the meeting with the National Treatment Agency next week.
- NI38 Improvement indicator was not completed as Q2 data was not yet received but was expected by the end of January. Reducing Re-offending figures were all showing green and Alison Mawson advised that there were approximately 80 young people who had come into the criminal justice system for the first time in the first two quarters of the year which was quite significant as in one quarter last year there had been 90. There were also more projects beginning which hopefully would further improve this.

#### 10. **Youth Offending Service Inspection Results**

Sue Johnson referred to a recent letter from HMIC regarding the Youth Crime Prevention Inspection which gave positive comments in relation to Partnership working with a number of areas of strength being identified, particularly in relation to the Team Around the Schools and Neighbourhood Policing. There were some areas for improvement which included health, however representation was now being arranged. There was also a national issue in respect of assessment processes as the Common Assessment Framework was being used in some areas, whereas the YOS had specific assessment tools such as the ONSET model.

The Core Casework Inspection had proved less positive, however it was important to note that some of the case files used were two year old and there were issues concerning recording processes which had been corrected in the interim period. The areas of concern had in the main already been identified and were being addressed, however a response was required and an action plan was being developed for the Inspectors by the middle of February which would be scrutinised by the Management Board. There will also be a further inspection in the next 12 months.

#### 11. **Youth Offending Management Board Minutes 16<sup>th</sup> December**

Minutes were circulated for information.

#### 12. **SHP Business Group Minutes 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009**

Minutes were circulated for information.

#### 13. **Specialist Domestic Violence Court**

Alison Mawson explained that this application had been submitted to the Ministry of Justice and there would be a meeting in February of a Panel who would consider the self assessment and ask questions regarding this. One of the main requirements for this process would be the appointment of an Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) who would work closely with the victims and link to the criminal justice organisations. Harbour have individuals who are trained to provide this service however it has never been commissioned by the Partnership. This application was strongly supported by the Police and Ch. Insp. Williams asked if there was any indication on cost implications. Alison Mawson felt that although the overall cost may be in the region of £35K, contributions currently being made in respect of outreach services may form part of this cost. The group unanimously supported this proposal.

#### 14. **Information Sharing Protocol**

This had been discussed previously at this group and Government Office had developed a template for Partnerships across the region. This covered areas such as information sharing in respect of crime and disorder, data protection, human rights and Caldicott guidelines. There are two levels of information sharing, with most of the agencies within this group classified as Level A partners, Level B partners sharing information of a less sensitive nature on an irregular basis. Government Office has provided funding for training and a range of dates in March have provided. Alison agreed to circulate dates available and asked members of the group who needed to attend to let her have their availability. Training was also taking place in Middlesbrough and Redcar which members could also access.

AM

#### 15. **Any Other Business**

All

1. The Mayor asked how matters were progressing in respect of the Alcohol Strategy and Alison Mawson advised that this is overseen by Substance Misuse Group. A meeting of the Alcohol Working Group (which reports to Substance Misuse Group) is due in February and the draft Alcohol Strategy will be agreed at that time. It is hoped that the draft strategy will be sent out for consultation which will involve this group, the LSP the community via the Neighbourhood Consultative Forums. It would then come back to the Substance Misuse Group in May followed by this group in June for approval.
2. Louise Wallace raised the issue of minimum pricing for alcohol. Balance had requested support in signing a letter to one of the national papers to lobby change. Alcohol is now being sold for 12p per unit and from a Director of Public Health point of view Louise supported the sending of a letter, in accordance with the recommendations of the Chief Medical Officer. The group wished to support this.
3. Alison Mawson advised that Hartlepool had been selected to take part in a six month pilot project to tackle organised crime groups which would have an evaluation at the end of it. This could cover areas such as violent crime, drug trafficking, people trafficking, firearms, VAT fraud, money laundering and distraction crime. Some of this work would already be carried out e.g. at waste sites, and there may be some funding available for particular operations
4. Confirmation from the Home Office that the SSCF Capital Grant was to be cut by 50% next year. (£44K down to £22K)
5. Kay Howes advised that it would also be necessary for the Local Criminal Justice Boards and Community Safety Partnerships to come together by next March to look at service standards across the Criminal Justice System which would include consideration of the various pledges.
6. Policing Pledge – Magistrates Courts – publicising outcomes for offenders was being examined and national guidance was available.
7. Policing Plan summaries were being produced with a focus on local information at neighbourhood level,
8. Community Crimefighters – the group agreed that training should be provided locally, rather than as currently, where Northumbria Police provide all training across region.

#### 16. **Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30 p.m. at **Belle Vue Centre. (Note change of venue)**