

**COVENTRY COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**  
**22<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER 2008**

**MINUTES**

**Present:**

Chief Supt. Deb Harrod (Chair)	West Midlands Police (M2)
Bev Messinger	Acting Chief Executive, Coventry City Council
Councillor Andrew Williams	Cabinet Member (Neighbourhoods & Community Safety)
Sara Roach	Community Safety Team, Coventry City Council
Alison Quigley	Community Safety Team, Coventry City Council
Barry Eveleigh	Community Safety Team, Coventry City Council
Nikki Murch	Community Safety Team, Coventry City Council
Karen Buttle	New Deal for Communities
Annie Steele	Swanswell Trust
Andrea Simmonds	West Midlands Fire Service
Sarah Chand	Probation Services
Angie Parks	Youth Offending Services
Jan Nichols	Neighbourhood Management, Coventry City Council
Inspector Jo Floyd	Police Partnership Liaison Officer
Nigel Cavendish	GOWM
Tim Coleman	Coventry Partnership
Paul Wells	Community Drugs Team
Eamon Lynch	Whitefriars Housing Group
Simon Brake	Community Services, Coventry City Council
Malcolm Emmerson	Connexions
Dawn Ford	Coventry Partnership
Alethea Fuller	West Midlands Police Authority
Alan Bennett	Public Protection, Coventry City Council
Anima Thawait	Coventry Teaching Primary Care Trust
Nigel Gumley	Crown Prosecution Service
Rob Allison	Voluntary Action Coventry

**Apologies:**

Chief Supt. Steve Glover	West Midlands Police (M1)
Chief Supt. Jim Titley	West Midlands Police (M3)
Simon Shilton	West Midlands Fire Service
Cheryl Rosser	HM Courts
Jill Ayres	Safeguarding Adults, Coventry City Council
Chief Executives	Coventry Teaching Primary Care Trust
Malcolm Walker	Federation of Small Businesses
Lindsey Hunter	Federation of Small Businesses
Ric Richards	Federation of Small Businesses
Jocelyn Parry	Assistant Chief Exec., Coventry City Council

## **1. Welcome & Introduction**

The Chair welcomed everybody to the meeting and apologies were accepted.

## **2. Minutes of Last Meeting & Matters Arising**

Chief Supt Harrod reported on the current position regarding local work on Preventing Violent Extremism and agreed to provide a formal update to the January meeting.

## **3. High Crime Causing Unit (HCCU) – Outcome of Evaluation**

Inspector Debbie Walker delivered a presentation on the findings from the HCCU evaluation.

The HCCU worked with offenders who had tested positive on 3 or more occasions for drugs in a 12 month period. A local Police Co-ordinator was appointed, together with a single point of contact in Probation and the Drug Intervention Programme. In Coventry, 56 offenders were managed and compared against a control sample of 60, who were unable to be managed by the HCCU scheme. A range of data was used including a questionnaire, case notes and police arrest data. Whilst there was no clear relationship between drugs spend at intake and the reduction in offending, feedback from clients was very positive regarding the treatment they had received and their relationship with their key worker. There was clear evidence of a beneficial effect for individuals receiving the HCCU interventions and good levels of engagement.

Chief Supt. Harrod informed the group that whilst the HCCU programme had previously been supported by BCU funds, due to a reduction in 2008/09 and a lack of available evidence at the time of developing the 2008/09 BCU Plan, a decision was taken not to re-invest in the dedicated co-ordinator post and to put this work into individual OCU's. However, the Police agreed that as a result of the evaluation, they would review the current position for 2009.

Sara reported that the Joint Commissioning Group would be meeting on 6th November to review the current funding programme and to discuss priorities for 2009/10.

## **4. National Intelligence Model**

Sara introduced Jenny Martin from West Midlands Police and explained that as a result of a successful funding proposal to the Home Office, the Partnership had some funding available to support the use of the National Intelligence Model across the partnership.

Jenny gave a short presentation on the National Intelligence Model and explained how the Police use it as a business planning process.

Sara suggested that individual agencies consider roles within their organisations, i.e. Analytical staff, that might benefit from a more detailed presentation/training on NIM in order to increase the use across the Partnership and to introduce some consistency in the way partners plan and deliver their business.

**Action: Agencies to provide nominations for training to Sara Roach by 7th November 2008.**

## **5. Crime Performance Update**

Nikki Murch presented the quarter 2 crime performance update in relation to Local Area Agreement Indicators. The Partnership is not currently achieving target reductions for serious violence and serious acquisitive crime. However, the target is being met for assault with injury. There is a range of ongoing work to reduce acquisitive crime including Operation Serene III, Operation Cooker and increased focus and patrols through the AIMS process.

Sara provided an update on the work being delivered and managed through the Priority Crime Group to reduce violent crime. Key areas for focus include managing offenders, increasing the effectiveness of the licensing process, managing the evening economy and alcohol related offending and evaluation of Operation Phonetic. Home Office funding has been received to support additional work over the Xmas period to reduce violent crime.

## **6. Substance Misuse Performance Update**

Barry presented the quarter 2 substance misuse performance update. All targets are being achieved and Coventry is the best performer in the West Midlands for DRR targets. Retention figures have increased from 57% to 95%, making Coventry one of the top 9 performers in the country. However, the DoH have recently refreshed the baseline figures for the LAA targets which increase the numbers required, although it is still likely that the new targets will be achieved. Barry informed the Partnership that due to the new funding methodology for the pooled treatment budget, a reduction in funding of approximately £150,000 in 2009/10 is likely. This will be managed and monitored through the Joint Commissioning Group as part of the 2009/10 overall planning process.

## **7. Development of Tier 4 Services**

Barry updated the group on the current developments both nationally and locally in relation to tier 4 services. The emphasis for the 2009/10 Treatment Plan will be on recovery and there will be a focus on employment and housing. In response to this and other recent local developments including Adapt going into administration and Langley House ceasing their operation at Murray Lodge, the Substance Misuse Commissioners have been looking at other options for the delivery of these services.

The group discussed the options contained within the paper, recognising that more detailed work would need to be undertaken by officers and the Joint Commissioning Group to take proposals forward.

Whilst the group were supportive of developing capacity locally and the provision of good quality detox and rehabilitation services, there were a number of concerns raised including:

- Ensuring that out of area placements do not dry up if there is a significant reduction in demand;
- There needs to be a thorough understanding of any knock on effects to other services that the proposal may have;
- Any work of this kind needs to be taken forward sensitively and planned and consulted through neighbourhood management processes.
- Further discussions will take place at the JCG on 6th November 2008 and a report will be presented to PEC, Scrutiny Board 4 and Cabinet in due course.

## **8. Neighbourhood Wardens Review**

Janice sought views from the group in relation to the proposed changes to the Neighbourhood Warden Service. Key areas for development include extension of working hours, piloting an enforcement team to deal with environmental issues, restructuring management arrangements to increase effectiveness and a reduction overall in warden posts.

Chief Supt Harrod welcomed the extension of the working hours acknowledging the capable guardian role that they play in the local community and for the partnership overall. However, concern was expressed that giving officers powers may reduce their visibility on the street because of the paperwork involved. Janice confirmed that there was existing capacity to deal with the process-side of things, although agreed to monitor this as part of the pilot.

The Fire Service welcomed the proposals.

Eamon Lynch welcomed the proposals but suggested that the enforcement aspect doesn't dramatically change the relationship between wardens and local communities.

Inspector Floyd stressed the need for officers to be fully trained if they were going to be using enforcement powers – Janice assured the partnership that wardens involved in the pilot would receive all appropriate training.

## **9. Hate Crime Resource Pack**

Alison Quigley presented the Hate Crime Resource Pack which was funded through New Deal for Communities. The Pack was produced as part of a wider project called 'No Excuse for Abuse' which consisted of various components including support for victims and witnesses, encouraging people to report all hate crime, anti-racist training and hate crime awareness training for front line professionals.

The resource pack was officially launched at an event supported by the Lord Mayor at the Belgrade Theatre on 29th August 2008 and has now been circulated throughout the city. The Partnership were asked to support the circulation and use of the Resource Pack within their individual agencies in order to ensure that hate crime victims across the city receive an effective and supportive service.

Chief Supt. Harrod recognised that whilst Coventry prides itself on its reputation for peace and reconciliation and for being a cohesive city, we must recognise that there are victims of hate crime and we all need to understand the extent of the issue and be equipped to deal with it appropriately.

The Partnership welcomed the resource pack and supported its use and dissemination across agencies.

## **10. Strategic Assessment 2009/10**

Inspector Jo Floyd updated the Partnership on the process that has been put in place to produce the 2009/10 Strategic Assessment. Initial meetings have taken place with the different partnership agencies and a draft structure and focus for the document has been produced. The Partnership Analyst and Community Safety Team Analyst are currently gathering and processing data. It is anticipated that the information will be richer than last year although it is clear there will still be some gaps. The draft Strategic Assessment will be discussed at the extraordinary meeting of the CCSP in December.

Chief Supt. Harrod emphasised that the Strategic Assessment should drive all of our work and reflect the different business areas and therefore encouraged all agencies to respond as efficiently as possible if they are asked to provide data/information.

## **11. Communications**

Tim updated the Partnership on recent communications activity. The CDT hosted a visit from the Minister, Alan Campbell, recently who was very impressed by the work that was happening in Coventry re. drug treatment and enforcement.

A range of communication campaigns have been commissioned through the AIMS process including use of the A-Frame Trailers, community safety information re. bonfire night, fireworks, winter months and dark nights, etc.

Tim informed partners that there is now a proforma available on the CCSP website that can be used to leaflet communities and inform them that recent partnership operations have taken place, it can also be used for local people to feed back their concerns and community safety issues.

Tim reported back from an alcohol conference that he attended where it was clear that there is no right or wrong way of delivering messages re. alcohol and suggested that the Partnership develop a Strategy which is based on personal responsibility. The Partnership endorsed this approach and agreed that Tim should work towards a short, medium and long term strategy to raise awareness and deliver different types and styles of communications regarding Alcohol misuse.

**Action: Tim to make use of existing and future national communication resources regarding Alcohol and further develop them with a local emphasis on personal responsibility and enforcement.**

The Partnership thanked Tim for the enormous amount of work that he had led on and been involved in and in particular the annual report that was recently distributed throughout the City.

## **12. Report Back from Coventry Partnership**

Dawn Ford, the new Coventry Partnership Manager introduced herself to the group. The Partnership Board will be hosting a planning meeting on 26th November which will review the current structures and performance management framework, identify key issues and priorities for the next 12 months and develop a work programme. Leaders and Advisors had also been invited. The next Partnership Board meeting will be focusing on health and young people have been invited to attend and to deliver a presentation.

## **13. Community Empowerment Network**

Rob Allison updated the Partnership on the work of CEN. A Saturday Conference will be taking place in November which will discuss Safer Neighbourhood Groups and identify local community safety issues and concerns. The 'Representing a Community' training is being re-run on 20th and 21st November.

Unfortunately CEN have been unable to recruit to Annabel Wrangles post and have agreed to go out to tender for the work in relation the development of community involvement in Safer Neighbourhood Groups. The Community Safety Team will be working closely with CEN Officers throughout the tender process.

#### **14. Your Neighbourhood Matters (YNM)**

Janice Nichols updated the Partnership on progress to date in relation to the delivery of the YNM Programme. It is anticipated that during the third year of the programme work will be ongoing to establish neighbourhood service agreements. In addition, there have been a number of different projects and work being delivered across the 6 geographical areas to build capacity within service providers and local residents, community safety forums and street briefings, work with young people in Spon End and Hillfields, Whitefriars fire safety projects particularly focusing on new residents and asylum seekers and refugees, etc.

Funding is reducing year on year for the programme and therefore it is important that the work, where appropriate, is sustainable. Janice reported that the programme is on target to produce at least 6 neighbourhood service agreements which will focus on single issues.

#### **15. Terms of Reference – CCSP**

Sara presented the revised terms of reference for the CCSP and asked for any comments to be forwarded to her before the next meeting.

#### **16. Any Other Business**

Alison asked agencies if they would be willing to have snowdrops planted outside their premises, as part of the HMD celebrations, particularly those located on main roads. Sarah Chand agreed to provide the planters and unpaid workers to do the planting but would not be able to provide the compost.

**Action: Agencies to contact Alison Quigley as soon as possible if they would like to participate.**

Chief Supt. Harrod expressed concern regarding the timing of meetings and asked people to consider whether meetings should be re-scheduled every two months because of the size of the agenda.

**Action: Partners to let Sara have comments by e-mail regarding frequency of meetings.**

#### **Date of Next Meeting:**

**Date:** Tuesday, 16th December 2008

**Time:** 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm

#### **SINGLE ITEM AGENDA – DRAFT STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT**