

COVENTRY COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP
6th May 2008

MINUTES

Present:

Chief Super Deb Harrod (Chair)	West Midlands Police (M2)
Stella Manzie	Chief Executive, Coventry City Council
Denise Kellam (Minutes)	Community Safety Team, Coventry City Council
Sara Roach	Community Safety Team, Coventry City Council
Paul Hargrave	Community Safety Team, Coventry City Council
Lesley Sigston	Community Safety Team, Coventry City Council
Mandie Watson	Community Safety Team, Coventry City Council
David Smithson	West Midlands Fire Service
Sarah Chand	Probation Services
Jan Nichols	Neighbourhood Management, Coventry City Council
Chief Supt Steven Glover	West Midlands Police (M1)
Inspector Jo Floyd	Police Partnership Liaison Officer
Nigel Cavendish	GOWM
Nigel Hart	Coventry Partnership
Paul Wells	Community Drugs Team
Ric Richards	Federation of Small Businesses
June Morley	Coventry Partnership
Inspector Yvonne Bruton	West Midlands Police
Eamon Lynch	Whitefriars Housing Group
Annabel Wrangles	Community Empowerment Network
Jacqueline Jones	West Midlands Fire Service

Apologies:

Karen Buttle	New Deal for Communities
Malcolm Walls	Federation of Small Businesses
Jill Ayres	Vulnerable People, Coventry City Council
Mark Taylor	West Midlands Fire Service
Cllr Andy Matchet	Coventry City Council
Cllr Tony O'Neill	Coventry City Council
Chief Super James Titley	West Midlands Police (M3)
Mike Attwood	Primary Care Trust
Stephen Jones	Primary Care Trust

1. Welcome & Introduction

Chief Supt Deb Harrod welcomed everybody to the meeting and introduced the new Police Partnership Liaison Officer, Inspector Jo Floyd, Inspector Yvonne Bruton and Nigel Cavendish from GOWM.

Apologies were accepted. The Partnership expressed thanks to Mark Taylor for his role in chairing the Partnership during 2007/08 and wished him a speedy recovery. Deb also congratulated Stella Manzie on her recently appointed new post in Scotland.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting & Matters Arising

Minutes of the last meeting omitted apologies from Sarah Chand and Malcolm Walls.

Sara Roach confirmed the targets for the 2008-09 Adult Treatment Plan had been set and agreed.

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record with no matters arising.

3. Crime Performance Update

Sara informed the group that Coventry has maintained its position as the best performing CDRP within its family group (Source: iQuanta), and that Coventry exceeded its PSA 1 target of 20%, the actual overall achievement was a reduction of 25% of total BCS Comparator Crime.

Sara presented the Quarter 4 performance report, which indicates that some targets were not achieved but overall, the PSA reduction across the basket of crimes was exceeded. Those requiring additional focus include robbery and violent crime.

A Strategic Assessment document has been produced which identifies violent crime as a priority, as does the recently developed Coventry Community Safety Plan.

The Priority Crime Group have recently reviewed their remit and will be focusing on violent crime. To support this, a local Violent Crime Action Plan is being developed.

Household Survey findings have also indicated that there is more work to be undertaken in relation to anti-social behaviour, which is a main focus within the RESPECT agenda.

Since March 2007 there has been a reduction in reported levels in all offences except 'theft from a person'. Other findings indicate we are continuing to perform well on LPSA targets, particularly the PPO targets within the LAA. There has been a reduction of 32% in the re-offending rate of PPOs, which is above the target reduction of 15%. This demonstrates a very successful model of offender management, with tighter controls and referrals into support services.

Sarah Chand added that there are on-going discussions relating to offenders who currently come just under the PPO 'scoring system' in an attempt to provide earlier interventions to ensure they do not become future PPOs.

The group discussed the findings of the Quarter 4 crime performance report.

Deb congratulated the Partnership for last year's outstanding performance of achieving the PSA1 targets and commented it was a true reflection of partnership working. However, violence continues to be the main issue and therefore should be the most important focus.

Government are suggesting a 6% reduction over 3 years, which represents approximately 4,050 less offences ('assault with injury') per year, although the Police are aiming for 10% reduction of total reported crime.

Stella endorsed the effective partnership working and the main focus on violent crime including the issue of young people carrying knives, targeting neighbourhoods where violent crime is occurring and how we promote a safer city centre.

The group discussed a range of opportunities that exist to address violence including working with large employers.

The group agreed that a small, senior, strategic group should be established to oversee the development and delivery of work to reduce violent crime.

Action: Chief Super Steve Glover to lead on the Strategic Task group for violent crime.

4. Substance Misuse – Quarter 4 Update

Paul Hargrave presented the Quarter 4 update on the delivery of the Adult Drug Treatment Plan, which is showing a good standard of delivery with most of the areas being categorised as amber or green. Retention has risen from 58% to 71% and a further rise is anticipated when the impact of more recent changes in practice are realised.

It was noted that the current level of retention translates to 81% of clients engaged in effective treatment – the new measure to which the partnership will be marked against in 2008/09.

It is anticipated that the partnership will have missed the number of clients in treatment target in 2007/08 by approximately 130 individuals. As a result of this, the key elements of the Treatment Plan 2008/09 will focus on increasing numbers into treatment.

Another area of concern is the 'Shared Care' service. Performance remains below target, therefore a new Shared Care enhanced service specification is being developed, this will include incentive payments for GP practices joining the service and funding for GPs to treat patients from other practices.

Paul Wells informed the group of the current trends which indicate that Coventry has increasing numbers of powder cocaine users entering treatment. The effect of this decline in opiate and crack referrals raises concerns over the ability to meet CDT stretch targets.

Different indicators within PSA25 encourage criminal justice agencies to reduce drug related offending related to opiate, crack and cocaine use, whilst encouraging treatment agencies to prioritise treatment for opiate and crack use only.

In addition, given the growth in non-PDU drug use, this will impact on future funding, as we receive £1,440 per PDU compared to £720 non-PDU.

Action: Nigel Cavendish to investigate the different criteria for PSA targets re. drug type and report back to the next meeting.

Representations have been made to the PCT for inclusion of Shared Care arrangements to be incorporated within contracts for the 3 new GP practices in Stoke Aldermoor, Foleshill and Hillfields/City Centre.

Action: Sara Roach to draft a letter on behalf of the Chair to forward to Chief Execs of the PCT for shared care arrangements to be incorporated within contracts for the three new practices in Coventry.

5. Community Safety Plan, Alcohol Strategy & Strategic Assessment

Sara informed the group that the above 3 documents have been finalised and 'public' versions will be produced and made available on the partnership website.

The Strategic Assessment will be made available to practitioners, although it will be 'restricted' and not broadly available. Safer Neighbourhood Groups (SNGs) will be producing their own action plans to tackle the priorities identified within the Strategic Assessment.

6. Update on National Drugs Strategy

Paul Wells delivered a presentation to the group on the National Drug Strategy 2008-2018.

The Strategy will have a new emphasis focusing on drugs, protecting families and communities, and will be delivered through PSA25 and 14, LAA indicators, APACS and NHS Vital Signs.

The Plan consists of 4 main themes:

- Theme 1 Protecting communities through robust enforcement action to reduce supply, crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Theme 2 Preventing harm to children, young people and families affected by substance misuse.
- Theme 3 Delivering new approaches to drug treatment and social re-integration.
- Theme 4 Public information campaigns, communications and community engagement.

There will be a strong focus on getting people into the treatment process and a big emphasis on intervening earlier to prevent individuals becoming problem drug users.

Theme 2 provides a number of opportunities locally as this has not previously been a key priority, although locally a range of work exists.

The group discussed the new strategy and suggested that Paul Wells present information to the next meeting on the actual treatment process in Coventry.

Action: Paul Wells to provide the Partnership with an understanding of the end-to-end treatment process in Coventry at the next CCSP meeting.

7. Anti-Social Behaviour Update

Mandie Watson updated the group on the local development and delivery of the RESPECT Agenda and progress against the 6 core elements.

An update of the core elements is as follows:

1. **Establishment of a Family Intervention Project (FIP)** – This project has successfully worked with 35 challenging families since January 2007. Six families have successfully exited the project, and 13 have been referred to less intensive family support.
2. **Establishing parenting programmes for families at risk of/or behaving anti-socially** – This was established in January 2008 through the Positive Parenting Programme. 96 officers have been trained to deliver various parenting programmes, and to date 396 parents have benefited. 14 families have accessed the provision of the Senior Parenting Practitioner who gives 1-to-1 support to families. Also 15 families have benefited from the provision of 'Systemic Therapy'.
3. **Strengthening communities** – A number of mechanisms exist to facilitate community engagement, for example, Safer Neighbourhood Groups, Ward Forums, Street briefings and Community Walkabouts. Also the anti-social behaviour reporting line 'Its Your Call' has been revamped and aims to provide a 24-hour service for citizens to report a range of behaviour.
4. **Improving attendance and behaviour in schools** – All Coventry secondary schools have a Learning Support Unit and are developing 'in-house' support. In 2006/07 numbers of permanent exclusions were very low (2 in primary, 12 in secondary) and remained low in 2007/08. In the first 2 terms of 2007/08 persistent absence was reduced by 50.8% across the 9 targeted schools, and by 47.81% across all secondary schools.
5. **Positive Activities for Young People** – The resources available are deployed through a range of groups and fund positive activities for young people across the city.
6. **Adoption of Respect Housing Standard by key landlords** – All members of the Coventry Consortium of Registered Social Landlords have signed up to the Respect Housing Standard (exception being Midland Heart who are currently undergoing a merger, however it is their intention to comply).

Mandy also updated the group on national developments including the development of the Youth Taskforce whose aim is to ensure appropriate

services and interventions are available to families and also focus on improving opportunities for young people.

A proposal has been developed and submitted for Challenge & Support Funding. The aim is to provide a systematic approach to identifying and supporting young people and their families at the earliest opportunity and therefore preventing an escalation of offending behaviour. A referral process has been developed together with a proposed structure of the Family Prevention & Intervention Team.

The referral process is a model that captures joint activity and gives the opportunity to examine each aspect of young people's lives, and also aims to challenge young people and families to improve behaviour. A working group will be established to oversee delivery. The referral process ranges from a voluntary basis through to enforcement.

The proposed structure brings the new Family Intervention Team under one roof.

The group suggested including contact details within the structure to aid schoolteachers and other practitioners.

Action: Mandie Watson to add contact details to the revised structure.

Action: Progress to be reported back on a quarterly basis.

8. National Standards for Community Safety Partnerships – Visibility & Accountability

Sara provided an update on the National Standards for Community Safety Partnerships, in particular the requirement for the partnership to be visible and accountable to the community.

Over the last 3 years the partnership has actively sought to increase and enhance the work that they do with local communities and to develop various mechanisms for people to influence the community safety work that happens in their local area. This has been taking place through 20 Safer Neighbourhood Groups (SNG), Ward Forums, community walkabouts, street briefing, Neighbourhood Policing, etc.

However, an important part of visible accountability is the ability of the community to meet with key decision makers in the partnership, and as part of the Respect Action Plan there is a requirement for a **'face the people'** session to take place at least once a year.

The group requested a clearer understanding of the formal requirement and suggested format for these sessions.

Action: Nigel Cavendish to report back to the partnership of what activity would be classed as 'face the people'.

9. Integration of Alcohol Services for Coventry and Warwickshire

Lesley Sigston updated the Partnership on recent discussions with the PCT and Warwickshire re. alcohol care pathways and services.

Coventry has a well managed Community Alcohol Service and access to suitable detox services at Woodleigh Beeches, however where improvement is needed (as highlighted in the alcohol needs assessment) is community care.

Discussions on how best to deliver alcohol services and interventions have taken place and it was agreed that there is a need to develop a whole systems approach across both Coventry and Warwickshire. A steering group has been created to support the development process, and have agreed the following principles:

- The service re-design will be needs led.
- Users and carers will be involved in all stages of the re-design process.
- Best practice and value for money will be evidenced.
- Residential rehabilitation and detoxification will include both drug and alcohol provision.

The project has a 2-year timescale, and the service model is currently being developed.

Lesley informed the group that during the process of the review, there would at all times be continuity of care for clients.

10. Performance Management Framework – Community Safety Plan

Sara updated the group on the development of the performance management framework for the Community Safety Partnership and the Community Safety Plan 2008-11.

This will consist of national indicators from the National Indicator Set and APACS and in addition, local targets that have been identified through the Treatment Plan.

Information will be reported quarterly to the partnership and the Joint Commissioning Group to ensure that all agencies are aware of current performance and related activity.

A new template will be presented for discussion at the next meeting.

Action: Sara to provide a new performance management framework template for discussion at the next meeting.

11. Tackling Prostitution in Coventry

Neighbourhood Inspector for Hillfields Yvonne Bruton updated the group on the issue of tackling prostitution in the city.

Local communities are concerned re. prostitution and associated activity that continues to occur in the Hillfields area.

A number of agencies work with sex workers but currently there is no co-ordinated approach to encourage them to move out of the industry. The 'Outer Ring Road Neighbouring Policing Team' (M1) have prepared a policing control strategy. However it is felt that there are still a number of areas that fall outside the remit of the Police and rely on partner agencies. Areas that partner agencies could assist include health, housing, employment and benefits, drug and alcohol services etc.

It was recommended to the group that a short term task and finish group be established to develop a multi-agency strategy for tackling prostitution.

The group approved the above recommendation, and suggested the delivery of the strategy would be more appropriately co-ordinated through the Communities and Availabilities Group.

Action: Yvonne Bruton to present a progress report to the group in 6 months time.

12. Basic Command Unit (BCU) Fund Allocation 2008/09

Inspector Jo Floyd presented the 2008/09 BCU Funding Plan.

Stella requested the plan be updated so that those projects/programmes that have been deleted or reduced are easily identifiable.

Action: Jo to update the plan.

13. Communications Update

Nigel Hart updated the group of the on-going communication activities including:

- The re-launch of 'Its Your Call' anti-social behaviour reporting line, which now has a Coventry landline number.
- The development of the partnership's Communications Strategy.
- Domestic Abuse 'Safe' Campaign.
- National Tackling Drugs Week (17th May 2008 – 23rd May 2008).
- International Day Against Homophobia (17th May 2008).

Also May 17th sees the launch of the first 'Kerb Crawling Programme'.

Action: Yvonne Bruton to e-mail the 'Kerb Crawling Programme' link to Sara Roach and Sarah Chand.

Nigel also presented the Communications Plan (please note re. International Day Against Homophobia, should read 76 balloons).

The group discussed methods of promoting the city and considered ways of informing citizens of positive outputs, successes and good news stories etc and to consider using alternative methods other than the media.

Sara Roach added that Tim Coleman, the new Communications Officer will be starting 26th May, and expressed thanks on behalf of the partnership to Nigel

for all of his hard work and tremendous effort, and wished him well for the future.

14. Report back from the Coventry Partnership

June Morley provided an update from the Coventry Partnership.

There has been 2 recent events, the 'Promoting Safe and Sensible Drinking in Coventry' workshop and 'A Cleaner, Greener Hillfields' workshop, both proving successful as Action Plans were developed which will be taken forward by the Community Safety Team and Neighbourhood Management respectively.

The Coventry Partnership expressed thanks to everyone who took part making both events so successful.

Jonathon Jardine has been recruited to the temporary post of 'Partnership Development Manager'.

Both the Partnership Board and the City Council have adopted the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) as the overarching strategic document, which sets out the long-term outcomes and short-term priorities for the City.

The main delivery vehicle for the SCS will be the Local Area Agreement (LAA); and the 35 indicators have now been agreed. NI15 (*Serious violent crime*) will be included, and NI 35 (*Building resilience to violent extremism*) will be omitted.

15. Feedback from Community Empowerment Network (CEN)

Annabel Wrangles provided feedback from CEN, including a summary of Quarter 4 activity.

Activity included the recruitment of 5 new community representatives and the provision of OCN accredited training to 10 community representatives and 2 service user representatives for Substance Misuse.

A consultation workshop for Sustainable Communities Strategy was held, and a 'Community Writers' training course with a theme of 'neighbourhood working' for community groups was arranged, 70 people and 13 staff from Neighbourhood Management attended.

Annabel also informed the group that £45k has been secured from the Community Safety Partnership in order to continue to increase representation in Safer Neighbourhood Groups.

16. Any Other Business

Paul Wells informed the group of a Drugs Alcohol & Criminal Justice conference taking place 17th and 18th July designed to address aspects of Harm Reduction.

Action: Names of interested parties to be submitted to Sara Roach.

Stella Manzie wished to express her thanks to the Partnership for their work and commitment during her time in Coventry.

17. Next Meeting

Monday, 14th July 2008, at Elm Bank (Maple Room) at 11.00 am – 1.30 pm (sandwiches and refreshments will be available).