

COVENTRY COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP
24TH JANUARY 2006

M I N U T E S

Present:	Mike Attwood (Chair)	Chief Executive Primary Care Trust
	Gay Stokes (Minutes)	Community Safety Team, Coventry City Council
	Aiden Every	Education & Library Services, Coventry City Council
	Alan Bennett	Environmental Health, Coventry City Council
	Alison Quigley	Community Safety Team, Coventry City Council
	Andrea Clemons	Community Safety Team, Coventry City Council
	Andy Pepper	Youth Offending Service
	Barry Eveleigh	Community Safety Team, Coventry City Council
	Chief Supt Clive Burgess	West Midlands Police (M2)
	Chief Supt Jon Hesketh	West Midlands Police (M3)
	Chief Supt Max Sahota	West Midlands Police (M1)
	Chris Robinson	Swanswell Charitable Trust
	George Branch	Swanswell Charitable Trust
	Helen Shankster	Coventry Partnership, Coventry City Council
	Hilary Hopker	Community Safety Team, Coventry City Council
	Insp. Mandy Mason	West Midlands Police (LALO)
	Jacqueline Jones	West Midlands Fire Service
	Janice Nichols	Neighbourhood Management, Coventry City Council
	Jeanette Burrows	Coventry Voluntary Services (CEN)
	Jonathan Jardine	Scrutiny, Coventry City Council
	Laura Ohrman	Community Safety Team, Coventry City Council
	Mandie Watson	Community Safety Team, Coventry City Council
	Mark Taylor	West Midlands Fire Service
	Nigel Hart	Coventry Partnership, Coventry City Council
	Paul Hargrave	Community Safety Team, Coventry City Council
	Paul Wells	Coventry Drug Team
	Ramesh Farmah	Coventry Bench Magistrates
	Ric Richards	Federal of Small Businesses
	Rob Allison	Coventry Voluntary Services
Apologies:		
	Cllr Andy Matchet	Lead Member, Coventry City Council
	Cllr Tony O'Neil	West Midlands Police Authority
	Colin Merker	Coventry Primary Care Trust
	Eamon Lynch	Whitefriars Housing Group
	John Brady	Coventry Primary Care Trust
	Lesley Pymm	Probation West Midlands
	Mary White	Coventry Primary Care Trust
	Pam Lewis	Coventry Empowerment Network
	Sara Roach	Coventry Partnership
	Stella Manzie	Chief Executive, Coventry City Council

1. Welcome & Apologies

Mike welcomed Hilary Hopker the Communications Officer for the Community Safety Team and Nigel Hart the Communications Officer for the Coventry Partnership to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting & Matters Arising

The minutes for the last meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record.

Matters Arising

A general review of the Young Peoples Substance Misuse is to commence on 31st January 2007. An update will be brought back to the next CCSP in March.

Agreed Terms and Reference for the JCG Safer Stronger Neighbourhoods Element and the JCG Drugs have been produced and dates for meetings in 2007 are being agreed.

The Chair of the CCSP, Mike Attwood, Chief Executive of Primary Care Trust, has signed off the Theme Group Improvement Plan.

Limited response have been received in relation to the review of Designated Public Places Order, feedback received will be incorporated into the Local Authority Licensing Teams report and submitted to the Licensing and Regulatory Committee, 12 months after implementation.

A letter was not sent to the Department for Work and Pensions from the Chair of the CCSP outlining support for the Progress2Work project as funding has now been extended until April 2008.

3. Local Authority Overview and Scrutiny of Crime and Disorder

Jonathon Jardine the Scrutiny Officer for the Coventry City Council produced a briefing note for discussions in relation to the Police and Justice Act 2006 requiring Councils to establish a Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee. Jonathon explained that a successful scrutiny requires a positive, partnership approach. Section 18 of the Act creates a requirement of Local Authorities to have a Crime and Disorder Committee; this committee will perform an overview and scrutiny function. The object of this initiative is to increase the local democratic accountability of public services by requiring public organisations to provide information to, and respond to recommendations from committees of elected councillors.

Local authorities will not be required to establish formal Crime and Disorder committees until the supporting regulations and guidance are in place. The preparatory work can take place between now and May 08 and in this interim period partners can develop the local understanding for making the Crime and Disorder Committee work.

Comments raised by the CCSP were:

- This is a very positive opportunity to develop further
- We do not lose valuable work done as a partnership
- Need to rationalise what we do already and see how this fits in with requirements
- Need to start engaging early
- Work with Neighbourhood Management to ensure delivery at group level and built into the neighbourhood structure.
- Commitments are needed in attending meetings
- Question and answer sessions for example on health
- Recognised processes, a unique opportunity for scrutiny and partnership working
- CCSP will be a good place to discuss what is raised in the White Paper

Action: Andrea and Mike to meet with Jonathan Jardine and Cllr Jo Clifford to begin to scope out the future work plan.

Endorsement

The CCSP endorsed the proposed process.

4. Communications

Hilary Hopker updated the group on Media Coverage on:

- White Ribbon Day
- Hate Crime NDC project
- Taxi CCTV
- Taxi Marshals
- Closing Public Rights of Way
- Crack Hose Closure

Positive stories are coming from AIMS and there has been good coverage on the front page of the AIMS newsletter. A new awards scheme is being developed to promote the AIMS process and increase partnership working.

Coventry is taking part in the national PR campaign, which last year was labelled Tackling Drugs, Changing Lives.

Coventry is one of 40 Respect Action Areas and Mike O'Brien MP visited Coventry to view examples of activity, to coincide with the launch. The Home Office has sent compliments and Cllr Matchet was invited to discuss the Respect Agenda on the BBC Politics programme. The CCSP suggested the following in relation to communications and media:

- West Midlands Fire Service are uniquely linking with local citizenship ceremonies this could be reported
- New Respect Handbook states a need to communicate actions rather than statistics
- For a more strategic approach to communications there is a need to review the CCSP Communication Plan

- Media coverage on the new CDT premises

Action: Paul Wells and Hilary Hopker to meet to discuss the best way for media coverage on the new CST premises

5. Report Back for the Coventry Partnership

Helen Shankster provided feedback to the CCSP on the Coventry Partnership to include the Local Development Framework. The Coventry Partnership agreed that a response should be submitted, representing the views of the whole LSP, to the consultation process. This has been circulated to the CCSP, and includes items on Housing, Jobs, Space, Services and Community Safety. The deadline for responses to this consultation is 5th March 2007, and an event to discuss this further, will take place that day. Please can any comments on the Local Development Framework be sent to Nigel Wain of the Coventry Partnership by 14th February 2007.

Action: Local Development Framework to be included in the next CCSP agenda in March

Helen reported that Jane Beaver is the leader of the Job Strategy Group working with Job Centre Plus which aims to get people back to work who need extensive support for example ex- offenders, ex- drug users.

If any CCSP members are interested in joining the Job Strategy group please contact Andrea Clemons of the Community Safety Team.

Action: Andrea Clemons and Mike Attwood to meet with the Chair of the Job Strategy Group to discuss how links may be strengthened

Mike explained the focus in getting Young People into jobs and training and welcomed all opportunities to influence this agenda. The group also discussed potential ways to strengthen the CCSP relationship with the Children's and Young Peoples Board through representation at the CCSP.

Helen reported that as part of its self-assessment, the Coventry Partnership is looking at partnership structures.

The operations group will take on the role of operations and performance with the Board being the accountable body. Theme Groups require tailored Terms of Reference and discussions have taken place as to whether a sustainability group should be established. The next steps are to:

- Develop Improvement Plan for the Coventry Partnership
- Review Membership of Groups
- Identify Key Priorities
- Structures, i.e. meetings and value for money
- Revise Performance Management Group
- Communications

6. Feedback From CEN

Jeanette Burrows provided feedback from the Coventry Community Empowerment Network (CEN) that meets regularly as a network. 230 attendees from 80 different groups meet and have recently discussed a range of issues relating to wardens, transport around the new hospital, and a Statement of Community Involvement.

CEN is working in within the "Your Neighbourhood Matters" areas CEN have groups working in their communities on local issues and will be increasingly involved through local community safety activity through Safer Neighbourhood Groups. CEN contribute to the delivery of "Stronger" agenda especially, within the Safer and Stronger Communities block of the Local Area Agreement.

CEN funding within the Safer Stronger Communities Funding stream has been cut from £140,000 in 2006-7 to zero in 2007-8. Discussions are underway to establish the extent of the support which the CCSP is able to offer, recognising that the SSC is the block to which CEN is most closely aligned, but also that the remaining blocks may also consider it appropriate to offer support.

Action: Discussion around support for funding for CEN to be raised at the Coventry Partnership

7. Report Back from Neighbourhood Management

Janice Nichols updated the group that Neighbourhood Management continue to support the Safer Neighbourhood Groups (SNG) and will provide an update on the improvement plan for SNGs.

Janice reported that the first round of Ward Forums have taken place and that they had been well attended. She thanked the Police for their attendance and support at these meetings.

Due to long-term sickness of Steve Yardley the Community Safety Officer at North East, Mandy Davies from West Midlands Police has been seconded as the local Community Safety Officer. The North East SNGs have referred two families to the Intensive Family Intervention Programme (IFIP).

The South area have a successful Internet Café now operating in Lower Stoke. Partnership working in the development of this project received with good media coverage. Statistics have shown a 10% reduction in crime since the Internet Café opened.

The North West area has strong partnership working in Hillfields within the Respect Agenda as previously recorded.

Janice Nichols is writing a document to report on the positive outcomes from AIMS and will share this with the CCSP at a future meeting.

Action: Janice to provide update at the next CCSP in March on Safer Neighbourhood Groups and the AIMS "outcomes" paper.

8. Supporting the CCSP Hate Crime Reduction Strategy

Chief Supt Max Sahota commented on the importance of the Hate Crime Reduction Strategy and stated that the purpose of his presentation was to inform partners of the policy being developed by West Midlands Police in Coventry, in support of the Partnership Hate Reduction Strategy and the Coventry Community Cohesion Strategy.

New policies have been developed that strengthen in training, crime management, increasing trust and confidence when officers are dealing with hate crime and this will be embedded and implemented over the forthcoming months.

Max reported that from 1st January 06 to 31st December 06 West Midlands Police have received 405 reports of Hate Crime. Targets set are to arrest 60% of Hate Crime Incidents but a higher target of arrests has been achieved at 86%. Coventry is also one of the first partnerships in the country to have a Hate Crime Reduction Strategy.

Alison Quigley reported that there are now 29 non-police reporting centres around the City. These provide an alternative route through which partnership support may be offered.

A Power Point presentation outlined in more detail the policies which have been developed.

9. Strategic Assessment

Andrea Clemons reported progress in the development of a Partnership Strategic Assessment, which will be required following the review of the provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. Andrea explained that a document may not be formally required until after the guidance is issued, which is likely to be some time during the summer of 2007.

Starting the Strategic Assessment process early was agreed by the partnership who recognised the benefits that this would bring in terms of focusing performance against targets and commissioning activity.

The CCSP agreed to receive further updates at future CCSP meetings and sign up to the recommendations of the final report, which is anticipated to be produced by April 2007.

Action: The Strategic Assessment will be an agenda item at the next CCSP in March with workshops to discuss this agenda item.

10. Respect Action Area Status

Andrea Clemons introduced Mandie Watson, the new Anti Social Behaviour Officer within the Community Safety Team, who will lead on the co-ordination of local activity to deliver the Government's Respect Action Plan.

The commitment to use all available powers to tackle anti social behaviour does not include financial sanctions against anti social tenants, in receipt of Housing Benefits. Both the Local Authority and the CCSP were opposed to this.

The renewed commitment and final application incorporates comments received from the CCSP and highlights examples of activity where a "step change" has been made in the way that ASB has been tackled.

The CCSP recognised the implications for specific areas of work within their own organisations in delivery of the Respect Agenda locally.

11. Drug Budgets

Barry Eveleigh reported on the Drug Budgets including unit costs and explained that last year there was a requirement from the National Treatment Agency to complete a unit cost exercise on treatment services. Barry produced a draft copy of these findings and in summary these demonstrated:

- Unit cost per treatment place
- Unit costs per hour sessions
- Unit costs per contact
- Unit cost per completion
- Allocated total budget amount

The National Treatment Agency (NTA) has been working with the Audit Commission during the last year to collect and analyse data relating to the costs of substance misuse. All data has been analysed centrally and by combining activity data with cost data, unit costs have been calculated for a wide range of measures, Barry summarised these findings.

Barry updated the CCSP on the budgets and explained that the NTA have advised that we should work on a 0% uplift. No decision on budgets has been announced and that the Treatment Plan for 07/08 has been drawn up on the basis of a variety of funding possibilities, Barry informed the group that a zero uplift scenario might seriously jeopardise adult treatment services. Six separate budget scenarios have been prepared for the Joint Commissioning Group's consideration and agreement

A meeting of the Treatment Delivery Group to consider where savings could be made had taken place and this will inform the discussions at the JCG Any reductions may have a direct or indirect impact on delivery of services, or core targets.

The final draft version of the Treatment Plan documents were submitted to the National Treatment Agency on 12th January 2007 and copies of these documents were tabled at the CCSP. Mike suggested that he send a letter to the Strategic Health Authority as Chair of the CCSP to obtain clarity on the Adult Pooled Treatment budget funding allocations. However, it was noted that more information might be available following the "Challenge and Confirm" meeting with the NTA, scheduled for the 13th February.

Chris Robinson reminded the group reductions in budgets would have a direct impact on service delivery.

12. Consultation Response ASB

Paul updated the group on the consultation paper – Strengthening Powers to Tackle Anti Social Behaviour. The Home Office launched this consultation paper on proposed new powers, the areas of work include:

- Additional Front Line Policing
- Deferred Penalty Notice for Disorder
- Premises Closure Order

The consultation paper was distributed to members of the CCSP in November 2006 for comment. A draft- response was presented to the group.

Concerns were raised by the West Midlands Police on these new powers key points raised were:

- Do not need more powers, need to make better use of existing powers.
- Particularly need the effective enforcement within the Courts
- No increased capacity to implement new powers

Andrea Clemons asked for further responses on the consultation paper urgently as this response is required to be submitted by 6th February 07.

Action: West Midlands Police to agree any amendments to the partnership response and forward to Andrea.

13. Crime Update

Paul Hargrave updated the group with crime figures for PSA 1 (reduce all crime by 20% by 2008).

The BSC comparator crimes are currently 12% lower than the 2003/04 baselines, compared to a 14% reduction recorded at the year to date figures presented at the October CCSP meeting. There was no more recent update, due to a delay in the receipt of the Iquanta figures.

There are significant pieces of work in a number of areas, including the development of a range of activities within the Criminal Damage Task Group, implementation of a Robbery Action Plan, work through AIMS to support the safe storage of Pedal Cycles at Walsgrave Hospital and a notable programme of activity to tackle the numbers of Sat-nav. thefts.

Coventry has this year benefited from £55,000 through the Tackling Violent Crime Programme, and initiative to address volume violent crime – alcohol related violent crime and domestic violence. A further £23,400 has been secured from the Home Office through GOWM to support one of the projects developed through the TVCP. No announcement has yet been made as to Coventry's inclusion in any further funding through the TVCP initiative.

The CCSP were asked to note the threat posed by current trends to achieving PSA1 and LPSA targets.

Action: Spend to drive activity through the Performance Reward Grant will be reported on at the next CCSP meeting in March

14. Any Other Business

Mike Attwood thanked Gay Stokes, for whom this was her last meeting, before taking up a new post near Mansfield. He recognised her hard work in organising and minuting the CCSP meetings. The group joined Mike in wishing her well.

15. Date of Next Meeting

Friday: 23rd March 2007

Venue: Elm Bank, Oak Room, Mile Lane, Coventry.