

## COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE GROUP MINUTES - 9 JULY 2014

Present:

Councillor Terry (Chair)	Lead Councillor for Neighbourhoods, Reading Borough Council (RBC)
Robin Rickard	Local Police Area Commander, Thames Valley Police (TVP)
James Hahn	Local Police Area Deputy Commander, TVP
Keith Stacey	Inspector, TVP
Gabriel Amahwe	Probation Director, Thames Valley Probation
Anthony Brain	Community Safety Manager, RBC
Jo Middlemass	Anti Social Behaviour Team Manager, RBC
Pete Farmer	RBFRS
Lorraine Briffitt	Voluntary and Community Sector representative
Suzanne Westhead	Head of Adult Services, RBC
Tina Heaford	Youth Engagement Service, RBC
Sarah Tapliss	Strategy Officer, RBC
Vicki Lawson	Head of Children's Service's, RBC
Simon Hill	Committee Services, RBC

Apologies:

Councillor Page	Deputy Leader and Police & Crime Panel representative, RBC
Councillor Lovelock	Leader, RBC
Asmat Nisa	Consultant in Public Health, RBC
Avril Wilson	Director of Education, Adult & Children's Services, RBC
Sarah Gee	Head of Housing & Neighbourhood Services, RBC
Shona Morrison	Policy Advisor, Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner
Ann Manning	Magistrates

### 1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2014 were agreed as a correct record.

Further to Minute 3 of the previous meeting it was noted that the following actions were still to be completed:

- The Domestic Violence Delivery Group to consider the issue of abuse against a vulnerable parent;
- Measures of reductions in re-offending to be added to the group of crimes monitored by the Group;
- Publicity for the SOS bus.

Also further to Minute 3 it was reported that a health representative would join the Executive Group and the Domestic Violence Delivery Group.

### 2. DOMESTIC HOMICIDE REVIEW WORKING GROUP - DISSEMINATION OF LEARNING REPORT

Sarah Tapliss submitted a Dissemination of Learning report produced by the Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) Working Group. She explained that the Group had looked at all DHRs in the Thames Valley to identify recurrent themes and to consolidate the recommendation. It was proposed to share the final Action Plans and Executive

## COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE GROUP MINUTES - 9 JULY 2014

Summaries for all DHRs with all CSP Chairs in the region. It was also recommended that CSPs should review all DHRs as a standing item - in Reading this would be done by the Domestic Violence Delivery Group and escalated to the Executive Group if necessary.

AGREED: That the recommendations of the Domestic Homicide Review Working Group be endorsed.

### 3. CRIME FIGURES UPDATE

Anthony Brain gave a presentation giving an overview of crime figures to the end of May 2014. He explained that there had been a 13% year-on-year reduction in the overall number of crimes in the British Crime Survey crime categories. The number of burglaries was continuing to reduce and Reading was now 5<sup>th</sup> of 15 among its comparator group. Shoplifting had also fallen after recent increases, and there had been a decrease in robbery and an increase in theft of vehicle.

The Group welcomed the continuing reduction in overall crime and priority areas such as burglary, and noted the local work such as Integrated Offender Management and the wider social trends that were having an effect. It was noted that there were still risks around a relatively high local population of drug and/or alcohol users, although there were signs of decreasing use among young people. The health implications of alcohol use were increasing in significance relative to crime issues. Anthony noted that the ongoing reduction in crime was beginning to be reflected in the community's perception, but that crime was still seen as a priority.

AGREED: That the presentation be noted.

### 4. COMMUNITY-BASED CRIME DELIVERY GROUP ACTION PLAN

James Hahn tabled the Community-Based Crime Delivery Group's Action Plan for 2014/15. The Group discussed progress and current issues relating to the five priorities and objectives set out in the Plan:

Hate Crime - to improve service and performance relating to hate crime and strengthen the effectiveness of key partner relationships

James noted that there were different groups and 'entry routes' in the area of hate crime and that all needed better engagement with the police. It was proposed to improve collaboration through a Hate Crime Forum and it was suggested that the learning and disability partnership be represented on the Forum, given the high level of hate crime against disabled people as described in the 'Hidden in Plain Sight' enquiry.

Situational Anti-Social Behaviour - to prioritise and secure effective ASB interventions across service areas

The Group discussed the need to carry out better and more efficient partnership working between different services and with the voluntary sector in this area, particularly where a vulnerable adult was being targeted. It was hoped that the Council's new neighbourhoods working approach would help to achieve this.

## COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE GROUP MINUTES - 9 JULY 2014

### Anti-Social Behaviour - Sex Workers - to deliver successful outcomes/exit strategies for on-street sex workers, and protect the public from associated ASB

The focus of activity was targeting on-street sex work in the Battle area. Keith Stacey said that there had been some recent success in encouraging sex workers who were victims of abuse to report offences. He noted that there were also dangers associated with off-street sex work and would work with Lorraine Briffitt on this issue.

### Anti-Social Behaviour - Street Population - to develop and improve the partnership's intervention re. street population ASB

There had recently been an increase in the number of rough sleepers. Lorraine Briffitt outlined a proposed scheme that was being discussed.

### Community Engagement - to achieve strategic oversight of community engagement, and reach out to isolated and vulnerable groups

The Group noted the links to the LSP's priority of 'Capable Communities' and the potential of the Council's Neighbourhood Working approach, which had been endorsed by the Housing, Neighbourhoods and Leisure Committee on 8 July 2014.

#### AGREED:

- (1) That the Community-based Crime Delivery Group Action Plan be endorsed;
- (2) That the 'Working better with you in Neighbourhoods' document submitted to the Housing, Neighbourhoods and Leisure Committee be circulated to the Executive Group.

#### 5. CSP DELIVERY GROUP EXCEPTION REPORTS

The Delivery Groups gave verbal updates as follows:

##### (a) Domestic Violence

Sarah Tapliss reported that funding had recently become available from the PCC and that this had been allocated to Reading Voluntary Action, Berkshire Women's Aid (for Independent Domestic Violence Advocate training), and Trust House - the new sexual violence support centre. The Group had carried out an assessment of the MARAC process due to the low number of referrals, although this was improving. A new Domestic Abuse Strategy and Action Plan would be drafted in the autumn, and it was planned to give a presentation to the next meeting.

##### (b) Integrated Offender Management (IOM)

Group Chair Gabriel Amahwe reported that the Group were looking at how to best present data to the Executive Group. There had been 5% reduction in serious acquisitive crime, and a 14% overall reduction in crime, amongst the IOM cohort. However there had been some difficulties with case management during the transition to Community Rehabilitation Companies. A GPS tracking pilot being carried out would be evaluated at the end of the year.

(c) Town Centre

Group Chair Keith Stacey tabled an update report on current issues and performance for shoplifting, violence, assault with injury and assault without injury. He reported that a second Town Centre Sergeant had been appointed and that the BID would be match funding five PCSOs.

(d) Drug & Alcohol

Group Chair Suzanne Westhead reported that a new drug and alcohol service provider had been appointed and was due to start on 2 October 2014. Public Health would be taking over management of the drug and alcohol service.

(e) Community-Based Crime

(See Minute 4 above).

**AGREED:** That the updates be noted.

**6. TRANSFORMING REHABILITATION UPDATE**

Gabriel Amahwe tabled a briefing note giving an update on the 'Transforming Rehabilitation' changes. The transition from Probation Trusts to the National Probation Service (NRS) and Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs) had now taken place, and probation service delivery in the Thames Valley had been divided into two clusters. The majority of cases had been allocated into their new structures and new processes for case allocation, risk escalation, offender breach enforcement, offender recall to prison and case transfers were all in place to manage and support the interface between NRS and CRCs. Some operational issues associated with implementation of the new processes and the ICT migration and restructure were being worked through.

The report also noted that post-release community supervision of short term prisoners would be coming into place under the new Offender Rehabilitation Act, and Gabriel said that this would place around 800 new offenders within the system.

**AGREED:** That the position be noted.

**7. COURT DIVERSION SCHEME**

Lorraine Briffitt submitted a briefing note on a proposal for a possible Court Diversion Scheme model for vulnerable people involved in prostitution. She explained the thinking behind the scheme and noted that similar schemes for offenders with Mental Health issues had been successful. Lorraine explained the scheme would not be developed further until the 'Transforming Rehabilitation' changes in probation had been fully implemented.

**AGREED:** That the principle of a diversion scheme be supported.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair reported that the PCC and Chief Constable would be giving presentations at the Policy Committee meeting on 21 July 2014, and asked partners to forward any questions to her.

Vicki Lawson raised an issue with the timing of CSP and Youth Offending Service meetings, which it was agreed to discuss with Anthony Brain.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The remaining meetings for 2014/15 would be held on:

Wednesday 24 September 2014

Wednesday 3 December 2014

Wednesday 11 March 2015

(The meeting commenced at 9.32 am and closed at 10.52 am)