

SAFER PORTSMOUTH PARTNERSHIP

NOTES OF A MEETING of the Partnership held on Thursday 15 January 2009 at 9 am in the Civic Offices, Portsmouth.

(NB These minutes should be read in conjunction with the agenda for the meeting.)

Partners Present

David Williams, PCC (In the Chair)
Councillor Paula Riches, PCC and Hampshire
Police Authority
Andy Fraser, PCC and Fire and Rescue Authority
Kevin Evenett, Fire Service
Neil Sherrington, Hampshire Constabulary
Charles Burns, Community Network
David Renouf, Hampshire Probation
Sue Wade, Wessex YOT

Support Officers

Rachael Dalby
Lisa Wills)
Alan Knobel) PCC
Joanne Wildsmith)

1 Apologies for Absence

These had been received from David Peacock, Charlie Adie, John Turner, Councillor Horne and Paul Edmondson-Jones.

2 Minutes – 4 December

The minutes of the SPP meeting held on 4 December 2008 were approved as a correct record.

3 Strategic Discussion Decision Items

(a) Preventing Violent Extremism

Rachael Dalby gave an update on this new agenda from the Government to help stop support of terrorism, for which Portsmouth has been identified as one of a number of local authorities to be provided with the funding for its delivery. Guidance had been issued in June 2008 for this difficult and contentious area of work to target community groups to combat radicalised extremists. Rachael stressed the challenges in engaging the local community and outlined the work that had been undertaken to appoint a worker on a part-time basis until the end of March and the establishment of a local steering group and her own work in opening dialogue with local communities on this sensitive issue.

The issue of training of staff was raised and Rachael reported she was working with Special Branch on a training package that would be rolled out from Community Wardens to Estate Services Officers and other staff who visited homes, so they were aware of the signs to look out for. There was also a Police Community Engagement Officer working with young people and Rachael had visited one of the local mosques although the other mosque had refused her invitation.

Discussion also took place on why Portsmouth had been chosen to receive the grant, being a port and a multi-cultural university city. The issue had been raised with the Vice Chancellor of the University. It was noted that the local communities often saw this as a political and not a faith issue favouring a more interfaith approach.

Southampton had also received funding and Rachael was meeting regularly with officers there to discuss their approach. Rachael referred to the extent of the guidance that had been provided, covering challenging existing ideology, disrupting activities, giving support to vulnerable individuals and increasing the capacity of communities to address extremism. Councillor Riches asked that training be extended to Councillors and others who visited homes (such as health visitors) where appropriate.

It was also noted that there would be auditing of how the Government grant was being spent. It was felt that so far a soft approach had been taken with a need to raise the profile through a more high profile event.

In conclusion David Williams felt there was the need to legitimise this discussion by (i) inviting experts to address both the community representatives and agencies at an event; (ii) to further develop links with Southampton; (iii) to then raise the issue with the LSP where there is inter-faith representation (iv) a collation of training and access to it to be given to the Partnership members.

(b) & (c) Partnership Plan and Strategic Assessment 2009 Timeline & Researching Analyst Programme 2008/09

Lisa Wills presented her report and explained that the draft plan is required to contain an assessment of how the Partnership had performed over the past year. A suggested RAG (Red/Amber/Green) assessment has been made to be confirmed at the next SPP meeting. New indicators of progress to line up with SPP priorities have also been suggested. The draft plan will also be circulated to the Chairs of the delivery groups and Support Officers for input. Once agreed the plan would align with the police, fire and health plans. All comments should be passed to Lisa Wills **by 11th February**. For the City Council there will be approval at Cabinet on the 9 March and at Full Council on 24 March.

AK/
PEJ

The Research and Analysis Programme arising from the Joint Strategic Assessment were circulated at the meeting and it was noted that there was still the need to raise with the hospital the need for A&E data, which was useful in pinpointing locations of violent incidents of crime. Alan Knobel would raise this via Paul Edmondson-Jones. Paragraph 6.3 of the report set out the plans for filling the Analyst vacancy and the allocation of Partnership staff. The agreed timeline for development of the strategic assessment would be brought to the next meeting.

DECISIONS:

- (1) The SPP approved the format of the SPP Plan 2008-11 (April 2009 refresh) as set out in Appendix B and that a final draft be reported to the next meeting on 19 February 2009;**
- (2) The SPP approved the allocation of resources to the Research and Analysis programme;**
- (3) The SPP timeline for development of next year's strategic assessment and revised template in methodology would be brought to the next SPP meeting for approval.**

(d) Local Area Agreement (LAA) Refresh

Matt Gummerson presented this item; the LAA had been agreed in June 2008 with a need to refresh before re-publishing in April 2009. This was to ensure that all the baseline data was now incorporated. He stressed that this was not reviewing the agreed priorities although there would be some adjustment of targets where necessary. He explained the timetable for the revised draft to go to the LAA Project Board on the 11 February, the LSP on the 23 February and SPP on 19 February. This was due to be submitted to GOSE by 2 March but would need to be subject to the subsequent approval of Portsmouth City Council's Cabinet on the 9 March and Council on 24 March.

LW

David Williams reported that the LSP had raised the issue of the effects on the city of the recession and he asked that the message was sent to the theme champions to give consideration to the likely impacts in their themes.

MG/
LW

Matt then reported on the **LSP Annual Conference** which would be held on **9 July** and invited input on the agenda. The purpose of the day was to hold the LSP to account and take forward the agreed priorities. There would be a focus on the 4 flagship issues including violence and health issues. There would also be a reflection of local priorities such as the local economy and protecting the vulnerable. He reported that at the event there would be a launch of the DVD on the vision for Portsmouth. Matt invited involvement of a non-PCC member on the group overseeing the conference arrangements. It was noted that the target audience were agencies and businesses and voluntary sector representatives although consideration would be given as to whether a session could be open to the public for a 'face the people' session.

4 Performance Against Targets

This would be discussed at the 19 February meeting.

5 Officer Update Reports

(a) PSP Report and Implementation Plan.

This report was circulated at the meeting and Lisa Wills highlighted the following points:

- Secondments – it was hoped that these would be in the post by the end of March.
- Co-location – official confirmation of funding was still awaited from the Home Office but if forthcoming this could take place in May/June.
- Building capacity/analysis – the researcher's job details were being circulated and would go to advert the following week both locally and nationally.

(b) Community Tasking Co-ordinating Review

Carrie Pither was not present to report on this item so there would be a future update.

6 Forward Planning/Dates of Meetings

The dates of meetings as set out on the agenda were agreed although it was noted that the SPP Away Day on the 17 July may need to be brought forward.

7 Briefing Papers/Information Items

(a) Letter to the Police Authority

The Home Office letter of 23 December had been sent out with the agenda papers and it was noted that no response had been received. It was further reported that letters would be sent out to the Partners for increased contributions for next year.

LW

(b) A Letter from Home Secretary Regarding Alcohol Disorder Zones (ADZs) and Designated Public Place Orders (DPPOs)

Alan Knobel explained the ADZs could be used where there were high levels of alcohol related incidents but should be used as a last resort and for tightly defined areas, such as the Guildhall Walk. Alan then explained the DPPO's which had been citywide in Portsmouth since 2005 for which it was an offence to refuse to comply with a request of a police officer to refrain from drinking.

It was hoped that a secondee post could help to undertake evaluation of the DPPO. It was reported that within the Home Office Guidance of Portsmouth it is cited as an example of good practice. The full guidance was available on the Home Office website and the Home Office would be undertaking a visit to Portsmouth.

The Government were undertaking a review of irresponsible alcohol sales through a different route

(c) Draft Drug Treatment Plan

A report from Barry Dickinson was circulated at the meeting and a full presentation would be made by Barry at the meeting on 19 February.

8 Any Other Business

- (i) Councillor Paula Riches reported that, as the theme champion for communications, Anthony Burt was not returning to his post as SPP Communications Officer but the Corporate Communications would provide basic cover in the meantime although an advert was going out this week for a permanent post.
- (ii) It was reported that the police would be launching an anti-burglary initiative the following week entitled 'Operation Nemesis';
- (iii) It was reported that the Home Office had asked for a copy of the SPP Strategic Assessment to go to the Audit Office as an example of good practice.

The meeting concluded at 10.50 am followed by a 'Theme Champions' coaching session.