

## SAFER PORTSMOUTH PARTNERSHIP

NOTES OF THE MEETING of the Partnership held on Thursday 4 December 2008 at 9.00 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  
Councillor David Horne, PCC Community Network  
Kevin Evenett, Fire Service  
David Renouf, Probation Service  
Charles Burns, Community Network  
Sue Wade, Wessex YOT  
David Peacock, Hampshire Constabulary  
Charlie Adie, Motiv8

### Support Officers

Lisa Wills )  
Alan Knobel ) PCC  
Fiona Macleod )  
Joanne Wildsmith, Democratic Services )  
Carrie Pither ) Portsmouth Police  
Meriel Harwood )

Julia Wickson, Wickson Consultancy

#### 1 Minutes of Previous Meeting – 18 September (Refer to Minutes)

The Minutes of the meeting on 18 September were agreed as a correct record.

#### 2 Strategic Discussion and Decision Items

##### i) Partnership Strategic Assessment (PSA)

A presentation was made by Julia Wickson on the key issues that had arisen and she was accompanied by Meriel Harwood, Alan Knobel and Lisa Wills who were all part of the compilation team. She outlined the background with the process of joint assessment with the merger of the CDRP and the police's own required assessment process. This had been a learning opportunity and it had already been found that a joint approach took longer and this should have been undertaken earlier in the year, which would be the case in future years. A template could be used to refresh the document in the future.

The PSA was a summary of the findings of the local analysis and could be used to check that the right priorities had been set. There had been comparisons with most similar groups. Councillor Riches asked regarding the community concerns whether there had been any measurement of student activity with regard to anti-social behaviour and Julia responded that the Home Office measurements on ASB were not specifically categorised in these groups.

(TAKE IN POWER POINT PRESENTATION ATTACHED)

Julia outlined the following presenting issues with regard to safer neighbourhoods, safeguarding people, serious and organised crime and protecting communities; focusing especially on violence and acquisitive crime (which included vehicle crime) where there had been significant reductions, the theft of and from motor vehicles, burglary (for which Portsmouth was the 2<sup>nd</sup> worst performing partnership in its most similar family group) and although robbery had been down on the previous years, this had high community concern. Charles Burns asked about whether fraud had been included; there was little information available, as fraud was mainly dealt with by the banks. With regard to shop theft this was not just based in the city centre but was at convenience stores across the city, with links to alcohol and drug use.

For **violent crime** there was a reduction of 12.4% on the previous year, 19% of incidents related to domestic violence and 11.6% were linked to alcohol related violence in the Guildhall area. With domestic violence there had been an increase in reporting and David Peacock commented that there seemed to be a difficulty with Portsmouth officers not perceiving a crime being committed when attending and incident in order to lead to an arrest. There had been a significant increase in repeat cases of domestic violence.

With regard to the late night economy the Operation Drink Safe pilot scheme in The Guildhall Walk area had reduced offences by 21%. For racial harassment there had been an increase in reporting to the police and a good detection rate. There is little information, however, with regard to homophobic and transphobic crime but it was believed there was low reporting here. For young people and violence there was a need to have better knowledge of "youth gangs". In the safer neighbourhoods category criminal damage and arson incidents were down significantly. Whilst reporting of anti social behaviour incidents to the police had reduced the rates were still high. The majority of incidents of criminal damage and arson were of secondary incidents, unlikely to result in harm to individuals, however these had a close correlation to ASB levels.

For **anti social behaviour** generally there were key locations of Buckland, Landport, parts of Paulsgrove and parts of Cosham, Baffins Pond/ Milton Park, Southsea Common and Somerstown. There was a pattern of continued hot spots in public spaces often near play parks and shopping parades. There were also strong links with alcohol, repeat offenders, drug misuse and young people. David Williams asked for a clarification of the definition of young people – this still needed to be disentangled from MORI surveys as this was non specific but is a perception issue when crimes are reported. Often the age of perpetrator is not recorded by the police. Charlie Adie reported that the majority that were being targeted for prevention work were between 13 to 18 year olds who did not have access to other activities.

For **drug misuse** Portsmouth have the second highest retention rate of those in treatment in the south east, a high level of self referral and there is the highest level in the south east of drug related hospital admissions (but not deaths).

For **young people** there has been a small increase in first time entrants and there had been high profile intervention work in the city put in place and the peak age had reduced from 17 to 16 for males and 16 to 14 for females. With regard to **alcohol misuse** issues there was high level of misuse but there was a lower level of accessing treatment services than for drugs.

At the conclusion of the presentation Julia stressed the need to ensure data quality was a priority and the recommendations included putting in place a review process. The Chair thanked all involved for their contribution to the review document and for its co-ordination by Julia Wickson.

Page 54 set out the **recommended priorities** which included the issues of data quality and analytical capacity which would need to be covered within the partnership development plan at the January meeting of the SPP. It was also noted that the recent Green Paper affected the management of police authorities with directly elected representatives to the Police Authority and changes to the way the BCU Fund. is used.

**The priorities set out on page 54 of the Partnership Strategic Assessment were AGREED.**

**It was AGREED that these priorities would be used to update the Safer Portsmouth Partnership Plan 2008-2011 (Refresh April 2009). First draft to be brought to partnership meeting scheduled for 15<sup>th</sup> January 2009.**

**In relation to the next Partnership Strategic Assessment, it was AGREED:**

- i) to set in place a review and process planning meetings,**
- ii) to develop a prioritised data, research and analysis plan setting out further research and analysis required**
- iii) to develop processes for routinely collecting performance reports and data from the responsible authorities**
- iv) to consider producing the next assessment earlier in the business planning cycle.**

Members of the SPP were asked to send in their comments on the Partnership Strategic Assessment to Lisa Wills by 24<sup>th</sup> December 2008. A review meeting would be schedule between Xmas and the New Year.

Councillor Riches commented on the need for inclusion of student nuisance and its links to ASB. Julia Wickson explained that there needed to be further analysis done in order to identify what was driving this type of nuisance and that this would be recommended for inclusion in the data, research and analysis plan arising out of the review process. Charlie Adie reported that at recommendations three should include preventative work with families and **this was agreed**. Charles Burns felt there should be a reflection of business crime in recommendation 7. Julia explained that there was currently insufficient evidence to include 'business crime' as a priority for the partnership. However, crimes like non-domestic burglary for example, that affect businesses needed to be 'unpacked' further to identify drivers and appropriate responses. This would be recommended as part of the aforementioned data, research and analysis plan that would be brought to the SPP in January 09.

There was also discussion on the handling of the publication of the document as it included sensitive information with regard to football and counter terrorism. It was agreed that the document would be reviewed for publication on the SPP website but that this would not be publicised. and it was asked that Julia's slides be circulated with the

minutes.

**It was also AGREED that the document would have a revised front sheet with only the Safer Portsmouth Partnership logo.**

**ii) Analytical Capacity**

Notes had been circulated of the Theme Champion's meeting that had taken place on 21 November chaired Dick Oldfield from GOSE. Decision 5. set out arrangements for a secondment to the SPP Strategy and Partnership Team from the Fire Service and the Police. Lisa explained how this had come about how these arrangements would cost £80k. This meant that less money would be available to deliver the rest of the PSP recommendations. However, this would probably be possible with if the Home Officer were able to directly fund the CCTV review and alterations to allocations were made elsewhere.

**It was AGREED that both secondments would be funded and that an updated and amended implementation plan would be circulated.**

Lisa reported that there had been a bid submitted to the Home Office capital fund to co-locate all the community safety officers and indications were that this would be successful. David Peacock provided more good news that agreement had been reached for the Hampshire County Council server to be utilised to make RMS (the police crime recording system) available to partners. In response to a question from Councillor Riches regarding a link officer for communities from the police, David Peacock responded that he hoped that this would be provide by the secondment post/project officer.

David Williams reported that there had also been discussion in relation to updating the SPP Terms of Reference with an additional role for the Theme Champions to meet regularly to implement SPP decisions helping to drive delivery.

**It was AGREED that the partnership Terms of Reference were updated to reflect this decision**

### iii) **PSP Report and Implementation Plan**

Updated plan to be circulated (see item craft generic job descriptions for the SPP secondments were circulated. There would be a recruitment process and as it was important to get the right person for this partnership role. The job description was very broad as the role needed to be flexible. Behavioural competencies would be added. It is hoped officers would be in place by February 09. Kevin stressed the need to include evaluation on the success of these posts. Lisa reported that the first year would be PSP funded the second year by the Police and Fire Service respectively. At the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year the business benefits should be clear and it is hoped the secondments would be embraced as part of core business.

### iv) **Area Based Grant and LAA Refresh**

David Williams reported the paper that had been circulated (Re-investing the Area Based Grant) had gone to the LSP on 1<sup>st</sup> December and the wishes of the SPP had broadly been met. During discussion the LSP had been keen that cross cutting targets and objectives would be used to prioritise the grant. The ultimate decision on the allocation would rest with city council on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

With regard to the LAA refresh David Williams suggested this be considered at the next meeting (January 15<sup>th</sup> 2009) to ensure all partners were comfortable with the priorities and whether there was a need to influence other LSP areas.

## 3 **Performance Against Targets – New Performance Framework**

There was focus on the three areas indicated as red and one that was likely to turn red.

- i) NI20 - Assaults with less serious injury – David Peacock reported the target was to reduce by 4% and this was currently running at 2% reduction; he explained that one of the reasons for the red assessment was that a recent audit of crime recording in Portsmouth had found a significant number of crimes had been reclassified into this category according to Home Office counting rules. He also reported that outside the Isle of Wight, Portsmouth was the best performing OCU in the county in relation to violent crime.
- ii) SPP 2 – Domestic abuse incidents resulting in arrest – this was currently running at 26% and was likely to rise above the target of 35%. David Peacock stressed that the arrest rate was 75% where an incident is perceived as a ‘crime’ and recorded as such. He expressed the need to find out why officers in Portsmouth perceived fewer domestic incidents to be ‘crimes’. This would be discussed at the Violent Crime Strategy Group meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> December and a report back would be provided to the partnership.

- iii) LAA 9.4 - percentage of individuals contacted by the Racial Awareness Service who take up the service – this data was awaited from the service – this recruitment issue was being resolved.
- iv) SPP6 - reduction in conviction rates of those on IDAP – David Renouf from in Probation reported on the five IDAP programmes (which included men from outside of Portsmouth) which included a range of victim safety work and he stressed caution on these figures. He would investigate the accuracy and robustness of this data and agree way forward before the next meeting. It was important to report on 'call outs' to domestic incidents as well as convictions for crimes with domestic links.

#### **4 Officer Updates**

i) **Challenge and support and youth crime action plan.**

Charlie Adie reported on the Challenge and Support grant (£700,000 over next 2 years). There were three separate work streams:

1. Two youth crime prevention posts running until March 2011, both of which have now been filled. There would be focus on the ABC process, co-ordination of multi-agency requests for support and data collection.
2. On the Youth Crime Action Plan (YCAP) £65k needs to be spent by March 09. Focused on Friday and Saturday night street based work project linking in with Operation Bourne (details were circulated) and he also reported on local authority commissioned work regarding future youth crime provision and the developing caution/final warning clinics which would help avoid delays and give quick access to YOT officers. He also reported on the Friday and Saturday night activities which would enhance existing provision and pilot new initiatives.
3. Charlie also reported on the £100,000 available for family intervention programmes for which an allocation had been made to the Roberts Centre which helped families at most risk of eviction.

Alan Knobel then reported on the Home Office Alcohol Partnership Fund for which there was £24,000 (also to be spent by March 09) for alcohol related crime and disorder. This would target under-age drinking in the Paulsgrove area through "The Weekend Project". There would be work here with off licences and on proxy sales and he circulated copies of the promotional posters. There would also be work with schools via theatre workshops and there would be an official launch the following Friday with a project running until the end of March.

David Williams as Chair of the group offered to write to the Home Office/GOSE regarding the short term funding of these important projects and posts which would need a continuation in further years.

DW

ii) **Home Office Leadership Symposium**

Lisa Wills circulated two documents from the recent symposium that she had been involved with and she reported on the changes to the Home Office structure with a high level partnership support team. She would bring back further information from the symposium as the work of the steering group progressed. During discussion of the two documents relating to leadership David Peacock recommended an American Naval Captain's book entitled 'Not on my Ship' which touched on the responsiveness to front line staff. David Peacock also suggested that the new secondees visit the centres of excellence to see best practice and it was reported that Portsmouth had recently hosted a visit from Bristol regarding a TCG's and officers from PCC would visit Southampton and Manchester shortly to look at their examples of good practice. There was also discussion regarding the links with the Portsmouth University's MSc criminology and community safety course which had proved positive for recruitment to SPP member agencies.

iii) **Portsmouth City Council – Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA)**

David Williams reported that there had been four assessments during the summer: the CPA, the JAR by OfSted, the review by CSci and the Home Office Partnership Support Programme. Results were all in the public domain and on the website. For the CPA Portsmouth had been rated as 'good' and he circulated extracts relating to the areas where SPP work had made a significant contribution to this rating. This was a very positive result but the City Council was being cautious in celebrating this success in the current climate with the events at Haringey Council. Councillor Riches was concerned that emergency planning had been found to be inadequate and it was hoped that the relocation of staff within the Community Safety Team would help and it was reported that a new member of the team, and ex-police officer starting soon who would be able to contribute to work in this area.

iv) **Community Tasking and Co-ordination Review**

Carrie reported that the four groups had now been running for two years and had been visited by the Bristol representatives recently. There had been a commissioned review over the summer and workshops had been undertaken and the initial results had been considered. During the feedback process there had been discussion/criticism of the involvement of Councillors and Councillor Riches had commented on the negative wording of the "virtual" category given to them. The police representatives stressed that Councillors were not only very welcome but encouraged to attend, but overall attendance was quite poor although some individual Members had very high attendance levels. This was therefore being addressed by a joint letter from David Williams and David Peacock to further encourage the attendance of Ward Councillors.

DW/DP

## **5 Forward Planning & Dates of Meetings**

JW The next meetings of the SPP on 15<sup>th</sup> January and 19<sup>th</sup> February 2009 were noted. In line with the partnership's Terms of Reference, dates for a forward programme running to May 2010 would be sent out with the draft minutes.

## **6 Briefing Papers**

The two briefing papers regarding the letter from the National Treatment Agency and the Statement of Expenditure to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2008 (which was circulated at the meeting) were noted.

The meeting concluded at 12.25 pm.

JW/EH  
5 December 2008  
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