

COMMUNITY SAFETY BOARD

3 JULY 2015

PRESENT:

Responsible Authority Members / Representatives:

Cllr Gary Haley (Chair)	- Cabinet Office, Gateshead Council
Geoff Hagon	- Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue
Christina Barrett	- Northumbria Police
Louise Houghton	- National Probation Service
Martyn Strike	- Northumbria CRC

Partners / Officers:

Elizabeth Hogg	- HMCTS
Mick Shannon	- Gateshead Youth Offending Team
Alice Wiseman	- Public Health
Mark Warcup	- Independent Chair, DHR
Neil Bouch	- The Gateshead Housing Company
Steve Wouldhave	- Northumbria Police
Deborah Alderson	- Northumbria Police
Louise Rule	- Care, Wellbeing & Learning
Adam Lindridge	- Care, Wellbeing & Learning
Charlotte Wainwright	- Chief Executive's
Helen Conway	- Corporate Services & Governance

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Ruth Gaul, Sylvia Copley, Susan Butler and Richie Jackson.

2. INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME

Councillor Gary Haley introduced himself as the new chair of the Board and all members present introduced themselves. Councillor Haley wished to place upon record his thanks to the outgoing Chair, Councillor Peter Mole. It was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to Councillor Mole, thanking him for his work as Chair of the Board and wishing him well for the future.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 13 FEBRUARY 2015

The minutes of the Board meeting held on 24 April 2015 were agreed as a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

The CSB Action Log highlighting outstanding actions was presented for information.

Adam Lindridge reported that most of the action logs are now complete or ongoing and have been placed on the forward plan for future meetings.

5. MULTI-AGENCY TASKING AND CO-ORDINATION (MATAC): TACKLING PERPETRATORS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE

The Board received a report and presentation regarding Northumbria Police proposals to tackle domestic abuse perpetrators.

The Police and Crime Commissioners of Northumbria, Durham and Cleveland have produced a joint Violence against Women and Girls Strategy (VAWGS); tackling Domestic Abuse perpetrators.

Proposals were submitted to the Home Office in an application for Police Innovation funding, setting out the trial of a consistent process specifically to identify those most harmful and serial domestic abuse perpetrators.

Crime figures show that violent crime is steadily rising, as are reported incidents of Domestic Abuse which contribute to a large percentage of violent crime figures. Much of this proposed process is about preventing re offending by perpetrators but also prevention of escalation of violence and offending at the very early stages.

A method of analysis based on recency, frequency and gravity of offending to identify those most harmful and serial perpetrators to target will be used. A dedicated analyst will also be appointed to produce target lists along with subject profiles for each target.

Once perpetrators are identified there needs to be a process for the tasking and coordination of resources to tackle these perpetrators effectively.

The perpetrators would be brought for discussion at the MATAC; there will also be a process to allow partners to refer perpetrators into the process.

The MATAC would decide how each perpetrator should be targeted and who should do it. Consideration would be given to victims in each case regarding their views and safety via support services who would be in attendance at the meeting.

There would be a link with MARAC and MAPPA though this process will have an entirely different focus. Those persons suitable for referral to MAPPA will be dealt with through MAPPA, this would not be duplication. It is envisaged that the MATAC process will highlight more of the serial DA offenders who offend against a series of victims quite often assessed as standard risk

victims therefore meaning these serial perpetrators are not highlighted by any other process.

The production of a Domestic Abuse Toolkit will also be undertaken which will include tactical options to disrupt and prevent further offending. The DA toolkit will include multi agency prevention methods, diversion, disruption and enforcement options.

Initial funding was approved for commissioning of one RESPECT accredited DA perpetrator intervention programme. Expressions of interest and the BIG programme has been set up in Sunderland, a consortium of Barnardos, Impact Family Service and Gentoo. This programme is now accepting referrals.

Additional funding has now been approved for additional DA perpetrator programmes in the force area with the aim of providing coverage across the whole of the force area.

Work is also currently ongoing to develop 10 DA GPS electronic monitoring proximity devices and targeting methods linked to housing providers, further updates will be reported to future meetings as the scheme develop.

The Board fully endorsed the proposed scheme and were asked to provide Adam Lindridge with names of contact names of representatives from all partner agencies around the table. Martin Strike also suggested that a small task and finish group be established to assist in the development process of the scheme.

RESOLVED - i) that the information be noted
 ii) that further updates be presented to the Board as
 the scheme develops

6. MASH/Operation Encompass Update

The Board received an update on the MASH/Operation Encompass and were advised that funding is in place until the end of March 2017 for vulnerable adults, and targeted work for serial victims of Domestic Violence.

Operation Encompass has now been rolled out to every school in Gateshead and every school has now signed up. Since the project went live on 1 April 312 separate notifications have been received; the higher proportion of these being in the south and the west of the borough with the average age of the children involved being 9 years.

Work is underway to ensure monitoring continues over the school holidays. A full up to date schedule of statistics will be circulated to partners after the Board.

Staff are currently being appointed to various posts and a further update will be given to the Board at a future meeting.

- RESOLVED -
- i) that the information be noted
 - ii) that further updates be presented to the Board in due course

7. DOMESTIC HOMICIDE REVIEW

Mark Warcup, Independent Chair presented an update to the Board regarding the on-going Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) and informed the Board of the DHR panel's intention to notify the Home Office that the DHR process in Gateshead will not be concluded within the allocated six month time slot.

The DHR Panel agreed that Individual Management Review (IMR) documents should focus on the time frame between 1 March 2014 and 19 December 2014. An initial deadline for submission of these documents was set at 22 May 2015. It is reasonable to expect that the initial versions of the IMR documents will be amended following further panel meetings.

Governmental guidance suggests that a Domestic Homicide Review should be concluded within 6 months from the start of the process. In the event that a Domestic Homicide Panel should require further time to complete the Review process, an approach must be made to the Home Office to offer notification of this delay.

The perpetrator was charged with the murder of the victim on 19 December 2014. The perpetrator entered a guilty plea for this offence at a court appearance in April 2015. The perpetrator was sentenced in June 2015 to life imprisonment and will serve a minimum of 12 ½ years in prison.

The Domestic Homicide Review process in Gateshead was delayed for several weeks until the perpetrator had entered a plea during his court appearance in April. This was to ensure that any investigations carried out regarding the criminal case were not compromised by investigate action taken in relation to the DHR process.

- RESOLVED -
- i) the Board endorsed the decision of the DHR panel to make the Home Office aware that the DHR process will not be completed within the allocated time frame.
 - ii) the Board agreed to receive further updates from the DHR panel in due course.

8. BUSINESS MANAGER UPDATE

The Board considered a report that provided an overview of the national, regional and local developments that have occurred with Community Safety since the previous Board meeting in April 2015.

National Developments

The Board were advised of the following national developments; The Queens Speech, HMC Consultation; this can be accessed at <http://www.homeofficesurveys.homeoffice.gov.uk/s/A7EQ7/> and National Strategic Assessment.

Regional Developments

The Board were advised of the following regional developments; Regional Prevent Meeting and PCC Working Groups.

Local Developments

The Board were advised of the following local developments: Revised ARCH System, Safer Neighbourhoods, Central Area Command Engagement Team, Drug-related Deaths, Police Independent Advisory Group, Positive Requirements and Refresh of Licensing Policy.

RESOLVED -

- i) that the information be noted
- ii) that further updates will be provided to the Board as and when appropriate

9. SUBSTANCE MISUSE – JOINT STRATEGY

Alice Wiseman updated the Board on the current work undertaken by the Task and Finish Group following on from the workshop which took place in March.

Work has focused on:-

- Action against Legal Highs
- Price and Promotion
- Local Strategies and Policy Developments
- Communication and Social Marketing
- Prevention Activity
- Education
- Support

Work is currently underway to pull these actions together into the draft strategy and this will then be brought back to this Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board for comment in the next few months.

RESOLVED -

- i) that the information be noted
- ii) that further updates will be presented to the Community Safety Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board in due course

10. DOMESTIC ABUSE EXECUTIVE FORUM – UPDATE

The Board received an update in relation to the Domestic Abuse work that has and continues to be developed in Gateshead.

Stalking and Harassment Training

National information from Safe Lives indicates that more than half of domestic abuse victims experience stalking and harassment. In recognition of this, Safer Communities have commissioned Safe Lives to deliver a one day training course designed to help professionals working with victims to develop best practice response to stalking, through prevention, risk assessment, safety and action planning. The next course will take place on 10 July and is already oversubscribed and a further course will therefore be arranged in the near future.

Independent Domestic Violence Advisers (IDVA)

The IDVA' deal with high risk victims of domestic abuse and compliments the Mutli-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) to reduce risk for those victims.

The IDVA referrals have continues to increase year-on-year. In 2013/14, a total of 743 referrals were received into the service compared to 1,023 referrals for 2014/15 – equating to an increase of more than 38% (280 additional referrals). This is an increase of more than 68% (417 additional referrals) since 2012/13 and has more than doubled on 2011/12 figures (103% increase; 521 additional referrals).

The number of referrals received into the IDVA service rose in every single month in 2014 compared with 2013 – with the exception of December 2014. On average, each IDVA has dealt with in excess of 237 referrals over a twelve-month period for 2014/15 and are actively working with approximately 20+ open cases at any one time. In addition, the engagement rate for the service has increased from 55% in 2013/14 to 56% in 2014/15 – which shows that referrals and engagements have both increased – and means IDVAs are working with a significantly higher caseload.

Domestic Abuse Work Based Champion Scheme

Following a successful pilot scheme in Newcastle, Northumberland and North Tyneside the Police and Crime Commissioner has requested that the scheme be rolled out across Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland and the PCC has offered some financial assistance to develop the scheme and provide training to the champions

The Council currently provides a domestic abuse work based contact scheme to a range of employees who have received specialist training to support victims of domestic abuse who can support employees and sign post them to appropriate support services.

Domestic Abuse leads from all three areas have recently arranged annual conference for all work based DV Champions. The first conference took place on 16 June which was well attended from DV Champions across the region. The next session will take place on 3 July.

The PCC has also developed a website for all DV Champions to access for information and peer support; this has recently gone live for all DV Champions and will be the 'hub' for information.

RESOLVED - i) that the information be noted
 ii) that further updates will be presented to the Board
 in due course.

11. REVISED ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (ASB) FRAMEWORK

The Board received a report seeking endorsement from the Community Safety Board in relation to the draft ASB Framework that has been produced (in collaboration with a range of Council services and partner agencies).

The Board were reminded, the ASB, Crime and Policing Act 2014 was given Royal Assent on 13 March 2014 and sets out simpler powers for the Police and partner agencies to tackle anti-social behaviour issues. The Act replaces nineteen existing powers with six simpler and more flexible tools to prevent and enforce ASB-related issues (including greater emphasis of supporting and protecting vulnerable victims).

The revised ASB Framework has been produced to take into account the changes outlined with the ASB, Crime and Policing Act 2014 – and has been developed on behalf of the Gateshead Community Safety Board in consultation with partners.

The Framework is not intended to provide specific operation details of how ASB is addressed but provides a holistic overview for partners and residents as well as generic information relating to supporting vulnerable victims and tackling perpetrators. It sets out the definitions of ASB that will be used by the Partnership as well as details of the agencies tackling ASB issues within the Borough.

The Framework outlines some key actions that will have to be undertaken by the Board over the next twelve months to ensure that anti-social behaviour is pro-actively addressed within Gateshead. The actions will be reviewed/updated on an annual basis and will be delivered predominately by the Crime, ASB and Confidence Sub-Group. Some of the key actions include:

- Embed the new tools and powers outlined in the ASB, Crime and Policing Act 2014;
- Implement the revised Graded Response (including the roll out of briefings and training sessions to key partners);
- Further promote Community Trigger with local residents and communities;
- Embed the use of Restorative Approaches within the Graded Response to tackle anti-social behaviour;
- Engage with local residents/communities to assist with the development of appropriate policies and strategies to tackle anti-social behaviour;

- Increase awareness of how local residents can report anti-social behaviour to the Council and its Partners

RESOLVED - i) that the draft ASB Framework be endorsed
 ii) the Board agreed to received regular updates at a future meeting of the Board.

12. OSC REPORT – PREVENT DUTY – SCOPING REPORT

The Community Safety Sub Overview and Scrutiny Committee have agreed that the focus of its review in 2015/16 will be the newly introduced duty to Prevent.

The review will focus particularly on:

- The arrangements the Council and its partners have in place to meet the Duty and to assess whether they meet best practice
- The national guidance, its implications for the future of the service and our capacity to respond
- Whether there are service gaps, areas of duplication or opportunities to work more effectively and efficiently.

The review will scrutinise prevent through three evidence gathering sessions that will focus on:

Setting the scene: to provide an overview relating to the background of Counter Terrorism approaches and national context, the approach taken in Gateshead, partner agencies involved as well as potential future plans

Process of Radicalisation: delivered by Special Branch and focuses on how individuals may become vulnerable to radicalisation, the measures to identify and support those at risk as well as the nature of local threat and role of Counter Terrorism Security Advisors.

Partner Involvement: focuses on the role of partner agencies will focus upon approaches adopted by Gateshead Council, EducationGateshead and support provided to schools as well as health.

RESOLVED - i) that the information be noted.
 ii) the Board agreed to receive updates at future meetings

13. REFRESH OF VISION 2030

The Board received a report which provided an update on the Vision 2030 refresh which is currently underway.

The Board also received details of the 5 year outcomes which are also proposed.

RESOLVED - i) that the information be noted
 ii) that further updates be received in due course.

14. FAMILIES GATESHEAD UPDATE

The Board received an update on performance data from 1 September 2014 to date for the Families Gateshead Programme along with Families Gateshead case studies for information.

Phase 2 of the programme commenced on 1 April 2015. Gateshead has exceeded the target for the early adopter phase and also year 1 of the programme. To ensure that Gateshead meets the overall target of 100% payment by results by 2020 Gateshead will have to work with at least 5000 families.

RESOLVED - i) that the information be noted
 ii) that regular updates be brought back to future meetings of the Board.

15. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Friday 28 August 2015 at 10.00 am in the Blaydon Room, Civic Centre.