

**COMMUNITY SAFETY BOARD****28 AUGUST 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
Karin O'Neill	- National Probation Service
Martyn Strike	- Northumbria CRC
Louise Rule	- Care, Wellbeing and Learning

**Partners / Officers:**

Susan Butler	- Care, Wellbeing and Learning
Moira Richardson	- Public Health
Esther Ward	- Gateshead Older People's Assembly
Julie McCartney	- The Gateshead Housing Company
Adam Lindridge	- Care, Wellbeing and Learning
Mark Cheetham	- Care, Wellbeing and Learning
Brian Wilson	- Corporate Services and Governance

**APOLOGIES:** Liz Hogg, Alice Wiseman, Richie Jackson and Neil Bouch**1. MINUTES**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 3 July 2015 were agreed as a true record.

**2. MATTERS ARISING**

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

**3. REVISED LICENSING POLICY FOR 2016-21**

A presentation on Gateshead Council's Statement of Licensing Policy to be effective from 7 January 2016 to 6 January 2021 was given. Information on the background, consultation, importance and where it fits, operating schedule, changes, activities that may cause concern, licensed hours, conditions and the next steps were given.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the information be noted.
  - (ii) That further ways to improve the data relating to alcohol issues collected by partners be discussed.

#### **4. BUSINESS MANAGER UPDATE**

An overview of the national, regional and local developments that have occurred in community safety since the last Board meeting was provided.

**National Developments** - legal highs, impact of budget cuts on policing and Government policy on tackling extremism.

**Regional Developments** - Safeguarding Model, Prevent regional meeting, review of Magistrates Courts in Northumbria and the Police and Crime Commissioner update on anti-social behaviour volunteer network and the Northumbria domestic abuse practitioner standard.

**Local Developments** - Public Space Protection Order, Prevent Duty awareness training with schools, Positive Requirements, Novel psychoactive substances regional conference and changes to the Community Safety staff.

RESOLVED - That the information be noted.

#### **5. SUBSTANCE MISUSE GROUP - UPDATE**

The Substance Misuse Group's revised terms of reference and 2015/16 annual work plan, including an overview of the work on the Substance Misuse Strategy, were submitted.

The Group's overarching purpose is to produce and deliver an aspirational and ambitious vision for addressing drug and alcohol-related issues within Gateshead.

The Group has representation from a broad range of organisations and has alternating chairs between Community Safety and Public Health.

The 2015/16 plan was drafted in collaboration with partners to ensure that the issues linked with drug and alcohol misuse were proactively addressed.

A consultation event held with partners in March 2015 to discuss the development of the new Substance Misuse Strategy resulted in a range of challenging outcomes being identified.

The key outcomes to be achieved by 2030 were to reduce alcohol-related mortality for both men and women, alcohol-related violent crime and opiate and/or crack use to 0

In order to achieve these outcomes, actions will be identified at a population, community and individual-level linked with communication, media and publicity, prevention and diversionary activities, education and social change, support for individuals, families and carers and tougher enforcement.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the information be noted.
  - (ii) That the revised terms of reference and annual work plan be endorsed.
  - (iii) That the draft Substance Misuse Strategy be submitted to the Board in October 2015.
  - (iv) That opportunities for the partnership work of the Board to be highlighted in the media be considered.

## **6. TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE UPDATE**

Geoff Hagon reported that in the integrated risk plan two appliances had been lost at Swalwell and Wallsend. The impact had been monitored and there had been no detrimental outcomes and the response times had been maintained. Two targeted response vehicles had been introduced to deal with smaller category fires. In September, two further appliances will be replaced by targeted response vehicles in Newcastle Central, also covering Gateshead, and Sunderland Central. The number of aerial ladders has also been reduced from three to two and their location was being reviewed.

Ten pumps were to be fitted with cold cutting equipment to increase safety when tackling fires from outside.

Next year two further appliances will be removed from West Denton and Hebburn as part of the budget savings. Under the risk based attendance policy there will no longer be an automatic response to automated fire alarms between 8am and 8pm apart from specific exempted properties unless there were signs of a fire.

There has been an increase in vehicle and refuse fires. The strategy to target the problems included education programmes, social media messages, increased patrols, partnership working, identifying hotspots, etc.

The targeted response vehicles have attended 34 incidents in Gateshead and under the new risk based attendance policy, 17 incidents have not been attended giving 50 movements the appliances have not had to make. A review of the service was ongoing and there were still £3m of cuts to be made in the next few years. Future changes will be discussed with the Council and other partners to help mitigate these actions.

It was suggested that the Gateshead Housing Company could help with the removal of refuse, etc to help cut down the number of fires. Also, the Council could consider giving the community payback scheme permits to dispose of the rubbish and this could be a good partnership initiative.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the report be noted.
  - (ii) That the involvement of the Gateshead Housing Company, the Council and the community payback scheme in helping to clear away rubbish to prevent fires be investigated further.

## **7. REDUCING RE-OFFENDING UPDATE**

Karin O'Neill, from the National Probation Service (NPS), reported that her organisation and the Community Rehabilitation Service (CRC) were still in the process of splitting. The CRC was to leave the shared premises in the near future. The NPS, which was part of the Civil Service, was to deal with the public protection high risk offenders with the CRC taking the other parts. The previous thirty five trusts were now being harmonised into one service. The north east divisional office was based in Leeds. The service was based on efficiency, effectiveness and excellence on the new structures outlined.

Martyn Strike reported that the Northumbria CRC had been established twelve months ago. Sodexo took over ownership on 1 February 2015. The staff was considering the new Sodexo systems and in the next six months, the current 260 employees will be reduced to 155. There was one Director and three managers covering Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland. It was planned to move estates in November but it has taken a long time as there have been a lot of challenges. It has been a credit to the staff in the NPS and CRC the way they have worked together in very difficult times.

RESOLVED - That the information be noted.

## **8. STRATEGIC YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2015/16**

Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) are required to produce an Annual Youth Justice Plan as one of the grant conditions for Local Authorities. The Plan should cover:-

- the National and local context
- resourcing and value for money
- structure and governance
- partnership arrangements
- priorities for 2015/16
- performance data
- risk to future delivery

The plan should be endorsed by the YOT Board and requires signatories from Northumbria Police, Northumbria Probation Service, Public Health and the Strategic Director for Learning and Children.

The Annual Youth Justice Strategic Plan, updated following a capacity and capability self-assessment undertaken by the YOT, was submitted. The risks

to future delivery included: remands to the Local Authority, maintaining and improving performance whilst facing budget reductions, implementing new measures, loss of expertise due to potential redundancies, statutory requirement to have a skilled volunteer workforce and delivery of the service in the future.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the amended copy of the Plan be circulated with the minutes.
  - (ii) That six monthly updates on the YOT Board Strategic Plan 2015/16 be submitted.

## **10. DOMESTIC ABUSE – 2014/15 PERFORMANCE**

The statistics received from Northumbria Police relating to domestic abuse incidents in 2014/15 within Gateshead were submitted.

There has been a 5% increase in the number of domestic abuse incidents recorded within Gateshead compared to a 3% rise across Northumbria. There has been a 38% increase in the number of high-risk victims seeking support through the Council's Independent Domestic Violence Adviser Service. The number of incidents involving children was up by 1%.

27% of all domestic-related incidents resulted in the perpetrator being arrested by Northumbria Police and the volume of arrests have risen by 8%. Increased reports of domestic abuse incidents involving violence against the person offences were up by 44%. Rape offences committed in Gateshead have almost doubled compared to last year with a similar trend across Northumbria. Gateshead has experienced a 42% increase in the number of incidents that involved alcohol.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the information be noted.
  - (ii) That further work be undertaken to identify options for tackling alcohol-related domestic abuse.
  - (iii) That ways to raise the awareness of domestic abuse involving the elderly be considered.

## **11. SAFE COMMUNITIES SURVEY – PERCEPTIONS OF CRIME AND DISORDER**

An overview of the Northumbria Police Safer Communities Survey (SCS) results for the twelve months to June 2015 as well as comparisons to December 2013 was submitted.

In the last twelve months, 7,819 residents, chosen at random to ensure it is representative of the overall population, were contacted for the survey, of which 73% provided responses. For Gateshead, this equated to 1,134 residents and a 74% response rate.

Some of the key results relating to the Police and Crime Commissioner, Criminal Justice System, neighbourhoods, visibility and awareness and perceptions of the Police and Council were presented.

In addition to the Safer Communities Survey, a range of multi-agency Operation WAYS initiatives were also co-ordinated in response to a specific crime, disorder or tension problem within a geographical neighbourhood. There have been two, one in Deckham, following reports of anti-social behaviour, and the other in Winlaton where Gateshead College students surveyed residents on crime/anti-social behaviour experiences and feelings of safety.

Further analytical work will be undertaken by Community Safety to identify if there are any specific geographical hotspots in relation to perceptions of crime and disorder. This will help the Crime, ASB and Confidence Sub-Group to task the respective Safer Neighbourhoods Groups to deliver activity within certain neighbourhoods and/or with client groups to improve feelings of safety.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the information be noted.
  - (ii) That neighbourhood issues be identified to help drive the agenda of the Board to address them.

## **12. FAMILIES GATESHEAD UPDATE**

An update on performance data from 1 September 2014 to date for the Families Gateshead Programme was submitted.

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 approximately 5,000 families.

A pilot project has been agreed with the Gateshead Housing Company for a member of the Family Intervention Team to work with identified cases where housing or anti-social behaviour issues were prevalent. Five live cases were held at present with advice given on four other cases where other services are acting as the lead practitioner. This is an interim arrangement to develop the overall understanding of the Families Gateshead model with housing staff for some posts to take on the lead practitioner role and use the Team Around the Family model.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the information be noted.
  - (ii) That regular updates on phase 2 of the programme be submitted.

**13. COMMUNITY SAFETY SUB OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Safety Sub Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 30 June 2015 and the work plan circulated for information be noted.

**14. OBSERVER AT NEXT MEETING**

It was asked if the Deputy Chief Inspector of Prisons who will be visiting the CRC to look at partnership working could attend the next Board meeting as an observer.

RESOLVED - That the request be agreed.

**15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Friday, 30 October 2015 at 10.00 am in the Blaydon Room, Civic Centre.