

GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SAFETY SUB OSC MEETING

Tuesday, 4 April 2017

PRESENT: Councillor

Councillor(s): T Graham, J Turnbull and A Wheeler

APOLOGIES: Councillor(s): P Dillon, P Craig, S Dickie, K Dodds, H Haran and J McClurey

CSS20 APOLOGIES

CSS21 MINUTES

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the Community Safety Sub held on 17 January 2017 were agreed as a correct record.

CSS22 REDUCING RE-OFFENDING

The Committee received a presentation from Louise Houghton, National Probation Service and Martyn Strike, Northumbria Community Rehabilitation Company on the work that is delivered across Northumbria in order to reduce re-offending.

RESOLVED - that the information be noted.

CSS23 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY BOARD STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The Committee received a report which provided an overview of the activities undertaken locally in the last twelve months to address its strategic priorities (as outlined within the 2016/17 Partnership Plan).

The Committee were reminded that the Community Safety Board is a standalone themed partnership that has the legal obligation to address the key crime, disorder and substance misuse (drug and alcohol) issues that are impacting upon the Borough. The Board also has a statutory duty under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to produce an annual intelligence led Strategic Assessment and Partnership Plan.

The strategic priorities endorsed by the Board for 2016/17 were:

Prevent Crime, Re-offending and ASB

(Burglary Dwelling; Violence, Criminal Damage, Anti-Social Behaviour, Deliberate Secondary Fires and Focusing on High Demand Locations)

Protect and Support Vulnerable Victims and Persons

(Domestic and Sexual Abuse, Operation Encompass, Sexual Exploitation, Drug-related Deaths, Preventing Violent Extremism and Radicalisation and Hate Crime)

Addressing Key and Emerging Threats

(Novel Psychoactive Substances, Cyber-related Crime, Community Tensions and Cohesion, Serious and Organised Crime and Suicides)

Cross-cutting Issues

(Families Gateshead, Substance Misuse, Early Intervention/Prevention, Improving Community Confidence, Tackling Complex and Multiple Needs, Dual Diagnosis)

In addition the Committee were advised of work that has been undertaken in the last 12 months in order to address the priorities outlined above.

- RESOLVED -
- i) That the information be noted.
 - ii) That the Committee continue to receive six-monthly Community Safety Updates and also identify any issues/areas that the OSC may want to scrutinise in greater detail at a future meeting.

CSS24 PROGRESS UPDATE - PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

The Committee received a report providing an update on the work/activity that has taken place to address the recommendations outlined within the Final Report (of the review of Preventing Violent Extremism that was carried out in 2015/16) and builds upon the progress report submitted to Committee in October 2016.

The Final report concluded that there were strongly co-ordinated multi-agency arrangements in place in Gateshead to meet the statutory responsibilities set out in the national Prevent Duty Guidance.

The Review identified no significant gaps but felt that a self-assessment should be undertaken on a regular basis to ensure that we continue to have strong and robust processes in place to safeguard those at risk of being drawn into extremism (and to help demonstrate that, as a Council, we are proactive in addressing future challenge)

- RESOLVED
- i) That the information be noted.
 - ii) That further updates in relation to progress made against delivering the recommendations be presented to a future meeting

CSS25 PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2017/18

The Committee received a report which provided an overview of the Partnership Plan which provides details of the strategic priorities that have been identified by the Community Safety Board to deliver against throughout the next 12 months.

The tenth Strategic Assessment was completed in December 2016, in conjunction with identifying 4 broad strategic themes and a number of strategic priorities for the

Community Safety Board to potentially address in 2017/18.

These were then presented to Committee in January 2017 for comments (as part of the statutory consultation) and included details of the revised process that was used within Gateshead – including the use of ‘Management of Risk Management in Law Enforcement (MoRiLE) tools, which assessed the potential harm and risk of issues, and measured this against our partners’ capacity and capability to respond as well as how we worked more collaboratively with Safe Newcastle.

The Assessment identified similar issues and problem that were found in previous years and showed that the activity undertaken by Community Safety partners remained appropriate and relevant.

As at 20 March 2017, the Board has received a high volume of responses to the consultation (with in excess of 600+ residents responding). 65% of respondents to the consultation gave a priority weight to violent crime (including domestic and sexual abuse). Conversely, fewer respondents (8%) felt that the ‘improving public confidence’ theme was a priority. Yet, poor street lighting and environmental issues (such as fly-tipping, graffiti, dog-fouling and speeding) were identified as key concerns – all of which are visible incidents which directly impact on feelings of safety and perception of Council/Police to tackle issues.

Following the consultation period, the strategic priorities will be discussed and agreed at the Community Safety Board in April 2017 – and the Partnership Plan will be finalised and made publically available.

It is important to note that some of the strategic themes/priorities have strong links to work overseen by other statutory Boards (e.g. the Safeguarding Adults, Local Safeguarding Children and Health and Wellbeing Boards) and will require a co-ordinated approach to ensure actions are delivered collaboratively.

The actions associated with the Partnership Plan will be formally scrutinised through the Community Safety Sub OSC and regular update reports will be presented to Committee over the next twelve months.

- RESOLVED -
- i) That the information be noted.
 - ii) That the Committee agreed to receive regular updates on actions undertaken in relation to the strategic priorities.

CSS26 ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee received the provisional work programme for the Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Sub Committee for the municipal year 2017/18.

The work programme has been developed following the usual consultation process with councillors and partners and picks up on key priorities in vision 2030 and the council plan and aligns with the priorities of the Community Safety Board.

The proposed case study – Impact of Alcohol on Community Safety is an important area to consider which has been raised as a key issue in both the Health and Wellbeing and the Community Safety Board – the OSC will consider this in March

2018.

The OSC were also advised that the Care Health and Wellbeing OSC also has a complementary case study scheduled (in March 2018) relating to Hospital Admissions as a result of Alcohol Related Harm and following both OSC meetings a joint meeting between the two OSCs will be arranged to consider the findings of both OSCs.

The Committee were also advised that they will also be considering Deliberate Fires as a priority area, as suggested by one of our partners.

- RESOLVED -
- i) That the information be noted
 - ii) That the provisional work programme for 2017/18 be endorsed, and referred to Council for agreement on 8 June 2017.
 - iii) That further reports will be brought to Committee to identify any additional issues which the Committee may be asked to consider.

Chair.....