

**GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**COMMUNITY SAFETY SUB OSC MEETING**

**Tuesday, 27 June 2017**

**PRESENT:** Councillor N Weatherley (Chair)  
Councillor(s): T Graham, K Dodds, H Haran, J Turnbull,  
A Wheeler and S Hawkins

**CSS27 APOLOGIES**

**CSS28 MINUTES**

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the last meeting be approved as a correct record.

**CSS29 CONSTITUTION**

RESOLVED - That the constitution of the Sub-Committee and the appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair for the municipal year 2017/18 be noted.

**CSS30 ROLE AND REMIT**

RESOLVED - That the remit and terms of reference of the Sub-Committee be noted.

**CSS31 SAFER GATESHEAD PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2017/18**

The Committee received the Statutory Partnership Plan that has been produced, and endorsed, by the Community Safety Board within Gateshead for delivery in 2017/18.

The Strategic themes confirmed for 2017/18 are:

- 1) Tackling Violence
- 2) Combating Anti-Social Behaviour
- 3) Addressing Substance Misuse
- 4) Improving Public Confidence.

The Partnership Plan provides the headline details of some activity that has been undertaken over the last twelve months to keep residents safe.

It highlights a range of landscape/context issues that will impact on the Board as well as a list of potential outcomes and/or performance measures that will be achieved. A section has been included this year which sets out specific activity/actions linked with each of the strategic themes and priorities as well as details of the demand on Community Safety service and some additional actions have been included as a result of the consultation exercise.

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 Committee were also advised that it is the statutory role of the PCC to issue a Police and Crime Plan within the financial year in which each ordinary election is held. Although the PCC is not a Responsible Authority on the Community Safety Partnership, both parties must have due regard to each other's priorities when setting their respective strategic plans.

The Committee were reassured that when developing the local Partnership Plan for Gateshead, officers have tried, where possible, to ensure that we replicate similar themes and actions to those identified in the Police and Crime Plan for Northumbria.

The Partnership Plan was endorsed by the Community Safety Board on 4 April 2017 and was agreed by Gateshead Council Cabinet on 23 May 2017.

The Committee were advised that similar to previous years, copies will be available electronically via Council and partner agencies website and hardcopies will be circulated to key statutory stakeholders.

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 for scrutiny over the next twelve months in line with the OSC workplan for 2017/18.

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

## **CSS32 THE COUNCIL PLAN - YEAR END ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE DELIVERY 2016/17 (INCLUDING FIVE YEAR TARGET SETTING 2017-18)**

The Committee received a report and presentation on the year end assessment of performance for 2016/2017, which provided an update on the performance and delivery of the Council Plan 2015-2020.

The year end performance report monitors progress against the Council Plan 2015-2020. Targets for 2020 were set as part of the Council's Performance Management Framework, for the period 2015/2016 to 2019/2020 to enable performance to be monitored to ensure continuous improvement. These targets were approved by

Cabinet on 12 July 2016.

The year end 2016/2017 assessment of performance report relates to the remit of the Care, Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee and focuses on achievements, areas identified for improvement and future actions.

Progress as to how well the Council is performing in relation to the equalities objectives, where information is available at the year end stage, was also reported to Committee.

- - i) That the information be noted
  - ii) That the activities undertaken at year end 2016/17 were felt to be achieving the desired outcomes in the Council Plan 2015-2020
  - iii) Agreed that the report be referred to Cabinet on 18 July 2017 for their consideration

### **CSS33      SERIOUS VIOLENCE AND DOMESTIC HOMICIDE PROGRESS UPDATE**

The Committee received a report providing an update in relation to the ongoing Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) as well as details of a project being carried out in conjunction with the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital to improve support provisions within healthcare settings for victims of domestic abuse.

The project will initially last for three years, starting in July 2017, and is funded by PCC, Queen Elizabeth Hospital and Community Safety – and involves a full-time specialist Domestic Abuse Advocate being located within Queen Elizabeth Hospital in the Adult Safeguarding Team.

The Advocate will be the single point of contact for domestic abuse within the hospital setting and will be available to support staff (through providing specialist advice and guidance) during peak times for domestic abuse presentations (with evidence showing presentations are higher late evening through to early morning during weekend periods)

The Advocate will be expected to deliver tailored training to hospital staff and GPs (based within the walk in centre) to increase understanding and signs of domestic abuse so that practitioners are better equipped to be able to identify, respond to and help prevent further abuse through earlier intervention, support and referring patients to the right services (e.g. substance misuse and mental health). It is hoped this will translate directly into increased referrals from GPs and health professionals across the Borough to domestic abuse services.

It is envisaged that the Advocate will hold a small caseload and will be the expert/single point of contact in the hospital for all domestic abuse issues and is responsible for referring patients, and attending the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference held on a fortnightly basis to discuss actions to support high-risk victims. They will also be expected to make referrals into the MASH and IDVVS as necessary, as well as sharing appropriate information with the local Neighbourhood

Policing Teams and Multi-Agency Tasking and Co-ordination Groups to ensure that joined-up actions can take place to protect clients.

The project aims to upskill every single member of staff based in A&E, Gynecology and Midwifery departments to be more effective in recognising the signs of an abusive relationship and to provide suitable advice, guidance and support to improve the quality of life for patients experiencing domestic abuse. Although it is difficult to quantify the total number of patients that will benefit from the project, throughout its lifetime – it is likely to be hundreds of individuals will be supported (particularly if based on national estimates that 1 in 4 women and 1 in 6 men experience some form of domestic abuse throughout their lives).

Further updates will be provided to Community Safety Board and Overview and Scrutiny Committee outlining the progress and outcomes achieved throughout the next 12 months.

The Committee also received presentations on issues surrounding serious violence from Superintendent Nicola Musgrove of Central Area Command.

Mark Cheetham, Independent Domestic Violence Advisor Service

Julie Crichton, Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub and

Denise Lloyd, Multi Agency Tasking and Co-ordination, Northumbria Police

RESOLVED - that the information be noted.

**Chair.....**