

Safer Arun Partnership (SAP)

14th March at 3:00pm

Present: *Arun District Council*

Councillor Paul Wotherspoon, Cabinet Member – Community Services

Councillor Len Brown, Deputy Cabinet Member – Community Services

Nigel Croad, Resources Director and Deputy Chief Executive

Roger Wood, Head of Neighbourhoods

Georgina Bouette, Community Safety Manager

Karen Harmer, Problem Solving & Evaluation Analyst

Sussex Police

Inspector Marc Clothier – Neighbourhood Policing Team

West Sussex County Council

Claire Clilverd, Lead Professional, Community Safety & Wellbeing

Councillor Nigel Peters

Probation

Michelle Franks, Partnerships Team Kent, Surrey & Sussex

492. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from: Cllr Peter Evans, Cabinet Member for Children – Start of Life (WSCC); Hilary Spencer, Chair of Arun & Chichester Community Cohesion Group and Chief Executive of Voluntary Action Arun & Chichester; Sam Sanderson, Senior Probation Officer; Emily King, Community Safety & Wellbeing WSCC; Michelle Butler, Senior Probation Officer, West Sussex Offender Management Team; Mervin Dadd, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner; Sean Cemm, NHS Coastal West Sussex CCG.

493. Minutes and actions arising of previous meeting on 14th December 2015

The minutes of the meeting held on the 14th December 2015 were approved by the Partnership as a correct and accurate record.

Page 7 Action: Emily King to provide an early sight of the report co-commissioned with Sussex Police regarding Street communities across Sussex. Report currently in draft and requires signing off by Sussex Police. Helen Keats will present an overview of the findings at the Safer West Sussex Partnership Conference on Tuesday 15th March 2016. Report will be published on The Knowledge Hub.

Page 7 Action: Georgina Bouette to circulate sanitised case studies when available. Street Community case studies were circulated at the meeting and will be available at the Safer West Sussex Partnership Conference on Tuesday 15th March 2016.

Page 11 Action: Emily King and Georgina Bouette to explore how WSCC Community Safety can assist with delivering a user satisfaction survey for ASB victims in Arun. Initial discussions have taken place but have not progressed. To be carried forward for inclusion within next year's SAP Partnership Plan (2016/17).

Page 12 Action: Inspector Marc Clothier to investigate why the police cannot resource a regular information request with a view to obtaining a clear positional statement that SAP can consider. Data has been included in the Strategic Intelligence Assessment. Roger Wood and Nigel Croad asked Insp. Marc Clothier if an automated quarterly report could be run to circulate at future SAP meetings. Insp. Marc Clothier will ask the Sussex Police Analysts if they are able to support this.

Page 14 Action: Emily King to send Georgina Bouette a copy of the WSCC Communities Team structure chart to enable circulation to SAP and other key Arun partners. Claire Clilverd to ask Emily King to send a copy of the WSCC Communities Team structure chart to Georgina Bouette.

494. Declaration of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

495. Arun Annual Strategic Intelligence Assessment & Partnership Plan 2016/17

Georgina Bouette presented the Annual Strategic Intelligence Assessment (SIA) and Partnership Plan to the group highlighting that the papers listed the proposed priorities for the period April 2016 to March 2017 and that this is the last year of the SAP Strategic Partnership Plan. Partners were reminded that it is a statutory duty to produce an Annual Strategic Intelligence Assessment to determine the priorities for the partnership over the next year. The proposed Arun SAP priorities are to tackle and reduce Anti-Social Behaviour and the Think Family Programme: Keyworker Service, Family Support Networks and Neighbourhoods.

This year the first Joint Community Safety Partnership (CSP) with Chichester CSP took place in January. The proposed joint priorities are: Child Sexual Exploitation, Serious and Organised Crime, Street Community and Adult Mental Health (protecting the vulnerable).

The 2015/16 SIA looked back at the previous performance year activities and outcomes for the partnership. All of the strategic objectives were met bar one specific objective regarding obtaining police data for anti-social behaviour (ASB). Updates within the assessment included achievements for: ASB, Street Community, Think Family Programme (keyworker services are above target and meeting the need), Think Family Neighbourhoods (domestic abuse provision in Bognor Regis, and projects delivered by the Think Family Neighbourhoods Development Worker), and transfer of the standalone SAP website to the Arun District Council site. Georgina Bouette thanked Karen Harmer for her work on this report.

Crime shows a current increase of 6% over the performance period, with the main reason being due to changes in recording methods. Reducing re-offending data is out of date due to the length of time it takes to process to ensure its accuracy. The largest cohort of offenders and reoffenders in West Sussex for adults and juveniles are in Arun. Re-offending is more frequent with juveniles but the cohort has less individuals than adults. The majority of ASB activity by the ASB Team is with young males at the early intervention stages. The work the team do with adults is balanced more with victims than perpetrators which maybe due to it being easier to identify the

victim than with young people e.g. they are neighbours. A significant proportion of the team's work has been with private housing tenants and owner occupiers.

The future targets to be added to the Plan for 2016/17 for Think Family will be challenging however, the Arun Family Support network will be an important part of achieving success. The Network will bring together local partners to focus on identifying and providing help at the earliest opportunities for families in the District. This will align with spatial Think Family Neighbourhood areas in Arun to increase efficiency and effectiveness.

In relation to the level of Killed & Seriously Injured data in the assessment, Georgina Bouette recommended that Arun do not set up a separate local Road Safety Action Group but join with the Chichester group. There were concerns from West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service regarding Arun's local buy-in if this were to happen. Roger Wood also supported the Police's view towards joint working. It was recommended that a joint group be trialled and then evaluated to inform whether this approach works. Inspector Marc Clothier also highlighted that there are other factors to take into consideration including potential risks in the reduction of the Road Policing Unit. The Safer Roads Partnership is an officers group covering East and West Sussex County Council's which complete work at a strategic level to raise awareness of road safety. Roger Wood advised further discussions regarding Arun joining Chichester would need to take place at the local Joint Action Group. Cllr Paul Wotherspoon explained that from the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner meeting he attended recently, there has been a 40% increase in the number of collisions with motorists and cyclists, however, the Safer Roads Partnership have plans to tackle this and we need to work with those who are already doing work on reducing the Killed and Seriously Injured figures.

Recommendation: for Arun to join the Chichester Road Safety Action Group.

Georgina Bouette continued with the Strategic Intelligence Assessment Review stating that the opportunities and threats for SAP have not significantly changed from the 2015/16 report, apart from the Health Needs Audit which aims to bring closer working with health colleagues including the CCG Board and public health at a local level to address the specific needs of the street community. Partners

noted that a strength has been: the start of joint working with Chichester CSP, better integration with Think Family partners and resources locally including improving the early help offer for families and reducing crime and disorder in the long-term. Weaknesses include continued reductions in partnership resources requiring SAP to become even more focussed and targeted and some concern that leadership was limited, with a small number of partners actively supporting the partnership. Therefore, the full capacity of partners to contribute to achieving strategic priorities is under-utilised. Georgina Bouette also explained the Arun Community Safety Team will no longer have the resource of a Partnership Support Assistant at the end of March 2016 and the funding for the ASB Team expires in March 2017. Other short term funding for posts include the Think Family Neighbourhood Development Worker, funded to April 2017 and the Street Community Outreach Keyworker funded to August 2017.

Cllr Nigel Peters stated that with projected population increases each year and the number of new houses built crime levels would be expected to rise. The perception on the levels of crime still remains higher than actual crime levels and partners requested to see future data broken down by per 1,000 population. Insp. Marc Clothier reiterated that the rise in crime was due to the scrutiny of crime recording around All Injury Violence and this should plateau by Christmas 2016. Cllr Nigel Peters did confirm that people are becoming more confident in reporting crime with the Police 101 system improving and positive feedback being received.

Nigel Croad referred back to the reasons given for the changes in crime figures and was concerned with the length of time this reason had been used for stating that we were informed of this change in 2013/14 and 2014/15. Therefore, any shifts and changes should now be broadly comparable. Roger Wood asked Insp. Marc Clothier if it had taken a lot of time to embed these changes in recording crime with police staff to ensure it is recorded accurately and using the correct processes. Insp. Marc Clothier explained that there is still a shift in culture across the force but consistency is improving. Georgina Bouette highlighted that crime figures are useful but need to be compared with other data sets to avoid them being misleading. SAP have shown crime data per 1,000 population in the past and to show any key messages we could show data per 1,000 population again if deemed necessary and relevant.

ACTION: Insp. Marc Clothier will speak to Chief Insp. Justin Burtenshaw to verify the reason for persisting higher crime figures in Arun and will feedback to SAP accordingly.

Cllr Paul Wotherspoon welcomed joint working with Chichester Community Safety Partnership (CSP). He was also disappointed to read under Weaknesses on the SWOT Analysis about the level of Partnership commitment and appetite to work strategically collaboratively being in decline.

Roger Wood explained the reason that non-achievement of ASB Satisfaction Survey objective was due to the loss of the Partnership Support Assistant role and no resources available to fulfil this requirement either now or in the future. Consequently, this indicator will not be on next year's Performance Plan.

Referring to the Street Community ASB data within the Performance Plan showing higher figures in the summer and lower in the winter, Nigel Croad asked what the predicted trend for this summer will be. Georgina Bouette explained the cohort in Arun is managed through a combination of Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (a partnership group) and / or the Street Community Outreach Keyworker (who has a limited case load) to address and reduce associated ASB. If partners continue to engage and work together productively, then this issue should not be significant but individuals and community impact will be closely monitored and an early response will be advocated to stop problems escalating again. Roger Wood also stated that just 1 or 2 individuals could distort both the impact and figures due to their actions and it is therefore difficult to give a definitive and clear answer. Nigel Croad summarised that Arun is collectively dealing with needs much better. Georgina Bouette did highlight that dual diagnosis needs are still not being adequately addressed and this is a major problem in moving some clients positively forward. There are spatial differences in adult mental health responses in Arun: in Bognor Regis mental health services are assessing and supporting clients who are still using drugs and alcohol whereas Littlehampton will not support this. Service provision for specialist dual diagnosis still remains unclear. Georgina Bouette explained that if Mental Health provision is not resolved successfully then the recovery for Street Community service users will be significantly impeded.

ACTION: Georgina Bouette to pursue why there is a difference between mental health operational responses in Bognor Regis and Littlehampton. Partners agreed that if there no satisfactory answer by the end of April that the issue will be escalated Safer West Sussex CSP Chairs meeting.

ACTION: Nigel Croad will follow up with the local Clinical Commissioning Group to ascertain the status of their plans to improve joint working with adult mental health services and drug and alcohol services in West Sussex to improve provision for clients with dual diagnosis needs.

Claire Clilverd advised that WSCC are working on developing identified pathways and proactive information for Street Communities which will be circulated as a toolkit. Cllr Nigel Peters also reminded the group that if the individual is homeless and is a veteran of the services there are additional services available to support them.

Cllr Paul Wotherspoon thanked Georgina Bouette for a comprehensive report.

SAP partners endorsed the 2015/16 Strategic Intelligence Assessment and the proposed 2016/17 priorities, local and shared with Chichester. The report was signed off by Cllr Paul Wotherspoon, Chair of SAP.

496. SAP Finance Update

Karen Harmer presented the current budgetary position of the partnership Area Based Grant (ABG) funding highlighting that £30,707 will be ring-fenced and included in the 2016/17 budget, The Sussex PCC has confirmed grant funding of £47,580 for 2016/17 making a total of £78,287 funding available for 2016/17. Think Family Neighbourhoods currently have funds of £18,385 to be carried forward for projects in 2016/17 with an agreed additional funding allocation of £34,500 making a total of £52,885 available for 2016/17.

Roger Wood advised that the PCC funding means we can support local delivery of the partnership priorities. Funding has been based on identified need and is provided directly from the Sussex PCC. Roger Wood will be attending the Safer West Sussex Partnership Working Group meeting where they will discuss future funding distribution options across the County. Claire Clilverd stated that looking

forward we must be mindful that it is likely funding will reduce and therefore this meeting will also look at the merit in pooling resources across different areas of work between Districts / Boroughs and West Sussex focused on achieved specific outcomes.

It was raised that if there are carry forward overspends it gives the impression the funding is not required, however, Cllr Paul Wotherspoon stated that carry forward balances are small in comparison to incomes and allocations. Nigel Croad highlighted this could also then lead to being in danger of spending the money at the end of the financial year on unnecessary things.

Claire Clilverd advised that West Sussex currently distribute allocations to the District and Boroughs and East Sussex, Brighton & Hove fund projects. The PCC is keen to see a return on investment but this can be problematic for West Sussex to evidence when funding is allocated to 6 separate local authorities.

Georgina Bouette reminded SAP that Arun have a significant level of need and would like this to be reflected when allocating future funding. For example, Arun has higher offender needs and communities where multiple facets of deprivation persist.

SAP partners noted and endorsed the budgetary summary for 2015/16.

497. PSPO Update

Roger Wood updated SAP partners on the current situation: a report was considered by Arun District Council Cabinet in February 2016 setting out proposals for a PSPO in Arun with the aim of tackling and reducing anti-social behaviour and street drinking within specified geographical areas. The report asked for authority to undertake public consultation on the suggested criteria outlined in the report. The report was deferred by Cabinet who directed that all Arun District Council Members be consulted initially before re-considering the proposal. This was to capture and consider some views expressed that the areas be expanded to cover wider areas due to help reduce displacement issues. The consultation exercise subsequently undertaken elicited nine responses from Arun District Council Members.

A revised report will be considered by Cabinet at their meeting on the 31st May 2016 which will ask for authority to undertake public consultation for a PSPO in the District. Partner's views are welcome. Roger Wood stated that the Police are a key stakeholder; however, it will make clear that the Police are not the primary enforcer of this legislation and locally agreed prohibitions contained within a PSPO. This is a shared responsibility with other organisations including Parish and Town Councils. Insp. Marc Clothier also highlighted the reduction in police numbers which would make it operationally difficult to consistently resource enforcement of a PSPO. Roger Wood concluded that utilising this legislation required integrated and effective partnership working where everyone contributes and plays their part.

498. Effective responses to prolific offenders on probation

Georgina Bouette explained that individuals found guilty of an offence are sometimes given an 'order' by a court as part of their punishment (usually an alternative to custody). Locally, there is anecdotal evidence from various professionals involved in the criminal justice system that street community offenders particularly are frequently breaching these orders. For example, one individual has not been complying with a court imposed 'drug rehabilitation order', presenting for appointments under the influence of drugs. Efforts by the agency responsible to return the individual to court as being in breach of the order have been unsuccessful in achieving the desired aim of appropriately sanctioning the individual. Magistrates benches appear to be unwilling to robustly respond and it is not uncommon for additional requirements to be included that may be considered unworkable from the presenting professionals perspective, or a specific part of the order is abandoned with no alternative sanction implemented e.g. a period in custody. It is not explicitly clear as to where other issues may also be presenting barriers to effectively and robustly manage offenders who have court orders but common themes have emerged in relation to court availability, timeliness of reporting and responding to breaches, subsequent court availability and potential tensions with targets to reduce re-offending in conflict with taking proactive enforcement action. Georgina stressed that this is not reflective of the excellent operational work that partners and professionals deliver on a daily basis, rather it could be symptomatic of a wider, strategic systematic weakness within the criminal justice system. It is presenting difficulties operationally as partners agree that some individuals require robust

enforcement to address their prolific anti-social and offending behaviour however progress in taking action can be slow and bureaucratic with minimal success and impact within the Street Community cohort.

Cllr Nigel Peters suggested that involvement of the High Sheriff in educating and encouraging Magistrates would help support the upholding of these orders and use of the correct sanctions to address breaches.

Michelle Franks (Kent, Surrey & Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company - KSS CRC) explained to SAP Partners that the managing breach processes is set nationally and that the legislation (Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014) prohibits CRC officers presenting breach cases at court (as they are classified as a private company and therefore do not have rights of audience as public servants do). This need is fulfilled by the National Probation Service. Fortnightly meetings are now in place with the local drug and alcohol service provider to ensure that breaches to either alcohol treatment or drug rehabilitation orders are reported within the prescribed timescales to enable a breach process to be activated.

ACTION: Nigel Croad requested Georgina Bouette to liaise with relevant partners and produce a report that assesses the impact of how court orders are currently being enforced for the Street Community cohort in Arun for further consideration by partners.

499. PREVENT Awareness / Training

Georgina Bouette reminded SAP partners about the PREVENT Training available locally (a statutory duty). Sessions are available for frontline staff on Friday 18th March 2016 and Tuesday 29th March 2016 and a 2 hour awareness session run for District Members, Parish and Town Councils on Wednesday 30th March 2016.

500. Future Agenda Items

i) SAP / Joint CSP – send in items

501. Any Other Business

Georgina Bouette advised that Richard Bartram, Community Safety Officer at Arun District Council will be retiring on the 8th April 2016. Cllr Paul Wotherspoon thanked him for all of the work he has done, stated that he had completed great work across the Partnership and for Arun and wished him well. Furthermore that Charlotte Daws (Anti-social behaviour Caseworker) and Sara Godfrey (Housing Anti-social behaviour Caseworker) will be leaving the ASB Team on Friday 30th March 2016 and Friday 8th April 2016 respectively. Partners were advised that consequently, the team will be under resourced and that work will be prioritised on a daily basis against threat / risk and harm.

Claire Clilverd reminded SAP partners that the Safer West Sussex Partnership Conference is taking place on Tuesday 15th March 2016 from 12 noon at the Hilton, Avisford. Everyone was welcome to attend. The event will look back at the partnership over the last year and showcase some of the work the Districts and Borough have done. It will also look forward to 2016/17 by strategic areas of focus, what partners and lead agencies are doing.

Claire Clilverd also reminded partners about Friday 18th March 2016 being the launch of the CSE Awareness Day. Further details are on the WSCC website on advice and materials available.

Domestic Violence Drive project – an initiative supported by the PCC which focuses on challenging and changing perpetrator behaviour. The operational launch will be later this year.

Insp. Marc Clothier updated partners on the Local Policing Program and changes being made. Currently, there is a PCSO consultation and it is anticipated that numbers will be reduced.

The meeting concluded at 5.00pm.