

Notes of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee
Crime and Disorder Working Group
18th April 2016

- Present:** Councillors: Roger Clarke (Chairman) Alan Britten, David Coldwell, Adrian Lee, Tim Lloyd, Jim Sanson
- Apologies:** Councillors: David Skipp
- Also present:** Councillor: John Blackall, Karen Burgess, Peter Burgess, Mike Morgan, Godfrey Newman, Kate Rowbottom
- Officers:** Greg Charman, Community Safety Manager
Richard Davy, Station Manager, West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service

1. TO APPROVE AS CORRECT THE RECORD OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14TH DECEMBER 2015

The notes of the meeting held on 14th December 2015 were approved as a correct record.

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN OR CHIEF EXECUTIVE

There were no announcements.

4. PROTOCOL FOR THE SCRUTINY OF CRIME AND DISORDER MATTERS

The Working Group noted the protocol which outlined the key provisions of the relevant legislation, the Terms of Reference of the Working Group, its duty to meet at least once a year, the role of scrutinising the CSP Plan and performance reports, the ability to give notice to responsible authorities to require their representatives to attend Working Group meetings or to provide information required for Scrutiny.

5. REVIEW OF THE HORSHAM DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (HDCSP) ACTION PLANS FOR THE 2015-2016 (END OF YEAR)

The Community Safety Manager presented the end of year action plan for his priority – Alcohol and Drugs. As the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) the partners develop a plan each year focusing on the priorities of the District. This report reflected back on 2015/16 and progress that had been made.

The overall outcome of this priority was to “reduce the harm caused by drugs and alcohol to individuals, families and our communities”. There were six key performance indicators and although not all of these had been achieved in the year, a great deal of positive work had taken place.

The action group that looked after this priority met on a quarterly basis and had provided a detailed response to the each of the strategic actions in the report which showed Members what had been achieved under this priority in 2015/16.

The Community Safety Manager talked the Working Group through the progress detailed in the report.

Members noted that in the forthcoming year the Partnership would continue to be involved with and support the promotion of a number of public health campaigns in the District such as Dry January, Mental Health Awareness Week, Samaritans Awareness Day and Dementia Awareness Week.

The Working Group was disappointed to learn that the Mocktail Apprentice project would no longer continue as Horsham Matters could no longer support the scheme financially. The officers informed Members that all funding avenues had been explored in a bid to continue this project, but unfortunately these had not been successful.

The second action plan priority under the CSP action plan – Casualty Reduction, was presented by the Road Safety Action Group lead Mr. Richard Davy, Station Manager, West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service.

The outcome of this priority was “to reduce the number of killed and seriously injured on the roads in the District”.

There were four strategic objectives for 2015/16 and Mr. Davy updated the Working Group on the progress related to each of these. There had been a slight increase in road related deaths in 2015/16 compared to the

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previous year, the action group was trying to intervening at an earlier stager i.e. at primary schools, in order to educate and raise awareness. The action group met on a regular basis through the year and was taking positive action in Horsham to prevent antisocial driving.

Mr. Davy talked the Working Group through the progress in the report under each of the actions.

Members were invited to attend Safe Drive, Stay Alive, which was an educational event for new drivers on 1st November 2016 at the Capitol.

The Community Safety Manager presented the final action plan on Vulnerable Victims priority on behalf of the Sussex Police. The outcome of this priority was “to engage with vulnerable persons in the community in order to prevent crime and provide support”.

There was a growing ageing population in the District and there had also been a shift in crime types over recent years i.e. online and telephone scams, child exploitation, therefore leading to a growing need to support vulnerable people in the community i.e. older persons, disabled people and younger persons.

The action group had been working with carers and care homes as they were often closest to vulnerable people. Lots of work was also going on with private companies and voluntary organisations.

Members questioned whether there were any statistics on online crime in the District. The Community Safety Manager would endeavour to get hold of the statistics for Members.

A resolution centre was now in place which provided a response to reports of online crime.

An objective of this action group was to communicate information to vulnerable people on how to report and recognise crime.

The Chairman of the Working Group thanked the officers for their presentations and for the information they had provided on what was happening in the District under the Community Safety Partnership.

7. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The Scrutiny and Committee Support Officer would arrange the next meeting for November/December 2016, to review progress of the action plans half way through the Partnership’s delivery year.

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The meeting finished at 6.27 p.m. having commenced at 5.30 p.m.

CHAIRMAN