
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AND PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2016 AT 7.30PM IN THE COUNCIL OFFICES, WEELEY**

- Present:** Councillors Fairley (Chairman), Baker (Vice-Chairman), Amos, Broderick, I Henderson, Newton, Parsons, Poonian, Raby and Yallop
- Also Present:** Councillors Bucke, McWilliams (Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Health and Wellbeing), Steady and Turner (Portfolio Holder for Commercialisation)
- In Attendance:** Corporate Director (Corporate Services) (Martyn Knappett), Management and Members' Support Manager (Karen Neath), Community Safety Manager (Leanne Thornton), Committee Services Officer (Janey Nice) and Community Safety Support Worker (Richard Eastwood)
- Also in Attendance:** Police and Crime Commissioner for Essex (Roger Hirst), Chief Inspector (Russ Cole), Local Police and Partnership Inspector (Julia Finch), Essex County Fire & Rescue Service Representative, (Les Nicoll), Essex Community Rehabilitation Company Representative, (Kirsty Gibbons) and NE Essex Clinical Commissioning Group Representative (Jo Hall)

20. WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed all in attendance to the meeting.

21. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Land and K T King (with Councillor Broderick substituting).

22. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting of the Committee, held on 3 October 2016, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

24. ESSEX POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER – VISION FOR HIS FOUR YEAR TERM

The Chairman welcomed the new Police and Crime Commissioner (Roger Hirst) to his first meeting of the Community Leadership and Partnerships Committee.

Mr Hirst informed the Committee that he had been elected on 12 May 2016 and he explained what the three primary purposes of his role were. They were, firstly, to hold the Chief Constable to account (which included the power to dismiss and appoint a Chief Constable) and to look at Police performance, crime statistics and protection of the vulnerable. Secondly, he was responsible for the setting of Police budgets and Council Tax precept and he added that the Police were funded by two-thirds from Council Tax with the final third coming from Central Government. He believed this was not appropriate for Essex, which had below average funding which was due to a crime rate lower than average figure. Thirdly, he had to set the police strategy for Essex by 22 November 2016.

Mr Hirst stated that his election manifesto had five key priorities which had been extended by two since his election and he had been talking in depth with partners such as this Council,

Police and other partners. He detailed what would be happening over the next four years which included looking after the victims of crime, crime prevention, domestic violence and working together with partners in Essex. He said that the Tendring Community Safety Hub was one of the best in the country and was leading the way for others to follow.

Mr Hirst gave more details on his seven priorities as Police and Crime Commissioner which were:

- More local, visible and accessible policing;
- Crack down on anti-social behaviour;
- Be tough on domestic abuse;
- Reverse the trend in serious violence;
- Tackle gangs and organised crime;
- Protect vulnerable children and vulnerable people from harm; and
- Improve Safety on the County's roads.

Mr Hirst talked about the increase of gang related crime in Essex and the necessity to take a robust approach and it seemed the preferred target age for boys was between 12 – 15 which was a vulnerable age to be persuaded to 'go over to the dark side'. In protecting children from harm it was necessary to work with partners across the County including teachers, who would know the early signs of a child potentially being affected.

When it came to safety on the County's roads, he said that this had not been in his original manifesto but was now in a consultation phase as there was a lot of bad driving which killed more people than murders. Drink driving, drug taking driving, losing control of the wheel, speeding and using mobile phones all were indicators that more focus was needed on better driving, encouraging good driving even before people started learning to drive.

Questions and comments from Members included road safety in Jaywick, increased crime in Harwich, lack of resources for the Police, anti-social behaviour with cash points and bookies being raided, Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's), domestic violence rates, children's clubs being too costly to use, the telephone support service of 101 being slow to respond to calls and lack of visible policing.

Mr Hirst, Mr Cole, Ms Finch and Ms Gibbons all responded to the issues raised by Members and Mr Hirst added that there was a real need to look at vulnerable people and increase the number of Special Constables in the Tendring District..

After discussion it was **RECOMMENDED** that:

- (a) The Committee add to their work programme the following items:
- (i) To investigate how the Council could help to identify vulnerable people that may need assistance from the Police and other partners;
 - (ii) To investigate any assistance or promotion the Council could provide to support the recruit of special constables; and
 - (iii) To investigate how the Council could assist partners in engagement with local youth organisations with the aim of supporting early intervention to divert young people from becoming engaged in anti-social behaviour and criminal activity.

It was **RECOMMENDED TO CABINET** that:

- (b) The Leader writes to the Home Office to express dissatisfaction with the current Government financial support for the Essex Police and to call for a fairer funding settlement for Essex Police; and

The Chairman thanked Mr Hirst for attending the meeting.

25. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE WORK OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

The Community Safety Manager (Leanne Thornton) delivered a presentation, which provided Members with an overview of the work of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and how it engaged with its statutory partners, Essex Community Rehabilitation Company (Probation); Essex County Council; Essex Police; Tendring District Council; Essex County Fire and Rescue; Community Voluntary Services Tendring; North East Essex NHS and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Essex.

The presentation also addressed the following Community Safety Priorities within the Community Safety Hub:

- Tackling Anti-social behaviour;
- Protecting Vulnerable People (Crime and Fear of Crime);
- Reducing drug and alcohol misuse within communities; and
- Reducing re-offending

Mrs Thornton said that the Hub was about all of the partners working together to deal with crime and disorder. For example, on 31 October 2016 the Hub had a Day of Action with a number of agencies working together to prevent the illegal sale of fireworks, Neighbourhood Watch and the Licensing department working with off-licence sales with the intention of promoting the Reducing the Strength of Alcohol campaign and responsible drinking.

Mrs Thornton said that the child exploitation programme was a county wide campaign and other programmes rolled out in Tendring included Safer Seafronts, Holiday Camps, Hotels and Bed & Breakfast establishments over the summer period. Also the partners joined forces with the organisation Safer Lives who worked with domestic abuse which was at a high level. In September the Council's Crucial Crew attended over 100 events to explain to the over 60's how to stay safe at home and whilst out and about in the community and working with around 1,400 young persons to stay safe when out and about.

The Stay Safe Programme was for older people with learning disabilities and included vulnerable people who had been associated with and/or abused by gangs. A programme was being rolled out with the Council having workshops covering terrorism and counter-terrorism.

Ms Finch (Local Police and Partnership Inspector) reported on Anti-Social Behaviour which was for identifying and supporting repeat and vulnerable victims, improving perceptions and facilitating local problem solving to address various issues. Ms Finch gave some examples of where new anti-social behaviour powers have been used.

Mr Eastwood (the Council's Community Safety Support Worker) works with vulnerable people affected by gang activity. It was explained that working with these vulnerable people was a multi-role working with partners in collaboration.

Further information was given concerning the work by Mr Les Nicoll (Essex County Fire & Rescue Service) and Ms Kirsty Gibbons (Essex County Fire & Rescue Service) with Mr Nicoll's work with the Fire Services' Firebreak programme and Ms Gibbons work with reducing re-offending.

After Members had discussed the work of the Community Safety Partnership, it was **RECOMMENDED TO CABINET** that:

Cabinet endorses the good and varied work being undertaken by the Community Safety Partnership and that Cabinet promotes and resources this as much as possible.

The Chairman expressed her thanks and congratulations to the CSP Team for all its continued hard work.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting of the Committee was to be held at 7.30pm on Monday 9 January 2016 in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Weeley.

The meeting was declared closed at 10.06 p.m.

Chairman