

## Review Committee – 9 October 2012

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Minutes of the meeting of the **Review Committee** held on **9 October 2012** when there were present:-

Chairman for the meeting: Cllr I H Ward

Mrs A V Hale  
Cllr B T Hazlewood

Cllr Mrs C E Roe

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs J R Lumley, J R F Mason, T E Mountain and R D Pointer.

### **NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING**

Cllrs T Cutmore and Mrs J E McPherson

### **OFFICERS PRESENT**

P Warren	-	Chief Executive
C Milton-White	-	Community and Local Strategic Partnership Officer
M Yolland	-	Community Safety Co-ordinator
P Gowers	-	Overview and Scrutiny Officer
M Power	-	Committee Administrator

### **ALSO PRESENT**

Chief Inspector I Cummings - Essex Police

## **204 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2012 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

## **205 THE LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP**

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive, which provided members with an update of the work of the Joint Castle Point and Rochford Local Strategic Partnership (LSP).

In response to questions, the following was noted:-

- The joint Castle Point and Rochford LSP has been running for just over 12 months and is made up of an Executive Board underpinned by five thematic partnerships. Meetings are well represented by groups from both areas and all the key partners play an active role. The advantages of having a joint LSP are a reduced number of meetings and the opportunity to bring together common information and best practice. Key projects

undertaken by the joint LSP include ‘total place’ community budgeting and dealing with families with complex needs.

- The LSP is hoping to fund a joint research analyst post from April 2013, which will serve the LSP and its thematic partnerships.
- The Castle Point and Rochford Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) will become operational from 1 April 2013. CCG’s will be clinically led, and there is a priority for each CCG to engage with communities. To aid in this process, the Council has suggested the CCG could use such mechanisms as the Council’s ‘Have Your Say’ group, Rochford District Matters and the Rochford Chambers of Trade.
- The joint LSP does not have a large budget but, as a joint entity, there is a greater chance of developing effective collective bids and leveraging funding opportunities for partners. Partner organisations, as well as the third sector, can achieve greater success with funding bids by working closely together to highlight areas of concern or need.
- The LSP has had discussions around young people being provided with training that matches the opportunities for the jobs available. A piece of work to encourage a better knowledge of training and skills development and a better engagement with local employers is being undertaken across Essex through the community budget process.

### **206 ROCHFORD DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**

The Committee considered the report of the Chief Executive, which provided members with an update of the achievements of the Rochford District Community Safety Partnership (CSP).

In response to questions, the following was noted:-

- There is an initiative to raise awareness in school children of hate crime; a poster competition has been devised asking children to state what they consider to be hate crime. The initiative delivers basic awareness of what hate crime is and encourages the reporting of hate crime incidents. There is an on-line hate crime reporting form.
- A dispersal order is a supplementary Police power where two or more people can be dispersed in an area where it can be shown there are serious issues of anti-social behaviour (ASB). There has been an 11% reduction in ASB in the District this year to date, compared to the same period last year. Involvement of young people is important and the Youth Service engages with young people in the streets. Other options to involve young people are considered and put into practice where appropriate.
- There have been dispersal orders used in Rayleigh in the past. However, the use of a dispersal order can sometimes result in just displacing the anti-social behaviour. In order to be able to establish a dispersal order, the

Police have to present a proposal, with sufficient evidence, to the District Council's Chief Executive, which is decided upon following discussion with Ward Members and the Leader of the Council. Alternative options of dealing with issues of ASB will always be explored in the first instance.

- With regard to the outcomes in respect of CSP priorities for 2011/12, the number of ASB reports has reduced, due in part to the past success of the dispersal orders in Rochford and Hockley. The number of incidents of domestic abuse has risen by 10% when compared to the previous year. However, it was noted that the more awareness is promoted, the greater the number of reports of abuse are likely to be made. There has been concentrated work by the Council's Domestic Abuse officer in this respect. There is greater support for victims of sex offences in 2011/12 and 'healthy relationship' workshops have been held in schools. Significant work has been carried out to tackle alcohol abuse through the Challenge 25 initiative. Media campaigns have been effective in this area.
- CI Cummings advised that the more serious forms of ASB are minimal and a trial is being conducted by Essex Police within the District to identify ASB in terms of level of risk rather than volume of reports received.
- Targets for 2012/13 were set as a result of an annual strategic assessment, which analysed types of crime taking place and took into account various statistics. A risk assessment matrix was used that cross matches Rochford District's priorities with those of Castle Point; the priorities identified were primarily the same as those identified by Safer Essex.
- Mental health issues are on the increase according to statistics, which is why the CSP has put in a bid for funding for mental health work. Southend MIND has been commissioned to train front line staff to identify those people suffering from mental health issues. Delegates from both Castle Point and Rochford CSP's have attended training courses in this respect.
- Rochford District Council has now recruited a new Anti-social Behaviour officer.
- The Police have the responsibility of ensuring that licensed establishments in the District comply with the terms and conditions of their license. Policing resources may be stretched if the night time economy continues to grow.
- The District does not have a large drug/substance abuse problem and the focus is therefore around early intervention and prevention. Currently there are drug programmes for children in the final year of primary school; this could be extended to children in lower school years if the content is appropriately tailored. The link between serious drug use and crime is apparent and stop and search enforcement by the Police is active in the District. Crucial Crew will be running drug and alcohol awareness courses again next year.

- The merger of the Rochford and Castle Point CSPs will enable joint funding bids to be made, as well as opportunities for shared resources and sharing of good practice. Rochford District Council provides the administrative resources for CSP steering group meetings.

### **207 THE KEY DECISION DOCUMENT**

The Committee reviewed the Key Decision document and noted its contents.

### **208 WORK PLAN**

The meeting scheduled for 13 November 2012 has been cancelled in order that a training session for Members of the Review Committee may be held.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Chairman .....

Date .....

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