

North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership

Safer North Ayrshire Partnership

Minutes of meeting held on 11 December 2009

Attendance

Chief Inspector Stewart Rorrison (**Chair**), Strathclyde Police
Jane Houston, Principal Officer Housing, North Ayrshire Council
Colin Kay, Road Safety Officer, North Ayrshire Council
Gordon Jones, Local Authority Liaison Officer, Strathclyde Police
Andy Lazzarin, Procurator Fiscal Depute, Procurator Fiscal's Office
Ruth Shephard, Commissioner, North Ayrshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership
Angela Gray, Partnership Development Officer, North Ayrshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership
Iain Mitchell, Authority Reporter, Scottish Children's Reporter Administration
Jim McCrae, Principal Officer (Criminal Justice), North Ayrshire Council
Nicola Merrin, Victim Support North Ayrshire
Alan Howard, Planning & Compliance Officer, South West Scotland CJA
Alex Pettigrew, Learning Manager, Youth Services, North Ayrshire Council
Gordon Syme, Quality Improvement Officer, North Ayrshire Council
Margaret McWilliams, Health Promotion Manager – North Locality, NHS Ayrshire and Arran
Sheena Campbell, Business Manager, North Ayrshire Women's Aid
Superintendent Jim Coubrough, Strathclyde Police
Gail Fitzpatrick, Anti Social Behaviour Co-ordinator, Strathclyde Police

Also in attendance

Morna Rae, Community Planning Officer (Chief Executive's), North Ayrshire Council
Shirley Caine, Community Planning Assistant (Chief Executive's), North Ayrshire Council

Apologies

Billy Davidson, Group Commander, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue
Andrea McGill, APO (Youth Justice), North Ayrshire Council
Councillor Andrew Chamberlain, North Ayrshire Council
Alastair Osborne, Policy Officer, North Ayrshire Council
Ann Robertson, Director, Neighbourhood Compact
Linda Brandon, Area Co-ordinator, Victim Support North Ayrshire

1. Welcome and Apologies

Stewart advised the group that he would no longer Chair the Safer North Ayrshire partnership meetings as he had been transferred to another Police Division. And advised that Superintendent Jim Coubrough would take over as Chair.

Introductions were made and the above apologies noted.

2. Minutes of previous meeting held on 30 October 2009

Ruth asked for the minute of the last meeting to be amended to say Alcohol and Drug Partnership not ADAT.

The minutes were then approved.

3. Matters Arising

Action Note Item 4

Prepare timetable for production of ASB/Community Safety Strategy and submit to next meeting. Jane advised that this would be carried forward to the meeting in the New Year

Action Note Item 4

Contact Victim Support to gather figures for male domestic abuse for North Ayrshire. Steward advised that he had contacted Victim Support and hadn't receive the figure yet, but the other part of this action was to find out what services are available for male victims.

Nicola advised that Victim Support to do deal with any victims of crime, and that there has been an increase in the number of males accessing the service. Nicola would provide figure to the next meeting.

ACTION: NICOLA

Action Note Item 6.2

Covered on agenda

Action Note Item 6.3

Covered on agenda and elected members made aware of the campaign by email.

Action Note Item 7.1

Alan advised that the Caledonian System is an accredited program for people who have committed domestic abuse and their victims. It was launched in November and South West Scotland Criminal Justice Authority has bid to become a pilot area. Work is taking place at the moment to prepare the bid with successful areas being notified in January. Alan will provide further information to the next meeting.

Action Note Item 11

Covered on agenda

Action Note Item 13

Covered on agenda

4. Community Service Development

The Group received the presentation by Alan Howard, South West Scotland CJA and Jim McCrae, Principal Officer, Criminal Justice on the Community Service Development.

Alan's presentation covered:

- The background and context to Community Service
- Pilot projects
- Community consultation
- Advertising campaign and the rebranding of Community Service

Jim's presentation covered:-

- What is community service?
- Why the presentation?
- What work does community service undertake?
- How do we move forward and where to?

The group thanked Alan and Jim for very informative presentation.

Nicola asked for clarification on the referral process for Community Service. Jim advised that there is a need to justify that Service would be for someone who is vulnerable or cannot carry out the work themselves for whatever reason.

Jim Coubrough asked about making the workers more visible to the public. Jim McCrae advised that the Service is about highlighted the work that is done not the people themselves.

It was noted that obviously people who are at risk of re-offending or those that have carried out a particularly violent crime should have a custodial sentence imposed, and that Community Service would not be suitable for them

Sheena asked for the figures for domestic abuse offenders on CS orders. Jim McCrae agreed to get this information.

ACTION: JIM MCRAE

SOA Outcomes: Fear of crime and antisocial behaviour has reduced, levels of crime and antisocial behaviour have reduced and crimes being detected have increased

5. Strategy Sub Group

5.1 ASB/Community Safety Strategy

Jane advised that she and Gail would start work in the New Year on the ASB/Community Safety Strategy.

6. Tasking and Problem Solving Group

Stewart advised that a couple of meetings had been held recently.

Jim C advised that this Group has been refocused and will sit every 4 weeks. The reason for the Group is to bring together partners to share information on crime statistics and discuss the priorities and issues for certain areas. Joint plans are now being developed on how to tackle this. The key element is the range of partners at these meetings. Jim C noted that the Group is starting to make good progress in tackling problems with joint plans and that Groups like these are going to very useful in the future to focus resources better.

Jim C then updated the Group on a change to the additional policing programme funding through Fairer North Ayrshire. Jim advised that at present there are 4 police officers based in Saltcoats, this location had been agreed at the start of the Fairer North Ayrshire Funding. Jim advised that, as he briefed elected members recently, the most deprived areas in North Ayrshire don't always have the worst crime rates. Therefore it has been agreed, that these 4 police officers will redeployed where they are needed, as advised by the Tasking and Problem Solving group. They will help to add further value to the work that is already taking place with the community policing teams.

Jim advised that this change had been agreed by the CPP Management Group.

7. ASB / Youth Disorder / Public Disorder

7.1 Neighbourhood Forum Update

Jane advised that, as noted at the last meeting, working is currently taking place to look at a re-launch of the neighbourhood compacts. This has not been moved forward, but it is still the intention for Jane to meet with CLD in particular to look at resources that will be available to take forward the re-launch/re-brand of the compacts.

Further meetings will take place in the New Year to see how to take this forward

7.2 CashBack for Communities

Gail advised that there are 2 strands to CashBack for Communities.

The first is the Youth Link Awards will be announced next week. £28,000 has been allocated to groups in North Ayrshire.

The second strand is sports activity and this has been going really well and been well attended at the 4 secondary schools involved. A champion's league final will take place on 20th December and it is thought that another round of rugby will also be scheduled.

7.3 Safer Streets Campaign 2009-2010

Gail advised that operation NOEL has been launched and has been well received; posters have been circulated throughout North Ayrshire. A lot more activity is planned over the festive period. The campaign has been advertised on Westsound.

A newsletter of the work done so far was table to the group.

7.4 Alcohol Awareness Week

The report by Ruth was circulated to the group. This group supported the event this year as the new Alcohol and Drug Partnership had not been formed yet. There was good support from partners and various methods had been used to engage with the public. Results from this year's event will be used to build on next year's campaign.

Ruth recommending that this Group along with the ADP support Alcohol Awareness Week next year.

Stewart agreed that this is an area that this group should be focussing on and endorsing. The group recorded its commitment to this.

7.5 Managing the Needs of Drunk and Incapable People in Scotland – Chief Executives Letter

The letter from the Scottish Government had been circulated to the group.

Ruth asked the group to note the letter and that this is something that the group needs to be aware of. A member of the ADP team went to the meeting on the 23rd November and a report is being pulled together for a future meeting.

Stewart agreed that there is a resource issue for the use of emergency services by people with alcohol problems

Jane asked if this is something that should be in the SOA Action Plan 2010/11. Ruth advised that this would be reported through the NHS channels, but that possibly a link/reference could be made to it in the Action Plan.

ACTION: RUTH/JANE

Ruth advised that a needs assessment is being carried out within the ADP to discuss this and taking it forward and an update would be provided to next meeting on this.

ACTION: RUTH

7.6 Partners' Activity Reports

The activity report on Antisocial Behaviour and Community Safety Services was noted.

Jane added that due to budget restrictions within the Council there would now not be an additional Community Warden team created. A review of the Wardens' Service will be carried out early next year in conjunction with partners and communities.

8. **Violence Against Women**

8.1 Partners' Activity Reports

The minutes of the North Ayrshire Violence Against Women Forum of 18 November were noted.

White Ribbon Campaign

Sheena advised that she had attended at conference on the campaign and had heard Michael Kaufman speak. The next stage is involving men in the fight against violence against women. Women's Aid are planning an event soon.

Jim C asked were he could get more white ribbons, as he was keen to get them for his police officers. Sheena advised that she has some and they are always available from the website, she would look into this.

Ruth asked if it would be possible to get reformed male perpetrators of domestic abuse to speak/give quotes for an event. Sheena took note of this suggestion.

Sheena then advised that the new website was launched on Tuesday 8th December. The address is www.anywomensaid.org.uk

Sheena asked to give a presentation to future meeting, this was agreed.

ACTION: SHEENA

SOA Outcome: Fire safety has improved

9. **Fire Safety**

9.1 Partners' Activity Reports

The report was noted.

Jane advised that she met with Billy Thomson to discuss an action for the Action Plan 2010/11 for improvement in relation to shared assessment.

SOA Outcome: Road safety has improved

10. Road Safety

10.1 Partners' Activity Reports

The report was noted.

There was some discussion on the confiscation of vehicles of people who are re-convicted of drink driving. There was suggestion that the cars could be used within the community, i.e. the 3 Towns Motor Project.

Colin took a note of this suggestion.

11. Financial Monitoring

11.1 Report by Principal Officer, ASB/CSS

Jane advised that there is still an uncommitted balance of around £4,000 from the budget.

It was agreed that any partners with ideas for the use of the funding should contact Jane.

Ruth and Angela left the meeting at this point.

Jane noted that the budget for next year may be reduced, but there is no indication at the moment of how much by.

12. CPP Update

12.1 SOA Action Plan – Quarter 2 progress Report

Morna advised that the report has been circulated to the group. All actions were green except 9b to increase the number of neighbourhood dispute referred to the Community Mediation Service.

Jane advised that work is taking place to address this, but that it is very difficult to get people engaged in mediation, although it does produce good results. Jane encouraged partners to use the service.

12.2 Preparations for Community Planning Week 2010

Morna advised that this report provided information on this year's event and asked partners to consider any events for Community Planning week 2010 (17-20 May).

Morna asked partners to start thinking now of any ideas for next year and contact her for any more information.

13. Any Other Business

SOA Action Plan 2010/11

Jane advised she and Gail are taking forward the development of action plan, and a draft would be circulated to partners.

ACTION: JANE/GAIL

Contribution Analysis

Jane advised that Justina had been approached by Edinburgh University to see if North Ayrshire would like to be involved in a study of contribution analysis. This would identify individual contributions from partners to help achieve outcomes. A meeting will take place next week with Jane, Jim C and Justina to explore the principals of the study and what is involved. Jane will report back to the next meeting.

ACTION: JANE

Portable Soccer Stadium

Gordon advised that this had been used in Govan and was very successful. The kit can be reduced to fit any area and comes with its own generator and floodlights. Work is being undertaken to investigate the purchase of one for North Ayrshire and how this will work with other youth diversion activities. Discussions have taken place with a range of partners, and the stadium could be used with the mobile youth centre.

Jim C advised that this had been used successfully in Govan as youth diversion activity, which targets the hardest to reach areas. The project took time, but delivered good results and was coupled with the police approach to enforcement, and other strategies already in place.

ACTION: GORDON

Activity Agreements

Alex advised that North Ayrshire is one of 10 pilot local authorities that has been awarded funding for activity agreements. This is an agreement for young people to provide support for further training. A lot of working is taking place with partners to help young people get the opportunities they need to get into employment.

Stewart thanked everyone on the group for their support to him as Chair of the Safer North Ayrshire Partnership and advised the he had enjoyed his time in North Ayrshire and it had been a pleasure working with everyone.

He especially thanked Jane and Gail for their support and wished everyone well in the future.

14. Date of Next Meeting

The proposed dates for 2010 were noted.

- 5 February
- 9 April
- 4 June
- 6 August
- 8 October
- 3 December