

**North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership**

**Safer North Ayrshire Partnership**

**18 September 2009**

**Present**

**Ayrshire and Arran Alcohol and Drug Action Team.**

Ruth Shepherd, Joint Commissioner/Coordinator.

**North Ayrshire Council**

Jane Houston, Principal Officer ASB/Community Safety Services.

Marjorie Adams, Policy Officer.

Alex Pettigrew, Learning Manager, Youth Services, North Ayrshire Council.

Anne Todd, Community Planning Officer.

Martyn McKeown, Team Leader Committee Services.

**North Ayrshire Women's Aid**

Sheena Campbell, Business Manager.

**South West Scotland CJA**

Alan Howard, Planning & Compliance Officer,

**Strathclyde Police**

Chief Inspector Stewart Rorrison.

Gordon Jones, Local Authority Liaison Officer.

Gail Fitzpatrick, Anti Social Behaviour Co-ordinator.

**Victim Support North Ayrshire**

Linda Brandon, Area Co-ordinator.

**Chair**

Chief Inspector Rorrison in the Chair.

**Apologies**

Shirley Caine, Community Planning Assistant (Chief Executive's), North Ayrshire Council; Margaret McWilliams, Health Promotion Manager – North Locality, NHS Ayrshire and Arran; Alastair Osborne, Policy Officer, North Ayrshire Council; Andrea McGill, APO (Youth Justice), North Ayrshire Council; Jim McCrae, Principal Officer (Criminal Justice), North Ayrshire Council; Billy Davidson, Group Commander, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue; Andy Lazzarin, Procurator Fiscal Depute, Procurator Fiscal's Office; Iain Mitchell, Authority Reporter, Scottish Children's Reporter Administration

**1. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Safer North Ayrshire Partnership held on 31 July 2009 were confirmed, subject to the replacement of the second paragraph at item 6.4 as follows:-

“Alcohol Awareness week is now in its 3<sup>rd</sup> year and will run from 4 to 10 October 2009. Previously this campaign was taken forward through ADAT, however ADAT has been disbanded and will be replaced by 1 October with Alcohol and Drug Partnerships within each of the CPPs. As such it was agreed to contact each of the CPP to see whether one of the other groups within the Partnership would lead the campaign this year. It was suggested this matter be referred to the Safer North Ayrshire Partnership for consideration”.

## **2. Understanding and Tackling Domestic Abuse in North Ayrshire**

The partnership received a presentation by Marjorie Adams, Policy Officer, North Ayrshire Council, on the background to a study commissioned by the North Ayrshire Violence Against Women Forum, to obtain a better understanding of patterns of violence against women and of how to effectively tackle domestic abuse and other aspects of violence against women (VAW) in North Ayrshire.

The study which was undertaken by Ann Rosengard Associates, was undertaken against 11 specific research objectives, some of which related to wider aspects of gender based violence as reflected in Scottish Government policies. These objectives focused the study on key patterns, trends and contributing factors relevant to VAW in North Ayrshire, including by focussing on a range of particular and complex needs of the women and children affected by VAW and related support needs. Two objectives addressed issues of costs effectiveness and performance management and the remainder on potential specific improvements to services, and on wider opportunities and challenges faced in tackling domestic abuse in North Ayrshire.

The presentation summarised the research methodology used in the study and the key findings arising from the study. The study identified that there is already considerable multi agency work being done both at strategic and operational levels. Notwithstanding this work, a number of gaps were identified notably in relation to a rape crisis centre in North Ayrshire, therapeutic support for young people, support for adult and younger survivors of childhood sexual abuse, and services to address the behaviour of perpetrators of VAW. Reflecting the study findings, recommendations are made in relation to the areas of prevention, protection, provision and participation. These will be taken forward by the Forum as appropriate. An Action Plan will be developed and submitted to the Partnership at a future meeting.

Noted.

## **3. Strategy Sub Group**

### **3.1 Promoting Positive Outcomes – ASB National Framework**

Jane confirmed that the Scottish Government Implementation Plan would be launched on Tuesday 22 September 2009. The Sub Group will be convened thereafter.

It was agreed that anyone interested in serving on the Group contact Gail Fitzpatrick.

### **3.2 Participatory Budgeting**

At the last meeting, partners were asked to consider any proposals that they might wish to submit in relation to the participatory budgeting pilot by COSLA and the Scottish Government. At the time the Partnership indicated concerns around sustainability and match funding.

Since then, no proposals have been forthcoming and it was proposed in the circumstances that the Partnership should not participate in the pilot.

Agreed.

#### **4. Tasking and Problem Solving Group**

Gail indicated that no further meetings have taken place since the last meeting in July. It was hoped that next meeting would however be held in October 2009.

Progress has been made in relation to developing an action plan for bonfire night. It was also confirmed that a new Superintendent was in place.

Noted.

#### **5. ASB/Youth Disorder/Public Disorder**

##### **5.1 Neighbourhood Forum Update**

No update report was provided.

##### **5.2 CashBack for Communities**

Gails confirmed that no update has been received from Scottish Rugby in relation to the pilots in Kilbirnie and Woodlands. Details are awaited about the location of football sessions from October onwards.

Noted.

##### **5.3 Partners' Activity Reports**

Activity reports were submitted pr provided as follows:

Alastair Osborne, North Ayrshire Council

Noted.

Jane Houston, North Ayrshire Council ASB & Community Safety

Jane provided an update in relation to:

- the Racial Abuse Prevention Service;
- the operation of neighbourhood Compacts;
- a planned survey of community warden areas to ascertain the views of residents about the place they live and the impact of the warden service, the aims of the Junior warden Programme; and
- a seminar on Domestic Abuse planned for 21 October 2009.

Noted.

Gordon Jones, Local Authority Liaison Officer Strathclyde Police

Gordon reported on the following areas:-

- High visibility patrols in Saltcoats during 4-17 September aimed at combating anti social behaviour and disorder;

- The provision of high visibility reassurance patrols in response to serious incidents, vandalism, youth disorder and gang fighting in Kilwinning;
- A programme of visits to licensed premises which have been identified as being locations for incidents of violence and ASB;
- Ward area action plans to tackle racist incidents;
- An initiative to target persons wanted on warrant; and
- A proactive housebreaking action plan undertaken to tackle housebreaking.

Noted.

Alan Howard, South West Scotland Community Justice Authority

Alan reported on:

- The allocation of additional funding by the CJA to improve the speed and immediacy of community service;
- The request by the Scottish Government that CJAs submit a draft 3 year Area Plan by May 2010 for the period 2011-14;
- A Community Integration Development Conference to be held on 9<sup>th</sup> October aimed at improving links between Kilmarnock Prison and community based services in order to provide a smooth transition and reintegration for persons leaving prison.

Noted.

#### **5.4 Alcohol Awareness Week**

Ruth provided an update on arrangements for Alcohol Awareness Week aimed at promoting responsible drinking and Unit awareness. Strathclyde Fire and Rescue have provided a bus as a focal point for awareness raising activities.

Promotional materials has been produced, copies of which were tabled.

Noted.

#### **5.5 SOA Complementary Report**

The ASB Complementary Report 2008/09 was noted.

#### **5.6 Local Youth Action Fund**

Gail provided information on the allocation of funding to 25 groups from the Local Youth Action Fund 2008/09. Overall all projects were successful.

Noted.

### **7. Violence Against Women**

- 7.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Violence Against Women Forum held on 26 August 2009 were noted.

### **8. Fire Safety**

No activity report was provided.

## **9. Road Safety**

An activity report was provided on behalf of Colin Kay in relation to road safety. The following areas were highlighted: -

- Induction days were held at Gales Hotel for participating P6/7 pupils enrolled as Junior Road Safety Officers.
- Y Drive – North Ayrshire's Young Drivers, takes place on 29-30 September 2009. Eight North Ayrshire Schools and two from South Ayrshire will attend. Participating bodies include Strathclyde Police, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue, Strathclyde Safety Cameras.
- Autumn cycling only took place in 4 schools during the terms (a 50% reduction on normal levels of participation)
- Interest in the Road and Traffic Skills initiative has been positive.
- The young driver campaign 'Numpty' has been running in the West of Scotland.

Noted.

## **10. Financial Monitoring**

Jane provided an update on the allocation of £20K to Break the Silence and £40k to North Ayrshire CCTV Limited. £12k has been set aside for the festive Safer Streets Initiative. Feedback is awaited in relation to the Scottish Government's web survey on ways to improve the Safer Streets Initiative.

Funding allocated to develop neighbourhood Compacts will be utilised.

Noted.

## **11. CPP Update**

### **11.1 Fairer North Ayrshire Allocations**

FNA allocations have been approved by the CPP Board and a report will be submitted to the Council's Executive at its next meeting seeking approval of the funding proposals.

Noted.

### **11.2 People's Panel Survey**

The next People's Panel Thematic survey will be conducted in December. Partners were invited to suggest areas that could be included as questions in the survey. Areas suggested included domestic abuse, alcohol and community safety.

It was agreed that partners contact Anne Todd with suggestions.

## **12. Any Other Business**

### **12.1 Smoke Free Homes and Cars Campaign**

Jane provided the Partnership with background information about the Smoke Free Homes and Cars Campaign, which encourages participants to take a pledge not to smoke in their homes or cars, recognising the health impact of secondary smoke.

Noted.

## **13. Date of Next Meeting**

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2009.