



Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership

Notes of a meeting of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership held on Tuesday, 16 January 2007.

Present:

Bala Mahendran	-	Basildon District Council (Chair)
Councillor Tony Ball	-	Basildon District Council
David Britt	-	Basildon District Council
Suzanne Cross	-	Basildon and Thurrock University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
John Entwistle	-	Basildon District Council
Rachel Glover	-	Basildon District Council
Claire Griggs	-	Basildon Police
Cliff Hughes	-	Family Mosaic
Simon Hughes	-	Basildon District Council
Jerry Jones	-	GO East
Paula Mason	-	Basildon District Council
Lesley O'Shea	-	Basildon District Council
Alison Spalding	-	Basildon Youth Offending Team
Sally Thallon	-	Essex County Council
Ken Venables	-	Basildon District Council
Ray Williams	-	Basildon Police
Peter Woollard	-	Essex Probation Service

In Attendance:

Julie Batt	-	Basildon District Council
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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Jackie Brown	-	Interlock
Clare Burrell	-	Essex County Council Youth Service
Chief Inspector Jan Harrison	-	Basildon Police
Owen Richards	-	South West Essex Primary Care Trust
Councillor John Schofield	-	Essex County Council
Mandie Skeat	-	Basildon District Council
Duncan Taylor	-	Essex County Council
Lynne Taylor	-	South West Essex Primary Care Trust
Martin Trevillion	-	Essex County Fire and Rescue Service
Paul Turner	-	Swan Housing Association

2. MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting of the CDRP held on 19 December 2006 were agreed as a true record.

3. ACTION SHEET:

Communications Strategy – John Entwistle reported that he had held a preliminary meeting with some partners immediately prior to the CDRP meeting and an outline of forthcoming actions had been drawn together. This would be developed into a schedule of events/actions and circulated to all partners prior to the next meeting. The schedule could then form the basis for discussion of this item at CDRP meetings.

Action had been taken to nominate the CDRP for the MJ awards.

Bala Mahendran stressed the importance of better communication and publicity and reported that he had taken the opportunity at a recent breakfast meeting to discuss this issue with the Chief Constable, who had arranged to visit Basildon on 24 January 2007.

Respect Awards – Lesley O’Shea reported that an individual had been identified who would be nominated for an award if they were agreeable. Further details could be given at a future meeting, if appropriate.

All other matters were covered in the agenda for this meeting.

4. PROLIFIC AND PRIORITY OFFENDER – CATCH AND CONVICT:

Ray Williams reported that 13 PPOs were currently held in custody, including the No. 1 PPO. The proposed increase in PPOs from 20 to 25 was achievable as a result of so many being detained.

A joint meeting involving both the Catch and Convict and the Prevent and Deter strands would be held on 5 February 2007 and would be attend by Essex County Council as part of a programme of visits to each Essex group.

The Government was still considering whether to adopt national PPO targets.

Further details of the proposed re-launch of the PPO scheme were still awaited.

Bala Mahendran suggested that it might aid communications and publicity if each group produced a short annual report, including case studies.

5. PROLIFIC PRIORITY OFFENDER – PREVENT AND DETER:

Alison Spalding reported that this group was awaiting a replacement police representative and in the interim she was chairing meetings. Whilst meetings of the group worked well and attendance was good, there was concern from the YOT’s perspective that there was no evident added value for young people.

It was felt that this was an area that needed to be developed. The re-launch of the scheme, together with new legislation, should provide a more defined approach. Alison Spalding agreed to report after the re-launch on what the group would like to achieve and what it would do differently, if possible, to give added value. In the meantime, she was visiting other PPO groups in the County to learn from alternative approaches to the matter.

6. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT:

Claire Griggs presented the statistics for December 2006 and reported that it had been a disappointing month, with figures over target in the areas of theft from a vehicle, domestic burglary, common assault, woundings and robbery of personal property. The rise in common assault and woundings tended to be seasonal at Christmas time and offences were largely alcohol related. The net effect for the month was 69 over target. However, with the statistics showing 172 under target for the period since 1 April 2005, the CDRP was still on target to reduce crime by 16.7% by the end of the three year period.

Ray Williams reported that Basildon featured on only two of the crime types on the County's recent performance monitoring summary.

7. COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTION ZONE UPDATE:

Ray Williams gave an update on the CSAZ. It was noted that the final meeting covering the Pitsea Market area would be held on 24 January 2007.

The first meeting in Royal Court had been held on 12 January 2007 and had been well attended. At the request of residents, the project had been renamed 'King Edward Estate' as it covered a wider area than just the Royal Court flats. A number of positive actions had resulted from the evening. Future meetings would be held at James Hornsby High School to accommodate the large number of attendees.

Concern was expressed that the work at Pitsea Market (and, in the future, King Edward Estate) might not be sustained. Some of the projects were being continued by various interested parties and it was hoped that the CSAZ's concentrated multi-agency approach would provide a momentum that would have a positive effect for some time to come.

8. COMMUNITY TV LAUNCH:

It was confirmed that the launch had been arranged for 26 January 2007 and a large number of people had accepted their invitation to attend.

Bala Mahendran thanked Paula Mason and the working group for their hard work and achievement in relation to the Community TV project.

9. EQUALITY/DIVERSITY AND SOCIAL COHESION:

The CDRP discussed the issue of equality/diversity and social cohesion. Issues that needed to be addressed in this area included:

- Considerable changes had taken place since the last census and the statistics contained within it no longer reflected the nature of local communities and their aspirations

- Information was required on the current profile of the District to enable services to be tailored to the diverse communities within it.
- Much data was available across the County, held by various organisations, but expertise was needed to draw this all together.
- Funding was needed for a temporary post or to retain a consultant to draw up a profile of the District (and, if possible, County) based on available current data – a possible source for this funding was ELGA (Sally Thallon would follow this up).
- The Council had been unable to recruit to its vacant Equality and Diversity Officer post and there could perhaps be a multi-agency approach to provision of this service.
- Whilst there was an Equality and Diversity Network as part of the Essex Partnership, this needed to be held at a higher level with a higher profile.
- The needs of the settled community should also be considered.

Bala Mahendran indicated that this was a matter that had been highlighted by the Essex Chief Executive's Association and he had been selected to lead on this issue.

10. HIGH SHERIFF'S AWARDS:

Ray Williams reported that, as far as it was known to date, Basildon had proposed four nominations. These were Mission Catwalk, Beauchamps School (fund raising by pupils), Flying Pigs Kids Club (in Laindon) and Step by Step pre-school. The awards ceremony would be held on 6 March 2007.

11. PROPOSED NEW LEGISLATION – IMPLICATIONS FOR CDRP:

Simon Hughes circulated a paper setting out the issues contained within the Local Government White Paper that were relevant to the CDRP. It was noted that the CDRP already covered many of the outlined neighbourhood initiatives. The new legislation was likely to be enacted in July 2007.

Ken Venables reported a number of recent activities that involved elected Members and would complement the new legislation, including the formation of a community safety forum for Members, a scrutiny review into vandalism and a review of burger vans.

A key factor of the legislation was the provision for local authorities to scrutinise external organisations (e.g. the Primary Care Trust).

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Tony Ball requested information on the successes arising from the new CCTV system so that he could respond to queries from Members and the press. It was agreed that an item would be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

Ken Venables reported that a CCTV Review Group had been formed, with the aim of assessing the hardware, technical aspects, legalities and the possibility of improved monitoring.

13. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, 20 February 2007 at 3.00pm in Parklands.

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