



LSP Board Meeting, 19 March 2013
Daventry District Council
10am – 12 noon

Partners Present (* denotes voting member)

Carella	Davies* (Chair)	Daventry Volunteer Centre
Lynn	Aston	Daventry & District Housing
Simon	Bovey	Daventry District Council
Marie	Brown	NCALC
Cllr Kay	Driver	Daventry District Council
Cllr Elizabeth	Griffin*	Daventry District Council
Ellen	Buttler	Northampton College
Cllr Alan	Hills	Daventry District Council
Paul	Bullen	Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner
Cllr Gina	Ogden	Northamptonshire County Council
Kevin	Fagan	Daventry & South Northants Community Safety Partnership
Mary	Higginson	Bromford Living
Carolyn	Palmer-Fagan	Bromford Living

Also in attendance

Roz Tidman Daventry District Council (LSP Support)

1. Welcome, Introductions, Apologies and Declarations

Carella Davies welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received from: Mick Conlon (Northants Fire & Rescue), Victoria Boulton (Groundworks), Thomas Thompson (Northants Police), David Hemmett (Joint Planning Unit)

There were no declarations of interests.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting – 18 December 2012

a) The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

b) Matters Arising

Prevention & Demand Management – The Partnership's concerns had been forwarded to NCC.

East Midlands Ambulance Service – Consultation – RT advised that EMAS would be holding a meeting on 25 March to report on their final proposals. Papers were expected to be circulated in advance, and would be forwarded to the Partnership. SB would write inviting them to the June meeting. **ACTION: Simon Bovey**

Northamptonshire Fire & Rescue Service – A response had been submitted on behalf of the LSP Board.

Welfare Reform – CD advised that, at the last meeting, it had been

agreed that this would be a standing item on future agendas. However as there was nothing to report at this time an item would be included on the agenda for the June meeting. Alison Harris from DDC and Ann Bamfield from CAB would be invited to attend, along with a representative from the employment side. LA and CP-F offered to provide additional information for that meeting. **ACTION: Roz Tidman, Lyn Aston and Carolyn Palmer-Fagan(Mary Higginson).**

Business Theme Group – CD advised that Maxine Aldred from the Federation of Small Business had been approached to join the Business Theme Group. She had attended the last meeting and was happy to engage with the Theme Group and act as a conduit for information/concerns between the Theme Group and business community.

3. Strategic Update on Policing and Crime

PB gave an overview of the Police and Crime Plan for Northamptonshire. The rationale behind the creation of Police & Crime Commissioners (PCC) was to provide more accountable governance for policing and crime. One of the roles of the PCC was to put together a Police and Crime Plan which provides a five-year framework for policing in the county. The ambition was for Northamptonshire to become the safest place in the country, which would be achieved by:-

Reduction of at least 40% in violent crime.

- Eradicating drugs use – this would be the start of a long-term culture change, involving the creation of an office drawing together various teams/programmes to develop a coherent strategy.
- Reducing acquisitive crime – this would build on work already done by Operation Guardian. The target was for Northamptonshire to be in the top ten nationally in terms of performance in this area. The county was currently 39 out of 42.
- More visible police force – the Police & Crime Commissioner had made a commitment not to reduce the county's current level of police officers (1,220). Improvements would build on work already underway such as reducing the numbers of desk-based officers, but also more innovative methods such as the expansion of Special Constables from 300 to 1000 by 2016. There were also plans for the launch of the first reservist force in the country. Reservists would work 20 days a year and be called upon in times of need. This would provide additional resources, particularly in rural areas, and work with parish/town councils. The target was to have 200 reservists by 2016.
- A more secure county – pulling together work already being carried out by other services. Working closely with the Fire Service was given as an example. PB commented that this initiative was in its early stages at the moment, but the aim was to build on the existing local resilience forum.
- Safer roads – fatalities on the county's roads were increasing, and work needed to be done to reduce accidents.

The intention of the Police and Crime Plan was to put the victim first in everything the Police did. This would be achieved in a number of ways.

- Victims Commission - a Victims Commission was being developed to engage with victims of crime, to find out what the Police were doing well and what could be improved. This would inform policy decisions, operate for six months, and would be a large engagement activity. The Commission would be headed up by a well-known person in the justice system.

- Prevent Crime – there would be a big drive on the prevention of crime. Consultation on the ‘Crime Prevention – doing things differently’ document was currently underway. This had a number of proposals, including the creation of a Problems and Solution Unit providing an evidence based approach to policing. The Unit would provide analysis, using national statistics, support and would be designed to support everyone with a community safety role to play, not just the Police. Crime Prevention Officers tend to focus on the Police, however the intention was that they would work with Community Safety Partnerships and others. An Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives would also be created to act as a ‘glue’ across the voluntary and community sector across the county. Their role would be to signpost organisations to sources of funding and best practice. They would also have some limited funding available to do things on the ground. The intention was to work with Community Safety Partnerships, to look at the work they do.
- Engagement and Participation - there would be an increase in engagement across the sector. Youth engagement was particularly important. The Police & Crime Commissioner had also decided that he would not be based at Police HQ in Northampton, and alternative offices would be explored. A business transformation process was underway looking at where the Police could work with partners to reduce costs. Like any other public sector organisation the Police were subject to reduced government funding.

Next Steps – a more detailed programme would be compiled, which would sit behind the Police and Crime Plan. The remit of the Police & Crime Commissioner included keeping the Police & Crime Panel updated, but there was also the aim to keep the public updated and engaged.

GO noted the proposals for Reservist and Special Constables, but asked whether PCSOs would remain. PB advised that the current level of funding for PCSOs would continue. Special Constables would be volunteers, warranted and, therefore, with full Police powers. PCSOs were paid, had limited powers, and were not warranted. A Reservist would be a paid, volunteer, role. CD welcomed the initiatives in the Police & Crime Plan but did have concerns that the Reservist role would not be very popular in the area. She added that volunteering for such a role would be a complete change in the way policing was managed and, from her own experience, she felt it would be difficult for the target of 200 Reservists by 2016 to be achieved. This was acknowledged by PB; he added that the remit of Special Constables would be reviewed and the Police would need to be flexible on how they used Specials. GO commented that PCSOs had a flexible approach when dealing with their communities, which worked well. She added that Police officers resident in their own villages had not always been popular with local communities in the past

Cllr Griffin proposed that CD comments be forwarded direct to the Police & Crime Commissioner. PB agreed to do so. AH proposed that the minutes from this meeting be forwarded to the Police & Crime Commissioner to reinforce CD comments. **ACTION: Roz Tidman**

LA asked how Daventry people knew about the Police & Crime Plan, Victims Commission etc. and how communities could buy-in to these. She added that it appeared people were unaware of the Police & Crime Commissioner’s proposals. PB advised that, in respect of the Victims Commission, existing links had been used to publicise this. There had been advertising etc. of the Plan via local press and the Commissioner’s website however PB was interested to know of people who were not aware of the proposals. CD

suggested that the Police & Crime Commission be invited to the LSP Board. SB added that the LSP acted as an umbrella for many bodies and could be part of the Commissioner's plan. It had a good reputation and could be a useful forum for informing policing plans. **ACTION: Simon Bovey to invite the Commissioner to a forthcoming LSP Board.**

KD suggested that existing knowledge and experience should be taken advantage of. She gave a specific example of the work the Health & Wellbeing Board had carried out on alcohol abuse. PB acknowledged that there was evidence where initiatives had, or hadn't, worked. Where there were good projects these needed to be built on.

KD referred to a reference made by PB in his presentation about funding. She asked how much the Police budget was and how much of a reduction was required. PB advised that the Police budget was £120m in Northamptonshire. They were subject to national cuts of 20%, and it was anticipated a similar cut would be required in future years. The majority of the Police budget was people costs so there was a need to look at how to address the funding reduction.

MB noted that PB had not referred to restorative justice in his presentation and asked whether this was still on the table. PB advised that this would form part of the work of the Victims Commission. National best practice would be looked at, in conjunction with personal experiences. The proposal was to look at restorative practices, if driven by the victim.

CP-F commented that, in respect of promoting the Police & Crime Plan etc, the use of social media should be used more. PB agreed with this and suggested that RT be included on their circulation list to enable information to be cascaded to the LSP onwards.

KF provided an update on the Daventry & South Northamptonshire Community Safety Partnership.

He commented that the most useful thing from the Police & Crime Plan was the close alignment with the Community Safety Partnerships 2013/14 priorities. These included a reduction in violence, anti social behaviour (specifically the environmental impact of this eg. graffiti, litter) and rural crime. With regard to rural crime the perception was that crime was higher in the town, however 60% of crime was in the rural area. There was a need to define a measurement for this to enable accurate monitoring, which was a challenge as rural crime covered a wide variety of subjects, but there were some that were very specific eg. farm building and tack thefts. The focus would be on 'target hardening' eg. fitting of locks on sheds and outbuildings.

In terms of Serious Acquisitive Crime (soon to be re-named to 'Stealing'!) the only increase had been thefts from vehicles on arterial routes eg. motorway services and parked commercial vehicles. Serious Acquisitive Crime levels had been reduced by 45% in two years.

One area always of concern was anti social behaviour. There had been a reduction in calls to the Police about this, and a review of the target was being considered. There had been considerable success when targeting diversion activities through the engagement of youth workers etc. for young people in a specific area. Young people had also been engaged in the development of the new skate park in Daventry. However half of the anti social behaviour incidents involve adults, with subsequent links to domestic violence and troubled families. Work was being undertaken on coordination of the various multi agency meetings that take place, to enable agencies to work more efficiently with the Community Safety Partnership.

In respect of domestic violence there had been a culture change, with the

Police and local agencies working on medium and low risk cases to stop them becoming high risk. Very good results were being achieved, the last report showed 5% of cases in the first quarter being high risk, in the latest quarter this had reduced to 0%.

With regard to 'troubled families' Daventry had a disproportionate number on the Troubled Families Programme – 70% - which equated to 70 families across the district.. Of those 25% lived on the Southbrook estate. Work was being carried out mainly with DDH but also with Bromford. LA commented that there was a need to have a lead officer for each family, supported by others, rather than lots of different people involved. Clarity was also needed on what landlords could influence.

KF summarised that public confidence in community safety in Daventry and South Northamptonshire remained high, though the perception had dropped slightly as the visibility of Police officers were not as high over recent months. CD thanked PB and KF for their reports. She hoped that the change to evidence based policing focus would benefit the District. KD commented that PCSOs were often the only visible presence in rural areas and their continued presence was welcomed. She added that the Police & Crime Commissioner would be the Vice-Chair of the county Health & Wellbeing Board and needed to be aware of the bigger picture. The sharing of information between the Community Safety Partnership, Policy & Crime Commissioner and Health & Wellbeing Board was essential.

CD advised that Heather Wilson from the Volunteer Centre, who worked with troubled families, had received Dragons Den funding to enable further work with these families to be carried out in the Daventry area.

There was a general discussion on domestic abuse and the difficulties faced in identifying cases. Incidents were kept hidden. More may become apparent through the work with troubled families by increasing people's confidence in reporting incidents. The Domestic Abuse Forum had made it a priority of regular visits to troubled families to engage and encourage interaction.

SB noted the surprising level of troubled families in the district and suggested this issue be taken up in the Community Strategy. This would, in turn, help the Partnership receive acknowledgement and action by the Police & Crime Commissioner, and others, that there were these issues in the district.

4. Strategic Health Issues

CD updated from the recent Health & Wellbeing Board meeting which had received a number of presentations, as below:

- Fuel Poverty – Pippa Reeve from the Northants Warm Homes initiative reported on their target to eradicate fuel poverty by 2016. The definition of fuel poverty was when a household spent 10% or more of their income on fuel. A numbers of grants were still available from Northants Warm Homes for insulating properties.
- Welfare Reform – Ann Bamfield from CAB spoke about the difficulties people could face when the welfare reforms came into effect. The purpose of the reforms were to encourage people into work. Elderly people would not be affected. The move from individual benefits to the Universal Credit was expected to have a significant impact on organisations.
- Street Pastors – David Walker reported on the work of the Street Pastors and how this contributed to crime reduction.
- Environmental Health – Paul Knight gave a presentation on the contribution that districts and boroughs make to the public health agenda. Specific reference had been made to the Government's District

Action on Public Health; 40% of authorities were thinking of restructuring their services in response to this document.

SB advised that, at county level, discussions were ongoing about representation from Environmental Health on the county Health & Wellbeing Board. There was concern that the district level input would not be recognised, as the Board focus was more on strategic health. There was a need to keep highlighting all elements of health, not just clinical or at county level. KD echoed the concerns about the lack of district or borough input into the Board. She added that there appeared to be an assumption by some organisations that there was a single level of authority in Northamptonshire. Currently there was one political representative on the Health & Wellbeing Board for all the districts and boroughs. GO advised that there was district/borough involvement on the County Councils Health Scrutiny Board, which was important.

- Nene Commissioning – Dr Matthew Davies reported on planning for primary healthcare. Two pilots on neighbourhood schemes were due to start, linking with DDH. One focused on training DDH outreach workers to carry out mental health checks during visits to tenants. The second was a Care Home Scheme, involving residents in planning for their future health needs. The aim was to keep care close to home for as long as possible to avoid admittance to hospitals. Nurse practitioners would prepare individual future care plans in conjunction with individuals. KD commented that, in light of recent publicity about care of elderly people in hospitals and care homes, keeping people in their homes with support should be a priority. She added that this should be taken on board by the Health & Wellbeing Board. GO added that mental health issues were likely to increase in the elderly as they were less able, or willing, to get out and about. Technology such as Skype should be explored as a way for people to communicate with family or friends.

5. Falls Prevention – Project PID

Consideration was given to a Project Initiation Document for a falls prevention project, 'Stay Strong, Go Steady'. Falls prevention had been identified as a challenge in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. The project aimed to deliver a number of roadshow events, plus a tea dance, across the district aimed at elderly people. The budget for the project was up to £5,000, which was good value as it was equivalent to the cost of a hip replacement! Funding opportunities for the project were also being explored.

The Board signed off the PID, but did request that the project be re-titled 'Slips, Trips and Falls' which, they felt, was more memorable. **ACTION: Roz Tidman.**

6. Northampton College, Daventry

EB gave a brief overview of the history of the Daventry Centre, one of three sites that were part of Northampton College. The number of students was expected to increase as a result of changes to the school leaving age. There was now a requirement to stay in education until 17 (2013) then 18 (2014), however that did not mean staying on at school. Education could be A-levels, vocational courses, apprenticeships or jobs with training.

A wide variety of vocationally relevant training was provided at the College, which linked to the locality. There was also a dedicated supported learning block which focussed on life skills, and an adult skills centre providing higher education programmes to enable access to universities. The College also works in conjunction with Moulton College.

In the future adults would have to access loans for further or higher education, though there were some free provision courses at the college. ESOL courses were also available.

The College is working hard to further develop what was currently in place. 35 new courses would be available after Easter, at low prices, as a direct result of consultation with the community.

A Job Club was operating, in conjunction with Jobcentre Plus, which also gave people opportunities to access skills provision to help them find a job.

There were plans to integrate enterprise and entrepreneurial skills via working with Northamptonshire Enterprise Partnership. A Dragons Den style event had been held, and Members from Daventry District Council recently took part in a Question Time event with students. The College is trying to promote self-employment as an opportunity for students. Meetings had taken place with local businesses to discuss skills gaps and how the College could help employers fill these. Community projects, with DDH tenants, were also being explored. A series of education fairs, business fairs and fun days were also being organised.

In respect of the campus itself, EB advised that significant investment had been made in the buildings and improving facilities and this would continue.

Links were in place with the two local secondary schools, and the College is also working with the UTC, DDH, Jobcentre Plus, Moulton College and the Federation of Small Businesses. A presentation on safer driving for young people was also being explored with the Police.

EB summarised education as being intrinsically linked with social mobility, healthy lifestyles and sustainable developments. There was a need to raise the profile of vocational education, apprenticeships and vocational courses which were often seen as the poor relation to A levels and university. The College aimed to raise the aspiration levels of people, young and adults, to access provision. EB did express concern that the welfare reforms could have an impact on adult education.

7. 2012/13 Project Updates

A full project update would form part of the LSP Annual Review.

8. Review of Sustainable Community Strategy

RT reported on the timeframe for the review of the Sustainable Community Strategy. There had been many changes since the document was adopted in 2009. She anticipated that the themes and vision would remain the same, but the priorities and content would be reviewed. There was still a legal requirement to have a Sustainable Community Strategy in place, however if this was no longer a legal requirement feedback from the LSP previously indicated strong support for retaining an over-arching document.

The Health & Wellbeing Board had already agreed their priorities, the Business Theme Group were currently consulting on theirs. The Environmental Theme Group had yet to consult. **ACTION: Roz Tidman to facilitate.**

Priorities from other organisations' plans, such as the Police & Crime Plan, needed to be mapped to give a sense of how these fitted into the Community Strategy. There were also many government initiatives that needed to be examined to see whether there were outcomes that could be delivered locally. This would be the main item for discussion at the June Board meeting.

ACTION: Roz Tidman.

9. Any Other Business and Information Exchange

Northampton College, Daventry Campus, fun day and education fair would be taking place on 18 May. Organisations including DDH and the Police were involved, along with the local secondary schools. Anyone interested in taking

part should contact Ellen Buttler at the College.

LA advised that work had started on DDH developments in Barby and Crick. The last phase of the decent homes work was due to start on the whole of the Grange estate.

AH reported on a doubling of membership at the Leisure Centre since Everyone Active had taken over the management.

KD advised that Catherine Rymall, a support work at Bromford Living, was now in place offering support on the welfare reforms. Support was available to home owners as well as social housing tenants.

CP-F advised that this was her last LSP Board meeting, and that MH would be representing Bromford Living at future meetings. She was thanked for her contributions.

GO advised that she was retiring as a member of Northamptonshire County Council and, therefore, this was also be her last Board meeting. She was thanked for her contributions.

10. Date of Next Meeting

18 June 2013, 10am, Committee Room 1, Daventry District Council