



LSP Board Meeting, 16 September 2014
Davertry District Council
10.05am – 11.40am

Partners Present (* denotes voting member)

Carella	Davies*	(CD)	Davertry Volunteer Centre
	(Chair)		
Simon	Bovey	(SB)	Davertry District Council
Mary	Doyle	(MD)	MIND
Kevin	Fagan	(KF)	Davertry & South Northants Community Safety Partnership
Jane	Ford	(JF)	Jobcentre Plus, Daventry
Cllr Elizabeth	Griffin*	(EG)	Davertry District Council
Barry	Hansford	(BH)	Northampton College (Davertry)
Will	Heckford	(WH)	Everyone Active
Mary	Higginson	(MH)	Bromford
Cllr Alan	Hills*	(AH)	Davertry District Council & Northamptonshire County Council
Laura	Knight	(LK)	Police & Crime Commissioner's office
Ciara	McMillan	(CM)	Davertry & District Housing
Tom	Thompson	(TT)	Northamptonshire Police
Roz	Tidman	(RT)	Davertry District Council
Sarah	Wilson	(SW)	Bromford

1. Welcome, Introductions, Apologies and Declarations

Carella Davies welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received from: Claire Berry (JPU), Warren Ellison (Fire Service) and Dr Lesley Jeffers (Nene CCG)

There were no declarations of interests relating to the items on the agenda.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting – 10 June 2014

- a) The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.
- b) There were no matters arising.

3. Community Safety and Local Policing Issues

LK, Assistant Chief Executive of the Police & Crime Commissioner's office, gave a brief overview of the Police & Crime Plan.

A more visible police force – A commitment had been given to retain the current number of paid police officers at 1,220 for the next five years. Numbers of special constables would be increased, and the PCC was looking at different ways to improve the recruitment process. There were currently 350 'specials', who were volunteers but had full Police powers, but the intention was to increase this to 900. It was anticipated to reach 500 by Christmas 2014. Consideration was being given as to how best to recruit, train, use and retain specials. The intention was to talk to partners as part of this process.

One of the changes to the special constable arrangements included having a special responsible for a specific parish, which should help increase community intelligence. The expectation was that these specials would work closely with Helen Mason, Director of the PCC's Faith Based and Community Initiatives Office on community policing such, as community pastors, and engaging with young people. LK added that the inclusion of Faith in the title was to make faith groups aware that they could bid for funding. Often faith based groups felt alienated for bidding for funding. These organisations delivered a significant amount of work in communities. The role of the Director was to work with all types of organisations to access funding.

Victims – On 1 October 2014 the PCC would be launching a new service called Voice, a single point of contact for victims and witnesses to share their experiences, receive information and guidance, and be fully supported during the Police and court process. Government funding had been provided direct to PCCs for them to commission this service. Northamptonshire was one of only seven PCCs launching on 1 October, with the remainder expected to provide their services in April 2015. Two forces were using the funding to provide in-house support; Northamptonshire would be funding a genuinely independent service via Victim Support. The Witness Care Unit would also be incorporated into this. Funding for Witness Care would still be provided nationally, however Victim Support had also been successful in their bid for run this service so, in Northamptonshire, there would be a seamless transition of support for victims from the Police service through the courts.

An event on 23 October at the County Cricket Ground would report on progress since the Victims' Voice consultation in 2013. Attendees could also find out more about how the Voice service will operate. LK encouraged partners to attend.

Safest roads – The PCC supported the Northamptonshire Safer Roads Alliance. One area the Alliance was looking at was increasing the number of Speed Watch volunteers.

Anti-Social Behaviour – A Local Solutions Fund had been put in place for various initiatives to tackle anti-social behaviour. This would be utilised by the Faith Based and Community Initiatives Office to support local organisations.

Rural action – There was a need to demonstrate that rural views and communities were valued. The PCC would be investing in good community ideas on how to address rural issues, for example wildlife crime initiatives. The key message was that people

should take responsibility for their own areas, create a sense of community responsibility.

Restorative practice – The ambition was to create Northamptonshire as a restorative practice county. Lynne Chapman would be leading on this. Restorative practice was not just about victim justice, it could also prevent the escalation of incidents.

Some work had already taken place in a number of schools in Daventry, however if this was to be embedded there was a need to train existing staff in organisations. BH commented that the UTC and colleges should also be included in this initiative.

KF added that school pastors/chaplaincy would initially be based in the UTC and William Parker School in Daventry.

AH expressed concern that with a lot of different agencies involved in the various initiatives supported by the PCC, there was a need to ensure their work was effectively coordinated, and monitored. LK gave the Safer Roads Alliance as an example of various partners working together effectively, and the restorative practice which would be overseen by the local Criminal Justice Board. She added that the PCC saw his role as pulling existing activities together to maximise impact.

TT gave a brief overview of developments in respect of policing in the Daventry and South Northants policing district.

He advised that in the last two months ten new special constables had been recruited. Of those the split between Daventry and Towcester was approximately 50/50. Four more were due to join, making a total of 38 specials for the district. He added that there were only 50 paid constables for Daventry and Towcester. The focus was towards local people who did not want to be regulars, volunteering. A mix of people had joined, some with particular day job skills they could bring to the role of a special constable. Training would also be provided for specific roles, such as prisoner handling. Local special constable inspectors and sergeants were also in post, and there was also a special sergeant responsible for training.

CM asked if consideration had been given to special constables on specific housing estates in Daventry. TT advised that this was probably less likely as the estates were not designated as rural areas. LK suggested that once the target of 900 specials was reached it could be possible, perhaps specials living on an estate could be allocated to that estate, but this may take some time to achieve.

CD advised that a question had been received on the future of the police station in the town. TT understood there were wider plans for the development of that area of the town in the future but, operationally some type of building would be required in the town and he was not currently aware of plans to close the station. The PCC Estates Strategy did make reference to relocating police hubs and there was a move to co-location. This has been done in the Guildhall in Northampton quite successfully. Cell functions were now centralised. He hadn't seen concrete plans to close the station, though he was not the definitive voice on this.

Following a query about the PCC's position on the Police Station, LK advised that the Estates Strategy had seven options how, as a county, the Police service could work. It was anticipated the Aspire Board would make a final decision December/new year.

TT gave a brief overview on crime statistics for the area. With regard to violent crime, reports had dropped significantly, however due to changes in the way HMRC specified these should be recorded it actually showed that levels had increased.

Police numbers – there had been a number of transfers from other forces into Daventry; two vacancies remained. There was a push on training to improve resources and retention. The murder in Daventry had had an adverse effect on staff, which had been managed. TT commented on the good response from the community to that incident.

The Moto GP and F1 at Silverstone also affected local policing, but both events went well. The Shambala music festival did see a small increase in crime. Work was currently underway in conjunction with Cambridge University on mapping hotspots

Stop and Search – The drive nationally was for a more intelligence led approach to stop and search to reduce the number of instances. This had led to a 25% reduction nationally, however Daventry was the only place in the UK where stop and search rates had increased, but the success rate had also increased.

Officers were working with the National Farmers Union to increase the understanding of rural crime in the Force.

Capacity had been increased to deal with cybercrime. On-line crime was one of the areas of policing that was less visible to the public.

Child protection – Police were taking on more CAFs.

Collaboration with the Fire Service continued, with officers from the Police and Fire attending incidents in the same vehicle.

Catalytic convertor thefts – Historically there had been a peak in thefts during August, however following Operation Opcatch there had been no incidents in the county this August. This was largely about educating the public, particularly in rural areas where 4x4s were an easy target. Historically 30/40 catalytic convertor thefts were reported in August.

KF updated on the work of the Daventry & South Northants Community Safety Partnership.

The Partnership co-ordinated a number of Joint Action Groups and Forums. They were also involved in the PCC's Restorative Practice initiative via the training of mediators. This had now expanded to training of PCSOs and officers in DDC and SNC, the Police and partners.

The Community Safety Partnership's priorities for 2014/15 were Domestic Violence and Rural Crime.

Domestic Violence – A 5% target reduction had been set, which would not be met. Reporting was increasing at a significant rate (33% increase in first time victims), which was positive as this indicated people were confident that when reporting incidents

something would be done. There had been no increase in repeat incidents.

KF had cross checked with previous years, taking into account HMRC's new reporting regime, and confirmed that this was not a data recording issue.

Rural Crime - Meetings had been convened with the National Farmers Union to look at what past initiatives had been successful and build on those. A reduction of 10% had been achieved the previous year but figures were flat at the moment.

KF added that funding from the PCC for the Partnership had trebled from the previous year, which was welcome and enabled more work to be done eg. school pastors and rural initiatives.

A copy of the Partnership performance report is **attached** for information. KF summarised that crime numbers were low in Daventry and South Northants, and the area compared very well with other authorities in its comparison group. In terms of crime rates and trends, both were low and reducing.

Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act – KF advised that the main impact of the Act, due to come into force in October 2014, would be changes to tools and powers which had been incorporated from other Acts into this one. He referred to the Designated Public Place Order, one of which was in place in Daventry town. Historically these Orders had taken a long time to set up or change, once the new Act was in force the process to put an Order on an area to restrict certain activities would be easier.

Anti-Social Behaviour Orders would also be changed. The idea was to streamline these to make them easier to use and enable a quicker response if breached.

Community Trigger – This gave victims and communities the right to require action to be taken where an ongoing problem has not been addressed. Community Safety Partnerships would investigate and co-ordinate responses if the Community Trigger was used. KF considered it unlikely that the Community Trigger would be used in the Daventry and South Northants area as it had a very effective Community Safety Partnership in place. The Community Trigger could be actioned against any organisation eg. a local authority or housing association who had not responded to anti-social action by a tenant.

4. Health & Wellbeing Partnership Board

CM updated on the last meeting of the Board, which was attended by the Director of Public Health & Wellbeing for Northamptonshire, Dr Akeem Ali, who commented that Daventry was one of the strongest local health & wellbeing boards in the county.

A further three places had been added to the membership of the Northamptonshire Health & Wellbeing Board, which now enabled the volunteer sector to be represented. Participating observers were also able to take part at specific points in the meeting if they had an item on the agenda. Communications links between local fora and the county board had improved with the Chair, County Cllr Brown, meeting with the chairs of the local fora before the county-wide meeting. The county Board agenda would also include an update paper from the local fora, but this report would not just be an update as it would also set out what local fora wanted from the Board. Daventry had put forward a number of operational priorities to the Board, including improvements

to Danette Hospital and improving access to services.

The County Council's Public Health restructure had now been finalised, it was noted that none of those officers who had transferred from the NHS remained in post.

Local Health & Wellbeing Fora would now have a named Public Health Consultant. The intention was to invite that person to the November Health & Wellbeing Board. Peter Lynch at NCC was the link between local fora and the county-wide board. He had already met CM and would be meeting others over the coming weeks.

Projects were continuing, though progress on some had been on hold due to the work involved in preparing the Community Wellbeing Services tender. The Health & Wellbeing Partnership Board had supported the District Council taking the lead on this project.

CM advised that this would be her last meeting for a while as she would be on maternity leave from November. CD thanked CM, on behalf of the Board, for the work she had put into the Health & Wellbeing Board, adding that her input at those meetings had paid off. AH wished CM success, health and wellbeing!

5. Community Wellbeing Services

RT advised that the bid had been submitted and shortlisted. She understood that the decision would be announced on 22 October, but there was pressure to bring the announcement forward.

With regard to the continuation of NCC funding to organisations until the new arrangements were in place, it was understood that there would be no extension. Funding would cease from the end of September. The view was that NCC had not been helpful or clear with organisations on funding transfer arrangements. AH advised that he had expressed concerns at NCC meetings about the situation, and would continue to do so.

CD thanked RT for co-ordinating this significant piece of work, and to Maria Taylor, Kevin Fagan and others who had contributed to the submission.

6. AOB and Information Exchange

BH referred to recent press coverage on the new college proposals. He advised that it was early days in terms of development on the old site, an application had not been drawn up yet. The proposal would be for the existing brownfield area, retaining the existing green space, despite media reports/letters.

The funding bid to SEMLEP had been successful and the college were working with DDC on the proposals for the new site. He anticipated that the new college would open in 2016, as planned. To enable this to happen, plans needed to be submitted to DDC in February/March 2015. AH confirmed his support in principle for the scheme, commenting that there was a need to build future education for young people in the area. EG agreed, adding that young people deserved the best and there was a need to raise aspirations. BH added that the schools, UTC and College were meeting again under the Daventry Learning Partnership, which was positive.

AH reported on the recent Daventry Triathlon, now in its third year. Attendance was increasing year on year with 350 entries this time. Again another very successful

event, with attendees coming from across the country. The winner came from Daventry, and completed the event in under an hour. The triathlon was a good boost for Daventry, though he considered the business community in the town were not taking up the opportunities from this event. WH added that feedback he received was that it was the most professional run event not on the national circuit. Headline sponsors had been in place for the event as a whole, but there was a gap with local businesses could fill.

The 13th Daventry Sports Awards were taking place on 16 October at the Daventry Leisure Centre. AH understood there were more nominations than in previous years.

CM advised that this year's DDH Star Awards would be taking place on 10 December. The awards were an opportunity to recognise community volunteering, and it was hoped this would be run in conjunction with the Daventry Express. Last year's winner, Jamie Over, had been shortlisted for the Princes Trust Award.

7. Dates of Future Meetings

16 December 2014

17 March 2015

All meetings 10am – 12 noon, Committee Room 1, Daventry District Council offices.