

SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3 SEPTEMBER 2009 AT 2:00PM

Present: Councillors Mrs W Metherell, Chairman; Mrs E Eastwood; G Garrity; F Gleaves; F Heathcote; K Hitchen; J Jackson; J Park; Mrs C Watson, P Watson and Mrs J Williams.

Also present: Councillor G Clements; Ms M Johnson & Ms N Booker, Police Authority and Ms A Tiplady, Allerdale and Copeland Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.

Officers: N White, Scrutiny Support Officer; J Betteridge, Head of Development & Strategy; H Mitchell, Head of Policy & Performance and C Willoughby, Member Services Technical Support Officer.

Apologies for absence: Councillors W Southward and Mrs M Woodburn.

SSC 05/09 Minutes of the Meeting

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meeting held on 16 July 2009 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

SSC 06/09 West Cumbria Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership – Strategy and Management

The Head of Development & Strategy introduced this item and advised Members that a Community Safety Officer was shared between Copeland and Allerdale authorities.

Ms Tiplady then provided the committee with an overview of the West Cumbria Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) including how other agencies, i.e. Cumbria County Council, Cumbria Police and the Health authority were also partners.

The priorities for the current year were then outlined and included Domestic abuse, Violent crime, Casualty reduction, Drugs & Alcohol, Neighbours & Localities and Burglary.

Members were advised that the CDRP received funding from area based grants and from the Police Basic Command Unit budget, however there was no guarantee that funding would be available beyond March 2010.

The Head of Policy & Performance then provided the committee with the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Performance Report. This highlighted an improvement in the Copeland area, particularly in South Whitehaven.

Ms Johnson from the Police Authority advised Members that the public perception of police concentrating their efforts in one area was not correct and that equal effort was put in across the borough. The Neighbourhood Policing Teams were amongst the best performing in the country and work closely with the CDRP.

During the discussion that followed, Members queried the higher expenditure on tackling Domestic Violence and were advised that more was spent on Domestic Violence advisors to help achieve the nationally set targets.

Members enquired if this Council had signed up to the Sustainable Communities Act 2007 and requested that this be highlighted to the Executive Committee.

It was raised that not all crimes were reported and that the public should be encouraged to do so.

Members were updated on the CDRP's task and finish groups and it was noted that Copeland Borough Council was not represented on each group. Members then volunteered to sit on the task & finish groups

RESOLVED – That

- a) the presentation on West Cumbria Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership – Strategy and Management be received,
- b) the question of signing up to the Sustainable Communities Act 2007 be highlighted to the Executive Committee and
- c) Members be allocated to the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Task & Finish Groups as follows (Deputy in brackets):

Anti Social Behaviour	- J Jackson	(Mrs A Faichney)
Violent Crime	- Mrs M Woodburn	(Mrs C Watson)
Drug & Alcohol Abuse	- J Park	(F Heathcote)
Domestic Abuse	- Mrs E Eastwood	(Mrs J Williams)
Casualty Reduction	- P Watson	(G Garrity)

SSC 07/09 Work Plan

Members considered the Committee's Work Plan.

RESOLVED: that the Work Plan be received and updated.

The Meeting Closed at 3:50pm

Signed:.....

Date:.....