

**MINUTES OF THE SAFER COMMUNITIES EXECUTIVE BOARD (HSP)
THURSDAY, 4 NOVEMBER 2010**

Present: Councillor Bernice Vanier (Chair), Jean Croot, Kate Gilbert, Fred Ellis, Sam Evans, Claire Kowalska, Richard Mills, Marion Morris, Sajda Mughal, Robin Payne, Pamela Pemberton, Rev. Nims Obunge.

In Attendance: Xanthe Barker, Michael Buraimoh, Leo Kearse, Sean Sweeney.

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	ACTION BY
HSP43.	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from the following:</p> <p>Niall Bolger - Robin Payne substituted Hywel Ebsworth Jennifer James Enid Ledgister - Fred Ellis substituted Peter Lewis Joanne McCartney - Sam Evans substituted</p>	
HSP44.	<p>URGENT BUSINESS</p> <p>No items of Urgent Business were raised.</p>	
HSP45.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>No declarations of interest were made.</p>	
HSP46.	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>The Board reviewed the actions arising from the previous meeting and the following points were raised:</p> <p><u>HSP34 – Draft Communications Plan 2010/11</u></p> <p>Given the budgetary pressures that all partners faced at present there had been agreement that rather than creating a joint publication as agreed the existing publications and websites should be used.</p> <p>In terms of social networking sites and reaching children and young people the Board was advised that the Council's website 'Youth Space' could be used to deliver targeted messages to this group.</p> <p>The Chair endorsed this approach and the Board was advised that officers from the Council's Communications Team would liaise with partners in terms of taking this forward.</p> <p><u>HSP30 – Confirmation of Membership and Terms of Reference</u></p>	

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	<p>The Board was advised that these had now been updated to reflect the points raised at the meeting.</p> <p>In response to a query the Board was advised that to date the SCEB PMG had not considered whether HAVCO should be offered a place on the SCEB PMG as agreed. This issue would be taken forward at the next meeting.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 June 2010 be confirmed as a correct record.</p>	Claire Kowalska
HSP47.	<p>UPDATES ON KEY DEVELOPMENTS FROM PARTNERS</p> <p>Given the significance of the recent Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR), the Chair proposed that this item should be brought forward and discussed at the start of the meeting. There was agreement that this was sensible and an update was provided by each partner:</p> <p><u>Council</u></p> <p>Under the CSR it had been announced that the Area Based Grant (ABG) would not continue in its present form after the current financial year. It was anticipated that there would be further substantial reductions in funding over the next three year period, which would necessitate a wholesale review of the services.</p> <p>At present all budget holders were being asked to review spending and identify where any savings could be made with a view to reducing spending as much as possible.</p> <p>It would be possible to provide a clearer picture at the January meeting once the Council's grant settlement from central Government was known.</p> <p><u>NHS Haringey</u></p> <p>There was a significant deficit for the current financial year that NHS Haringey was working to reduce. Although the PCTs were not being formally disbanded until 2013 the Strategic Health Authority (SHA) had indicated that they should begin to merge wherever possible with the savings created being put aside to support the transition to GP Commissioning.</p> <p>There was a general consensus amongst many health professionals that the raft of changes announced by the coalition Government represented the biggest changes to the NHS since its conception.</p> <p>The transferral of responsibility for Public Health would require Local Authorities to produce a Public Health Plan for each Borough. Work on</p>	

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this would be led by the jointly appointed Director of Public Health who would transfer to the Local Authority.

In terms of the resources and approach that would be taken to tackling drug and alcohol problems, the Board was advised that this would sit within the central Public Health budget and consideration would need to be given to what proportion of this would be allocated to addressing these issues.

The Chair noted that change across all Public Sector organisations was happening rapidly and as a consequence they had to react and make decisions based on partial knowledge. Several members of the Board echoed these concerns and the impact that ad hoc decisions might have in the long term.

Fire Service

The grant received by the Fire Service from central Government constituted 50% of the overall funding it received. Over the next four years there would be a 50% reduction in this funding and this would be back loaded. The final grant settlement would not be known until late November or early December and the Board was advised that it would be possible to provide further information at the January meeting.

In order to achieve the savings required much of the community based work carried out by Fire officers would be reduced. This included work with many vulnerable groups such as the elderly and children.

MET Police

The Board was advised that a 20% reduction in funding was likely over the next three years. At present a review was being carried out of back office functions with a view to reducing the costs attached to these wherever possible.

It was anticipated that there may be a move towards a regionalised structure and there were concerns that this may result in a loss of local autonomy that would have a negative impact on the force's ability to respond to local issues.

A review of partnership working had been undertaken and the impact of this upon the delivery of targets with respect to frontline policing, strategic provision and the political repercussions upon the reputation of the force had been considered. It was unclear at present what this would mean locally; however, by January the picture should be clearer.

The Board was advised that the process of recruiting a new Borough Commander was underway and that the timescale around this had been shortened with a view to making an appointment before Christmas.

Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA)

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It was noted that Community Police Engagement Groups were currently being reviewed and that at present Haringey received £50k from MPA funding for this. In terms of the MPA Partnership Fund, Haringey currently received 50k from the MPA and this to support local projects. At present the status of other forms funding would continue beyond the next year.

Probation Service

The overall budget for the Ministry of Justice had been reduced by 23% and the Probation Service would see a reduction of 10% over the next four years. Although this was a smaller reduction than other Public Sector organisations faced, it was anticipated that a greater demand would be placed on the service as the Government moved towards a reduction in prison numbers.

A reorganisation of the service was being undertaken and a new Service model would be adopted in June 2011.

HAVCO

It was difficult to measure the total impact that the cuts would have at present. However, it was clear that the loss of the ABG meant that there would be a significant reduction in the level of grants awarded to Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations.

In addition to this NHS Haringey had carried out a review of the VCS groups it funded and it had been agreed that these would cease to receive funding at the end of this financial year. Although this affected a relatively small number of organisations it added to the cumulative impact upon the sector.

A report had been submitted to the Council's Cabinet in the summer that set out the impact upon the sector of significant financial cuts would have and it had concluded that it would not be able to function if there was an overall reduction above 25%.

A Voluntary Sector strategy was being produced by the Council and this was due to be published on the Council's website for consultation on 16 November. This would focus on commissioning and as a part of this the decommissioning of services.

The Council was in the process of reviewing the use of its premises by VCS organisations and as a consequence some organisations had been given notice. Several organisations had registered concerns with HAVCO around the way this process had been managed and had also contended that the timelines attached to the review did not adhere to the Compact agreement.

It was noted that the Community Link Forum (CLF) was planning to hold a conference in January to look at this issue and to share information generally around how the cutbacks were affecting the sector.

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The Board was advised that there may be additional funding available from the Home Office to tackle violent crime amongst ten to sixteen year olds. It was noted that at present further details were not in the public domain. Once more information was available the Board would be advised.

RESOLVED:

That the updates provided by each partner be noted.

HSP48.

STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT - HEADLINE FINDINGS AND PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

The Board received a presentation, previously circulated, that set out the headline findings of the Strategic Assessment and areas for priority over the next five years.

As part of the presentation the following headlines were given:

- Overall recorded crime had fallen by 34% and concern about crime had fallen from 54% to 35% since 2002/03
- In comparison with 2008/09 overall recorded crime had fallen from 27,832 to 25,735 and concern about crime had fallen by 8%
- Although there had been a decrease in the overall levels of crime there had been an increase in the severity of crime:
 - Serious violent crime rising by 15%
 - Sexual offences up by 26%
 - Rape up by 58%
- Analysis of data measured against age, ethnicity, gender and showed that:
 - Offender and victims of crime aged 18 to 24 were the most likely to perpetrate and to be victims of crime. The demographic make up of the Borough showed that there were a higher proportion of younger people living in the east and this was reflected in the level of recorded crime there.
 - The data showed that African and Caribbean people were more likely to be accused of crime with a higher proportion living in the east of the Borough.
 - Although men and women were equally at risk of being victims of crime, 80% of crime was committed by men. Over half of all violent crime was perpetrated by men against women.
 - Individuals committing crime were more likely to be unemployed with 57% of recorded crime being committed by this group.

The link between alcohol and drug abuse and crime was clearly reflected in the data and the following points were made:

- There were considerably more people in drug treatment as a proportion of the population in the east of the Borough.

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- The number of alcohol related hospital admissions in Haringey per 100,000 of the population between April and December 2009 was higher than the London average. This contrasted with the pattern of drug use seen in the Borough with the east and west of the Borough being equally affected.

The Board discussed the headline findings and it was noted that once people left drug treatment programmes, they became at greater risk of re-offending. It was contended that this highlighted a lack of wrap around services and the need for continued support.

During the presentation it was noted that the 2001 census data may not accurately reflect the African and Caribbean population in certain parts of the Borough and, therefore, the information generated may not present an accurate picture of how populations within this group were affected by crime. The Board discussed this point and it was noted that there were also inherent problems in analysing patterns in crime when compared with ethnicity using the police recording system as it only recognises a limited number of generic ethnic groups.

Concern was raised that people often found it uncomfortable to characterise particular ethnic groups as being associated with certain crimes. However, in order to effectively target interventions and support, it was important that information informed the approach taken by the Police and other agencies.

The Board discussed the data with respect to alcohol related hospital admissions and it was noted that these were particularly high amongst the eastern European and Irish communities. As there was a strong correlation between alcohol abuse and crimes such as domestic violence, work was being undertaken to determine how this could be better targeted.

The Chair thanked the Safer Communities Development Coordinator for his presentation.

RESOLVED:

That the presentation be noted and that ways of improving data capture should be identified where possible.

HSP49. TERRORISM UPDATE

The Board received a verbal update with respect to the threat of terrorism both in the Borough and across London as a whole.

It was noted that there had been no change to the level of threat identified by the Government and that this remained severe which meant that an attack was likely.

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	<p>That the verbal update be noted.</p>	
<p>HSP50.</p>	<p>HALF YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 1 AND QUARTER 2 2010/11</p> <p>The Board received a report that provided an overview of performance during the first half of 2010/11 against key community safety targets and responsibilities.</p> <p>Performance in the following areas was highlighted:</p> <p><u>Overall Crime</u> - during the period from April to September there had been 6.7% fewer recorded crimes in comparison with the same period during the previous year. Performance against all crime targets was good and the Borough had now seen seven consecutive years of reduction with respect to overall crime rates.</p> <p><u>Local Area Agreement Performance Indicator NI 111</u> – this related to the prevention of first time entrants into the Youth Justice System. For children aged between ten to seventeen years of age the target had already been met. A key tool in achieving this target was the multi agency approach and the prevention work undertaken by youth offending staff working in custody suits as part of the ‘triage’ programme.</p> <p><u>Acquisitive Crime</u> – overall this had fallen by 13% in comparison with the same period during the previous year. This was despite it being anticipated that the economic downfall would fuel a rise in this type of crime. Improved use of data and shared intelligence, joint tasking and targeted action had contributed towards this.</p> <p><u>Anti Social Behaviour (ASB)</u> – the ASB Team continued to work effectively and enforcement rates remained well above the national average. The use of ASBOs to tackle long term street drinkers in Wood Green and prevention work, as part of the parenting programme, had been particularly successful. However, much of the work undertaken by the team was resourced from short term funding and the future of many of these funding streams was unclear.</p> <p>The Board was advised that young people aged between eighteen and twenty-four who were classed as NEET (Not in Education, Training or Employment) were being sought to participate in a scheme whereby private sector organisations offered work experience opportunities for a six month period. There was agreement that Rev Nims Obunge and Kate Gilbert should discuss this further outside the meeting.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the report be noted.</p>	<p>Nims Obunge / Kate Gilbert</p>
<p>HSP51.</p>	<p>PROPOSALS REGARDING THE FUTURE OF SAFER COMMUNITIES EXECUTIVE BOARD’S ALLOCATION OF AREA BASED GRANT</p> <p>The Board was advised that since the publication of the agenda it had been announced as part of the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR)</p>	

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	<p>that the Area Based Grant (ABG) would no longer exist in its current form.</p> <p>At present it was not clear how the money previously channelled through the ABG would be redistributed or what proportion of this would be available to the partnership. Consequently there would need to be a review of the priorities previously outlined in the report in order to determine what measures could be taken to mitigate the loss of the ABG.</p> <p>There was a general consensus that the SCEB PMG should undertake this piece of work and that a further report providing an update with respect to the financial impact of the loss of the ABG should be brought to the Board at its next meeting.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. That the SCEB PMG should review the ABG funded projects and other work and consider what action could be taken to minimise the impact of the loss of ABG funding. ii. That a report providing an update with respect to the financial impact of the loss of the ABG should be brought to the Board at its next meeting. 	<p>SCEB PMG</p> <p>Jean Croot</p>
<p>HSP52.</p>	<p>TOWARDS INTEGRATED OFFENDER MANAGEMENT</p> <p>The Board received a report that sought agreement to establish an Integrated Offender Management (IOM) Partnership Group in Haringey to coordinate strategic work in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Improved data, intelligence and analysis sharing ➤ Sharing existing and best practice ➤ Development of a collaborative strategy with joint ownership and clarity of purpose ➤ Streamlined processes <p>Reducing re-offending was a priority of the Safer for All Strategy 2008 – 2011, which fed into the overarching Sustainable Community Strategy. In addition Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) also had a duty to reduce re-offending and to take a strategic role in coordinating the approach to this adopted by Boroughs.</p> <p>The Board was advised that in reality much of the work required was already in place and that there had been discussion between officers from the Council, Probation Service and the DAAT around how this could be implemented and it was proposed that Kate Gilbert would Chair this.</p> <p>In response to a query as whether there would be VCS representation within the partnership group the Board was advised that this had not been discussed as yet. It was suggested that HAVCO and the CLF</p>	<p>Pamela Pemberton / CLF</p>

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representatives on the Board should identify a suitable representative from the sector.

Reps

Haringey Reducing Re-offending Programme 2010/11

The Board also considered a report that provided an update on the progress of the reducing re-offending programme. Since the previous meeting the following work had been undertaken:

- A case worker had been recruited and had come into post in August
- Seventeen volunteers had been recruited to the HARRP mentoring scheme.
- Twenty one non statutory offenders and ex offenders had been recruited to the programme. Of these ten ex offenders had been released from custody and continued to be engaged with the programme on a voluntary basis; two had successfully secured employment and; seven were in the process of securing further education or training places.

In terms of future work a project was being undertaken in partnership with Haringey Magistrates Court to defer offender's sentences on the condition that they would engage with the programme. Work with employers to secure a commitment that a certain level of ex offenders would be recruited was being undertaken and this was due to be completed in December 2010.

It was anticipated that a further ten clients would be identified and brought into the programme by January 2011.

The Board discussed how VCS organisations may be able to assist in the reintegration of offenders and it was noted that the Government was looking at ways in which the sector could provide support within the existing framework. It was suggested that the establishment of a VCS partnership to bid for funding to assist with this work may be useful.

It was noted that a Green Paper on Sentencing was due to be published next year and that this would having an impact upon the approach to offender management that would need to be responded to.

RESOLVED:

- i. That the report be noted.
- ii. That an Integrated Offender Management Partnership Group should be established as set out in the report.

Clare Kowalska

HSP53. RESPONSE TO THE GOVERNMENTS CONSULTATION ON THE DRUG STRATEGY

The Board considered a report that set out the response from the Council, NHS Haringey and the DAAT to consultation on the Governments new Drug Strategy.

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	<p>A number of concerns had been highlighted in the response including the timescale for responding to the consultation document and the lack of consultation with experts working in the field. There was also concern around the lack of policy detail contained within the consultation document.</p> <p>In terms of the proposals put forward the majority of priority areas remained the same. One area of difference was the recognition that substance misuse was a Public Health issue and as such could not be viewed in isolation. There would need to be an integrated approach with other policy areas such as housing, mental health, child protection and employment.</p> <p>The document also suggested that the approach to tackling drugs should form part of the creation of the 'Big Society'; however, it was unclear at present what this would mean in practice.</p> <p>In terms of the future role of DAATs, the Board was advised that this was also unclear at this stage; however, it was anticipated that they may form part of the Public Health function within Local Authorities. The position would also become clearer by the end of the year once plans with regard to the merger of the five North London PCTs were made public.</p> <p>It was proposed that once statutory Health and Well Being Boards came into place that the drugs agenda should feed into this and there was a general consensus that this was sensible.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. That the response to the strategy and questions it posed in terms of future commissioning arrangements be noted. ii. That once statutory Health and Well Being Boards came into place that the drugs agenda should feed into this. 	<p>Jean Croot / Marion Morris</p>
<p>HSP54.</p>	<p>QUARTER TWO UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF ALCOHOL</p> <p>The Board considered a report that provided an update on the implementation of the Alcohol Strategy Action Plan at the end of Quarter Two of 2010/11.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the progress made with respect to the implementation of the Alcohol Strategy Action Plan be noted.</p>	<p>All to note</p>
<p>HSP55.</p>	<p>NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS</p> <p>No new items of Urgent Business were raised.</p>	

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HSP56.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS No items of AOB were raised.	
HSP56.	DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS The dates of future meetings, as set out below, were noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 17th February 2011, 11am, Civic Centre• 21 April, 11am, Civic Centre	All to note

The meeting closed at 2.10pm.

COUNCILLOR BERNICE VANIER

CHAIR

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