



**NOTES**  
**OF THE MEETING OF THE**  
**PARTNERSHIP DELIVERY GROUP**  
**TUESDAY 25 MARCH 2014**

Held at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford

**PRESENT:**

Councillors Mrs J A Smith (Chairman), R A Adair, Mrs D M Boote,  
H A Chewings, L B Cooper, E J Lungley, F A Purdue-Horan and  
Mrs M Stockwood

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Councillors S J Boote and J E Greenwood

V Bailey	Chief Officer, NHS Rushcliffe Clinical Commissioning Group
Inspector C Berry	Nottinghamshire Police
T Coles	Senior Public Health Manager, Nottinghamshire County Council

**OFFICERS PRESENT:**

B Adams	Neighbourhood Manager
K Marriott	Executive Manager - Transformation
V Nightingale	Senior Member Support Officer
C Taylor	Community Development Manager

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Councillors, R Hetherington and T Vennett-Smith

**11. Declarations of Interest**

There were none declared.

**12. Notes of the Previous Meeting**

The notes of the meeting held on Tuesday 7 January 2014 were accepted as a true record.

**13. Review of South Nottinghamshire Community Safety Partnership 2013**

The Neighbourhood Manager presented a report regarding the annual scrutiny of the South Nottinghamshire Community Safety Partnership. Members had requested that this year the Partnership would prioritise the work they undertook in relation to health issues and youth crime.

Inspector C Berry gave a presentation on the work of the Partnership in relation to crime. He explained that the challenges faced in Rushcliffe were different to other areas. He stated that there had been a reduction of 4.2% in the Rushcliffe area, which equated to 133 fewer offences. There had been an

increase in 'dwelling burglary' however, this was mainly due to garage/shed burglaries.

In respect of the data Inspector Berry stated that the Partnership was well established in the area and the analyst provided detailed information to the Police. He explained that there had been a number of responses to crime spikes, including campaigns at Bingham at Christmas time, to reduce car crime in Ruddington and problems in Compton Acres. Extra patrols had been used during the Christmas retail period to ensure that there was a visible reassurance to shoppers. Inspector Berry said that this had helped in reducing shop theft and anti-social behaviour.

One area that the Locality Group had prioritised was crime prevention for students. Members were informed that the Police, Fire Service, Universities and the Borough Council had undertaken an awareness campaign highlighting fire safety, anti-social behaviour in relation to noise and property theft deterrents.

The Group was informed that during the Trent Bridge week of action they would focus on shed burglary and the night time economy. Also there would be a highly visible campaign in relation to cycle theft, which was the second highest volume crime.

Inspector Berry informed the Group that the Police supported the White Ribbon campaign and would continue to support victims of domestic violence and prosecute the perpetrators.

Members were informed that the South Nottinghamshire Community Safety Partnership performed better in seven out of the ten categories compared to their family group.

In respect of youth crime Members were pleased to note that there had been a 35% decrease in crimes committed during 2011 and February 2014. There were many reasons for this including successes in Cotgrave, Trent Bridge and Compton Acres. Also for low level offences more conditional cautions were being used, however, these were determined by a panel and had to be meaningful. For low level crimes, or the potential to commit these types of offences, the Police had a youth diversion scheme in operation. There were, however, concerns that the proposed cuts in youth services would have an impact. It was recognised that Positive Futures had been a success and that this was extending into Radcliffe on Trent, Bingham West and Keyworth South. Other successes included work with the new West Bridgford Youth Club where one group that had been excluded on an anti-social behaviour contract had now been invited back. Police Community Support Officers had organised activities during the summer months for targeted groups. Other campaigns with schools' officers included advice on cyber bullying, personal safety, drug awareness and breaking down barriers between the Police and young people.

Following a question regarding violent crime Members were informed that 50% of this related to domestic violence and that it had been recognised that the evidence gathering needed to be effective and people charged quickly. The Police had begun to risk assess victims and to prioritise high risk cases.

Members were assured that this was a top priority for the Police. To assist victims the Police website now enabled people to track their crime and keep up to date with what was being achieved.

In respect of a decrease in court work Inspector Berry stated that other options were now available including restorative justice for low level offences.

Members raised concerns about vulnerable people becoming victims of crime. Inspector Berry stated that there were mechanisms in place to support people. Victim services considered individual cases and there was a multi-agency Vulnerable Persons Panel which judged how best support could be offered.

In relation to the night time economy the Neighbourhood Manager explained that there was a provision for the licensing authority to raise additional income via a Late Night Levy. Members were informed that Nottingham City Council had defined a business improvement area and it was felt that this Levy would not support the objectives of the area. Also within the Licensing legislation an authority can declare a Cumulative Impact Zone, however at present there was no evidence to support this. Generally, it was considered that there was a healthy and vibrant night time economy in the area. It was noted that business crime had reduced by approximately 20%.

Following a question Members were informed that one of the Police's priorities was to increase public confidence and reduce the fear of crime. It was recognised that reassurance was part of their role and high visibility patrols had been introduced into areas. Also consideration was being given to how victims perceived events.

Ms Bailey and Ms Coles gave a presentation in relation to the health aspect of the Partnership. Ms Bailey explained the role of the Rushcliffe Clinical Commissioning Group and its involvement with the Health and Well Being Board. Members were informed that school health and nursing was under the remit of the Nottinghamshire County Council.

In relation to alcohol problems Members were informed that liver disease had increased by 40% over the last 10 years. In Rushcliffe 21.2% of adults drank enough alcohol to affect their health. However, many people did not realise the amount they drank could be harmful. Alcohol misuse was a link to domestic violence and marital breakdowns. It was often perceived that the perpetrator had a drink problem however it was normally the victim who had a problem. Children of parents with alcohol problems often suffered physically and psychologically. Also 17% of road fatalities could be attributed to alcohol. Although perception was that alcohol misuse was more prevalent in young people, in Rushcliffe it was the 45-55 years old bracket that was worse.

In respect of drug use it was recognised that Rushcliffe had a very low amount of people in treatment, approximately 5% of the County total. It was also noted that cannabis use started at a younger age than other drug usage and that this could cause problems in the future. It was noted that heroin and crack addiction causes crime and disrupts community safety, however, treatment reduced crime by approximately 82%. Drugs use was also linked to a lack of mental well being. Although commonly perceived to be illegal drugs that were the issue concerns were being raised about the number of people

taking performance enhancing drugs, for either muscles or self tanning. One issue was that no long term affects were known.

The Group was informed that people with mental health issues were three times more likely to be victims of crime and five times more likely to experience an assault. Other risk factors included a pattern of people withdrawing from society and not engaging with services. It was noted that in Rushcliffe people did not want to engage in group work and want to have help in a structured and confidential way, also in relation to mental health problems many people get help outside the area.

Members were informed of the Nottinghamshire Substance Misuse Strategy. This had four strands, prevention, early intervention, treatment and recovery, and crime and community safety. In respect of community safety one priority was to intervene in domestic violence, also they were consulted on licensing applications and could therefore influence decisions.

It was explained that there were four clinics in the Rushcliffe area, Bingham, Keyworth, Radcliffe on Trent and at The Friary, West Bridgford. It was also noted that as there were fewer people in Rushcliffe with problems it was often harder to access services. Following a question Members were informed that The Friary offered a safe environment for people to go to and obtain help and support.

The Executive Manager - Transformation explained that the Housing Options Team and the staff at the Rushcliffe Community Contact Centre worked with other agencies to identify people who might need help, and with residents to signpost them to treatment. Ms Bailey explained that housing was important as it helped to address people's needs.

The Neighbourhood Manager explained that sometimes Environmental Health Officers were called out to properties where people were seen to be living in poor or unhealthy conditions; however not everyone wanted to conform to the standard way of life and this needed to be respected.

Following a question it was acknowledged that cheap alcohol and drugs available on the website was a national problem. Testing was not carried out as the cost was very prohibitive and the number of chemical compounds could be changed easily rendering any tests invalid. In Nottingham City there was a 'hi-strength project' where bars were voluntarily not selling high strength beers and ciders. It was also noted that the Government had tried to introduce minimum pricing but had subsequently withdrawn this.

Members queried if the changes to licensing hours had produced any problem with people being drunk earlier in the day. Inspector Berry stated that the changes had changed the peak times and that incidents were more spread out over a longer period of time and the 'tipping points' no longer existed. One issue that had recently emerged was people buying cheap alcohol to drink before they went out, known as 'pre-loading'.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Group, thanked Inspector Berry, Ms Bailey and Ms Coles for their presentations, for attending the meeting and answering Members' questions.

It was AGREED that the Group supported the effective delivery of the community safety agenda in Rushcliffe and in particular the Partnership's arrangements to involve the health services.

#### 14. **Review of Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults**

The Community Development Manager and the Neighbourhood Manager gave a presentation on the Council's arrangements to safeguard children and vulnerable adults. They explained that the Community Development Manager was the Council's link to the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB) and the Neighbourhood Manager was the Council's link to the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB). Officers explained the four main types of child abuse, physical, emotional, sexual and neglect. It was recognised that there were many tragic cases and in Nottinghamshire there were normally around two to three serious case reviews annually that looked at all the agencies involved and how working practices could be improved.

In respect of children Rushcliffe had a policy which aimed to ensure that concerns were reported promptly to the appropriate authorities; providing employees, Councillors and volunteers with training and support and ensuring that the Council followed the NSCB's procedures. The Council had the Executive Manager - Communities as its named senior manager and an internal safeguarding steering group which included representatives from Parkwood Leisure. Any concerns were raised with the Nottinghamshire Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub which had been set up in 2010. This hub enabled swift decisions to be made regarding any new concerns raised and to allocate the appropriate lead agency to oversee the issue. Members were informed that in 2013 14 cases had been reported by the Council and Parkwood Leisure and seven of these cases had been referred to Social Services. Concerns regarding seven children had been raised in the first quarter of 2014 with six being referred to Social Services.

With regard to vulnerable adults Members were reminded of the Fiona Pilkington case and how there had been no interaction between services to support them. The Council's policy was available on the website and all employees were encouraged to report any concerns they might have. Training was available to all staff, particularly to front line workers, and had been included on the Member Development Programme for 2013/14. The Council had a vulnerable person panel which considered any concerns and agreed actions to be taken. Officers had tried to make the process as uncomplicated as possible to encourage people to either report their concerns or be able to support someone to report an issue. Members were informed that since December 2012 16 cases had been reported and were reviewed regularly, these often involved people who had difficulty in supporting themselves or who were victims of hate crimes.

Members asked about the elderly and infirm as sometimes they were abused by the people who were caring for them. The Neighbourhood Manager explained that there were many concerns regarding older residents, it was recognised that people over 90 years of age were twice as likely to be burgled. The Police identified this group and gave targeted help and advice.

The Group queried how the agencies interacted with the hard to reach groups. The Community Development Manager explained that the NSCB held quarterly meetings where numerous agencies met to discuss and review referrals and on-going improvements to practice and guidance. Nottinghamshire County Council had an Early Help team who filtered requests for support and shared information with all relevant agencies including Sure Start, district and County Councils, health officials, etc. Each case was assessed and agencies contacted on a need to know basis and where an agency could add value. Ms Bailey explained to Members that case conferences happened on a daily basis and that individuals were taken from those agencies that could assist.

Following a question the Neighbourhood Manager explained that the Police and Crime Commissioner was considering a system for sharing data as part of the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime Act. This was being trialled by Ashfield District and Nottingham City Councils.

Councillor Purdue-Horan explained about an incident that had occurred in Bingham recently. The Executive Manager - Transformation explained that the matter had been raised with the Chief Executive and that good communications with Members was important, however the Council was not able to share all the information it held with other people including elected Members. This incident had enabled officers to review how they supported elected Members on these occasions.

The Group asked if officers worked with the voluntary/charity sector to enable them to be involved. Officers explained that work was undertaken with some groups, ie The Friary, sports clubs, volunteers, etc however this was an area which could be reconsidered and expanded.

Members agreed that things had improved over recent years and that there was now a willingness to help and support the vulnerable. It was also recognised that there was never a perfect solution.

It was AGREED that the Group supported the work undertaken to safeguard children and vulnerable adults in Rushcliffe.

**15. Work Programme**

The Group considered its work programme. Members were informed that the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust had been invited to its next meeting to assist in the scrutiny of Nature Conservation. Also at the next meeting the Group would receive a report regarding the second year of the three year service level agreement between the Council and Rushcliffe Community & Voluntary Service and Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

**Action Sheet**

**PARTNERSHIP DELIVERY GROUP - TUESDAY 25 MARCH 2014**

Minute Number	Actions	Officer Responsible
There were no actions recorded.		