

# Cambridge Community Safety Partnership

15<sup>th</sup> January 2009

10:00 – 12:30

Committee Room 1  
The Guildhall, Cambridge

## MINUTES

### Board Members

Liz Bisset (Chair)	Cambridge City Council
Michael Harding	National Probation Service
Tom Jefford	Cambridgeshire County Council
Ruth McCallum	Cambridge Council for Voluntary Services
Rick Hylton	Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service
Vicky Skeels	Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Tim Theaker	Cambridge City Primary Care Trust
Kevin Wilkins	Cambridgeshire Police Authority

### In Attendance

Siobhan Dennehy	Cambridgeshire County Council
Jane Fowle	Anglia Ruskin University
Paul Griffin	Cambridge City Council
Michael Hendy	Cambridgeshire Magistracy
Vicky Hornsby	Cambridge Business Against Crime (CAMBAC)
Tina Le	Drug and Alcohol Action Team
Jennifer Massie	Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Vicky Potter	Anglia Ruskin University
Ian Nimmo-Smith	Leader of the Council
Alastair Roberts	Cambridge City Council
Tom Kingsley (Minutes)	Cambridge Community Safety Partnership

### 1. Welcome and Introductions.

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Anita Goddard, Steve Kerridge, Peter Lester and Gaynor Mears.
- 1.2 The Chair welcomed Rick Hylton from the Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service, who was replacing Jon Neish. The Chair also welcomed Jane Fowle and Vicky Potter from the Anglia Ruskin University, who were attending as observers in connection with their Social Policy Honours Degree Course.

### 2. Minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> November 2008 Cambridge Community Safety Partnership Meeting: Agreement.

- 2.1 The Minutes were agreed, following a small alteration, and would go forward for publication.

### 3. Action Points: Review

- 3.1 The twelve Action Points from the November meeting were discussed, as follows:
  - Action Point 09/01: Closed – This was covered in the Plan refresh, to be discussed later in the meeting.

- Action Point 09/04: Closed – The document had now been approved.
  - Action Point 11/01: Closed – The Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee had seen the Partnership principles paper and this would be brought to the next Partnership meeting.
  - Action Point 11/02: Closed – This would be covered in the Q3 Performance Report.
  - Action Point 11/03: Closed – This would also be covered in the Q3 Performance Report.
  - Action Point 11/04: Closed.
  - Action Point 11/05: Closed – This would be covered in the Q3 Alcohol-Related Violence report to the Partnership.
  - Action Point 11/06: Ongoing – Further details would be brought to the next Partnership meeting. It was reported that Ely Magistrates' Court would close on 1<sup>st</sup> April.
  - Action Point 11/07: Closed – This would be covered later in the meeting.
  - Action Point 11/08: Closed – The Police Authority had no budget and Primary Care Trust would need to make a case to the Commissions at the end of the month. Paul Griffin would provide Pooled Fund details to Tim Theaker.
- Action Point 01/01
- Action Point 11/09: Closed – Circulated on 18<sup>th</sup> November.
  - Action Point 11/10: Closed – Martin Beaumont had provided a response and this was conveyed to CAMBAC.

#### **4. Crime Research Team: Problem Profiles (Cycle Theft, Robbery and Violent Crime).**

4.1 Siobhan Dennehy confirmed that Cycle Theft would be covered at the next Partnership meeting and Violent Crime would be covered in the Q3 Performance Report. Tom Kingsley was asked to add Cycle Theft to the March Agenda.

Action Point 01/02

4.2 In addition to the detailed report already circulated to members, a précis of the Key Points was also circulated. It was noted that most personal robberies occur at night and that such offences peak in three wards. Robberies also peak in the autumn. Victims were identified as young men, with foreign students and non-students highlighted. Offenders were generally unemployed young men with previous offence history. Solutions proposed included environmental changes, advice on personal safety, drugs intervention projects and diversionary activities.

4.3 Robbery was not a Partnership priority at present. The police already had a number of initiatives working (e.g. Operation Columbus) and felt that robbery had to put into context with existing police work and the work being done by the Violent Crime Task Group. This generated a lot of discussion as to whether the Partnership should now adopt Robbery as a Priority, even though it was agreed at the Partnership Review Day in October 2008 not to adopt it. Robbery was sometime dealt with as short-term priorities for the Neighbourhood Action Groups, but if it were taken on as a Priority, there would be human and financial resource implications. A report on the Community Safety Plan refresh for 2009/10 was being taken to the Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on the 19<sup>th</sup> January. Vicky Skeels would prepare a detailed paper, with the Officer Support Group, on the work done at present to address robbery and whether any additional Partnership work can be conducted. An Agenda item would be included for the March Partnership.

Action Point 01/03

## **5. Community Safety Plan 2008/11: Refresh**

5.1 Paul Griffin spoke to his report circulated to the Partnership. This was in relation to the report to be presented to the Committee as mentioned above. The Partnership was being asked to agree the format and content of the Plan, which would be signed off at the March meeting.

5.2 The discussion above on robbery was continued, with suggestions made that it became a “mini” or time-limited priority. There would be tactical difficulties in enforcement due to the opportunistic nature of the crime, unless there was large investment in infrastructure, etc. It was felt that the Partnership should focus on priorities that it could affect and deliver upon within existing resources. It was agreed to await comments from the Committee and also the results of Vicky Skeels’s paper before making any final commitment.

5.3 The recommendations detailed in the report were endorsed by the Partnership.

## **6. Violent Crime Action Plan: Revision**

6.1 Jennifer Massie spoke to the paper before the Partnership, which set out the revised Alcohol-Related Violence Action Plan. The Plan had been refreshed following the Alcohol-Related Violence Crime Seminar in September 2008.

6.2 A question was raised concerning the recent taxi marshal project and Vicky Hornsby (as lead officer) gave a brief appraisal, stressing how positive the feedback had been to the project. The revised Plan was endorsed by the Partnership.

## **7. Serious Violence and Acquisitive Crime: Response to GO-East**

7.1 Vicky Skeels spoke to the memo sent by Paul Griffin to Amanda Redstone of the Government Office for the East of England. The memo was sent in response to concerns raised over a 300% (15 crimes) increase in serious violence crime and a 49% increase in serious acquisitive crime.

7.2 Whilst the memo explained the context of the rise to GO-East’s satisfaction, it highlighted that GO-East, as well as the Home Office, were continuing their scrutiny of this and other Partnerships. It was commented that the Partnership should be wary of the media picking up on any “bad news” and the importance of communicating the Partnership’s successes.

## **8. Partnership Governance and Revised Terms of Reference**

8.1 Paul Griffin introduced the report on the draft Terms of Reference, which had been requested as a result of comments made at the Partnership Review Day. The revised document included references to the new Plan, Partnership links with the Local Strategic Partnership, the Criminal Justice Board and the Local Area Agreement.

8.2 A number of suggested amendments were made: to include what the partnership was aiming to do; the Communication Plan; and to show the organisations represented at Board level and not the names of the individuals. The changes would be made and the final version of the Terms of Reference would be brought back to the March meeting for signing off.

Action Point 01/04

## **9. SSCF 2008/09: Underspend**

- 9.1 Paul Griffin reported that since the this item had been placed on the Agenda, the amount of potential underspend in the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund had, in fact, reduced considerably, with around £1,000 revenue and £400 capital remaining.
- 9.2 The proposal was to fund further work on taxi marshalling with the revenue and for the Officer Support Group to look at ways of spending the capital. The Partnership agreed to fund the taxi marshal project for £1,000.

## **10. Community Safety Accreditation Scheme: Endorsement**

- 10.1 Vicky Skeels spoke to a paper prepared following the last Partnership meeting and also consultation with the Police Authority. It was proposed to run a pilot of the Scheme at Addenbrooke's, using the security staff to deal with low-level anti-social behaviour.
- 10.2 Kevin Wilkins, as the Police Authority representative, highlighted that whilst there was backing for the Scheme, concerns had been expressed about non-police staff issuing Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) and possible civil liberties issues. There was a general debate about the issue, with support for the pilot being undertaken at Addenbrooke's but concerns being expressed about the possible inappropriate use of FPNs, including the financial incentive. It was also raised as to what powers accredited staff could use if they did not issue FPNs. It was felt that the pilot should be that and not a trial before full-scale deployment.
- 10.3 As this was an important issue, the Chair called for a vote by those Board members present. The question was whether accredited staff should issue FPNs: three members voted for and three against, with two members abstaining. Vicky Skeels would report back to the Chief Constable.

## **11. Community Speedwatch**

- 11.1 Vicky Skeels spoke to a paper circulated at the meeting, further to initial discussions at the previous meeting. The East Area was still earmarked as the pilot area and the Speedwatch equipment would be demonstrated at the East Area Committee.
- 11.2 The fact that the Speedwatch equipment would only record speeds in excess of 36mph was questioned as it was felt that speeding below this figure was causing concern within the City. Although the equipment could be calibrated to whatever speed limit was required, the conditions of use required the 36 mph setting. It was agreed to await the outcome of the Scheme's operation in the East Area before making any further decision.

## **12. Any Other Business**

- 12.1 Vicky Skeels spoke to a paper on the victims of sexual violence, following concerns aired by the Cambridge Rape Crisis Centre. The paper highlighted a proposal for a joint District Forum for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough in advance of the Sexual Assault Referral Centre to be located in Peterborough. The Chair would refer the paper to the County Community Safety Strategic Board.

Action Point 01/05

- 12.2 Liz Bisset reminded the Partnership that replacement Chair and Vice-Chair would have to be agreed at the March Partnership meeting.

Action Point 01/06

- 12.3 Michael Hendy reported that he had attended the Anti-Social Behaviour Order Conference on 25<sup>th</sup> November in Cambridge and it was very good.

12.4 Paul Griffin reminded the Partnership of the Tilley Awards 2009 and proposed that the recent cycle enforcement project be nominated. If the Partnership had any other nominations, they could let him know. He also reminded the Partnership of the capital still left in the Safer City Grant scheme.