

Time commenced – 6.00pm
Time finished – 8.25pm

**SAFER COMMUNITIES COMMISSION
20 JULY 2011**

Present: Councillor Repton (Chair)
Councillors Barker, Davis, J Khan and Tuplin

In attendance Chief Superintendent Jack Atwal
Steve Helps and Gavin Tomlinson – Derbyshire Fire and
Rescue Service
Andy Thomas and Andrea Parkin – City and Neighbourhoods
Partnerships

01/11 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Naitta and Redfern.

02/11 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

03/11 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

04/11 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 29 March 2011 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

05/11 Call-in

The Commission considered a report which set out details of the procedure and associated protocol for the Call-in of an executive key decision.

Resolved to note the report.

06/11 Councillor Call for Action

The Commission considered a report setting out details on the Councillor Call for Action scheme which was introduced in 2009.

Resolved to note the Councillor Calls for Action protocol adopted by Council in May 2009.

07/11 Presentation on Key Priorities

The Commission received presentations from Steve Helps and Gavin Tomlinson from Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service, Chief Superintendent Jack Atwal and Andy Thomas and Andrea Parkin from City and Neighbourhood Partnerships.

Steve and Gavin's presentation included crime related issues, deliberate primary and secondary fires, community safety, road safety and partner support for Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service. Reference was made to the 'stop look up' campaign where people were encouraged to check if there were smoke alarms in properties and to make sure they were working.

The Commission suggested that there be a recommendation that social services staff check for smoke alarms when visiting vulnerable people in their homes.

Chief Superintendent Atwal, Andy Thomas and Andrea Parkin gave a presentation on partnership working. Chief Superintendent Atwal identified burglary as a major priority, particularly theft of metals, which had been on the increase recently due to high price of metals. Commission Members requested that the presentation be circulated to them.

The Chair asked if there was anything the Commission could do to assist with issues in the Normanton area and if any lesson could be learnt and used to help in other areas of the City. There was a lot of partnership working in the area and many issues had been eliminated but other issues had emerged.

Resolved to consider the key priorities as part to the work programme of the Commission.

08/11 Terms of Reference and Work Programme

The Commission considered a report which stated that the Police and Justice Act 2006 required local authorities to establish a crime and disorder committee with powers to review and scrutinise decisions of responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions. In Derby the scrutiny of crime and disorder was carried out under the auspices of the Scrutiny Management Commission until the establishment of the Safer Communities Commission in November 2010. The Commission was given the responsibility by the Council to:

- Review and scrutinise the functions of the Derby Community Safety Partnership including the role of the Leader of the Council as lead liaison for the Partnership.
- Act as the Crime and Disorder Committee under the Police and justice Act 2006.

The responsible authorities included:

- Police,
- Police Authority
- Fire and Rescue Service

- Local Authority
- Probation
- Health Authority

Although the Commission has statutory powers to scrutinise the crime and disorder functions of responsible authorities, the remit of the Commission included Derby Community Safety Partnership which was the delivery arm of the partnership. Following reorganisation this had been replaced with City and Neighbourhood Partnerships. The range of activities carried out by partner authorities in addressing crime and disorder issues included

Community Safety Team

- crime prevention and reduction
- prevention and reduction of drug and alcohol harm
- prevention and reduction of anti-social behaviour
- domestic violence and serious sexual assault
- family justice centre
- integrated offender management
- multiagency approach to gangs

Neighbourhood Policing Team

- Deployment of neighbourhood policing teams
- Responsive neighbourhood problem solving approach, delivered through:
 - Beat Officer
 - Police Community Support Officer
 - Special Constable

Community Fire Safety

- Local analysis of fire related incidents
- Co-ordination of local programme of Home Fire Safety Checks
- Providing advice on residential fire safety
- Co-ordinating the fitting of single point smoke detectors to at risk groups/homes
- Providing liaison/educational input for area based groups or meetings
- Supporting the delivery of Key Stage 1/2 school education to area schools
- Providing link between area and mainstream Fire and Rescue Service Community Fire Safety campaigns

The Council Constitution limits one topic review report to be submitted to the Council Cabinet every six months from scrutiny Commissions. This meant that in theory it is possible for each Commission to conduct two topic reviews in each municipal year. Topic reviews are not mandatory, but if the Commission wished to conduct in- depth policy reviews in the current year it was suggested that members should aim to have agreed on the review topic at the earliest opportunity. It was usual for Overview and Scrutiny Commissions to consider their work plans and select topics that they wished to review in the coming year at the beginning of each municipal year. The reviews may cover anything within their remit and could include internal as well as external facing services.

It was suggested that the Commission may wish to consider keeping themselves fully

informed on community safety issues. This may involve receiving regular briefing from key professionals and consultative forum as well as undertaking appropriate visits.

To assist Commissions with their work plan they could draw on the overview and scrutiny budget which was shared between the six Commissions.

Over the last six months members from this Commission had identified the following areas for scrutiny.

- Night time economy and licensing issues- opening and closing times for pubs, clubs and takeaways
- Youth offending and anti social behaviour activity especially in parks and other open spaces
- Alcohol harm reduction strategy
- Police and partnership budgets that could impact to crime prevention and tackling crime
- Repeat offending – Integrated Offender Management
- Review the impact of night time economy and consider what we want our city to look like at night – and consequences of its reputation.
- Look at the risk, harm and threat and reputation of the city
- Strategy for addressing nuisance/ disorder issues in the inner city areas
- Preventing extremism and community tensions.
- Domestic violence / child sexual violence/ abuse
- Consider Section 17 of the Crime and disorder Act 1998 which requires LA's to consider crime and disorder implications of their decisions- consider the impact of the budget decision on crime and disorder and community safety
- Consider the role and effectiveness of partners in tackling grooming of children for sexual exploitation

Members were asked to consider and agree items they wish to include in this years work programme.

Resolved

- 1. To consider anti-social behaviour in the Normanton area could be tackled and see what lessons could be learnt for other parts of the City.**
- 2. To request a report on domestic violence at the November meeting.**
- 3. To request the action plan on the Purple Flag at the January meeting.**
- 4. To receive an update on community cohesion / extremism / terrorism.**
- 5. To repeat the visit to St Mary's Wharf Police Station.**

09/11 Performance Monitoring Report Quarter 4 – 2010-11

The Commission considered the Performance Report, key indicators and exceptions for quarter 4 – 2010/11.

Resolved to note the report.

10/11 Council Cabinet Forward Plan

There were no items requested:

11/11 Retrospective Scrutiny

There were no items.

12/11 Matters referred to the Commission by Council
Cabinet

There were no items.

MINUTES END