

Time Commenced – 6:00pm
Time Finished – 7.30pm

Corporate Services Scrutiny Review Board

9 March 2023

Present: Councillor Naitta (Chair)
Councillors Evans and Nawaz

In attendance - Kyle Hudson – Prevent Officer
Mike Brown – Arts Development Manager
Heather Greenan – Director of Policy Insight and
Communications

15/22 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Pandey, T Pearce and Rawson

16/22 Late Items

There were no late items

17/22 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

18/22 Minutes of the meeting held on 29 September 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 September 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

19/22 Counter Terrorism Priorities

The Board received a presentation which gave an overview of what Prevent was and the counter terrorism local priorities for 2023. These included Al Qaeda / ISIS inspired terrorism, extreme right wing terrorism, online extremism and self initiated terrorists. Referrals had reduced by 8% locally whilst nationally referrals were up by 30%. 72% of referrals were from the police. The presentation explained that there was no causal link between neurodiversity and terrorism but 51% of referrals in 2020/21 had neurodiversity.

Some of the areas the team were involved in included, undertaking training and awareness, community work and community projects, disruptions, partnership working (Prevent Leads Operational Group, Prevent Board) and work with schools.

A Member of the Board asked what was meant by neurodiversity. The officer explained that it related to a broad spectrum of different ways of thinking which was clinically diagnosed.

A Member of the Board asked about funding and how the officer knew if the funding was getting to the right places. The officer explained the funding process and that officers sat down with the providers to ensure that they would address the areas required. The contracts were monitored to ensure they delivered what was required and targets were being met. The Home Office also carried out checks on the contracts.

The Chair asked about a breakdown of ethnicity in relation to the under 25's age group. The officer agreed to get the information from the police team.

It was reported that Prevent worked with schools to identify individuals who might be at risk of radicalisation and they worked with those individuals and provided access to inclusion qualifications. The aim was to encourage those individuals to change their behaviour.

A Member of the Board asked if there was still an issue with radicalisation and terrorism in Derby compared to the early 2,000's. The officer explained that in 2008 some groups were banned which meant that some of these groups have to adapt their approach to evade detection. A Member of the Board felt that there was not as much activity as previously and that children were not being drawn in to the same extent as they used to be. There were several people who went to prison a few years ago and this had discouraged children and young people from becoming involved.

Resolved to note the presentation.

20/22 How the Bid for UK City of Culture has Strengthened the Cultural Sector, the Benefits of Partnership working and Sponsorship

The Board received a report and presentation which provided an update on the outcomes from the process of bidding for UK City of Culture and how this was supporting regeneration and placemaking priorities in Derby. The bid was city wide and not just Derby City Council and the judging panel had picked up on this as positive.

The presentation explained that a challenge facing the creative and cultural sector was lack of space for production and presentation. This meant that creatives were leaving Derby and the city did not benefit from associated economic activity. Activity was therefore underway to activate empty city centre space for artist and creative studios and makerspace. The Learning Theatre, Becketwell Arena and Market Hall would help to develop provision for presentation of performance and live music going forward.

Work was taking place to help strengthen the culture sector. A key priority was to establish Culture Derby as a new partnership for the city. This would work to create new opportunity and resources for the creative and cultural sectors. Initial priorities would be to invest locally and licensing and policies

were being reviewed. Cultural spending was being reviewed and there was creative support to create growth.

Vibrancy projects for the city centre were being developed to create temporary and pop up artworks. These would bring colour and new points of interest. They would signify change and ambition, helping to shape identity, placemaking and pride, with greater inclusivity and diversity.

The priority activity included street art installations, pop up performances, cultural takeovers and residencies and creative wayfinding connecting the city.

A lot of good work had been undertaken and partners were on board. However, cultural partners were facing increased costs and challenges due to the cost of living position but the hope was to build momentum and long term sustainability.

A Member of the Board asked about the Board overseeing the work and if the Board included people from minority communities. The officer explained that a Chair had been appointed and there was a recruitment process being undertaken for members of the Board to encourage a diverse representation.

The Chair was concerned that Derby always seemed to just narrowly miss out. The officer explained that plans were in place to make sure the end goals were achieved. It was noted that legacy activity in Derby had shown ambition which gave confidence in the city and had since contributed to receiving levelling up funding for the learning theatre. The city was in a good position to bid for the 2029 UK City of Culture. The bid had been a driver for regeneration and long term sustainability of the creative and cultural sectors.

Resolved to note the presentation.

21/22 Partnership Working

The Board received a presentation on partnership working. The presentation stated that despite the many challenges over the last 2 years we had made a difference for Derby by working together with the city and for the city. The presentation set out some of the achievements and outcomes from the themes of resilient, growth, green and vibrant. It was a 'Team Derby' approach with a common aim of focusing on shared outcomes, collectively working together to galvanise partners and communities, promote creativity and add value. Ultimately the Partnership is about making Derby the best it could be.

A Member of the Board asked about other partners being included. It was reported that other partners included Alstrom, the Federation of Small Businesses, the BIDs and Marketing Derby.

A Member of the Board asked about green space and climate change and felt that this was being prioritised over the wellbeing of the people of Derby. He also referred to a motion that would be considered by Council about housing

in the city being a concern for people, small gardens could help with wellbeing and city living removed this option.

The officer explained that the work was not inconsistent with health and wellbeing and the wider housing strategy did not just include city living options but it needed to be about choice and affordability as well.

The Chair recognised the challenge over the last few years and that Derby had risen to that challenge but there were more challenging times ahead and we needed to be realistic. He welcomed city living but was concerned about the declining retail sector. He hoped that the University may relocate into the city centre at some point in the future and recognised that a lot of hard work had been undertaken.

It was reported that work was on going in relation to the cost of living position. The approach of working better together had really helped to mitigate the impact for local communities.

A Member of the Board asked about what the Council was doing to stimulate occupancy of empty properties and shops. It was reported that the Council was working with landlords and shop owners to bring as many properties back into use as possible.

Resolved to note the presentation.

22/22 Insight Led Council

This item was deferred.

23/22 Remit, Work Programme and Topic Reviews

The Corporate Services Board reviewed its Terms of Reference and Remit. The Board meets up to four times in the municipal year and this was the last meeting of the 2022/23 municipal year. The Board may undertake Topic Review/s supported by Democratic Services Officers and officers from other departments, but would also look at service reviews, policy development and any issues referred from the Executive Scrutiny Board.

The report allowed officers to inform the Board of any key work areas, issues or potential topic review subjects for discussion or inclusion in the work programme

Members of the Board also reviewed items for the Corporate Services Board work programme for the 2022/23 municipal year and any topic reviews.

At the first meeting of the municipal year, it was agreed to undertake a topic review on hardship in the city. Members of the Board were invited to the Communities Scrutiny Board meeting held on 23 January 2023 where the Board received a presentation from Bernard Fenton – Customer Services

Manager and Kim Harper – Community Action Derby on cost of living support. The presentation was attached as appendix 2 to the report.

The Chair reported that the presentation had been very comprehensive and covered all the aspects required for the topic review and no further work was required in respect of the topic review.

Resolved

- 1. To note the work programme.**
- 2. To recommend that the following items be added to the work programme for 2023/24**
 - **Insight Led Council (Horizon scanning)**
 - **Facilities Management**
 - **Constitutional Review**
 - **Working Smarter**
 - **Property (property disposal update, achievements and plans.**
- 3. To agree that the presentation given to the Communities Board on 23 January 2023 covered the work required for the topic review and that no further work was required in relation to the topic review – hardship in the city.**

MINUTES END