

HUMBERSIDE POLICE AUTHORITY

COMMUNITIES AND PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE

3 MARCH 2009

<u>PRESENT:-</u>	Mr Palmerley JP in the Chair
Elected Members:-	Councillors Hull, Jawaid MBE, Parsons and Uzzell
Independent Members:-	Mr Doherty and Mrs Taylor MBE
Officers: -	Mr J Mabbett, Strategic Development Manager (C&P), Ms V Wise, Strategic Development Officer (C&P), Mr S Donald, Assistant Chief Constable (O), Mr N Kingston, Strategic Development Manager (Assistant Chief Executive) and Mr P McCabe, Neighbourhood and Criminal Justice Co-ordinator.

The Committee met at Pacific Exchange, Kingston upon Hull.

- 41 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/OFFERS OF GIFTS OR HOSPITALITY** – The Chair reminded Members of the need to record any personal or prejudicial interest in items on the agenda and to disclose any relevant receipt or offering of gifts or hospitality.

There were no declarations or disclosures made.

- 42 **APOLOGIES** – There were no apologies for absence.
- 43 **MINUTES** – **Resolved** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 2 December 2008, having been printed and circulated amongst Members, be taken as read and correctly recorded and be signed by the Chair.
- 44 **UPDATE ON THE MINUTES** – The Strategic Development Manager (C&P) referred to minute 29 regarding the views of young people and advised that a scoping exercise of the issues raised at the Children's Boards had been conducted, however, no issues that would impact on this Committee had been identified. Attempts were therefore to be made to stimulate discussion through the Children's Trusts. The Strategic Development Officer (C&P) commented on work that was being carried out in Hull via a sub group of the Youth Parliament which was looking at policing and high visibility policing. The possibility of the Police Authority hosting a half day event where members of the Youth Parliament could learn more about the Police Authority and meet Neighbourhood Inspectors was being considered. Consideration was also being given to producing a version of the annual report for young people. The Chair requested that any Member of the Committee that was interested in attending the potential half day event with the Youth Parliament advise the Strategic Development

Officer (C&P).

The Strategic Development Manager (C&P) advised that the suggestion for dip sampling of complaints from young people would be picked up in the normal dip sampling process.

The Assistant Chief Constable (O) referred to minute 25 and advised that the issues raised via the Police Authority Public Opinion Survey had been absorbed into Citizen Focus workstreams.

Resolved – That the updates be noted.

- 45 (32) ACTION SCHEDULE** – Members received a rolling schedule of actions arising from previous meetings of this Committee.

The Strategic Development Manager (C&P) referred to minute 26 regarding changes to the current Police Authority consultation processes and advised that consideration was being given to the tendering exercises that needed to be conducted. It was hoped that suitable contractors to operate a Citizens' Panel and to engage with diverse communities would be identified by the time of the next meeting. A Member informed that some local authorities had partnership agreements with representatives of BME groups and it could be useful to liaise with them.

Resolved – That the action schedule and update be noted.

- 46 PRESENTATION – CRIME FIGHTERS** – Peter McCabe, Neighbourhood and Criminal Justice Co-ordinator, attended the meeting and advised how, following the allocation of funds to 40 local authorities, he was working in Hull to look at community engagement through Hull City Council's Crime and Safety Action Teams. He advised that Community Crime Fighter was a Home Office term but in Hull the phrase Community Safety Representative was being utilised. He indicated that informal training would be arranged for volunteers along with networking sessions at the Guildhall. He advised that work was also ongoing with HANWaG regarding providing NVQ level training. The Community Safety Representatives would also be KIN network members. In response to a query regarding recruitment he advised that nominations had been submitted by HANWaG and Hull Youth Service. The Area Teams had also been approached for nominations from the Area Tasking Partnerships. It was hoped that there would 4 or 5 volunteers recruited in each of the 7 areas. He advised that funding for his post had initially been awarded from the Home Office for 1 year, however, Citysafe were looking to continue his role after that time. He indicated that 50 questionnaires on public perception and fear of crime had been circulated in each ward of the City, the findings were to be circulated at public meetings and put forward to the Area Tasking meetings. A bid had also been submitted for hand held tablets to enable street surveys to be conducted.

A Member advised that each Area Housing Board in Hull had a governance officer and suggested that it may be possible to work in partnership with them. In response to a query Mr McCabe advised that he sat on the Local Criminal Justice Board and worked closely with them. He further advised that the role of Community Safety Representatives was to build on their skills and to provide them with key information

which they could pass onto their communities.

Resolved – That Mr McCabe be thanked for his presentation.

- 47 **(33) A PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY FOR HUMBERSIDE POLICE AUTHORITY** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that introduced a strategy for the way that Humberside Police Authority would engage in partnerships.

The Chair commented that the document would require further definition and the role of officers and Members would need to be redefined. He indicated that careful consideration needed to be given to who should attend partnerships and suggested that this needed to be considered alongside the outcome of the recent development days. It was felt that wherever possible partnerships should be attended by Members who should receive support/briefings from a named officer. It was also acknowledged that it was not only elected Members who had a wealth of knowledge on the issues that impacted upon communities.

The Assistant Chief Constable (O) suggested that as regional collaboration was a key issue for the future the document needed to include reference to this. He commented on the role of the Force Independent Advisory Group and expressed concern that although they had been approached to become involved in the Citizen Focus workstreams they were providing very little support.

Resolved – (a) That the strategy be approved and adopted in principle; (b) that the proposal to further consult with partners on the strategy be approved, and (c) that further reports on the implementation, evaluation and review of the strategy be received.

- 48 **(34) HUMBERSIDE POLICE AUTHORITY COMBINED EQUALITIES SCHEME 2009-12** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that sought approval for the Authority's Combined Equalities Scheme 2009-12.

Members commented on the cost of training and the Strategic Development Manager (Assistant Chief Executive) commented on the potential savings to be achieved if training was to be conducted on a regional basis. Members queried whether a Combined Scheme would be more difficult to scrutinise than individual schemes. Reference was made to the possibility of running a Combined Scheme alongside separate schemes and the Strategic Development Manager (Assistant Chief Executive) commented on the limited capacity within the Secretariat. It was suggested that it would be useful for a uniform approach to be adopted throughout Humberside and the Strategic Development Manager (Assistant Chief Executive) advised that he would share the document with as many partners as possible. The Assistant Chief Constable (O) suggested that work could be conducted with the Force to produce a combined action plan that was proportionate, manageable and necessary and the Strategic Development Manager (Assistant Chief Executive) advised that he would discuss this with the Force.

Resolved – (a) That the Combined Equalities Scheme (CES), as set out at Appendix 1 be approved in principle; (b) that the development of the Action Plan and additional appendices be delegated to the Chief Executive and that this Committee receives

regular updates on the implementation of the Action Plan; (c) that the CES be considered by the Force Independent Advisory Group (FIAG) and shared with other stakeholders before finalisation and that any subsequent amendments as a result be delegated to the Chief Executive, and (d) that the Force be requested to provide an update on its own Combined Equalities Scheme at the next meeting of this Committee.

- 49 **(35) EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that sought approval for the Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) carried out in respect of the Force/Police Authority Community Engagement Strategy.

The Assistant Chief Constable (O) referred to the suggestion that the Force provided details of sub-Force community engagement activity with diverse groups as part of the community engagement report that was submitted to this Committee and indicated that this should adequately be captured by the Combined Equalities Scheme action plan.

Resolved – (a) That the Equality Impact Assessment, set out in Annex A, be approved; (b) that this Committee actively monitors the delivery of the joint Community Engagement Strategy to identify good practice; (c) that the Equality and Diversity agenda be more closely integrated with the Citizen Focus agenda as they should mutually reinforce each other, this will assist the attainment of improved levels of confidence and satisfaction as well as help deliver a more representative workforce; (d) that this Committee monitor, when finalised, the Humberside Police response to the new Equality Standard for the police service (expected April 2009) which will focus on outcomes and delivering best value; (e) that a diversity monitoring report capturing several aspects of policing feature on the agenda of this Committee at least every 6 months, and (f) that the Police Authority's emerging Community Engagement Strategy address the issues highlighted in this EIA on behalf of the Police Authority.

- 50 **(36) PARTNERSHIP RESERVE FUNDING – A DIVISION** – The Chief Constable submitted a report that sought authority to utilise the Partnership Reserve funding allocated to A Division in a more flexible manner.

Resolved – That the changed use of the Partnership Reserve Funding, as set out in the report and Appendix 1, be approved.

- 51 **(37) CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION PARTNERSHIPS/LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENTS** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that informed Members of local developments in relation to the Local Area Agreement (LAA) targets.

The Strategic Development Manager (C&P) commented that the performance highlighted in the report related to partnership performance not Force performance. He advised that the issues of burglary on the South Bank and vehicle crime in the East Riding had been taken up with the appropriate partnerships and action was being taken. The Assistant Chief Constable (O) advised that the issue of burglary on the South Bank had highlighted that the partnership had not had a burglary strategy

in place and this had been fed back to them. The Safer Homes Group had been reconstituted to look at house burglary reduction and work would be conducted with partners. Awareness had been raised regarding the issue of vehicle crime around the A63 and the A165 and the partnership was working on this issue.

The Strategic Development Manager (C&P) referred to those parts of the report where it was stated that data was still awaited and advised that this had not been received from Government Office. Members expressed concern that partnerships could not monitor their progress if this data was not received from Government Office.

Resolved – (a) That the report be noted; (b) that further reports on the progress of the Local Area Agreements be received, and (c) that a letter be sent to Regional Government Office expressing concern regarding the amount of missing data.

- 52 (38) **EAST RIDING HOUSEHOLD SURVEY** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that detailed the results of the East Riding Household Survey for 2008. The report set the results in the context of other similar survey results for the East Riding relating to Crime, Disorder and Community Safety.

Members discussed the differences in the survey results but suggested that the results of this survey could, subject to caveats relating to those differences, be discussed at the Citizen Focus Board. It was suggested that it would be useful for the results to be accompanied by a copy of the actual survey.

Resolved – (a) That the results of the survey, accompanied by a copy of the actual survey, be used to inform the Citizen Focus Board of Humberside Police, and (b) that this report be used to inform the Force and the Authority when negotiating the Local Area Agreement targets with the Local Strategic Partnership for the East Riding, relating to local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime (National Indicator 121) and also the National Indicator relating to understanding of anti-social behaviour and crime by the police and local councils (National Indicator 127).

- 53 (39) **POLICE AUTHORITY CONFIDENCE STRATEGY** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that introduced a confidence strategy for Humberside Police Authority.

The Strategic Development Manager (C&P) advised that ownership of the Strategy would rest with this Committee with matters being reported to the full Police Authority on an exception basis.

Members commented on the increase in performance which had not been followed by an increase in satisfaction levels.

Resolved – (a) That the development of the strategy be approved, and (b) that further reports on the implementation of the strategy be received.

- 54 (40) **ANIMAL WELFARE SCHEME** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that outlined activity carried out during the first six months of the Humberside Police Authority's Animal Welfare Visiting Scheme and proposed annual reports to this

Committee on progress of the scheme in the future.

Members commented on the positive comments submitted by the visitors and requested that they be fed back to the staff involved. The Assistant Chief Constable (O) suggested that it may be useful for Members to visit the public order training at South Yorkshire to see how the animals were trained and cared for in that environment.

Resolved – (a) That an annual report of activity carried out as part of the Scheme be received, and (b) that reports be received by exception should any urgent matter arise before the annual report is due.

- 55 (41) **THE POLICING PLEDGE** – The Chief Constable submitted a report that updated on progress in relation to the Policing Pledge.

The Assistant Chief Constable (O) commented on publicity being conducted in association with the Pledge. He suggested that it may be useful to hold a Thematic Panel around the Pledge and how it linked into Citizen Focus.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

- 56 (42) **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that gave an update on the product of public consultation and community engagement events held across the 4 Divisions during the period December 2008 - February 2009 and informed of the activity relating to incidents of anti social behaviour and associated sanctions.

Resolved – (a) That the issues and concerns raised at community consultation events across the Humberside Police force area be fed into the planning of the budget and setting priorities; (b) that matters of operational policing continue to be referred to the Chief Constable for his action, and (c) that this report be forwarded to the Chairs of all community consultation events across the Humberside Police Force area for their information.

- 57 (43) **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND FORCE RESPONSE** – In response to minute 56, the Chief Constable submitted a report that detailed the ways in which the Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs) had addressed public concerns.

Members commented on the wealth of information contained within the report and its usefulness to the 4 CDRPs. It was reported that the CDRPs received copies of the papers for this Committee but it would be useful to find out how they utilised the information.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

- 58 (44) **NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING UPDATE** – The Chief Constable submitted a report that updated Members on the progress of the Neighbourhood Policing Project.

The Assistant Chief Constable (O) noted concerns that the project had now closed and advised that it now formed part of Citizen Focus and consideration would be

given to how it was mainstreamed.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

- 59 **(45) COMMUNITY COHESION OFFICERS** – The Chief Constable submitted a report that informed of the restructuring of the Community Safety Unit which had been expanded to include the posts of the Divisional Community Cohesion Officers.

The Chair advised that the next Thematic Panel for this Committee would be held on the South Bank and would involve meeting the A Division Community Cohesion Officers.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

- 60 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC – Resolved** - That in accordance with the provisions of Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public (including the press) be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, minute 61, on the grounds that it may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

- 61 **(46) COUNTER TERRORISM STRATEGY UPDATE** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that gave an update on the work conducted and required on Prevent, one of the four strands of the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy, Contest.

The Chair suggested that it may be useful for Members of this Committee to know what activities were currently ongoing and the Assistant Chief Constable (O) advised that he would arrange a briefing.

Resolved – (a) That the report be noted, and (b) that a briefing on current activities be arranged for Members of this Committee.

MR JOHN MABBETT, STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER (COMMUNITIES AND PARTNERSHIPS) – The Chair advised that this was Mr Mabbett's last meeting before his retirement on 18 March 2009. He thanked him for his excellent service to this Committee and to the Authority. Members joined the Chair in wishing Mr Mabbett a long, happy and healthy retirement.