

DRAFT MINUTES

**Waltham Forest Working Together
(The Strategic Partnership (LSP) for Waltham Forest)**

SAFETYNET PARTNERSHIP BOARD, EXECUTIVE GROUP

Minutes of a meeting of the LSP SafetyNet Partnership Board, Executive Group held on Wednesday 9th February 2005 at 2.30pm in Committee Room 2 at Waltham Forest Town Hall

Present:

Members.

Jacquie Dean(Chair)	LBWF, Interim Chief Executive
Alastair Macorkindale	LBWF, Drug Action Co-ordinator
Councillor Barry Smith	LBWF, Cabinet Member
Robin Tuddenham	LBWF, Unit Head Community Safety
Len Norton	LBWF, Exec.Director, Environmental Services
Supt. Stewart Rivers	Metropolitan Police Service, Supt. Operations
Nick Howell-Ives	London Probation Service
Sally Gorham	Waltham Forest Primary Care Trust

Lead Support Officers.

Melissa Lonergan	Community Safety Officer
Michael Jervis	Community Safety Officer

Visitors.

Chris Casey	Victim Support
Rico Isaacs	LBWF, Executive Support Officer
Bruce Clarke	LBWF, Committee Manager

Item

Action

1. INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

All those present introduced themselves. In the absence of Chief Superintendent George Clarke, the Deputy Chair Jacquie Dean took the Chair.

Apologies for absence were received from Alison Dale (Government Office for London), George Clarke (Metropolitan Police Service), Jim Saddington (London Fire Brigade) and Dave Brown (LBWF, Interim Head of Housing).

2. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 5th JANUARY 2005 AND MATTERS ARISING.

Accuracy: No comments.

Matters Arising:

Page 3, item 4 – Domestic Violence & Hate Crime data – duly adjusted data will be included in the next quarterly update.

Page 3, item 5 – External Evaluation recommendations – item 11 on today's Agenda.

Page 4, item 6 – Draft Community Cohesion Strategy – the Draft has now been substantially revised, based in part on comments made at our last meeting.

SAFETYNET PARTNERSHIP BOARD, EXECUTIVE GROUP – 9th February 2005

Item	Action
Page 4, item 8.2 – Drug & Alcohol Strategy – the date of the seminar has been re-arranged to Thursday 9 th June 2005. The date originally set did not allow sufficient lead-in time and the new date will allow inclusion of some operational experience of the new licensing scheme and arrangements.	
3. CRIME, DISORDER AND DRUGS STRATEGY / AUDIT.	
3.1 Strategy.	
Noted the following timetable, now that the draft document has been reviewed by all delivery groups:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final draft by end of next week.• Then submission to Overview and Scrutiny Commission.• Submission to Cabinet in April 2005.• Submission to full Council in May 2005.	
The Government Office for London (GoL) is happy with the above timetable.	
3.2 Audit.	
Noted that the feedback letter from GoL is generally positive, if a little too long with some duplication of data. The full Audit document has been added to the Council's website and the Executive Summary will be available next week.	
4. DRUGS & ALCOHOL MISUSE – QUARTERLY UPDATE.	
4.1 Noted the following comments on the quarterly update:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The formal GP Shared Care Scheme is now really taking off.• Training of those to be involved in the screening of young people vulnerable to problem drug use and drinking has now started.• The new NELMHT Service Manager has made an encouraging start and is engendering positive support from all those involved with him.• The development of an out-of-hours telephone support help line via a local provider should prove to be a good solution for this long-standing problem.• The Drugs & Crime Strategy Manager is now a member of the Children & Young People LSP group in order to liaise on drug and alcohol issues. He's similarly working with the LSP Strategic Learning group.• Need more substantive data to assist with drafting a strategy for prescribed medicines – working with both the PCT and Whipps Cross Hospital.	
4.2 Noted the following comments on action against crack houses and other residential drug markets causing unintended negative consequences for some tenants with mental health problems:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Currently engaging with NELMHT on what has become an area for concern• There have been a number of evictions, via ASB Orders, with tenants concerned going into bed and breakfast alternative accommodation.• There's a need for single case management to ensure widespread knowledge of those involved and what's happening to them.• A draft protocol, covering closure of crack houses and related effect on mental health sufferers, was close to agreement but stalled due to new ASB regulations covering changes to the eviction process.• Although only a relatively small number of mental health sufferers are involved it would be useful if a relevant NELMHT officer could be identified.	
ACTION: Identify relevant NELMHT contact officer.	Drugs Stgy Mgr
4.3 Noted the need to achieve higher rates of drug testing linked to Court appearances through increased dialogue with Court officers. Such discussions could also cover Prolific & Priority Offenders and adoptions.	
ACTION: Seek to arrange meeting with applicable Court officers.	

SAFETYNET PARTNERSHIP BOARD, EXECUTIVE GROUP – 9th February 2005

Item	Action
4.4	Noted a meeting being held on 1 st March 2005 with local Head Teachers at which developing the screening programme, in particular, will be discussed.
5.	ACQUISITIVE CRIME – QUARTERLY UPDATE. Noted the following comments on the quarterly update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="268 371 1187 400">• A Student Safety Campaign to be organised in summer 2005.<li data-bbox="268 409 1394 481">• Leaflets on Vehicle Crime to be distributed, specifically within the Town Hall complex (a current 'hot spot' for thefts and damage).<li data-bbox="268 490 1394 629">• The HEET (Home Energy Efficiency Team) programme continues to be successful. Although future funding remains an issue it is hoped to address the situation by inclusion within the Safer Stronger Communities Fund programme as well as, possibly, Neighbourhood Renewal Funding 2005/6.<li data-bbox="268 638 1394 732">• The Crime Prevention Week was a resounding success and both Melissa Lonergan and Bill Nisbet are to be nominated for STAR awards. Some 2,500 people made contact with the stall. ACTION: Publicise the need to replace batteries in fire alarms in the Guardian, WFM and the Chief Executive's newsletter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="268 819 1394 958">• Theft from shops / retail crime is currently not included in the three year Strategy document as an outcome – need to think about its possible inclusion in order to send out a positive message to local businesses. An imminent Beat Sweep in the market area will assist the safety perception.
6.	VIOLENT CRIME – QUARTERLY UPDATE. Noted the following comments on the quarterly update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="268 1059 1394 1198">• Members requested to publicise registration of IEMI identification numbers on mobile telephones with the National Mobile Telephone Register (via www.immobilise.com) - positive deterrent given recent increase in thefts. It would be useful to extend publicity to include all local schools.<li data-bbox="268 1207 1394 1391">• Waltham Forest now in the top 10% of all London boroughs regarding knife crime, with a 28% increase in the last twelve months. Operation Blunt has been instigated and resources are available within the knife amnesty 'pot'. Urgent dedicated attention to this increase is required, given the probable linkage to an increase of carrying guns by way of presumed defence.<li data-bbox="268 1400 1394 1583">• An increase of 8% in gun crime since October 2004 is mainly due to changes in the Police 'rules of engagement', in that a gun crime is now recorded if a suspect verbally claims possession of a gun even though no actual gun is subsequently found. Current Police activity is centred around some 25 known individuals as potential gun carriers.<li data-bbox="268 1592 1394 1731">• A recent case in East Sussex, wherein an ASBO was issued to a retailer preventing the sale of replica guns, is being closely monitored. Current Waltham Forest council byelaws are unable to disallow the sale of replica firearms, an issue requiring urgent attention.<li data-bbox="268 1740 1394 1834">• Superintendent Rivers provided an update on actions being taken locally within Operation Challenger to combat the rise in street crime.<li data-bbox="268 1843 1394 1870">• Defending The Hood III will be centred around youth engagement as part of activities related to Local Democracy Week.
7.	PROLIFIC & PRIORITY OFFENDERS.
7.1	Noted that the research project in which Waltham Forest had been selected for inclusion is now no longer happening.
7.2	Noted the contents of a letter from the National Probation Service (NPS), distributed to attendees at the meeting, setting out a proposed Case Management

J.Saddington
/ Unit Head

SAFETYNET PARTNERSHIP BOARD, EXECUTIVE GROUP – 9th February 2005

Item	Action
7.3	<p>Model to be used London-wide and led by the NPS. The Probation Service is looking for Waltham Forest's acceptance in principle to fund participation in the Model (London Borough of Redbridge have already so agreed) with Havering and Barking & Dagenham also possibly participating. If approved, funding would come via the Safer Stronger Communities Fund.</p> <p>ACTION: Obtain a further, relevant paper from the Probation Service and circulate to all members.</p> <p>The meeting AGREED acceptance in principle.</p> <p>Noted that in connection with Youth Prolific & Priority Offenders, a Prevent & Deter issue, relevant operational guidance has been prepared by the Youth Offending Team manager and sent to the Government Office for London with an initial, favourable response.</p>
8.	<p>FEAR OF CRIME – QUARTERLY UPDATE.</p> <p>Noted the following comments on the quarterly update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Volunteers in Policing – numbers involved have increased.• Home Office data available on Fear of Crime. <p>ACTION: Circulate Home Office Fear of Crime data to all members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Safer Neighbourhoods programme is rolling-out ever faster; however it shouldn't be seen as in any way replacing the work of the Street Wardens.• A meeting is planned with the new station manager at Walthamstow Central in an attempt to re-introduce evening manning of the station.• Outcomes on the three decisions stated in the update:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Fear of Crime delivery group is not to be disbanded immediately – the Unit Head will continue to discuss with the other delivery groups how to mainstream Fear of Crime issues into their meetings.2. Best Practice gleaned from the London Borough of Lambeth:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) fortnightly Police tasking meetings now implemented in Waltham Forest.b) Transport providers to attend future meetings of the group.c) Police Community Support Officers are to be stationed outside Walthamstow Central station between 6pm and 10pm each Friday & Saturday evening from 4th March 2005.d) On Friday 11th & Saturday 12th February 2005 twenty additional special constables will be made available between 8pm and 2am borough-wide as a one-off experimental trial.e) In the near future the Police will run an Out-of-Office day in the borough, with all office staff deployed for a day at Walthamstow Central station.f) In the near future MPS training cadets will be used as a once-only deployment exercise in the Central market area.g) To coincide with the above exercise the Council will endeavour to increase street cleaning activities, including the collection of trade refuse.3. The appointment of a Communications Officer working across all partner agencies in support of the SafetyNet Partnership has been included in the three year Crime, Disorder & Drugs Strategy.
9.	<p>POSITIVE NEWS FROM SAFETYNET.</p> <p>The Beat Sweep programme commenced in Cann Hall ward and was positively received. The next Beat Sweep will be on 24th February 2005 in High Street ward and as well as council staff will also include local residents groups and school</p>

SAFETYNET PARTNERSHIP BOARD, EXECUTIVE GROUP – 9th February 2005

Item	Action
children. 10. SAFER STRONGER COMMUNITIES FUND & BASIC COMMAND UNIT FUNDING. Noted that at its' meeting on 25 th February 2005 the LSP Core Group is to set up a Safer Stronger Communities Fund sub-group who will be receiving full proposals for further action.	
11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.	
11.1 <u>External Evaluation – Action Plan.</u> A further meeting has been held with the consultant and the paper distributed with the Agenda shows the agreed Key Actions.	
11.2 Noted the invitation from Superintendent Stewart Rivers for all members of the Group to attend an MPS fortnightly tasking meeting (by prior arrangement).	
11.3 Noted that Linda Wacey, LBWF Head of Community Protection, will replace Len Norton as a member of the Group and as Executive Lead for Anti-Social Behaviour.	
11.4 Noted the recent 'explosion' of graffiti within all parts of the borough. Discussed the possibility of a future Defending Da Hood event to be themed around this topic. Nick Howell-Ives will temporarily attend meetings of the Anti-Social Behaviour delivery group to promote current related initiatives within the Probation Service. ACTION: Prepare a paper or report on graffiti for the next Exec. Group meeting.	Unit Head
11.5 Noted that an item on the Agenda for the next Exec. Group meeting should deal with Anti-Social Behaviour – Crime and Transport. ACTION: Invite representatives of local transport organisations to participate at the next meeting.	Unit Head
11.6 The possibility was raised of SafetyNet funding a 'speed control vehicle' in the borough with all related net revenue accruing to the Partnership. ACTION: Investigate similar schemes currently being operated in other authorities.	Unit Head
11.7 Noted that after further discussion amongst members it was AGREED that the editor of the local Guardian newspaper should not be invited to attend future Exec. Group meetings, even on an experimental basis, for the time being.	
11.8 Noted that the Chair of the Metropolitan Police Authority, Len Duvall will be visiting the borough on 18 th February 2005 to meet with the council's Chief Executive and Portfolio Holder for Community Safety as well as the Borough Police Commander.	
12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING. Wednesday 2 nd March 2005 – 2.30pm to 5pm – Committee Room 2.	

Agreed.....Chair

Date.....

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