

MINUTE of MEETING of the COMMUNITY SAFETY BOARD held within COUNCILL CHAMBERS, WEST LOTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, LIVINGSTON, on 9 DECEMBER 2019.

Present – Councillors Lawrence Fitzpatrick (Chair), Kirsteen Sullivan and Dave King (substituting for Andrew McGuire); Graham Hope (Chief Executive, West Lothian Council); Graeme Struthers (Depute Chief Executive, West Lothian Council); AnnMarie Carr (Head of Housing, Customer and Building Services, West Lothian Council); Yvonne Beresford (Policy & Performance Officer, West Lothian Council); Tim Ward (Senior Manager, Social Policy, West Lothian Council); Area Commander, Alun Williams (Police Scotland), Chief Inspector Jocelyn O’Conner (Police Scotland); PC Vince Hughes (Police Scotland); David Lockhart (Scottish Fire & Rescue Service; and Brian Robertson (Scottish Fire & Rescue Service)

Apologies – Councillors Charles Kennedy and Andrew McGuire

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

2. MINUTE

The Board approved the Minute of its meeting held on 16 September 2019. The Minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

3. MINUTE OF MEETING OF COMMUNITY PLANNING STEERING GROUP

The Board noted the Minute of the Community Planning Steering Group held on 19 August 2019.

4. POLICE SCOTLAND - CONTACT ASSESSMENT MODEL PRESENTATION

The Board were provided with an overview of the implementation of the Contact Assessment Model (CAM) within Police Scotland in the West Lothian area.

Chief Inspector Jocelyn O’Connor advised the Board that Police Scotland handles on average 3 million calls to its 999 and 101 service every year. The demands on this service were changing with over 80 per cent of calls received not relating to crime.

Therefore, the new Contact Assessment Model will change the way calls were assessed and prioritised to ensure every individual caller gets an appropriate and proportionate response.

The aim was to significantly improve the experience and outcomes for the public and to empower and enable the workforce to make the right

decisions. Responses to calls would therefore be based on the “THRIVE” assessment which was as follows :-

T Threat

H Harm

R Risk

I Investigation

V Vulnerability

E Engagement

Chief Inspector O'Connor continued to advise that based on the assessment of the call Police Scotland would respond in an appropriate manner and would include either an immediate response to the scene; prompt attendance within 4 hours; scheduled attendance (such as by phone, officer visit, or attendance by caller at another location); and other resolution such as advice/guidance, partner sign-posting or call-redirection.

Police Scotland were also keen to reiterate what wouldn't change with the introduction of the CAM model which was their response to urgent and critical incidents; their focus on protecting the public and the most vulnerable in communities; and officer ability to engage and be visible in communities.

A pilot of the CAM model had been operating for some weeks in Dumfries and Galloway and more recently in Glasgow and Chief Inspector O'Connor shared with the Board the results of those pilot areas.

There then followed a questions and answer session in which a number of themes and issues were explored including its fit in the West Lothian area. It was noted that the presentation to the Board was the start of a detailed process of engagement with partners and would include a partnership event in West Lothian Civic Centre on 5 February 2020. The event would be an opportunity to work with the local Area Commander for Police Scotland where local knowledge would be a key consideration.

In relation to a question from partners at Scottish Fire and Rescue and the manner in which calls from their service would be assessed, it was confirmed that these calls would also be processed through the THRIVE assessment model.

The Board were provided with assurances that checks and balances would be put in place when calls were processed through the assessment model and that to date the feedback from the pilot areas was that around 15% of the 36,000 incidents were being managed within the new Resolution Team and that there continued to be an ongoing review of calls to ensure they remained in line with training.

On a final note the Board were advised that the besides the two pilot sites in Scotland the system was operating in 32 forces in England and that Police Scotland were looking to implement the system in West Lothian in week commencing 23 March 2020.

The Chair thanked Chief Inspector Jocelyn O'Connor for the informative presentation.

Decision

1. To note the contents of the presentation on the introduction of the Call Assessment Model;
2. To note that a partnership event was planned for 5 February 2020 in West Lothian Civic Centre; and
3. To note that it was intended that the model would be implemented in West Lothian in week commencing 23 March 2020 subject to partners being satisfied that the system was ready to be rolled-out.

5. COMMUNITY SAFETY PERFORMANCE REPORT 2019/20 - QUARTER 2

The Board considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the West Lothian Safer Communities Strategic Planning Working Group providing a breakdown of the performance indicators for the Community Safety Partnership for Quarter 2 2019/20.

It was reported that a range of 40 indicators would be monitored across the life span of the Community Safety Plan 2019-22. These covered five priorities for the partners; these were as follows :-

- Community Wellbeing;
- Anti-social behaviour;
- Violence;
- Serious and organised crime; and
- Counter terrorism

The report then provided a summary for each of the priorities noting that no indicators were showing as red, 2 indicators were showing as amber, 10 were showing as green, 7 were data only and 21 were unknown.

A detailed explanation behind those targets showing as amber, data only and unknown was provided for in the report.

Partners from the council, Fire Service and Police Scotland all provided a commentary on those targets that were of note to the Board.

Decision

To note the contents of the report

6. BONFIRE/FIREWORKS 2019 DE-BRIEF

The Board considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the West Lothian Safer Communities Strategic Planning Group providing an overview of the multi-agency debrief following the preventative activities deployed within the West Lothian area during the Bonfire/Firework period 2019.

A de-brief meeting took place in November to review the planned strategy for the Bonfire period; this provided an opportunity for Community Safety Partners to provide valuable feedback on the preventative activities that had been deployed.

The preventative activities that took place included early meetings and consultation with partners; a demand-reduction education plan; identification of unlicensed bonfires/fireworks; and community engagement. A summary of each of these activities was outlined in the report and included engagement with 4,000 pupils of which 1,100 were specifically targeted; and 22 test purchases of fireworks carried out which all 22 passed. It was also reported that there had been no reports of violence against fire crews in the bonfire/firework period 2019.

The report concluded that continued partnership working through the West Lothian Community Safety Partnership had had a positive impact on public awareness and the joint approach to bonfire celebrations. In general it has been a well prepared and executed plan by all the partners involved.

Decision

1. To note the contents of the report; and
2. To commend the work of all the partner agencies for their pre-planning and preventative work following a very successful Bonfire night in 2019.

7. WEST DRIVE 2019 - REPORT BY POLICE SCOTLAND

The Board considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by PC Chris Grey, Police Scotland which provided details of the West Drive Event 2019.

The Board were advised that West Drive was a road safety initiative aimed at educating young road users and reducing road casualties. The target audience was 6th year pupils across West Lothian from the 11 high schools and academies.

In 2019 the West Drive Event was held at Inveralmond Community High

School between 27 and 29 August 2019. Each day saw different schools attend for a half day input. The event had an “emergency services” theme and followed a new format from previous years.

The report continued by providing a commentary on the budget for the event, the venue, attendance, participating partners and content and the consultation carried out with pupils at the conclusion of the event. The Board noted that of the 1174 pupils expected to attend, 979 had attended.

The report concluded that overall the West Drive event was popular and it would appear from feedback and anecdotal evidence that it had a positive impact on young drivers and those who would become drivers.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.

8. THREE YEAR THEMATIC PRESENTATION PLAN

The Board considered a document that outlined a three year thematic presentation plan for future meetings of the Board.

It was to be noted that whilst the presentations would take place over the three year period they could be subject to change in terms of their position in the timeline in the event of partner’s availability to report on their various themes.

Decision

To agree the thematic presentation plan.