

MINUTE of MEETING of the WEST LOTHIAN COMMUNITY SAFETY BOARD held within CONFERENCE ROOM 3, WEST LOTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, LIVINGSTON, on TUESDAY, 26 JUNE, 2012

Present – Councillors John McGinty (Chair), Frank Anderson, Harry Cartmill (substituting for Councillor Muldoon), Peter Johnston, Anne McMillan; Graham Hope (Chief Executive, West Lothian Council), Siobhan Mullen (Senior Manager – Housing, Construction and Building Services) (substituting for John Hill, Depute Chief Executive – Housing, Construction and Building Services); Jim Forrest (CHCP Director); Inspector Graham Jones (Lothian and Borders Police); Tom Kane and Jim Melvin (Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Board); Tony Simpson (Addiewell Prison) (substituting for Audrey Park)

Apologies – Councillor Cathy Muldoon; John Hill (Depute Chief Executive – Housing Construction and Building Services, West Lothian Council); Chief Inspector Jeanette McDiarmid (Lothian and Borders Police); Rob Strachan (Lothian and Borders Community Justice Authority); Audrey Park (Addiewell Prison)

In Attendance - Lorraine Gillies (Programme Manager, West Lothian Council)

1. **MINUTE**

The Board approved the minute of its meeting held on 27 March 2012 as a correct record.

2. **COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE UPDATE**

The Board considered a report (which had been circulated) from the Strategic Steering Group providing information to the end of May 2012 in relation to the overall picture of crime and community safety related issues, the impact of partners' activity on crime and community safety matters, and emerging issues posing a high risk or threat to communities but falling outwith current priority areas.

Detailed information was provided in relation to each of the partnership priority areas for the current year to the end of March 2012, with a comparison for the figures for the same period in the previous financial year.

Decision

To note the report and the information provided for the period to the end of March, 2012.

3. **COMMUNITY SAFETY QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT**

The Board considered a report (which had been circulated) from the Strategic Steering Group providing information drawn from Covalent to show the performance of the Community Safety Unit against agreed performance indicators.

Actual performance was shown against targets, and trend charts were produced with commentary to explain the performance results.

### Decisions

- (1) To note the report and the information drawn from Covalent to demonstrate performance by the Community Safety Unit for the final quarter of 2011/2012.
- (2) To agree that future reports should include improved commentary on figures such as those for PI cspASB030, stating the overall number as well as the number of re-offenders, and the types and numbers of offences involved.
- (3) To agree that the same report for the next meeting of the Board should include more information and detail in relation to figures and trends for PI cspASB010, including comparative information for the previous three financial years.

## 4. **COMMUNITY SAFETY PRIORITY OUTCOMES AND PERFORMANCE REPORT**

The Board considered a report (which had been circulated) informing the Board of the updating of the Community Safety Partnership priorities for 2012-2015.

The report explained that this followed a request made at the last meeting of the Board that “domestic violence” and “serious and organised crime” should be added to the priority outcomes, or else clearly expressed within those previously proposed.

The report advised that those changes had been made, and the new version of the priority outcomes for 2012-15 were detailed in the report.

The report concluded by advising that a separate report was before the Board in relation to serious and organised crime.

### Decisions

- (1) To approve the re-worded Community Safety Priority Outcomes.
- (2) To agree that for future meetings the Board, a report in the format of Agenda Item 4 would no longer be required, and that a report in the format of Agenda Item 5 would be sufficient to provide the Board with the information it required in relation to performance.

## 5. **PROPOSED NEW OUTCOME – SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME**

The Board considered a report (which had been circulated) providing information in relation to the priority outcome of “Serious and Organised Crime (SOC)”.

The report provided information about the challenges facing communities in Scotland arising from serious organised crime, and provided a definition which had been adopted in the Scottish Government’s strategy in 2009.

The report went on to explain the strategy adopted by Lothian and Borders Police to provide a framework for tackling the identified objectives of the Scottish Government's own strategy, and outlined the three performance indicators which were proposed as a means of measuring success in terms of reducing the threat of serious organised crime in West Lothian.

The report concluded by advising that the key to achieving success lay in close collaboration amongst police, public authority and partner agencies, and advised that plans were under way to create a partnership group to meet to agree a local serious organised crime action plan.

#### Decisions

- (1) To note the information provided in relation to the new priority outcome for Serious Organised Crime.
- (2) To approve the three performance indicators in relation to that priority outcome.

### 6. **FOCUS ON DOORSTEP CRIME CAMPAIGN**

The Board considered a report (which had been circulated) containing a strategic update on the Focus on Doorstep Crime Campaign that had taken place from 19 March 2012, aimed at tackling the issues of Bogus Callers and Rogue Traders in West Lothian.

The report provided information about the two week initiative which had been run in co-operation amongst partner agencies, and provided information as to the successes of the campaign.

The report concluded by advising that as a result of the campaign, the incidence of doorstep crime had fallen in West Lothian immediately after the initiative concluded, and that there had been an increase in the number of calls to the Police regarding suspected bogus callers.

#### Decisions

- (1) To note the outcomes of the Focus on Doorstep Crime Campaign.
- (2) To agree that a repetition of the campaign would be welcomed in the West Lothian community.

### 7. **OPERATION FALCON**

The Board considered a report (which had been circulated) providing information about Operation Falcon, an initiative to tackle acquisitive crime in West Lothian, specifically metal theft, diesel theft and cigarette thefts.

The report provided information about the way in which the campaign had been run, in co-operation amongst partner organisations, and outlined the aims of the operation.

It went on to explain the outcomes that had been noted, and that although

several travelling criminals had been arrested, and static road checks carried out for in excess of 1,000 vehicles, there had been no high value metal thefts, diesel thefts or cigarette thefts noted on the nights that the operation had been running.

#### Decision

To note the developments and achievements to date of Operation Falcon.

### 8. **DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE RESPONSE IN WEST LOTHIAN**

The Board considered a report (which had been circulated) providing an updated overview of the innovative work of agencies in West Lothian to address domestic and sexual violence.

The report outlined the long-standing commitment in West Lothian to preventing and eradicating violence against women, the reflection of that commitment in the strategic leadership of the multi-agency Strategic Group, and in the allocation of resources and the close partnership working across the whole Community Planning Partnership.

The report explained the agencies involved and the approach taken to dealing with these problems, and advised that there had been a development of a service which had been the catalyst for an improved profile of local services supported across sectors.

The structures and arrangements which were in place to facilitate partnership working were explained in detail, and the report concluded by providing information about the specialist Domestic Abuse Court which had commenced work in West Lothian in February 2012.

#### Decision

To note the progress and achievements of West Lothian's multi-agency response to domestic abuse and sexual violence.