



# York & North Yorkshire Safer Communities Forum

Key Messages  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2007

## Promotion of the YNYSCF

The Chair reported that he had visited a number of partners and partner agencies since the last meeting and feedback suggested that the Forum still had some way to go in establishing itself as the key strategic group with regard to Safer Communities. It was agreed that an ongoing programme of awareness raising was preferable, concentrating on reinforcing roles, structures and responsibilities of the Forum and its associated groups.

The SFG would continue to work on developing a guiding set of principles for reference by the Forum as a matter of urgency.

## DAAT

Mike Ryan has been appointed as the new DAAT Chair and will sit on the YNYSCF. The DAAT has initiated a strategic review and is working closely with York DAAT to address issues such as duplication and best value. CDRP's are now represented on DAAT in North Yorkshire.

## Strategic Filter Group report

The SFG presented its Key Messages for the period. Its Focus of Attention paper – previously circulated – provides a clear work programme for the group. Key areas of current activity and development were:

- **Taking stock of current data sources and information gaps** – to ensure a risk profile can be developed to guide the Forum decision making
- **Overseeing LAA developments** – a new series of SFG meetings have been planned to concentrate specifically on receiving, analysing and preparing reports for the YNYSCF on progress with regard to LAA priorities.
- **Agreeing guiding principles for the Forum and associated groups** – for use in decision making at all levels
- **Working to provide clear financial information for the Forum** – working with CDRP Managers to provide a current picture of funding across the county and preparing information for the Forum on the implications of recent funding cuts to the SSCF, the impact of the LAA and developing proposals for future funding patterns by the Forum
- **Developing suitable arrangements for communication between all stakeholders on Safer Communities issues** – most notably through the NYSP website and CDRP meeting forums, but seeking to ensure that all possible avenues for promotion and greater understanding of the work and role of the Forum and its sub-groups are maximised. Discussion has centred around the development of a communication strategy for the Forum and will be taken forward in future SFG meetings

## Safer Communities LAA Performance Management

The Forum received a report from Jennefer Cornforth (the Forums Performance Monitoring Officer) on the practical arrangements for performance monitoring and reporting of the Safer Communities element of the NY LAA. The main points of the presentation and following discussion were:

- As part of the presentation JC distributed copies of the paperwork that would be used to request and record performance against targets, a description of current arrangements including identification of TLOs and the roles and responsibilities of nominated officers and the Forum.
- A workshop for nominated TLOs (from both the Safer and Stronger Communities blocks) to clarify any outstanding issues to be held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2007
- Questions raised included:
  - ▶ How will the NY and York LAAs link – JC to liaise with Terry Collins
  - ▶ Missing TLOs – Final list to be confirmed and submitted to SFG on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2007
  - ▶ Linking Alcohol work across Healthy and Safer Communities blocks – Alcohol JCG to lead
  - ▶ Stretch targets – Action Plans to be developed and approved by each target, no monies yet received
  - ▶ Reporting sequence – targets within the remit of CDRP's will be reported 6 monthly until April 2008.

## JCG reports

Update and exception reports included the following:

### CDRP Managers

Funding still constituted the main focus of work with CDRP Managers. Frustratingly SSCF allocations had only just been confirmed and final budgets would be taken to the next round of CDRP Board meetings. The CDRP Managers requested the Forum consider the position with regard to the PPO co-ordinator funding (see below)

### Alcohol

Draft strategy expected for consultation by end of July 2007.

Work was ongoing to strengthen the focus on young people and alcohol within the draft. Also, links to work in York and the Safer York partnership were being addressed by the JCG.

### Domestic Abuse

The Group had met again and confirmed a new Chair and Vice Chair (Det Insp Alan Carey and Paul Weatherstone respectively). Work was ongoing in all five identified priority areas (see previous reports). Funding was a particularly key issue for the group and it hoped to bring a presentation on the Making Safe project to the next Forum meeting to illustrate the cost benefits of the programme and encourage partners to secure funding to roll the programme out further across the county. Efforts to develop a robust, consistent multi-agency training programme were also of high priority.

### Data & Information

The group had met several times and received a presentation from Ian Cunningham. The new Chief Constable had initiated a Capability and Capacity review and so plans for the new D&I Unit were on hold pending the outcome although work with County and other partners on information needs and additional resources were continuing. In light of the delay, the SFG would consider interim arrangements for D&I at their next meeting.

It was confirmed that the D&I requirements of the Forum stretched further than core community safety data, and needed to include health, social, education etc data. It was confirmed that this was implicit within the agreed business plan for the Unit on behalf of NY Police.

The group were to receive a presentation on new Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessments (JSIAs) at their forthcoming meeting which would then be brought to the wider forum to ensure all partners have an understanding of how they fit into the process.

### PPO

Advances in the update report were noted. It was reported that the methodology for measuring the reduction in adult re-offending (SAF 7a) had been agreed by the Home Office.

CDRP Managers had requested the Forum discuss the **future of the PPO Co-ordinator post** which was in jeopardy due to funding uncertainties. Originally a 2-year fixed term post, the role had proved valuable and been continued supported by CDRP funds. With the 14% cut to SSCF CDRPs had no option but to propose reduced contributions evenly spread across all 8 CDRPs (incl. York). Probation had been asked to pick up the outstanding monies needed to continue the post, however agreement had not yet been reached. Due to the complexities of the issue and the need for further clarification on resources from Probation and the LCJB it was agreed the SFG would receive a report and consider this issue further at their meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2007.

***The Chair requested that all JCG Chairs and CDRPs give consideration to the medium term and lifespan of the LAA when developing targets and action plans, including detailing milestone, resource requirements and expected benefits which will aide the forum in decision making – particularly in the area of funding - in future years.***

## Crime and Disorder Act Review – Implementation in England

Nigel Custance updated the group on the implications of the provisions of the CDA Review. His presentation noted that the Forum was unique within the region, in future all other two-tier areas would be required to develop such a body.

The presentation covered the six core strands to be covered by National Standards – Empowered And Effective Leadership, Intelligence Led Business Processes, Effective And Responsive Delivery Structures, Community Engagement, Visible And Constructive Accountability, Appropriate Knowledge And Skills – Regulations and then further guidance on implementation will be issued during the summer.

Forum members raised concerns about the issue of Scrutiny of CDRPs – particularly in terms of capacity and responsibilities of partners. If necessary the Forum will consider establishing a task group to oversee changes.

## Funding

BC presented a report detailing SSCF allocations for 2007/08 for the County. It was agreed that the funding should be distributed to CDRPs using the same formula as in previous years (i.e 20% fixed split across all CDRPs, 30% according to population, 50% according to crime rates). The DAT would also receive monies as per previous years – subject to the same 14% reduction as CDRPs. The DAT has an underspend from 2006/07 (non-recurring). The strategic review will consider how best to apply this and a report will be brought to the Forum.

## Local Area Agreement (LAA) Update

### North Yorkshire

Bill Cross outlined the likely changes to the LAA process and structure as a consequence of the Strong & Prosperous Communities White Paper. These new structures would impact on the refresh of the NY LAA in 2008.

At the core of the new LAA will be a set of no more than 35 improvement targets together with 18 statutory educational and early years targets covering the period 2008-2011. Targets will be drawn from a new set of approximately 200 national indicators (not yet determined, but based on the national priorities under development as part of the National Spending Review) which will cover all blocks of the LAA. These proposed indicators will not be known until Autumn at the earliest. The selection of the 35 indicators will be based on local assessment of priorities, GOYHs local knowledge of the county and (in a few cases) Central Government intervention.

The current LAA contains some 180 individual targets, the new LAA will consist of 35 +18 core targets and local areas will be able to include any number of additional local targets agreed with GOYH and central Government as appropriate.

There will be no change to the negotiated stretch or Reward Element targets.

It is likely that the new arrangements will entail changes in funding. Instead of local authorities receiving a number of ring-fenced specific grants for defined purposes, they will receive a single, unringfenced, area support grant. This will not be new money but authorities will be able to use the money much more flexibly. The implication will be that the requirements of partnership arrangements for funds such as the SSCF has provided in the past (and as distinct from partners' efforts) will need to be determined locally.

### York

Terry Collins confirmed that Yorks LAA was well underway – although lots of the same issues applied. He supported the idea of closer links between the two so that the value of the Forum as a York and North Yorkshire partnership could be exploited and the agenda more relevant to his continued participation.

It was agreed the Forum would receive a report on the content and progress of the York LAA.

## Bill Cross

**The Chair paid tribute to Bill Cross, in particular his role in establishing the Forum and developing the LAA for North Yorkshire – his retirement was a significant loss to the Forum and everyone wished him well .**

## Date & Time of Next Meeting

16<sup>th</sup> August 2007 at 10am at County Hall, Northallerton