



York & North Yorkshire Safer Communities Forum

JOINT OFFICER WORKING GROUP (JOWG)

Notes of the meeting held at 2.00 pm on 14th July 2008 at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Northallerton

Present:

N Hutchinson (NYFRS) – Chair
T Bryant (NYCC)
M Chance (CDRP Managers Rep)
J Cornforth (NYCC)
N Custance (GOYH)
S Hill (Domestic Abuse JCG)
N Irving (Horizon Scanning / Communications JCG)

L Marginson (PPO JCG)
A McVeigh (Road Safety JCG)
S Pudney (Performance JCG)
L Smith (Funding JCG)
R Taylor (Alcohol JCG)
N Warnes (Violent Crime / Data & Information JCG)

Apologies:

Chris Anderson (Road Safety JCG)

Action

1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Nigel Hutchinson welcomed everyone to the inaugural meeting of the JOWG – the body responsible for taking issues forward on behalf of the Forum. In terms of modus operandi he asked that each member of the JOWG speak on behalf of their own JCG and feed back to their respective JCG and/or organisation; also to ensure any related organisations are kept up to date with the work of the Forum. This is particularly important as it will add context to the discussion at, and outcomes of, meetings that minutes and Key Messages may not convey. Further, it will reduce the potential for duplication or omission of work across the various stakeholder agencies

2.0 JCG UPDATE

Nigel Hutchinson briefly covered the need for terms of reference, action plans and highlight reports – he thanked Liz Smith for her initial design and creation.

Domestic Abuse: Sarah Hill expressed concerns about the sustainability of funding for Domestic Abuse Co-ordinators. Neil Irving informed the meeting that the County Council is currently in discussions with the Police and the PCT, with

the aim of securing mainstream, long-term funding for the posts from April 2009. Nick Warnes informed the meeting that BCU funding (that has been used to fund domestic abuse co-ordinators) for the Eastern and Western Areas will be released shortly, but that the Western Area would be 23% less than the previous year as the overall BCU funding was reduced by 23%. In addition Central Area BCU had mainstreamed their funding for domestic abuse co-ordinators. Nigel Custance stated that GOYH has yet to receive the Western Area proposal.

Nick Warnes to seek confirmation on the Western Area funding and provide an update to Liz Smith and the JOWG.

NW

It has been difficult to collect data in support of the LAA target, but this work is being progressed and figures should be available in the next 6 to 12 months – Stuart Pudney & Nick Warnes to be keep up to date with progress. Rosemary Taylor asked if alcohol related incidents can be collected.

Nigel Hutchinson stated that at the NYSP Executive meeting held last month, a point was raised about the need to consider how best to support children who witness domestic violence – SH/NH (on behalf of the Forum) in liaison with Cynthia Welbourn and Anne McNorris of the Children and Young People's Thematic Partnership are to prepare a report for the next NYSP Executive meeting.

NH/SH

Alcohol: Rosemary Taylor spoke to her highlight report and priority actions for 2008/09. Work is underway to get a picture of alcohol related work across the county. The group are also seeking to engage with the Children & Young People's thematic partnership.

RT briefed the meeting with regards to recent Home Office funding bids that have been declined.

NH mentioned the invitations for bids in respect of Alcohol Arrest Referral pilots for young people. NC confirmed that initial expressions of interest were required by 23rd July 2008.

NH stated that the NYSP Executive had decided to include a presentation on the theme of Alcohol at the forthcoming NYSP Partnership meeting on 11th September. RT commented that Sue Maddison should be given the opportunity to deliver such a presentation. RT and NH to liaise in first instance.

NH/RT

PPO: Lynda Marginson spoke to her report, informing the group that the structures are now in place and the right people are around the table. A joint working day had been held earlier in the year and the PPO process is now fully mapped from start to finish. LM noted that the PPO JCG may potentially expand its remit to include Integrated Offender Management (IOM).

RT raised the issue of cross-border communications with regard to PPOs – LM said that there was a geographical mapping tool now available.

RT asked if it would be appropriate for Sue Maddison (of the Drugs and Alcohol Action Team) to attend this meeting due to the causal link with alcohol and substance misuse. The meeting agreed.

TB

Discussion followed on the funding of the PPO coordinator post. NI agreed to follow-up.

NI

Violent Crime: Nick Warnes gave a verbal report to the meeting, stating his JCG is developing terms of reference/action plan for the group and would circulate these to the JOWG once complete. He briefed the meeting on two projects being funded by the £100K pump priming grant – a Brief Intervention Scheme in Scarborough and a night marshals scheme in Selby. It was confirmed that all funds have been allocated.

NW

Road Safety: Alan McVeigh stated his priority was the integration of 95 Alive into the work of the Forum and CDRPs. All CDRPs have been offered a presentation on the work of the partnership. Performance against the LAA2 target is currently ahead of target. A discussion around disaggregation of the county wide target to district level took place – this will not happen in the LAA, but a monthly e-bulletin providing collision data at a district level is being developed.

AM

KSI Performance had been noted at the last NYSP Executive as a cause for concern, AMc reported that the QTR 1 performance for KSIs were within target.

AM

NH relayed the request from the NYSP Executive to Thematic Partnership Chairs to look at PPG allocations in the context of performance against targets and to offer up any unallocated PPG for redistribution where greater benefit might be derived. For the Safer TP this applies to Violent Crime and Road Safety. AMc to confirm budget and expenditure to date for the Pump Priming Grant (PPG).

Data and Information: Nick Warnes explained the bid to the Home Office for a data hub had been declined. However, there remains a commitment from NYCC and the police in terms of officer support for this work, although there are some issues in relation to data sharing that need to be addressed. It was agreed there needs to a clear project specification with timescales for the data hub.

NW

NH reminded the meeting of the requirement to produce a county JSIA by the end of the year. The data analyst for the Western Area is being funded for one day a week by the Forum (subject to agreeing outcome) to support the work on the county wide JSIA. The group expressed frustration at the lack of progress with regard to county wide data hub.

Horizon Scanning: Neil Irving explained that the aim of this group is to identify any legislation/policy developments that will impact upon the Forum. NI is looking at how this group will operate.

NI

Communications: Neil Irving has identified three roles for the group; communication within the community safety arena; between the Forum and the other parts of the NYSP in particular the other thematic partnerships; and with the wider public. Rosemary Taylor suggested that a member of the LCJB is invited to join the discussion group. It was suggested that an events calendar is considered by the group.

NI

Mandy Chance raised concerns about the number of meetings and duplication of work. However, it was accepted that there should be CDRP input into the group even if it wasn't attendance at the JCG.

Funding: It was confirmed that NYCC will be issuing Area based Grant (ABG) and Single Capital Pot (SCP) funding imminently.

Liz Smith reported that £19K revenue and £3 – 13K capital remains unallocated from the ABG/SCP grant for 2008/09. Liz Smith sought clarification from the Forum on the criteria for allocating funds. NH erred caution in allocating the remaining funds until clarity over the relative priorities is achieved. Any mid-year allocation of funds should be agreed by the JOWG collectively.

Liz Smith stated that the allocation of the ABG/SCP for 2009/10 needs to be discussed at the November Forum; with a look forward to formal sign-off at a further Forum meeting in February 2009. Neil Irving raised concerns that the Forum might not be meeting often enough. Nigel Hutchinson explained why the changes were previously made and it was agreed to hold to the twice yearly meetings (Nov and Feb) for the time being, with an option to hold a third meeting in June/July if warranted.

To summarise NH asked that all relevant JCGs / other subject leads prepare action plans for 2009/10 & 2010/11, with the resource implications of delivering these priorities to be received at the JOWG meeting in September. This will allow a prioritised action plan to be produced with a view to informing resource allocation for the next two years, but to also take a view about committing remaining resources in the current financial year.

Rosemary Taylor raised concerns about creating a bidding culture and that funding should be targeted at identified priorities.

Stuart Pudney raised concerns about the allocation of the remaining funds against performance figures that were published 3 months in arrears.

The meeting discussed the practical arrangements for allocation of funding acknowledging that the County Council and City of York Council are the custodians of the ABG for the respective areas. In terms of the County area, pending adoption of any formal constitution arrangements, the Forum will be responsible for recommending to the NYSP Executive, the allocation of ABG funds to CDRPs for use on agreed priority areas for the forthcoming year. The JOWG will be responsible for in-year operational management of funds allocated to priority areas.

NH briefed the meeting with regards to accountability for funding back to the NYSP and ultimately the County Council. Liz Smith agreed to provide a flowchart detailing the process of how monies should be spent. A more specific spending regime is required with a spending plan for each project/piece of work to ensure accountability. Mandy Chance raised concerns that it is not a straight forward process for CDRPs to provide spending plans so far in advance. Nick Warnes highlighted the two routes for gaining funding; being offered funds for a specific project (reactive); having to search for funds for existing projects (proactive).

Liz Smith asked how York will fit into this system – Nigel Hutchinson agreed to liaise with Terry Collins.

It was agreed that a flowchart of Forum/JOWG meetings be produced identifying the decisions that need to be made.

Nigel Hutchinson raised concerns about monies becoming available half way through the year as resources are averted from planned work to meet bid deadlines.

**JCG Leads /
other subject
leads**

LS

NH

NH/TB

Stuart Pudney asked about the reward element of LAA1 and LAA2 – Neil Irving said that it would be another two years before the LAA reward element is made available and in terms of LAA2 the reward element is significantly less. The NYSP will make a decision on the allocation of these funds.

Performance: No immediate issues – Stuart Pudney has produced draft terms of reference/membership.

3.0 LAA2 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT - UPDATE

Jennifer Cornforth raised the issue of four National Indicators that do not align to current JCGs – JC and TB to follow up with the relevant people.

JC & TB

4.0 FUNDING - UPDATE

Discussed under JCG Funding above.

5.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY AGREEMENT

Nigel Hutchinson asked if everyone had read the latest draft and were in a position to sign up to the general direction and content set out in the draft Agreement. Given the timing of its production this year, it was suggested that the JOWG approve its adoption on behalf of the Forum, since the Forum is not due to meet until November. The intention for all future CSAs is to co-ordinate the timing to align with partner organisations business planning processes for the start of the financial year.

All

Consensus was reached to approve the Agreement in principle. Members were requested to forward any remaining comments/amendments to Tom Bryant ASAP.

The meeting closed as it ran out of time. The following items were not discussed and will be included on a future JOWG agenda where appropriate; Forum constitution/voting rights; suggested issues for November Forum agenda; business crime; North Yorkshire Times.

6.0 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

11th September 2008 – 10.00 am until 12 noon at Fire HQ, Northallerton
8th December 2008 – 10.00 am until 12 noon at Fire HQ, Northallerton