



Minutes of the meeting of the CRIME AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP held on MONDAY 3 MARCH 2003 at 10.00am

**Present:**

Chief Superintendent	-	Thames Valley Police (In the Chair)
J Reeve		
N Atwal	-	Milton Keynes Racial Equality Council
A Dransfield	-	Milton Keynes Council
I Fraser	-	Milton Keynes Local Councils
Dr V Fernandes	-	Milton Keynes Primary Care Trust
I Henderson	-	Milton Keynes Council
G Hughes	-	Open University
J Best	-	Milton Keynes Council
K Holland	-	Bucks Fire and Rescue Service
R Ogle	-	Thames Valley Police
M Geddes	-	Milton Keynes Economic Partnership
B Sandom	-	Milton Keynes Council
C Fox	-	Milton Keynes Chamber of Commerce
A Radevsky	-	Crimestoppers

**Associate Partners:**

C Hawkins	-	Milton Keynes Safety Centre
C Vallance	-	Milton Keynes Drug Action Team
L Westlake	-	Youth Offending Team
J Thompson	-	Compass Young Peoples Drug Service
I Richardson	-	Milton Keynes Park Trust

**Also Present:**

M Follett	-	Researcher
-----------	---	------------

**Officers:**

N Coolman	-	Thames Valley Police Co-ordinator
G Snellson	-	Milton Keynes Council
C Godfrey	-	Milton Keynes Council
R Solly	-	Milton Keynes Council
R Townend	-	Milton Keynes Council

**Apologies:**

B Ball	-	Bucks Probation Service
J McElligott	-	Milton Keynes Council
A Taylor	-	MK Forum Against Domestic Violence

The Chair congratulated I Fraser who had been elected as the Milton Keynes Local Council's representative for a further three years.

#### **44.0 MINUTES**

The Partnership received the minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2002.

#### **45.0 MATTERS ARISING**

The Partnership noted that the Open University (OU) envisaged stronger research links with the Crime and Community Safety Partnership and Milton Keynes Council. The Partnership noted that the Open University had established a three-year Phd course and that the OU would like to undertake research and interviews of Partnership members.

#### **46.0 CRIMESTOPPERS PRESENTATION**

The Partnership received a presentation on Crimestoppers from Angela Radevsky (Regional Manager Thames Valley Crimestoppers).

The Partnership noted the concept of Crimestoppers and that Crimestoppers was a national charity run locally and the only charity dedicated to solving crime.

The Partnership also noted that calls to Crimestoppers were free and callers were not asked their names and could receive a reward. The Partnership noted that rewards were given based upon a strict checklist and generally remained unclaimed with the majority of public calling to help combat crime.

The Partnership also noted that half of Crimestoppers funding came from Local Authorities and the remainder from fund -raising events and donations.

It was noted by the Partnership that dialling Crimestoppers on the freephone number 0800 555 111, connected callers to retired detectives who would take the reported information and pass this to the police. It was noted by the Partnership that calling Crimestoppers was entirely separate from contacting the police.

The presentation also explained that calls to Crimestoppers would never be recorded and would not appear on itemised bills.

The Partnership noted the NOP research that stated 83% claimed intimidation would prevent them calling the police but 76% of these said they would call Crimestoppers for that reason.

The Partnership noted that 5,856 had been arrested and charged nationally as a result of calls to Crimestoppers in 2002.

Concerns were raised by the Partnership that figures for 2001 showed a decline in the number of arrests and charges resulting from Crimestoppers calls. The Partnership noted that 2002 figures had increased above those of 2000 and 2001.

The Chair expressed thanks to A Radevsky for the informative and interesting presentation.

Notes from the presentation on Crimestoppers are attached to these minutes as Annex A.

#### **47.0 QUALITY OF LIFE**

The Partnership received a presentation from Neil Coolman (Thames Valley Police Co-ordinator) and Richard Solly (Crime and Community Safety Partnership Co-ordinator, Milton Keynes Council), regarding Development of Unit Targeting Quality of Life Issues in Milton Keynes.

The Partnership noted the aims of the Unit included tackling abandoned vehicles, graffiti, anti social behaviour and litter. The Partnership also noted the Unit aimed to promote quality of life in Milton Keynes by developing close co-operation between the community and the various bodies and agencies committed to community safety.

The presentation explored the possible components of the Unit, including Mobile CCTV, Neighbourhood (Street) Wardens (NHW) and the Traveller Management Unit.

The Partnership also noted the following three objectives of the Unit:

- (a) To deliver the targets on anti social behaviour, anti graffiti and abandoned vehicles in the Community Safety Strategy 2002-5
- (b) To support the work of other units and teams that are responsible for reducing anti social behaviour
- (c) To develop multi-agency partnership work in Milton Keynes

The Partnership noted the proposed functions of the Unit included:

- (i) Sensitivity to the needs of local communities
- (ii) Responsiveness to first class information, through building databases and sharing intelligence
- (iii) A focus on solutions, through appropriate targeting and joint working.

The Partnership also noted that the Unit would be co-located in one of three possible suggestions, which included:

- (i) Somewhere in the Milton Keynes Council Offices
- (ii) A Parks Trust location (for a small fee), or
- (iii) Somewhere in a Thames Valley Police building

Concerns were expressed by I Fraser (Milton Keynes Local Councils representative) that local Parish and Rural Councils had not been

included in the recommended structure despite engaging their own Wardens and Crime and Community Safety Officers. The partnership noted that Local Councils needed to have a group spokesperson with direct input into the Unit.

R Solly advised the Partnership that although the Unit was central, it could not function without close liaison with Parish Councils.

Concerns were raised by C Godfrey (Senior Parish Liaison Officer) that Parishes should be consulted regarding the Unit and that consultation should explain how the Unit would effect Parishes and what benefits would be gained.

I Fraser stated that Local Councils did not have a place in the Strategic Team and consequently a key partner was missing from the Strategic Team. The Partnership noted that I Fraser opposed the recommended structure and would directly discuss the issue with Parish Councils at the Parishes Assembly.

Notes from the presentation on the Development of Unit Targeting Quality of Life Issues are attached to these minutes as Annex B.

AGREED –

1. That the Quality of Life Unit options paper be noted and the Unit be established subject to a review of the proposed structure to ensure close liaison and co-operation with Parish and Town Councils.
2. That the Unit be:
  - (i) Sensitive to the needs of local communities
  - (ii) Responsive to first class information
  - (iii) Solution focused.

## **48.0**

### **BUDGET REPORT**

The Partnership received a report on Budget Planning and noted the measures that would finalise spending of the 2002-03 budget including carry over funds from 2001-02.

The report also introduced the 2003-04 budgets together with a draft plan of action.

The Partnership noted that regular budget reports would be provided on a quarterly basis.

AGREED –

1. That the Partnership approved the final spending plan for 2002-3.
2. That the Partnership approved the preliminary spending plan for 2003-4.

3. That the Partnership approved the preliminary Basic Command Unit (BCU)

**ACTION – Richard Solly / Neil Coolman**

**49.0 BURGLARY**

The Partnership received a verbal update on Burglary and noted that £20,000 was to be spent on a new burglary initiative.

The Partnership noted that burglary had risen by 10% in the region during the last year and that the new initiative would involve rapid deployment of Police Officers. The Partnership agreed that the funds were well received.

**50.0 PARTNERSHIP SELF ASSESSMENT**

The Partnership considered the Self-Assessment report.

AGREED –

That Richard Solly and Neil Coolman prepare a method of assessment that would be considered at the next meeting of the Executive Board.

**51.0 PROJECT LIGHTHOUSE REPORT**

The Partnership considered the Project Lighthouse report and Action Plan that outlined the progress in planning and set up of a new project to work with victims of domestic violence in Milton Keynes.

Concerns were raised regarding the support and staffing of the new team that would work with victims of domestic violence and that the inclusion of a housing officer would be difficult. The Partnership noted that the team could function without a housing officer.

The Partnership considered the inclusion of Housing Associations in the team and agreed that their inclusion would be beneficial.

AGREED –

That the Partnership approve the Action Plan and support the development of the project.

**52.0 DRUG ACTION TEAM REPORT**

The Partnership considered the Drug Action Team (DAT) report and received an update from C Vallance (Drug Action Team Co-ordinator).

The Partnership noted that the Government had completed a prolonged process aimed at considering future working arrangements between DATs and Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs).

The Partnership also noted that the DAT had agreed radical restructuring in order to become more responsive to the developing

national anti-drug strategy. The Partnership noted the details of the restructure and that the DAT would be discussed further at the next DAT Co-ordinator meeting.

AGREED –

- (i) That the Partnership noted the DAT restructuring arrangements.
- (ii) That the alcohol DOT, report directly to the Crime And Community Safety Partnership as well as the DAT.
- (iii) That the Partnership supported the initial response given to Government Office for the South East (GOSE).

### **53.0 QUARTERLY DATA REPORT**

The Partnership received an update from Neil Coolman on the Quarterly Progress report.

The partnership noted that the statistics were part of the baseline year as a result of changes made to standards.

The Partnership noted that violence in the City Centre had increased and that it was foreseen that the pubs and clubs would be brought online and provide more support in combating the issue. The Partnership also noted that there had been fewer visitors into the centre than in previous years.

With reference to Street Crime, the Partnership noted that although the figures indicated a 38% rise in street crime, there had been a 25% reduction in the number of robberies.

The Partnership also noted that two Arson Investigators were to be recruited.

### **54.0 YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM UPDATE**

The Partnership received a verbal update on the Youth Offending Team (YOT) from Lee Westlake (Youth Offending Team Manager, Milton Keynes Council).

The Partnership noted that the Home Office Youth Justice Board had identified that levels of re-offenders had significantly improved and Milton Keynes was consistent with these National Rates.

The Partnership also noted that a Youth Crime Preventative Strategy would be constructed.

### **55.0 PSA REPORT**

The Partnership received a verbal update from I Fraser regarding Public Service Agreements (PSA).

The Partnership noted that three Crime and Community Safety Officers (CCSO) had been appointed and several others were expected to be appointed.

The Partnership also noted that the learning curve for the CCSOs was very steep and the steering group had been very supportive and good relationships were developing.

The Partnership noted that Estate Wardens in Wolverton had been successful and that Operation Dignify had resulted in approximately 80 arrests.

## **56.0 WARDEN REPORT**

The Partnership received a report on the recruitment of Street Crime Wardens and noted that the recruitment process had been designed to ensure a fair process with participation by Milton Keynes Council and the relevant Town and Parish Councils. It was noted that the process involved shortlisting, a presentation and a formal interview.

## **57.0 STREET CRIME REPORT**

The Partnership received a report on the Street Crime initiative and Street Crime Statistics.

The Partnership noted that phase 2 of the Street Crime initiative would concentrate on:

- the resettlement of Street Crime Offenders
- promoting drug treatment as a response to drug related crime
- reducing the risk for potential victims
- working with vulnerable families
- acting against gun crime.

Concerns were raised by the Partnership that the statistics needed to be more specific and provide a general picture of Milton Keynes. The Partnership discussed the use of statistics specific to the Milton Keynes area at estate level.

The Partnership agreed that the statistics could be developed to provide a general view of street crime in Milton Keynes.

**Action - Richard Solly**

## **58.0 CHILDREN'S FUND**

The Partnership received a verbal update from Richard Solly regarding the Children's Fund.

The Partnership noted that a plan was still being compiled for funding. The Partnership also noted that the Children's Fund would partake in general work with more vulnerable children.

The Partnership agreed that the Children's Fund should be reconsidered at a future meeting of the Crime and Community Safety Partnership.

## **59.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Partnership noted that mobile CCTV would be launched at 11.00am on Friday 6 March at the Novotel, Heelands.

I Fraser advised the Partnership that the Spotlight programme continued and the next subject to be considered would be Youth Culture.

**60.0**

**DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Partnership noted the dates of the future meetings of the Crime and Community Safety Partnership:

2 June 2003

1 September 2003

1 December 2003

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 12.37 PM