

Overview and Scrutiny
Neighbourhood Action Groups Review Group

Monday 22 October 2012
530pm Room 3
Civic Offices

AGENDA

<http://cmis.milton-keynes.gov.uk/CmisWebPublic/>

Membership: Councillors Brunning, Coventry, C Williams

Overview and Scrutiny Officer: Zahra Dhamani

Agenda

1. Welcome

2. Apologies

3. Disclosure of Interests

Members to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests, or personal interests (including other pecuniary interests), they may have in the business to be transacted, and officers to disclose any interests they may have in any contract to be considered.

4. Minutes of the last meeting

To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Neighbourhood Action Group Review Group 18September 2012 **(Item 4) (pages 4 to 6)**

5. Safer Neighbourhood Delivery Group Survey Results

To look at the outcomes of the survey; with attention to how priorities have been identified and the decision making process. **(Item 5) (to follow)**

6. Work Plan

To review the Review Group Work Plan and discuss the workshop to be held on 5 November. **(Item 6a and b) (pages 7 to 8)**

Dates of meetings of the Review Group

Dates	Civic Offices
Tuesday 18 September 530	Conservatory
Monday 22 October 530	Room 3
Monday 5 November 330 (Workshop)	Room 4 (workshop) Room 3 (meeting)
Monday 3 December 530	Room 3
Monday 14 January 530 TBC	Room 3

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A form is available online at <http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/complaints/> or is obtainable at the meeting.

Please detach the slip below and return it to one of the officers attending the meeting.

THE PROCEEDINGS AT THIS MEETING MAY BE RECORDED FOR THE PURPOSE OF PREPARING THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING.

Meeting Attended: Neighborhood Action Groups Review Group

Date of Meeting: 22 October 2012

Comments:.....
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NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP REVIEW GROUP
22 OCTOBER 2012

Minutes of the meeting of the Neighbourhood Action Groups Review Group held on Tuesday 18 September 2012, 5:30pm.

Present: Councillor Brunning, Coventry and C Williams

Officers: Z Dhamani (Overview and Scrutiny Officer), A Flynn (Head Of Neighbourhood Management) and R Solly (Head of Community Safety)

Witness: D Livingstone (Chair Safer Neighbourhood Delivery Group [SDNG])

Appointment of Chair

That Councillor Brunning be elected as Chair of the Review Group
 Councillor C Williams be appointed as Vice-Chair.

Terms of Reference

That the Terms of Reference be agreed.

Current Positions of Neighbourhood Action Groups (NAGs)

It was noted that the Safer Neighbourhood Delivery Group (SNDG) was currently in the process of sending out a survey to NAGs, via the Thames Valley Police (TVP) representatives across Milton Keynes. The aim was that the feedback from the survey would provide basic information about the NAGs, the current priorities, how they operate and what was missing. It would also identify where the effective NAGs were and where no NAG had been established.

It was highlighted that TVP representatives, who completed the survey in areas without NAGs, might have a different view point to NAGs and Parish Councils. Parish Councils would then be contacted in the areas without NAGs after the initial responses had been collated.

Milton Keynes Council (MKC) officers would take responsibility to ensure surveys issued to Council officers would be returned promptly.

The Chair of SNDG provided some comments on his current view of NAGs which included :

- NAGs were operated by volunteers
- When chairs change the handover was not effective in every case
- The previous format for NAGs to operate was very formulated
- TVP had stepped back from this approach and this had allowed NAGs to operate more freely
- One approach for NAG operation would not suit all areas
- NAGs needed support, training, particularly for chairs and back office support
- There was a lack of awareness within NAGs as to what resources were available to them
- The survey would highlight some of these issues

There were discussions around the approach for NAGs. There was a consensus that while NAGs should have the same terms of reference it would be open to each one to interpret them according

to their area. A common approach to communicating with residents and a process for identifying priorities would be useful. A set of guiding principles for NAGs would be key to having a consistent approach without restricting NAGs.

Current Guidance from National Government on NAGs

It was noted that there was no formal guidance for NAGs. Previous guidance from the Home Office was very rigid and the group which set these no longer existed. With the elections in November for the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) it was thought the new Commissioner would provide guidance on how NAGs might operate, in each police area but it could be late 2013 before this was in place. The PCC and the Community Safety Partnership will have a mutual requirement and duty to take due regard to standards and priorities of one another.

It was thought that this would give the Review Group a good opportunity to put steps in place to improve the effectiveness of NAGs across Milton Keynes.

Review Group Work Plan

The work plan was amended in response to the discussion as follows:.

Date	Item	Witnesses
18.09	Review the original aim of NAGs and how they have moved on from then. To look at the current priorities for NAGs ahead of the results of the survey detailed below by the Delivery Group. Number of NAGs and in which areas. Areas without NAGs.	Chair of SNDG
	Look at current guidance from Central Government on NAGs	
22.10	Look at the outcomes of the survey conducted by the Safer Neighbourhood Delivery Group: What are the priorities for NAGs? Decision making process for NAGs	
	Look for possible options for alternative structures for NAGs in preparation for the next meeting	
	Look at the risks for NAGs, for example, lack of resource and what solutions could be found	
5.11	A workshop with witnessed from a cross section of partners.	Representatives from MKC, TVP, Parish and Town Councils, Schools, Ward Members, Junior NAGs, Voluntary Organisations, Health sector, Local Businesses, Barwatch
	Look at the outcomes of the current SaferMK survey	

3.12	Support for NAGs from MKC and resources needed Draft recommendations and report Consider PCC Election result and any early indications to the impact on NAGs	
	Consider the funding implications including partner contributions	
14.01	Review final report and recommendations ahead of Committee meeting 6 February	
	Actions	Owner
1	A map to be circulated to the Group and brought to the next meeting to plot where the effective NAGs are across Milton Keynes	Z Dhamani
2	Preparation of workshop and invitation of witnesses	Z Dhamani
3	Initial outline of survey to be circulated ahead of next meeting	D Brunning to provide to Group

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Work Plan – Neighbourhood Action Group – Review Group

Chair	Cllr Brunning
Vice-Chair	Cllr Williams
Overview and Scrutiny Officer	Z Dhamani
Members of Review Group	Cllr Coventry

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18.09	Review the original aim of NAGs and how they have moved on from then. To look at the current priorities for NAGs ahead of the results of the survey detailed below by the Delivery Group Number of NAGs and in which areas Areas without NAGs	
	Look at current guidance from Central Government on NAGs	
	Look for possible options for alternative structures for NAGs in preparation for the next meeting	
22.10	Look at the outcomes of the survey conducted by the Safer Neighbourhood Delivery Group: What are the priorities for NAGs Decision making process for NAGs	
5.11	Workshop to be held with a cross section of partners.	Possible representatives from: TVP, MKC, Chamber of Commerce, Chairs of NAGs, Safer Neighbourhood Delivery Group, Bucks Fire Service.
	Look at the outcomes of the current SaferMK survey if appropriate	
3.12	Support for NAGs from MKC and resources needed Draft recommendations and report Consider PCC Election result and any early indications to the impact on NAGs	
	Consider the funding implications including partner contributions	
14.01	Review final report and recommendations ahead of Committee meeting 6 February	

Timetable for Workshop 5 November	
300pm	Review Group to meet to discuss the process for the afternoon
330pm	Welcome and Introduction from Chair of the Review Group, Councillor Brunning
340pm	Group work
430pm	Feedback to all
450pm	Summary
500pm	Close
515pm	Review Group Meeting as itemised on Agenda for 5 November

Attendees	
	Chair NAG Review Group
	Member of NAG Review Group
	Member of NAG Review Group
	Bucks Fire Service
	Chamber of Commerce
	Community Action MK
	Representative Children's Practices
	Representative Neighbourhood services (Milton Keynes Council)
	Representative Regulatory Services (Milton Keynes Council)
	Representative Housing (Milton Keynes Council)
	Representative Traveller Liaison (Milton Keynes Council)
	Neighbourhood Warden (Milton Keynes Council)
	Chair of NAG
	Partnership Against Crime
	Safer Neighbourhood Delivery Group
	Partnership Inspector (Thames Valley Police)
	Neighbourhood Support Officer
	Schools Representative
	Residents

Facilitators	
Auzra Flynn	Head Of Neighbourhood Management
Richard Solly	Head of Safer MK
Colin Wilderspin	Deputy Head Safer MK
Zahra Dhamani	Overview and Scrutiny Officer