



SAFERMK PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 2 July 2015
in Room 2, at Milton Keynes Council Civic Offices @ 2.00pm

PRESENT:

Councillor Betteley (Non-Voting Chair)

Representatives of SaferMK Partnership Board with Voting Rights:

Duncan Sharkey	Corporate Director Place (Deputy for Carole Mills [Chief Executive – Milton Keynes Council])
Greg Smith	Area Manager, Buckinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service
Matthew Webb	NHS - Chief Officer (Acting), Milton Keynes, Clinical Commissioning Group
Paul Halstead	Chief Inspector (Acting), Thames Valley Police /Chair of the Business Management Group
Sue Cooke	Assistant Chief Officer for National Probation Service (Oxon & Bucks LDU and Thames Valley Prisons)

Co-opted members to SaferMK Partnership without Voting Rights:

Parish Councillor Philip Ayles	Representative for the Rural Parish Councils
Parish Councillor David Livingstone	Representative for the Urban Parish Councils
Dr Ivo Haest	(Consultant in Public Health, Milton Keynes Council), Representing Public Health - Chief Executive, Community Action:MK
Tim Marren	(Policy Advisor [Partnerships & Commissioning]), Representative for the Police and Crime Commissioner
Dr Shona Morrison	

Observer:

Councillor Eastman	Milton Keynes Council
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Officers:

Kelly Gardner	Partnership Performance Inspector, Thames Valley Police
Colin Wilderspin	Head of Community Safety, SaferMK/Milton Keynes Council
Lee Westlake	Head of Service Youth Justice, SaferMK/Milton Keynes Council
Steve Conway	Senior Community Safety Research Analyst, Milton Keynes Council
Tina Milner	Committee Manager, Milton Keynes Council

Others Present:

Calum Bell

Service Delivery Manager (Milton Keynes),
Buckinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service

Apologies:

Carole Mills

Chief Executive, Milton Keynes Council

Supt. Gez Chiariello

LPA Commander, Thames Valley Police

Councillor Brunning

Observer, Milton Keynes Council

Jane Reed

Service Director (Housing & Community),
Milton Keynes Council

Zareen Hayat

Senior Probation Officer, Thames Valley
Community Rehabilitation Co Ltd

Nicki Corani-Young

Partnership Sergeant, Thames Valley Police

Anthony Stansfeld

Police & Crime Commissioner, Thames Valley

Dr L Westmarland

The Open University

SMK01 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

The Partnership noted the appointment of Councillor Betteley as Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Public Access and therefore, in accordance with the Partnership's Terms of Reference, as Chair of the SaferMK Partnership for 2015/16.

SMK02 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED –

That the Local Police Area Commander be appointed Vice-Chair of the SaferMK Partnership for the year 2015/16 as per the Terms of Reference.

SMK03 CHAIR WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed partners and representatives to the meeting, particularly, the Corporate Director Place and the Chief Inspector (Acting), Thames Valley Police who were first time attendees to SaferMK Partnership.

SMK04 MINUTES

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the SaferMK Partnership held on 19 March 2015 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

SMK05 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

The Service Delivery Manager (Milton Keynes), Buckinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service disclosed a potential conflict of interest at item 13.

The Partnership considered the revised draft SaferMK Strategy 2015/17 which was presented by the Chair of the Business Management Group.

The Partnership heard that, as indicated in the report, various Task and Finish Groups (TFGs) would be set up to develop the action plans which had been prepared for each priority area.

The Partnership received reassurance from the Head of Community Safety that business management data from partners would be provided in a readable format and timely manner to assist the TFGs in considering comparative analysis data which would form part of their reporting to the Partnership on a regular basis.

The Chief Executive (Community Action:MK) expressed an interest in the voluntary sector being more involved in the priority action plans and would liaise with Thames Valley Police.

It was reported that the membership of the Business Management Group was to be extended to ensure there was sufficient core coverage in health and wellbeing matters.

RESOLVED –

1. That the oral update from the Chair of the Business Management Group be noted.
2. That the Partnership support representation on Task and Finish Groups, as and when required with representatives in suitable roles within organisations.
3. That the Partnership continued to support the designated leads in delivering the specific Partnership priorities and statutory obligations.
4. That the Business Management Group Terms of Reference be amended to include representatives of Mental Health and Public Health as members of the Business Management Group.
5. That at its meeting in October 2015 a priority action plan be received for discussion and scrutiny which includes:
 - (a) Improving road safety by reducing the number of accidents and the severity of the collisions to individuals; and
 - (b) Reducing the number of violent incidences.
6. That at its meeting in January 2016 a priority action plan be presented for discussion and scrutiny which includes:

- (a) Tackling and enforcing substance misuse; and
- (b) Enhance community engagement to reduce the fear of crime.

SMK07 SAFERMK PARTNERSHIP CRITICAL INCIDENTS INFORMATION SHARING PROTOCOL

The Partnership received a report on SaferMK Partnership's Critical Incidents Information Protocol.

The Partnership heard from the Head of Community Safety that as indicated in the report, the Protocol had to balance the need to maintain confidentiality with the need to communicate incidents and to share information which would aid the prevention of crime and disorder in the area, as required under Section 115 of the Crime and Disorder Act. The Protocol would be reviewed on an annual basis.

Partnership members were requested to share and circulate the Protocol within their organisations.

RESOLVED –

1. That the Critical Incidents Information Sharing Protocol be agreed as an appropriate method of communicating incidents.
2. That the Critical Incidents Information Sharing Protocol and process be disseminated to appropriate individuals within each organisation.
3. That the Protocol be reviewed and refreshed in July 2016.

SMK08 SAFERMK INFORMATION SHARING PROTOCOL

The Partnership received a report on SaferMK's Information Sharing Protocol.

The Head of Community Safety reported that there was a statutory requirement by SaferMK to ensure that the Partnership's Information Sharing Protocol was fit for purpose. Additionally, there was a responsibility of all partners to make sure agencies they worked and liaised with on issues, were aware of the Protocol.

It was reported that there were a number of changes to be made to the Protocol as indicated in the report and additionally, the role of the Clinical Commissioning Group was to be updated.

RESOLVED –

1. That the Information Sharing Protocol be agreed.

2. That Partners be requested to ensure agencies they were working with under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 are signed up to the Protocol.

SMK09

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

The Partnership received a report on Neighbourhood Policing.

The Partnership heard from the Chief Inspector (Acting) Thames Valley Police that Milton Keynes was the fifth fastest growing city in England and the largest area to police within Thames Valley. The operating environment for policing remained uncertain due to the increasing demands and financial constraints, which presented challenges for Thames Valley Police and other forces alike in England and Wales.

The Partnership heard that the report 'Thames Valley Police's Response to the funding challenge' highlighted the plans, which included a pilot scheme of new ways of working, aimed to work with and enhance the role of the 17 Neighbourhood Action Groups (NAG's) in Milton Keynes, in respect of local policing. This task would initially involve up-skilling NAGs with the necessary tools and to additionally extend the work by engaging with local communities, in order for NAGs to additionally flourish and thereby assist Thames Valley Police (TVP) resolve and prevent potential issues or conflicts within communities.

The Partnership noted that the Head of Community Safety was working with the Chief Executive Community Action:MK to help equip the voluntary organisation by up-skilling the staff to deal more effectively with the new changes to neighbourhood policing.

The Chief Inspector reassured the Partnership that TVP could deal effectively with the current growth of Milton Keynes with current staff resources for the next 3 to 5 years, however, it was unlikely that current resources would be sufficient to meet the challenges beyond the 3 to 5 year period and new ways of working would be required.

RESOLVED –

That the report and oral update be noted.

SMK10

SAFERMK STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT 2015

The Partnership received a report on SaferMK Strategic Assessment 2015 from the Senior Community Safety Analyst.

The Partnership heard that the Strategic Assessment was a statutory requirement for all Community Safety Partnerships, whose responsibility was to address developments impacting on crime and community safety. The 4 priority areas and work streams identified for 2015/16 were:

1. Improving Road Safety and Reducing the Severity of Collisions;

2. Reducing Violent Incidents;
3. Tackling and Enforcing Substance Misuse; and
4. Enhancing Community Engagement to Reduce the Fear of Crime.

The Partnership also received the following information on crimes reported for 2014/15:

All Crimes:

All crime reduced by 2%, from 18,377 to 17,949 reports; which equated to 70.01 crimes per 1000 residents, with Milton Keynes placed 13th out of 16 areas in Thames Valley.

Anti-Social Behaviour:

- An increase of 22% in ASB reports to Milton Keynes Council, continuing the overall increase year-on-year;
- The pattern of gradual increases from March, with peaks in June/ July; and
- Every month recorded an increase vs same month in the previous year.

Anti-Social Categories:

- Abandoned vehicles saw an increase of 40%, thought to relate to the fall in scrap metal prices; and
- Flytipping had increased by 35%, with peaks in October/ November.

Enhancing community engagement:

- Redways: 30 crimes in 2013 and 17 reports in 2014;
- Citizen survey – perceptions was 85% felt fairly/very safe;
- Lower feelings of safety for residents aged 65+ and women; and
- Regeneration estates: consistently lower feelings of safety.

Substance misuse:

The Partnership noted that there were 3 emerging issues with substance misuse:

1. Rise of New Psychoactive Substances, with 1 in 5 UK drug users purchased from the internet;
2. Changing attitudes: 11% of UK users consumed 'mystery white powder'; and
3. Links with Sexual Assault: 20% of UK users have been victims while incapacitated.

Emerging issues:

The Partnership noted that there were a number of emerging issues that were being looked at by TVP and the Council's Community Safety Team, namely:

- A Preventative Strategy formulation;
- Abandoned needles;
- Cyber crime;
- The impact of New Psychoactive Substances in MK;
- Business crime: shoplifting; and
- Analysis of domestic incidents in MK.

Partners queried why the Strategic Assessment appeared to omit information in respect of the recent child abuse issues. The Head of Community Safety responded the Partnership that he would be liaising with the Head of Youth Justice in respect of setting up a co-ordinated and multi-agency approach. At present intelligence data provided was limited and was held within different areas in the Council, he would also provide an update at a future meeting of the Partnership.

RESOLVED –

That the report and feedback be noted.

SMK11

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD AGREEMENT REVIEW

The Partnership received a report on the Health and Wellbeing Board Agreement Review.

The Partnership heard that the Partnership Agreement was currently not considered fit for purpose, particularly due to a number of over-laps and issues in various areas, namely crime and community safety and health and wellbeing. A wider action plan was required, with the view to:

- Looking at how linkages could be improved with the various partnerships that included the Fire and Rescue Service, the Clinical Commissioning Group and Children/Adult Safeguarding Groups;

- Looking at improving e-links in respect of issues within documents eg the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment;
- Looking at being more business focussed, along the lines of the new Business Management Groups; and
- Looking at the various strategies and move towards a more cohesive and joint delivery approach with shared objectives.

The Chief Officer (Acting), Milton Keynes, Clinical Commissioning Group reported that the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) was in the process of undergoing a development review with the Local Government Association. This piece of work provided the ideal opportunity to look at the Board, how it operates and linkages with its partners.

RESOLVED –

1. That, subject to the agreement of the Health and Wellbeing Board, a joint Task and Finish Group between the SaferMK's Business Management Group and the Health and Wellbeing Board's Strategy Implementation Group be established to consider how the relationship between the SaferMK Partnership and the Health and Wellbeing Board can be improved.
2. That the SaferMK Partnership Chair be requested to formally approach the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board to request that the Health and Wellbeing Board consider participating in the joint Task and Finish Group to explore how the relationship can be improved and to identify areas for joint working and/or joint ownership.
3. That the voting member of SaferMK for the Milton Keynes Clinical Commissioning Group remain the designated liaison officer for the Partnership with the Health and Wellbeing Board.

SMK12 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED –

That the public and press representatives be excluded from the meeting by virtue of Paragraph 1 and 2 (Information Relating to an Individual or to Reveal the Identity of any Individual) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, in order that the Partnership may consider:

- (a) Domestic Homicide Reviews.
- (b) PREVENT.

DOMESTIC HOMICIDE REVIEWS

The Partnership received a report and oral update on the Domestic Homicide Reviews from the Head of Community Safety.

The Partnership was reminded that 2 cases had been referred for review, Case A had been completed and Case B was ongoing.

The Partnership heard that the Review Panel Chaired by Dr L Westmarland had considered all the reviews in respect of Case A in order to provide its final report and recommendations. The Head of Community Safety would present the Home Office with the final report.

The Partnership heard that the Business Management Group would be responsible for taking on any actions in Case A as outlined in the recommendations.

The Head of Community Safety reported that front-line staff would receive the appropriate level of training in respect of the 2013 Legislation in Domestic and Sexual Abuse. He would also look at updating the Milton Keynes Domestic Homicide Review Protocol that was last reviewed in May 2012.

It was reported that a death in respect of Case B which was briefly provided at the meeting on 18 September 2014 (Minute SMK32 refers), had undergone a Domestic Homicide Review, and that the Home Office would be contacted and advised of the reasons for the delay in providing the final Review.

RESOLVED –

1. That the following recommendations from the Domestic Homicide Review report be agreed in respect of Case A:
 - (a) That Thames Valley Police Domestic Abuse Policy Operational Guidance document (2009) should continue to be updated in line with current policies and research around domestic abuse and Thames Valley Police should continue to review policy and training around domestic abuse, as they have been doing in the past, with the findings from this Domestic Homicide Review being employed to illustrate how important these guidelines could be in some cases.
 - (b) That learning points from the case should be used in on-going training for all agencies concerned, including being made part of the regular updating and the CPD of GPs, hospital medical and nursing staff, UCS call takers, and the District Nursing Services, and should include awareness raising and training around the issues raised in this Review, as well as the potential for domestic abuse to be hidden or ignored, and the potential tragic outcomes.

2. That the Head of Community Safety be requested to submit the final Domestic Homicide Review to the Home Office.
3. That an action plan be drafted to ensure the recommendations within the Review are delivered.
4. That the Business Management Group be responsible for ensuring the action plan is delivered.
5. That thanks be expressed to the Panel members for their input and particularly to Dr L Westmarland for her input and report findings.
6. That the Head of Community Safety be requested to contact the Home Office in respect of Case B and the delay in submitting a final Review on a current local Domestic Homicide Review.
7. (a) That a further Domestic Homicide Review be initiated in respect of a death that occurred in June 2015 and the Head of Community Safety be requested to commission a Review Panel in anticipation of the Home Office's agreement to a Domestic Homicide Review being undertaken.
(b) That the Review Panel include a representation from Action:MK and Lesbian Gay and Trans Gender organisations.
8. That the Head of Community Safety be requested to conduct a review of SaferMK's Council's Domestic Homicide Review Protocol 2012 and submit a report to a future meeting of the Partnership.

SMK14 PREVENT

The Partnership received a report and presentation on PREVENT.

The Head of Community Safety advised that SaferMK Partnership had a statutory duty along with all other responsible authorities to comply with the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, that came into effect from 1 July 2015.

The Partnership heard that Council's Community Safety Team was looking to ensure that front line staff had appropriate access to 'Channel', and would also provide and equip staff with the necessary training and skills, to help recognise radicalisation and extremism and prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. An action plan for SaferMK and its partners would be put into place and monitored.

RESOLVED –

1. That the presentation be noted.
2. That PREVENT be regularly monitored by the Business Management Group as part of business as usual.
3. That the Head of Community Safety be requested to provide an update to the Partnership's meeting in January 2016.

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 3.46 PM

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