

CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY 5 SEPTEMBER, 2016, AT 4.00 P.M.
IN THE CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK

PART 1

PRESENT:

Councillors

Johnson, T.B. (Chairman)

Lea, C.I. (Vice-Chairman)

Cooper, Miss J. (substitute)

Dean, A.

Dudson, Miss M.J.

Freeman, Miss M.A.

Martin, Mrs. C.E.

Smith, C.D.

Snape, P.A.

Stretton, Mrs. P.Z.

Sutherland, M.

Witton, P.T.

Also in attendance:

- Councillor C. Bennett (Crime & Partnerships Portfolio Leader, Observer).
- Chief Inspector Geoff Knight, Cannock Local Policing Team.
- Ms. Anna McLauchlan, CACH Co-ordinator.

7. Apologies

Apologies for absence were submitted for Councillor Mrs. D. Grice

Councillor Miss J. Cooper was in attendance as substitute for Councillor Mrs. Grice.

8. Declarations of Interests of Members in Contracts and Other Matters and Restrictions on Voting by Members and Party Whip Declarations

No declarations of interests or party whip declarations were received.

9. Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 25 July, 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed.

10. Hate Crime – Communities Against Crimes of Hate (CACH)

Ms. Anna McLauchlan, CACH Co-ordinator, was in attendance to deliver a presentation on the above matter, which covered the following:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who Are CACH? 	<p>Multi-agency partnership covering; Stafford Borough, South Staffordshire, Cannock Chase District, East Staffordshire, Tamworth Borough, and Lichfield District.</p> <p>Also Challenge North Staffordshire (CNS) covering; Staffordshire Moorlands, Newcastle-under-Lyme and Stoke-on-Trent.</p> <p>Both organisations work to reduce Hate Crime and Hate incidents.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How We Do It: 	<p>Promote understanding of different communities.</p> <p>Online presence via social media.</p> <p>Support partners with delivering best practice policies and procedures.</p> <p>Provide training/awareness sessions.</p> <p>Compile reports of incidents to feed into country-wide intelligence to identify 'hotspots'.</p> <p>Offer advocacy and 1:1 support to people experience hate crime, hate incidents and identity based bullying.</p> <p>Practical advice about what options are available to the IP.</p> <p>Liaising with police, housing and other's on the IP's behalf.</p> <p>Offering proactive work to targeted groups/schools.</p> <p>Emotional support.</p> <p>Suggest therapeutic options to Improve wellbeing.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hate Crime Definitions 	<p>Any crime motivated by hostility towards the victim's perceived difference.</p> <p>Must take into account the perception of victim/others.</p> <p>Race, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, belief, visual difference, alternative (subculture) and others.</p>

	<p>Staffordshire Police only record hate crimes on the basis of; race, religion/belief, sexual orientation, transgender, disability and other.</p> <p>Verbal abuse, graffiti, anti-social behaviour, bullying, arson, harassment, threats, physical assault, murder.</p> <p>Can include; threats, harassment etc. made via email or social media.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hate Crime Cases 	<p>Examples of historic cases.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Impact of Hate 	<p><u>All Hate Crime – Emotional Response Experienced</u></p> <p>Anger – 67% Annoyance – 50% Shock – 40% Loss of confidence/feeling vulnerable – 35% Fear – 39% Anxiety/panic attacks – 23% Crying/tears – 13% Difficulty sleeping – 17% Depression – 20% Other – 3%</p> <p><u>British Crime Survey</u></p> <p>Anger – 60% Annoyance – 60% Shock – 28% Loss of confidence/feeling vulnerable – 15% Fear – 14% Anxiety/panic attacks – 6% Crying/tears – 9% Difficulty sleeping – 8% Depression – 6% Other – 3%</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CACH Reports Q1 2016/17 	<p>64 individuals (26 in CCDC area).</p> <p>Circa 700 incidents (circa 310 in CCDC area).</p> <p>2015/16: 147 individuals, c. 740 incidents.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hate Crime in Cannock Q1 	<p>Race – 34% Religion – 23% Disability – 23% Sexual Orientation – 10% Transgender – 7% Mental Health – 3%</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Types of Incidents Reported 2015/16 	<p>Verbal – 46% Harassment – 22% Assault – 12% Threat of Violence – 7% Mate Crime – 3% Damage to Property – 3% Cyber – 3% Graffiti – 2% Theft – 1% Hate Mail – 1%</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Picture 	<p><u>Reported: 44,480</u> Race – 37,848 Sexual Orientation – 4,622 Religion – 2,273 Disability – 1,985 Transgender – 55</p> <p><u>British Crime Survey: 325,000</u> Race – 154,000 Sexual Orientation – 39,000 Religion – 70,000 Disability – 62,000 Transgender – not known</p> <p>Underreporting – Stonewall and Mencap Surveys</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hate Crime and Staffordshire 	<p>Not the area where CACH receive the highest number of reports from, however:</p> <p>Rural isolation.</p> <p>Aging population – mate crime.</p> <p>Not much diversity culturally.</p> <p>Individuals feel isolated and often let down by services in the past.</p> <p>Lack of local support/community groups relevant to them.</p> <p>Long standing issues.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to Refer 	<p>Tel: 07971 497 988</p> <p>Web: www.cachpartnership.org.uk</p> <p>Email: selfreport@cachpartnership.org.uk</p> <p>Twitter: @CACHPartnership</p> <p>Facebook: /CACHPartnership</p>
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Ms. McLauchlan advised that some people reported incidents straight to CACH rather than through the police, hence stated reporting figures being different for the two organisations.

A Member queried what was meant by the term ‘mate crime’. Ms. McLauchlan replied that this applied to instances where an individual suffering from learning difficulties or socially isolation was befriended by another individual and taken advantage of due to their vulnerability.

A Member queried what was being done to tackle the increased number of hate crime incidents reported following the outcome of the EU Referendum. Ms. McLauchlan replied that incidents had decreased following an initial increase after the result was known, but it would be necessary to keep an eye on this once a better picture about the UK’s future relationship with the EU was known.

A Member queried if the reporting definitions used by CACH were in keeping with recent guidance issued by the Home Office. Ms. McLauchlan replied that the headings/definitions used were as a result of what incidents had been reported over the past 12 to 18 months, but did cover what had been advised by the Home Office.

A Member queried if there was a breakdown available for the types of disability incidents reported. Ms McLauchlan replied that the most recent figures available indicated that it was an even split between learning and physical disabilities. In respect of underreporting, the Mencap survey reported that 90% of respondents had experienced some form of hate crime on a daily basis, of which 75% never reported. These figures were also at a similar level for participants in the Stonewall survey.

11. Police Performance Report

Chief Inspector Knight provided Members with an update on the latest crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) numbers since 1 April this year, which detailed that for the 12 months period ending 4 September 2016, crime increased in the District by 5.9% when compared with the previous 12 months period (5,784 reported cases compared to 5,463 previously) and ASB increased by 25% (3,458 reported cases compared to 2,770 previously). Of the reported ASB cases, 559 were committed by youths. Members also received details of the role profiles of PCs and PCSOs as requested at the last meeting. All areas across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent had seen an increase in crime rates, but the percentage increase for Cannock Chase was the lowest.

In respect of the anti-social behaviour figures, a Member asked for clarification as to what the 'Youth Qualifiers' were. The Chief Inspector replied that these had been introduced by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) as a way of clearly identifying ASB incidents caused by youths. A request had also been submitted to the PCC that Qualifiers for alcohol and drug related incidents also be included in the monitoring data.

The Chief Inspector advised that a force-wide working group had been established to look at what incidents were considered to be ASB to ensure that reports were being recorded and categorised accurately.

A Member reported an issue about a number of repeated incidents of criminal damage which had recently happened at the Prince of Wales Theatre and raised concern about the Police response and lack of action taken to deal with this.

Members then gave positive feedback about the use of the recently adopted Traveller and Gypsy Protocol to stop an unauthorised encampment being set up on the Cannock leisure centre car park.

The Chief Inspector then reported that a Police Partnerships Manager had been appointed to provide the parish and town councils with a dedicated contact person and attend meetings in the event that local PCs or PCSOs were unable to do so.

12. Anti-Social Behaviour – Use of New Powers and Tools

The Environmental Protection Manager was in attendance to deliver a presentation on the above matter, which covered the following:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background 	<p>In force October 2014.</p> <p>Supplements existing powers.</p> <p>Range of options available.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Protection Notices (CPNs) 	<p>Targets those responsible for ASB.</p> <p>Three specific tests to be met.</p> <p>Set process to follow.</p> <p>3 CPN Warnings issued by CCDC Environmental Health and no CPNs issued.</p> <p>6 CPN Warnings issued by CCDC Housing and 1 CPN issued.</p> <p>45 CPN Warnings issued by the local Police and 17 CPNs issued.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) 	<p>Area based power.</p> <p>Four specific tests to be met.</p> <p>Set process to follow.</p> <p>Enables action on new anti-social activities.</p> <p>Replace existing controls – October 2017.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gating Orders 	<p>3 existing.</p> <p>Preliminary consultation with interested parties.</p> <p>Report to Cabinet in preparation.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog Control Orders 	<p>2 existing.</p> <p>Preliminary consultation with interested parties – in preparation.</p> <p>Controls to be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog fouling Dogs off leads Prohibition from specified areas Requirement to put dogs on lead on instruction Numbers of dogs a person can walk Requirement to carry poo bags or similar receptacle
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designated Public Places Orders 	<p>Preliminary consultation with interested parties – scheduled for October 2016.</p> <p>Areas provisionally identified.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timescales 	<p>Dates for; evidence collation, production of Cabinet report, consultation period, production of final report, publication and challenge of PSPOs.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Injunction (Civil) 	<p>Two tests – non-housing related (harassment, alarm, distress) and housing related (nuisance/annoyance).</p> <p>“Just and convenient” solutions.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) 	<p>Offender convicted of an offence.</p> <p>Tests must be met.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closure Notice/Order 	<p>Notice – up to 48 hours (Officer).</p> <p>Order – up to 6 months (Court).</p> <p>Nuisance or disorder near premises.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dispersal Notice/Order 	<p>Police only.</p> <p>Harassment, alarm or distress.</p> <p>Action to remove/reduce problem.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absolute Ground for Possession 	<p>Social and private sector landlords.</p> <p>Fast eviction of anti-social tenants.</p> <p>Tenant, household member or visitor.</p> <p>Court <u>must</u> grant possession – except where human rights defence raised.</p> <p>Tests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convicted of serious offence • Breach of civil injunction • Conviction for breach of a CBO • Conviction for noise nuisance • Property subject to Closure Order
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Trigger 	<p>“Corporate complaints” system for ASB.</p> <p>Administered by Police 101 number.</p> <p>3 complaints received in 6 month period.</p> <p>Only one received since introduced.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Powers and Tools 	<p>Police have used Dispersal Notices 25 times and Dispersal Orders 36 times (can only be used by the Police). No other available powers have so far been used by the Police or CCDC.</p>

Members requested that Cannock Park be included in any future PSPOs proposed due to previous ASB incidents which had occurred there.

The Environmental Protection Manager reported that a PSPO for ‘car cruising’ had been considered, however there was not sufficient evidence available to warrant introducing such an Order at the present time.

**13. Quarter 1 Performance Report 2016-17 – Cleaner and Safer Environments
Priority Delivery Plan (Community Safety Section)**

Members noted the latest performance information (Item 7.1 to 7.3 of the Official Minutes of the Council).

14. Work Programme Update

The Head of Environmental Health reported that the draft agenda for the December meeting of the Committee included the Q2 Priority Delivery Plan performance report, the latest Police performance data and scrutiny reviews of the new ASB powers and Hate Crime.

The meeting closed at 5:50pm

CHAIRMAN