

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Community Safety Scrutiny Committee**
held on Thursday, 20th February, 2014 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3,
Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillors C Andrew, A Barratt, M Grant, G Merry, M Parsons, J Saunders
and F Keegan

In attendance

G Borroghes – Board Secretary, Probation Service
S Cordon – Head of Communities
B McCrorie – Special Projects Manager, Probation Service

61 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor H Murray

62 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Due to the Chairman submitting his apologies for the meeting, it was necessary
to appoint a Chairman for the meeting.

RESOLVED

That Councillor M Grant be appointed as Chairman.

Councillor M Grant took the Chair.

63 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

64 WHIPPING DECLARATIONS

There were no whipping declarations.

65 PUBLIC SPEAKING/OPEN SESSION

There were no members of the public present wishing to speak.

66 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 DECEMBER 2013

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting.

RESOLVED

That the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

67 CHANGES TO THE PROBATION SERVICE

Further to the last presentation on the changes to the Probation Service, Ben McCrorie, Special Projects Manager and Garath Burroghes, Board Secretary from Cheshire Probation, attended the meeting to give a presentation on the latest developments in the transforming rehabilitation strategic change programme and its implications for Cheshire. The presentation outlined:

- The timeline and proposed changes
- Transition and mobilisation phase – key priorities
- Implications for strategic partners
- National Probation Service
- Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)
- Statutory partnerships and responsibilities
- Partnership transition plan
- CRC Competition – involvement of strategic partners

With regard to the transfer of case loads, it was noted that the police would be able to provide additional support to assist with the transition.

Case allocations and risk assessments on whether offenders should go through the company or probation service, would now be done through the courts, on the day, which would be more intensive but considered to be impartial. Lines of communication and procedures would therefore need to be watertight.

It was noted that the transfer of staff would be done through Cabinet Office Standard of Practice (COSOP) rather than through the TUPE process as the service sat within the Government Office. Performance would still be audited through the HM Inspectorate of Probation.

As all offenders would now have access to the Probation Service, it was envisaged that there would be around 54,000 more cases nationally with no additional resources available.

RESOLVED

That the representatives of the Probation Service be thanked for their presentation.

68 WORK PROGRAMME

It was agreed that the following issues would be added to the work programme:

- Reflective Review of domestic homicide in Cheshire East – date to be agreed
- Cheshire Sub Regional Review of Community Safety – date to be agreed.

AGREED

That the Reflective Review of domestic homicide and Cheshire Sub Regional Review of Community Safety be added to the work programme.

The meeting commenced at 10.30 am and concluded at 12.00 pm

Councillor (none)