

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Agenda

Date: Thursday, 13th October, 2016
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road,
Sandbach CW11 1HZ

The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting** (Pages 3 - 6)

To give consideration to the minutes of the last meeting

3. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest

4. **Whipping Declarations**

To provide an opportunity for Members to declare the existence of a party whip in relation to any item on the agenda.

For requests for further information

Contact: Katie Small

Tel: 01270 686465

E-Mail: katie.small@cheshireeast.gov.uk with any apologies

5. **Public Speaking**

A total period of 15 minutes is allocated for members of the public to make a statement(s) on any matter that falls within the remit of the Committee.

Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes, but the Chairman will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned, where there are a number of speakers.

Note: In order for officers to undertake any background research, it would be helpful if members of the public contacted the Scrutiny officer listed at the foot of the agenda, at least one working day before the meeting to provide brief details of the matter to be covered.

6. **Domestic Violence Task and Finish Group Final Report - Cabinet Response**
(Pages 7 - 14)

To give consideration to the response to the final report

7. **Safer Cheshire East Partnership**

To receive a presentation on the Strategic Intelligence Assessment and next steps

8. **Forward Plan** (Pages 15 - 16)

To give consideration to the areas of the forward plan which fall within the remit of the Committee.

9. **Work Programme** (Pages 17 - 22)

To give consideration to the work programme

0000CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
held on Thursday, 21st April, 2016 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields,
Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor G Baxendale (Chairman)
Councillor C Andrew (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors M Beanland, M Grant, J Rhodes and M Warren

In attendance

D Coyne – Local Engagement Officer
K Hercules - Principal Manager - Local Area Working

51 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors E Brooks and S Pochin

52 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2016

RESOLVED

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

53 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

54 WHIPPING DECLARATIONS

There were no whipping declarations

55 PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no members of the public wishing to speak

56 DELIVERING DIFFERENTLY IN NEIGHBOURHOODS

Dan Coyne, Local Engagement Officer attended the meeting to update Members on Delivering Differently in Neighbourhoods (DDiN) pilot scheme which ended on 31 March 2016.

Macclesfield was one of 24 national pilots as part of DCLG's programme Delivering Differently in Neighbourhoods, for which the Council received a £90,000 grant.

The aim of the programme was to provide financial support for 12 months and expert advice to local authorities to redesign services to be delivered at neighbourhood level with the involvement of local people and organisations. DCLG believed that by delivering locally and involving communities in the design and delivery of services, authorities would be able to:

- Tailor services to match local need, delivering better outcomes for local communities
- Achieve efficiencies by eliminating wasteful activity and duplication of effort.
- Increase community resilience and manage down demand.

The programme aimed to gather evidence of effective neighbourhood delivery models, including case studies and cost benefit analyses, and disseminate this more widely. A copy of the case study was circulated to Members.

D Coyle delivered a presentation which covered:

- Cheshire East Community Hub agenda
- Community hub franchise
- Delivering Differently in Macclesfield
- Cost benefit analysis
- Macclesfield Community Hub Network
- How the £90,000 grant was spent
- Participatory budgeting
- Applying the model across Cheshire East

The new adopted model had been selected to ensure that decisions were made locally through continuous resident consultation; the creation of neighbourhood partnerships ensured sustainability and an overarching community interest company which could bring external funding to each community which was unavailable to local authorities. The local estate based partnerships consisted of residents, PCSO's, church groups, community groups, Police, fire services, housing providers, Councillors and Macclesfield Town Football Club.

To assist third sector involvement a knowledge hub, similar to Facebook had been introduced which allowed members to share information, documents, minutes and agendas, as well as provide support and a forum for discussion.

Participatory budgeting involved residents suggesting health related projects and ideas, which would then be voted on by the public. The winning suggestion would receive funding to implement the project. It was agreed that further information on participatory and how it could be rolled out would be considered at a future meeting.

RESOLVED

That the scheme be supported and consideration be given to the model being applied across Cheshire East.

57 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TASK AND FINISH GROUP - FINAL REPORT

The Committee received the report of Domestic Violence Task and Finish Group for approval to be submitted to Cabinet. Councillor G Baxendale, chairman of the Task and Finish Group, provided an overview of the review and explained the Group's recommendations which were contained in the report. Councillors thanked the officers who had contributed to the work.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Group's report be received;
- (b) That the recommendations contained in the Group's report be approved;
- (c) That Group's report be submitted to Cabinet on 3 May 2016 ; and
- (d) That a response to the Group's recommendations be requested from Cabinet at the Committee's next formal meeting.

58 WORK PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to the work programme. It was agreed that a progress report on community hubs and the roll out of participatory budgeting would be considered at a future meeting of the Committee.

It was also agreed that a report on the current enforcement system and how it works be brought to a future meeting of the committee.

RESOLVED

That the work programme be amended to reflect the above issues

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and concluded at 11.30 am

Councillor G Baxendale (Chairman)

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CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL
Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 13 October 2016
Report of: Head of Service Safeguarding Children and families
Subject/Title: Progress Report on Domestic Violence Task & Finish Group Recommendations
Portfolio Holder: Councillor Paul Bates and Councillor Liz Durham

1 Report Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update on progress in respect domestic abuse and outlines how Cheshire East Council is addressing the recommendations of the Domestic Violence Overview and Scrutiny Committee Report presented to Cabinet on 3rd May 2016

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 That this report is presented to Members to note the response to the recommendations of the Domestic Violence Task and Finish Group Report.

3 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 To update Members on the progress to date against the recommendations of the Domestic Violence Task and Finish group

4 Wards and Local Ward Members Affected

- 4.1 All Wards.

5 Background and Options

- 5.1 On 16 June 2015, the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee gave consideration to a report on women's safety, which covered the work of partners in tackling the key priorities in relation to domestic and sexual violence in Cheshire East. It became clear to Members that some areas of joint working required more focus or collaboration. Therefore the Committee resolved to set up a Task and Finish Group to scrutinise in further detail how sexual and domestic violence are dealt with in Cheshire East.
- 5.2 The original terms of reference for the Task and Finish Group were:

- To gain an understanding of why it was decided not to have a single specialist domestic violence court in Cheshire and how the court process will be improved without this in place.
- To gain an understanding of the sexual violence/abuse police incident reporting process.
- To investigate why domestic abuse reports from Cheshire East residents to the Police are the lowest in Cheshire in a context of extremely low levels of police reporting in Cheshire compared to similar forces nationally
- To review progress on sustaining funding for high risk domestic violence services (Council based)
- To review victims' journey through the system.

Members did not investigate honour based violence, forced marriages or people trafficking. During the Groups investigations, it became apparent that the original scope of the review was too broad, therefore the group decided to target the areas that would have the most impact and focus solely on domestic violence.

5.4 The Group presented their final report and recommendations to Cabinet in May 2016 and the recommendations were accepted.

6.0 Details of progress against the recommendations are detailed below with the Task and Finish Group recommendations included as headings in bold.

Recommendations

1. In order to facilitate longer term planning and retain skilled and experienced staff IDVAs Council funding should be mainstreamed rather than being 12 monthly
2. The deficit in funding for the service (£50K) should be met from the MTFs on a recurrent basis to secure the service at its current level and the Council seeks to continue to influence partners to review their funding arrangements at local or sub regional level*
3. Domestic violence should be a priority for the Council and feature in the soon to be refreshed Community Strategy/Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
4. Due to funding only being secured for the next three years, the low risk domestic violence service be evaluated and consideration be given as to how the service will be funded from 2018.
5. The ambitions relating to the scale of interventions for perpetrators should be funded long term as part of the work on early intervention and prevention. A protocol between the various agencies should be developed to ensure an integrated approach was taken when dealing with perpetrators.

6. That the administration of MARAC be transferred to the Police, which would reduce the cost of the overall service by £20k and strengthen a sub regional approach to high risk work*
7. That the possibility of sharing resources, such as the Polish IDVA, with other authorities be investigated.
8. That the information sharing policy be reviewed to ensure all agencies are fully informed of domestic violence cases and where necessary awareness raised, to ensure that victims receive as much help as possible and are treated with respect and dignity.
9. That MP's and Police and Crime Commissioner be lobbied to provide funding for domestic violence, as it funds mental health and substance abuse.
- 10 That HMCTS be requested to improve the quality of the technology for providing remote evidence giving to such a standard that would allow the establishment of a single specialist court service.
- 11 In the event of IDVAs being commissioned sub regionally, every effort should be made ensure that this is not at the detriment of local service delivery.
- 12 That subject to Operation Encompass and Tandem Project producing the intended outcomes, the availability of resources be considered to sustain the projects.

6.1 Recommendations 1 & 2.

In order to facilitate longer term planning and retain skilled and experienced staff IDVAs Council funding should be mainstreamed rather than being 12 monthly

The deficit in funding for the service (£50K) should be met from the MTFS on a recurrent basis to secure the service at its current level and the Council seeks to continue to influence partners to review their funding arrangements at local or sub regional level

The Council has amalgamated all its departmental funding streams into one core budget for the IDVA service which covers approximately two thirds of the costs.

Other partner contributions cannot be mainstreamed but are agreed on an annual, and so far, recurrent basis. This includes income from the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Constabulary and the two Clinical Commissioning Groups.

The Home Office have made it clear that the £20k which has been an annual contribution for the last five years will cease at the end of this financial year

and that instead bids will be sought for innovative work. We will seek to access this funding to support the work of our Domestic Abuse Hub which provides 24/7 access to help for victims and their families.

6.2 Recommendation 3.

Domestic violence should be a priority for the Council and feature in the soon to be refreshed Community Strategy/Health and Wellbeing Strategy

The Council has made it clear that addressing domestic violence continues to be a priority and has, in addition to employing and funding IDVAs, commissioned a comprehensive service to provide a whole family approach to the issue.

Safer Cheshire East Partnership board (SCEP) has included domestic abuse in the draft of the community strategy.

The Health and Wellbeing strategy was drafted in 2014 and did not place Domestic Abuse as a named priority at that time although the service provision would fit to both outcomes 1 and 2 and it is identified as a key priority for children's services within that document. The strategy is due for review next year and domestic abuse will be considered as an area for priority action.

6.3 Recommendation 4.

Due to funding only being secured for the next three years, the low risk domestic violence service be evaluated and consideration be given as to how the service will be funded from 2018.

The Council's commission for domestic abuse services covering all but high risk IDVA work (i.e. longer term support and recovery work with victims, work with children and young people, with perpetrators as well as refuge provision) was awarded on 1st April 2016.

This work is being monitored and evaluated by representatives from Children's and Adults Services, Public Health and Housing and evidence of effectiveness will influence longer term commissioning

There is also work at sub regional level which has the potential to affect our understanding and implementation of best practice and Cheshire East is represented at all levels of this work including the involvement of the Executive Director – People as a member of the sub regional Strategic Domestic Abuse Board.

6.4 Recommendation 5.

The ambitions relating to the scale of interventions for perpetrators should be funded long term as part of the work on early intervention and prevention. A protocol between the various agencies should be developed to ensure an integrated approach is taken when dealing with perpetrators.

There are currently three key work streams in relation to perpetrators.

- a) A Police initiative to allocate two officers locally as part of a wider 'Integrated Domestic Abuse Team' which focuses on prolific perpetrators who inflict a human cost on victims and financial cost on services. This work is in its early stages but is already co-located with our Domestic Abuse Hub team at the 'Front Door' to services at Sandbach House. This should ensure that the actions of officers are not taken in isolation and can enhance the wider family work taking place.
- b) The 'Engage' project within the new domestic abuse commission which targets perpetrators whose harmful behaviour adversely affects children and families. This group is identified through Children's Social Work teams where it is considered perpetrators may be most motivated to engage in change work and the result of change may be most beneficial. There is liaison between the Engage and IDAT teams to ensure that there is no duplication in the cohorts being worked with.
- c) Ongoing provision of a graded approach to perpetrators who are referred by any third party or by self. This includes support to practitioners who already have a relationship with the perpetrator to ensure they have the confidence and tools to address harm as well as the provision of a group programme for those who are treatment ready. This work is done within the commission and so is co-ordinated with the Engage and IDAT interventions above.

6.5 Recommendation 6.

*That the administration of MARAC be transferred to the Police, which would reduce the cost of the overall service by £20k and strengthen a sub-regional approach to high risk work**

This transfer is now complete. While referrers have not experienced any change to their referral pathway there are some early transition issues with elements of the administrative support that the Police have been able to provide. We are working with the Police to address the risks raised by these issues. In parallel further work is being done to look at a 'daily MARAC' model for the lower risk cases as the complex dependency model at the front door to

children's services develops. This may enable effective demand management for the most at risk adults and their families.

6.6 Recommendation 7.

That the possibility of sharing resources, such as the Polish IDVA, with other authorities be investigated

An approach regarding the sharing of the Polish IDVA was made but no other Boroughs expressed interest in the initiative. However the Sub Regional Strategic Domestic Abuse Board has initiated work-streams which may result in the sharing of resources across Cheshire e.g. shared training, shared performance and outcomes monitoring. At present this will not result in savings but it may be that in the longer term there may be a possibility of sharing costs.

6.7 Recommendation 8.

That the information sharing policy be reviewed to ensure all agencies are fully informed of domestic violence cases and where necessary awareness raised, to ensure that victims receive as much help as possible and are treated with respect and dignity.

The Local Safeguarding Children's Board, the Local Safeguarding Adults Board and the Safer Cheshire East Partnership have recently renewed their joint information sharing policy and all major partners have signed this.

6.8 Recommendation 9.

That MPs and Police and Crime Commissioner be lobbied to provide funding for domestic violence, as it funds mental health and substance abuse.

The new Police and Crime Commissioner has renewed his commitment to tackling domestic abuse and continued to allocate funding from the Victims Services Grant at the same levels.

No direct lobbying of local politicians has yet taken place but it is known that the government expects provision largely to be funded locally.

Most recently a group of co-ordinators and practitioners was invited by the Police and Crime Commissioner to meet with the Ministry of Justice Victims Services domestic abuse lead and we had the opportunity to highlight the importance of IDVA, and particularly hospital IDVA funding. While she was very receptive and impressed by the quality of local provision it is clear that her focus was on learning from us how she can incentivise other areas to reach our standards. We had the opportunity clearly to articulate the

importance of core sustained funding in addition to innovative or enhanced work.

6.9 Recommendation 10.

That HMCTS be requested to improve the quality of the technology for providing remote evidence giving to such a standard that would allow the establishment of a single specialist court service.

The Council manager for domestic abuse and sexual violence continues to be a part of the Local Criminal Justice Board Strategic Group covering court and justice issues. This is led by the CPS chief prosecutor for domestic abuse and includes HMCTS representatives. There have been major changes to court provision with victims in the north of the Borough now attending Stockport Magistrates Court while Crown Court remains in Chester. The whole group continues to advocate for a single court but it is clear that we are subject to the roll out of national measures for improving victim experience.

One heartening development in this respect is the decision to implement a 'Section 28' Pilot which CPS in Merseyside have been trialling whereby particularly vulnerable victims can deposit their evidence by video link well ahead of any trial and are not then required to attend court at all. This would be an excellent resolution of the concerns we have been highlighting.

6.10 Recommendation 11.

In the event of IDVAs being commissioned sub regionally, every effort should be made ensure that this is not at the detriment of local service delivery.

This has not yet been muted and we have strong representation at sub regional level including the Executive Director - People and the Head of Safeguarding Children and Families who will always seek to ensure that services to local people remain of the highest quality.

6.11 Recommendation 12.

That subject to Operation Encompass and Tandem Project producing the intended outcomes, the availability of resources be considered to sustain the projects.

The impact of Operation Encompass is being evaluated. It is known to be valued by the Schools which implement it and has been funded through the sub regional Complex Dependence funding stream. There will need to be discussions as to sustaining this provision once this funding stream ceases.

The Tandem Project is provided through the Domestic Abuse Commission and is not separately funded. It is monitored through the Council's monitoring

group outlined at 6.3 and learning from provision will be captured and used to influence future commissioning.

7.0 Contact Information

The contact details for this report are as follows:

Name: Judith Gibson
Designation: Domestic Abuse Development Manager
Tel No: 07818 002157
Email: judith.gibson@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Key Decision	Decisions to be Taken	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	How to make representation to the decision made	Private/ Confidential and paragraph number
CE 16/17-9 Prevent Duty and Channel Duty	To consider the authority's responsibilities under the Prevent Duty Guidance 2015 and the Channel Duty Guidance 2015.	Cabinet	18 Oct 2016		Stephanie Cordon, Head of Communities	No
CE 16/17-18 Connected Communities	To approve the Connected Communities Strategy and to agree the allocation of existing Partnerships and Communities Budget for the delivery of the Strategy; and to authorise officers to take all necessary steps to implement and deliver the Strategy.	Cabinet	18 Oct 2016		Kirstie Hercules	No
CE 16/17-21 Commissioning a Voluntary, Community and Faith Infrastructure Service	To approve the commissioning of a Voluntary, Community and Faith Infrastructure Service from April 2017 and authorise the officers to take all necessary actions to implement the proposal.	Cabinet	8 Nov 2016		Stephanie Cordon, Head of Communities	Exempt by virtue of para 5

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CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting:	13 October 2016
Report of:	Director of legal Services and Monitoring Officer
Subject/Title:	Work Programme update

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 To review items in the 2016/2017 Work Programme listed in the schedule attached, together with any other items suggested by Committee Members.

2.0 Recommendations

That the 2016/2017 work programme be reviewed.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 It is good practice to agree and review the Work Programme to enable effective management of the Committee's business.

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 All

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 Not applicable.

6.0 Policy Implications including - Carbon reduction - Health

- 6.1 Not known at this stage.

7.0 Financial Implications

- 7.1 Not known at this stage.

8.0 Legal Implications

- 8.1 None.

9.0 Risk Management

9.1 There are no identifiable risks.

10.0 Background and Options

10.1 Members are asked to review the schedule attached to this report, and if appropriate, add new items or delete items that no longer require any scrutiny activity. When selecting potential topics, Members should have regard to the Council's new three year plan and also to the general criteria listed below, which should be applied to all potential items when considering whether any Scrutiny activity is appropriate.

The following questions should be asked in respect of each potential work programme item:

- Does the issue fall within a corporate priority;
- Is the issue of key interest to the public;
- Does the matter relate to a poor or declining performing service for which there is no obvious explanation;
- Is there a pattern of budgetary overspends;
- Is it a matter raised by external audit management letters and or audit reports?
- Is there a high level of dissatisfaction with the service;

10.2 If during the assessment process any of the following emerge, then the topic should be rejected:

- The topic is already being addressed elsewhere
- The matter is subjudice
- Scrutiny cannot add value or is unlikely to be able to conclude an investigation within the specified timescale

11 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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Designation: Scrutiny Officer
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Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme – July 2016

Informal meeting	Formal meeting	Formal meeting	Informal meeting	Formal Meeting	Informal Meeting	Formal Meeting
Date:15 Sept 2016 Time: 10.00am Venue: Tatton park	Date:13 Oct 2016 Time: 10.00am Venue: Committee Suite, Westfields	Date:17 Nov 2016 Time: 10.00am Venue: Committee Suite, Westfields	Date:08 Dec 2016 Time: 10.00am Venue: Committee Suite, Westfields	Date: 19 Jan 2017 Time: 10:00am Venue: Committee Suites, Westfields	Date: 9 Feb 2017 Time: 10:00am Venue: Committee Suites, Westfields	Date: 16 March 2017 Time: 10:00am Venue: Committee Suites, Westfields

Monitoring Items

Item	Description/Purpose of reports/Comments	Outcome	Lead Officer/ Organisation/Portfolio Holder	Suggested by	Current Position	Key Dates/Deadlines
Domestic Violence	To review what Cheshire East does to ensure women's safety in respect domestic violence	People live well and for longer	Head of Communities. Portfolio Holder for Adult care and Integration	Committee	Task and Finish Group Final Report	Report back from cabinet – 13 October
Community Safety Partnership Plan and Performance	Revised plan to be considered. Protocol between SCEP and Committee to be circulated.	Our local communities are strong and supportive	Head of Communities Portfolio Holder for Communities and Health.	Head of Communities		13 October 2016
Private enforcement	To review the success of the procurement of a private company	Our local communities are strong and supportive	Head of Communities Portfolio Holder for Communities and Health.	L Gilbert		April 2017
Cultural Strategy	To examine the strategy prior to being submitted to cabinet	People live well and for longer	Portfolio Holder for Highways and Infrastructure	L Gilbert		TBC

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme – July 2016

Item	Description/Purpose of reports/Comments	outcome	Lead Officer/ Organisation/Portfolio Holder	Suggested by	Current Position	Key Dates/Deadlines
Tatton Park Enterprises and Tatton Park	To receive the quarterly performance monitoring report.	Strong and resilient community/ people live well and for longer	Countryside, Culture & Visitor Economy Manager Portfolio Holder for Highways and Infrastructure	Committee	Arrange visit to Tatton Park (outside facilities)	15 September 2016

Items for 2016/2017 – Committee to be involved at an early stage

Preventing Extremism Strategy
 Community Cohesion Strategy
 Scams and Mass marketing
 Human Trafficking/ Honour based crime
 Community Hubs – meeting to be held at a hub
 Air quality
 Gypsy/Travellers (enforcement and site) – November 2016