

**16 SEPTEMBER 2014**

**NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL**

Minutes of a meeting of the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel held at Appletree Court, Lyndhurst on Tuesday, 16 September 2014.

p Cllr Mrs P Jackman (Chairman)  
p Cllr S P Davies (Vice-Chairman)

**Councillors:**

p J E Binns  
p D A Britton  
ap Mrs P J Lovelace  
ap B D Lucas

**Councillors:**

p Mrs M McLean  
p A D O'Sullivan  
p N S Penman  
p D J Russell

**In Attendance:**

**Councillor:**

Mrs D M Brooks (Portfolio Holder, Health & Leisure)  
Mrs J L Cleary (Portfolio Holder, Housing & Communities)

**Officers Attending:**

Mrs S Bennett, B Byrne, M Devine, Ms A Righton and Ms M Stephens

**11. MINUTES.**

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2014 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**12. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

No declarations of interest were made by members in connection with an agenda item.

**13. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**

No issues were raised during the public participation period.

**14. TROUBLED FAMILIES – PRESENTATION.**

The Panel received a presentation on progress with Hampshire's Supporting (Troubled) Families Programme (STFP) within the New Forest.

The Partnership Intervention Manager confirmed continuing progress of the STFP since its establishment in 2012. To date, 119 families in the New Forest had been identified as having successful outcomes. Through multi-agency working, positive outcomes had been achieved for many families in the District and in the County, as well as helping many adults back into work, reducing crime and improving school attendance. Members were informed that these interventions saved the public purse an average of £75,000 per family, per annum.

Members were informed that the eligibility criteria for the programme had now been extended to 6 categories. The anticipated increase in the number of cases being dealt with by the District Council as a result of this, including resource and funding implications, was discussed.

The Chairman thanked the Partnership Intervention Manager for an informative presentation and achievements to date. Members requested that they be kept up to date with the progress of the programme.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the information contained in the presentation be noted; and
- (b) That officers update the Panel on the progress of the Supporting (Troubled) Families Programme when appropriate.

Action: Annie Righton/Brian Byrne

**15. COMMUNITY ALARMS UPDATE (REPORT A).**

The Panel considered an update on the progress of the Council's community alarms service.

In July 2013 the Council's CCTV and community alarms services had integrated into one team creating a new in-house community alarms service. Previously the Community Alarm team had fallen under the remit of Housing Services. In September 2013 responsibility for the new community alarms function moved to the Public Health and Community Safety service alongside CCTV.

The new service provided a 24 hour integrated control room. The service also encompassed CCTV, dealing with approximately 2000 incidents a year, pendant alarms and door entry systems in the Council's housing stock.

Members discussed the steps taken to facilitate the successful implementation of the new team including changes to staff, staff training and refurbishment of the control room, re-programming of alarms as well as the difficulties faced in achieving this.

Moving forward, the Community Alarm Service would develop the business under the brand name 'Appletree Careline' and focus on new initiatives such as domestic violence alarms and dementia support.

The Council's out of hours calls would be managed in-house from 3 November 2014, following the successful installation of new software and training of staff. This would replace the existing externalised service currently provided by Tunstall.

The Panel congratulated the Head of Service, Civil Contingencies and CCTV Manager and the wider team for their hard work and efforts in bringing about positive changes to the Council's CCTV and alarm service.

The Panel requested that an update regarding the implementation of the out of hours service be brought to the Panel in spring 2015.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the information contained in the report be noted; and
- (b) That an update on the implementation of the out of hours service be brought to the Panel in spring 2015.

Action: Annie Righton

**16. REDUCTION OF KILLED AND SERIOUS INJURIES – TASK AND FINISH GROUP (REPORT B).**

The Panel considered the outcomes of the Task & Finish Group established to examine the number of killed and seriously injured casualties on New Forest roads and the development of a draft action plan.

Following examination of key statistics held by the Roads Policing Unit on road accidents in the New Forest, the Group had developed a multi-agency action plan to prevent road accidents from occurring and to reduce the number of serious incidents on New Forest roads.

The Panel supported the action plan.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the Portfolio Holder be recommended that the Council engages with the action plan and assists partners where appropriate; and
- (b) That Safer New Forest continues to monitor the killed and seriously injured statistics and work with key partners to adjust the action plan as required.

Action: Stephanie Bennett

**17. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A TASK AND FINISH GROUP CONCERNING CHILD POVERTY (REPORT C).**

The Panel considered draft terms of reference for a Task & Finish Group to assess the prevalence of child poverty across the District and identify ways in which the Council could assist other organisations in mitigating the impact of child poverty.

The Panel considered and agreed the terms of reference for the Task & Finish Group as set out in paragraph 2.1 of Report C to the Panel. It was also agreed that five members be appointed to the Group. The findings of the Group would be reported to the Panel in March 2015.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That a Task and Finish Group on Child Poverty be established with the following terms of reference:
- Review current definitions of child poverty and determine what is a workable approach for the Council.
  - Review the level of child poverty in the District itself; in relation to other Hampshire Districts and other comparators where appropriate.
  - Consult with local organisations on the needs, as experienced across the District.
  - Consider the implications of the data and evidence presented, for the delivery of Services, whether by the Council (directly or indirectly) or by other agencies where the Council may wish to influence delivery.
  - Having undertaken the above activities, to produce a report of findings to include such recommendations as are felt appropriate to effect beneficial change in service delivery.
- (b) That Cllrs Mrs McLean and O'Sullivan be appointed to the Task & Finish Group with three other places being allocated at the discretion of the Chairman of the Panel; and
- (c) That the Task & Finish Group report back to the Panel in March 2015.

Action: Martin Devine

**18. WORK PROGRAMME (REPORT D).**

The Panel considered their future work programme as set out in Appendix 1 to these minutes.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Panel's work programme set out in Appendix 1 to these minutes be agreed.

**19. PORTFOLIO HOLDERS' UPDATES.**

The Portfolio Holder for Health & Leisure had a number of updates which would be circulated to members outside of the meeting.

The Portfolio Holder for Housing & Communities reported on the progress of the North Milton estate building programme as well as the recent activities of the Joint Action Group.

**20. DATES OF MEETINGS 2015/16.**

**RESOLVED:**

That the Panel meets on the following dates (all Tuesdays at 6.00 p.m.) in 2015/16:-

16 June 2015  
15 September 2015  
17 November 2015  
19 January 2016  
15 March 2016

CHAIRMAN

**Attachment:** Minute 18 – Appendix 1

(COMP160914)

## Work Programme 2014/2015

ITEM	OBJECTIVE	METHOD	TIMING/UPDATE ON PROGRESS
<b>Housing</b>			
Welfare Reform Impacts	To examine the impacts of welfare reform on tenants and residents	Report to Panel	November 2014
Tenancy and Allocation Policies	Consider the impact of the policies	Report to Panel	January 2015
Changes to Supporting People	To understand the changes and the impacts of the SP arrangements	Briefing report to Panel	January 2015
Introductory Tenancy Implementation	Consider the impact of the Introductory Tenancy implementation	Report to Panel	January 2015
Affordable Housing and Housing Programme Update	To monitor the progress of the housing purchase and development programme	Report to Panel	March 2015
<b>Crime and Disorder</b>			
Integration of the Community Rehabilitation Company and National Probation Trust	To monitor the impact of the integration of these services	Report to Panel	November 2014
Anti-Social Behaviour and Victims/Perpetrators of Crime	To review progress in line with legislative changes	Report to Panel	Winter 2014
Arson Crime in the New Forest	To examine the levels of arson crime in the New Forest and measures to control this.	Report/Presentation to Panel	March 2015
Out of Hours Service	To receive an update on the new service	Report to Panel	Spring 2015
Community Safety Partnership	To fulfil our statutory duty	Invite representatives of the Community Safety Partnership to the Panel's meeting	Spring 2015
Domestic Homicide	To receive a report on the domestic homicide panel	Report/Presentation to Panel	Winter 2015

<b>Children and Young People</b>			
Child Poverty in the New Forest	Task & Finish Group	Report findings to Panel	March 2015
<b>Health</b>			
Work of Health & Wellbeing Board	To gain a better understanding of the current work of the Health & Wellbeing Board & future aspirations	Report/presentation to Panel	Spring 2015
<b>Leisure</b>			
Sedentary lifestyles and how the council can engage residents into healthier lifestyles/exercise	Presentation by Sports & Play Development Officer	Report to Panel	Summer 2015