

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SAFETY  
AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2009 at 6.00 p.m.  
in Committee Room 2, The Council House, Dudley

**PRESENT:-**

Councillor Vickers (Chairman)  
Councillor Cotterill (Vice-Chairman)  
Councillors Foster, P. Harley, Jones, Kettle, J. Martin, Nottingham, Ryder  
and Wright.

**OFFICERS**

Assistant Director of Finance (Revenues, Benefits and Management Support) (Lead Officer to the Committee), Interim Director of Law and Property, Principal Solicitor, Divisional Support Services Manager (Human Resources/Citizenship) (all Directorate of Law and Property), Assistant Director Culture and Community Services and Policy Manager (Directorate of the Urban Environment), Drug Alcohol Action Team Manager and Anti-Social Behaviour Unit Operations Manager (Chief Executive's Directorate), Area Community Renewal Officer(Directorate of Adult, Community and Housing Services) and Mr. J. Jablonski (Directorate of Law and Property)

47            **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors Burston, A. Finch and Mrs Martin.

---

48            **SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS**

It was reported that Councillors Wright and Kettle had been appointed as substitute members for Councillors Burston and Mrs. Martin, respectively, for this meeting of the Committee only.

---

49            **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No member made a declaration in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct in respect of any matter to be considered at this meeting.

---

50            **MINUTES**

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2009, be approved as a correct record and signed.

---

51

PUBLIC FORUM

No matters were raised under this agenda item.

---

52

CHANGE IN ORDER OF BUSINESS

Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 13(c) it

RESOLVED

That the next item of business be agenda item 8 – Initiatives with young people to tackle anti-social behaviour.

---

53

INITIATIVES WITH YOUNG PEOPLE TO TACKLE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

A report of the Interim Chief Executive was submitted on the various initiatives, over and above normal mainstream service provision, that were currently being undertaken with young people by the Council and its partner agencies so as to tackle anti-social behaviour. Recent developments in national policy regarding young people and anti-social behaviour were also outlined.

Arising from the presentation of the content of the report submitted members asked a number of questions. In response to a query regarding the means by which people could be prevented from impersonating youth workers when approaching possibly vulnerable children it was agreed that the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit Operations Manager would take up this matter so as to ensure that the first point of the relevant protocol required the showing of identification by a Youth Worker to a young person or persons when approaching them in connection with their duties.

Queries were also raised in respect of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and Neighbourhood Agreements and in response to the points raised it was considered that the contracts were having an effect. A query was also raised in respect of inter –generational work projects.

## RESOLVED

- (1) That the information contained in the report, and as reported at the meeting, on the various initiatives, over and above normal mainstream service provision, that were currently being undertaken with young people by the Council and its partner agencies to tackle anti-social behaviour and recent developments in national policy regarding young people and anti-social behaviour, be noted.
- (2) That the Head of Community Safety be requested to submit a report to the first meeting of the Committee in the new municipal year in respect of the inter –generational work projects referred to in paragraph 24 of the report submitted.

---

54

### DIRECTORATE OF LAW AND PROPERTY – EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ACTION PLAN 2009/10

A report of the Interim Director of Law and Property was submitted on the annual equality and diversity action plan for 2009/10 for the Directorate of Law and Property. A copy of the action plan was attached as an Appendix to the report submitted.

Following the introduction of the report by the Interim Director of Law and Property in which he referred in particular to the introduction by the Licensing Section of a Road Passenger Vehicle Driving NVQ Level 2 Course for Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers in 2009/10 and recruitment of construction related appropriate professionals from ethnic minorities and females, members made a number of comments relating to the new NVQ Level 2 Course and to the possible introduction council wide of a graduate development programme.

## RESOLVED

- (1) That the information contained in the report, and Appendix to the report, submitted on the annual equality and diversity action plan for 2009/10 for the Directorate of Law and Property, be noted and endorsed.
- (2) That the Interim Director of Law and Property be requested to pursue the suggestion made that a graduate development programme be introduced Council wide in Directorates.

---

55

### SECTION 17 – CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998

A report of the Director of the Urban Environment was submitted reviewing the work in which the Directorate of the Urban Environment was involved so as to comply with Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act, 1998.

Arising from the presentation of the report members asked that further consideration, to that previously given at meetings of this Committee, be given to the inclusion of Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act, 1998 implications in reports prepared for consideration at Council meetings given the added emphasis in respect of this matter arising from requirements of the Comprehensive Area Assessment.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the information contained in the report submitted, on work undertaken by the Directorate of the Urban Environment in response to Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act, 1998, be noted.
- (2) That the Lead Officer to the Committee be requested to pursue the suggestion made at the meeting that reference to the implications of proposals in relation to Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act, 1998, be included in reports submitted to meetings of the Council .

PENSNETT BEAT SWEEP OPERATION

A report of the Director of Adult, Community and Housing Services was submitted on the Beat Sweep operation carried out in Pensnett from 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2008 to 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2008.

The Area Community Renewal Officer highlighted and illustrated the content of the report ,and of the evaluation report circulated separately to members of the Committee, on the Beat Sweep operation highlighting the benefits of the operation as a method of wider partnership working around issues of reassurance, community safety and community renewal.

Arising from the comments made and given by way of presentation members asked a number of questions relating, in particular, to the activities carried out .In response to a query regarding follow up action it was reported that in respect of the previous Beat Sweep operation in Lye the achievements gained had been sustained and the activities and actions taken had provided the basis for ongoing and other work. The benefits of joint working, as commented upon and highlighted in connection with the operation were welcomed and endorsed.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the information contained in the report, evaluation report and as presented at the meeting, on the work of the participating agencies in relation to the Beat Sweep operation carried out in Pensnett from 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2008 to 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2008, be noted.

- (2) That the benefits of the area participation approach and the co-ordinating and project management role undertaken through the Area Community Renewal Officers in enabling the agencies to meet their targets and also meet the needs of local communities and neighbourhoods be noted.
  - (3) That the roll out of Beat Sweep to other areas of the borough to be determined in partnership through the Head of Community Renewal and the Safe and Sound board be supported.
- 

57

#### DRIVER WATCH – OUTCOMES OF PILOT SCHEME

A report of the Lead Officer to the Committee was submitted on the outcomes of a pilot Driver Watch scheme involving drivers of Council vehicles.

In connection with the presentation of this item by the Lead Officer reference was also made to a leaflet circulated at the meeting on the Driver Watch Initiative.

Arising from the presentation given members made a number of comments and in this connection the Lead Officer to the Committee undertook to give further consideration to the suggestion made that an incentive scheme be introduced for drivers who report suspicious incidents to the Police.

#### RESOLVED

- (1) That the information contained in the report, and as reported at the meeting, on the outcome of a pilot Driver Watch scheme involving drivers of council vehicles, be noted.
  - (2) That, as the main aims of the scheme, to work with the Police to reduce crime and to reassure those who live in fear of crime, remain intact, staff within the Directorate of Adult, Community and Housing Services be encouraged to continue to remain vigilant and inform the Police of any incidents and that the Lead Officer to the Committee also approach other Council Directorates to see whether there were any opportunities to involve other transport teams.
- 

58

#### WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2009/10

A report of the Lead Officer to the Committee was submitted on initial consideration of the work programme of the Committee for 2009/10.

RESOLVED

That the following item be included in the work programme for 2009/10 –

- Policing pledge and its impact on the work of the Council,

and that members be requested to inform the Lead Officer of any further matters that they would wish to see included in the work programme for 2009/10.

---

59

QUARTERLY CORPORATE PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT

A report of the Lead Officer to the Committee was submitted on the performance of the Council in relation to the activities relating to the terms of reference of this Committee for the third quarter of 2008/09, October to December, 2008.

Arising from the introduction of this matter and comments made it was

RESOLVED

That the information contained in the report, and Appendix to the report, submitted on the Council's quarterly performance for the third quarter of 2008/09, on the activities relating to the terms of reference of this Committee, be noted.

The meeting ended at 7.25 p.m.

CHAIRMAN