

**COMMUNITY SAFETY
AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Thursday, 7th June, 2012 at 6.00 p.m.
in Committee Room 2, The Council House, Dudley

PRESENT:-

Councillor Kettle (Chair)
Councillor Branwood (Vice-Chair)
Councillors Burston, Caunt, Cotterill, K Finch, Ms Nicholls, Perks and C
Wilson.

OFFICERS

Assistant Director of Corporate Resources (Customer Services),
(Directorate of Corporate Resources), (Lead Officer to the Committee),
The Chief Executive and Drugs and Alcohol Action Team Manager, (Both
Chief Executive's Directorate), Head of Services, (Children's Services) and
Miss K Fellows, (Directorate of Corporate Resources).

1. **COMMENTS OF THE CHAIRMAN**

This being the first meeting of the municipal year, the Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Harley and Russell.

3. **APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBER**

It was reported that Councillor C Wilson had been appointed as a substitute Member for Councillor Harley for this meeting of the Committee only.

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 15th March, 2012, be approved as a correct record and signed.

6. PUBLIC FORUM

No matters were raised under this Agenda item.

7. SAFE AND SOUND DUDLEY'S COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2011/12

A report of the Chief Executive was submitted detailing an overview of the work of the Community Safety Partnership (Safe and Sound), including information in respect of the performance of the partnership for 2011/12. The Partnerships priorities for 2012/13 were highlighted as reflected in the Community Safety Annual Plan for 2012/13. The names of the safe and sound board members, the partnership structure, partnership performance and the cost of safe and sound (Dudley's Community Safety Partnership) were Appended to the report submitted.

In presenting the report, the Chief Executive made particular reference to Appendix 3 to the report submitted which recorded the significant reduction in crime figures relating to dwelling burglaries, vehicle crime and robbery.

He also referred to the British Crime Survey, which had determined that recorded crime figures were accurate.

The strategic priority in relation to Troubled Families was referred to and it was noted that work would commence on a major initiative during a three year period, which was partly funded by the Government in order to address issues with troubled families.

The Chief Executive referred to the forthcoming election of a Police and Crime Commissioner and the Government funding that had previously been allocated to the Council by the Home Office and would in future be determined and allocated by the newly elected Police and Crime Commissioner.

In responding to Members questions the Chief Executive advised as follows:-

- That the British Crime Survey related to Households and not businesses, with businesses reporting crimes such as shoplifting directly to the Police;
- The initiative in relation to Troubled Families would address the amount of family members and the savings that could be made in relation to targeting issues and problems in relation to the same would also be measured;
- There would be no right of appeal in relation to the government funding allocated to the Council by the Police and Crime Commissioner;
- That an action plan would be implemented in relation to how to deal with troubled families which would be contributed to by a whole range of Public Sector Agencies with the main aim being to prevent or limit the problems in relation to those families and that by working closely with the above Agencies would alleviate previous defects in providing an efficient service relating to dealing with troubled families;
- That the work in relation to Troubled Families would not impact upon the funding and work of the Community Safety Team relating to the prevention of crime and crime reduction.
- That locally colleagues at a senior level in West Midlands Police were extremely competent and deployed resources in an efficient and effective manner and this may be an explanation for the reduction in crime.
- That neither the British Crime Survey nor recorded crime figures in this report gave details of detection rates or criminal justice outcomes.

The Drugs and Alcohol Team Manager reported that multi agency work was undertaken and partnership responses were made to reduce levels of re-offending which was currently by 18.06% below the predicted re-offending rate.

The Chief Executive advised that there were no trends in relation to the reduction of crime figures, other than the fact that year on year crime was reducing.

The Drugs and Alcohol Team Manager advised that in relation to the Community Safety fund there had been a reduction of 50% in Government funding for 2012/13 and in view of this £95,000 had been carried forward from the previous years budget and the decision to carry the funding forward had been taken by a multi agency working group.

RESOLVED

CSCSSC/3

That the information contained in the report, and Appendices to the report, submitted on the overview of the work of the Community Safety Partnership (Safe and Sound), the performance of the partnership for 2011/12 and the Partnership's priorities for 2012/13 as reflected in the Community Safety Annual Plan for 2012/13, be noted.

8. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR 2011/12

A report of the Lead Officer to the Committee was submitted on the Annual Report of the Scrutiny Committee for 2011/12.

RESOLVED

That the Annual Report of the Scrutiny Committee for 2011/12 be received and noted and referred to Council.

9. WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2012/13

A report of the Lead Officer to the Committee was submitted on the work programme for the 2012/13 municipal year.

Following consideration of the Work Programme it was

RESOLVED

That the work programme of the Committee for 2012/13 be approved as follows:-

Date of Meeting	Item
07/06/2012	Work Programme for 2012/13 Annual Report of the Safe and Sound Board Annual Report of the Community Safety and Community Services Scrutiny Committee to Council. Any questions/issues to be raised with a Member of the Safe and Sound Board (to be included on all agendas)
06/09/2012	The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. Domestic Abuse Service Improvement Review – Update.
01/11/2012	Anti Social Behaviour Review.

CSCSSC/4

Proposed Revenue Budget.

17/01/2013 New and amended requirements arising out of the Protection of Freedoms Bill and the findings of the Internal CCTV Review.

14/03/2012 Reporting on Section 17 – Crime and Disorder Act, 1998 (Directorate of the Urban Environment)

Provisional Work Programme for 2013/14

10. TO CONSIDER WHETHER TO REQUEST THE ATTENDANCE OF ANY SAFE AND SOUND BOARD MEMBER OR THE PROVISION OF ANY INFORMATION AT A FUTURE MEETING IN RELATION TO THE COMMUNITY SAFETY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME.

Following discussion on this issue it was:

RESOLVED

That the attendance of any Safe and Sound Board Member or the provision of any information at the next meeting be not pursued.

The meeting ended at 6.50 p.m.

CHAIRMAN