

**COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTION TEAM held at COUNCIL OFFICES
LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN at 12.30pm on 25 OCTOBER
2005**

Present: - In the Chair- Alasdair Bovaird– Uttlesford District Council.
Fiona Gardiner, Councillor David Gregory, Victoria Harvey and Tracy Turner – Uttlesford District Council.
Dale Atkins – Uttlesford PCT
Grahame Bird – Essex Fire Service
Chris Bishop – A&D.N.G
Paul Bowers – Essex Fire Service
Canon D Green – C.S.G
John Hardisty – UALC
Liz Pickford – Essex Connexions
Kerry Vincent – Go-East
Melanie Walker – Uttlesford PCT
Alan Welham – Essex Police
Christopher White – ECC
Michael Young – Road Safety Working Group

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies received.

2 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 July 2005 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

4 CHAIRMANS REPORTS FROM LAST QUARTERLY MEETING

The team received reports from Community Support Group, Alcohol and Drug Strategy Group and Road Safety Working Group.

a) Community Support Group

There was no previous meeting held.

b) Alcohol and Drug Strategy Group

There were concerns over the lack of a CSO. This was being worked on.

c) Road Safety Working Group

Mike Young welcomed attendees from Essex Fire Service. He said that he had visited the police reduction council and new employees would come.

It was a busy time over the past quarter, especially with the beginning of the new school year. In August there was a drinking and driving campaign held by Birchanger Fire Service, the Police also attended. During the same month 650 people were breathalysed and 11 were found to be over the limit. This was a decrease from the previous month.

In September Crucial Crew was held. It was a success and well organised. Alasdair Bovaird said there rumours that Crucial Crew was in danger of finishing. He confirmed this was not true. Also Motorwise held a day event for 16 year olds. 720 students attended. FeFex, Essex Police and UDC helped this.

In October a play travelled around to year 7 pupils called 'Why did the chicken'. This play was about peer pressure.

There were no figures given on accidents for this year, but there was a slight increase from 2004.

5 FUNDING UPDATE

Funding details were given on the first quarter and BCU.

a) Progress made by funded projects in the first quarter

Funding was received from the Home Office for 2005/06. The funding for the 1st quarter was already spent on projects. Details of this would be sent out shortly to those members who had not received them.

b) BCU Funding

Funding for the next year had not yet been identified. It was uncertain whether it would come from each BCU, the local authorities or the police.

6 UPDATE TO ROLE AND AGREEMENT OF RAG IN RELATION TO HO GRANT FOR ASBO POST

Information was received from the Home Office. It was hoped that about £6000 from the CSAT budget would be used to ensure the continuation of the ASBO post. UDC was still happy to host this role.

7 UPDATE ON RECRUITMENT OF CSO

The post was currently being dealt with and was to be advertised nationally and locally in the forthcoming weeks. It was thought interviews should take place mid November and there should be someone in the role by early next year. This position was one that had to be filled and could not be left open. Chris White from ECC asked if UDC would consider working in partnership to fill the role, to which Alasdair Bovaird agreed.

8 **ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR QUARTERLY REPORT**

Fiona Gardiner said there were no ABCs running at present. People receiving help were being worked with earlier. A road show was taking place, supported by Braintree staff. This was to be held in Saffron Walden on 27 October 2005. Training on ASBO would be given to UDC staff on 9, 16 and 23 November 2005. Fiona Gardiner also said that she was doing a postgraduate certificate in Anti-Social Behaviour, and would be attending APU every Friday.

The prison away project would start in January. It was asked what the level of Uttlesfords ABCs was compared to others. To which the answer was at present Braintree had more. This was due to lower crime levels in Uttlesford; the emphasis goes on those who need it. ABC problems would not necessarily get passed onto ASBO.

Alasdair Bovaird said that the team needed to identify how CSAT were improving quality of life and to achieve this would need to speak to people in the community.

Alan Welham from Essex Police said there was a national problem with defining ASB, as with defining targets, as there was no first year benchmark. However, areas were different and that would have to be a factor when deciding what was classed as anti-social.

9 **POLICE BOUNDARY REALIGNMENT**

The recent figures were aimed to put Essex into perspective. The current Chief Inspector had set hard targets. Offences were currently down on last year's figures and to carry on with this improvement more drive would be needed. There were currently three options being reviewed, but the best option for Uttlesford would reduce the number of BCUs to five. The geographical layout would combine Uttlesford with Braintree, Chelmsford and Mauldon. The average member of the public was unaware of any changes and disruptions were unlikely to happen.

With the new realignment the strategy would change. The aim was to clear the backlog, by one police officer passing their work onto another instead of keeping cases. At present Saffron Walden and Dunmow had 20 outstanding arrests, this was fairly low.

10 **UPDATE ON STRONGER AND SAFER COMMUNITIES LAA**

The team discussed a report on a Community Safety Workshop day, which outlined potential new structures and working practices for the CSAT in light of the forthcoming LAA. The main concern was funding and resources. There were recommendations made by an external auditor which outlined the following:

1. Members of CSAT were to be fully engaged in a review of the partnership structure.
2. Systems for monitoring the need for/impact of projects and outputs/outcomes of projects were required.
3. Ensure performance monitoring existed within CSAT.
4. All members were to enhance their levels of pro-activity to provide further support to the Community Safety Officer.
5. CSAT were to improve the understanding of its members, of the cross cutting role of the ASB officer.
6. Enhanced the communication between the RAG and the working groups.
7. Enhanced the opportunity for cross cutting projects within each of the working groups.
8. CSAT were to actively recruit representation from Education sector and Uttlesford Community (in light of LAA guidance).
9. Developed mechanisms for Ethnic minority groups to report incidents of Hate crime.
10. Ensure that CSAT understood that “the perception of crime in Uttlesford” needed to be dealt with pro-actively.
11. Ensure that CSAT informed the Community of its aims/activities and engaged with the Community in consultation and negotiation (in light of good practice and LAA guidance).
12. Engaged with the Community to justify why Public funds should be expended on Crime & Disorder/Community Safety issues in a “low crime area”.

Many of these were already being addressed.

RESOLVED that:

1. CSAT amended its structure to the one presented.
2. The YIWG removed to the auspices of CYPSP.
3. The auditor’s recommendations were acted upon.
4. The RAG agreed to the Community Safety Strategy 2005 – 08 amendments to reflect comments highlighted in the report.
5. Terms of reference were amended to reflect recommended changes.
6. The Working Group Chairman was to take action on the recommendation set out in the report.

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PROLIFIC AND OTHER PERSISTENT OFFENDERS UPDATE

There was no report on resettle and rehabilitate and countywide strategy consultation.

a) Catch and convict and prevent and deter

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A member of Essex Police informed the team that the right people were being targeted. There were 6 offenders under supervision, 10 in custody, 5 on liberty and 1 on voluntary liberty. The release dates set were from February 2006 onwards. He reported that the partnership was working well.

b) Prevent and deter strategy

The strategy was in the early stages of delivery.

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ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The date of the next CSAT meeting would be held 24 January 2005.

The meeting ended at 2pm.