

**RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY GROUP MEETING held at SAFFRON  
WALDEN COUNCIL OFFICES at 12.30 PM ON WEDNESDAY 26 APRIL  
2006**

Present: - In the Chair – Alasdair Bovaird – Uttlesford District Council  
Victoria Harvey, Nicole Morton and Alex Stewart – Uttlesford  
District Council  
Paul Bowers – Essex Fire & Rescue  
Cheryl Callow – Essex Police Command Team  
Neil McDonald – Essex Police Authority  
Peter Pearson – Essex County Council  
Christopher White – Essex County Council  
Peter Woollard – Essex Probation Service  
Michael Young – Uttlesford Road Safety Working Group

**1 CHAIRMANSHIP**

It was agreed that Paul Bowers would take the Chair for the forthcoming year.

**2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Win Barnard, Chris Bishop, Duncan Green, Robert Chambers, Carole Fuller, Fiona Gardiner, Tracy Turner and Melanie Walker.

**3 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2006 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**4 MATTERS ARISING**

Chris White referred to the Early Intervention Programme and said a worker had been recruited for Uttlesford, due to start shortly and will be based in Great Dunmow.

**5 CHAIRMAN'S REPORTS FROM LAST QUARTERLY MEETING**

In the absence of Canon Green and Canon Bishop, Nicole Morton reported that the Community Support Group and Alcohol and Drug Strategy Group were renewing their action plans. It had arisen whether working group chairs should attend RAG meetings as well as CSAT. It was agreed that the chairs would attend CSAT meetings only, on a caveat that if they were not meeting targets they would need to attend the RAG for an update.

### **a. Road Safety Working Group**

Michael Young reported that Rose Johnson had delivered a safe driving to work course at the Saffron Walden Council offices. This consisted of driving simulation and tests which was very successful.

Courses had also taken place for the Alternative Education Group and a group of young people at Saffron Walden County High.

Coming up in June was an eyesight road show. July would hold a drink driving campaign as well as working with a local school and getting them out with police using speed cameras.

## **6 PROLIFIC AND OTHER PERSISTENT OFFENDERS UPDATE**

Cheryl Callow from Essex Police said she had recently attended a Proactive Essex Youth Offenders Conference which was very good. There were currently two offenders on a remand and three on a prevent and deter scheme.

## **7 FUNDING UPDATE**

### **a. Update from Funding and Strategy Working Group**

Nicole Morton presented the group with the Safer Stronger Communities Fund spending plan, which was agreed at the last RAG Funding and Strategy Working Group. The allocation for 2006/07 stood at £101,353. Of that amount £25,000 is ring fenced for the ASB Coordinator. Under LAA 25% of the allocation is to be spent on a project that meets LAA targets, Family Support Centre provides this. The funding will allow the group to move forward with its work. Nicole Morton agreed to send the spending plan to County CDRU and members of the RAG.

The group agreed the funding for the forth coming year.

### **b. BCU Funding Action Plan**

BCU funding plan was agreed by the RAG for the forth coming year. It was agreed that there is a need in this locality for 1 of the 2 ASB workers that will be funded from this fund, to be allocated to Uttlesford.

Cheryl Callow said there was an area of concern over the volume of domestic violence being reported with women abusing men. This number was on the increase and there was no refuge for men. A perpetrator programme may need to be established at some stage to meet the needs. Peter Woollard informed that the overwhelming amount of DV cases that the Probation Service receives were male on female.

Peter Pearson said that if a programme was required then the LSP needed to consider this, as it would be a Countywide scheme, all CDRP's would need to be on board. Also if a refuge was needed for men an application to support this need with evidence would be required.

It was suggested that the Essex Vulnerable Person Protection Committee might be able to provide help. Alasdair Bovaird said if there was a gap in care provided then the RAG should investigate.

AGREED a draft letter would be sent to the supporting group and Sam Grant at ECC. Nicole Morton to action.

## **8 ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

Alex Stewart said the first Designated Public Place Order in Uttlesford was for an area in Elsenham and this went to Full Council on April 25. It was endorsed and the consultation period would start shortly. Area Panels would be getting more authority and this DPPO would be dealt with by the South West Area Panel.

## **9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Cheryl Callow said she was interviewing for the ASBO post on 27 April, and hopefully someone would be in the post soon.

Alex Stewart said the Neighbourhood Policing Teams would shortly be rolled out in Uttlesford, with this would be regular monthly meetings in each neighbourhood. Alex Stewart would like to make a formal request for the Police to make a link with the Area Panels. Alasdair Bovaird said he had recently met with the Chief Superintendent, Win Bernard, and he had agreed to come to the next Council Meeting to give an update.

Alex Stewart said plans were being looked at to merge the LSP with the CDRP. He would try and organise all representatives of the RAG to meet to discuss.

Chris White reported that the County Council were introducing a specialist courts pilot system for domestic violence, the first would go ahead in Basildon. RAG members agreed that the pilot was necessary.

## **10 DATES OF FURTHER MEETINGS**

The next RAG meeting would be held on 25 July and the next CSAT meeting would be held on 24 October.

The meeting ended at 1.25pm.