

**PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL - ADDRESSEE ONLY**

**UTTLESFORD COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP held at 11.00 am on 22 MAY 2000 at  
COUNCIL OFFICES LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN**

Present:- Rachel Hutchinson - Community Safety Assistant  
Jacqui King - Criminal Justice Mental Health Team  
Val Long - Educational Welfare  
Councillor Mrs J E Menell - Uttlesford District Council  
Katherine Nessling - Essex Police  
Liz Petrie - Senior Housing Officer  
Cathy Roberts - Committee Officer  
Graham Seal - Inspector for Community Safety, Essex Police  
Braintree Division - in the Chair  
Linda Sturgess - Home Start  
Roy Withers - Heckford Norton Solicitors

**1 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Ronni Ayres, Heather Brun, Clive Cooper, Margot Freeman, Alex Stewart and Chris White.

**2 CHAIRMANSHIP OF GROUP**

Roy Withers was congratulated on being selected as the future Chairman of the Group.

**3 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Group held on 14 March 2000 were received, accepted as a true record and signed. It was noted that where one Member of the Group requested or received the help of another, this should be recorded in the Minutes in future, and that all Members should attend or send a deputy, or a written apology for absence from meetings.

**4 UPDATE OF WORK ACHIEVED**

A programme of work prepared by Graham Seal and Alex Stewart was circulated and discussed.

Rachel Hutchinson explained the statutory role played by local authorities in Community Safety. Objectives had been drawn up following surveys to establish the Uttlesford residents' main fears and relevant issues.

- Action:**
- (i) That a letter be sent to all organisations which have been affiliated to the Group, to encourage support;
  - (ii) that Katherine Nessling prepares an aide memoire on action following domestic violence, for distribution by doctors, solicitors etc;

(iii) that Roy Withers, Alex Stewart, Liz Petrie and Graham Seal meet to discuss Group membership;

(iv) that it be noted that Heather Brun's input is essential for perpetrators programme provision;

(v) that a Crown Prosecuting Solicitor department representative be invited by Roy Withers to make a presentation to the Group;

(vi) that Katherine Nessling prepares a working guide on the support which is appropriate for domestic violence victims/families, during the period before Court intervention.

(vii) As regards issue 1, it was agreed that the Polaroid cameras should be made available for the use of other appropriate organisations.

(viii) As regards Issue 2, it was agreed that the data sharing pro-forma be redistributed to all Members for information.

(ix) As regards Issue 3, it was agreed that Liz Petrie and Katherine Nessling should meet to discuss the procedures for making anti-social behaviour orders.

## 5 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE STATISTICS

Katherine Nessling reported that there had been 42 domestic incidents, with 11 arrests, of which 4 had been repeat incidents and 13 repeat victims or family. The incidents had been evenly spread between Saffron Walden and Dunmow. She felt that the majority of victims could be preferable to a programme to help repeat victims.

Linda Sturgess reported that Homestart had received two repeat domestic incident victims, both of whom had found the Group's booklet very valuable.

**Action:** That Liz Petrie investigates the possibility of distributing a business sized card of names and phone numbers, including the details of the Samaritans, as an alternative to re-distribution of the booklet.

## 6 RACIAL INCIDENTS PANEL

Graham Seal gave details of two recent incidents which fell within the category racial incidents.

## 7 HOMOPHOBIC INCIDENTS

Graham Seal invited suggestions as to ways of encouraging membership to promote the interests of homophobic groups. He asked for any useful information or suggestions to be supplied to the Secretary.

## 8 PERPETRATORS PROGRAMME

Graham Seal outlined the progress of this project and of the bid for its funding from the Home Office.

9

## **SENIOR HOUSING OFFICER**

The Senior Housing Officer reported that as a direct result of the Best Value requirements she would no longer be able to attend the Group on a regular basis. Liz Petrie was thanked for her contribution. Graham Seal and Roy Withers emphasised that it was essential that the Committee be attended regularly by a person of the same authority who could continue in Liz's stead.

The meeting ended at 1.36 pm.