



**MINUTES of  
Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting as the  
CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE  
14 MARCH 2012**

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**PRESENT**

Chairman	Councillor A J Cussen
Vice Chairman	Councillor N R Pudney
Councillors	F A Delderfield, A Fluker, D G Horner, Miss M R Lewis and M J Wood
In attendance	Councillors H M Bass, M S Heard and R G Boyce CC

**778. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were none.

**779. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 12 October 2011 be approved and confirmed.

**780. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor A Fluker declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in Agenda Item No. 4 as he rented property to the Essex Police Authority.

Councillor R G Boyce declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 4 as he was a member of the Essex Police Authority and of Essex County Council.

Councillor M S Heard declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 4 as he was still in the employment of Essex Police.

The Chairman advised the Committee of a slight change in the order of business in terms of the receiving of presentations.

**781. MALDON DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE**

The Committee received a presentation from the Community Safety Manager in connection with the main report on the Maldon District Community Safety Partnership Update. The following significant points were noted:

- The decreased funding from the Home Office in terms of the Area Based Grant and from community safety partners together with significant structure changes to key partners such as Essex Police, Essex County Council, National Health Services (NHS) Mid Essex and Essex Fire and Rescue Authority will mean that the coming year will be one of transition and uncertainty. Future funding of community safety partnerships will come under the remit of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). The Community Safety Manager is part of a Safer Essex working party that is preparing a countywide event on 17 April 2012 to develop ideas and processes for the transition over to PCC.
- In light of the above, a more focused and streamlined approach is a priority. Recent changes to the structure of the Community Safety Partnership has resulted in a more efficient outcome driven approach with less emphasis on performance indicators. More time will be dedicated to understanding problems and planning quality interventions and evaluation.
- Community engagement has been a key focus for the partnership in the last year. This has been achieved by Officers attending community events, delivering presentations at meeting and by making partnerships more accessible electronically. A recent example of this was the event held at Brickhouse Farm, Maldon on 10 March 2012. This saw over sixty young people attend, with positive feedback received.
- The priorities for the Maldon Community Safety Partnership in 2012/13 concentrate on reducing crime, the fear of crime and antisocial behaviour. Reduction in the harm caused by alcohol and drug misuse is another key area for the partnership to focus on, as well as protecting vulnerable people and victims of domestic abuse. Through Integrated Offender Management re-offending should also see a reduction. These priorities link in with those of the Safer Essex priorities, which have £180,000 funding to support the delivery of the action plan during 2012 / 13.

## **782. ANNUAL POLICING UPDATE**

The Committee then received a presentation from Inspector Chris Kilgallen of Essex Police who, as from 1 March 2012, was in charge of neighbourhood policing in Maldon and South Woodham Ferrers.

Inspector Kilgallen drew particular attention to the comparison of crime figures between 2010 and 2011. Whilst there was an increase in the overall number of crimes, there was a decrease in many areas of specific offences, and in particular a significant decrease in anti-social behaviour. Inspector Kilgallen remarked that the Maldon District is a safe place to live, with low crime levels compared to other similar geographical areas.

Inspector Kilgallen spoke of the new policing structure implemented from 1 March 2012. The immediate impression is a positive one, in particular the response rate for team operating out of South Woodham Ferrers.

Inspector Kilgallen then answered Members questions in relation to the following subjects:

- Anti Social Behaviour (ASB).
- Public confidence in police response.
- Use of Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) with local knowledge.
- Publicity campaigns / public engagement.
- Detection rates.
- Types of crime such as theft from motor vehicles, scrap metal, drugs, and the approach to the more petty categories.
- Neighbourhood Action Panels (NAPs) – it was confirmed that a review will be taking place in the next few months to look at the effectiveness of the arrangements.
- Bradwell Village Hall – the Chairman commented that a recent letter highlighted repeated vandalism of the village hall. Inspector Kilgallen confirmed that she will look into this.

### **783. MALDON DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE**

The Committee received and noted the report of the Head of Community and Leisure Services detailing the process of activities undertaken by the Community Safety Partnership and the impact of the election of the Police and Crime Commissioner in November 2012.

The Chairman asked Members to note an error on Page 1 of the report, paragraph 2.2.1 regarding a presentation made to Overview and Scrutiny. He advised that the date should read 12 October 2011 and not 12 October 2012.

**RESOLVED** that the progress on the delivery plan for 2011/12, the success of the new working arrangements be noted, and the timescales for the nomination of an elected member to the Police and Crime Panel by July 2012 be noted.

There being no other items of business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:01pm.

A J CUSSEN  
CHAIRMAN

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