



Tamworth Safer Neighbourhood Panel Meeting Notes

Thursday 11th February 2016 10-12pm

Sacred Heart Church

Present	<p>Junaid Gharda (Chair) Matthew Ellis Sue Panter Cllr Stephen Doyle David Davies Joanne Sands Chief Insp Steve Smith Insp Jason Nadin Lesley Gilman Derek Hoey John Mitchell Peter Timmis Rev Vic Van Den Bergh Ade Caulwell Marri Griffin (Minutes)</p>	<p>Head of Policy, Performance and Assurance OPCC Police and Crime Commissioner, OPCC Safer Neighbourhood Panel Coordinator Portfolio Holder for Communities and Public Health TBC ETAP Member Head of Community Safety TBC Local Neighbourhood Policing Commander Local Neighbourhood Inspector Magistrate Tamworth Resident Tamworth Resident Tamworth Resident Tamworth Resident Tamworth Resident Tamworth Resident Locality Officer Support Staffordshire</p>
Apologies	Rev Tim Flowers	Tamworth Resident
1.	Welcome and introductions	Action
	JG welcomed everybody to the first meeting of the Tamworth SNP and all introduced themselves around the table.	
2.	Vision Of Safer Neighbourhood Panels -Matthew Ellis	
	<p>ME welcomed everybody to the panel and thanked them for getting involved. He wants individuals with concerns to get involved with SNP. There are now over 100 people involved with SNPs across Staffordshire. The new dashboard being launched shortly will allow for more information being available on local policing issues. The SNP will contribute toward community safety and link with local borough councils. ME has increased funding to local areas and funded TBC to run the SNP and he wants to ensure that this money is being used wisely.</p> <p>Use of technology is the number one issue. There were 15,000 incidents of people with mental health issues being involved with the police and there has been an 82% reduction in people ending up in police cells. He urged the panel to focus on two main issues, firstly the rate of re-offending. We need to</p>	

	<p>reduce reoffending rates by understanding the reasons for reoffending. Secondly, visible policing –new technology that has been provided will make the police more effective by allowing them to be out and about in the communities. He wants the panels to link with ETAP (Ethics, Transparency Audit panel) ‘to become expert citizens’. The excellent work of ETAP has produced two reports of national significance- Stop and search and Use of Taser.</p> <p>The Panels will give a picture of where localism is working by sharing information and holding local police commanders to account.</p>	
<p>3.</p>	<p>Overview of local policing - Chief Inspector Steve Smith, Inspector Jason Nadin</p>	
	<p>SS gave out a copy of the presentation which he went through. He has 19 years of varied service with the police including 10 years in Tamworth so he has a good understanding of the area and said that Tamworth is the ‘best local policing area in Staffordshire’.</p> <p>JN has been deputy since July 2014 and has 22 years’ service in the police. He loves the Tamworth area and he has worked here since 2008.</p> <p>Some points raised during discussion around presentation: SS said he works closely with JS and Tamworth Borough Council. SS wanted to point out that he did not include police data in the presentation and for future meetings he will need to know what sort of data the panel will need so he can prepare the information. ME – the OPCC dashboard will clearly identify trends. Initially SNPs will have access to the information and then it will be widened out to the general public. Some police have issues with releasing the information. ME - asked does SS have any issues with releasing the data. JN – No but it’s important to note when looking at data that the demographics of different areas are very different. ME – it’s important to understand what the trends are and he wants pressure on senior staff to see if police are performing in the local areas. JM – Asked for clarification of what the dashboard is. ME- explained about Smart Alerts. This is a communication channel which will enable local safety and crime information to be provided to residents and business on a timely basis. DH - commented that the information is a means of making progress and not there ‘to hit the commander over the head with’. ME – The dashboard will be used to present information and is a means of understanding crime in the local areas. JG – An invitation has gone out for 5th March where all the SNPs will be able to come together to look at the new dashboard. SS- urged the panel to send him queries from the data, as they arise and not wait until the next meeting. SS – The code of ethics that has been introduced around issues of leadership, accountability and honesty governing how police do their job and is embedded within Staffordshire police. There is a very strong special constabulary and the specials are part of the family and Tamworth specials are the finest in Staffordshire. JN- The high demand for repeat callers led to creation of Community Safety Intervention team. We will also be introducing an ASB officer to reduce incidents of ASB</p>	

	<p>DH – asked for clarification on which are warranted officers.</p> <p>JM- Asked how the ASB officers sit with TBC ASB Unit.</p> <p>JN- They will work together- Tamworth Borough Council will do a lot of the back office functions and the police will enforce the ASB orders.</p> <p>SS – Priority setting is important with the gathering of intelligence and regular public events highlighting concerns that feed into the CSP (Community Safety Partnership).</p> <p>As part of the local policing plan 3 priorities are set each week based on demand and issues raised allowing for a targeted response and evaluation of the outcomes. Some are long term issues so there are no quick fix solutions. This local policing plan allows for the managing of police resources.</p> <p>They have been looking at the use of social media and now have introduced a ‘gatekeeper’ to the twitter feeds so the information going out publicly is better managed.</p> <p>Neighbourhood officers are here to stay. ME commented to back up this statement.</p> <p>Mobile data started in Sept and allows officers to be more visible in the community.</p> <p>ME- There is a 7% increase in visibility and mobile data has allowed crime to be dealt with in the community without having to return to the police station.</p> <p>LG – Asked about body cams and SS replied that all officers have access to body cams.</p> <p>SS – Staffordshire Police Transformation team are available to come to future meetings if panel wants them to.</p> <p>Tamworth has a Safer Schools Officer to provide support at local schools and the police plan to be part of the MAC (Multi agency centre) so they are available to talk and support students where needed.</p> <p>ME – We may be able to put more money into the Safer Schools initiative.</p> <p>SS – Welcomed the number of people at the meeting and wants the panel to share decisions and let him know of issues so he can prepare for future meetings.</p> <p>JG – In other areas SNP have been invited to visit the local police station. SS welcomed that suggestion.</p> <p>VVB – Tamworth Street Angels had a recent aggressive assault where they CCTV had not called for police assistance as they would have done previously. He is concerned about change in the procedures around use of town safe radio and CCTV operators and how they will impact on public safety.</p> <p>JN – CCTV operators should not act as controllers and the 101 number should be called to report incidents and call for police assistance. The new technology ‘Spirit’ will get a PC to the incident quickly as it identifies where the resources are at any one point.</p> <p>JN and JS are aware of the issues and are working closely together. The Business Crime Reduction Partnership is also working to get retailers involved but at a recent forum only 2 retailers turned up.</p> <p>ME/JG – welcomed that this issue was raised and said that the panel should look at the wider issues and the processes involved in such incidents.</p> <p>DH – how were local meetings advertised?</p> <p>SS- there have been an issue in terms of low numbers attending and JG suggested that this will need to be reviewed.</p>	
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5.	Overview of the Ethics, Transparency and Audit Panel – David Davies ETAP Member	
	<p>The panel is made up of the local community and is there, not to question decisions that the police make but to look at the processes. The panel has a formal audit function and can challenge on issues such as expenses. The panel has done several 'thematic reviews' such as custody and detention. They carry out an in depth analysis of the issues and procedures involving visiting the cells, and looking at the processes. They have found incidents where processes were not followed. An example was given about the treatment of a person with mental health issues.</p> <p>ME – in that incident the work of the panel was a very useful exercise and the very detailed analysis showed failure of many services.</p> <p>DD – the process is very interesting but also very challenging and the panel has no authority other than to report the facts of what it finds.</p> <p>JG – So far all the recommendations that the panel have made have been taken on board.</p> <p>DD- It's important that they challenge the police and highlight issues. All reports are publicised on the internet. The panel work with the police and not against them and they have found the police to be co-operative. Introduction of IT for officers has been a significant and expensive development and it's important that the processes in place are robust and proper.</p> <p>ME- the work of the panel really adds weight to the police work.</p> <p>ME – left meeting</p> <p>DD- there is a great variety of tasks involved. The panel have sub- groups that are tasked at looking at different issues to ask questions and challenge procedures and processes.</p> <p>The meeting on the 5th March will be a great opportunity for ETAP and all the SNP's to come together.</p> <p>JG- SNP can scrutinise incidents locally and identify matters e.g.: Stop and Search. The panel need to choose what it wants to look at locally and it will be given the opportunity to do this. ETAP can look at the wider picture.</p> <p>DD- the panel needs to publicise what it is doing – not everybody is IT friendly.</p> <p>PT- We will need a cross sector of data to be able to analyse the issues.</p> <p>DD- STORM report (the system where police log all incidents) will itemise the data and make it available to the panel.</p> <p>JG – The new Dashboard will go a long way toward that and data will be available for the panel as it is needed.</p> <p>DD – As data becomes available it will become apparent to the panel what is needed and what issues they need to look at. It will give the panel the opportunity to know and understand local policy.</p> <p>DH – From his past experience it important that the panel is able to identify local issues and not get bogged down in the data.</p>	

6.	Items for Future meetings.	
	<p>JG – Need to look at some of the current issues that other panels have looked at. He would like panel to look at Stop and Search as a matter of priority. There is a need to make sure that the procedures are followed and panel will have access to video footage on stop and search. Out of court disposal – would welcome the experience of LG in that area to scrutinise decisions that are being made.</p> <p>LG – can we look to other areas to check consistency?</p> <p>JG- it is important to keep in mind whether it is within the scope of the local police to change and that it is not fair to challenge if it cannot be changed. Other examples, in Stoke the panel is looking at legal highs and road safety. In his experience the quarterly meeting will become a meeting where the sub groups, as they develop will report back to. Stop and Search training will be provided soon.</p> <p>SS – asked about police attendance at meetings.</p> <p>JG – The panel needs to be respectful that operational issues will take priority but SS and JN will be available to attend quarterly meetings but not the sub groups.</p> <p>JG – The panel will need to elect a chairperson and urged everyone even if they do not have previous experience to have a think about it and let him have any expressions of interest.</p> <p>SD – Could you explain the dashboard?</p> <p>JG- It will be available on the PCC website from March and we could arrange a demonstration for this meeting if necessary. It shows the crime data by district and crime. Will be able to send a link out to group members so they can have a look at it.</p> <p>SS – Asked if it is similar to the police data and JG replied that it uses police data but the terminology may be different.</p> <p>SD – He would happy to act as interim chair until chairperson is elected or he would be willing to be the Chairperson.</p> <p>JG – thanked him for the offer.</p> <p>SS – It would be useful to have meetings at a venue where we have access to IT facilities so they could view the dashboard e.g. Police station.</p> <p>SD – suggested TBC Marmion House</p> <p>JG – TBC was considered for this meeting but his preference is for a community venue. However it is up the group to make that decision going forward.</p> <p>JM – Town centre may be easier to access when the panel is open to the public.</p>	SP
4.	Code of Conduct and Terms of Reference SP	
	<p>All members have been sent copies of these, the Code of Conduct will need to be signed and returned to SP. Copies are available today if members would like to sign and return them at the end of the meeting.</p> <p>SP- The code of conduct had a reference to Lichfield in it.</p> <p>SP – Apologies, it will be amended and sent out to all.</p>	MG
7.	Date time and location of next meeting. MG	
	<p>Members were asked for preference regarding daytime or evening meetings and all agreed daytime would be better, preferably on a Friday. Current venue was considered suitable and availability for next meeting will be checked by</p>	

	<p>MG. Next meeting Friday 13th May 10-12pm Sacred Heart Church.</p> <p>SD – suggested that the agenda should be open up to a fortnight before the meeting and then closed to allow SS time to prepare.</p> <p>JM- Is there any interim work that needs to be done as the next meeting is not until May?</p> <p>JG – Suggested Stop and Search training could be organised. Rob Taylor will provide the training</p> <p>JM – Would like to have email addresses of members so he could contact other group members. All agreed this would be a good idea and he will be able to get them from group emails that are being sent out.</p>	<p>MG</p> <p>MG</p> <p>JG/MG</p>
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