

# Minutes

## Overview and Scrutiny Committee 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015



Councillors	Present	Councillors	Present
C Bailey	Yes	Mrs S Paul	Yes
K Bowers	Yes	R Ramage	Yes
J Goodman	Yes	F Ricci	Yes
P Horner	Yes	W J Rose	Yes
D Hufton-Rees	Yes	P Schwier	Yes
D Mann (Vice Chairman)	Yes	C Siddall	Yes

### 1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**INFORMATION:** There were no interests declared.

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, all councillors remained in the meeting for all items and took part in the debate and decision thereon.

### 2. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

**INFORMATION:** There were no questions asked or statements made.

### 3. **MINUTES**

**DECISION:** That the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 4. **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BRAINTREE DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP FOR 2014/15**

**INFORMATION:** The Braintree District Community Safety Partnership (CSP) was made up of representatives from Braintree District Council, Essex Police, Essex Fire & Rescue Service, Mid Essex CCG, Essex CRC, Education (primary and secondary), Braintree District Voluntary Support Agency and Family Solutions.

The CSP worked together to protect their local communities, reducing crime rates and helped to make people feel safer.

There was a statutory requirement for CSP's to carry out an annual strategic assessment. Statistical and contextual data was requested from partners; collated, analysed and used to inform key findings and recommendations for priorities moving forward.

The priorities for 2014/15 were:

Domestic Abuse  
Sexual Offences  
Acquisitive Crime  
Drugs Offences

Task & Finish Groups were made up of a variety of statutory & voluntary partners and were established against three of the priorities. The groups had overall responsibility for the development and delivery of an action plan that set out how local and county-wide agencies would work together to deliver against the actions and the financial resources required.

The CSP received £16k from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Essex through the Community Safety Grant for 2014/15.

The highlights for the year included:

- Match funding a Young Persons Independent Sexual Advisor (YPISVA) to work with individual young people who had been victims of sexual abuse or exploitation.
- 14 further hairdressing salons on board with the Cut It Out campaign
- 43 teachers receiving Domestic Abuse awareness training
- Legal High Training delivered to 23 professionals across the district.

Domestic abuse is a priority across the County, with sexual offenses increasingly becoming a priority. Having met statutory requirements and carrying out an assessment it was decided that the priorities for 2015/16 will include:

Domestic Abuse  
Sexual Offences (including that of child sex offenses)  
Violent Crime

It was also announced that included in the action plan for the forthcoming year there will be a specific item on raising the awareness of domestic abuse against males.

**DECISION:** That the Overview & Scrutiny review the Annual Report and if necessary to make recommendations to Cabinet.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To review the work of the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership and highlight any issues for the Cabinet to consider.

5. **RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE ON THE WORK OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR 2014/15.**

**INFORMATION:** Members were informed that along with two Task and Finish Groups, three Scrutiny Reviews were conducted last year.

The work of the Committee on the Scrutiny Review in to Poverty was considered by Council on the 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015. It is currently still in the decision making processes and is due to be received and responded to by Cabinet on the 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

The Task and Finish Group in to the North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP) was also considered by Council on the 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015 and is due to be received and responded to by Cabinet on the 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

The work of the Task and Finish Group in to Mi Community has now been completed and was presented to Cabinet in February where it was extended to Options for Future Community Funding Schemes (Mi Community).

Members were advised that due to the election, the call for items for this year's Scrutiny Reviews had been delayed and that Members had been contacted previously in the week to put forward their ideas for topics for the reviews. The deadline for this will be 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2015. Once responses have been received, all proposals will be put to a Scrutiny Steering Board where topics for review 2015/16 will be agreed.

Members advised that they felt it would be useful to look back at the work of previous Scrutiny Reviews and follow up recommendations to determine whether or not these were successful.

## **6 DISCUSSIONS IN RESPECT OF TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE COMMITTEE**

**INFORMATION:** Members were advised that they should indicate to officers areas in which they feel training should be provided.

## **7. DECISION PLANNER**

**DECISION:** That the Decision Planner for the period 1st July 2015 to 31st October 2015 be noted.

The meeting commenced at 7.15pm and closed at 8.29pm.

C Siddall  
Chairman