

KETTERING PARTNERSHIP

LSP EXECUTIVE BOARD

Meeting held: 20th April 2018

Present: Councillor Ian Jelley (Chair)
Councillor Lesley Thurland

Trish Dewar (Groundwork)
Dawn Cummings (Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire)
Kate Williams (Groundwork)
Insp Julie Mead (Northants Police)

Also Present: Martin Hammond (KBC)
Julie Trahern (KBC)
Shannon Petrossian (KBC)
Eleni Middleton (KBC)
Sylvia McLevy (Safe Until Daylight)
Paul Millen (Safe Until Daylight)
Sgt Scott Little (Northants Police)

David Pope (Committee Administrator)

17.LSP.26 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from the Chair, Councillor Russell Roberts (KBC) and Janet Doran (First for Wellbeing)

17.LSP.27 MINUTES

RESOLVED

that the minutes of the meeting held on 18th January 2018 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

17.LSP.28 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

17.LSP.29 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

17.LSP.30 POLICING MODEL UPDATE

Insp Julie Mead attended and provided an update on the policing model that had come into effect in October 2017.

The meeting heard that although there had been challenges faced as a result of the new model, there had been a number of positive outcomes to date.

The Managed Appointments Unit had seen a positive response and Neighbourhood Policing Teams, although reduced in staff numbers were seeing better public engagement as officers were not being directed away to other roles within the force. Community policing had also seen inroads being made in regard to community engagement by listening to and working effectively with minority groups.

It was noted that Locally Identified Priorities work had recommenced, with the current priorities in Kettering town being parking, speeding and littering, which were being tackled using a partnership approach. Work had been undertaken in association with the fire service regarding inconsiderate parking issues, while all 270 police cadets had been trained to use speed guns and were able to deliver a similar service to the Community Speedwatch schemes. Littering was not a police matter but was being tackled by KBC wardens.

It was reported that Sgt Scott Little would shortly be taking over the Inspector role for Neighbourhood Policing in the Corby and Kettering districts on a temporary basis due to Insp Mead accepting a secondment position elsewhere in the force.

The meeting heard that KBC had agreed to fully fund two PCSOs from 1st May and that the Chief Constable had provided PCSOs with the powers to enforce the PSPOs in place in the borough. It was noted that the Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner would be visiting the new joint operational office shared between police and KBC at the Municipal Offices. In addition it was reported that the Police and Crime Commissioner would assume responsibility for the fire service which would strengthen the existing partnership work of the two organisations.

The meeting asked questions in relation to education around irresponsible parking and cadet Speedwatch locations.

17.LSP.31 NIGHT SHELTER – SAFE UNTIL DAYLIGHT

Sylvia McLevy and Paul Millen from Safe Until Daylight attended the meeting to provide an overview of the operation of the Kettering night shelter.

It was heard that initial preparations for the shelter had begun in October 2017, with Paul and Sylvia working together, Paul having previously set up a similar shelter scheme in Corby.

Work had commenced on sourcing an appropriate room in November, with Safe Until Daylight set up as a CIC on 13th December. Initially St Edwards Church was approached to provide accommodation space due to the suitability of the set up at that location, however the necessary policies and systems could not be reconciled in time to allow for its use. The Open Door Church was then approached in January and arrangements were made for the shelter to open at that location.

Consultation was held with the general public at awareness meetings and volunteers to assist in the shelter operation were sourced. The most important aspect of the operation was the safety of all those involved in the running of the shelter, with background checks obtained for those using the facility.

A significant level of partnership work had been involved, with organisations including Turning Point, police, KCU, Kettering Arts Centre, KBC Housing Options, Out of Hours Service and warden teams and a variety of local businesses including Palmers Butchers all involved in the running, support and promotion of the service.

The initial aim had been to open by 16th January, offering a warm bed for the night for up to 15 people with the provision of a light meal on nights that the soup kitchens were closed. It was noted that the shelter had in actual fact opened on 4th February, being operational until 30th March, serving 22 individuals identified by KBC as homeless over this period. One individual went into the Transitions scheme during their stay, two were housed in temporary accommodation and three individuals found work by using the shelter as a “fixed abode” address.

Volunteers had three shifts available to them and were comprised from a variety of professional backgrounds including social workers, teachers, prison officers, care assistants, a retired doctor and a psychiatric nurse.

Going forward, the plan was to open the shelter again at the beginning of October, running through to the end of March 2019. Discussions were being held with St Edwards Church to see whether the shelter could be moved to that location, although there remained

the option to return to the Open Door Church if required. Volunteers were still being sought to expand the level of available cover.

Future aspirations for the scheme were to have its own building offering a 365/24 hour service with support extending to daytime services operating in Kettering and a designated mentor service.

Questions were asked in relation to accommodation of service users once the shelter closed, volunteer resilience and recruitment days.

17.LSP.32 VOLUNTARY SECTOR NORTHAMPTONSHIRE UPDATE

Dawn Cummings, Chief Executive of Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire (VIN) attended the meeting to provide an update on the activities of the organisation at a county level.

It was heard that at a countywide level, VIN was funded through NCC. In each district, local infrastructure organisations were funded differently, although it was noted that KBC had always been very supportive of the voluntary sector.

There remained a need for a countywide organisation to provide a voice for the voluntary sector at that level and to undertake important strategic work. Such support at a countywide level provided added value to the work of district level organisations.

It was heard that although VIN had signed a one-year contract extension with NCC to support the voluntary sector across the county, due to the severe financial problems faced by the county council, this funding had now been completely withdrawn. It was noted that the impact of this loss of funding would adversely affect the most vulnerable communities in the county. In addition to the loss of funding for VIN, a number of other voluntary organisations had been impacted, with a total loss of funding from the voluntary sector standing at £750,000. It was considered to be short-sighted to withdraw funding for the voluntary sector as the added value provided was significantly more than the original funding.

A decision had been made that the organisation would continue to invest in representing the voluntary sector, with attendance at strategic meetings to make the case for sector. However, it was reported that there had been a loss of paid officer roles as a result of funding removal.

VIN was keen for The National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA) to make representations at a national level regarding the impact of NCC funding cuts on the voluntary sector as it was likely such cuts may be replicated elsewhere across the country going forward.

It was heard that it was vitally important that the voluntary sector form part of conversations regarding any restructure of local government in the county as it offered so many positives to local communities.

17.LSP.33 KETTERING FUTURES PARTNERSHIP

The meeting noted the next board meeting would be held on 23rd April.

Details were provided of the three main priorities for the partnership:-

- It was planned to provide a uniform offer from all member organisations that wished to undertake work in local schools. It was heard that a working group had met to discuss the issue and would be meeting to review a draft service menu pamphlet on 23rd April.
- Shadowing between staff members from different organisations provided a positive way of strengthening partnership working among those on the frontline.
- There was an intention to develop a customer-facing KFP website. A lot of the background work in relation to this had been completed, although the site was linked to the new KBC website and required further work before publication.

The meeting noted the possibility of a networking day for frontline works from KFP partner organisations. It was suggested that this could be hosted at Greenpatch.

17.LSP.34 VOLUNTARY SECTOR UPDATE

It was reported that a forum had been held at the end of March, with the first discussion item providing an overview of VIN services outlined above. Two funding events would be held in the near future, with the first at the Cornmarket Hall in Kettering on 24th April, led by Lloyds Foundation Trust. It was noted that this session that was currently fully booked. A further session would be held in Northampton and thanks were provided to VIN for putting these sessions on.

The next forum would be held at 10am on 20th June at the Business Exchange and would form a celebration of volunteering as part of Volunteer Week. The September forum would consider funding opportunities, especially in relation to Big Lottery funding, with

discussions to be held with the newly appointed local Big Lottery representative.

The meeting heard that promotion of training relating to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) was ongoing.

It was reported that Trish Dewar had retired from her post at the end of March and a replacement for the position would be sought.

17.LSP.35 HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD UPDATE

It was noted that following her retirement, Trish Dewar had stepped down as Chair of the board, to be replaced by KBC's Eleni Middleton. Trish would be staying on the board as Vice Chair.

Work was ongoing in relation to Social Prescribing, although there remained extensive work to be undertaken in both the health sector and amongst the public to have the concept widely accepted.

17.LSP.36 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

17.LSP.37 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It was noted that the date of the next meeting would be 20th July 2018.

(The meeting started at 9:00am and ended at 10:33am)

Signed
Chair

DJP