

MINUTES

MEETING: Anti Social Behaviour Study Group

DATE: Tuesday 13th March 2007

TIME: 10.30 a.m.

VENUE: Mansion House, Jesmond

CHAIR: Greg Johnson, South Tyneside Council

Apologies:

Paul Noddings – Tristar Homes
Libby Griffiths – Housing Hartlepool
Alison Newbould – North Yorkshire Police
Ray Gage – Erimus Housing
Gilly Marshall - Erimus Housing
Mark Nockels – Home Group

Paul Nilsen – Cheviot Housing Association
Kelly-Anne Burton - Cheviot Housing Association
Monica Marron – Middlesbrough BC
Phil Shaw – Wear Valley DC
Caroline Spayne – Coast & Country Housing
Karen Townsend - Durham CC

Present:

Greg Johnson – South Tyneside
Alex Rhind – Home Office
Kevin McGready – Newcastle CC
Ian Johnson – Blyth Valley Housing
Clare Tierney – Gateshead MBC
Mandy Reed – Gateshead MBC
Susan Howes – Nomad E5
Natalie Dove – Housing Hartlepool
Andy Shippey - Middlesbrough BC
Anna Smith – Darlington BC
Rod Baker – Sedgfield BC
Annie Hopley – ENCAMS

Leah Blacklock – NHC
Michael Cowie – Sunderland Housing Group
Clive Ledner – Accent Group
Colin Blackett - Blyth Valley Housing
Stuart Brown – Castle Morpeth BC
Neil McFarlane – City of York Council
Andy Elvidge – Housing Hartlepool
Sharon Carr – Middlesbrough BC
Karen Vickers – Two Castles HA
Sue Howes – Crutes Law Firm
Malcolm Woodhall – Tynedale DC
Kathryn Roper - ENCAMS

1.0 Minutes of last meeting

1.1 The minutes of the meeting of the 12th December 2006 were agreed as an accurate record.

2.0 Matters Arising

2.1 In terms of Selective Licensing, Salford has now had an area designated and Gateshead is putting theirs before the cabinet this week (March 2007). It was suggested that a representative from Middlesbrough come along to the next meeting and give a short presentation on setting-up the process and any immediate outcomes.

2.2 Greg asked how many people had been involved in the mandatory statutory targets for the LAAs and suggested that this should be discussed at the next meeting.

2.3 It was agreed that Mandy Reed from Gateshead and Paul Nilsen from Cheviot would form a sub-group with NHC staff to discuss content of the next Crime and ASB conference on 3rd and 4th December 2007.

3.0 ENCAMS – Cleaner, Safer, Greener Charter

3.1 Annie Hopley and Kathryn Roper presented to the Group; presentation to be sent around the Group.

4.0 Home Office Update, Alex Rhind

4.1 Beginning of January saw the 40 Respect Action Areas launched. Authorities within these Areas must make five commitments:

- Developing an FIP
- Establishing Parenting Programmes
- Developing Face the People sessions
- Using all tools and powers
- Signing up to the Respect Housing Standard

4.2 The Home Office is interested in hearing what people are doing with regards to the Face the People sessions.

4.3 It is possible there will be a few more Action Areas in the future but this is not guaranteed.

4.4 There has been funding provided by the Home Office for 77 'Supernannies' who are senior parenting professionals, linked to ASB units. The posts will begin in April.

4.5 50 Family Intervention Projects (FIPs) have been signed-off and are up and running across the country.

4.6 Talking CCTV cameras have been set up in Middlesbrough on 7 of its 158 cameras. The system allows control room operators who spot any anti-social acts to send out a verbal warning.

4.7 Alex informed the Group that there was an ASB Co-ordinators event on 28th February and noted that very few people from the North East attended.

4.8 Alex also mentioned that the CDRP survey, which has previously been carried out on an annual basis will now be quarterly and stressed the importance of returning these forms.

Q & A session

4.9 Neil McFarlane asked if Elected Members should be included in the delivery of Face the People sessions. Alex suggested that they were critical to the process and should be involved in all areas; also have a lot of local knowledge to share.

4.10 Ian Johnson expressed concern over the fact that arrests for ASB still do not have any PIs related to them and this might dissuade Officers from getting involved as often as they should.

4.11 Clare Tierney raised an issue regarding the SNEN. Authorities were told when the scheme was set up that they would get access to the intelligence that comes in via the SNEN. However, this is so far, not the case and any information that is passed on to them is not detailed enough to be useful. Alex agreed to raise this issue with the SNEN co-ordinator.

5.0 Middlesbrough Witness Protection Scheme

5.1 Sharon Carr from Middlesbrough gave a presentation on their new witness protection scheme – The Haven Project.

6.0 Local Action Good Practice (around the table)

6.1 Tynedale District Council

Malcolm Woodhall mentioned that Tynedale had set up a dispersal order on the Main Street in Hexham and following a review in February they are thinking of extending it. He noted that it had been very effective and useful and the public have supported it.

6.2 Blyth Valley Housing

Ian Johnson said that Blyth had brought out a DVD to use in schools which documents four ASB scenarios including graffiti, criminal damage and under-age drinking. There are three endings to each scenario and actions for students to work through.

6.3 Erimus Housing

In a pilot scheme Support Officers and Enforcement Officers are working together in East Middlesbrough to improve neighbourhood

policing. There seems to have been a reduction in police being pulled off the job to do other things.

There has also been a joint working project between the Council, Police, Street Wardens and secondary schools to tackle ASB – don't know effects of this yet.

Erimus has applied for a local alcohol review and asked for information from anyone who has done anything similar.

6.4 **Accent Group**

Clive Ledner mentioned that Yorkshire & Humberside had a Respect Action Day and noted that some of the Police Officers who were there did not know what powers were available to them.

6.5 **Sunderland Housing Group**

Michael Cowie reported that SHG has been doing some training with new PCs and PCSOs about what issues affect them, what powers HAs have and the importance of sharing information and communicating with all parties etc. etc.

6.6 **East Durham Homes**

Amanda Fulcher mentioned that they had done a multi-agency blitz on ASB over two days which involved EDH, Street Wardens, Police, Youth Workers and Education Workers and which was very successful.

7.0 **Safer Estates update**

7.1 It is still with Northumbria Police at the moment as they are working on new data protection guidelines.

8.0 **Next meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 5th June, hosted by Crutes Law Firm in Stockton.