

Minutes of a meeting of the Bradford South Area Committee held on Thursday, 27 September 2018 in Committee Room 1 - City Hall, Bradford

Commenced 5.00 pm
Concluded 7.10 pm

Present – Councillors

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR
Hargreaves	T Hussain Berry Dodds Peart Warburton Wood S Khan Watson

Observers: Councillors Jabar and Watson

Councillor Wainwright in the Chair

14. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

In the interest of transparency Councillor Berry disclosed an interest in the item relating to Bradford South Neighbourhood Policing Activity (Minute 19) as his employment involved working with offenders.

ACTION: *City Solicitor*

15. MINUTES

Resolved –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2018 be signed as a correct record.

16. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

There were no appeals submitted by the public to review decisions to restrict documents.

17. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions submitted by the public.

18. BRADFORD SOUTH NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM ACTIVITY TO ADDRESS THE "SAFER COMMUNITIES" PRIORITIES WITHIN THE BRADFORD SOUTH CONSTITUENCY WARD PLANS FOR 2016 / 2018

The Bradford South Area Coordinator submitted a report (**Document "G"**) which gave an update of some of the work undertaken by the Bradford South Area Neighbourhood Policing Team, and an overview of the Bradford South Constituency Performance data.

The Chair stated that a meeting was planned with the Police in October to discuss in detail the issues affecting Bradford South.

Representatives from West Yorkshire Police were present at the meeting to give an overview and an analysis of the crime figures in the Bradford South area, particular mention was made of the upsurge in the number of violent crimes recorded, attributable to an increase in the reporting of domestic violence cases and the confidence of victims to come forward, as well as initiatives nationally to raise awareness of the issue. The efforts made to reduce crime rates and the notable successes were alluded to, including the installation of CCTV and improving the accessibility of the Police contact point in Wyke. Initiatives around tackling business crime and knife crime was also mentioned which would be rolled out to other areas and the success of Operation Steerside in tackling dangerous driving was also alluded to, with notable success in the Wyke and Great Horton areas of Bradford South. It was stressed that the aim to reduce crime, fear of crime and improve public safety was still at the forefront of Police work.

During the discussion a Member commended the good liaison work taking place between Councillors and the Police and the excellent work done in tackling domestic violence and the success of Operation Steerside. In addition he queried what work was being done to tackle street begging as the problem seemed to have migrated from the city centre to the ward level, with a propensity to beg near to road junctions. In response the representative from West Yorkshire Police stated that in relation to street begging there had been some notable successes in the City Centre, however a graduated approach was being taken through education, referrals and enforcement work.

In response to a question on detection and conviction rates, it was pointed out that independent advisors accompanied Police officers to support victims of crime; however some victims were too frightened to go to Court and in the sphere of domestic violence, the victim had recourse to other avenues in order to deal with the perpetrator.

A Queensbury Ward Councillor and Member of the Committee commended the work of the Police in his ward, in particular he stressed that having the same officers working in the patch was both reassuring and effective.

A Great Horton Ward Councillor and Member of the Committee expressed her concerns at the high incidence of crime in the ward, particularly incidents relating to arson and criminal damage. In response the Police representative stated that she was happy to meet with the Councillor and give a breakdown of the crime figures in her ward. In relation to criminal damage work was on-going to address

the issue directly with the schools concerned.

The Member also expressed concerns at the high levels of anti social behaviour incidents in her ward and that some issues were referred to the Council as a noise nuisance issue, adding that no specific data was available regarding where the particular issues were within the Ward. In response the Police representative explained that she was again happy to share the detailed statistics with the Ward Councillor, however it was stressed that warning letters regarding anti social behaviour were effective in a number of incidents and stopped the issue from escalating.

In relation to a number of questions regarding the Holme Wood area, it was stated that a Home Office pilot would be particularly addressing the issue of organised crime groups and youth offending in this area.

A Member stated that there were a raft of issues affecting Bradford South and that the crime statistics were high overall, and he questioned how the Neighbourhood Policing Structure had embedded and was it now fully staffed to tackle these issues. In response it was stated that the NPT structure was now fully operational and that staffing was nearly up to full capacity and that a number of initiatives to tackle crime were paying dividend, however the Police were not complacent and clearly work would continue to address issues across the Bradford South area.

The Chair stated that in terms of the issue of domestic violence, GP surgeries and hospitals were in particular first points of contacts for victims and he ascertained what work was going on to strengthen this referral route to the Police. In response the representative from West Yorkshire Police acknowledged the vital work done by the NHS in this area, and that they were looking at developing a common referral pathway in conjunction with the NHS.

Resolved-

- (1) That the work undertaken by the Bradford South Neighbourhood Policing Team from April 2018 to July 2018 that contributed to addressing priorities within the ward plans for the Bradford South Area be noted.**
- (2) That the positive partnership working that has been established with Elected Members, Council Officers, community organisations, volunteers and residents within the Bradford South Area be noted.**
- (3) That officers from West Yorkshire Police be thanked for submitting the report, attending the meeting and providing detailed responses to Members' questions.**

ACTION: No Action

(Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Corporate)

19. YOUTH SERVICE - BRADFORD SOUTH AREA

The Strategic Director Place submitted a report (**Document "H"**) which gave an update on work undertaken by the Youth Service – Bradford South Area during 2017-18.

The Youth Service Advanced Practitioner explained that a number of young

people were in attendance to give a flavour of the activities taking place in the Bradford South area, stating that youth provision across the Bradford South area was being sustained and that there had been an increase in the number of referrals from specialist services.

A number of young people were present at the meeting and they gave an overview of the activities they had undertaken and how they had become involved with the Youth Service. In becoming involved the young people stated that as a result they had become more active in their communities, helping other young people to participate; that it had increased their confidence and motivation and equipped them with the skills to explore other educational and training opportunities.

During the discussion a Member ascertained how the Youth Service was addressing young peoples health issues, it was stated that healthy eating projects as well as encouraging young people to become more active were regularly promoted by the Service.

A Member welcomed the plethora of activities undertaken by the Youth Service and the impact and difference this had made to the lives of young people and the communities in Bradford South.

The Area Coordinator reported that a Young Ambassador's Summit was being held at the Richard Dunn Sports Centre in October, and that this Committee could consider a report on the outcomes of the summit at a future meeting.

In response to a question on awareness raising on a range of current issues affecting young people, it was explained that amongst other things, issues around tackling extremism in all its forms had been discussed by young people.

Resolved –

- (1) That the work undertaken by the Youth Service in the Bradford South Area as detailed in Document "H" be welcomed and that the contribution of the young people in the various activities undertaken be commended.**
- (2) That this Committee receives a report at a future meeting detailing the outcomes of the Bradford Opportunity Area's Young Ambassador's summit to be held during October.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Place

(Overview & Scrutiny Area: Children's Services)

20. COMMUNITY ACTION BRADFORD & DISTRICT - A SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES 2017-18

The Strategic Director Place submitted a report (**Document "I"**) which informed Bradford South Area Committee on the work of Community Action Bradford & District and the support they had provided groups within Bradford South.

Representatives from the Communities Action Bradford and District were present at the meeting to give an overview of the activities taken, which were detailed in the report and the support they provided to voluntary groups across the district.

During the discussion, a Member stated that from the report he couldn't see the activities that were taking place within the Bradford South area, nor how the allocated resources were being spent. In response it was stated that the report was aimed at giving an overview of the district and was not particularly geared towards the Bradford South area, however a lot of work was taking place within the Bradford South by organisations such as CNet, as well as advice and support being provided to groups that wanted to be formally constituted.

A number of Members welcomed the activities undertaken in their respective wards and how groups and community organisations had been supported by Community Action.

Resolved –

- (1) That the report be noted**
- (2) That future reports have a greater focus on the work being undertaken within the Bradford South area.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Place

(Overview & Scrutiny Area: Corporate)

21. 2018/19 BRADFORD SOUTH YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CHEST GRANTS

The Strategic Director Place submitted a report (**Document “J”**) which detailed the Youth and Community Chest Grants awarded from applications received prior to the 31 May 2018 deadline.

Resolved –

- (1) That the wide range of applications from groups, organisations and individuals across Bradford South are noted and welcomed.**
- (2) That the Bradford South Area Co-ordinator's Office continue to ensure the effective allocation of the Youth and Community Chest budget by providing appropriate advice and support to applicants.**

ACTION: Strategic Director Place

(Overview & Scrutiny Area: Corporate)

Chair

Note: These minutes are subject to approval as a correct record at the next meeting of the Bradford South Area Committee.