

My Ref: Scrutiny/Correspondence/Cllr McGarry

7 November 2016

Councillor Daniel De'Ath
Cabinet Member for Safety, Skills, Engagement and Democracy
c/o Room 520
County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW



Dear Councillor De'Ath

**COMMUNITY & ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2 NOVEMBER 2016:
COMMUNITY SAFETY**

Members wish to thank you, the Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner, the representatives from the Community Safety Partnership and internal officers for attending Committee last Wednesday. Members were pleased with the discussion and debate that was engendered, on partnership working to tackle crime and disorder and community safety issues, and found the contributions from all those attending really useful in helping them to understand current arrangements and plans to improve these as well as operational effectiveness. Members would also like to thank officers for assisting Scrutiny Services in the preparation of the papers for this item.

At the end of the meeting, Members asked me to write to you with the following observations, comments and recommendations which we hope will be of benefit to you and all partners in taking the Community Safety Partnership and associated work forward. The key themes of our feedback are:

- Governance
- Performance
- Operational Effectiveness – Community Cohesion
- Operational Effectiveness – Anti Social Behaviour.

With regard to governance, Members were keen to explore the impact of the Public Services Board (PSB) on the partnership governance landscape. Members note that there was general agreement that the new PSB and Community Safety Partnership (CSP) arrangements are an improvement on previous arrangements, particularly as there is now clarity about the involvement of the Police and Crime Commissioner, and that this allows for better alignment of priorities and funding. Members also note comments that it is useful for the Safer and Cohesive Communities Programme Board to report up to the PSB as this gives an appropriate escalation route if required. Finally, Members note that the new PSB/ CSP arrangements are at an early stage and that further refinements may be required. **Members request** that they be kept informed of any further changes.

Members were particularly concerned to explore the relationship between decision making at the PSB/ CSP level and at the constituent organisations level. Based on the information provided at the meeting, **Members recommend** that further work be undertaken to clearly and transparently articulate in the PSB/ CSP terms of reference the requirement of each PSB/ CSP member to go back to their respective organisation's decision making bodies when formal decisions are required of these bodies; the PSB/CSP does not hold decision making powers on behalf of these organisations, which need to ensure their respective governance arrangements are adhered to. Flowing from this, **Members recommend** that the PSB/ CSP schematics be amended to reflect the requirements regarding decision making.

With regard to performance, Members note that the CSP is working towards the production of outcomes based reports that demonstrate the impact of the CSP work. Members agree with this approach; it is important to start with agreeing the outcomes that are needed and then find suitable performance indicators to demonstrate progress in achieving these. **Members request** information on the timescales anticipated for the production of an outcome based report.

As discussed at the meeting, it is also important to have information that shows the position in Cardiff re crime and disorder. Having considered the performance reports currently used, namely highlight reports and intelligence reports, Members observe that it is important to not only have the incident and crime numbers, as currently shown, but also to have measures that show how these are dealt with, for example sanction/ detection rates, prosecution rates, conviction rates and victim satisfaction rates. Members recognise that it will take time to put these in place for all categories and therefore, **Members recommend** that the Domestic Abuse and Human Exploitation categories are selected as the categories to commence this additional reporting; in your response, if you agree this recommendation, Members would be grateful of an indication of the proposed timescale for this.

Members were reassured by the evidence provided on the operational effectiveness of partnership working re community cohesion. With regard to Prevent, Members note that all safeguarding leads have been trained, that it is planned to train all school governors and that social media training has been provided for Imams in Cardiff and will be repeated if this is wanted by Imams. Members were pleased to hear Carl Davies state that more partners are taking an active role in helping to identify vulnerable people. With regard to wider community cohesion, Members note the comment that it is hoped that the Welsh Government will shortly issue a three year plan on Community Cohesion; **Members request** that they be kept informed on this.

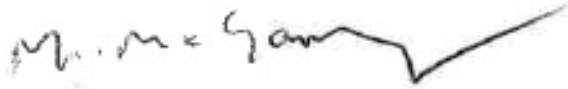
With regard to the operational effectiveness of partnership working to tackle anti social behaviour, Members observe that there is clear partnership working to tackle this where social housing tenants are involved, as either the victims or perpetrators; for example, there was clarity about the role of problem solving groups, Quality of Life groups, a clear aim for community led solutions, dedicated staff in social housing organisations and support from the wider CSP, including Health care plans for clients with substance misuse or mental health needs, prioritising interventions for clients at risk of losing accommodation because of anti-social behaviour.

However, there was not such clarity expressed regarding anti-social behaviour in the owner occupied or private rented sectors, where social housing tenants are not involved. At the meeting, only the Police spoke up when asked how these cases are resolved. Whilst recognising that the Police have the lead role, Members would expect there to be partnership working to address anti-social behaviour in these tenures, as there is for social housing tenants. Therefore, **Members recommend** that the CSP consider how to ensure partnership working to tackle anti-social behaviour in the owner occupied or private rented sectors, where social housing tenants are not involved.

During the discussions on how anti-social behaviour is tackled, Members were struck by the fact that the problem solving neighbourhood approach is, by its very nature, largely reactive. However, Members would expect there to be a more proactive, strategic approach taken by the CSP to resolve causative factors re anti social behaviour, that goes across the city, as required. Therefore, **Members recommend** that the CSP consider how to ensure a proactive strategic approach is taken to tackling the causes of anti social behaviour across the city.

Thank you again to all for attending the meeting and contributing to our scrutiny. We look forward to your response to our recommendations and comments and wish the Community Safety Partnership all the best in their efforts to create safe and cohesive communities.

Yours sincerely



COUNTY COUNCILLOR MARY M^CGARRY
Chairperson - Community & Adult Services Scrutiny Committee

Cc: Community Safety Partnership representatives:

- Superintendent Stephen Jones – South Wales Police
- Chief Inspector Dan Howe – South Wales Police
- Group Manager David Bents – South Wales Fire & Rescue Services
- Conrad Eydmann - Head of Substance Misuse Strategy and Development, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
- Angela Stephenson Strategic Partnership and Planning Manager, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
- Victoria Harris Head of Local Delivery Unit, Wales Community Rehabilitation Company

Mark Brace	Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner
Joseph Reay	Head of Performance and Partnerships
Stephanie Kendrick- Doyle	Community Safety Manager
Will Lane	Operational Manager – Neighbourhood Services
Ellen Curtis	Operational Manager – Landlord Services
Louise Bassett	Partnership Delivery Team Leader
Carl Davies	Home Office Prevent Officer
Nicola Winstanley	Business Manager
Alison Taylor	Cabinet Office