



**Safer Essex Meeting**  
**Wed 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015 10am-12pm**  
**Council Chamber, Chelmsford City Council**

<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2015	
<b>Time:</b>	10-12	
<b>Venue:</b>	Chelmsford City Council Chamber	
<b>Chairman:</b>	Susannah Hancock (in the absence of Nicola Beach – Chief Executive, Braintree District Council)	
<b>Attendees:</b>	Susannah Hancock (Vice-chairman)	Office of the Police Commissioner (OPCC)
	Jo Jacobs (Notes)	Essex County Council (ECC)
	Reshma Madhi (Notes)	ECC
	Jan Dalrymple	(Presentation) Safer Places
	Heather Williams	(Presentation) ECC
	Spencer Clarke	Chelmsford Community Safety Partnership (CSP) also representing Maldon CSP
	Craig Carrington	Essex Police
	Carolyn Cable	Harlow
	Paul Gardener	Epping Forest CSP
	Simon Ford	Southend CSP
	Paul Scabright	Essex Police
	Gerry Levelle	Basildon DC
	Tracy Rudling	Colchester Community Voluntary Services (CCVS)
	Cllr Jim Gordon	Uttlesford DC
	Lucy Magill	Thurrock
	Peter Kay	Youth Offending ECC
	Ben Hughes	ECC
	Cllr Anthony Jackson	ECC
	Tracey Parry	Braintree CSP
	Leanne Thornton	Tendring DC
	Cllr Lynda McWilliams	Tendring DC
	Cllr Jo McPherson	Rochford DC
	Bob Penny	Colchester Community Development Manager
	Donna Finch	Essex Fire and Rescue
	Greg Myddleton	Essex Police and Crime Commissioner
	Richard Holmes	Maldon DC
	David Messam	National Probation Service
	Shirley Kennerson	National Probation Service



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<b>Apologies:</b>	Nicola Beach (Chair)	Braintree District Council
	Graham Browne	Rochford CSP
	D/Supt Stuart Hooper	Essex Police
	T/DCI Kris Hill	Essex Police
	Ch. Supt. Luke Collison	Essex Police
	Steve Lynch	ECC
	Mary Archer	Essex CRC
	Bala Mahendran (represented by Gerry Levelle)	Basildon DC
	Cllr Derrick Louis (replacing Cllr Twitchen and represented by Cllr Anthony Jackson)	Witham
	Jane Gardner	ECC
	Anna Hook	ECC
	Cllr Godfrey Isaacs	Castlepoint
	Cllr Gary Waller	Epping Forest DC
	Caroline Wiggins	Epping Forest DC
	Dipti Patel	Southend
	Paul Hill	Essex Fire & Rescue
	Martin Ford	Uttlesford DC
	Robin Clavey	HMP Chelmsford

<b>Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action/Lead</b>
1.	<b>Welcome &amp; Apologies for Absence</b>  Apologies noted and introductions were made.	Susannah Hancock
2.	<b>Declarations of Pecuniary or other interests</b>  None received.	All
3.	<b>Election of Chairman of Safer Essex for 2016 and 2017</b>  No nominations were received. Nicola Beach's name was put forward to continue as chair  There was unanimous approval for Nicola Beach to continue as Chair. This was agreed.	Susannah Hancock
4	<b>Minutes of the last meeting 23rd September 2015</b>  Minutes agreed.	Susannah Hancock



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	<p><b>Actions arising</b></p> <p>ASB Police update – on this agenda</p> <p>DHR update – on this agenda</p> <p>Simon Hart spoke at the last meeting. Nicola has extended the invite to Southend and Thurrock safeguarding board chairs, with representatives asked to pass this back on.</p> <p>Amendment to item 4 – it is Caroline Wiggins not Higgins. Jo Jacobs to check if this needs to be circulated.</p> <p>Ben Hughes is representing Anna Hook, who will be standing in for Jane Gardner at future meetings.</p> <p>The Restorative Justice hub was now established across the county (SET).</p>	
5	<p><b>Jan Dalrymple, Chief Executive of Safer Places</b>          – overview of the work of Safer Places and approach to two recent contracts won (IDVA and DA community support / refuges) relating to tackling domestic abuse</p> <p>Last year, the domestic abuse support service was commissioned; aiming to bring two services together, with contracts awarded for high risk and medium risk victims.</p> <p>The IDVA service has staff based centrally and all high risk victims must be contacted within 24 hours and risk assessed, with a plan put in place for them. A lot of victims are not visible, for example, elder people at risk from their own family, so there needs to be equal reach to both find them and be accessible at different times and to different communities.</p> <p>The second contract came in October 2015 for Essex residents only and aimed at reaching all. Previously, it was not equal in providing access to some services (for example, it tended to focus on women with children). Yet there are also many others that are not being reached or provided for, with need not covered, i.e. historically, there has been little for victims who are for gay, male victims, for example.</p>	Jan Dalrymple



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A recent ruling on cuts to refuges will gain media attention and groups like National Women's Aid have a position on this. Previously, it was disproportionate to women in London but in fact, a lot come from London to Essex, so the county is picking up disproportionately from other areas. A lot of argument will be heard, with Essex as an example but the council has done the right thing to meet the needs of this population.

Equality of access is needed for male victims, older women etc. who need a safe place too and be provided with something accessible and decent for them, so the service is in the process of diversifying now.

The IDVA contract had a challenging start as there was an issue with Tupe of staff from the previous provider and there were problems changing to the new police system Athena. There are now 23 IDVAs in post, including specialists such as in minority languages and it is now a 24-hour service. A fast response from IDVAs is critical for high risk victims, to ensure a greater likelihood of engagement and safety.

Partnership arrangements allow buddying up such as for isolated, vulnerable migrant victims. Outhouse will be helping with LGBT victims. Getting access to this community is about a different engagement, as there is a whole range of people not being gotten to, This is about having specialist IDVAs, developing services for them, talking to partners for referrals and making services acceptable to hidden communities.

Engagement rates are not as high as wanted. There are still problems in Basildon but is doing pretty well in West Essex, reasonably in Southend and also doing more in Colchester and Tendring now. An action plan is needed to address issues in Braintree. Work should have been done around partnerships but it is now wanted to ensure these are in and to have a whole service.

Susannah Hancock thanked Jan for her presentation.

**Q&A:**

Cllr McPherson queried the 48 hour turnaround and what happens to victims not reported through. It was explained



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	<p>this is from when it is put on Athena, where an IDVA picks it up. Any referrals or disclosures are responded to very quickly. Currently, it is an on-call service at weekends. Local authorities can make referrals as well.</p> <p>Engagement with BME groups is still low, so it is hoped an integrated partnership will make this more accessible and is about ensuring they are in the community to find victims. Tracy Rudling offered to pick up on working with groups within the community.</p> <p>Jan commented there will probably be some initial discontent around the new service model and people that won't get services they used to. It has to prioritise risk, so cannot use resources on people with a need but not a priority. Jan welcomed any comments or feedback:  <a href="mailto:Janet.Dalrymple@Saferplaces.co.uk">Janet.Dalrymple@Saferplaces.co.uk</a></p> <p>Jan added there also needs to be more work with perpetrators, to see what works to reduce domestic abuse, so it needs to work with others and have a pragmatic approach, as criminal justice is not the only route.</p>	
6.	<p><b>PREVENT Strategy - Heather Williams, Head of Adults Safeguarding, Essex County Council</b>  - presentation on current work and future programme and priorities</p> <p>This is a cross-Government policy and part of counter terrorism strategy. The NHS has had ultimate responsibility since 2013. Prevent had 67 referrals last year; predominately from schools, colleges and mental health services. In Essex, more activity is noticed around the extreme right.</p> <p>CTLPs identify threat and vulnerability in local areas. These profiles are a live document, giving an overview of different issues and hotspots like Colchester and Southend. There is a difference between Social care and Police perspective on who is vulnerable.</p> <p>Key duties are to have a forum, set up a multi-agency group and ensure all staff are aware and understand Prevent. The multi-agency group is now looking at who to</p>	Heather Williams



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include in the future, such as GPs and is currently considering Safer Essex. Family Operations has its own steering group.

The Channel Panel recently had its first meeting. It identifies those at risk, what support to put in and what else can be put in if someone doesn't fit the criteria. Other groups can be included and Home Office guidance advises for meetings every four weeks. It will impact on current capacity and resources.

To raise awareness, brief simple guidance has been created for all staff and the website has been updated. Police have supported workshops and it is on track to achieve 85% of staff being trained. It has also identified Need Prevent champions, which is work in progress.

TOR will be revised when arrangements change to Safer Essex. It is developing other policies and guidance, which perhaps has not been prioritised in the past as much as safeguarding is but is changing now.

Input from Thurrock and Southend:

Lucy Magill felt they were some considerable way ahead in Thurrock. She said it was valuable having health and housing in their prevent groups and suggested that there be a meeting of Prevent Chairs across SET, to share information and ensure they are on the same page. Also, to identify a champion in each service and have wrap training. The Channel Panel is a moving and developing issue, so it would be useful to share on TOR.

*Chairs to get together, especially if Safer Essex is to be on the partnership board.*

Simon Ford explained Southend has had its panel for 12 months. Their CTLP is perhaps weak in detail but has its own action plan. There is a vulnerable victim agenda and a lot is being done on CSE gangs, which have similar methods to extremist groups. A lot of referrals are going through the Channel Panel.

Heather added that a £10,000 Home Office grant has to be spent by March, so it is being worked out how to.



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Cllr Jackson questioned how to define terrorism as opposed to hate crime; is this the only concern, have we measured success, what have we achieved and what is the more fertile area for this risk?

Craig Carrington was previously Regional Prevent Co-ordinator. He defined terrorism as an act to cause terror or harm, for people to live in fear, in order to influence a government to change policy. The UK's counter-terrorism strategy of 'Pursue, Prevent, Protect Prepare' now prioritises 'prevent' more. Craig referred to Dr Sloggett's analysis of radicalisation as being like a game of snakes and ladders i.e. their role being to prevent to stop them on this progress.

Susannah Hancock asked how we know we are succeeding. Heather responded about monitoring how many have taken training but it is hard to measure as it is very new to most people, who can give a basic understanding but are still not confident. There could be a number of factors.

Cllr Jackson queried if the outcome is to prevent and how to measure this. Lucy acknowledged that measurement was difficult but had seen an increase in referrals to panel, which shows a greater understanding. Simon informed they do not have specific measures in Southend but understands that David Cameron is to review the issue due to the current situation, so there won't be a robust answer at the moment.

*Heather to circulate web link for the e-learning package.*

Craig stressed to not get confused about Prevent as it is about safeguarding, policing, vulnerable people and to stop terrorists.

Susannah noted the need to link this to wider agendas, whether CSE or radicalisation and for a joint safeguarding response, which will be a focus of the next meeting. Craig offered to ask DCI Matthew Thompson to attend. Donna suggested looking at thematics in safeguarding.

Susannah mentioned a recent national PCC meeting, which discussed an incident at a school that triggered a



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	referral to the Channel Panel. A very serious incident was prevented because the teacher spotted the signs and knew where to refer to.	
7.	<p><b>A) Serious and Organised Crime Local Profile</b>  - presentation by T/Detective Chief Inspector Kris Hill, Deputy Director of Intelligence, Serious Crime Directorate, Kent Police &amp; Essex Police</p> <p>Apologies from DCI Hill. Item deferred to next agenda.</p> <p><b>B)Tackling serious and organised crime - a local response, LGA report, August 2015</b>  – to note this recent guidance</p>	<p>Kris Hill</p> <p>Susannah Hancock</p>
8.	<p><b>Dealing with ASB</b>  - update from Inspector Craig Carrington, Essex Police</p> <p><i>Presentation to be circulated.</i></p> <p>A new Essex Police policy, which went live in August and will look at going to high risk, vulnerable victims. EP will not stop going to low and medium risk incidents but use resources as best it can.</p> <p>ASB incidents have increased but year on year there has been a 6% reduction. In October 2014, officers attended 3314 incidents, which is 66% of all reported ones. This works out as 110-120 incidents a day. In October 2015, officers attended 1000 less incidents, at 52%, hence the year-on-year reduction.</p> <p>There were concerns of internal processes around categorising ASB incidents, with the true picture being less but the strict rules, that if it causes distress or harm, means it is considered ASB. Police are still attending incidences if there is a need and if classified ASB, it will be attended and assessed for referral.</p> <p>Craig confirmed that the offer to all partners and CSPs, of speaking to members and councils remains.</p> <p>Cllr McPherson raised that the 101 telephone number is an issue, due to repeat offences in her area and queried if the person answering a call is aware it is a hotspot area</p>	<p>Craig Carrington</p>





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	<p>or treats it as a new incident. Craig answered that the switchboard transfers the call to a recording or team, who will look at the location and ask if it is a repeat victim. It was discussed that repeat is not sufficient to trigger but is important information and to ask the question.</p> <p>It was mentioned Ch. Supt. Luke Collison gave a useful presentation, on the budget change. Susannah replied that £12m in savings next year alone is needed and won't know yet about the changes but communications around it needs to be good. Paul Scabright added that they are not influenced by cuts but by a ridiculous policy, so sought to address this.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Partnership hubs and recent Peer Review</b>          – feedback and update from Chief Superintendent Luke Collison, Essex Police</p> <p>In districts, there are a number of developments to bring together partners to deliver work together and share information. A number of models are emerging, with a commitment from police and wider partners to support this.</p> <p>Safer Essex will have an important role to play in oversight of this.</p> <p>There is a need to understand from partners what a good hub needs to look like and this may be different in each area, although some common principles will underpin it. Police are to lose a number of police stations, so could it co-locate services to local hubs such as council buildings for example, meaning there are lots of opportunities but partners need to do it in a co-ordinated way and establish a core set of principles.</p> <p>Police have been engaging in conversations and district councillors have been involved in an LGA-led peer review. There have been a number of conversations at chief executive meetings. Core work will only work if done together, so needs to look at how to join up more effectively.</p> <p>Craig updated that there was a meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> November, which discussed hubs and came up with</p>	Craig Carrington



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	<p>some draft guiding principles. A review from local government is supportive but picked out areas to look at where improvements could be made: to co-locate where possible, as long as we virtually work together, information sharing and the confidence to do this, getting health, best practice around the tasking process and inviting partners to this etc.</p> <p>Spencer Clarke advised looking at how hubs have moved on in the last 18 months. Good examples include Tendring, so is not saying one size fits all. Spencer has produced a short report on what he believes we should be doing as a local authority and to have a measured approach. He recommended looking at what the positive outcomes are, what is achieved, eg efficient deduplication and intelligence shared, and to be in it for the long term if doing it.</p> <p>It was agreed for a small team from Safer Essex to look at a final report from LGA and to join the working group set up (chaired by ACC Maurice Mason) to take forward this work in partnership.</p> <p>If members are interest in being involved, contact Susannah Hancock but regular feedback will be provided.</p> <p>Susannah suggested this returns to the next meeting, with the working group to report on progress.</p>	
10.	<p><b>DHR update</b></p> <p>An update paper was provided, with a review done 8-10 months ago. There is now a working group to ensure key recommendations are taken forward, with progress set out.</p> <p>Ben Hughes asked it be ensured recommendations are shared with the full range of commissioners to avoid a missed opportunity. Susannah promised to feedback.</p>	Susannah Hancock
11.	<p><b>Feedback from other Boards or networks</b></p> <p><b>Domestic Abuse Board</b></p> <p>This met last month to mainly cover the new outcomes</p>	Susannah Hancock



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	framework. There is a lot ongoing across offices in communications on domestic abuse campaigns and the board will be linking up with them to find out more. Any information from this to be circulated at the January meeting.	
12.	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Tracy Rudling informed the PCC Conference will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at Weston Homes Community Stadium, Colchester. Details to be circulated.</p> <p>It was commented about trying to have this held in a more central Essex location.</p>	All

<b>Future meetings</b>
Dates for 2016:
10-12 16th March
10-12 15th June
10-12 21st September
10-12 14th December
All meetings will be held in the Council Chamber at Chelmsford City Council Offices.

<b>Forward Plan - Meeting date</b>	<b>Agenda Items</b>
<b>16<sup>th</sup> March 2016</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safer Essex future work programme and priorities for 2016/17</li> <li>• Suicide Prevention – presentation from Natalie Hammond, North Essex Partnership</li> <li>• DA Board - Domestic Abuse analytics and work to identify vulnerable victims – update on project – (deferred from previous meeting)</li> <li>• Volunteer police cadet programme –OPCC</li> <li>• Reducing Reoffending Board and IOM – update – Lindsay Whitehouse, OPCC</li> <li>• Serious and Organised Crime Local Profile – presentation by T/Detective Chief Inspector Kris Hill</li> </ul>



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	Deputy Director of Intelligence, Serious Crime Directorate, Kent Police & Essex Police
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