

## **SOUTH STRATEGIC NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM**

**21 March 2022**

**Commenced:** 18:30

**Terminated:** 19:30

**Present:** Councillors P Fitzpatrick (Chair), Robinson (Vice-Chair), Affleck, Bowden, Chadwick, Cooper, J Fitzpatrick Kitchen and R Welsh,

**In Attendance:** John Gregory                      Head of Community Safety and Homelessness  
Claire Galt                                      Chief Inspector (GMP)  
Toby Knight                                      Inspector (GMP)

**Apologies for Absence:** Councillors Owen and Alam

### **8. MINUTES**

#### **RESOLVED**

**The Minutes of the meeting of the North Strategic Neighbourhood Forum held on 18 January 2022 were approved as a correct record.**

### **9. UPDATE FROM THE YOUTH SERVICE**

The Head of Community Safety and Homelessness began by introducing the service that operated from seven locations throughout Tameside as follows:-

- Copley Youth Base
- Bennett Street Youth Club
- Blocksages Youth Club
- Mossley Youth Base
- Cyclops Adventure
- Cedar Park Youth Club
- Denton Festival Hall

It was explained that the team consisted of 8 full time members of staff and 12 part time members of staff who focused on a three-pronged approach to service delivery that consisted of Targeted Youth Work, Open Access Youth Work and Community Support.

With regards to Targeted Youth Work, there was a focus on cycling, music, a Youth Council, girls work, disability and LGBT+. The importance of the Youth Council was emphasised as it gave young people a voice and an opportunity to help shape and improve services for young people. There was an established bike project, which gave access to safe bikes, allowed independence and was a fun way for young people to keep active and healthy. Music was known to help with mental health and there were opportunities to play an instrument, write lyrics and have access to digital music. The disability work empowered young people to make their own informed decisions and there was a supportive and safe space for LGBT+ young people to seek advice and support for issues they encountered. The service had identified a growing trend of young women engaging in anti-social behaviour and steps had been introduced to challenge that behaviour and support them to make better choices.

Open Access Youth Work was available at Blocksages Youth Club, Bennett Street Youth Club, Copley Youth Base, Cedar Park Youth Club and Mossley Youth Base. It offered a safe space for children and young people to build trusted relationships with youth workers, who supported them through key transitions to adulthood, empowering them to make informed decisions, build resilience and learn transferable life skills. It was hoped as the locations were based within communities it

would encourage young people to become a positive influence in their communities. There were many activities for young people to engage in, including a 'tea time club', which provided a meal.

With regards to Community Support, there was an emphasis on detached youth work, which comprised of working on the streets or a space of the young person's choosing. It began with a low-level issue and a solution was found through negotiation. Pop up events were held and support was offered to all educational establishments that ranged from training in Restorative Approaches to Fresher's stalls and problem solving in the countryside. The service supported a successful food bank and food pantry and delivered Solihul parental training.

The Forum were advised that service delivery had continued throughout the pandemic as youth workers had been allocated essential service status by the Government. Guidance had been followed from the Governing Body and National Youth Agency and the service had remained fully covid compliant with no covid outbreaks. It was reported that over the past 12 months the team had delivered 1,751 sessions with 20,334 contacts.

Further information was provided on the work that was carried out in the locations situated within the North area - Cedar Park Youth Club, Cyclops Adventure and the food pantry. It was confirmed that the food pantry could operate in the same space as the youth club due to easily manoeuvrable storage and racking, enabling a multi-use space.

In response to questions on outreach work and bringing activities to other areas of the South Neighbourhood including Longdendale and Hattersley, the Head of Community Safety and Homelessness explained that resources were a challenge but review the arrangements with the Integrated Youth Manager to see what activities and detached work could be brought to other areas. The Forum were advised that activities were often discrete and work did take place in these areas but this would be reviewed and reported back to Members.

## **RESOLVED**

**That the content of the presentation be noted.**

## **10. UPDATE FROM GMP**

The Chair welcomed Chief Inspector Claire Galt and Inspector Toby Knight Greater Manchester Police, who had attended the Forum to deliver an update on Neighbourhood Policing.

Chief Inspector Galt began by providing details of a public consultation on Neighbourhood Policing to be held at Dukinfield Town Hall on Thursday 14 April 2022. A member of the Chief Officer Team would attend the event where the public would be given the opportunity to ask questions, voice their concerns and complete a survey, which would help shape local policing in the area. Members were encouraged to attend the event and to make their constituents aware.

Inspector Knight delivered a presentation and update on Neighbourhood Policing in the South area. It was reported that a drugs warrant had been executed, resulting in the arrest of two people for cultivation, possession of cannabis and an offensive weapon. ASB and tehf had been targeted with high profile patrols. Working with the Council waste carrier compliance checks had been undertaken. Seeding and parking issues around Great Norbury Street, Hyde were looked at with colleagues in special operations, this would be continued going forward. Further, checks had taken place on Taxi's and Private high vehicles around Hyde Town Centre and the Interchange and a weapons sweep had taken place around the Grid Iron area. The Forum were advised that as part of OP AVRO, 30 arrests were made and thousands of pounds of goods were seized.

An update was provided on #OperationSaferTameside, the operation focused on Violence against women and girls. It was reported that the last one took place on Friday and details would be provided at the next meeting. The operation focused on

- Street briefing in the community to provide reassurance

- VLP checks The Albion, The Cotton Bale and Old Joss
- Anti-drink spiking posters handed out as well as lids for drinks
- High visibility patrols in Town Centre and interchange
- Patrols in Hyde park, Millenium Park and Sam Redfern park

The Forum were advised that the next Operation was planned on the 25 March 2022, which would focus on Traffic and Road Safety.

It was reported that every month the two neighbourhood teams come together to garget a problem or an area. In February the teams focused on Hyde Town Centre and Hattersley McDonalds regarding ASB issues. In March the teams focused on Werneth Low ASB, Parking and Drugs.

Current priorities were set out to the Forum. Priorities in Hyde Werneth were on Drug dealing in Grid Iron, Drive Offs near the Shell Garage and ASB in Werneth Low. Within Hyde Godley there was a focus on shoplifting at the Hyde Town Centre and ASB in Hyde Mark Ground, Hyde Bus Station and around KFC. Priorities in Hyde Newton included ASB around the Bradley Green Estate, Stolen vehicles and ASB in Foxwood Drive Car Park and a repeat caller on Carter Street. In Hattersley and Longdendale, theft of motor vehicles was a concern due to a unknown offender on the Hattersley estate, criminal damage and ASB would be a focus on Market Street in Hollingworth. Further, Off road bikes, quad bikes at the ken ward sports centre playing fields were a priority.

Inspector Knight provided information of successes and good news stories. Members were advised that a Business Watch had been set up in Hyde Town Centre. Four out of Five priority shoplifters in Hyde had been Imprisoned and subject of a CBO. There had been an increase in staffing to 7 police officers and 11 PCSO's. There had been a re-introduction of face to face surgeries and plans were being developed to improve engagement with minority communities.

Members discussed the parking issues on Market Street and highlighted the issues at night. Cars were being left blocking the pavement at night, making it for difficult with those in wheelchairs or with buggies. It was explained that this issue required civil enforcement officers to enforce and that there was a significant amount of precedent and case work on obstruction on pavements. There needed to be a significant amount of work to chance the culture in this area and how the cars were being parked.

Discussion ensued on the Queens Triangle and on the options to best prevent parking issues in this area. Inspector Knight explained that in the future he wished to look at setting up a Farmwatch which would help in these areas.

#### **RESOVLED**

**That the content of the presentation be noted.**

#### **11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

#### **RESOLVED**

**That the provisional date of the next meeting of the North Strategic Neighbourhood Forum scheduled for 28 June 2022 be noted.**

**CHAIR**