

Minute of the Shetland Community Safety & Resilience Board

Thursday 10th September 2015
Council Chambers

Present

Cllr Alastair Cooper (Chair)
Cllr Allison Duncan (Vice Chair)
Cllr Mark Burgess
Chief Inspector Lindsay Tulloch – Police Scotland
Dr Sarah Taylor – Director of Public Health, NHS Shetland
Billy Wilson – Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, Local Senior Officer
Myles Murray – Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, Station Manager
Steve Turner – Coastguard
Ingrid Gall – Emergency Planning & Resilience Officer, SIC
Vaila Simpson – Community Planning & Development, SIC
Lizzie Coutts – Community Planning & Development, SIC
Anna Sutherland – Community Planning & Development, SIC

In Attendance

Anna Briemann – Community Planning & Development, SIC (minutes)
Brendan Hall – Community Planning & Development, SIC
Wendy Hand – Voluntary Action Shetland (on behalf of Catherine Hughson)
Rachel Hunter – Highlands & Islands Enterprise
Jacqui Doig – SCSN Manager
Chief Superintendent Julian Innes – Police Scotland
Detective Superintendent Colin Cary – Police Scotland
Sergeant Judy Hill – Police Scotland
Detective Constable Martyn Brill - Police Scotland
Carol Anderson – Senior Communications Officer, SIC

Apologies

Cllr Gary Cleaver
Cllr Steven Coutts
Cllr Frank Robertson
Cllr Jonathan Wills
Cllr Michael Stout
Dr Michael Foxley - Chair of Further Education Regional Board - UHI
Mark Boden – Chief Executive, SIC
Elaine Skinley – Road Safety Officer, SIC

1. Welcome and Apologies

Cllr Cooper opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending, apologies were noted.

2. Previous Minutes & Matters Arising

The minutes of 25th June 2015 were approved on the motion of Sarah Taylor and seconded by Lindsay Tulloch.

A list of the outstanding action points was then addressed.

The meeting between Cllr Cooper & Jan Riise to discuss identifying staffing baselines is yet to take place
Action Point: *Meeting to take place between Cllr Cooper and Jan Riise*

There was no update on the ambulance situation at Baltasound and no update from the first responder scheme in Bressay and Fair Isle.

Action Point: *Update on ambulance at Baltasound*

Action Point: *Update on first responder schemes in Brassy and Fair Isle*

In relation to the letter to Alistair Carmichael regarding the National Contingency Plan, Cllr Cooper said that this action had now expired and could be removed from the tracker.

Action Point: *Remove action from tracker.*

Cllr Cooper asked if there was any update regarding the new emergency helicopter landing site at clickimin. The head of air ambulance is content with progress made on issues regarding the landing site at Clickimin, which have now been resolved. Ingrid Gall said the lighting issue has been resolved and now forms part of the planning submission. Steve Turner has had no feedback from Bristows Helicopters and presumed they were now happy with the proposed solution.

Regarding the Standing Fire Arms Review, Julian Innes said he will be travelling to Sterling to discuss with DCC Livingston and will confirm the outcome at the meeting.

Action Point: *Update on Standing Fire Arms Review*

All other items on the Action Tracker were now either complete and could be removed from the Tracker, or would be dealt with over the course of the meeting.

3. Worker Accommodation Demand in Shetland

Rachel Hunter presented an introduction to the report commissioned by HIE to quantify demand for housing in Shetland over the next 10 years. Rachel noted that the number of short-term workers is at its peak just now and will reduce. However, pressure for housing in Shetland will continue.

Eight categories of workers were taken into account for the report and information was sought from both the private and public sectors. Consultants expect a substantial demand for housing to continue from both short term construction workers and longer term operational staff. They have proposed possible solutions and funding options.

Rachel said that as Shetland has no culture of large scale housing developments by the private sector and a decision needed to be made on how active a role we should take in solving housing shortages. The Community Planning Partnership will look at the options more closely.

Rachel said that her presentation had been kept short due to pressures of time and she encouraged the board to contact her if they had any questions. The presentation can be made available to board members to view in more detail.

Cllr Duncan asked whether it was an option for the SIC to finance individual house building, given the gap between supply and demand. Cllr Cooper replied that, by law, local authorities cannot provide mortgages. There was, however, a government scheme in place to help individuals self-build.

Cllr Cooper commented that this was a big issue for Shetland. The private sector was single build only, so a large number of new houses from this area were not to be expected. It was questionable as to how much extra social housing could be provided, given the funding constraints on central government and constraints due to the Shetland location. Cllr Cooper continued that it might be easier to finance housing for key workers, following the example of Morayshire. He also asked to what extent industry

could build their own houses for employees and commented that the oil industry was tending to build hotels, not houses. This meant more onshore / offshore workers rather than families. Cllr Cooper noted that the Housing Department was looking into a housing strategy and there were moves towards developing housing on Staney Hill.

Dr Sarah Taylor asked whether the information from the report would be fed into housing policy and whether there was anything else the Board could do. Rachel Hunter replied that the Housing Partnership included HIE alongside Hjaltland and the Council, who had all contributed to the report and so were aware of the issues. The Housing Partnership would be putting together an action plan, but this was still in the early stages.

Julian Innes said the police would like to be involved in the review. There were problems bringing officers to the islands due to difficulty in finding accommodation. There was no shortage of police officers who would apply for positions in Shetland if accommodation were available. Demand for police housing would increase over the next 5 to 10 years.

Billy Wilson said that the fire service required more full time staff in Shetland and the availability of housing affected them in the same way. The fire service would also like to be involved in Community Planning Partnership discussions.

Cllr Cooper commented that a challenge for the Community Planning Partnership would be to get private companies involved. Rachel replied that presentations to private companies and the construction industry were already planned.

Rachel added that, although data in the report was from 2013 – 14, the findings were still current, as discussions with interested parties had only been carried out last year.

Cllr Cooper moved to accept the recommendations to the Community Partnership Board. This was accepted by the meeting.

Action Point: *Update on progress in relation to Accommodation shortage in Shetland to be reported at future meeting once the Community Planning Partnership has looked at the options in the HIE report more closely and involve the fire service and police in discussions.*

At this point, Rachel Hunter left the meeting.

4. LIFE Project

Dr Sarah Taylor introduced the LIFE project, which was based on a model originally developed in Swindon. LIFE aimed to increase positive outcomes for whole families with generation-long extensive use of support services. LIFE aimed to help families with chaotic lives, who place heavy demands on education, have a history of substance misuse and regular contact with the police / social services. LIFE tries to break the pattern of learned behaviour over generations.

Dr Taylor said there was a lot of enthusiasm to replicate the model in Shetland. Shetland had the same issues; although the local implementation would have differences. Given that there was no development money available, existing resources would be used to offer an alternative approach with some families. A number of staff across agencies had been identified, who could incorporate the model into their current roles. Children's Services and Adult Services were keen to get involved, as were Housing Support and the voluntary sector, which have a lot of skills dealing with families. Any other services that would like to be involved should let Dr Taylor know.

LIFE runs alongside current statutory guidelines and does not replace protection guidelines - but it does look at the whole family, rather than only the individuals at risk. The project would begin with 1 or 2 families and staff would learn as they went along.

Dr Taylor was happy to update the Board with a progress report at a later date, but stressed that this was a long term project and that it would be difficult to quantify the costs avoided and produce an economic analysis. Evaluation would need to be pragmatic in nature.

Julian Innes commented that it would be good to see how work progressed. Helping one to two families would make a big difference overall, especially if anti-social behaviour could be reduced. He also agreed that this was a long term, generational project.

Cllr Cooper asked whether any other Scottish authorities were doing this. Dr Taylor replied that they weren't, as far as she knew. Cllr Cooper commented that we needed to do anything we could to make life for families easier and asked the Board whether they were happy to endorse the project. The Board was in agreement.

Action Point: *Dr Sarah Taylor to report back with an update, probably by April 2016, as time is needed to put the project into place.*

5. CONTEST Presentation (Counter Terrorism Strategy)

Martyn Brill gave a presentation on CONTEST, which is a government strategy to deal with terrorism. Legislation is already in place to help prevent people from turning to terrorism.

Martyn Brill explained the 4 main goals of the strategy:

Pursue: Reduce the threat to the UK by disrupting terrorist activity

Protect: Reduce vulnerability e.g. no longer allowing vehicle access to an airport entrance

Prepare: Be as ready as possible for the consequences of an attack so that the community can return to as near normal as possible, as quickly as possible.

Prevent: Work in communities to tackle the radicalisation of people in the UK and abroad and stop people from supporting terrorism or becoming terrorists.

Martyn Brill stressed that radicalisation is a process, not an event and it is therefore possible to disrupt this process. He said that normal social processes were used to radicalise vulnerable people, but that it wasn't always the case that vulnerable meant of low intelligence with a deprived background. He said it was important not to make assumptions and that strong links within the community and within groups was essential. He went on to say that a number of awareness raising workshops, for delivery to agencies that are involved (including schools, colleges, NHS), had been planned by the Local Authority in partnership with the police.

Lindsay Tulloch thanked Martyn for the presentation and went on to explain that Shetland was making good progress in carrying forward work in this area. He said that a multi-agency Prevent Working group had been drawn together to ensure smooth implementation and that this group was headed by Lizzie Coutts and Vaila Simpson at Community Planning and Development. Cllr Cooper commented that the community was very close in Shetland and that knowledge needed to be passed on to the community to help prevention.

At this point, Carol Anderson left the meeting.

6. SOA Redevelopment

Brendan Hall gave a short report outlining work being done towards developing a new action plan for implementing the Single Outcome Agreement 2016 -20. The main points were as follows:
Shetland Partnership Performance Group (SPPG) is holding a series of workshops themed around the five national outcomes:

- Wealthier and Fairer
- Smarter
- Healthier
- Safer and Stronger
- Greener

The workshops are evaluating what has gone before as well as looking to the future. So far, priorities for the future are to focus on partnership working and promoting equality within Shetland's communities. Two workshops have been held to date, with the next planned for Thursday 24th September. He explained that the CSRB would be invited to take part in the Safer Stronger SOA redesign workshop, the provisional date for which is the 29th October. Brendan went on to introduce Jacqui Doig from the Scottish Community Safety Network (SCSN), who he said has been invited to contribute to the SOA redesign process in relation to 'Safer and Stronger'.

Billy Wilson commented that a more focused outcome would be positive and that this was an opportunity to explore how cross-agency working might be refined with respect to community planning.

Cllr Cooper said that from a councillor's point of view, it would be good to concentrate on deliverables. It was important to know who was doing what and guard against trying to do too much. He felt that Shetland needed a sharper, more focused document with specifics on how to deliver.

7. Scottish Community Safety Network (SCSN)

Cllr Alistair Cooper welcomed Jacqui Doig from the SCSN to Shetland and thanked her for her visit. Jacqui thanked the Board for the invitation and gave a short presentation to explain what the SCSN has to offer.

The SCSN represents different groups throughout Scotland and has a vision to make Scottish communities safer. The SCSN aims to help stimulate discussion, be creative about solutions, encourage contact between agencies and share good practice.

The network offers online resources e.g. e-learning, a toolkit to self-assess community safety partnerships and another to calculate the benefits of preventative spend. They also have advice on alternative datasets that can help to inform groups by giving a different view to that of the police e.g. data from local authorities, the Ambulance Service, HMRC etc. The SCSN can help with advice on how to check whether CCTV is fit for purpose. They research initiatives and share information through a regular newsletter.

Jacqui said she had come to Shetland to get a sense of what the Shetland Single Outcome review is trying to achieve and how value can be added through cross agency working. She said it was important to recognise the value of our partners and that no agency could do it all on their own. However, we should also bear in mind that priorities for a partnership might be different to those of an agency. This was to be expected because of differences in impact to different organisations.

As part of the Shetland review, Jacqui felt it was important to look at evidence and customer feedback to see what the impact has been for previous outcomes and to find out whether the issues are still there.

Cllr Cooper said that due to Shetland's location and the length of the coastline, the coastguard was also very important to Shetland, it was part of the local culture. Dialogue with the MCA was important and they were also part of the Shetland Safety Partnership. Jacqui replied that this was an example of why local communities understood their own safety issues the best. Steve Turner said that he could make enquiries into what data was available e.g. the costs of calling out a helicopter or the RNLI and share this with the SCSN. Jacqui thanked Steve for this offer, reiterating that any search and Rescue data would be most welcome.

Cllr Cooper asked whether Jacqui would be working alongside Brendan and Vaila to take membership forward and give feedback. Vaila replied that Shetland had recently become a member of the SCSN and that we would be working closely with Jacqui or another member of her team in coming months to gather Shetland specific data ahead of the Safer Stronger redesign workshop. Jacqui added that the emphasis should be on looking at cross cutting issues and how we can each add value to what each other already do. Cllr Cooper welcomed this. He said that working in partnership to prevent harm was good for the community, much better than picking up the pieces. One good example of local prevention tactics was the increased number of police officers on duty at the weekends to help tackle drink related incidents.

8. Community Justice Redesign

Vaila Simpson introduced the report saying that its purpose was to inform the Board about the Work that the Community Justice Working Group had been undertaking, and to outline a series of recommendations for the development of a new Community Justice Partnership (CJP) who would be responsible for coordinating and overseeing the delivery community justice in Shetland on behalf of the Shetland Partnership Board (SPB). She said that the SPB had agreed that a short life working group be established to consider the role and remit of the CJP; use of transitional funding; membership of the CJP; and governance arrangements. The working group had left recommendations around membership broad at this stage, to be further clarified following an awareness event on 15th September.

Vaila said that the working group had considered 3 options for governance arrangements and had agreed to recommend option 2, whereby the CJP would report directly to the SPB, rather than through the CSRB.

Billy Wilson welcomed the creation of a forum to acknowledge community justice and asked whether there was an intention to actively involve 3rd sector, public and non-statutory groups, as these were not mentioned in the report's terms of reference.

Vaila responded that non-statutory groups could definitely be involved and that board membership was open to anyone who felt they had an interest in community justice. The terms of reference would be amended to reflect this.

9. Update to Local Policing Plan

Lindsay Tulloch introduced the main points of the progress report for the Shetland 2014-2017 Policing Plan.

The police are currently conducting a high visibility campaign on the roads to help prevent speeding, mobile phone, and seatbelt and distraction issues. There has been an increase in the number of mobile phone offences detected.

The police are continuing to work closely with Elaine Skinley, SIC Road Safety Officer, and have planned road safety sessions for the High Schools. The Junior Road Safety Programme was well received in schools last year. Lindsay commented that if children could influence their parents regarding road safety that was a good thing.

With respect to combating illegal drug use in Shetland, sniffer dogs have been used very successfully in pubs and at the ferry terminal. There has also been an increase in information being put forward by the public about who is misusing drugs. The number of drug seizures has increased by 7 cases this year.

With regard to the Protecting People Priority, Lindsay felt that the multi-agency approach was working: people had more confidence to come forward. The number of open cases are due to the fact that some of the incidents happened a number of years ago and it takes time to look into them. He said that detection rates for domestic abuse and hate crime were very high in Shetland with domestic abuse sitting at 96% and hate crimes at 100%.

Lindsay said that the police have been working closely with the Dogs Against Drugs Service to carry out random checks on licensed premises and that this was a highly praised and valued service. He went on to say that he was trying to get as many officers as possible out and about around Shetland, including the islands, to reduce disorder and share the value of the police service equally around our islands. In addition, there is ongoing preparation to train officers in how to respond to incidents at Sullom Voe and the new gas plant, with exercises planned. Cllr Cooper commented that there was a lot of good news included in the report.

Cllr Duncan asked whether speed cameras could be deployed in Shetland, as they had proved so effective on the A9. Julian Innes replied that the cameras in question were not police cameras. There is reportedly less aggression on the A9, but not everyone supported the cameras – there were various arguments against their deployment. Julian Innes said he would support a combination of driver education, marked and unmarked patrol vehicles and mobile speed cameras to reduce speeding.

Cllr Cooper said he was not sure that fatalities on Shetland's roads were necessarily due to speeding, but he agreed that prevention was the better option. Julian Innes agreed that the affect of road deaths on the community should not be underestimated.

Cllr Duncan thanked Lindsay for his support on the issue of speeding. He felt that speeding was a critical situation in Shetland and would like to appeal to the police to make this a priority. A mobile speed camera might be a cheaper option than bringing up an unmarked car to Shetland. The South Mainland Community Council had identified Quarff and Levenwick as speeding blackspots, they might benefit from installing speed cameras.

Julian Innes said that, currently, the damage done to a rural community due to the loss of a life was estimated at £1.7 million, but that preventing the loss of a life was what the police liked to do. Speeding could be made a key outcome for a future single outcome agreement if this was requested. Lindsay would support any measures for reducing speeding on Shetland's roads and would see how he could make the maximum difference possible.

Cllr Cooper enquired about the current police staffing levels in Shetland. Julian Innes said that the service was fully staffed at the moment with another officer due to take up a secondment soon and another coming up before the end of the year. The aim was to get the maximum number of staff possible, so that there was extra capacity. This would mean that, if someone were to leave, numbers would still not drop below the minimum. The police have kept hold of some of their allocated houses and there is currently accommodation for 1 extra officer.

Cllr Duncan asked whether the CCTV cameras on the Street were now fully operational. Lindsay replied that they were in the process of being repaired but they were not as good as they could be. Vaila

Simpson added that a CCTV review was currently in progress and that a report would be presented to the Board once it was available.

Jacqui commented that a group at COSLA is currently looking into how to take the issue of CCTV forward long term in Scotland. There are issues because of the way funding was initially rolled out and differences in ownership throughout Scotland. She thought it might be possible that funding could be made available through the Scottish Government, but that currently there was no funding available.

Action Point: CCTV review to be brought to future CSRB meeting.

11. Fire and Rescue Update

Billy Wilson said that fire engine availability is a challenge at a number of Shetland stations. The revised recruitment was having an effect but Sumburgh and Brae still had issues, as not many recruits had come forward. Fetlar did not have enough personnel to form a full team. Billy said that the fire service was 'by the community, for the community'. At the moment, there are two recruits from Brae in training and one from Fetlar. Unfortunately, the recruit from Fetlar will probably replace a possible resignation.

Billy commented that figures for Accidental Dwelling Fires and Deliberate Fires were few in number and a few incidents would have a greater influence on the trend. It was too early to say whether the statistics showed a trend of improvement.

Cllr Duncan asked whether there was a solution to the Fetlar recruitment situation. Billy Wilson said that there needed to be a more focused look as to what could be done collectively. Fetlar had a small population and the demographic age profile meant that people are getting older.

Cllr Duncan asked whether the training facility at Sumburgh Airport was fully operational. Billy Wilson replied that it was. A Task Management course had already been held at the Sumburgh facility and another would be held if there were sufficient numbers of trainees.

Cllr Duncan asked whether there were any cuts planned to the fire service and whether there was any pressure on service finances. Billy Wilson replied that there were financial pressures across all services, but that the desire of the Board was to maintain a footprint and broaden the role played by the fire service e.g. dealing with cardiac arrest out with hospital. The focus was on maintaining the service and adding value to remote rural communities.

Cllr Cooper asked whether Community Planning could help by being more present in the community. Was there anything we could do to 'think outside the box' and add value, possibly think 'greener' or fulfil other Scottish Executive guidelines in the process? Billy Wilson said that fire safety visits could also be used as wellbeing visits. They could review dangers of trips and falls, fuel poverty or insulation in the home. The fire service could help reduce the carbon footprint in homes and so give added value.

12. Briefing Notes

Cllr Cooper invited any further comments on the briefing notes from the Shetland Alcohol & Drugs Partnership (SADP) and the Shetland Domestic Abuse Partnership (SDAP).

Cllr Cooper commented that the lack of money available to deal with alcohol and drugs issues was a cause for concern. There was a large cost to communities where these problems were present.

Cllr Cooper asked that the reports be noted and the Board was in agreement.

13. AOCB

Ingrid Gall said that the Senior Resilience Co-ordinator for the Highlands and Islands would like to visit the meeting.

Cllr Cooper thanked the meeting for their input, with special thanks to the off-island visitors for their contribution.