Appendix

Community Safety O&S Committee

Anti Social Behaviour Single Issue meeting

8th February, 2006

Questions to John Hedge

| | Question | Response |
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| Clir Appleton | Management and resources for community mediation | Mediation is a skill that can be learnt and applied across a range of fields. Often not raised, but very important and transferable skills – most mediation is carried out by volunteers charging small fees Needs Govn't resources and needs to be formed as a critical mass, rather than a 'little secret' – needs to establish its place |
| Cllr Booth | Parenting training | Need to establish fit with the Children's Trust Early intervention in dealing with young people does help |
| Clir Longdon | No mention of punishment Communities have lost faith in the police, courts etc Threats of vigilante action Society rather than a community problem | Certainly there is place and important role for sanctions and punishments as part of a balanced approach. Agree that the support and help to victims of ASB is not what it could be. Highly emotional matter – but a strategic approach is needed. The strategic approach is about being tough about what conditions are applied to ASB0s. Acknowledge the lack of confidence in the CJS and the feeling across the country that faith has been lost in the police, courts etc Neighbourhood Policing is important as a response to these concerns. In Thames Valley where Neighbourhood Policing has been introduced things have levelled out. Community conference approach does give a chance for people to have their say Danger that we despair that nothing can be done, but some things do work (baby and bathwater) |
| Clir Wells | Change up agenda – what progress has been made on involving the voluntary sector with CDRP | He took a cynical approach of the Change-Up agenda – he was aware that much money had been spent in Berkshire and Buckinghamshire without any outcome – it had got lost in its own intricacies. The question needed asking about the results of the programme. Experience showed that it was not moving fast and could get lost Would be helpful if Council's could agree what they want out of it. |

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| Cllr Shilton | How far can we take parental responsibility – to help tackle racial problems/bullying in schools ASBO proportionality male/female split Do you feel that the magistrates are not strong enough in punishment? | Huge amounts could be done in schools e.g. Anti bullying etc – joined up approach – many examples of good practice. Don't know about the proportionality – very little solid data on ASBOs |
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| CIIr Randjev | What was the reaction of the community on Manchester, Merseyside to the rise in ASBOs? Cllrs have not been approached by Police | Don't know about the reaction in Merseyside and Manchester to the number of ASBOs. He supported ASBOs if they are used well. Publicly naming people who were the subject of ASBOs needed to be part of an integrated Strategy - and only worked at local level. There was need for more research in this area. Definite need for communication strategy relating to ASBOs etc NB. The majority of feedback only works at local/ward level. The CJS and Youth Offending Services had been better lately at communicating what they were doing and involving young people in the community. |

Questions to Expert Panel

| | Question | Response |
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| Cllr Randev | How does the community find out about what ASBOs have been issued in their area? If ClIrs had been informed they could keep an eye on what was happening – when is the community going to be involved? Could shopkeepers be sent photographs and details of ASBOs? | Paul Littler – undertook to take way for further consideration what Cllrs can do to help. Mike Slater – Neighbourhood Policing – Strategy has agreed position on media coverage. The Government agreed that photographs of people the subject of ASBOs can be released in the area – photos and conditions go into all the local newspapers following the ASBO Neighbourhood policing will address this to an extent – local solutions/networking in addition can consider e-mailing Councillors – he will take this away for further consideration. Proportionality test for publication and display of photos Sending photographs etc. to shopkeepers, logistically, will be difficult. |
| | • | Michael Maguire- prevention strategies are the way forward, we have confirmation of this from evidence gathered from over 1000 parents but when you are in the face of ASB you need to know how to deal with it there and then –it is not enough to say what is being done because that is not useful at that time – there is need to address fear in our communities and how to take the fear away. Positive About Young People is doing excellent work but at the time ASB is "in your face" it is a real problem which requires on going work. |
| Clir Appleton | Mediation services – who should resource or deliver this? | Mark Lynn - Crime has fallen and the number of prosecution has risen – the conviction rate in Warks is the highest in the country Steve Newman – just completed mediation exercise in Stratford – extremely successful – included both young and older people Dave Gormal – Personal view – has been using Whitefriars, Rugby that is an offshoot from Coventry CC Housing Dept. – mediation is largely about personal relationships. Relate had the expertise and do a lot of work. A personal view is that there is the need for a countywide service, expensive, but county level will rationalise that cost. Mike Slater – there are different levels of mediation – Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABC) needed negotiation using officers, but there is need for expert mediators Paul Littler - £6,000 funding for mediation services through County CDRPs |
| | Publicising ASBOs – how effective is the publicity in preventing recurrence? | Diane Johnson – YOT take on the young people following an ASBO being made. There is potentially some role for communities in knowing/publicising ASBOs but the manner in which it is done is critical. |

| Cllr Timms | Unaddressed issues – how do identify the potential trouble makers in small community areas to ensure early intervention | YOT bring offenders face to face with those who they have offended against – as part of their restorative justice strategy. Michael McGuire – Early intervention through CHARM works across all districts (early intervention). The work done with 237 families identified at risk of early offending – produced remarkable results 90% did not go on to offend Diane Johnson – Ryogens allows agencies, particularly schools to raise concerns and inform – Positive About Young People who take this information forward (real bonus in Warks). Ryogenes agencies raise those concerns not reaching the agreed threshold for intervention by agencies – when a number of low level concerns about an individual are put onto the system and this trigger round table discussions. Paul Littler – FLAIR – case management system, starts to highlight before warning letters for older youths and adults |
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| Cllr McCarney | Concern expressed around the long-term effect of drugs and alcohol abuse on health, particularly for young people – concerned with the lack of link up to Mental Health. Concern also about using up acute hospital services because there is no access to treatment. | Andrew Lawrence –at a countywide level the DAAT has developed a strategy for alcohol, which is out for consultation. (Alcohol and its impact on crime and domestic violence equates to 25% of the crime bill). There is also a Drug Strategy delivered through commissioning services through the SWPCT (the aim is to increase treatment, reduce the number of deaths and waiting times for treatment). The links with ASBO have been well recognised in each strategy. Each CDRP has a Tackling Drugs and Alcohol Together Sub group. Mike Slater – A separate Strategy has been written on how to monitor licensed premises –officers working in partnership with Trading Standards to carry out test purchases. With regard to the nighttime economy extra police officers were working to reduce alcohol related violence. Criminal related ASBO is tackled through a separate strand of policing. Respond to intelligence gathered relating to drugs. Drug arrest referral – for it to work – need to fill the gap in the mental health provision – alcohol related arrest – but when they are referred there is a need to make sure that they can be treated. Michael McGuire – need for prevention for very young people (9-10-12 year olds drinking)– need to be tougher on the sale of alcohol |
| Cllr Longdon | Test purchasing (Trading Standards) doesn't work very well as shopkeepers only sell to the people they know. | Noted by Clir Hobbs |
| Cllr Booth | How do we identify at the very early stage (0 to 3) | Mike Maguire - Pre-preventative work – prevention in its broadest sense – early pilots will pick up on exactly the point raised – early recognition and provision of support mechanisms. Pilot scheme started in Rugby, which recognises families in difficulty (pre birth). |

| | | Andrew Lawrence – Studies have shown that poor parenting is a common theme to ASB – part of the very long term approach, but does not take away from the need for the immediate response. |
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| Cllr Booth | Perception in the public as to why youths are let off when it gets to courts | Mick Taylor – will feedback strength of feeling to Magistrates. There are other considerations which the Magistrates are obliged to take into account - reduction of crime, protecting the public, rehabilitation, reparation in addition to punishment, in no particular order Magistrates are members of the community themselves so know the issues and understand the feeling. Magistrates are now aware of the CDRP role and have forged links with WCC through the Community Safety Team. Julie Sullivan and Paul Littler are talking to the Magistrates in April and Members feeling will be made known. Magistrates training included ASB, domestic violence and bail. Diane Johnson – YOT have details of 44 young people who are subject to ASBOs and CRASBOS of which 40 were breached. Enforcement procedures are robust and Warwickshire has seen a 100% increase in custodial sentences issued to young people. This information can be provided routinely by YOT. |
| Cllr Booth | How will the police address the balance of rural and urban solutions to ASB | Mike Slater -On a weekly basis at least Area Commanders will look at incidents of ASBO and deploy their resources accordingly (hot spots). Members should bring their individual area problems to the attention of District Commanders. Mobile CCTV cameras can be used and cost approximately £8,000 and can be attached to certain lampposts. Rugby has 5 in operation Test purchases – 50 are carried out a year with a 20% success rate – the Police need to be told if off-licensees only sell to young people that are know to them. |

| Cllr Shilton | Need figures on ASBOS, where offending, re-offending rates etc? | FLARE project in Rugby will address this |
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| CIIr Shilton | Why do some CDRPs not have WCC elected members on them? | Cllr Hobbs – Currently reviewing representation on CDRPs will address this. |
| Cllr Longdon | Warwickshire Community Justice Board – Where are the figures on the leaflet coming from? | Mark Lynn – figures between 2001 and 2004 – relating to offences and offenders come from YOT. Refers to 88 young people who were diverted from further offences |
| Cllr Longdon | Why do the CPS bring cases that they are not 90% chance of winning – how do public find out why a case is not progressed? | Mark Lynn – appreciate that confidence in CJS is not high. Confidence figures are measured across the country and come up with a national figure. Figures for Warwickshire are 47%, which is approx 6th highest in the country. Mark Lynn –Need sufficient evidence to prove beyond reasonable doubt to be able to prosecute. The evidence in Warwickshire is that we have had the highest conviction rate in the country since 1999. Warwickshire has also had the lowest dis-continuation cases in the country. Can do nothing without witnesses – cannot help if public do not feel comfortable coming forward. Some of the results are very good, but we are not doing so well at getting the message across. Open days, schools, neighbourhood watch visits, Communication officer, publicity on successful cases. Diane Johnson – since 2002 there is a reduction in the number of young people entering the CJS (55%) which represented 88 young people who are diverted from the Magistrates Court through PAYP and other preventative schemes – the aim is to reduce this target by a further 5%. |
| Clir Wells | Is it the roll of the CDRP to coordinate all the ASB agencies? Disappointed to hear the failure rate | Andrew Lawrence – responsibility cuts across a range of different agencies – Statutory responsibility is at CDRP level, requirement on each of the CDRPs to deliver solutions. Some work is done on a county level to take advantage of economies of scale. Julie Sullivan – the LAA agenda will change these roles – Community Safety team is undertaking work in this area already. The Crime and Disorder Act and the Respect Agenda will be part of this change and will need to sort how to respond. Mark Lynn - Warwickshire Community Justice Board brings together CJ agencies Mike Slater - A breach could be seen as a failure or a success in that it has |
| Clir Appleton | of ASBOS – should we rethink why we are using them? | created a mechanism to enforce/monitor behaviour. E.g. a person may breach an Order but that breach will then take the person out of the community and solve the problem. |
| Cllr Appleton | Crime statistics – astonished at the no. of minor crimes which occur in | |

| | prosecutions | |
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| Cllr Appleton | Detection rates | Currently approx 23% on average, but this will vary depending upon the offence |
| Clir Forwood | Are ASBOs really the answer | Kathryn Grasby – Courts when making an ASBO for young people are now required to consider an individual support order. These are undertaken by the Youth Justice Board Diane Johnson – YOT also receiving funding to deliver Parenting orders to support parents |
| Cllr Timms | Who is responsible for communicating the work of the CDRPs? | Peter Blackburn - Safer neighbourhood – Neighbourhood policing scheme working closely with CDRPs to define Neighbourhoods. Warwickshire Police moving from police beats to wards. Every elected Member will be notified about how this will work – 105 Police beats and 105 beat workers. Julie Sullivan – WCC press officer part funded by CDRPS and WCC to publicise achievements etc – perhaps this has not been done as effectively as it could be. John Hedge – What appears to be coming out of the meeting is that elected Members have limited knowledge of CDRPs and what is going on in the CJS – similar to situation in Thames Valley. This is not all disaster – LCJB needs to be aware of what's going on. |
| Cllr Hobbs | Request – Summary of the points raised today is well publicised within CDRPs and within WCC – wider publication | Report to O&S to be circulated to all members before going to O&S |