

DERBYSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY
CITIZEN FOCUS & PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 20TH APRIL 2010

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

**ITEM:7 (A) CONSULTATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
ACTIVITIES FOR 2010-11**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To update Members on proposed Consultation and Engagement activities for 2010 - 2011.

INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS

2. A Working Group has been established to progress the 'Have Your Say' programme for 2010. The group members are: Carole Brister (Chairman), Cathy Rylance, Sarah Greensmith, Jim Fearn, Jonathan Leach, Brian Carpenter and the Chief Constable's Staff Officer Insp Wendy Smedley. It has been proposed that Annetta Christie be co-opted to the group in respect of both her role as Vice Chair of the Citizen Focus and Partnership Committee and her remit to oversee the progression of the Action Plans for the Community Engagement Strategy and Communications Strategy on behalf of the Committee.

3. The draft Have Your Say programme including venues and suggested dates will be available as a late paper for Members to consider. Finalised dates will be made available as soon as possible. The questionnaire is now ready in draft form for circulation to Members of the Working Group and the Chief Constable and Chair of the Authority.

4. At each event there will be an A3 folded information leaflet available for each participant to take away incorporating key pieces of information on: The purpose of Have Your Say, Safer Neighbourhood Teams, the Police Authority, Community Messaging Service and key contact information.

5. In previous years (2008 – 09) the data analysis of the Have Your Say (HYS) findings has been conducted by PCP Market Research based in York. The cost last year was £3,350 plus VAT for 2,600 surveys, and this has worked very well. The Force has offered to provide this service. The advantage in outsourcing the analysis is that it is truly independent of the organisation that is being surveyed; the downside is clearly there is a cost. It was agreed that when the Authority took on the role of this project that the funding would be transferred in order to cover the complete HYS programme including the analysis. There is no APA guidance as to how the analysis should be undertaken but as this is our biggest and most important consultation exercise it is suggested that we should continue to outsource the activity as in the two previous years in order that we are seen as being open and transparent with independent analysis and we therefore cannot be accused of the comments on the research being biased in any way. There is a danger that the Force could be accused of providing the analysis of the comment on themselves and then presenting this to the Police Authority.

6. The Have Your Say consultation and engagement programme for Children & Young People is being introduced through the Safer Schools Partnership programme. Meetings have now been held with the Authority leads for Safer Schools and Education respectively in both the City and the County and their support to the development of the programme has been secured. The first session will be delivered in Da Vinci School in Derby on 22nd April 2010. Further sessions are currently being planned with due consideration being given to the annual academic calendar.

7. The involvement of all Police Authority Members and partner agencies will be actively sought with regard to all consultation and engagement activities and the calendar of events will be circulated as early as possible.

8. A proposed timetable of events is attached for consideration at **Annex A**. This has been passed to the Force for added comment and input which has yet to be received.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

9. As identified within the report.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

10. The Authority has a statutory duty to make or review arrangements for obtaining the views of a broad range of people in its police area about matters concerning the policing of the area.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

11. The broadening of consultation with diverse groups as outlined in the above report.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

12. The Authority does not comply with or act upon its statutory duty to seek the views of people in its police area about matters concerning the policing of the area. If the decision is taken that the analysis of the HYS data should be conducted by the Force then there needs to be an assurance that this is a high priority task and that it is completed in a timely manner. This is a statutory function of a police authority and we cannot be seen to fail.

HEALTH AND SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

13. None contained within the report.

14. OFFICER RECOMMENDATION.

- a. That the report be noted.
- b. That members highlight their availability to support events to the Community Engagement Officer as soon as possible
- c. That approval be given to co-opt Annetta Christie to the Working Group

- d. That Members approve and support the Consultation and Engagement Plan
- e. That the analysis of the data be outsourced to PCP Market research as in the previous two years thereby maintaining the independence and neutrality of the data.

SIMON C BATE OBE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Annex:

A. Community Engagement Programme of Events and Activities 2010-11.

Lead Officer:

Mrs Sarah Greensmith

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