

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

SALISBURY AREA BOARD
15th March 2018

SALISBURY'S CRIME & COMMUNITY SAFETY GROUP UPDATE

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1. To receive an update from the Salisbury Crime & Community Safety Group.

2. Background

2.1 With the introduction of the new Community Policing model in Wiltshire in 2016, local area boards were asked if they would like to take the lead on arrangements previously managed by police teams, then known as 'neighbourhood tasking groups' (NTGs). At that time, the attached revised terms of reference were agreed, and since July 2016, a new Crime and Community Safety Group has operated in place of the NTG, chaired by a councillor appointed by the Salisbury Area Board.

3. Progress update

3.1. At the meeting in January 2018, the main issues discussed were:

- a) How new Neighbourhood Watch (NW) arrangements (relaunched in Nov 2016) are developing in Wiltshire. It was understood that there were a good number of residents signed up to the neighbourhood watch schemes in Salisbury, but that recruiting new co-ordinators for schemes had always been a challenge, and since the introduction of the Community Messaging system, neighbourhood watch schemes had not felt as involved, or informed in working alongside the police to keep Salisbury safe. The group heard from 2 members of the Wiltshire Neighbourhood Watch Association (WNWA), who serve as voluntary members offering advice to existing schemes and for new schemes in Wiltshire & Swindon who offered the following points of clarification and advice:
 - i. Previously NW had been supported by a co-ordinator from the police, but since changes made in 2016, this is now supported by volunteers from the WNWA, the transition had proved difficult particularly in terms of inheriting lists from the police of NW member/co-ordinator contact details
 - ii. The WNWA is very keen to keep NW going and interest from the community in both Wiltshire and Swindon is evident
 - iii. Over the past 18months the WNWA has developed a clearer sense of direction and is now in a stronger position to work in a more directive

way in its liaisons with police teams – helped by quarterly meetings with the Police & Crime Commissioner and Superintendent Phil Staynings. However, it needs more people to help sustain and develop its operations

- iv. The WNWA would like to raise its profile and appeal for more members by attending area board meetings – and would welcome invites to these meetings
 - v. Currently, Salisbury is not represented on the WNWA and it would be good if a member would come forward. The chairman's email address was wnhwa.chair@gmail.com
 - vi. There was a stock of new signs and stickers for local schemes available from the WNWA
 - vii. This website is a source of good information, advice and guidance on NW <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/>
 - viii. Community messaging was an effective tool to ensure that more people in the community than had been the case before this system had been introduced were kept up to date about matters of crime and community safety locally
 - ix. Police officers are unable to support local NW schemes and co-ordinators as they did before, and rely on the co-ordinators to keep their members up to date, including to meet with them as before to ensure good ongoing communications and relationships
- b) There is a range of different groups in the community area working on the issue of keeping Salisbury safe (see list below) – comment was invited on whether or not this list needed to be revised, rationalised or co-ordinated in a different way:
- Citywatch CIC first set up to help with the move to the new CCTV system (includes reps from : shopwatch, pubwatch, street pastors, purple flag, BID, city council)
 - Purple Flag
 - BID
 - Shopwatch
 - Pubwatch
 - Streetwatch
 - Street Pastors
 - Salisbury Area Board Crime & Community Safety Sub Group
 - Salisbury Community Police Team
 - Safer Salisbury Community Group
 - NHW schemes
 - City Council

- c) Purple Flag (PF) continues to work to ensure that the city retains its Purple Flag status and there are plans by the national co-ordinators of this scheme to improve the marketing of the award, which will benefit Salisbury, ensuring that more know and feel reassured by this recognition, than currently is the case from local promotion. PF continue to work in partnership with BID to keep the city safe, employing Rich Goodman as its new Community Safety Officer.
- d) The Citywatch representative updated that the new CCTV equipment was installed and ready to work, with arrangements for volunteer teams to monitor the system almost complete
- e) The Safer Salisbury Community Group representative circulated a summary detailing the remit of this group (a partnership of approx. 60 local organisations, working as a type of implementation arm for the Salisbury Health & Wellbeing Group) and highlighted some of its current key pieces of work, including :
- continuing to monitor and implement the Safe Places scheme,
 - overseeing and incorporating the local Dementia Action Alliance
 - developing a proposal for new community public access defibrillators in the city
 - developing proposals for new mens shed projects in partnership with others
 - planning to prioritise how to make Salisbury a safer and supportive community for people living with autism
- f) Pete Sparrow and Matt Holland circulated a paper updating the group on current police priorities and staffing responsibilities. Pete reassured the group that despite budgetary pressures the local team was 80% manned, which was an improvement from 2016 when Community Policing first began in Salisbury, when the team was only 50% manned. The police team at Amesbury is due to be transferred to Pete to manage, and the December campaign which saw police officers challenged to spend more time out on patrol had impacted positively on reducing purse thefts over the Christmas period compared to incidents recorded last year
- g) Pete Sparrow explained that a new national police initiative to hold Independent Advisory Groups to provide a critical voice on strategic policing matters was being rolled out in Wiltshire

4. Recommendation

4.1 That the board notes this progress update.

Revised Neighbourhood Tasking Group arrangements in Salisbury

- **New Name: Crime & Community Safety Tasking Group**
 - **New Chair: To be agreed on 24 May 2017**
 - **New Terms of Reference:**
1. Representatives of the community, (including councillors, BID, young people, churches, schools, council officers, youth leaders, neighbourhood watch, streetwatch, street pastors, BME, older people reps, etc) to meet with community police officers on a quarterly cycle to discuss issues and priorities relating to crime and community safety in all divisions of Salisbury.
 2. Role of the police on the group:
 - (a) to update community representatives as to the crime and community safety issues and priorities for Salisbury, and to communicate what action the police are taking to tackle those issues and priorities
 - (b) to respond to the recommendations of the group, e.g. on a change in local policing focus, or to work in partnership with a new community led scheme, such as additional streetwatch schemes for the community area
 3. Role of the community representatives:
 - (a) to use the quarterly meetings, and other ways, in which to stay up to date and well connected to all matters relating to crime and community safety in Salisbury
 - (b) to formulate recommendations for local community action that complements and works in partnership with the police, e.g. organise graffiti clean up days
 - (c) to respond to requests from the area board, e.g. to devise and implement local action on crime and community safety matters identified by the area board
 - (d) to set up, co-ordinate and sustain a communications strategy that ensures the wider community is made aware of the work of the group. This communications strategy to include the scope for regular events with partners (including the Safer More Supportive Salisbury Community Group) to focus on single issues or for general raising awareness purposes.