

At a Meeting of the **OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** held at the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Kilworthy Park, Drake Road, **TAVISTOCK** on **TUESDAY** the 17<sup>th</sup> day of **JANUARY 2012** at **2.00 pm**.

**Present:**

	Mr D Cloke – Chairman
	Mr D Whitcomb – Vice-Chairman
Mr R Baldwin	Mrs A Clish-Green
Mr D Lake	Mrs L Rose

Chief Executive  
Head of Environmental Health  
Democratic Services Manager  
Committee & Ombudsman Link Officer

**In attendance:** Mrs R Gordon – Senior Community Safety Officer,  
South Devon & Dartmoor Community Safety  
Partnership  
Insp S Kenneally – Devon & Cornwall Police

**\*OSC 14      CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2011, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**\*OSC 15      ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE SOUTH DEVON & DARTMOOR  
COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**

The Senior Community Safety Officer presented the Annual Review of the South Devon & Dartmoor Community Safety Partnership (page 8 to the Agenda) to enable the Committee to scrutinize the work of the Community Safety Partnership as defined within Sections 19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 and the Crime and Disorder (Overview & Scrutiny) Regulations 2009.

The report detailed crime figures for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011 to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2011 and these showed a slight increase in a number of areas following several years of decreasing crime. The low crime figures previously enjoyed showed that even a slight increase in any area can have a disproportionate effect on crime figure percentages, thus giving a false impression.

The report also detailed nine projects which had been delivered across the Partnership's area and these included a Local Delivery Plan containing 27 detailed projects and a scheme called "The Honest Truth" where driving instructors advised young drivers on anti-social driving and ways to avoid becoming one of the young people killed on UK roads every 18 hours.

Inspector Kenneally reported that following Government cuts in funding, police staffing levels would fall to the level formally enjoyed in 1973. It was expected that rural areas would suffer more the consequence of reduced police compliment than would urban areas. Following a recent introduction of new policing methods arising from the budget reduction,

performance had dropped but was now showing signs of recovery and improvement.

The police were currently working with the shop keepers in Tavistock with a view to introducing a “shop watch” scheme similar to that successfully introduced in Plymouth. In this scheme where a person is banned from a shop for theft then that ban becomes effective in all of the shops working within the scheme.

In conclusion Inspector Kenneally reminded the Committee that an election for the appointment of Police Commissioner would take place during November 2012 and that such an appointment would have an impact on policing matters.

It was **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**\*OSC 16 COMMITTEE PERFORMANCE REPORT**

The Committee received and noted the Committee Performance Report prepared by the Business Development Manager (page 15 to the Agenda).

**\*OSC 17 POST OFFICES**

The Chairman reported on a meeting he had attended in Exeter in October 2011, where a representative from the Post Office gave an update on a national pilot scheme where a post office situated within a convenience store could choose to operate the same opening hours at the shop. No such pilot was being tried in West Devon, however, there would be opportunities for local shops currently hosting Post Office services to adopt such opening hours should the current pilot scheme mature into Post Office policy.

The pilot scheme would operate until June 2012 when it would then be evaluated.

**\*OSC 18 BROADBAND TASK & FINISH GROUP**

The Chairman tabled an information paper prepared by the Regeneration Officer on the activities of the Broadband Task & Finish Group which had last met in November 2011, and noted that:

- Cllr Carter from South Hams District Council had joined the group
- Miss J Rumble from the Dartmoor National Park Authority had agreed to attend meetings
- Devon County Council had appointed consultants to lead their process of stimulating demand for improved Broadband Connectivity across Devon and Somerset and convened a series of stakeholder meetings. The Borough Council’s Regeneration Officer would soon be attending one such meeting and would report back on the outcome and how District Authorities could assist with this process.

- An insert was to be sent out to all residents with the Council Tax demands summarising the latest progress on Rural Broadband; and
- The village of Thurlestone in the South Hams was progressing its bid for additional funding from BDUK under the Rural Broadband scheme for community based projects.

It was **RESOLVED** that the tabled report be noted.

**OSC 19 PERFORMANCE INDICATOR REVIEW WORKING GROUP**

The Chairman tabled a report on the work of the Joint Review of Performance Indicators Task & Finish Group which had previously been circulated to Members via e-mail. The T&F Group had decided that two sets of PIs should be produced, one for the public which should be clear and easily understood and meaningful, with the second set for the functional needs of both Councils.

Three appendices were presented with the report with Appendix A proposing community PIs, Appendix B proposing internal functional PIs, and Appendix C showing an example of a narrative PI display with images and graphs for the community PIs for use in the Connect magazine.

It was **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND** to the Strategies & Resources Committee that:

- (i) the list of PIs for public use as set out in Appendix A with the addition of the car parking income PI be approved and adopted; and,
- (ii) the narrative format as displayed in Appendix C be adopted for the dissemination of community based PIs in the Council's Connect magazine.

**\*OSC 20 REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT 2000: REPORT ON INSPECTION AND AUTHORISATION**

The Committee noted that there had been no requests to use the powers under the RIPA Act 2000 during the last quarter.

(The Meeting terminated at 4.03 pm.)