

Notes on the CCEN Seminar: Routes to the LSP - Community Safety Held on Tuesday 16 March 2010 at VAC

DT introduced the reason for holding the seminar – the CCEN has organised a series of seminars to explain how the voluntary and community sector (VCS) can connect with the local partnerships and the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and the other strategic partnerships that link into the LSP. This particular seminar is looking at the Community Safety Partnership and how people can link into this.

DT then passed over to Peter Ward, from Camden Community & Police Consultative Group (CCPCG) who gave a very thorough presentation of how the Camden Community Safety Partnership is formed and how the VCS engage.

PW explained that the CCPCG was formed after the Brixton riots led to the Scarman Report (independent of local authorities) CCPCG has 50 members – there are 6 local councillors who are members. In Camden the CCPCG is independent of the police and local authority - this is not the norm for other similar groups. Safer Neighbourhood Panels form largest majority of membership.

The CCPCG :-

- holds 6 public meetings a year themed around the priorities such as hate crime – the next meeting will feature the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Forum
- Runs 'Stop & Search' monitoring groups
- Custody visiting –
- Volunteer scheme for appropriate adults to sit with young people (parents often refuse to attend)
- Provides templates /guidelines for Safer Neighbourhood Panels – constitution etc.

Safer Neighbourhood Panels were initialised 5 – 6 years ago from Step Change Policing. They are ward based and have one police sergeant, 2 police constables and 3 police community support officers – these officers cannot be taken off the ward for any other police initiative except May Day events, Notting Hill Carnival event and New Years Eve. SNP usually between 10 – 15 members – ward councillors can be invited but are not members.

SNPs feed into the Safer Neighbourhood Working Group which discusses issues around safer neighbourhoods centrally and feed into the Community Safety Partnership.

Confidence and Perception Group

Last year Camden Police were given an all green score (90+% highest in London)– exceptional performance - but at the same time the Place Survey showed that perception of crime and grime is high and view of council services low (under 50%).

The Confidence and Perception Group was initially made up of police and Camden council but now includes PW and the Chair of the SNP.

Dave Francis - Camden Drugs & Alcohol Team (DAT) – chairs the Drugs and Youth group has 2 sub groups and feels they need community involvement so have asked representatives from SNP Chairs and service users to become involved – this will add significant value.

Each year CCPCG holds a number of focus groups and the results of these are added to the priorities of the wards around recordable crimes and reports of Anti Social Behaviour (ASB), call outs to fires etc and are used to develop Safer Neighbourhood priorities for the borough.

