

Sussex Criminal Justice Board Meeting Minutes

09:30 – 10:05hrs, Wednesday 6th September 2017
Sackville House, Lewes

1. Welcome, Apologies and Declarations – Katy Bourne

Katy Bourne (Chairman)	Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner	KB
Jaswant Narwal	Chief Crown Prosecutor – CPS	JN
Mark Streater	Office of the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner	MSt
Lisa Ramsarran	CPS	LR
Debbie Cropanese	HM Courts & Tribunals Service – Head of Crime	DC
Dave Manning	HM Courts & Tribunals Service	Dma
Jayne Dando	Sussex Police	JD
Fiona MacPherson	Sussex Police	FM
Paul Woods	HM Prison and Probation Service	PW
Andrea Saunders	HM Prison and Probation Service	AS
Emily King	West Sussex County Council	EK
Peter Castleton	Brighton and Hove City Council	PC
Rob McCauley	Legal Aid Agency	RM
Becky Smith	Victim Support - Sussex	BS
Wendy Tattersall	Public Health England	WT
Bruce Tippen	SSCJP Business Manager	BT
Lindsey Parris	SSCJP	LP

Observing:

David Munro	Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner	DM
Sadie Hanif	Victim Support - Surrey	SH

Apologies received from:

Rebecca Hills	Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	RH
Samantha Allen	Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	SA
Maralyn Smith	Victim Support	MS
Suki Binning	Seetec Group / Kent, Surrey & Sussex CRC	SBi
Nick Pascoe	HM Prison and Probation Service	NP
Susanne Jarman	Citizens Advice – Witness Service	SJ
Tania Riedel	Sussex YOT's	TR
Rodney Warren	Warrens Solicitors	RW
Ian Whiteside	HMP Bronzefield	IW
Laurence Taylor	Sussex Police	LT
Justine Armstrong- Smith	East Sussex County Council	JAS
Jane Macdougall	WMC Legal LLP	JM
Nicky Croft	NHS England	NC

KB welcomed members to the SCJB meeting and introduced Paul Woods – Governor of HMP Lewes who was attending his first SCJB meeting on behalf of Nick Pascoe.

Declarations of Interest:

None received.

2. Minutes and Rolling Action Log from previous meeting 7th June 2017

The minutes from the previous SCJB meeting were agreed as an accurate record. The Action Log (separate document) was discussed and updated.

3. Community Safety Partnerships - Priorities

EK referred to her report which outlined the high level Community Safety priorities for West Sussex, East Sussex, Brighton and Hove City Council and the Office of the Sussex PCC.

EK suggested the Joint Reducing Re-Offending Group should be the conduit to start dialogue and build networks to assist in driving the work forward at lower level. EK added in terms of the SSCJP planning event to be held in December 2017 it may be helpful to focus on some of the Community Safety priorities contained within the report.

PC confirmed the Community Safety priorities shared commonality across the councils and also with the Police and Crime Plan.

4. Performance, Risks, Highlight Reports

BT thanked partners for submitting their highlight reports and added there was just one issue to escalate to the Board. BT reported the Chairman of the Victim and Witness group had previously asked for statutory partner's to engage with the outcome measurement methodology. Sussex Police are now providing data but any information from HMCTS, CPS, Probation and KSS CRC would assist in gaining a richer picture for measuring outcomes for victims and witnesses.

AS reported there will soon be a new Victim Liaison post within NPS and they will liaise with the Chairman of the Victim and Witness Group once in post.

EK reported she would have a discussion outside the meeting with the Chairman of the Victim and Witness group to see if any information collated with the District and Borough councils would be relevant.

MSt reported there continues to be good progress regarding the use of Live Links across the Sussex Police estate and building works at the new victim suite in West Sussex have been completed. MSt asked if there was any update in finding a similar victim suite in East Sussex.

JD reported there is possibly a police building in the east of the county that could be used as a victim suite. Kier Facilities Service will be carrying out a survey of the building and a further update would be provided in due course.

JD added protocols, vetting and statement issues have all been overcome at the West Sussex victim suite and a launch date is planned for late September 2017.

BT reported SJ had confirmed initial CA – Witness Service concerns at the West Sussex victim suite have now been overcome.

DM asked if Surrey were represented on the Access to Justice Board – **Confirmed.**

JN asked if CPS were attending the Access to Justice Board meetings – **Confirmed.**

LR reported the issue around how witnesses will be provided with their statement when appearing from a remote video location is being looked at nationally. A meeting is being held in September 2017 and some national guidance around this issue is expected to be released in due course.

KB asked why the number of RJ Face to Face figures had dropped during quarter one.

BT reported the solved crime rate had dropped which in turn will have caused RJ figures to go down and there had been some staff sickness within the RJ hubs which could have affected the figures. BT added the current RJ figures still remain above the national average.

KB also asked why the number of RJ Referrals had dropped during quarter one.

BT reported ultimately it still remains the victim's choice whether to take up RJ and the number of victims given information on RJ still shows good performance.

BT added the Sussex Restorative Justice Partnership is currently looking at a better RJ outcome to see how RJ has helped the victim cope and recover.

BT reported TR was not present to comment on Reducing Offending and Re-Offending performance figures.

JN reported there had been a huge reduction in the number of youths being charged and going through the criminal justice system.

PC reported the youth offending increase in Brighton and Hove was due to a difficult cohort of children but added he was satisfied the issue is being dealt appropriately.

PC reported Brighton and Hove City Council are looking at changing their Youth Board to an Adolescent Board up to the age of 25.

JN referred to the Lord Laming report which recommends the age of maturity should be increased to 24 – 25 year olds as it had been acknowledged the “mind” is still maturing. JD reported she had recently attended the Kent Reducing Re-Offending Board with Sam Newbould from KSS CRC and added there is a new analyst in post who is happy to share useful statistical information from youth to adolescent. Further information will be shared at the next Joint Reducing Re-Offending meeting/workshop scheduled for October 2017.

5. AOB

None

Close – Katy Bourne

KB thanked members for their time and input during the meeting.

Future Meetings:

Planning Workshop Wednesday 7th December – Surrey Police HQ – Schofield Room