

North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner

“Making the Connections”

Third Sector Engagement Event

20th February 2014

Post-Event Report

Event

On 20th February 2014 the North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner attended an event to engage with organisations within the voluntary and community services sector (also known as the third sector). The main purpose of the event was to consult with stakeholders on the 2014/15 Police and Crime Plan and also to consult on a newly developed Compact Agreement between the Commissioner and the third sector.

The event was held at Oriel House Hotel in St Asaph and had 70 attendees, representing 44 local and regional organisations. Appendix A shows a list of the organisations who attended and contributed to the consultation.

The purpose of this report is to feedback to contributors of that event about the key messages received and the changes that have resulted from those contributions.¹

Police and Crime Plan 2014/15

Feedback was sought from attendees about the proposed outcomes and objectives set out in the draft Police and Crime Plan. There are three identified outcomes:

- Security at home
- Safety in public places
- Visible and accessible policing

The four objectives were:

- Prevent Crime
- Deliver an appropriate response
- Reduce harm and the risk of harm
- Build effective partnerships

¹ Some contributors raised issues about operational policing matters on the day. Such concerns have been raised directly with North Wales Police.

Contributors noted that on the whole they were satisfied with the suggested objectives, but they needed more information about how the Police and Crime Commissioner arrived at them and what research/engagement had led him to set these in particular. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner will include information on the website where the plan is introduced, which gives further background information about the activities that the Commissioner has undertaken throughout the year to lead him to setting the current objectives.

It was suggested that “effective policing” should also be identified as an outcome of the Plan. Having considered this point and reviewed the Plan, the Police and Crime Commissioner agreed that it was important to have “effective policing” established as a goal within the Plan. The second of the four objectives was therefore amended to demonstrate this, and has now changed to “Deliver an effective response”. This change reflects the importance of promoting a policing response that works effectively in our communities.

A concern was raised that in the draft Police and Crime Plan the third sector were not specifically referenced as partners. The Third Sector are represented (through the voluntary services councils) on the Safer Communities Board which is referenced as a key partnership group. Also, as the Compact Agreement makes clear, the third sector are indeed an important and key partner for the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Some contributors felt it was not clear from the draft Plan how delivery and monitoring of delivery would take place. The North Wales Police work plan has now been appended to the Plan to show explicitly how delivery will take place. The Commissioner’s scrutiny and governance of the Force is published on the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner’s website, so stakeholders are able to see how the Commissioner holds North Wales Police Force to account for the delivery of the objectives set out in the Police and Crime Plan.

The Compact Agreement 2014/15

Attendees and key stakeholders were asked to comment on the suitability of the Compact Agreement and confirm its fitness for purpose.

Participants commented that generally the agreement is fine, but the engagement between the Police and Crime Commissioner and third sector organisations will need to be real and effective. They stated that the Third Sector needs to feel it’s a two-way dialogue. People felt that the Commissioner needs strong interactions with community groups to see how they can work in partnership effectively. Overall, participants were in agreement with the sentiment and proposals within the Compact, but felt that the true test will be seeing if those undertakings take place over the coming year.

Some said that there should be a protocol for third sector engagement along with a communications strategy. There should also be a process and methodology to deliver clear outcomes. It was argued that these factors are not necessarily evident within the draft Compact Agreement.

The Commissioner has now formally agreed a Communication and Engagement Policy under which the Compact Agreement sits. This policy provides some of the additional detail sought from participants around communication and delivery of outcomes. This policy is to be included as an appendix to the Compact Agreement.

This Compact Agreement is intended to formalise the relationship between the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Third Sector and to establish minimum standards for contact and engagement between the two. The outcome is yet to be measured. It's success or otherwise will be determined through the coming year's engagement activity and will be reported back at next year's event. We will then reflect on and learn from the year's experiences and feedback from the sector.

A Word from the Commissioner

As Police and Crime Commissioner I am grateful to all those who attended the event and/or provided separate feedback to inform both the Police and Crime Plan and the Compact Agreement. I have listened to your views.

It is essential that I have appropriate and effective engagement with third sector agencies as we go into a new financial and policing year. We need to work effectively in partnership and the year ahead presents many financial and operational challenges for us all.

I have a strategic outlook on policing, yet it is vital that I am able to see the view from the frontline; from those of you who are dealing at the operational end, helping and supporting victims, helping to reduce crime and keep communities safe. I thank you for your participation and look forward to meeting as many of you as possible over the next year. I will, of course, also continue to liaise with the 6 voluntary services councils to ensure I am receiving key views from across the sector.

1.	NWAMI
2.	Craig y Don Community Centre
3.	UNIQUE
4.	Private citizen
5.	Aberconwy Domestic Abuse Service
6.	Learning Disability Forum
7.	NACRO
8.	Hafal
9.	NWAAA
10.	ARC
11.	Clwyd Alyn
12.	Victim Support
13.	NWFA
14.	Chirk Town Council
15.	Sanctuary Trust
16.	Generations Together Cymru
17.	JIGSAW
18.	Old Colwyn East Residents Association
19.	Glyndwr University
20.	The Prince's Trust
21.	CVSC
22.	Vision Support
23.	UNIQUE
24.	NEWSA
25.	Private citizen
26.	Youth Justice
27.	Enterprising Communities Officer
28.	Age Cymru Gwynedd and Mon
29.	DCC Councillor
30.	Dyserth WI
31.	Denbighshire County Council
32.	Rhyl City Strategy
33.	RNIB Cymru
34.	Person Shaped Support (PSS)
35.	NACRO
36.	Cartrefi Conwy



37.	Resident
38.	RASASC NW
39.	CCG Board
40.	BAWSO
41.	DGDAS
42.	DVSC
43.	Mantell Gwynedd
44.	Medrwn Môn

