



Report to Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee 4th February 2016

Report of: Policy and Improvement Officer

Subject: Written responses to public questions

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Summary:

This report provides the Committee with copies of written responses to two public questions asked by Alan Kewley at the Committee's meeting on 3rd December 2015.

The written responses provided by Julia Cayless, Safer and Sustainable Communities Support Team Leader were sent to Alan Kewley on 16th December 2015.

The responses are included as part of the Committee's meeting papers as the way of placing the responses on the public record.

Type of item: The report author should tick the appropriate box

Reviewing of existing policy	
Informing the development of new policy	
Statutory consultation	
Performance / budget monitoring report	
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	
Community Assembly request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Briefing paper for the Scrutiny Committee	
Other	X

The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

Note the report

Background Papers: None

Category of Report: OPEN

Question

PACT Meetings: These started as Partners and Communities Together, but became Police only and then gradually withered away. South Yorkshire PCC has introduced a new Engagement Strategy which requires involvement from various Partners, including Councils.

How does Sheffield City Council plan to participate in these new Community Safety meetings?

Written Response

South Yorkshire Police and the Office of the PCC are in the process of outlining a new framework of community safety meetings for Sheffield. By building on existing community meetings, it is felt that engagement with local people can be maximised. It is likely that groups such as TARAs will already be working well with these groups and through other relevant officers such as locality management and housing liaison officers, strong links between these groups and Sheffield City Council will be formed.

Question

Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership: was set up as the Council's statutory Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, and publicity of meetings etc, was passed to Sheffield First. But their website is out of date and details of public meetings have not been available.

When will Sheffield Council ensure that the public is aware of these meetings and how they can participate?

Written Response

Community Safety Partnerships are made up of local organisations, primarily the police, the local authority, the probation services and the NHS. There is no statutory duty to allow the public to participate in the meetings, and public attendance and ability to ask questions is at the discretion of the Chairperson. Where it is possible to make details (for example, agenda and papers) of the meetings available in advance, they will be placed on the Sheffield First website.