

South Tipperary Safety and Security Partnership

Council Chamber, County Hall, Clonmel, 24/05/05

Present: Stephen O'Sullivan, Michael Collins, Gardai, Tadg Browne, Tenant Liaison Officer, Clonmel Borough Council, Tess Collins Tenant Liaison Officer, South Tipperary County Council, Sheila Collins, Liam Browne HSE, Antje Hogan Citizens Information Service, Catriona Crowe, Tenant Liaison Officer, Tipperary Town Council, Deirdre Hennessy, Tipperary Regional Youth Service, Mairead Ryan, Cashel Town Council, Mark Ryan, RAPID co-ordinator, Tipperary Town, Denis Holland, South Tipperary County Council, Pat Holland.

Apologies: Mary FitzGerald, AGS, Denis O'Brien, Foroige, Jean Nelson, RAPID Community Rep. Tipperary, Marie O'Gorman, Carrick-on-Suir Town Council,

Chairman: John Murphy, Probation and Welfare Service,

- 1) **Introductions and minutes:** Minutes of previous meeting were adopted (proposed Stephen O'Sullivan, seconded Tess Collins)
- 2) **Correspondence/Matters Arising:**
 - a) It was noted that the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government had reported that a certificate for the 'Crime Prevention through Environmental Design' process was now available to developers. The letter from the Partnership also urged that the process be applied to proposed local authority housing projects and it was noted that our letter had been passed onto those currently reviewing the Social Housing Design Guidelines (copy of letter attached).
- 3) **Review of Safety and Security Partnership:**
 - There was good inter-agency discussion
 - Progress had been made on estate design
 - The re-design of estates was now being discussed by local authorities
 - Estates see problems on a cyclical basis
 - Rural areas need to be focused on
 - Youth initiatives need to be focused on also
 - Community Reps from non-RAPID areas need to be included
 - The Second Chance Programme could be reviewed in the Autumn
 - The partnership is very good for mutual education
 - There is good networking but we need to become more proactive
 - We could focus on estate problems in particular towns
 - We should bring in outside expertise to inform us
 - Prevention is better than a cure, the reality is that in some estates intimidation is a constant factor
 - Generations of children being reared by those lacking parenting skills are an issue
 - The Fethard area needs a project especially for youth
 - Social, Rural and Community Employment Schemes may be a way to provide training in parenting/life/community skills to those in new estates.
 - How will we start up definite local projects?
 - We are creating estates but not communities, full of people lacking essential life skills
 - We should design very specific interagency interventions aimed at young parents and couples to equip them to live in local authority estates.
 - Housing allocation policies should be reviewed and poor maintenance is an issue also
 - ASBO's need to be discussed by the Partnership later when there is more information available
 - The Social Housing Guidelines of the Dept of Environment, Heritage and Local Government need to incorporate a requirement regarding the 'Crime Prevention through Environmental Design' process.
- 4) **Homelessness:** A regional approach to homelessness was now being implemented. Its key principles would be (a) client focused care plans created on an inter-agency basis and (B) an integrated response with a seamless delivery of service. The mechanisms (and differing definitions) of homelessness have to be reviewed. It is hoped to set up homelessness teams locally, involving all relevant agencies. An estimate of homelessness in the county would be c 50-70. Hostels may have been over-relied upon and independent living may be promoted more in the

future. A consultation will take place with the proposers of the works at Mulcahy House once the regional research is completed and the design may then change. Funding is now available for a homeless office in Clonmel but protocols for its staffing have to be completed.

- 5) **ASBOs:** This would be a topic for a meeting in the Autumn. They were a civil application in the UK, not a criminal matter. They restricted a person's movements but it is as yet unclear as to how they will fit into the anti-social behaviour definitions and provisions in existing legislation. They are less draconian than an exclusion order. They can be applied for on the basis of a confidential report by a member of the public which would assist those in fear of intimidation.
- 6) **Themes for future meetings:**
 - a) Estates in RAPID towns
 - b) Street Crime
 - c) Youth Issues and Facilities in the county
 - d) ASBOs
 - e) Creating new projects
 - f) Safety and Security in rural areas
 - g) Facilities for youth in the Fethard area
 - h) Review of the Second Chance Programme
 - i) Providing life skills to Local Authority tenants (or tenants to be)

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 13th September 2005, 10.00 – 12.30 in Clonmel, Conference Room, Co. Hall, Clonmel.

Theme: (Members should send back indications to me by the end of June as to which order they feel the issues above should be discussed and in particular, which should be the topic of the next meeting.