

South Tipperary Safety and Security Partnership
Meeting Report, 4th of May, 2004
Education Room, County Museum, Clonmel.

Present: John Murphy Probation and Welfare Service (chair), Sean Waltzer, James Lynch, Garda Siochana, William Power, Tess Collins, Housing Section, South Tipperary County Council, Mary Barron, FAS, Denis Holland, SEE, Planning Section, South Tipperary County Council, Pat. Holland, Community and Enterprise, Kathleen Prendergast, Clonmel RAPID co-ordinator.
Apologies: Michael Collins, Garda Siochana, Tipperary town, Jean Nelson, RAPID community representative Tipperary town, Caroline O'Herlihy, Clonmel Borough Council.

- 1) **Introductions and minutes:** Minutes of previous meeting were adopted (proposed Jim Lynch, seconded Mary Barry)
- 2) **Second Chance Programme** (outlined by Tess Collins)

South Tipperary Second Chance Programme

The Second Chance Programme is a proposed programme which

- Is a joint initiative of statutory bodies in the county
- Is intended to deal with issues, led by an inter-agency group, in a co-ordinated manner

Aims:

- Aims to identify issues and multi-faceted problems in housing estates which impact upon the wider community
- Aims to work with all those concerned, within an appropriate programme of personal development and existing resources, to deal with the issues concerned and so create a better quality of life in that location
- The initiative borrows from experience in Ballymun but adapts it to suit local needs and circumstances.

Structure

Working Group: a core group of representatives from the relevant agencies with the brief to

- agree on terms of reference and working procedures for the pilot programme for the *Management Review Team* to consider and then to
- work on the setting up of the *Intervention Team*.

Chair of meetings to rotate and notes of meetings to be taken by chair of next meeting. To meet regularly until Intervention Team starts operation and then as necessary to review the progress of the programme

Management Review Team: senior representatives from the relevant agencies with the brief to review the terms of reference, agree on their implementation, give the Intervention team authority to start the programme and review the progress of the programme. To include reps. from Co. Co., SEHB, GS, Probation and Welfare Service, Drugs Initiative to meet twice or three times a year to review reports from the Working Group.

Intervention Team:

Agency representatives already working on the ground in the chosen area working together within the terms of reference to effect the aims of the programme. Team to agree own procedures, chair etc.

The team will consist of:

Support Workers, Tenant Liaison Officer, Garda Liaison Officer, Drugs Worker, School Completion representative, Probation and Welfare Officer.

Others who may need to be part of the team:

Health Nurse, Home School Liaison Officer, FAS

Any other relevant persons who will be working with the participants

The Intervention team will agree on

- participants to be worked with

- access needs of the participants
- identify resources already available i.e. courses or skilled person's to work with participants.
- Will put a plan the programme to meet the needs of the participants

On these initiatives failing, allowing adequate time for the program to work, also realizing that all cases may be different and may require more or less time depending on the individuals or families, to complete the programme. However the Council will impose the final sanction but only when all efforts have been exhausted.

The Participants

Identified participants will be either individual family members or more than one, a parent or parents, the whole family.

Referrals will be brought through the various agency representatives. The community themselves directly to the team or through any of the agencies.

Additional comments by Committee

- How close are we to setting up an intervention team?
- Can voluntary bodies be involved (Yes but the issue of confidentiality arises)
- Referrals will be within the intervention group
- This is a pilot project only
- Clonmel Community Partnership should be included
- The town would be a better focus than rural areas but there is a greater need in rural areas.
- The intervention team will decide on priorities and methods.
- The members of the proposed intervention team should meet and review all, setting priorities and methods
- It might be advisable to get someone from an area with a similar project to speak to the team (eg Togher in Cork).
- Training and team-building may be needed for the Intervention Team but is there a budget? The members agreed that they would consider a document to be drawn up by the intervention team.

3) Actions/Recommendations

Action/Recommendation	Action Owner	Progress
The rule re: a link between liaison Gardai and Neighbourhood Watch be revised	Garda Siochana	
Representatives from Clonmel, Tipperary and Carrick-on-Suir Garda stations at meetings	Garda Siochana	In progress
The other local authorities adopt the measure agreed by Carrick-on-Suir Town Council whereby houses are offered to those on other lists so as to prevent them becoming vacant	Town Councils	In progress in Tipperary, Carrick, not needed in Clonmel
Damaged vacant houses repaired as a matter of urgency so as to prevent costly vandalism and anti-social behaviour	County Council	Housing section has a repair programme in progress
To invite Chambers of Commerce (Business Watch), Neighbourhood Watch and community alert groups to give submissions to main group on activities/progress to date. The basis of the submissions could be around a questionnaire.	PH to request	To be followed up for next meeting
To request Co. Council to implement basic safety/security measures in established housing for the elderly – even though grants are available e.g. security lighting, mortise locks front and back, safety chains, peep holes, window locks.	Housing Section, Co. Council	New houses have a much better specifications, old stock have to be addressed
To request relevant sections in Co Council to ensure basic measures for safety are included in <u>all</u> new houses.	County Council	Specifications are improving
To request Co Council to lobby for legislation to ensure that all contractors comply with safety and security standards as	County Council	

recommended in “Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Programme” of An Garda Siochana. There must be an incentive for the contractor e.g. recommend a percentage rebate on builders’ levy for those who comply.		
To request Co Council to lobby the Insurance Federation of Ireland to promote discounts for community group ordering of alarm systems.	County Council	
To promote the dissemination, through a variety of outlets, a checklist for home and personal security. This should be literacy friendly i.e. in cartoon format. This will require some funding.	PH to investigate	
To ask Co Council for establishment of estate management and support for community alert groups. These need to be integrated with youth projects and other projects in the community.	County Council	Tess Collins, Housing Liaison Officer working on this

4 Any other business:

1. The Draft Guidelines for Estate Design Policy would be part of the Development Plan and would therefore have legal authority.
2. The County Council Social Housing Guidelines are being reviewed by Tess Collins and William Power.
3. The issue of anti-social behaviour was discussed. It was noted that problems are now occurring in new developments, often among those tenants supported by rent supplements. Denis Holland noted that it was impossible to control the occupation of a building under planning permission controls.
4. Letting vacant houses: Cashel did not have a problem, Tipperary town was attempting to let vacant houses and Carrick was implementing an ad hoc tactic of seeking to let three bedroom houses to those on other lists where a three bedroom tenant was not available.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 6th July, 2004, 10.00 – 12.30 in Clonmel, Conference Room, Top Floor, County Hall