

# Item 2

## SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL AREA 5 FORUM

Town Council Offices,  
School Aycliffe Lane,  
Newton Aycliffe

Tuesday,  
14 March 2006

Time: 7.00 p.m.

**Present:** Councillor Mrs. A.M. Fleming (Chairman) – Sedgefield Borough Council  
and

Councillor Mrs. B.A. Clare	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor M.A. Dalton	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor R.S. Fleming	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor G.C. Gray	–	Sedgefield Borough Council/ Durham City Council
Councillor Mrs. J. Gray	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor J.P. Moran	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
J. Rodwell	–	Agnew Community Centre
Mrs. D. Bowman	–	Dales Neighbourhood Watch
Acting Sergeant S. Rogers	–	Durham Constabulary
Councillor Mrs. M. Gray	–	Great Aycliffe Town Council
Councillor A. Tomlin	–	Great Aycliffe Town Council
Councillor Mrs. S.A. Sinclair	–	Great Aycliffe Town Council
J. King	–	Patient Public Involvement Forum
M. Ogden	–	Sedgefield Forum
D. Rutherford	–	Sedgefield PCT
N. Porter	–	Sedgefield PCT

**Apologies:** Councillor W.M. Blenkinsopp - Sedgefield Borough Council

Councillor Mrs. J. Croft	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor V. Crosby	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor B. Hall	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor K. Henderson	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor M. Iveson	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor Mrs. E.M. Paylor	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor J.K. Piggott	–	Sedgefield Borough Council
Councillor C. Wheeler	–	Great Aycliffe Town Council
Councillors Mrs. M. Dalton	–	Great Aycliffe Town Council
Councillor Mrs. A. Clarke	–	Middridge Parish Council

**AF(5)24/05      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
No declarations of interest were received.

**AF(5)25/05      MINUTES**  
The Minutes of the meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2006 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**AF(5)26/05      POLICE REPORT**  
Acting Sergeant Simon Rogers was present at the meeting to give details of the crime statistics for the area as set out below :

	<u>December</u>	<u>January</u>
Burglary - Dwellinghouse	6	6
Burglary – Other	5	6
Robbery	2	3
Criminal Damage	60	50
Vehicle Crime	11	9
Theft from Vehicle	5	2
Theft - Shoplifting	13	9
Theft - Total	48	41
<b><u>Anti-Social Behaviour</u></b>		
Rowdy/Inconsiderate Behaviour		140
Rowdy/Nuisance – Environment/Damage/Litter		19
Rowdy/Nuisance - Neighbours		26
	<b>Total :</b>	<b>185</b>
Youth Related Calls		36

Clarification was sought regarding the situation in respect of the force structure and in particular Beat Sergeants. Acting Sergeant Rogers explained that there was one combined Beat Sergeant for the Aycliffe and Shildon area. and that he was acting as Beat Sergeant. He also explained that Steve Ball was the Acting Inspector in place of Inspector Andy Neal who had been seconded to undertake a project.

Discussion was held regarding communications. It was explained with the new software, call handlers would ask appropriate questions and any call history, which could result in some delay. However, 999 emergency calls should not encounter difficulties.

Reference was also made to vandalism and anti-social behaviour which had occurred that afternoon in the Whinlatter Place area.

#### **AF(5)27/05**

#### **SEDGEFIELD PCT - PROGRESS UPDATE**

Nigel Porter and David Rutherford attended the meeting to give an update on local health matters.

Reference was made to the White Paper, “Our Health, Our Care, Our Say” which had recently been published in relation to improving the health of people. The Minister for Health had visited the region to discuss the Paper and the need to bring services together across local authorities.

Mr. Porter also reported that the Chief Executive of the NHS had left the organisation. Re-organisation was still ongoing in relation to the provision of local services. Proposals for Primary Care Trusts were to be submitted

to the Department for Health on 22<sup>nd</sup> March. The outcome would be known in April. The message was still for strong localities to be maintained.

The Forum was informed that the Health Care Commission had undertaken an inspection that day of the PCT and a report would be prepared detailing the outcome of the inspection. The inspection had, however, been positive.

Reference was also made to a possible flu pandemic and it was explained that the PCT was preparing for a flu pandemic and planning a response, etc.

During discussion of this item concerns were raised regarding pre-bookable appointments at Doctors surgeries and the inability on occasions to be able to book an appointment several days in advance. The situation was to be reviewed.

**AF(5)28/05 PATIENT PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT FORUM**

Miss J. King and Ms. M. Ogden were present at the meeting to give a presentation regarding the public involvement in health services in Sedgfield Borough.

It was explained that the Patient and Public Involvement Forum had been set up to help the public have a greater input into decisions that affect your health and the health of local communities.

Members were informed that there were 572 Patient and Public Involvement Forums nationally representing each Primary Care Trust and NHS Trust in England. The Forums consisted of local people who worked on a voluntary basis and had powers and duties enshrined in law.

Reference was made to the proposed re-organisation of the NHS. It was explained that if a single countywide PCT was established the PPI Forums would need to be restructured.

It was reported that the PPI Forums had a number of roles including obtaining the views of their local communities about health services and making recommendations and reports to the PCT to help improve services.

It was pointed out that PPI Forums had the right to visit or inspect any service managed or commissioned by the PCT providing a patient had raised a concern. The PCT were required to respond to recommendations by the Forum or request for information within 20 working days.

The PPI Forums also had the power to refer a matter to Durham County Council Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

It was explained that PPI Sedgfield had eight members. There was a good working relationship with Sedgfield PCT, which was committed to consultation.

Forum meetings were held on a monthly basis and included both public and private meetings.

Public meetings were advertised through the display of posters and the local press.

Members were given details of some of the work undertaken by PPI Forum Sedgefield.

Anyone interested in becoming a Forum Member or would like to find out more about the Forum were advised to contact the Forum Co-ordinator.

**AF(5)29/05**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting to be held on 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2006.

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