



GMPA IN PARTNERSHIP

Introduction

In October 2009, Greater Manchester Police Authority (GMPA) co-ordinated a partnership seminar called Understanding the Partnership Landscape in Greater

Manchester. The seminar was aimed at bringing partners together to discuss how they can work together more effectively, making best use of the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA), its commissions and the City Region work.

The Seminar

GMPA chairman Cllr Paul Murphy opened the partnership session which was held at the Police Authority's base at Salford Civic Centre. He was followed by four speakers who each delivered a presentation and received questions from the attendees. The latter part of the seminar saw delegates discuss a number of issues including local accountability and what this means to partners, and how partnerships can be strengthened and improved.

SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

- **Peter Fahy** Greater Manchester Police Chief Constable. Mr Fahy spoke about AGMA's Public Protection Commission (PPC).
- **Cllr Sam Cohen** Bury Metropolitan Council Executive Member for Safe and Secure Communities and AGMA PPC representative. Cllr Cohen covered the changing crime and disorder reduction partnerships landscape from a BurySafe perspective.
- **Cllr David Lancaster** GMPA Elected Member for Salford and Police Authority lead for local partnerships. Cllr Lancaster holds Salford City Council's Crime and Disorder portfolio. His presentation was about local accountability.
- **Barbara Spicer** Chief Executive of GMPA and Salford City Council. The Chief Executive presented information about City Region work.

What We Said



There was some lively debate during the course of the seminar and a wide range of important issues were raised and discussed. One of the first to hit the

radar was AGMA and how it communicates strategic information to local partnerships. Questions were also asked about Comprehensive Area Assessments. Are they based on opinion or evidence and how relevant are they to partners? Under the theme of partnerships in general, delegates discussed the involvement, learning and ownership of partnerships. They admitted there is a lack of trust and confidence across some agencies to get involved in partnership working despite the requirements on organisations to work together. Crime and Disorder

Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) were also touched upon and attendees highlighted the need for the sharing of good practice and a consistent approach where CDRPs operate. It was felt that the introduction of a Greater Manchester forum made up of chairs of CDRPs may assist in achieving consistency where appropriate. Neighbourhood management was another topic which came to the forefront. It was agreed that successful neighbourhood management is achieved when all partners including local people are engaged and informed. In talks about other subjects, attendees didn't have all the answers. For example, what is the definition of local accountability? What is local? Who is accountable to whom? In relation to expectations, how are public expectations managed and what are the implications for the training needs of officers involved in local service delivery? Although many questions were left unanswered at the close of the seminar, feedback was positive. Attendees felt the session provided an important platform for much-needed discussions and GMPA is now exploring the option of co-ordinating future events.

What We'll Do

Before the close of the seminar, a series of actions was agreed. They have now been incorporated into the GMPA Partnership Strategy delivery plan which is monitored by the Police Authority. This can be found in the Publications section of the GMPA website (www.gmpa.gov.uk). Issues reported will also be shared with AGMA's PPC and Greater Manchester Against Crime (GMAC). Here's the detail of the actions:

- Develop mechanisms for communication between all partners and partnerships within the City Region.
- Investigate the implications for police accountability within a wider partnership arena.
- Explore and develop better ways of using information from local partnerships to influence strategic business planning processes within organisations.
- Prioritise key crime and disorder issues and concentrate on them across Greater Manchester.
- Provide a forum in which key partners can discuss crime and disorder issues raised through AGMA's PPC.

The Future

GMPA is keen to ascertain partners' views on future discussion sessions and a short questionnaire has been established to help capture opinions. Please take a few minutes to complete the questions below. Completed forms should be returned to Rachael Storey, GMPA Partnerships Officer. Rachael's direct phone number is **0161 793 3136**. Her email address is rachael.storey@gmpa.gov.uk

Question One

Do you think partnership discussion sessions in the future would be useful? Yes No

Question Two

If you attended the October event, did you find it useful? Yes No

Question Three

Please provide the reasons for your answer to Question Two?

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Question Four

If future events are delivered, which themes or issues do you think should be discussed?

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Question Five

Which organisations do you feel should be represented at future events?

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If you would like to discuss your views on future partnership events please contact Rachael using the contact details above.

