
CONNECTING THREE RIVERS

(FORMERLY LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP AND COMMUNITY SAFETY BOARD)

MINUTES

**Of a meeting held in the Penn Chamber, Three Rivers House, Rickmansworth, on 18 June 2026
from 10.00am - 11.37am.**

Present: Councillors

Councillor Louise Price (Chair)

TRDC officers in attendance:

Shivani Dave, Partnerships & Inclusion Manager
Michelle Wright, Community Safety & Safeguarding Manager
Kimberley Grout, Associate Director – Corporate, Customer & Community
Joanne Wagstaffe, Chief Executive
Katie Stacey, Corporate Services Manager
Jason Hagland, Strategic Housing Manager
Freddy Chester, Partnerships Officer
Rachael Sheppard, Partnership Support Officer
Anita Hibbs, Committee Officer

External attendance:

Kips Green, SfYP Hertfordshire County Council
Rebecca Palmer, New Hope
Joe Meehan, New Hope
Saffron Johnson, Watford & Three Rivers Trust
Brad Hughes, South West Herts Secondary Schools
Councillor Tim Williams, Hertfordshire County Council
Ben Harper, Hertfordshire Constabulary
Paul Richmond, Chime Housing
Rob Smith, Watford FC Community Sports & Education Trust
Elizabeth Borg, Community Learning Partnership
Jane Woollard, Home Group
Amy Higham, TRDC Work Experience

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES

Attendees were welcomed to the meeting and introduced themselves.

Apologies for absence were received from Danielle Levy, Paraic McKenna and Eleanor Makoni.

2. VOTING OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

The Associate Director for Corporate, Customer & Community nominated Councillor Louise Price to be Chair of the board and Danielle Levy as Vice Chair of the board for the 2026/27 municipal year.

Councillor Tim Williams seconded the nominations.

There were no other nominations and Councillor Louise Price was declared Chair of the board and Danielle Levy as Vice Chair of the board for 2026/27.

3. MINUTES AND ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS CONNECTING THREE RIVERS MEETING

Councillor Price expressed her thanks to former Councillor Sarah Nelmes for her many years of service as Councillor and Chair of the board.

The minutes of the Connecting Three Rivers meeting, held on 18 March 2026 were confirmed as a correct record.

The Partnerships & Inclusion Manager provided an update on the Crisis and Resilience Fund. Following the workshop at the last meeting, an application for funding was submitted to Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) which was successful. The funding will contribute towards the recruitment of a Community Resilience Officer who will be developing a new healthy hub and provide support to improve financial resilience.

4. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION - DEVOLUTION

The Partnerships & Inclusion Manager delivered a brief recap on LGR and a presentation on devolution.

The Chief Executive of TRDC provided an update on the devolution, highlighting the commitment of all the Hertfordshire local authorities. The devolution process has slowed down, and further steps are needed to move forward with the plan.

5. TRDC'S COUNCIL PLAN

The Corporate Services Manager and the Strategic Housing Manager delivered a presentation.

In response to a question about services for the ageing population, the officer explained that housing provision should consider the types of properties being delivered across the district, particularly adaptable homes with features such as wet rooms, as well as properties designed from the outset to meet specific disability needs. The Partnerships Officer advised that the Partnerships team is working with Age UK on the countywide Age Friendly Communities initiative to identify locations for walking audits and encourage businesses to make space available for older people to sit and rest. Support is also available through in-person services at the Healthy Hub and by telephone for residents who are housebound. The Community Safety & Safeguarding Manager also referred to the delivery plan for a dementia-friendly community accreditation.

6. WATFORD & THREE RIVERS TRUST

Saffron Johnson from Watford & Three Rivers Trust delivered a detailed presentation.

Elizabeth Borg expressed her thanks to the trust for their continued support to Community Learning Partnership.



W3RT & Three Rivers
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7. OUTCOME FROM CONNECTING THREE RIVERS FUNDING AWARDED TO NEW HOPE TRUST

Rebecca Palmer from New Hope delivered a presentation outlining the holistic care provided to the community through the grant funding received through the Connecting Three Rivers Fund and discussed two case studies.



TRDC Presentation
New Hope show.ppsx

8. CONNECTING THREE RIVERS FUND

The Partnerships & Inclusion Manager provided an update on the projects and initiatives delivered through last year's funding. The officer also highlighted an upcoming fundraising event, a quiz night on 23 July at Sarratt Village Hall, and encouraged Board members to attend, volunteer and promote it.

9. HERTFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY

Inspector Ben Harper provided an update on the positive crime detection outcomes achieved since last year's changes at the constabulary, as well as the priorities and plans for the year ahead. Key priorities include burglary, challenging retail crime, antisocial behaviour, civil injunctions, violence against women and girls, and hate crime.

ASB and retail crime have increased slightly, while robbery and vehicle crime are trending down, although moped theft has risen in one part of the district. Violent offences have also increased locally, but a significant proportion are common assaults involving individuals who know each other. In response to a question about the 'Shop Safe' initiative, the Inspector explained that the force is exploring a neighbourhood watch-style approach for the high street, linking shops through radios and CCTV in Stevenage to enable rapid communication with the force control room. This would also allow pubs to alert one another about disruptive groups. Shop Safe also includes an app that enables retailers to record and share crime information with other businesses on the high street. The Community Safety and Safeguarding Manager added that the Community Safety team has an action plan based on these strategic priorities, with partner activity feeding into it. The officer suggested providing an update on the action plan at the next meeting. **Action - Community Safety & Safeguarding Manager**

10. COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATES

i. County Community Safety Unit – update:

Michael Nadasdy provided an update. The team is currently preparing the drugs market profile. The CSP survey has recently closed, and the data is now being analysed. The findings are expected to be available in six to eight weeks. The first meeting on home takeovers, formerly known as cuckooing, went well. In response to a question about sharing information on how to identify cuckooing, the speaker explained that the

Hertfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board task and finish project group produced best-practice guidance, and the Cuckooing Joint Strategic Needs Assessment highlighted the value of a lead group to coordinate this work. A key focus will be education and information for frontline professionals, alongside public awareness campaigns. An informative video, produced with Hertfordshire Partnership Foundation Trust, explains how to recognise the signs of cuckooing and what action to take. The video is being finalised and will be shared with frontline professionals across the county. Further work is still needed to help the public identify cuckooing.



CCSU RAG Update -
June 2026.pdf

ii. Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner – Digital update

The officers was not present; the update will be circulated to board members.



OPCC RAG briefing
May 2026.pdf

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Kips Green from SfYP Hertfordshire County Council expressed his gratitude to Inspector Harper and his team for their quick response to the break-in at the West Hyde Young People Centre.

12. NEXT MEETING DATES

16 September 2026
10 December 2026
18 March 2027

General Enquiries: Please contact the Committee Team at
committeeteam@threerivers.gov.uk