

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
(Meeting as the Crime and Disorder Committee)

Wednesday, 4th February, 2015

10.00 am

**Darent Room, Sessions House, County Hall,
Maidstone**





AGENDA

CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 4th February, 2015, at 10.00 am Ask for: **Joel Cook**
Darent Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Telephone: **03000 416749**
Maidstone

Membership

Conservative (6): Mr R J Parry (Chairman), Mr J E Scholes (Vice-Chairman),
Mr E E C Hotson, Mr A J King, MBE, Mr L B Ridings, MBE and
Mrs P A V Stockell

UKIP (2) Mr H Birkby and Mr R A Latchford, OBE

Labour (2) Mr G Cowan and Mr R Truelove

Liberal Democrat (1): Mrs T Dean, MBE

Church Mr D Brunning, Mr Q Roper and Mr A Tear

Representatives (3):

Parent Governor (2): Mr P Garten and Mr G Lawrie

Tea/coffee will be available 15 minutes before the start of the meeting

County Councillors who are not Members of the Committee but who wish to ask questions at the meeting are asked to notify the Chairman of their questions in advance.

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UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

(During these items the meeting is likely to be open to the public)

A - Committee Business

- A1 Introduction/Webcast Announcement
- A2 Substitutes
- A3 Declarations of Interests by Members in items on the Agenda for this Meeting
- A4 Community Safety Agreement 2014 - 17 (Pages 5 - 46)

EXEMPT ITEMS

(At the time of preparing the agenda there were no exempt items. During any such items which may arise the meeting is likely NOT to be open to the public)

Peter Sass
Head of Democratic Services
03000 416647

Tuesday, 27 January 2015

Timing of items as shown above is approximate and subject to change.

By: Joel Cook (Scrutiny Research Officer)
To: Crime and Disorder Committee – 4th February 2015
Subject: Community Safety Agreement

Summary: This report briefly explains the background of Community Safety Agreements and the development of Kent's Agreement. This report also seeks to outline the Committee's should effectively scrutinise the Kent Community Safety Agreement.

1. Community Safety Agreements

- 1.1 Community Safety Agreements (CSAs) are mandatory for two tier authorities and are used by the Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) to meet their statutory duty under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended by the Police and Justice Act 2006). Additionally, the 2006 Act required CSPs to include anti-social behaviour (ASB) and substance abuse within their strategies. The Police and Crime Act 2009 added reducing reoffending to the areas to be addressed by CSPs.
- 1.2 The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 revised the 1998 Act, altering the manner in which District and Borough Council evaluated their Community Safety arrangements. The previous method of three yearly audits was replaced with an annual strategic, triennial partnership plan and public consultations. These district/borough level assessments feed into the higher authority's CSP and influence the Community Safety Agreement.
- 1.3 The broad range of public safety considerations addressed by CSPs requires joint work from the partners that serve as responsible authorities:
 - Police
 - District and Borough Councils
 - County Council,
 - Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs)
 - Fire and Rescue Service
 - Relevant Probation company
- 1.4 The CSA draws together the key strategic aims of all the relevant services in the crime, disorder and public safety sectors, promoting a joint approach that enables more effective and co-ordinated inter-agency planning that will result in improved outcomes.

1.5 Each CSA reflects its own areas priorities based on needs assessment and shared intelligence between the partner agencies. Since the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) Community Safety Partnerships must give due regard to the PCC's Police and Crime Plan. The strategic assessments undertaken by local Community Safety Partnerships are reviewed for common issues and priorities, which are then consulted on with relevant stakeholders to confirm their inclusion in the CSA. This engagement with stakeholders also provides opportunities for gaps to be identified and broader cross-cutting themes to be taken into account.

2. Kent Community Safety Agreement

2.1 Responsibility for delivering the CSA priorities rests with the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP). The KCSP agreed the 2014-17 Community Safety Agreement document in July 2014 and approved the development of its associated action plan which detail what work would be undertaken to achieve the achieve the desired outcomes.

2.2 The Kent CSP agreed, at its October meeting, to include additional performance monitoring managed by the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) and relevant priority leads from the partner agencies. Any points of concern or anomalies would be reported to the KCSP for consideration.

2.3 The priorities included within Kent's CSA are:

- Domestic Abuse
- Road Safety
- Substance Misuse
- Anti-social Behaviour
- Acquisitive Crime
- Violent Crime

2.4 Details of the relevant Leads for each priority are contained within the main CSA document along with outlines of why each priority was selected. Additionally the action plan provides more information on the related actions being undertaken to deliver the priority outcomes including a set of cross-cutting themes and safeguarding issues.

2.5 The Kent Community Safety Agreement also works to deliver against the countywide ambitions detailed in the Vision for Kent 2012-22; to grow the economy, to tackle disadvantage and to put citizens in control. The core focus on effective partnership working embedded within the Kent Community Safety Partnership and the Agreement reflect the need for continued joint working with relevant agencies to meet the needs of Kent's communities.

3. Committee Role

- 3.1 The Scrutiny Committee is required to meet in the form of the Crime and Disorder Committee to review and scrutinise work undertaken by relevant partner agencies and authorities responsible for managing crime and disorder in the County. This duty arises from the Police and Justice Act 2006 which introduced Crime and Disorder Committees to fulfil this scrutiny function.
- 3.2 The Committee exists as a 'critical friend' of the Community Safety Partnership, considering the strategic level approach on crime and disorder and should not seek to challenge operation level actions.
- 3.3 Reviewing, considering and commenting on the Community Safety Agreement and its associated action plan serves as a constructive approach for the Committee to fulfil its statutory requirement to scrutinise the strategic activity in the arena of crime and disorder. The focus of the Committee's scrutiny should be on the collective work of the partnership rather than the activities of the individual agencies.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 The Committee may resolve to:
- Note the Community Safety Agreement and make no comment.
 - Make comment on the Community Safety Agreement and its action plan.
 - Offer recommendations to one or more of the responsible authorities.

Background Documents:

Kent County Council - Kent Community Safety Agreement 2011 – 14

http://www.kent.gov.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0019/6184/Kent-community-safety-agreement-2011-14.pdf

Kent County Council – Vision for Kent

http://www.kent.gov.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/5475/Vision-for-Kent-2012-2022.pdf

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2014-17

Kent Community
Safety Agreement

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Foreword

As Chair of the Kent Community Safety Partnership I am pleased to present the new Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) for 2014/17.

The Community Safety Agreement sets out how partners in Kent will work together to address the key community safety priorities for the County, identifying the shared objectives and outcomes required to improve the lives of the people of Kent. Whilst enforcement of the law will always play a major part in community safety, much can be done to prevent problems before they arise and a great deal of effort is devoted to supporting vulnerable people and their families, tackling issues of substance misuse, improving road safety and improving security of people's homes. A major part of crime and disorder reduction can be achieved through considering and addressing the causes. The root causes include social issues of poverty, poor education attainment and training opportunities, unemployment and drug and alcohol misuse. Striving towards stronger communities, helping people become active citizens and improving personal responsibility in the community also contributes to improving community safety

This agreement replaces the 2011-14 CSA which included an action plan to help tackle the key priorities for the County and I am pleased to say much progress has been made by partners over the last three years, with a number of key achievements, with one example being the creation of a Kent & Medway Domestic Abuse Services website enabling both professionals and members of the public to find and access the services they need. This website has attracted an enormous volume of traffic since being launched and has enabled clear links to services to be highlighted for victims and professionals.

Since the last agreement there have been many changes in the world of community safety from changing legislation, agency restructures and the introduction of a Police and Crime Commissioner, however the challenging economic landscape remains an ongoing concern and all agencies and services are continuing to look at the opportunities this presents in applying new methods of service delivery and resourcing. This agreement outlines an opportunity for partners to focus their limited resources towards jointly delivering against the partnership priorities.

The success of this agreement can only be achieved through delivery of the action plans, which will not be possible without the considerable support of partner agencies at both district/borough and county level, as well as non-statutory organisations and

the voluntary sector which are vital in providing the services required to deliver the identified priorities and I would like to thank them for their continued support.

Mike Hill OBE

Chair Kent Community Safety Partnership

Cabinet Member for Community Services

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Community Safety Agreement (CSA) for 2014-17 outlines the key community safety priorities for Kent and replaces the previous agreement which expired on 31st March 2014.
- 1.2. The CSA is mandatory for two tier authorities such as Kent and helps us to meet our statutory duty under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended by the Police and Justice Act 2006) in which responsible authorities are required to consider crime and disorder in the exercise of all their duties.
- 1.3. This agreement aims to develop a more joined-up approach to public service delivery, to enable more effective and co-ordinated strategic planning across partner agencies and to ensure sustainable and lasting improvements in delivering outcomes. It recognises that community safety issues do not always respect district boundaries, and that coordination of effort can lead to economies of scale, joined up working, and more effective outcomes.
- 1.4. The agreement also aims to deliver against the three countywide ambitions set out in the Vision for Kent 2012-22: to grow the economy; to tackle disadvantage; and to put citizens in control. These ambitions cannot be achieved without the commitment and contribution of all partners through their own delivery plans and strategies as well as multi-agency agreements such as the Kent Community Safety Agreement.
- 1.5. Whilst Medway Unitary Authority does not form part of this agreement, it does undertake a similar process, suitable for single tier authorities, which will include an annual strategic assessment of their community safety issues and production of a Community Safety Plan. Where appropriate, partners in Kent and Medway will work collaboratively to tackle common priorities.

2. Legislation

- 2.1. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 gave statutory responsibility to local authorities, the police, and key partners to reduce crime and disorder in their communities. Under this legislation the responsible authorities (commonly referred to now as Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), were required to carry out three yearly audits and to implement crime reduction strategies.
- 2.2. The Police and Justice Act 2006 introduced scrutiny arrangements in the form of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee, as well as introducing a number of amendments to the 1998 Act including the addition of anti-social behaviour (ASB) and substance misuse within the remit of the CSP strategies. Reducing reoffending was subsequently added by the Policing and Crime Act 2009.
- 2.3. The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 set out further revisions to the 1998 Act, the most notable of which at district/borough level was the replacement of three yearly audits with an annual strategic assessment, triennial partnership plan and public consultations. For two tier authorities such as Kent, the statutory Community Safety Agreement was introduced.

3. Changes to the Community Safety Landscape

Since the 2011-14 Community Safety Agreement came into effect, there have been many changes both nationally and locally that impact upon the work of partners involved in community safety.

Changes to Legislation

- 3.1. Domestic Homicide Reviews: The requirement for Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) to conduct Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) came into effect on 13th April 2011 and in Kent and Medway it was agreed that these would be commissioned by the Kent Community Safety Partnership on behalf of local CSPs including Medway CSP. The process is managed and administered by the Community Safety Unit at KCC. The DHR process has been developed and enhanced over the last three years and continues to involve input from a wide variety of partners from across the county and beyond.
- 3.2. Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC): The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 introduced directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) to replace Police Authorities in England and Wales. This brought with it a requirement for the PCC to have regard to the priorities of the responsible authorities making up the CSPs and for those authorities to have regard to the police and crime objectives set out in the Police and Crime Plan. The legislation also brought with it a mutual duty for the PCC and the responsible authorities to act in co-operation with each other in exercising their respective functions.
- 3.3. Health: Under the Health and Social Care Act 2012, Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) were replaced with Clinical Commissioning Groups and are now a responsible authority within community safety partnerships (CSPs). In addition, the responsibility for Public Health now sits within upper tier and unitary authorities. Close partnership working with the CCGs and Public Health will be an important element in tackling some of the priorities such as substance misuse.
- 3.4. Anti-Social Behaviour: The new Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, received royal assent on 13th March 2014. The bill aims to introduce

simpler more effective powers to tackle anti-social behaviour to provide better protection for victims and communities including a new Community Trigger and Community Remedy which will give people a greater say in how agencies respond to complaints. Partners will be working on assessing the impacts of the new legislation and implementing the changes during 2014/15.

National Drivers

3.5. **Troubled Families Programme:** The programme was launched by the Prime Minister in 2011. Troubled families are those that have problems and cause problems to the community around them, putting high costs on the public sector. The government is committed to working with local authorities and their partners to help 120,000 troubled families in England turn their lives around by 2015. As part of the Troubled Families programme, the government will work alongside local authorities to: get children back into school, reduce youth crime and anti-social behaviour, put adults on a path back to work and reduce the high costs these families place on the public sector each year. This programme has been implemented across Kent with partners working to engage and support affected families with the ultimate aim to improve community safety and reduce the impact on local services.

Partnership Changes and Pressures

3.6. **Transformation of the Probation Service:** Kent Probation is a responsible authority within community safety partnerships (CSPs), but nationally probation is undergoing transformation to fundamentally change the way offenders are managed in the community in order to bring down reoffending rates. With effect from 1st June 2014 Kent Probation will be replaced by the National Probation Service and the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC). New working arrangements are being established and these changes may alter current partnership arrangements within CSPs.

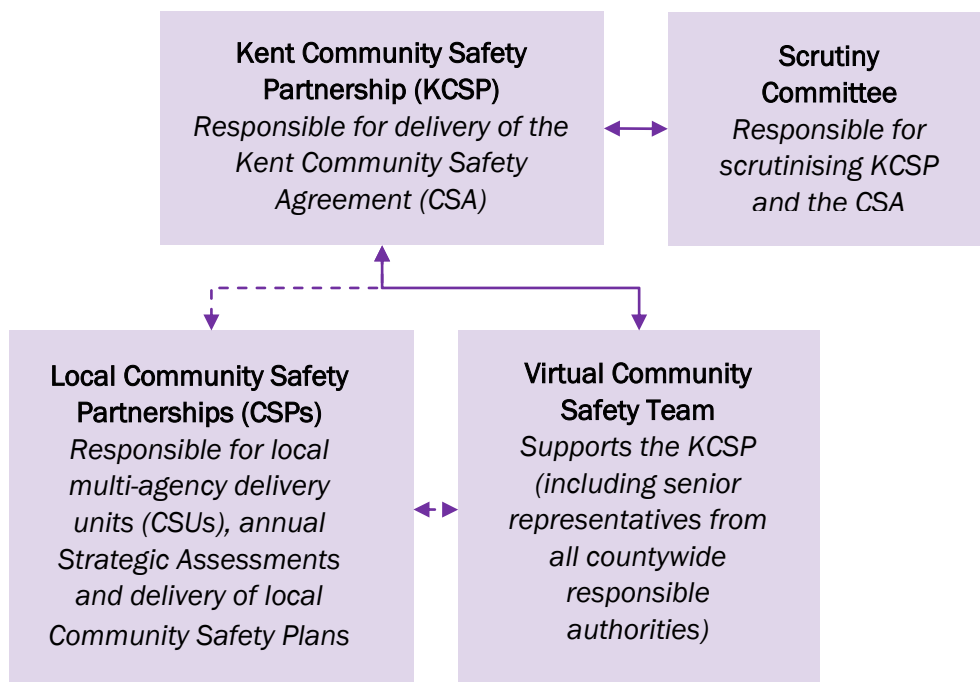
3.7. **Budget Pressures:** Community safety grant funding from the Government has been absorbed into the general policing grant and is now commissioned by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). In the latest refresh of the Police and Crime Plan, the PCC has committed to providing funding to the Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) for the next three years to enable longer term planning for delivery of community safety activities. The funding has been protected as far as possible, however it does take into account reductions in overall funding. In addition, to the cuts to the Community Safety Fund all partners across the public sector will be subject to ongoing financial cuts over the next few years and at a time of reduced resources, there is an even greater need for effective partnership working to ensure that we can continue to address the priorities identified in the most efficient and effective way.

4. Governance

- 4.1. The Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) is responsible for the delivery of the Kent Community Safety Agreement priorities, with membership taken from senior officers across statutory partners (see below), local Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Chairs and the County Council portfolio holder.

The Responsible Authorities are:- Kent Police, District & Borough Councils, Kent County Council, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), Kent Fire & Rescue Service and **Kent, Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company** (from 1st June 2014)

- 4.2. The Kent Community Safety Partnership will be supported by a virtual Community Safety team consisting of senior representatives from all the countywide statutory partners. The virtual team will developed along with the actions plans for delivery.
- 4.3. The statutory partners aim to deliver effectively and efficiently the priorities outlined in this agreement and to comply with statutory responsibilities.
- 4.4. The Scrutiny Committee will also serve as the Crime and Disorder Committee as required and therefore will have a statutory responsibility to review and scrutinise delivery of the Community Safety Agreement.



5. Key Achievements for 2011-14

During 2011-14 the key priorities identified as those with the potential to benefit from being supported at a county level included Domestic Abuse, Substance Misuse, Violent Crime, Acquisitive Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour and Road Safety. These priorities have been addressed over the last three years through a partnership action plan that outlined the key aims of the agreement and ensured a coordinated approach by linking into existing multi-agency partnership arrangements where possible. Progress made by partners during this time has been monitored and reported to the Kent Community Safety Partnership on a regular basis, some of the key achievements include:

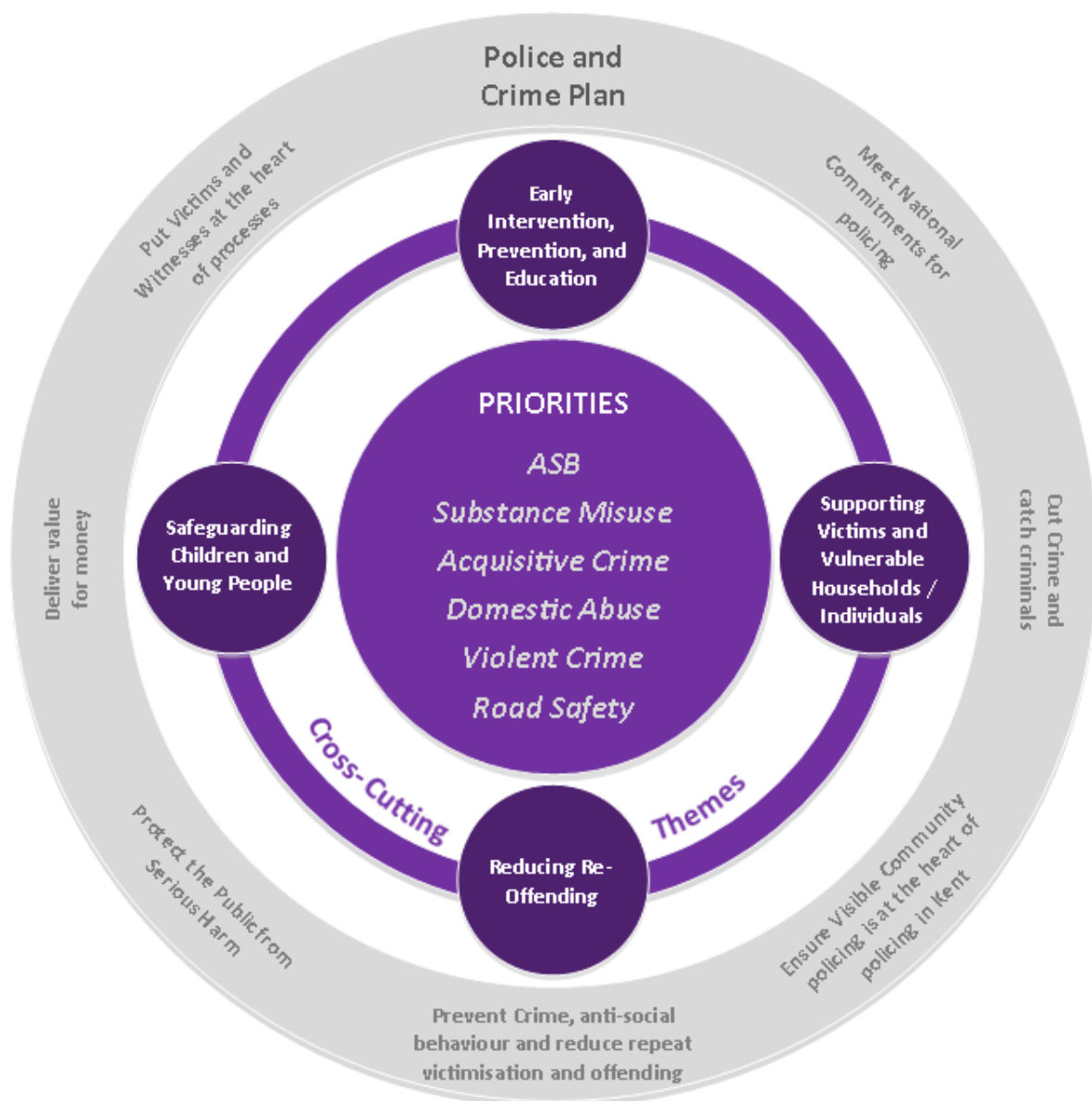
- Development of an ASB strategy for Kent and Medway outlining the minimum standards of service delivery to ensure consistency in reporting and dealing with ASB issues across all agencies.
- Development of a countywide ASB case management to enable data sharing across agencies in relation to incidents and actions taken. This is currently in use by Kent Police and will be rolled out to partners during 2014.
- Creation of a website providing guidance and support for all involved in domestic abuse through one generic pathway, including details of all the available services in Kent and Medway, enabling both professionals and members of the public to find and access those services (www.domesticabuseservices.org.uk). Between January and December 2013 over 9,000 people visited the website in excess of 12,000 times, whilst the Kent and Medway IDVA service reported that between July and December 2013, of the 365 calls to their helpline, 24% of their callers found the details on the website.
- Establishment of a sustainable domestic abuse budget with a centralised joint commissioning process to ensure funding and operational commitment is ongoing and consistent with a particular focus on funding for Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs).

- Delivery of three lessons learnt seminars to cascade the learning from the completed domestic homicide reviews (DHRs) to front line practitioners.
- Establishment and promotion of the Alcohol and Cannabis Penalty Notice diversion scheme, to encourage treatment and divert people from the criminal justice system.
- Provision of training programmes, guidance and advice to promote road safety, including the planned development of an educational centre providing essential road safety skills for young people across the county.

Whilst the CSA action plan sets out how partners aim to address the overarching priorities across the county, each local CSP in Kent has their own community safety plan and associated initiatives aimed at tackling the most relevant issues for their residents.

6. County Priorities 2014-17

- 6.1. To help identify the overarching community safety priorities for Kent, a wide variety of datasets were sourced from partner agencies and have been analysed to ascertain the key issues. This was followed by a workshop with partners to identify any potential gaps as well as possible cross-cutting themes for inclusion in the agreement.
- 6.2. At a local level the eleven Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) across Kent have undertaken their annual strategic assessments to identify the priorities for their own district/borough community safety plans. The outcomes of these assessments reflect the key issues identified at a county level with some additional issues to be focussed upon locally.
- 6.3. The result of the analysis and consultation indicates that the priorities identified in the previous agreement should remain, and will continue to benefit from support at a county level. The priorities for Kent are: Acquisitive Crime; Anti-Social Behaviour; Domestic Abuse; Road Safety; Substance Misuse; and Violent Crime. These will however be subject to annual review and may be amended during the three year period of the agreement if appropriate.
- 6.4. In addition to the priorities, the previous CSA also included a number of cross-cutting themes to be addressed within each priority as appropriate. Consultation and discussion with partners indicates that retaining the majority of the themes would still be of benefit provided they are embedded in the actions plans, with the addition of victim support. As such the following themes will be included: Early intervention, prevention & education; Supporting Victims, vulnerable households & individuals; Safeguarding children & young people; and Reducing re-offending.
- 6.5. Since the development of the last agreement new legislation has introduced Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC) with an associated requirement that partners must have regard to the PCC's Police and Crime Plan. As such the diagram below not only includes the priorities and cross-cutting themes for the Community Safety Agreement but also shows the strategic priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan, illustrating the importance of integrating the work of all partners:



- 6.6. Other cross-cutting themes were suggested including child sexual exploitation, preventing violent extremism, hate crime, e-safety, and troubled families, however these can be incorporated into the broader themes already listed. Therefore, although these issues are not explicitly referenced in the above diagram, their importance and the work undertaken by partners should not be overlooked and will contribute significantly to tackling the priorities identified.
- 6.7. Several of the identified priorities already have existing multi-agency partnership arrangements in place that are ensuring a coordinated approach across organisations at a strategic level. These arrangements can be further enhanced with links to the Kent Community Safety Agreement and where necessary suitable co-operative arrangements and joint interventions can be established to deliver shared priorities or issues.

7. Leads

Lead officers for each of the priorities have been identified below and have the responsibility for developing, with partners, the action plans to address the countywide priorities. The leads will also act as a champion for the designated priority and provide regular progress updates for the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) and Scrutiny Committee as required.

Priority	Lead
Domestic Abuse	Chair of Kent & Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy Group
Anti-social Behaviour	Head of Community Safety and Emergency Planning, Kent County Council
Substance Misuse	Consultant in Public Health, Kent County Council
Violent Crime	Head of Local Policing and Partnerships, Kent Police
Acquisitive Crime	Head of Local Policing and Partnerships, Kent Police
Road Safety	Director Operations, Kent Fire and Rescue Service

8. Links to Plans

The priorities set out in this Community Safety Agreement link to, and assist in the achievement of a number of national and local partnership plans and strategies including:

- Vision for Kent, 2012-2022
- Local Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Community Safety Plans
- Police and Crime Plan 2013-2017
- Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy, 2013-2016
- Kent Alcohol Strategy 2014-2016
- KCC Framework for Community Safety 2012-2015
- Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy and Minimum Standards of Service Delivery
- Kent Fire and Rescue Service Corporate Plan
- Kent and Medway Strategic Plan for Reducing Reoffending 2012-2015
- Medway Strategic Assessment
- Road Casualty Reduction Strategy for Kent 2014-2020

9. Signatories

This agreement has been drawn up on behalf of the Partners of the Kent Community Safety Partnership and in association with the Office of the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner:-

- Kent Police
- Kent Fire and Rescue Service
- Kent County Council
- Local District/Borough Community Safety Partnerships
- Local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs)
- Kent, Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company (from 1st June 2014)

Appendix A: Strategic Assessments (2014-15)

Local Community Safety Partnership (CSP) strategic assessments:

All statutory partners including Police, Fire and Rescue, Health, Probation, County Council services, Local Authority services etc. provided community safety related data sets and some contextual information for use by the eleven Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) in Kent during the strategic assessment process to identify their key community safety priorities.

The following table shows the results of the strategic assessments completed during late 2013– early 2014, with the common issues highlighted:-

Priority	No. of CSPs selecting the priority
Anti-social behaviour	11
Domestic Abuse	11
Substance misuse	9
Road safety	8
Acquisitive Crime	7
Violent crime	7
Reducing reoffending	3
Youth issues	2
Rural crime	1
Vehicle crime	1
Crime	1
Public Engagement	1

There are 12 district/ boroughs in Kent, but only 11 Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) as Dartford and Gravesham have a joint CSP.

Appendix B: Context

The following outlines some of the reasons why each priority has been included as a key issue for the county, including reference to some of the data provided for use in the strategic assessments:

Anti-social behaviour

- Anti-social behaviour describes a range of everyday nuisance, disorder and crime, from graffiti and noisy neighbours to harassment and street drug dealing. It is sometimes dismissed as trivial, but anti-social behaviour has a huge impact on victims' quality of life.¹
- “The problems associated with anti-social behaviour are complex and so are their solutions but it is generally accepted that left unchecked, anti-social behaviour brings misery to people's lives and damages communities. Its effects are most destructive in areas that are already fragile and where services are over-stretched”.²
- Everyone has the right to feel safe in their own homes and neighbourhoods. Yet thousands of people around the country are still having their everyday lives blighted by anti-social behaviour (“ASB”). Much of what is often described as ASB, such as vandalism, graffiti or harassment, is actually crime. However, even incidents that appear minor in isolation can have a devastating cumulative impact when part of a persistent pattern of behaviour, and we know that such abuse is often targeted at the most vulnerable members of our society.³
- Around 2.3 million incidents were reported to police forces in England and Wales in 2012/13, with many more reported to other agencies such as social landlords and local authorities. This compares to the 3.7million notifiable crimes recorded by the police over the same period.⁴ However, we know that this is just the tip of the iceberg, many incidents of ASB go unreported with victims rarely reporting the first incident they experience.³
- Compared to the previous year, the 2.3 million incidents recorded by the police was a decrease of 17% and was reflected across all police force areas, however a recent HMIC review found that there is a wide variation in the quality of decision making associated with recording of ASB, which suggests that trends in ASB incidents should be interpreted with caution.⁴

- During 2012/13, there were over 57,000 incidents of anti-social behaviour recorded in Kent & Medway which is a 14.5% reduction compared to the previous year when just over 67,000 incidents were recorded.⁵ According to the latest figures for 2013/14 there have been further reductions in reported incidents to Kent Police.
- All eleven local Community Safety Partnerships in Kent assessed that anti-social behaviour is a key priority for their district/borough for the forthcoming year.

Domestic Abuse

- Domestic abuse is a serious crime and public health issue affecting one in four women and one in six men in their lifetime,⁷ with women suffering higher rates of repeat victimisation and serious injury. Over 89% of those who suffer four or more incidents of domestic abuse are women.⁸
- Domestic abuse happens in all sections of society irrespective of race, culture, nationality, religion, sexuality, disability, age, class or educational level. However findings from the 2007/08 British Crime Survey (BCS) indicated that the likelihood of being a victim of any domestic abuse tended to increase with decreasing household income.⁹ Women living in households with an income of less than £10,000 were at particularly high risk of any domestic abuse; whilst Men and women living in areas where physical disorder was assessed as high and in rented accommodation were more likely to be victims of any domestic abuse in the past year.⁹
- Nationally the total cost of domestic abuse to services (criminal justice system, health, social services, housing and civil legal) amounts to £3.8 billion per year, while the loss to the economy is £1.9 billion per year in England and Wales. An additional element is the human and emotional cost which is not counted in the cost of services which amounts to just under £10 billion a year. Including all costs, the total cost of domestic abuse for the state, employers and victims is estimated at around £16 billion per year.¹⁰
- The number of domestic abuse incidents reported to the Police in Kent (exc. Medway) during 2012/13 exceeded 19,000⁶, of which approximately a quarter related to repeat victims. The number of reported incidents have been increasing over recent years and the latest figures (Apr '13-Mar '14) follow this trend with a rise to just over 20,000 incidents in the last 12months⁶
- It is widely acknowledged that most incidents of domestic abuse are still not reported to the Police, however using the Home Office Statistical Toolkit (Ready

Reckoner) the number of likely female victims of domestic abuse can be estimated. According to estimates quoted in the Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy 2013-2016, there were over 53,000 female victims of domestic abuse in Kent and Medway with a cost to services in dealing with the effects of domestic abuse and sexual assault of over £315million.¹¹ It should be noted that the toolkit is limited in that it is only designed to use data to estimate the number of female victims, however according to local data male victims accounted for approximately 18% of all domestic abuse incidents reported to Kent Police and therefore total numbers for all victims (male and female) will be greater than the above quoted estimates.¹¹

- Domestic abuse accounts for between 16% and one quarter of all recorded violent crime.¹² In a study by Shelter, 40% of all homeless women state that domestic abuse was a contributor to their homelessness.¹² Research shows that domestic abuse is a factor in the lives of nearly three quarters of the children on the Child Protection Register and at least 750,000 children a year witness domestic abuse nationally.¹³ Also 75% of domestic abuse cases result in physical injury or mental ill health and between 50% and 60% of women mental health service users have experienced domestic abuse.¹⁴
- The Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy Group (KMDASG) is a multi-agency partnership working together to reduce domestic abuse and change attitudes. The KMDASG has produced their latest strategy for 2013-16 which aims to assist partnerships and agencies in delivering appropriate responses to those affected by domestic abuse across Kent and Medway, assisting people to live free from abuse. The strategy is underpinned by a delivery plan to help prevent abuse, provide services, reduce risks and work in partnership.
- During 2012/13, an IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor) Needs Assessment was undertaken across Kent and Medway which determined that a more strategic, jointly commissioned approach would be beneficial. Following that a pooled budget was established between partner agencies resulting in the Kent Domestic Abuse Consortium (KDAC) being commissioned to work with domestic abuse victims, specifically supporting the work of Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs) and the Specialist Domestic Violence Courts (SDVCs) across Kent & Medway with the aim of reducing the harmful effects domestic abuse has on its victims.
- All eleven local Community Safety Partnerships in Kent assessed that domestic abuse continues to be a key priority for their district/borough for the forthcoming year.

Substance Misuse

- Drug and alcohol misuse causes significant harm to individuals, families and communities in Kent and across the country. It has been estimated that drug misuse in England costs as much as £15.4 billion per year¹⁴ and alcohol as much as £20 billion. Drug and Alcohol Treatment has been proven to be highly effective and beneficial for society. Studies have concluded that every £1 spent on drug treatment¹⁶ leads to £2.50 in savings for society as a whole and for every £1 spent on alcohol treatment, the public sector saves £5.¹⁷
- Prevalence estimates¹⁸ suggest that in 2012/13 Kent had more than 5,000 users of opiates or crack cocaine, with two thirds (66%) of these users being engaged into treatment. Furthermore, the North West Public Health Observatory estimate that there are 30,423 dependant drinkers in Kent¹⁹, with a further 173,410 binge drinkers in Kent.²⁰
- According to the 2012/13 Crime in England and Wales Survey, levels of any drug use was highest among young people aged 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 years old, with approx.. 16% in each group having used drugs. Cannabis was the most commonly used drug, with 6.4% of adults aged 16 to 59 using it in the last year. As seen in the previous year's survey levels of drug use increased with frequency of visits to a nightclub or pub/wine bar, and with frequency of alcohol consumption.²¹
- The link between crime and drug and alcohol misuse is well established. The Home Office estimates that offenders who use heroin, cocaine or crack cocaine commit between a third and a half of all acquisitive crimes.²² The national Alcohol Strategy states that 44% of all violent offences are alcohol related.²³
- In terms of costing, the Home Office estimates that drug related crime costs £13.9 billion per year. A joint Home Office study with the former National Treatment Agency estimated that drug treatment and recovery systems in England prevented 4.9 million crimes in 2010-11 with an estimated saving to society of £961 million in costs to the public, businesses, the criminal justice system and National Health Service (NHS)²⁴. When engaged in treatment, people use less illegal drugs, commit less crime, improve their health, and manage their lives better – which also benefits the community.
- As a response to a heightened awareness of national alcohol misuse, treatment services in Kent are now integrated with equity in provision between drug and alcohol services. An alcohol strategy for Kent has been published by Public Health in Kent and was released in June 2014.

- Analysis of client record data held by the Supporting People Programme shows that drug and alcohol problems transcend most of their client groups. The programme works in partnership to commission and provide housing related support services (including women's refuges and floating support) and out of a total 4,029 new clients accessing support services in 2012/13, 410 (10.2%) were identified as having alcohol problems and 368 (9.1%) were identified as having drug problems.²⁵
- Nine of the eleven local Community Safety Partnerships in Kent assessed that substance misuse is a key priority for their district/borough for the forthcoming year.

Road Safety

- In Kent in 2012, 50 people died, 474 people were seriously injured and 5231 people received a slight injury as a consequence of a road traffic crash. Whilst the long term trend in the county is down, for death and serious injury, this represents a 1% increase over the previous year.²⁶
- Death and injury has a huge emotional and financial impact on society not just to those directly and indirectly affected, including crash victims, witnesses and family members, but also to the wider public purse, through the emergency services, NHS and social services. Placing financial figures on each of these impacts, the established average cost of dealing with a fatal crash is £1.9m and the average cost of dealing with a crash involving injury is £75,000. Kent Police attended 5,691 incidents of road traffic collisions in 2012/13.²⁶
- Kent County Council as the Highway Authority has a statutory duty to promote road safety and does this by influencing the road user (through Education, training and Enforcement) and improving the road environment (through Engineering). However, road safety is not just the remit of one organisation and certain aspects such as education benefit from a partnership approach.
- The Kent Casualty Reduction Partnership (CaRe), formed in mid-2007 and brings together professionals from Kent County Council, Medway Council, the Highways Agency, Kent Fire and Rescue Services and Kent Police to focus on priority road user groups and the main factors in crashes/casualties. The vision of the CaRe group is "the effective co-ordination of local partners working in collaboration to reduce road casualties in Kent". Collectively, the CaRe partners have endorsed the 2020 casualty reduction targets which aim to reduce killed or seriously injured (KSI) casualties by 33% and child KSI casualties by 40% from the 2004 to 2008 baseline average.

- Although road safety was not identified as a priority in the initial data analysis, it was highlighted at the partnership workshop as an issue that could benefit from a continued county focus. At a local level, whilst Town and parish councils do not have statutory highways responsibilities they represent the first tier of local government and often act as a key route through which residents' views can be expressed. Improvements to transport are likely to be central elements in Neighbourhood Plans as they are developed at this level.²⁷
- Eight of the eleven local Community Safety Partnerships in Kent assessed that road safety is a key priority for their district/borough for the forthcoming year.

Acquisitive crime / Theft (i.e. shoplifting, burglary)

- Theft offences cover a wide spectrum of categories including shoplifting and thefts from a person to more serious crimes such as vehicle theft and burglary. Theft impacts not only individuals but businesses as well, which can in turn have detrimental effects to an area as a whole.
- Nationally in 2012/13 theft offences accounted for 50% of all police recorded crime (1.9 million offences) and 60% of all incidents measured by the Crime in England and Wales Survey (an estimated 5.2 million incidents). Since 2002/03, the number of police recorded theft offences has shown year-on-year decreases and is 44% lower in volume in the year ending March 2013 than in 2002/03.⁴
- During 2012/13, just under 50,000 theft offences were recorded in Kent & Medway, which saw a fall of around 2% compared to the previous year. Areas of theft that showed an increase in 2012/13 included shoplifting, theft from motor vehicles, domestic burglary and non-domestic burglary.⁵
- Despite the decrease in some theft categories the actual number of offences remains high and as shown in the national figures constitutes approximately 50% of all crime and therefore continues to be a priority for community safety partnerships to tackle.
- Tackling theft / acquisitive crime is not just the remit of Kent Police and since 2001 they have worked with businesses to create a network of Business Crime Reduction Partnerships (BCRPs) across Kent and Medway; Kent also has the largest community alcohol partnership in the country to tackle underage sales; and the Community Safety Units work in partnership to prevent and educate against acquisitive crime, support victims and tackle the underlying causes.

- Seven of the eleven local Community Safety Partnerships in Kent assessed that acquisitive crime / theft is a key priority for their district/borough for the forthcoming year.

Violent Crime

- The Home Office defines violent crime as robbery, sexual offences, and a group of violence against the person offences ranging from assault without injury, through wounding, to homicide.
- Violent crime has high physical, emotional and financial consequences for individuals, families and society. Estimates, undertaken in 2003-04, found that homicide and wounding, two offences included within the Home Office's definition of violent crime, cost society approximately £13 billion a year, of which around £4 billion is borne by the National Health Service and Criminal Justice System.²⁸
- The Crime in England and Wales Survey (CSEW) estimated that there were 1.9 million violent incidents (including robbery) in England and Wales during 2012/13. Compared to the previous year this wasn't a statistically significant change, however over a longer period between the 2007/08 and 2012/13 surveys, violent incidents have fallen by 13%. Despite the fall, violent incidents constitute 22% of all CSEW crime in the latest survey, making them an important driver in overall crime trends.⁴
- According to Police recorded crime data the level of violence against the person in England and Wales during 2012/13 showed a 4% fall compared with the previous year with a change from 626,720 incidents to 601,134. Despite the overall fall, just under 20% of all Forces saw an increase in violence against the person including Kent.⁵
- Seven of the eleven local Community Safety Partnerships in Kent assessed that violent crime is a key priority for their district/borough for the forthcoming year.

Appendix B References:-

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- 4) Home Office, Crime in England and Wales, year ending March 2013 – statistical bulletin
- 5) Office for National Statistics, Crime in England and Wales, year ending March 2013.
- 6) Kent Police, Central Analytical Team. Data Pack - March 2013 & 2014.
- 7) Home Office, 2006
- 8) Home Office Research Study 276 'Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking: Findings from the British Crime Survey', March 2004
- 9) Home Office Statistical Bulletin: 'Homicides, Firearm Offences and Intimate Violence 2007/08
- 10) Walby, S. (2009) *The cost of domestic violence: Up-date 2009*. Lancaster University: UNESCO Chair in Gender Research.
- 11) Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy 2013 – 2016
- 12) Womens Aid Domestic Violence Statistics
- 13) Department of Health (2003), Women's Mental Health: Into the Mainstream – Strategic Development of Mental Health Care for Women
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- 15) Gordon, L., Tinsley, L., Godfrey, C. and Parrott, S. (2006) The economic and social costs of Class A drug use in England and Wales, 2003/04, In Singleton, N., Murray, R. and Tinsley, L. (eds) 'Measuring different aspects of problem drug use: methodological developments.' Home Office Online Report 16/06
- 16) Home Office (2009), Drug Treatment Outcomes Research (DTORS) Study
- 17) UKATT Research Team (2005). Cost-effectiveness of treatment for alcohol problems: Findings of the UK Alcohol Treatment Trial. *British Medical Journal*, 331:544–547
- 18) Hay.G.,Rael dos Santos, A. and Millar, T. (2011) Estimates of the Prevalence of Opiate Use and/or Crack Cocaine Use, 2011/12.

- 19) Kent Alcohol Strategy 2014-2016
- 20) Kent and Medway Public Health Observatory online report - Alcohol 2013/14.
- 21) Home Office – Drug Misuse: Findings from the 2012/13 Crime Survey for England & Wales (July 2013)
- 22) Home Office (FOI Request): Financial Cost of Acquisitive Crime caused by Class A Drug Users in the UK.
- 23) The Government’s Alcohol Strategy, March 2012.
- 24) National Treatment Agency (2012), Estimating the crime reduction benefits of drug treatment and recovery
- 25) Client Records 2012-2013, University of St. Andrews
- 26) Road Casualties in Kent Annual Review 2012
- 27) Resource: Pre Consultation Draft Road Casualty Reduction Strategy 2014 – 2020
- 28) National Audit Office, ‘Reducing the risk of violent crime’ (2008)

In partnership with



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Kent Community Safety Agreement 2014-17 – Action Plan

Domestic Abuse

No.	Aim	Action	Links to Cross-Cutting Themes
1 Priority: Domestic Abuse Lead: Chair of the Kent & Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy Group			
1.1	Prevent domestic abuse from happening in the first place, by challenging the attitudes and behaviours which foster it and intervening early to prevent it	Work with Partners to raise awareness of domestic abuse through campaigns and social marketing aimed at young people. <hr/> Develop a domestic abuse e-learning package to be shared with partners for internal use within their organisations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Intervention, Prevention & Education; • Safeguarding children and Young People; • Supporting victims and vulnerable households /individuals
1.2	Provide adequate levels of support when domestic abuse occurs	Continue to commission IDVA services with ongoing funding and support from partners <hr/> Provision of resources/funding for MARAC/DASH training to ensure ongoing support for high risk cases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Intervention, Prevention & Education; • Supporting victims and vulnerable households /individuals
1.3	Take action to reduce the risk to domestic abuse victims and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice	Review the provision of domestic abuse perpetrator programmes to identify gaps and future commissioning opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing re-offending
1.4	Engage health organisation partners in the identification of those affected by domestic abuse and ensure that they provide appropriate advice, support and referrals to safeguard families.	IRIS project to pilot an IDVA service in GP surgeries. Pilot to be undertaken and evaluated to determine impact and engagement. <hr/> Review potential to provide a training programme on effects of DA and how to respond, specifically tailored for relevant groups of healthcare professionals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Intervention, Prevention & Education; • Supporting victims and vulnerable households /individuals
1.5	Undertake Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) on behalf of the district Community Safety Partnerships	Commissioning and support of the DHR process including discharging the recommendations and action plans <hr/> Provision of CSP briefings to partners and lessons learnt seminars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting vulnerable people; • Reducing re-offending

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Road Safety

No.	Aim	Action	Links to Cross-Cutting Themes
2	Priority: Road Safety		
	Lead: Director of Operations, Kent Fire and Rescue Service		
2.1	Reduce the number of Young Car Occupant KSI Casualties (17 to 24 years of age)	<p>Use the CaRe road user problem profile and district profiles to determine if this casualty group is a key priority for action in the district. If it is, identify what is happening locally, look at supplementing existing interventions and addressing any gaps.</p> <p>Support the establishment of the Kent Road Safety Experience and in time offer Driver Diversionary and HASTE driver awareness training courses from the venue.</p> <p>Increase awareness of the key safety messages around speed, drink/drug, mobile phone and seatbelt use.</p> <p>Link into relevant local and national road safety campaigns (including Speak Up); and promote schools uptake of the Licence to Kill (L2K) initiative; and complement Police enforcement action through Operation Crown.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Intervention, Prevention & Education; • Safeguarding children and Young People
2.2	Reduce the number of Powered Two Wheeler KSI Casualties	<p>Use the CaRe road user problem profile and district profiles to determine if this casualty group is a key priority for action in the district. If it is, identify what is happening locally, look at supplementing existing interventions and addressing any gaps.</p> <p>Link into local and national powered two wheeler safety campaigns (including Kent Biker); promote schools uptake of the Licence to Kill (L2K) initiative; promote the uptake of Biker Down; and complement Police enforcement action through Operation Crown.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Intervention, Prevention & Education; • Safeguarding children and Young People
2.3	Reduce the number of Pedal Cyclist KSI Casualties	<p>Use the CaRe road user problem profile and district profiles to determine if this casualty group is a key priority for action in the district. If it is, identify what is happening locally, look at supplementing existing interventions and addressing any gaps.</p> <p>Look at ways of increasing awareness of key safety messages including helmet use, lights, <i>Bikeability</i> training and use of high visibility clothing (such as through Be-Viz). Link into national and local cycle safety campaigns and refer to CaRe Pilot in Canterbury.</p> <p>Support districts to produce local cycling strategies and pilot adult cycling training courses alongside <i>Bikeability</i> provided for schools. <i>NB. Research indicates the health benefits of regular cycling outweighs the increased road safety risk</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Intervention, Prevention & Education; • Safeguarding children and Young People

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Substance Misuse

No.	Aim	Action	Links to Cross-Cutting Themes
3	Priority: Substance Misuse Lead: Consultant in Public Health, Kent County Council		
3.1	Prevent problematic substance misuse.	Support responses to emerging substance misuse trends (for example, new psychoactive substances and needle drops) through prevention, intelligence collection and enforcement activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Intervention, Prevention & Education; • Safeguarding Children & Young People
3.2	Reduce drug and alcohol related crime.	Improve treatment pathways for substance misusing offenders.	Reducing Re-Offending
Page 3 Page 41	Enable and support the long-term recovery, rehabilitation and social re-integration of people in Kent affected by substance misuse.	Develop initiatives to improve outcomes for substance misusing individuals presenting with complex needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Victims and Vulnerable Households/ Individuals; • Safeguarding Children & Young People
3.4	Support and promote the Kent Alcohol Strategy 2014/2016	Work with partners to implement the 6 pledges from the Kent Alcohol Strategy 2014/2016 through activities such as the Kent Community Alcohol Partnerships (KCAPs), awareness raising programmes (i.e. RiskIt), supporting local schemes such as Street Pastors etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Intervention, Prevention & Education; • Reducing Re-Offending • Supporting Victims and Vulnerable Households/ Individuals; • Safeguarding Children & Young People

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Anti-Social Behaviour

No.	Aim	Action	Links to Priorities / Cross-Cutting Themes and Plans
4	Priority: Anti-Social Behaviour Lead: Head of Community Safety and Emergency Planning, Kent County Council		
4.1	Delivery of the Countywide ASB Case Management system to all partners.	Roll-out of the ASB Case Management System, known as Themis to all partners, to enable data sharing across agencies of incidents and actions taken, to help address the needs around repeat and vulnerable victims of ASB,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting Victims and Vulnerable Households/ Individuals
4.2	Implement the changes to ASB legislation as detailed in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014	Development of a community trigger and community remedy at district level with support from County partners. Review new ASB powers and agree / align practices as appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting Victims and Vulnerable Households/ Individuals
4.3	Working together to tackle the impacts of noise nuisance across the county	County and district partners to work together to look at noise nuisance and determine an agreed process for dealing with complaints.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early Intervention, Prevention & Education; Supporting Victims and Vulnerable Households/ Individuals

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Acquisitive Crime

No.	Aim	Action	Links to Cross-Cutting Themes
5	Priority: Acquisitive Crime Lead: Head of Local Policing & Partnerships, Kent Police		
5.1	Reduce re-offending in relation to acquisitive crime	Work in partnership to deliver the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) Business Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing Re-Offending
5.2	Reduce opportunities for business crime	Utilise local and county forums to work together to tackle business crime as well as setting up task and finish groups to address specific issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Intervention, Prevention & Education
Page 43 5.3	Reduce opportunities for domestic burglary	Engage with local Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) schemes and County/District co-ordinators as appropriate to enhance/maximise and strengthen partnership working.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Intervention, Prevention & Education; • Supporting Victims and Vulnerable Households/ Individuals
5.4	Tackling rural crime	Utilise local and county forums to work together to tackle rural crime as well as setting up task and finish groups to address specific issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Intervention, Prevention & Education

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Violent Crime

No.	Aim	Action	Links to Cross-Cutting Themes
6	Priority: Violent Crime		
	Lead: Head of Local Policing & Partnerships, Kent Police		
6.1	Reduce and mitigate risk of urban street gangs	Work in partnership to share intelligence, establish risks and work effectively to mitigate them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Intervention, Prevention & Education; • Supporting Victims and Vulnerable Households/ Individuals
6.2	Effective use of CCTV in the Night Time Economy (NTE)	Partners to work together to identify the benefits of CCTV monitoring, how the information is used and consider how to take CCTV monitoring forward.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Intervention, Prevention & Education
6.3	Reduce re-offending through support of victims and managing perpetrators in relation to violent crime.	Explore ways of sharing information around perpetrators of violent crime and making more effective use of restrictive sentencing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing Re-Offending

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Cross-Cutting / Safeguarding Actions

No.	Aim	Action	Links to Cross-Cutting Themes
7	Priority: N/A		
7.1	Support the PREVENT agenda	Work in partnership to implement a new Channel structure for the County. ----- Consider and deliver the CTLP recommendations (<i>Counter Terrorism Local Profiles</i>).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Victims and Vulnerable Households/ Individuals • Safeguarding Children & Young People
7.2	Raise awareness about E-safety	Establish staff workshops to raise awareness of e-safety, following the e-safety conference in June 2014.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding Children & Young People
7.3	Raise awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation.	Review the Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy once approved by the Kent Children Safeguarding Board (KCSB) for any specific links / actions for community safety partners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Victims and Vulnerable Households/ Individuals • Safeguarding Children & Young People
7.4	Support and promote the Kent and Medway Crisis Care Concordat	Work with partners to implement the Concordat and associated action plan to support people in crisis due to a mental health condition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Victims and Vulnerable Households/ Individuals

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Version Control

Version	Date	Comment
1.2	October 2014	New action added to the plan (see 7.3) following the KCSP meeting on 14/10/14. A request was made by the KCSP for Child Sexual Exploitation to be added to the Kent Community Safety Agreement & the Action Plan (see above). <i>NB. A request was also made by KCSP to include mental health within the action plan. Not yet updated but actions being considered.</i>
1.3	December 2014	Numbering system for the action plan amended from entirely consecutive numbers. i.e. 1 to 25, and replaced with numbered sections with sub-sections to allow for amendments to be made to the plan.
		New action added to 4.2 to review ASB powers and processes and align as discussed at the KCST meeting in November 2014.
		New action added to the plan (see 7.4) to include the Mental Health Concordat, as discussed at the KCST meeting in November 2014.
		Section 7 renamed as 'cross-cutting / safeguarding actions' rather than 'miscellaneous'