

## AGENDA

### KENT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

**Wednesday, 18th March, 2020, at 10.00 am**  
**Medway Room, Sessions House, County**  
**Hall, Maidstone**

Ask for: **Georgina Little**  
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*Tea/Coffee will be available 15 minutes before the meeting.*

#### **UNRESTRICTED ITEMS**

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

#### **A. Committee Business**

- A1 Introduction
- A2 Apologies
- A3 Declarations of Interest
- A4 Notes of meeting held on 8th October 2020 (Pages 1 - 10)

#### **B. Matters for Information/Discussion - Standing Items**

- B1 Kent Community Safety Agreement Update (Pages 11 - 42)
- B2 Kent Community Safety Partnership Working Group Update (Pages 43 - 48)
- B3 Kent Police and Crime Commissioners response to Mental Health

#### **C - Matters for Information/Discussion Adhoc Items**

- C1 Kent and Medway Violence Reduction Unit Update (Pages 49 - 52)
- C2 Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Update
- C3 Medway Task Force Update
- C4 Kent and Medway Substance Misuse Alliance Update (Pages 53 - 58)

#### **D. Matters for Information**

- D1 Date of next meeting
  - 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2020
  - 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020
  - 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021

**E -RESTRICTED ITEM(S)**

Meeting not open to the press and public and reports not for publication

- E1 Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) update
- E2 Kent and Medway PREVENT Duty Delivery Board Update
- E3 Kent and Medway Joint Exploitation Group Update
- E4 COVID-19 Update

**Tuesday, 10 March 2020**

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL****KENT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**

NOTES of a meeting of the Kent Community Safety Partnership held in the Medway Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Tuesday, 8 October 2019.

PRESENT: Mr M Hill, OBE (Chairman), Mr J Rivers (Vice-Chairman), Ms C Allen, Ms C Axon-Peters, Ms S Brinson, Ms C Collin, Ms L Connor, Mr A Harper, Mr C King, Ms K Leigh, Ms A Oates, Mr M Overbeke, Mr S Peerbux, Mr M Powell, Mr A Pritchard, Mr M Rhodes, Ms S Vaux, Ms V Widden and Mr N Wilkinson.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms E Weaver (KRF Senior Brexit Resilience Officer) , Mr P Barrington-King (Member for Tunbridge Wells East & Chairman of the Select Committee) , Ms S Ms Annan-Veitch (Policy Adviser) , Mr T Woodhouse (Kent and Medway STP Suicide Prevention Programme Manager) , Miss G Little (Democratic Services Officer)

**UNRESTRICTED ITEMS****237. Introduction**

*(Item A1)*

**238. Notes of meeting held on 17 July 2019**

*(Item A4)*

It was RESOLVED that the notes of the meeting held on 17 July 2019 are a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman subject to the rectification of the typographic error within minute 233.1 and 234.1.

**239. Kent Community Safety Agreement Update**

*(Item B1)*

1. Ms Brinson (Community Safety Team Leader, Public Protection, KCC) introduced the report that detailed the progress of the Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) action plan and the upcoming strategic assessments. Ms Brinson confirmed that one new action had been added to the CSA action plan to 'support and implement changes to the Kent Community Safety Partnership as a result of new legislation around tackling serious violence' and guidance that was due to be produced by the Government to explain the various partnership models. The CSA action plan and performance measures would continue to be monitored with ongoing assessments to identify emerging issues. Work had also started on the collation of data for the annual strategic assessment process to identify local priorities and cross-cutting themes; an update report would be present to the KCSP in March 2020.
2. The officer responded to comments and questions as follows:
  - (a) Ms Brinson said that the Government consultation proposed that each agency should have its own primary legislation and proposed an amendment to the

Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to ensure that serious violence was an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships,

3. It was RESOLVED that the progress of the Community Safety Agreement, be noted.

#### **240. Kent Community Safety Partnership Working Group Update**

*(Item B2)*

1. Mr Peerbux (Head of Community Safety, Public Protection, KCC) provided an update on the key activities and projects managed on behalf of the Kent Community Safety Partnership by the Working Group. Mr Peerbux outlined some of the projects funded by the Police and Crime Commissioners Crime Reduction Grant including the community safety conference that is planned for early next year and the topic will be based on an identified need.
2. Mr Peerbux referred to the success of the recent Trading Standards event entitled 'Scams: The True Cost – Working Together to Tackle Financial Abuse' which was held on 1 October 2019 and highlighted the local work of Trading Standards, the Community Wardens and partners as well as the traumatic effect on victims
3. Mr Peerbux also briefed the KCSP on the next phase of work that was due to be carried out by the Kent Community Safety Team. This included working with the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board (KMSAB) on the annual Safeguarding Adults Awareness Week (SAAW) campaign (7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> October), and the Hate Crime Awareness Week campaign (12<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> October). As mentioned at the last KCSP, a questionnaire had been devised as part of the continuous improvement of the KCST and this was due to be circulated to local district CSPs.
4. Mr Peerbux welcomed Chief Inspector Lara Connor to the KCSP with extended thanks to Chief Inspector Guy Thompson for his continued support to the KCSP throughout the interim period.
5. It was RESOLVED that progress and actions undertaken by the Working Group and the work of the KCST, be noted.

#### **241. Mental Health Update**

*(Item B3)*

1. Mr Harper (Chief Executive, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner) provided an update on the disproportionate use of Section 136 detentions within Kent, the challenges presented to Kent Police and the ongoing projects funded by the Police and the Crime Commissioner to help reduce demand on police resources.
2. He informed the KCSP that one of the initiatives funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner was Op Concern. The pilot scheme was a joint initiative between Kent Police and Kent Search & Rescue (KSAR), whereby volunteer patrol teams would be deployed to low risk welfare incidents in a bid to reduce pressure on police forces. Mr Harper said that the initiative followed concerns about the rising number of welfare calls and that "over 50% of the incidents were mental health related". Mr Harper noted that whilst pressure had been alleviated from Police

resources, there was a significant need for additional resources within the voluntary sector.

3. Mr Harper said that the current data revealed a disproportionate use of S136 detentions by Kent Police compared to other task forces in the UK and acknowledged that there was a clear anomaly in Kent that needed to be understood. Mr Harper assured the KCSP that Kent Police were committed to working with partner agencies to understand the challenges and said that Matthew Scott (Police and Crime Commissioner) sat on the Independent Review Panel and the Advisory Groups, amongst senior representatives from a number of partner agencies, that helped to inform Government's response. Kent Police were also due to hold an assessment day to understand the disparity in the data captured across the various services and to agree a standardised format which would ensure a consistent and standardised approach when carrying out a comparative analysis on the use of S136s across the UK.
4. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) had agreed in January 2019 that the National Police Chiefs Council for Mental Health and the College of Policing should draft and agree a new national definition of mental ill-health for inclusion within the new national strategy on policing and mental health. All forces would be expected to adopt the agreed definition as soon as reasonably practicable.
5. In regard to the South East Coast Ambulance Service (SECamb), the conveyancing of persons with a Mental Health condition remained an issue. Kent Police were working with partners to resolve the pressures on the ambulance service; an update would be provided in due course.
6. Mr Harper commended the success of the Mental Health Policing Teams which had been established to protect the rights of vulnerable individuals in challenging environments.
7. Mr Harper and Mr Pritchard (Chief Superintendent, Kent Police) responded to comments and questions as follows:
  - (a) Mr Harper welcomed the suggestion to hold a focus day within the summer and winter period and agreed to review the possibility of accommodating the request.
  - (b) In response to queries regarding Mental Health first-aid training, Mr Pritchard informed the KCSP that the Mental Health Team currently sat within the Victim Justice Directorate, however, following the recent restructure, the decision was taken to transfer the team under Chief Inspector Lara Connor's jurisdiction; Mr Pritchard confirmed that the required level of training would be put in place following completion of the transfer. Mr Pritchard advocated the need for strengthened partnership working in order to fully support the work of the Community Safety Partnership and associated services that dealt with issues around trauma, mental health, alcohol, drugs etc. and these would be better supported under Mr Pritchard's directorate.
  - (c) Mr Harper informed the KCSP that repeat presenters had a significant impact on Police resources, however, work was being done in partnership with the

KSAR voluntary service to develop bespoke individual plans for those people to either prevent them from entering into a state of crisis or to help divert them from entering into the care of emergency services. One of the options that had been explored was the Folkstone Safe Haven pilot project which offered an alternative Place of Safety for Kent Police and this would be in operation from January 2020. The project had been supported by local NHS mental health services and professionally trained volunteers, along with Kent Police, SECamb and the Kent and Medway Partnership Trust for Mental Health. Mr Harper said that the service would be open 365 days of the year at various peak times throughout the day and would help to deescalate the number of potential S136 cases. In regard to the conveyance of persons to Safe Havens, Mr Harper said that a joint initiative had been explored with Kent Police Specials and the ambulance service to review the use of fast response cars to transfer those experiencing a mental health crisis to Safe Haven locations.

8. Mr Hill welcomed the proposal for an update report to be presented at a future KCSP meeting.
9. It was RESOLVED that the verbal update be noted.

## **242. Violence Reduction Update**

*(Item C1)*

1. Mr Harper (Chief Executive, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner) introduced the report that set out the some of the key actions taken by the Commissioner in conjunction with partners to tackle violent crime and its causes; and provided an update on the funding received from the Home Office to support the various streams of activity.
2. Mr Harper noted that whilst Kent did not suffer from the same level of violence as the inner-cities, Kent still faced unique challenges linked to county lines which operated out of London and other areas.
3. In July 2019, nine projects received Violence Reduction funding (to access further information please click [here](#)).
4. An additional £35m was allocated to Police and Crime Commissioners nationally from the Home Secretary to set up multi-agency Violence Reduction Units (VRUs). Mr Harper said that whilst there was no limitation in the number of partners involved, Kent had to spend the allocated £1.16m by March 2020. Mr Harper paid thanks to all partner agencies involved and said that the funding had started to be utilised.
5. Subsequent to Mr Harper's comments, Mr Pritchard (Chief Superintendent, Kent Police) informed the KCSP that the money would support the development of the Violence Reduction Units for the first seven to eight months of their existence and to build a robust data tool. An Expression of Interest had been submitted for a number of new coordinator and analyst roles which would be paramount to the development of the VRUs; since publication of the report the roles had been advertised and Mr Pritchard had started to identify strategic leads.

6. Mr Harper announced that following the success of the Margate taskforce, the Violence Reduction Challenge report recommended the creation of a multi-agency taskforce in Medway to enable partners to work closer in tackling some of the underlying causes of crime, including vulnerable people, drugs and cuckooing.
7. Mr Hill welcomed the proposal for an update report to be presented at a future KCSP meeting.
8. It was RESOLVED that the update report be noted.

#### **243. Select Committee on Knife Crime in Kent**

*(Item C2)*

1. Mr Barrington-King (Chairman of the Select Committee on Knife Crime in Kent) introduced the report that set out the key activities undertaken by the Select Committee on Knife Crime and provided an outline of the Knife Crime Committee Report including the key points and recommendations that were due to be presented to County Council on 17 October 2019. Mr Barrington-King highlighted his gratitude for the cross-party involvement and the extensive amount of research conducted by both officers and Members.
2. Mr Barrington-King responded to comments and questions as follows:
  - (a) In response to comments regarding the recommendation of the Select Committee to promote high-quality, standardised training on knife crime in all Kent schools, Mr Barrington-King acknowledged that training had started to be delivered in schools, however, the principle concern was whether children were receiving a consistent message. The evidence submitted to the Select Committee suggested that there was not a consistent and standardised approach in raising awareness in schools and that more Teachers needed to receive the correct training. In response to whether there was the option to extend training and the responsibility of raising awareness outside of the KCSP and into the wider communities, Mr Barrington-King welcomed the suggestion and said that if Kent County Council developed a successful model which could be trialled within schools, then there was the potential for it to be deployed in other areas.
  - (b) In response to comments regarding the recommendation of the Select Committee to establish a multi-disciplinary, operational group whose remit is to ensure the implementation and delivery of strategic objectives to address knife crime and violence through a public health approach; and the proposal to amend the recommendation to include reference to the Police and Crime Commissioner having the power to hold the Chief Inspector to account and increased stop and search activities, Mr Barrington-King informed the KCSP that the Select Committee could not instruct Kent Police but could support them through partnership working. Kent Police were invited to attend the witness hearing session and provided comprehensive answers. A number of projects were being developed and delivered by Kent Police and a report detailing the objectives and outcomes of those work streams would be published in due course.

- (c) In response to comments regarding the recommendation of the Select Committee for a more proactive approach to the promotion of the responsible sale of knives by local retailers and the proposal for Kent Trading Standards to run a pilot scheme, Mr Barrington-King informed the KCSP that Trading Standards recognised the need for quality assurance from retailers and that several national initiatives to control and limit the sale of knives had been explored and trailed. The Select Committee report detailed the work that continued to be carried out by Kent Trading Standards and the need for additional funding to help support the suggested pilot schemes.
  - (d) In response to comments regarding the recommendation of the Select Committee for Kent County Council to pilot and evaluate a scheme such as the Youth Zone to extend youth service provision in the county, and why the primary focus was only in deprived areas, Mr Barrington-King said that the pilot followed models that have been successful in other areas outside of Kent which were set in deprived areas. The pilot will have its effectiveness assessed and evaluated which would then help inform future policy and should the Youth Zone prove to be a success, it would then support the need for other Youth Zones across the county.
  - (e) With regard to the opportunities available to those that have been imprisoned through acts of criminal violence, Mr Barrington-King said that the residents of HMP Stanford Hill indicated a willingness to educate and mentor offenders using their own experiences and life lessons and that opportunities such as mentoring roles needed to be explored and recruited into.
  - (f) Mr Barrington-King assured the KCSP that resilience programmes for young people in Kent had been acknowledged along with various examples of good practice.
  - (g) Mr Barrington-King informed the KCSP that the Select Committee recommendations were designed to complement the work already being carried out, not duplicate it and hoped to support partner agencies without replicating the excellent work that was already in operation.
  - (h) Mr Barrington-King said that the report advocated the need for a more proactive and collaborative approach which promoted intelligence sharing and said that Kent County Council hoped to play a pivotal role in assisting partner agencies to tackle knife crime.
3. Mr Hill informed the KCSP that following approval of the recommendations at County Council on 17 October 2019, an action plan would be devised, and it would be the responsibility of the portfolio holders to take those actions forward. Mr Hill welcomed the proposal for an update report to be presented at a future KCSP meeting.
  4. It was RESOLVED that the key activities undertaken by the Knife Crime Select Committee, and its report, be noted.



#### **244. Preparations for Brexit**

*(Item C3)*

1. Miss Weaver (KRF Senior Brexit Resilience Officer) presented a series of slides that set out Kent's response to the EU exit and the work carried out by the Kent Resilience Forum to understand the impact on Kent and contingency capabilities.
2. Miss Weaver advised the partnership to stay informed of the progress by visiting the Kent Prepared website (please click [here](#)) which supports local communities prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies.
3. It was RESOLVED that the information set out in the presentation and given in response to comments and questions be noted.

#### **245. Suicide Prevention Update**

*(Item C4)*

1. Mr Woodhouse (Suicide Prevention Programme Manager) introduced the report that provided an update on the suicide prevention programme, including the latest headline statistics and commentary, an update on the quality improvement and system leadership elements of the programme, details of the recent mental health Summit held in Thanet on 19th September, an update on the research with the coroner's office; and wider programme updates.
2. Mr Woodhouse referred in particular to the national three-year rolling suicide rate figures detailed within the report and was pleased to announce that Kent's suicide rates were falling and that male suicides in Kent were below the national average for the first time in five years. Mr Woodhouse recognised the extensive amount of work that still needed to be done to address suicide prevention and welcomed comments in response to the report to strengthen future delivery.
3. The officer responded to comments and questions as follows:
  - (a) In response to whether the clinical pathway intervention for those with co-occurring conditions (both mental health and substance misuse) would focus on adults or children, Mr Woodhouse said that the details were yet to be confirmed, however, the intention was to focus on adults. Ms Mookherjee informed the KCSP that suicide was the most critical and most common cause of early death in adults who suffered from ill mental health and substance misuse. A multidisciplinary approach needed to be adopted across the health sector and it was important to ensure that good practice was being implemented and applied effectively. However, Addaction were working closely with Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) within Kent.
4. It was RESOLVED that the progress made in implementing the Kent and Medway Suicide Prevention Strategy, be noted.

#### **246. Kent and Medway Reducing Offending Board Update**

*(Item C5)*

1. Ms Allen (Kent, Surrey and Sussex, Community Rehabilitation Company) introduced the report that provided an update on the Kent & Medway Reducing Offending Board (KMROB) and referred in particular to the priority objectives and key outputs for 2019/20. This included the ongoing challenge to house offenders with complex needs, including those that had left prison after serving lengthy sentences. Ms Allen informed the KCSP that following the Board's recently commissioned report the KSS CRC were able to secure 10 bed spaces supported through funding from the 'Your Ambition' charitable sector and delivered in partnership with Maidstone Borough Council. The bed spaces would be available for current service users and the service would be run by Pathways to Independence, who had a long history of working with offenders and assisting them in resettling in the community.
2. Ms Allen said that positive steps had been made in relation to women in Kent and Medway. The first Kent and Medway Women's Forum took place on 1<sup>st</sup> May which saw a wide range of specialist agencies as well as universal services in attendance. Since the initial meeting a Terms of Reference has been agreed and a further two meetings have taken place.
3. In regard to Integrated Offender Management (IOM), Ms Allen informed the KCSOP that an updated Operational Guide was issued in April as a result of a workshop to review the current arrangements and simplify the priority groups to prevent duplication and confusion. A multi-agency audit to assess the extent to which the new guidance had been embedded would take place in the New Year.
4. The officer responded to comments and questions as follows:
  - (a) With regard to employment for offenders, a significant degree of work had been undertaken already to support those coming out of prison to find jobs, this included mock interview sessions, assistance in writing CVs and a range of other employer engagement strategies such as job fairs to help improve their chances of entering the job market. Ms Allen informed the KCSP that KCC CRC worked closely with employers to encourage companies to recruit offenders and noted the level of support provided by companies on both a national and local level.
  - (b) In response to whether it was possible to analyse individual needs using the IOM data, Ms Allen informed the KCSP that there was a two-year data set which the Minister of Justice produced, however, the way in which the data was collated would not allow the KSS CRC to analyse an individual's needs.
5. It was RESOLVED that the update report be noted.

**247. Kent & Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy Consultation Feedback**  
(Item C6)

1. Mr Weiss (Head of Head start Kent) and Ms Annan-Veitch (Policy Advisor) provided an update on the feedback received following the Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy consultation. The general feedback illustrated a strong degree of support for the Strategy, which was reflected within the comments, however, there was a recurring concern around the resources available to deliver the Strategy. Mr Weiss informed the KCSP that the Strategy was largely

aspirational, however, had been revised to include a section on the commissioning and collaborative working aspect to address the resourcing issues and to help inform future funding opportunities should they arise. The strategies action plan would also be devised with the intent to give a clear breakdown in external funding opportunities. Other feedback received suggested that the strategy was not clear and that it was conflicting, however, Mr Weiss informed the KCSP that the primary objective of the Domestic Abuse Strategy was to simultaneously reduce and prevent domestic abuse across Kent, it was not intended to strictly do one or the other. Mr Weiss said that the Strategy would be revised to ensure that message was clearly represented.

2. Ms Annan-Veitch informed the KCSP that the document would be revised following the feedback received from the consultation, however, informed the KCSP that due to the extensive involvement from various partners, it would require sign off from 20 other stakeholders before it could formally be agreed.
3. Mr Weiss concluded that the next stage of the process was to revise the strategy and produce an action plan which could be circulated to the Domestic Abuse Executive Group by the end of November 2019.
4. It was RESOLVED that the update report be noted and request that the strategy and associated action plan be brought back to a future meeting of the KCSP.

#### **248. Date of next meeting**

*(Item D1)*

It was RESOLVED that members noted the date of the next meeting which was scheduled to take place on Wednesday 18 March 2020.

#### **249. Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) Update**

*(Item E1)*

1. Mr Peerbux (Head of Community Safety, Public Protection, KCC) provided an update on Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs).
2. It was RESOLVED that the update be noted.

#### **250. PREVENT Duty Delivery Board Update**

*(Item E2)*

1. Mr Wilkinson (Prevent and Chanel Strategic Manager, KCC) provided an update on the local and national activity in relation to the Prevent Duty, including the progress that had been made following the Home Office's designation of Kent and Medway as a Prevent priority area from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019.
2. For further information on the Governments 'Commission for Countering Extremism: Challenging Hateful Extremism', please click [here](#).
3. It was RESOLVED that the update be noted.

#### **251. Risk, Threats and Vulnerabilities Group Update**

*(Item E3)*

1. Mr Wilkinson (Prevent and Chanel Strategic Manager, KCC) provided an update on the Kent and Medway Risk, Threats and Vulnerabilities Group.
2. It was RESOLVED that the verbal update be noted.

**By:** Shafick Peerbux - Head of Community Safety, KCC  
Shirley Brinson - Community Safety Team Leader, KCC

**To:** Kent Community Safety Partnership – 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**Classification:** For Decision

**Subject:** Kent Community Safety Agreement Update

**Summary** This report details the annual review of the Kent Community Safety Agreement, recommended priorities for 2020/21 and an update on the current action plan.

## 1.0 Background

1.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 gave statutory responsibility to local authorities (KCC/District/Boroughs), Kent Police and key partners to reduce crime and disorder in their communities. Under this legislation Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (now Community Safety Partnerships) were required to carry out 3 yearly audits and to implement crime reduction strategies. A formal review of the 1998 Act took place in 2006, with the result that three year audits were replaced with annual partnership strategic assessments and rolling partnership plans, whilst in two tier authority areas a statutory County Community Safety Agreement was introduced.

## 2.0 Introduction

2.1 The Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) outlines the key community safety priorities for the county along with the cross-cutting themes that support the identified priorities. It is a rolling document which is reviewed and refreshed annually with the relevant Chapters and appendices being updated as required.

2.2 In the last review of the CSA which took place in March 2019 there were no changes to the priorities and cross-cutting themes which were agreed by the partnership in the previous year (see list below). The current version of the CSA (Version 3) took effect from April 2019.

### Priorities

- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Domestic Abuse
- Substance Misuse
- Safeguarding Vulnerable People
- Serious and Organised Crime
- Preventing Extremism and Hate
- Road Safety

### Cross Cutting Themes

- Early Intervention, Prevention & Education
- Reduce Re-Offending and Support Victims
- Improve Quality of Life and Enhance Community Resilience
- Support Mental Health and Wellbeing

2.3 The following report details the latest review process that has been undertaken including the proposed refresh to the priorities and cross-cutting themes.

### 3.0 CSA Review Process

- 3.1 The review of the new Community Safety Agreement has taken into consideration the outcome of local district/borough strategic assessments, partnership plans, emerging issues, new legislation and the risk assessment matrix known as MoRiLE. Details of these elements are included in the draft refresh of the Community Safety Agreement attached (Appendix A).
- 3.2 Local district/borough Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) are in the process of undertaking their annual strategic assessments and are currently finalising their priorities and developing local plans for 2020/21. At the time of writing this report and refreshing the CSA, draft priorities had only been received from six CSPs. Based on these priorities the following are the top issues that are emerging either as a main priority, cross-cutting theme or as an issue within a broader theme. However, as five districts are still in the process of agreeing their priorities for the coming year, the order of the list below may well change however it is not anticipated there will be significant changes to the types of priorities identified:
- Domestic Abuse
  - Anti-Social Behaviour
  - Safeguarding and Vulnerability
  - Substance Misuse
  - Tackling Violence
  - Serious and Organised Crime
  - Extremism & Hate
  - Mental Health
  - Reducing Offending and Reoffending
  - Crime
- 3.3 Following a pilot of the MoRiLE risk assessment matrix (*Management of Risk in Law Enforcement*) in 2017/18 the assessment tool was updated and a new template was used in the assessments for last couple of years. The assessment focuses on threat, risk and harm and as such the priorities ranked most highly tend to be those that cause the greatest harm to individuals and communities. The outcome from MoRiLE has been incorporated into the Community Safety Agreement to support the selection of priorities alongside the usual assessment tools.
- 3.4 Using PESTELO analysis members of the KCSP Working Group helped to identify upcoming events and existing or emerging issues and opportunities that may need to be considered. Many of the safeguarding issues which were identified previously such as preventing extremism, child sexual exploitation, modern slavery, online safety, looked after children etc. remain an area of focus and reflect the issues being identified within the legislation and partnership plans. One issue which was added last year was the potential impact of Brexit on community safety and partner organisations which remains an issue within the current horizon scanning as the country undergoes the Brexit transition period. Another issue which was noted previously was serious violence but due to the ongoing focus this is receiving it has been specifically referenced in the PESTELO summary (Appendix C).
- 3.5 In addition to the above review of data and information, partnership plans and priorities are also taken into consideration in the development of the CSA including the recently refreshed Police and Crime Plan entitled '*Safer in Kent: The Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan April 2017 to March 2021*'.

## 4.0 Proposed Changes

- 4.1 Details of the proposed changes to the document are summarised in the version control within the attached draft CSA (see Appendix A). There have been a number of minor changes within the document however the most significant updates are in the chapters covering key changes to the community safety landscape and key achievements as well as the appendix detailing the outcomes from the district strategic assessments.
- 4.2 Although no major changes have been identified in terms of emerging issues since the last review, serious violence remains an area of interest for both Government and local partners and it is likely the focus will increase in 2020/21. As detailed in Chapter 3 of the CSA, the PCC successfully secured funding to establish a Violence Reduction Unit in Kent during 2019/20 whilst the Government is planning to introduce new duties in 2020/21 for individual agencies and CSPs to tackle violence. Although it was agreed last year that serious violence could be incorporated into one of the existing priorities it is now felt that the priority of 'Serious and Organised Crime' should be renamed from April 2020 to 'Serious Violence and Organised Crime', in order to appropriately reflect and acknowledge this area of work. Chapter 6 which details the priorities including the CSA diagram has been updated to reflect the recommendation.
- 4.3 Similar to last year's review whilst most of the current CSA priorities have been identified in the strategic assessments and community safety plans of local CSPs, 'Road Safety' is now rarely listed as a standalone priority. This is not simply because it is no longer a concern but that local partnerships are limited in their ability to impact on this particular issue. At a county level road safety is still a focus for partners and as such it is recommended that it remain within the CSA but the KCSP is asked to note that the lead for this priority is the Kent and Medway Road Casualty Reduction Partnership and they will report back to the KCSP as necessary.
- 4.4 Conversely whilst Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) remains a specific focus for most local CSPs, it should be noted that there are limited opportunities at this time for County partners to contribute to this priority as the operational activities are undertaken by district / borough community safety partners. However as the purpose of the CSA is to outline the main priorities for the whole county and ASB is still part of the original remit of CSPs it is recommended that it should remain as a priority in the latest refresh.
- 4.5 It is clear from the latest review that the majority of the current priorities and cross-cutting themes appropriately reflect the key issues for community safety partners and as such it is recommended that they are retained within the CSA with the addition of Serious Violence as outlined below:

### **Priorities**

- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Domestic Abuse
- Substance Misuse
- Safeguarding Vulnerable People
- Serious Violence and Organised Crime
- Preventing Extremism and Hate
- Road Safety

### **Cross Cutting Themes**

- Early intervention, prevention & education
- Reduce re-offending and support victims
- Improve quality of life and enhance community resilience
- Support mental health and wellbeing

## **5.0 Equality Impact Assessment**

- 5.1 As part of the CSA refresh the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is being reviewed. The aim of the CSA is to make Kent's communities safer and stronger by bringing together partners from across the county to agree the key priorities and to develop joined-up approaches. Whilst it is recognised that some people may be more vulnerable and at greater risk of becoming a victim, the CSA is intended to benefit all residents and as such it is not anticipated that any identified group should be adversely impacted by the CSA or the activities within the action plan.
- 5.2 The EqIA refresh will be reviewed by both partners and KCC's Equality and Diversity Team to ensure all considerations have been made prior to sign-off.

## **6.0 CSA Action Plan and Achievements**

- 6.1 Partners are continuing to work towards the activities identified in the current CSA action plan linking in with various organisations and multi-agency groups across the county to help tackle the identified priorities and themes. The KCSP Working Group which meets as a sub-group of the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) is monitoring the activities set out in the Action Plan and reviewed the latest update at their meeting in February 2020.
- 6.2 Key achievements for 2019/20 delivered by partners are outlined in Chapter 5 of the draft Community Safety Agreement as well as in other papers that will be presented at the meeting including: Partnership Learning Pack on Preventing Extremism & Hate; Kent Community Safety Team; Domestic Homicide Reviews; Project Delivery; Workshop Delivery, etc.
- 6.3 Following the refresh of the Community Safety Agreement the action plan will also be reviewed and updated by the KCSP Working Group with the support of the Kent Community Safety Team.

## **7.0 Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee**

- 7.1 The Police and Justice Act 2006 introduced the requirement for a Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee to review the work of the partnership, as such on an annual basis KCC's Scrutiny Committee meets as the Crime and Disorder committee to act as a critical friend to scrutinise and challenge the work of the partnership and the outcomes from the Community Safety Agreement.
- 7.2 The Committee is due to meet on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020 to review the CSA and the work of the partnership over the last 12 months. The lead agencies for each of the CSA priorities will be in attendance to represent the KCSP and respond to any queries raised. This will include a review of performance data as well as partnership activities to address the issues.
- 7.3 Any recommendations or suggested changes arising from Scrutiny will be fed back to the KCSP members and the Working Group for action as appropriate.



## **8.0 Recommendations**

8.1 The Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) is asked to:

- agree to amending the current priorities as detailed within the attached draft refresh of the Community Safety Agreement subject to any additional partnership feedback;
- note the key achievements for 2019/20; and
- note the upcoming Scrutiny Committee arrangements.

### **Attachments:**

Appendix A: Draft Refresh of Community Safety Agreement - April 2020

### **For Further Information:**

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# Kent Community Safety Agreement



April 2020

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## Version Control

Version	Date	Changes
1.0	April 2017	New Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) – effective from April 2017
2.0	April 2018	Refreshed Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) - Updated document date to April 2018 - Ch.1 - reference added to 1.1 about version control - Ch.5 - achievements for 2017/18 added - Ch.6 - priorities/cross-cutting themes updated effective from April 2018, including refreshed diagram - Ch.7 - priority leads updated  - Appendix A - strategic assessment outcomes updated - Appendix B - MoRiLE outcomes refreshed - Appendix C - refreshed horizon scanning - Appendix D - Police & Crime Plan details updated
3.0	April 2019	Refreshed Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) - Effective date changed to April 2019 - Ch.3 - updated legislation and addition of partnership changes and challenges - Ch.5 - achievements for 2018/19 added - Ch.6 - minor changes to the chapter acknowledging the 2019 review - Ch.8 - minor changes to the list of plans  - Appendix A - strategic assessment outcomes updated - Appendix B - MoRiLE outcomes refreshed - Appendix C - refreshed horizon scanning - Appendix D - minor change acknowledging the latest review of the Police & Crime Plan
4.0	April 2020	Refreshed Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) - Effective date changed to April 2020 - Foreword – updated to reflect new version - Ch.3 - updated legislation partnership changes - Ch.5 - achievements for 2019/20 added - Ch.6 - minor change to one priority - Ch.7 - minor changes to the list of leads - Ch.8 - minor changes to the list of plans  - Appendix A - strategic assessment outcomes updated - Appendix B - MoRiLE outcomes refreshed - Appendix C - refreshed horizon scanning - Appendix D - minor change acknowledging the 2020 review

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# Foreword

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This page is currently under review with the Chair of the Kent Community Safety Partnership

# 1. Introduction

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- 1.1. The Community Safety Agreement (CSA) outlines the key community safety priorities for Kent and replaces the previous agreement (2014-17) which expired on 31st March 2017. The CSA is reviewed and refreshed annually, so for details of the current version, effective date and changes to previous documents see version control (page 2).
- 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 delivery 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 unitary 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

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- 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.
- 2.4. 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.
- 2.5. The requirement for Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) to conduct Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) came into effect on 13th April 2011 as a result of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004). In Kent and Medway it was agreed that these would be commissioned by the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) utilising pooled funding on behalf of the local CSPs including Medway. The process is managed, coordinated and administered by the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) with input from a wide variety of partners. The DHR process has been developed and enhanced since its introduction including the implementation of updated statutory guidance from the Home Office.

## 3. Key Changes to the Community Safety Landscape

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In recent years 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. **Anti-Social Behaviour:** The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, received royal assent on 13th March 2014. The Act introduced 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 to give people a greater say in how agencies respond to complaints. Partners have been working together since the introduction of the legislation to effectively implement the changes across the county. Updated statutory guidance from the Home Office released in December 2017 has brought greater clarity around the use of the tools and powers introduced by the Act.
- 3.2. **Safeguarding:** Between 2014 and 2016 a number of pieces of legislation were introduced to provide authorities with additional tools, powers and statutory duties to tackle community safety and safeguarding issues. Including the Care Act 2014, Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (and subsequent amendments in 2019), Serious Crime Act 2015, Modern Slavery Act 2015 and Psychoactive Substances Act 2016. These pieces of legislation introduced a range of duties including new reporting, referral and decision-making mechanisms, staff awareness requirements and impacts on contract management to be included in the everyday work of relevant organisations. More recently statutory guidance was introduced regarding inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018'.
- 3.3. **General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR):** This came into effect on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018 and whilst not solely related to community safety activities, it has resulted in partners reviewing and refreshing their information sharing practices, updating the Kent and Medway Information Sharing Protocol and development of Privacy Notices to cover a variety of partnership activities.
- 3.4. **Domestic Abuse:** On 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019 the Government published its draft Domestic Abuse Bill however due to the dissolution of Parliament in November 2019 the bill failed and has since been reintroduced as a new proposal in March 2020. Although it is not yet law the proposed changes will impact on victims and their families and the agencies that support them by improving the response to

domestic abuse. Some of the recommended changes include a statutory definition of domestic abuse; introduction of a Domestic Abuse Commissioner; a new domestic abuse protection notice and order; a new duty on local authorities in England to provide support to victims and their children in safe accommodation; etc. This is an evolving piece of draft legislation but Community Safety partners welcome the potential changes that new legislation could bring.

- 3.5. **Serious Violence:** In 2019/20 the Home Office ran a consultation on a new legal duty to support a multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling serious violence. The outcome was a decision to bring forward primary legislation to create a new duty on organisations to collaborate, where possible through existing partnership structures, to prevent and reduce serious violence. In addition, there is an intention to amend the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to ensure serious violence is an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships, in recognition of the important role of CSPs. Although legislation has not yet been introduced Community Safety partners are already working together to address serious violence as appropriate.

#### Partnership Changes and Challenges

The following are still in progress but provide an outline of some of the changes and challenges which will impact the community safety landscape in the coming months and years. Further updates will be available in future versions of this document:

- 3.6 **Violence Reduction:** In response to the Government's national Serious Violence Strategy, the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) introduced a Violence Reduction Challenge (VRC) in 2018, a year-long study into the challenges around reducing violence. The PCC worked with victims, residents, charities, statutory bodies and others to learn about people's experiences of violent crime, its causes and how it can be tackled as well as challenging Partner agencies to look at opportunities to address this issue. As a result of this work the PCC set up a Violence Reduction Fund in 2019/20 to tackle violence in the county and requested that the Crime Reduction Grant funding provided to Community Safety Partnerships in Kent and Medway by the PCC has a particular focus around tackling violence. Coupled with this, in 2019, the OPCC was successful in being awarded Home Office funding to set up a Violence Reduction Unit in Kent to deliver a range of violence reduction projects.
- 3.7 **Future Arrangements for Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs):** Following a public consultation, 'Strengthening Probation' July to September 2018, the Ministry of Justice set out its plans to renationalise the case management of adults under probation supervision in England and Wales. This means that the National Probation Service (NPS) will take over responsibility for all case management. A competition is in progress to appoint a Probation Delivery Partner to each region to deliver Community Payback, accredited and structured programmes. Whilst there is a reduction in the number of regions

nationally, the South East (Kent, Surrey and Sussex) will remain unchanged. Additional rehabilitative and wrap around services will be separately commissioned through a Dynamic Framework. It is planned that the new contacts will be effective from June 2021. Much of the initial preparation will take place during the coming 12 months, to enable a safe and smooth transfer of case management to the NPS. In the meantime Kent Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company (KSS CRC) will continue to deliver the existing range of probation services and maintain its commitment to work with partners to reduce reoffending.

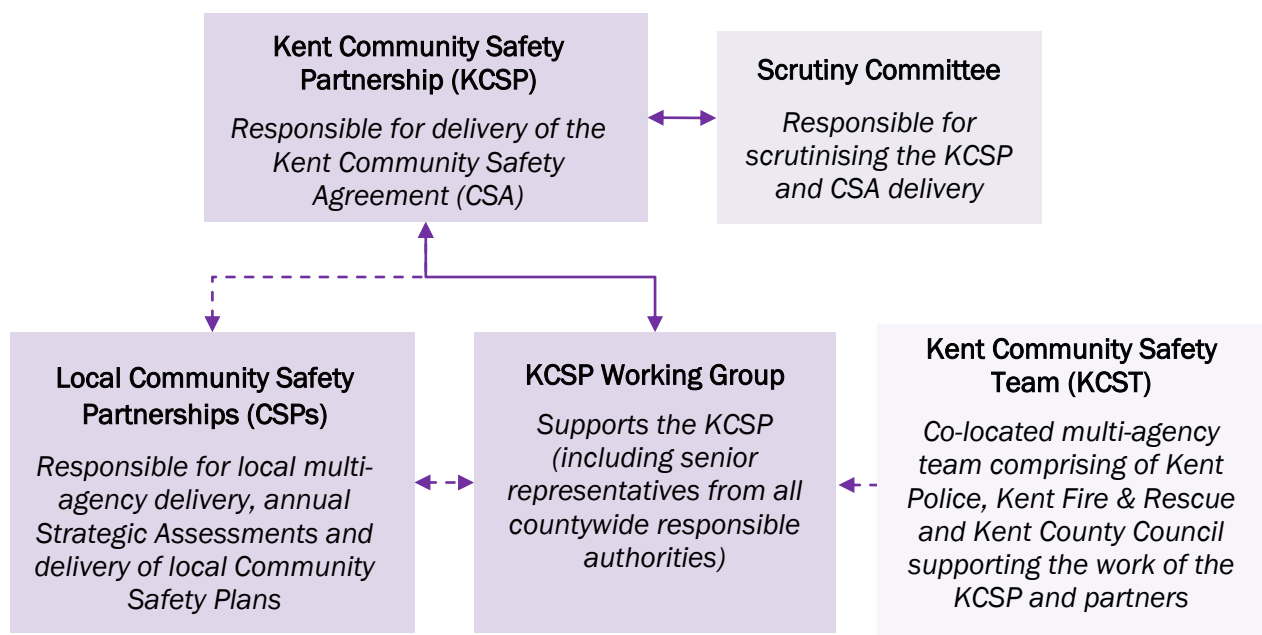
- 3.8 Transformation of Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs): The eight CCG's within the Kent and Medway footprint will amalgamate to form a single CCG with effect from 1st April 2020, they will become the NHS Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group. The emergent Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group will remain an active member of the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership, working with partners to deliver the Kent & Medway five year strategic plan (2019/20 – 2023/24) to meet all the commitments identified within the Long Term Plan.

## 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 the responsible authorities (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

- 4.2. The KCSP is supported by a Working Group consisting of senior representatives from all the countywide statutory partners. In addition, the multi-agency Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) which is formed of staff from Police, Fire & Rescue and KCC helps support the work of both county and district partners.
- 4.3. The statutory partners aim to effectively and efficiently deliver the priorities outlined in this agreement and to comply with statutory responsibilities.
- 4.4. The KCC 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

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During 2019-20 the key priorities identified as those with the potential to benefit from being supported at a county level included Domestic Abuse, Substance Misuse, Safeguarding Vulnerable People, Serious & Organised Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour, Road Safety and Preventing Extremism & Hate. The priorities were addressed through a rolling partnership action plan which outlines the key aims of the agreement and ensures a coordinated approach by linking into existing multi-agency partnership arrangements where possible. Progress made by partners is monitored and reported to the Kent Community Safety Partnership on a regular basis by the Working Group.

Some of the progress and key achievements include:

- Preventing Extremism and Hate Conference: Following delivery of this conference by the Kent Community Safety Partnership in November 2018, an information and learning pack was developed for use by partners. The pack was circulated to attendees of the conference as well as the wider partnership during Hate Crime Awareness Week in October 2019 to provide colleagues with information about referrals, reporting, case studies etc. in relation to extremism, hate crimes and community cohesion.
- Kent Community Safety Team (KCST): A joint business plan is now in place for the KCST which is closely linked to the CSA action plan, work is ongoing to develop the office space to facilitate greater opportunities for joint working and the partnership Memorandum of Understanding is currently being refreshed. Throughout 2019/20 the team has continued to support the work of all three agencies as well as the KCSP by helping to jointly deliver projects and workshops. As part of the ongoing development of the KCST, in 2019/20 district/borough colleagues were asked for their feedback on the team – what is working well and areas for development. The responses were generally very positive, with 76% of respondents believing that the KCST delivers either ‘extremely well’ or ‘well’ against its aims and objectives. Areas highlighted as of benefit locally to districts/boroughs were in relation to the managing and coordinating of DHRs, sharing of information, being a central point of contact for community safety matters and providing learning/training opportunities. Some areas for future development were also identified including improvements to the Safer Communities Portal, more regular communications, a wider training offer and coordination / joint approach in relation to specific topics. Following the survey, work has already started on implementing some of the suggestions.
- Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs): During 2019/20 the KCSP has published two completed review following quality assurance from the Home Office, ensured that 28 recommendations from across six different DHRs have been implemented; this



includes three reviews which have been signed off with all recommendations complete. The Partnership is committed to ensuring that the learning from these tragic cases is shared with partners to not only help in preventing such homicides in the future, but also to help improve services for all victims of domestic abuse. As such, the KCST has delivered three successful DHR Lessons Learnt Seminars in 2019/20 to over 300 frontline practitioners and professionals to share the learning from the reviews and inform future practices. The seminars were all fully booked and there is a waiting list for future sessions, which is an indication of how useful partners find these events. The Kent Community Safety Team continues to manage the current caseload on behalf of the Community Safety Partnerships across Kent and Medway and these are at various stages of the DHR process.

- **Project Funding:** In 2019/20 the KCSP used the community safety funding provided by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to fund a total of nine projects focusing on a variety of topics. These included funding promotional and educational material for the Kent & Medway Domestic Services website; retail knife sales; and the Raise a Brow scam campaign (easyread leaflets). As well as funding a variety of training in relation to Modern Slavery, Problem Solving and Trauma Informed Practice. Plus purchasing Emergency Trauma Packs and partially funding the development of a Community Vulnerability WebApp. The achievements and outcomes of these projects are monitored by the KCSP Working Group and reported back to the PCC.
- **Information Sharing:** The Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) continues to coordinate and source data, reports and information on a variety of issues to be shared with community safety partners across the County via the Safer Communities Portal. In addition, the KCST continues to produce a community safety partnership newsletter, four of which were published in 2019/20 including input from partners across the county to help share information, examples of best practice, good news stories and upcoming events.
- **Workshops / Events:** During 2019/20, in addition to events already mentioned, the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) organised and delivered a number of workshops to support partnership delivery including a Strategic Assessment Data workshop for district partners, Community Safety Information Sessions on a variety of topics and Gangs Awareness training for staff in a number of districts.
- **Operations:** During 2019/20 the Kent Community Safety Team with Kent Police leading, has delivered numerous multi-agency operations across the county to tackle vulnerability and violence in the night time economy (NTE) with an additional focus on Human Trafficking, Modern Slavery and Child Sexual Exploitation.

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.

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## 6. County Priorities

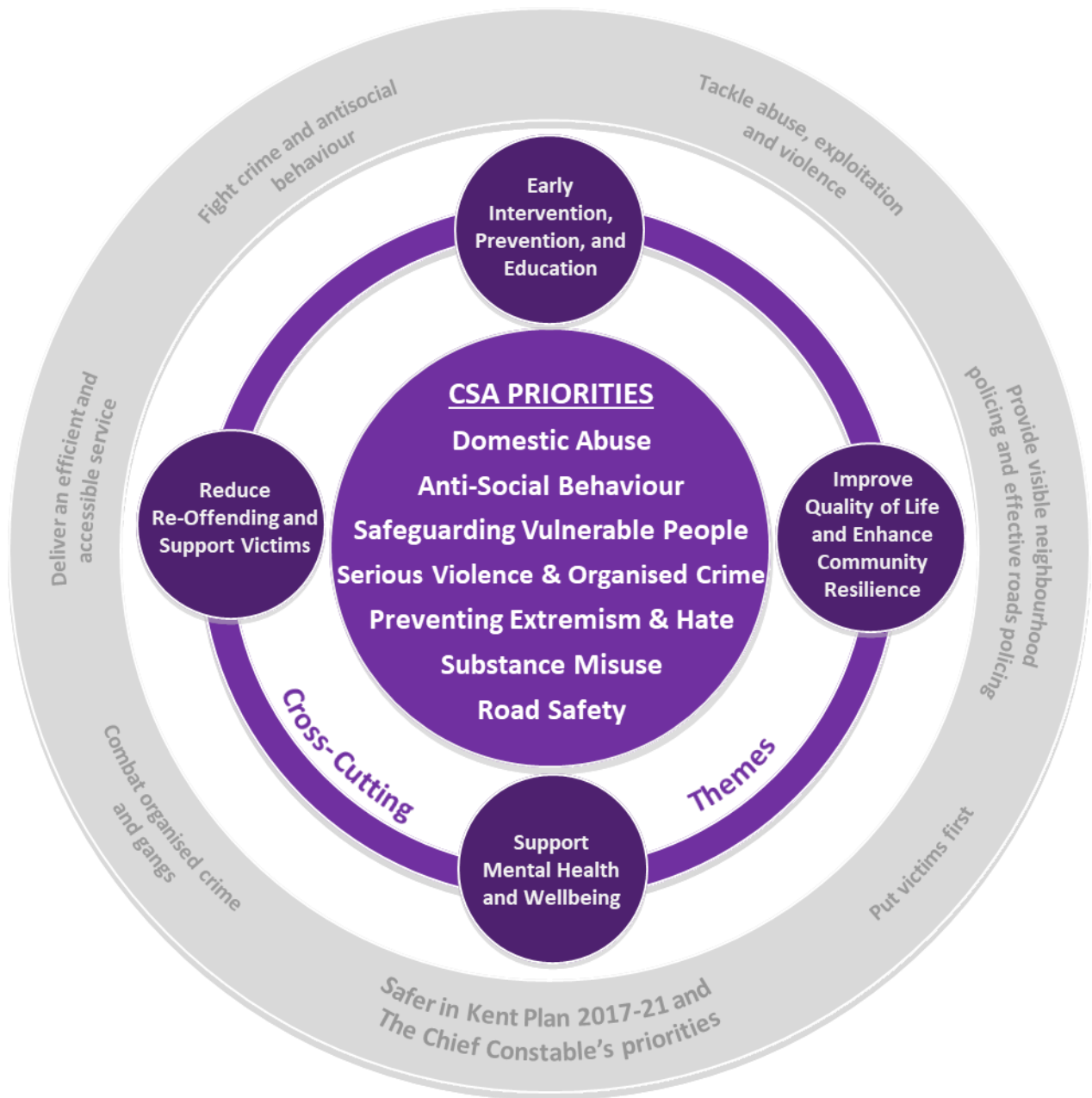
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- 6.1. To help identify the community safety priorities for Kent as well as the local district/borough partnerships a wide variety of datasets are sourced from partner agencies and analysed to ascertain the key issues. The review of data is complemented by other sources of information such as horizon scanning (including legislative changes) and partnership plans etc. which all help to identify and formulate the priorities for the forthcoming year.
- 6.2. At a local level, the eleven Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) across Kent undertake an annual strategic assessment process to identify the priorities for their own district/borough community safety plans. The outcomes of these assessments for the new financial year are shown in the appendix and have been incorporated into the review of the priorities for the Community Safety Agreement (CSA).
- 6.3. In 2016-17 a pilot was undertaken by several of the district/borough CSPs as well as the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) to trial the use of the MoRiLE (*Management of Risk in Law Enforcement*) scoring matrix as part of the assessment process. The matrix helped partners to rank specific issues based on threat, risk and harm and to support the selection of the priorities within the local assessments and the Community Safety Agreement. In subsequent years this has been refreshed for the County CSA. Further details are in the appendix.
- 6.4. In recent years the priorities and themes within the Community Safety Agreement (CSA) have developed from more crime and disorder based priorities to incorporate a wider range of issues. These include a number of safeguarding issues and new duties such as preventing violent extremism, hate crime, gangs, organised crime groups, child sexual exploitation, modern slavery, online safety, cybercrime, mental health, vulnerable people, victims etc. Many of which were incorporated into the broader themes identified in the April 2017 CSA of 'Safeguarding Vulnerable People' and 'Serious and Organised Crime' and were also reflected in the priorities identified by the local CSPs.
- 6.5. Following the review in 2018 it became evident that preventing violent extremism along with hate crime had risen up the priority listings and warranted being a priority in its own right – 'Preventing Extremism and Hate'. In the same 2018 review the profile of Road Safety had dropped at a local level but remains an issue for county partners and is being addressed by the multi-agency Road Casualty Reduction Partnership (RCRP). It was therefore agreed by partners that it would be beneficial for road safety to remain a focus area within the CSA

but to note that this priority would be led by the RCRP and report back to the KCSP as necessary.

- 6.6. In the 2019 review no major changes were identified for the overarching priorities although the Violence Reduction Challenge (VRC) launched by the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and the possible community safety related impacts of Brexit were noted. It was agreed however that these two elements could be incorporated into existing priorities such as Serious and Organised Crime, Safeguarding Vulnerable People and Preventing Extremism and Hate.
- 6.7. Since the last review serious violence has remained a focus for both Government and local partners with the PCC successfully securing funding for a Violence Reduction Unit in Kent and the Government planning to introduce new duties for individual agencies and CSPs to tackle violence. As such it is recommended that the priority of 'Serious and Organised Crime' be renamed from April 2020 to 'Serious Violence and Organised Crime' to appropriately reflect this area of work.
- 6.8. In addition to the priorities, the CSA also includes a number of cross-cutting themes to be addressed within each priority as appropriate. Following the 2018 review, a new theme was added - 'Support Mental Health and Wellbeing', however the latest reviews have not identified any additional cross cutting issues. The combination of priorities and themes identified within the CSA highlights the need for community safety partners to support and safeguard the most vulnerable members of society across a variety of issues.
- 6.9. The diagram over the page not only includes the priorities and cross-cutting themes for the Community Safety Agreement but also shows those identified in the latest update of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Safer in Kent Plan 2017-21 (updated in Spring 2020), reflecting the mutual need for CSPs and the PCC to have due regard for each other's priorities.
- 6.10. 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. Including groups such as the *Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group; Domestic Homicide Review Steering Group; Road Casualty Reduction Partnership; Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-Agency Partnership; Kent & Medway Safeguarding Adults Board; Kent & Medway Joint Exploitation Group; Prevent Duty Delivery Board; Channel Panel; Hate Crime Forum; Kent & Medway Reducing Offending Board; etc.*
- 6.11. These multi-agency partnerships 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.

Kent Community Safety Agreement Priorities and Cross-Cutting Themes:



Kent CSA priorities & themes (purple)

Chief Constable's priorities from the Safer in Kent Plan (grey)

Note:

- Safeguarding Vulnerable People includes: *Child Sexual Exploitation, Scams, Cybercrime, Victims, Vulnerable People at Risk of Exploitation*
- Serious Violence & Organised Crime includes: *Organised Crime Groups (OCGs), Gangs, Modern Slavery / Human Trafficking, Violence Reduction*
- Preventing Extremism & Hate includes: *Preventing Violent Extremism, Counter-Terrorism, Hate Crimes, Brexit*

## 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 Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group
Anti-social Behaviour	Head of Protecting Vulnerable People Command, Kent Police
Substance Misuse	Consultant in Public Health, Kent County Council
Serious and Organised Crime	Head of Serious Crime Command, Kent Police
Safeguarding Vulnerable People	Group Head of Public Protection, Kent County Council
Road Safety	Director Operations, Kent Fire and Rescue Service; and Head of Transportation, Kent County Council
Preventing Extremism and Hate	Prevent and Channel Strategic Manager, Kent County Council

## 8. Links to Plans

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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
- Safer in Kent: The Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan
- Local Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Community Safety Plans
- Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy
- Kent Drug and Alcohol Strategy
- Kent County Council's 5 Year Plan
- Kent Fire and Rescue Service Corporate and Customer Plan
- Kent Criminal Justice Board Strategic Plan
- Kent and Medway Strategic Plan for Reducing Reoffending
- Medway Community Safety Plan
- Road Casualty Reduction Strategy for Kent
- Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board Strategic Plan
- Kent Children and Young People Strategy
- Prevent Duty Delivery Board Action Plan
- Kent Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy

# 9. Responsible Authorities

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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 (KFRS)
- Kent County Council
- Local District/Borough Authorities
- Local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs)
- Kent, Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company (KSS CRC)
- Local District/Borough Community Safety Partnerships

# Appendix A: Strategic Assessments (2019-20)

Local Community Safety Partnership (CSP) strategic assessments:

All statutory partners including Police, Fire and Rescue, Health, Probation, County Council services, Local Authority services provided community safety information for use by the eleven Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) in Kent during the strategic assessment process to help determine their key priorities.

The following table shows the outcome of the local assessments completed to date (February 2020), with the key issues identified locally either as a main priority, cross-cutting theme or as part of a broader theme. *The table will be updated in due course once full details have been received – to date 6 CSPs have set draft priorities.*

Priority	No. of CSPs identifying these issues
<b>Domestic Abuse</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Safeguarding and Vulnerability</b> ( <i>including child sexual exploitation, exploitation, vulnerable people, repeat victims</i> )	<b>4</b>
<b>ASB / Environmental</b>	<b>5</b>
Serious and Organised Crime ( <i>including gangs, organised crime groups, county lines, modern slavery</i> )	2
<b>Substance Misuse</b> ( <i>including drugs &amp; alcohol, night time economy</i> )	<b>4</b>
Tackling Violence ( <i>including violence reduction, youth violence, weapons</i> )	2
Extremism & Hate ( <i>including preventing violent extremism, counter-terrorism &amp; hate crimes</i> )	2
Mental Health	2
Strengthening Communities ( <i>cohesion, resilience, reassurance</i> )	1
Crime ( <i>including acquisitive, property, doorstep crime &amp; scams</i> )	2
Reducing Offending and Reoffending	2
Road Safety	1

*Other focus areas identified by districts/boroughs include: homelessness, preventing fires/arson, communication and information sharing, diversionary activities, funding, hot spot locations, town centres, education, etc.*



# Appendix B: MoRiLE Assessment (2019-20)

In 2016-17 the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) facilitated a pilot with six district/borough community safety units in Kent to trial the use of the MoRiLE (*Management of Risk in Law Enforcement*) scoring matrix within the local strategic assessments. The aim of MoRiLE is to enable specific issues to be ranked based on threat, risk and harm and to help target resources at those which have the greatest impact on individuals and communities not just those with the greatest volume of incidents.

At that time a national pilot was also in progress, which Kent participated in, to look at whether MoRiLE which was originally developed for use by law enforcement agencies could be adapted to the needs of multi-agency community safety partnerships (CSPs). In 2016/17 many of the districts/boroughs involved in the Kent pilot incorporated the methodology and outcomes within their strategic assessments to support the identification of local priorities. It should be noted that MoRiLE is not the only element used to identify priorities the assessment also takes into consideration resident's views, partner priorities, new legislation, emerging issues etc.

An updated MoRiLE assessment matrix was developed by the national pilot in 2017 and has been used to inform the latest CSA refresh. The assessment looked at approximately 20 different elements of community safety from modern slavery to vehicle crime. The issues that caused the greatest harm and risk resulting in the highest overall score, unsurprisingly issues such as child sexual exploitation and modern slavery appear high in the rankings:

<b>Priority</b>	<b>Priority</b>
Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	Public Order
Modern Slavery	Mental Health
PREVENT	Violent Crime
Domestic Abuse	Cyber Crime
Gangs	Anti-Social Behaviour
Organised Crime Groups (OCGs)	Hate Crime

Whilst the outcome from the MoRiLE assessment provides a list of priorities based on threat, risk and harm it is not used in isolation but is combined with the outcomes from the district strategic assessments, horizon scanning etc. As such the priorities identified within the CSA may not fully replicate the above listing however most if not all of the issues identified within MoRiLE do form part of the CSA priorities and cross-cutting themes.



# Appendix C: Horizon Scanning (2019-20)

Using PESTELO analysis members of the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) Working Group helped to identify existing and future issues that could impact on communities and may need to be considered as part of community safety plans.

## Political:

- General Election 12 December 2019
- Dissolution of parliament impacting on progress of new bills
- Brexit from the EU 31 January 2020
- Brexit transition to 31 December 2020
- PCC elections in May 2020

## Economic:

- Impact of Brexit on the economy
- Public sector budget cuts
- Commissioning of services and securing new funding sources
- Roll out of Universal Credit
- Grant funding secured for projects in Kent

## Social / Demographic:

Many issues identified relate to safeguarding and supporting the most vulnerable members of society including:

- domestic abuse
- preventing violent extremism
- child sexual exploitation
- human trafficking/modern slavery
- unaccompanied asylum seeking children and looked after children
- organised crime groups
- serious violence / street gangs
- psychoactive substances
- hate crime
- mental health (including dementia)
- ageing population
- social isolation

## Technological:

- Cyber-crime and cyber-enabled crime
- Online safety
- Increased availability and use

## Environmental (and Geographical):

- New developments i.e. North Kent Development, New Dartford Crossing
- Extreme weather events, i.e. flooding
- Impact of Brexit on transport routes

## Legislation:

Recent legislation introduced a range of statutory duties and opportunities including:

- Policing and Crime Act 2017
- Homelessness Reduction Act 2017
- Data Protection Act 2018 (GDPR)
- Stalking Protection Act 2019
- Counter-Terrorism and Border Security Bill 2019

Upcoming legislation includes:

- Domestic Abuse Bill
- New legal duty to tackle serious violence

## Organisational:

- Public sector restructures
- New ways of working (i.e. service commissioning, multi-agency hubs, increased collaboration)
- Increased support from volunteers
- Impact of Brexit on business continuity.

# Appendix D: Police & Crime Plan (2017-2021)

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 introduced directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) to replace Police Authorities in England and Wales. Under this legislation, the PCC is required to produce a Police and Crime Plan that sets out the vision and priorities for policing and community safety, as well as the objectives and ambitions that the Police will be held to account on. The legislation also includes a requirement for the responsible authorities making up the CSPs to have regard to the objectives set out in the Police and Crime Plan as well as a mutual duty to act in co-operation with each other in exercising their respective functions.

The following is an extract from the Police and Crime Plan entitled '**Safer in Kent: The Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan 2017-2021**' (spring 2020 version).

The guiding principles of the plan are:

- People suffering mental ill health need the right care from the right person
- Crime is important no matter where it takes place
- Vulnerable people must be protected from harm

The Chief Constable's priorities are to:

1. Put victims first
2. Fight crime and antisocial behaviour
3. Tackle abuse, exploitation and violence
4. Combat organised crime and gangs
5. Provide visible neighbourhood policing and effective roads policing
6. Deliver an efficient and accessible service

The Police and Crime Commissioner will:

1. Hold the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of Kent Police's priorities
2. Enhance services for victims of crime and abuse
3. Commission services that reduce pressure on policing due to mental health
4. Invest in schemes that make people safer and reduce re-offending
5. Make offenders pay for the harm that they have caused
6. Actively engage with residents in Kent and Medway

The Police and Crime Plan priorities included in the diagram on p.12 of the Community Safety Agreement reflect the Chief Constable's priorities detailed above.

*In partnership with*



For Further information on this Community Safety Agreement please contact the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST):



KCST Office  
Maidstone Fire Station  
Loose Road  
Maidstone  
Kent  
ME15 9QB

**Email:** [kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk)

**Tel:** 03000 410234

This document is available in other formats;  
please contact the KCST above by email or

**By:** Shafick Peerbux - Head of Community Safety, KCC  
Chief Inspector Lara Conner – Kent Police

**To:** Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) – 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**Classification:** For Information

**Subject:** Kent Community Safety Partnership Working Group Update

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**Summary** This report provides an update on the key activities and projects being managed on behalf of the Kent Community Safety Partnership by the Working Group.

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## **1.0 Background / Introduction**

- 1.1 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 were required to form multi-agency 'Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships' to undertake this activity. Subsequent revisions introduced additional responsibilities to tackle anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and reduce reoffending, and the partnerships were renamed Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs).
- 1.2 The Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) operates at a County level, with the overarching purpose to manage the Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) on behalf of the responsible authorities in Kent and to deliver safer and stronger communities. The KCSP is supported by a multi-agency working group which has a particular remit to prepare and monitor the Community Safety Agreement including the action plan and performance reports, as well as managing the Kent Community Safety fund on behalf of the governing group.

## **2.0 KCSP Funding – Crime Reduction Grant 2019/20**

- 2.1 The Kent Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) allocated £39,661 to the KCSP in 2019/20 to fund projects throughout Kent, focussing on the priorities identified in the Community Safety Agreement and the Police and Crime Plan. Similar funding has also been provided by the PCC to all Community Safety Partnerships across Kent and Medway to help deliver projects in support of local priorities.
- 2.2 Of the grant, £26,441 was allocated for upfront expenditure and the remaining £13,220 was allocated to the tactical pot for emerging issues in-year. However due to unforeseen circumstances, three of the projects could not take place in this financial year and had to be removed, including taxi driver training (£2k), gangs training (£2,541) and a community safety conference/seminar (£5k). In addition, one project (knife crime first aid) was funded entirely through the PCC Violence Reduction

funding and as a result, the KCSP was subsequently refunded the £10k initially allocated to this project in early 2020.

2.3 The further three initial projects which have proceeded and that partnership have helped to fund in 2019/20 were:

- *Trauma Informed Practice: Staff Awareness Training 18-24 (VRC Recommendation)* - This project is for four half day 'Trauma Informed Practice' sessions to be delivered to between 64-80 members of staff from the National Probation Service and the Community Rehabilitation Company. The content includes understanding the impact of unregulated stress on brain development and function, and understanding how to promote recovery for traumatised children, young people and adults. The course also gives participants access to an E-Learning course.
- *Knife Crime Retail Surveillance and Enforcement (VRC Recommendation)* - Trading Standards has undertaken work on underage sales of knives in identified areas of Kent (based on intelligence), which includes the engagement and education of retailers, and enforcement action against persistent offenders where necessary.
- *Easy Read Leaflets for 'Raise a Brow' Scams Campaign* – This project involves the design and printing of easy read leaflets for adults with learning disabilities in relation to the 'Raise a Brow' scams campaign, to provide simple guidance around scams and doorstep crime. This work has been undertaken with the North Kent Independent Advocacy Scheme and a group of adults with learning disabilities.

2.4 The remaining funding was discussed at the February 2020 KCSP Working Group meeting and recommendations were made to the Chair of the KCSP. The below projects were subsequently approved by the Chair of the KCSP and are subject to final approval from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC):

- *Emergency Trauma Packs (ETPs)*– This project involves the purchase of 36 small Emergency Trauma Packs (ETPs) which can be used to assist in incidents of life-threatening injuries (e.g. knife assaults, terrorist attacks and road traffic accidents). Training sessions are required for the use of large packs, which are being funded by the PCC for the district/borough CSPs. This project therefore also involves the funding of four training sessions for partners and colleagues to be trained in using the packs.
- *Modern Slavery: Train the Trainer* – This project consists of one training session for community safety colleagues across the county. The training session will be delivered by the charity 'Stop the Traffik' and aims to raise awareness and increase understanding, whilst also enabling participants to spot the signs of human trafficking and equipping participants to respond. Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) staff will be included in the training which will provide a partnership resource for further cascading this training.

- *OSARA Problem Solving Training* – OSARA is an applied problem-solving model used by Kent Police which identifies a range of tools and techniques that can be used to identify and respond to issues of crime and ASB. This project will deliver a three day “Train the Trainer” course for up to 10 delegates. It will provide Community Safety Partners with new tools to find ways to reduce crime. The ‘trainers’ will become a partnership resource, allowing workshops to be delivered to colleagues/partners across the county without the need to buy the training in from an external company.
- *Domestic Abuse Website: Publicity Material* – This project raises awareness of the refreshed Domestic Abuse Website. The purpose of the website is to provide advice and support to victims of domestic abuse and their family and friends. In order to raise awareness of the website, this project will fund the printing of promotional material (10,000 posters and 3 pull up banners).
- *Strategic Assessment Workshop* – The workshop delivered by the KCST, which took place in November 2019, provided district/borough Community Safety colleagues with greater details about the data that has been supplied for the strategic assessment process. It involved a variety of partner agencies covering trends, emerging issues and hotspot locations to help inform the strategic assessment process.
- *Kent Community Vulnerability Guidance Webapp* – This app was originally designed to increase awareness of vulnerability and exploitation definitions and identifiers, whilst providing information sharing pathways and details of support services. It has become evident that the App needs to be on public platforms to allow access to all in the community, blue light partners, statutory agencies, community services and NGO’s and the public. This project will fund the enabling of the Webapp’s blueprint (currently only policing systems) onto other media platforms such as Android, Apple etc.

2.5 It should be noted that feedback on the outcomes from all of the above projects funded in 2019/20 must be completed and submitted to the OPCC in the coming weeks. A final update on the projects will be provided at the next KCSP meeting.

### **3.0 KCSP Funding – Crime Reduction Grant 2020/21**

3.1 The Kent PCC has confirmed that the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) will retain its current level of funding for 2020/21 of £39,661. Up to a third of this funding (£13,220) can be allocated to a tactical pot to be spent in-year on emerging issues. In addition, the KCSP has sought permission from the PCC to rollover the £10k refunded on the knife crime first aid project into the pot for 2020/21 due to the tight timescales involved in reallocating this funding in 2019/20.

3.2 It should be noted that the submission dates for the 2020/21 business cases to the OPCC is 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020. As such, the KCSP Working Group considered a number of projects for the 2020/21 financial year at their last meeting in February 2020. These include projects that will aimed at violence reduction.

3.3 At the time of writing this report the projects for 2020/21 have not yet been finalised. However, a verbal update will be provided at the meeting to advise on the recommended projects submitted to the PCC with the agreement of the Chair of the KCSP.

#### **4.0 Community Safety Conference/Seminar**

4.1 The Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) has delivered a Community Safety Conference for the benefit of partners across the county for a number of years, with a different focus topic each time. Feedback from these events has been very positive and has enabled the Partnership to develop a shared understanding of the topics covered and ensure that key messages are cascaded out to all community safety partners. The last conference took place on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018 focussing on the priority of 'Preventing Extremism and Hate'.

4.2 The Multi-agency Conference Working Group, who organise and deliver the conference with support from the KCST, met on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020 to discuss a potential conference/seminar in 2020. Discussions took place with the statutory responsible authorities and around whether there was a need for such an event at a county level. There was agreement for exploring this further and options were discussed regarding the potential theme for the day. The topic must fulfil a need and will need to link to the priorities outlined within the Kent Community Safety Agreement and PCC Police and Crime Plan. Two of the suggested themes so far include Serious Organised Crime (including serious violence) and Road Safety, with a particular focus on drug driving (including prescription drugs).

#### **5.0 Kent Community Safety Team (KCST)**

5.1 As mentioned at the last KCSP meeting in October 2019, part of the continuous improvement of the KCST led to feedback being sought from local district Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs). The aim of this approach was to identify where the KCST are doing well, where the team could do better and whether there are any gaps or potential for joint working on particular projects.

5.2 The questionnaire was completed by 11 of the 12 district/boroughs. The feedback was largely positive, with 76% of respondents suggesting that the KCST were either delivering 'well' or 'extremely well' against their aims and objectives. Areas highlighted as of benefit locally to districts/boroughs and of particular note were: the managing and coordinating of DHRs, sharing of information, being a central point of contact for community safety matters and providing learning/training opportunities.

5.3 Some areas for future development identified were: improvements to the Safer Communities Portal, more regular communications, a wider training offer and coordination / joint approach in relation to specific topics. Following the results of the questionnaire, work has already begun on the implementation of the suggestions and updating the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

5.4 The KCST continues to deliver as part of its role in sharing good practice and facilitating joint working, the team produces a partnership newsletter on Community



Safety in Kent, highlighting and promoting Community Safety work across the county. The latest edition published in December 2019 had a range of articles including updates on partnership activities and training, such as the KFRS 'Drive: Road Safety Pledge', raising awareness of domestic abuse and supporting victims, a recently opened dementia carer's café in Kent, problem solving and crime prevention training etc. The next edition is due in April 2020 and the KCST are currently liaising with partners for suitable articles for inclusion.

- 5.5 In addition to the newsletter, the KCST will be trialling news e-bulletins, aimed at Community Safety practitioners across Kent, including joint Community Safety Unit staff, local authority departments, housing providers and the wider Community Safety sector. This is aimed at further developing communications in line with the questionnaire feedback. It is hoped that the first e-bulletin will be sent in mid-March and will then be distributed as and when required. The bulletin will include the latest Community Safety news such as legislation, updates to the Safer Communities Portal and any publications or consultations. The newsletter will still be retained for the sending of articles and examples of good practice/case studies which was highlighted by local district/boroughs as useful in the questionnaire.
- 5.6 The KCST is in the process of coordinating and delivering a number of events. By the end of 2019/20 the KCST will have delivered three DHR Lessons Learnt Seminars and two Community Safety Information Sessions covering topics such as self-neglect and hoarding, suicide prevention, financial abuse, Emergency Trauma Packs etc. The team are also working in partnership to deliver or support a number of other training sessions and events which will be made available over the coming months.
- 5.7 The KCSP Working Group would like to encourage partners to contact the KCST if they have any suggested topics for the information sessions, articles for the newsletter or any other suggestions for funding opportunities, training and /or collaborative working. The KCST email address is [kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk).

## **6.0 Recommendations**

- 6.1 The KCSP is asked to note the progress and actions undertaken by the Working Group and the work of the KCST.
- 6.2 The KCSP is asked for comments on the proposed topics for a community safety conference/seminar and confirmation of the need for this at a county level.

### **For Further Information:**

Shafick Peerbux  
KCC, Head of Community Safety  
[shafick.peerbux@kent.gov.uk](mailto:shafick.peerbux@kent.gov.uk)

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**Meeting:** Kent Community Safety Partnership

**Date:** 18th March 2020

**By:** Detective Chief Inspector Ben Loose & Mark Powell (KCC)

**Information Update Report:** Kent & Medway Violence Reduction Unit

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## **Introduction**

This paper is included to brief the Community Safety Partnership on the status of the Kent Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) and provide an oversight of the unit's strategic ambitions and planned activity for the current and anticipated grant periods. A decision is sought as to the future alignment of the VRU.

## **Essential Background**

In Summer 2019, the Kent OPCC was one of 18 police areas granted a share of the £35m Serious Violence Fund. Kent were allocated £1.16m to create a VRU.

Violence Reduction Units were originally established in Glasgow and Cardiff and have taken a long term, "public health" approach to reducing violence. The public health approach is an all systems model which:

- Brings together agencies & communities to tackle violence by understanding root causes,
- Identifies drivers of serious violence and implanting a co-ordinated response to tackle them,
- Uses evidence- based practice and OSARA problem solving to achieve its objectives.

The Home Office defined the following critical success factors for all VRUs:

- Reduction in A&E admissions due to knife related assaults (victim under 25)
- Reduction in reported knife related assaults (victim under 25)
- Reduction in knife related murder rate (victim under 25, excluding domestic homicides)

The bidding window is currently open for 2020/21 with the opportunity to bid for a grant of £1.16m.

## **Progress to date**

The Strategic Board, chaired by the PCC with membership including Kent Police, Kent County Council, Medway Council, Kent Fire & Rescue, NHS and Probation,

was established in October 2019. The Board has oversight of the strategic objectives and holds the VRU Managers to account.

VRU Managers, DCI Ben Loose and Mark Powell, KCC Youth Justice Manager took up post in November 2019, setting out the Kent VRUs strategy and ambitions based on a 5P approach.

5 VRU Co-Ordinators and 4 VRU Analysts from across the partnership are in post since January 2020.

The scope of the initial programme was reviewed to ensure that activities were deliverable within the funding period and that intervention opportunities were maximised. The following activities have been delivered in the initial period:

- i) **Commissioned services:** 18 existing services across Kent and Medway which provide support / intervention / diversion for young people involved in violence have been granted additional funding to improve scope and reach.
- ii) **Community engagement:** Hackathon event bringing together professionals and young people to problem solve serious youth violence. Yr 8 /9 schools' preventative event.
- iii) **Professional development:** public health conference for professionals around trauma informed practice and ACEs
- iv) **Preventative measures:** CSP funding for knife detection equipment, rapid deployment CCTV and trauma packs, along with a trauma pack education event.
- v) **Media:** delivery of social & traditional media campaign via Fearless and Crimestoppers.

The VRU leads chair a multi-agency tactical group to ensure co-ordination of activity and information sharing between violence reduction initiatives in Kent and Medway (Margate / Medway Task Forces, Gangs / County Lines enforcement, Probation, Youth Offending and other centrally funded projects).

### **Barriers to successful implementation**

The initial short-term funding window meant long-term elements were removed from the programme, for example, a multi-agency case management system could not be procured in the timeframe however options are being considered for 2020/21.

### **Timescales and costs**

The programme is within budget and timescale for 2019/2020.

### **Next Steps**

The VRU Problem Profile & draft Response has been presented to the Strategic Board and approved.

For 2020/2021 areas of focus will be expanded to include “Primary, Secondary and Tertiary” interventions designed to challenge the risk posed by those involved with gangs and county lines and serious violence as well as interventions to support those susceptible to these risks in the long term.

The scope of the VRU analytic product will be reviewed to establish how we understand and quantify some of the unknown risks (such as county line related violence).

The VRU data-set is being developed to include crucial public health data that will enable us to better understand the context of and possible preventative measures for serious violence in Kent.

The VRU will work closely with Kent and Medway Authorities, National Probation Service and the 13 Community Safety Partnerships to develop local approaches to both understanding and tackling public-place violence.

A communications and media strategy will be developed to take advantage of traditional and social media to communicate key messages to target audiences in conjunction with Thanet, Medway and Maidstone Task Forces.

Membership and structure of the VRU will be reviewed to ensure that efficient and effective activity that supports and enhances delivery of violence reduction initiatives across Kent and Medway and is supported by a clear performance framework that supports partners’ strategic ambitions.

### **Decision Required**

The Kent & Medway VRU has worked with the Public Health Observatory to identify the approaches which, based on research, are most likely to deliver positive outcomes for those involved in serious violence. These are:

- Desistance Theory
- Learning from NACRO’s ‘Beyond Youth Custody’ research project
- World Health Organisation’s work on violence prevention

The presentation to the Community Safety Partnership will provide more information on the approaches which are identified within the research.

The VRU has agreed with the Kent Youth Justice Board that these approaches will be used to inform any work carried out by Youth Justice within Kent. Initiatives which do not reflect the learning from the research will not be supported by the County Youth Justice Board.

### **Recommendation**

***The Community Safety Partnership is asked to support the approaches identified by the VRU and to include these within any initiatives around violence prevention.***

**By:** Jessica Mookherjee – Consultant in Public Health

**To:** Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) – 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**Classification:** For Information

**Subject:** Kent and Medway Substance Misuse Alliance Update

**Summary** This report provides an update on the new arrangements for Kent Strategic Alliance for Drug and Alcohol misuse.

## 1.0 Background / Introduction

- 1.1 12,689 adults in Medway and 70,000 adults in Kent are drinking at higher risk levels (double the recommended safe levels or above).
- 1.2 An estimated **19%** are binge drinkers. Recreational illicit drug use is pervasive in modern society with around 10% of adults reporting drug use within the past year, but evidence suggests recreational drug use is on a declining trend.
- 1.3 In Kent , since 2013, drug deaths are rising, the pattern of drug use and supply is changing and the commissioning arrangements for providing treatment services has also changed and is situated across a number of setting, the bulk of which is commissioned via the public health budget in KCC.
- 1.4 Previously there was a Kent Drug and Alcohol team (KDAT) which oversaw the commissioning of the pooled treatment budget for drug misuse. The context is very different now as the bulk of commissioning sits with KCC. Yet the police, Crime Commissioner, NHS, local authorities as well as other key partners are still vital to coordinated attempts to reduce harm and misery from drugs and alcohol misuse. In 2017 a new Kent joint Drug and Alcohol strategy was launched with the Police and Public health as key partners.
- 1.5 In 2019 an Alliance model (similar to the Kent Tobacco Control Alliance) was formed to update the Strategic KDAT. This meeting is chaired by the Director of Public Health and its role is to create and deliver a strategy and partnership to tackle drug deaths, supply of illicit substances and reduce harms caused by drug and alcohol misuse (see Appendix A – Terms of Reference).
- 1.6 The governance of this Alliance is twofold, to the Health and Well Being Board and also to the Kent Community Safety Partnership.

## **2.0 Recommendations**

2.1 The KCSP is asked to NOTE the Information provided.

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### **Attached:**

Appendix A – Terms of Reference for Substance Misuse Alliance

### **Author Contact Details:**

Name: Jessica Mookherjee  
Title: Consultant in Public Health  
Email: [jessica.mookherjee@kent.gov.uk](mailto:jessica.mookherjee@kent.gov.uk)  
Date: 10/03/2020



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## Kent Substance Misuse Alliance

### Terms of Reference

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**Purpose:**

to co-ordinate the drug & alcohol programmes identified in the Kent and Medway STP Prevention Plan and the Kent Drug & Alcohol Strategy to maximise opportunities for integration, partnership engagement and sharing good practice. The aim is to achieve reductions in the prevalence of drug & alcohol harm across the county, thus:

- Reducing the harmful effects of drug & alcohol on the Kent population.
  - Reducing health inequalities caused by drug & alcohol misuse
  - Reducing crime and the economic burdens from drug & alcohol misuse
- 

**Objectives:**

The Group will fulfil the purpose through:

Policy/Strategy Formulation/Delivery

1. bringing the insights and multi-agency perspectives of its members to bear on challenges of coordinating the strategy;
2. providing a co-ordinated approach to addressing drug & alcohol harm through key interventions
3. contributing to the debate on drug & alcohol policy and strategies;
4. providing a high level of challenge and strategic support to delivering prevention and commissioning for substance misuse

Advising on Implementation

5. promoting the application and use of evidence based practice in drug & alcohol misuse
6. providing multi-agency support and advice to substance misuse commissioning for KCC & NHS.
7. advising on improvement to pathways that reduce the prevalence of drug & alcohol harm in Kent, disrupt supply and under-age of alcohol sales

Advocacy for Substance Misuse

8. championing the cause of preventing drug & alcohol harm and deaths within the organisations and networks of members of the Board.

Evaluation and Research

9. providing strategic direction to the development of a Kent plan for substance misuse monitoring, evaluation and research.
- 

**Membership:**

Core Members –

Director of Public Health (Andrew Scott-Clark) – Chair

Consultant in Public Health (Jess Mookherjee)

Public Health Specialist (Lin Guo)

Commissioner (Laura Bush)

Senior Commissioning Manager (Melanie Anthony)

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Head of Commissioning Porfolio (Karen Sharp)  
 Head of Commissioning Porfolio (Clare Maynard)  
 Kent Police (Terry Newman)  
 Head of Community Safety, Public Protection (Shafick Peerbux)  
 Adult Safeguarding KCC  
 PCC  
 Probation  
 NHS England Local Area Team – Micheala Sonnen  
 PHE local Drug & Alcohol team  
 Lead Clinicians (west)  
 Lead Clinicians (east)  
 Service Providers – CGL, Forward Trust, and Addaction  
 Principal Trading Standards Officer (Oliver Jewell)  
 Kent Environmental Health  
 Campaigns and Communications Manager for Public Health (Gemma Smith)  
 Kent Fire and Rescue (Shuna Body)  
 Housing  
 Community Rehabilitation Company  
 KCHFT  
 KMPT  
 Kent and Medway STP Local Care Lead (Cathy Bellman)  
 Head of East Kent Mental Health Commissioning (Andy Oldfield)  
 Associate Director of Mental Health and Childrens Commissioning (Dave Holman)  
 Swale CCG (Naomi Hamilton)

District Council Representatives:

Ashford	Sevenoaks
Canterbury	Shepway
Dartford	Swale
Dover	Thanet
Gravesham	Tonbridge & Malling
Maidstone	Tunbridge Wells

*The Group will review its membership annually, and co-opt people as necessary.*

### **Frequency of Meetings:**

The Group will meet quarterly.

If members are unable to attend a meeting, they will endeavour to send a representative

There will be a minute taker. Minutes will be taken and circulated, along with the agenda, ahead of the meeting.

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### **Sub-Groups:**

The Group may establish time limited subgroups to support its work including;

- Stakeholder forums;
  - A technical advisory groups (e.g. Drug Deaths; Joint Commissioning; Communities, Children and Families [FDAC], Co-occurring Conditions)
  - Task and finish groups
- 

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### **Governance Arrangements:**

- The Group is accountable to the Health and Wellbeing Board on performance to the objectives of the Kent Substance Misuse Strategy.
  - The Group will provide 2 reports a year to the Health and Wellbeing Board
  - Members will feedback through their respective local boards and alliances to enable the work of this group to integrate with and support local decision making and activity.
- 

Terms of reference will be reviewed in one year.

September 2019

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