

By: Inspector James Ross, Kent Police

To: Kent Community Safety Partnership – 23rd July 2026

Classification: For Information

Subject: Countywide Anti-Social Behaviour Partnership Forum

Summary This report outlines work being undertaken to explore the establishment of a countywide Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Partnership Forum. The proposed Forum aims to strengthen partnership working and provide a regular opportunity for practitioners to share information, discuss emerging issues and exchange learning and good practice relating to ASB across Kent.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Anti-social behaviour (ASB) continues to have a significant impact on communities across Kent and remains a key issue for Community Safety Partnerships and other responsible authorities. Effective responses often require coordinated multi-agency working, information sharing, and the exchange of learning and good practice.
- 1.2 As part of its commitment to promoting good practice and strengthening partnership working, the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) is currently exploring the establishment of a countywide ASB Forum for partners. The proposal is at an early stage of development and initial discussions have taken place with police colleagues and a number of local authority Community Safety Managers. It reflects an identified need for a regular countywide arrangement to support practitioners working across the community safety and ASB agenda.

2.0 Proposed Countywide ASB Forum

- 2.1 The proposed Forum would provide a regular multi-agency meeting for police and local authority staff working on ASB to develop a shared understanding of the ASB picture across Kent, share intelligence and emerging issues, identify opportunities for joint activity, and exchange learning and good practice.
- 2.2 The Forum would also provide a central mechanism for sharing resources, guidance, templates and other relevant materials, helping practitioners to access information, learning and examples of practice from across Kent.
- 2.3 Draft Terms of Reference have been developed but will be subject to further discussion and refinement with partners.
- 2.4 The proposed membership initially includes representatives from Kent Police, district and borough councils, and the Kent Community Safety Team. The intention is to establish a focused and manageable forum in the first instance, with membership and representation reviewed over time as the Forum develops.

- 2.5 Initial discussions with a number of Community Safety Managers have indicated a broad interest in exploring the development of a countywide ASB Forum. Further engagement is planned to gather feedback on the draft Terms of Reference, including any governance arrangements, membership and meeting frequency (the current proposal is for the Forum to meet quarterly).

3.0 Links to the Community Safety Agreement

- 3.1 The proposed Forum aligns closely with the revised Kent Community Safety Agreement approach, particularly the strategic aim of creating stronger, safer and more resilient neighbourhoods. The Forum would provide an opportunity to strengthen professional networks, promote shared learning and improve awareness of ASB issues and emerging themes across Kent.
- 3.2 Subject to further development and agreement, the Forum is expected to form part of the 2026/27 Community Safety Agreement Action Plan and support the Partnership's understanding of anti-social behaviour issues affecting communities across Kent.

4.0 Next Steps

- 4.1 Further engagement will be undertaken with police, local authority and other relevant partners to refine the Terms of Reference.
- 4.2 Subject to partner support, it is anticipated that the Forum will be established during 2026/27, with updates provided to the Kent Community Safety Partnership as work progresses.

5.0 Recommendations

- 5.1 The Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) members are asked to note the work being undertaken to explore the establishment of a countywide Anti-Social Behaviour Partnership Forum.

For Further Information:

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