

To: Communities Policy Overview Committee – 22nd September 2008

From: Mike Hill, Cabinet Member and Amanda Honey, Managing Director

Subject: **Community Safety Framework**

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This paper presents the draft Kent County Council Framework for Community Safety 2008 – 2011

FOR INFORMATION AND COMMENT

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 created a statutory duty on local authorities to work together with the Police, Fire & Rescue Services, Police Authority and Health Authorities to reduce crime and disorder. Over the subsequent 10 years, Kent County Council has been working in increasingly closer and complex partnerships with a wide range of agencies and community organisations to make communities safer.
- 1.2 This has resulted in frontline practitioners successfully tackling a range of crime problems, particularly acquisitive crimes, and, although not a legal requirement, it has been helpful during this period to work within an overarching framework that illustrated KCC's commitment to the Community Safety agenda and provided a road map through the complex environment in which it sits.
- 1.3 Recent statutory reforms and changes to the way Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) work will now require a more sophisticated and holistic approach which ensures better connectivity between CDRPs, mainstream activities and other significant partnerships. At the same time, significant new performance frameworks will lead to further changes in partnership working. For these reasons, an updated and revised Framework has been drafted, in line with the CDRP 3 year planning timetable. It forms part of the County Council's Policy Framework and approval by members of this Committee is sought prior to subsequent ratification by the County Council.

2. The Framework

- 2.1 The attached draft Framework covers the period 2008 – 2011. It sets out the County Council's priorities and describes how they will be achieved through (i) the wide range of County Council services (ii) the actions of the County

Council's Community Safety Unit and (iii) partnership working with external agencies.

2.2 It is intended to be a handbook for County Councillors and senior and operational managers which will help to raise awareness of community safety issues within County Council service areas. It will also be of interest to our many partners as it provides an up to date 'road map' through community safety in Kent. In particular it clarifies:-

- who does what in community safety;
- how different agencies work together;
- what the policies and plans are for achieving more in the future.

2.3 It also identifies the ways in which County Council services impact on community safety issues through prevention, protection and intervention; and provides short case studies to demonstrate the County Council's contribution to community safety.

3. Recommendations

3.1 Members are asked to COMMENT on the draft KCC Community Safety Framework 2008-11, as attached to these papers.

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Appendix One: A Draft Framework for Community Safety 2008-11