

**By:** Stuart Beaumont, Head of Community Safety & Emergency Planning  
**To:** Kent Community Safety Partnership – 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2012  
**Classification:** For Information  
**Subject:** Kent Community Safety Agreement Update  
– Performance Monitoring and Annual Review

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**Summary:** This report outlines progress in relation to the Kent Community Safety Agreement including a review of the countywide priorities.

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## **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 Reductions Partnerships (now CSP's) 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 countywide community safety priorities for 2011-14, along with the cross-cutting themes that support the identified priorities. This agreement received approval from the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) in May 2011.

### **Priorities**

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

### **Cross Cutting Themes**

- Early intervention, prevention & education
- Priority Neighbourhoods/Geographic Focus
- Vulnerable Households & Individuals
- Safeguarding Children & Young People
- Reducing Re-Offending

- 2.2 The above priorities and cross-cutting themes resulted from the strategic assessments undertaken by each local community safety partnership (CSP) in 2010/11 with additional input from partners at a county-level. Whilst the CSA covers a three year period, it was agreed that the priorities would be reviewed annually and refreshed as appropriate based on any emerging community safety issues identified in the latest CSP strategic assessments.

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### 3.0 Review of the County Priorities

- 3.1 During late 2011- early 2012 the local community safety partnerships (CSPs) undertook their annual strategic assessment process. KCC's Community Safety Unit sourced data from statutory partners, collated information and produced data packs for use by the local CSPs. Utilising this data and in conjunction with locally sourced information, the CSPs reviewed the progress of their existing priorities and identified key priorities for the forthcoming year.
- 3.2 The resulting priorities identified by the district strategic assessments reflect those already included within the Kent Community Safety Agreement with domestic abuse and anti-social behaviour again being the most commonly identified issues. The county strategic assessment also supports these findings and it is recommended that the CSA priorities and cross-cutting themes remain unchanged at this time.
- 3.3 Alongside the strategic assessment process and in support of the '*Priority Neighbourhoods/Geographic Focus*' cross-cutting theme, ward-level data collated for use by the local CSPs was also analysed by Kent Police. This process enabled potential focus areas to be identified in relation to the CSA priorities at both a district and county level.
- 3.4 Whilst the initial results of the Police analysis were shared with the CSPs as part of the strategic assessment process, the information was also used at a county level to identify focus areas for further analysis. These priority wards are being reviewed using consumer demographic data (mosaic) to produce area profiles.
- 3.5 The area profile reports will include a variety of maps, graphs and contextual information to help provide a greater understanding of the local communities and how we can better engage with the residents. Once complete, these profiles will be available to partners via the Safer Communities portal in Kent Connects.

### 4.0 Progress towards the County Priorities

- 4.1 Partners are continuing to work towards all of the actions identified in the Community Safety Agreement (CSA) action plan and good progress is being made. All of the actions are classified as 'in progress' (amber) and there are no actions at this time which are unlikely to be completed (red).
- 4.2 The attached report (Appendix A) provides details of the actions undertaken so far, however the following provides an example of some of the work being done to tackle the priorities:
- The development of a website portal for domestic abuse services in Kent and Medway is progressing well and it is anticipated it will be available in the next few months;
  - A conference aimed at raising awareness of the solutions to alcohol related issues took place in June 2012 at Police HQ with over 100 people from across Kent and Medway attending;
  - A new fire bike has been brought into operation as part of the Firebike scheme and is being used to promote motorcycle safety at events/courses around the county.

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- 4.3 In addition to the actions, many of the proxy measures chosen to represent the CSA priorities have shown an improvement compared to the same period in the previous year, although there are a few exceptions in relation to domestic abuse, substance misuse and acquisitive crime. Whilst partners do not have direct control over the indicators it is hoped the actions taken to tackle the priorities will contribute to improvements across the county.

### **5.0 Next Steps**

- 5.1 The CSA action plan will be reviewed and revised to assess progress and determine whether any new actions need to be included. Details of any changes will be presented to the next KCSP meeting.
- 5.2 The area profiles (mosaic) for the potential focus wards will be completed and placed on the Safer Communities portal of Kent Connects and relevant partners will be notified.

### **6.0 Recommendations**

- 6.1 The existing priorities and cross-cutting themes within the Kent Community Safety Agreement 2011-14 should remain unchanged.

#### **Attachments:**

Appendix A: CSA Performance Monitoring

#### **For Further Information:**

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