

**By:** Stuart Beaumont, Head of Community Safety & Emergency Planning

**To:** Kent Community Safety Partnership – 19th March 2013

**Classification:** For Decision

**Subject:** Kent Community Safety Agreement - End of Year Review

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**Summary:** This report supports the presentation by Chief Superintendent Steve Corbishley and Stuart Beaumont, Head of Community Safety and Emergency Planning in reviewing progress in relation to the Kent Community Safety Agreement.

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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.
- 1.2 A further formal review of the Crime and Disorder Act and the 2007 regulations resulted in amended regulations being published in 2012. These regulations require the Kent Community Safety Partnership to send a copy of the county community safety agreement to the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), whilst district-level CSPs are required to submit a copy of their partnership plans.

## **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. Although the CSA covers a three year period, these priorities are reviewed annually and refreshed as appropriate.

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### 3.0 Review of the County Priorities

- 3.1 During mid 2012, KCC's Community Safety Unit sourced data from statutory partners for use by both the district Community Safety Partnership's (CSPs) in their strategic assessments and the former Kent Police Authority (KPA) to help identify key community safety issues to inform and advise the incoming Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC).
- 3.2 The initial review of data undertaken by analysts within the former Kent Police Authority (KPA) not only helped inform the PCC but also enabled a brief summary of any emerging issues to be shared with the district/borough authorities for use in the development of their local strategic assessments if required.
- 3.3 Building on the work undertaken by the former KPA, KCC's Community Safety Unit compiled a county level data pack incorporating both district, county and national figures. A comparison of volume and trends enabled existing priorities to be reviewed for the county and any key areas of concern to be identified. At this time it is recommended that the CSA priorities and cross-cutting themes remain unchanged, however, if the outcome of the local strategic assessments raises any new issues/priorities these will be presented at the next KCSP meeting.

### 4.0 Progress towards the County Priorities

- 4.1 Partners are continuing to work towards the activities identified in the CSA action plan with most actions currently in progress (amber) and some actions which are now listed as complete (green) including the development of a countywide ASB strategy, the creation of a website portal for domestic abuse services and the establishment of an Alcohol and Cannabis Penalty Notice (PND) diversion scheme.
- 4.2 The attached report (Appendix A) provides more details of the actions undertaken so far, however the following are just a few examples of some of the work being done to tackle the priorities:
  - The website portal for domestic abuse services in Kent and Medway was officially launched on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2012 with an event at County Hall for partners and practitioners. The website has also been promoted in the press, with posters and business cards being distributed around Kent. Although this action is complete, additional work is now being undertaken to develop the young people's section of the website;
  - The initiative, known as STATUS (Stay Safe and Tell Us) is going from strength to strength and includes a safe online website for young people as well as engagement events around the county. The most recent event took place in Margate with the next event planned for Headcorn in April;
  - District road safety profiles have recently been updated and presented to Community Safety Managers at a meeting in January.
- 4.3 In addition to the above activities, work was undertaken last year in support of the cross-cutting theme '*Priority Neighbourhoods/Geographic Focus*' involving analysis of ward-level data to identify potential focus areas across the county. The outcome of this analysis resulted in profiles being produced for each of the relevant wards using consumer demographic data (mosaic). The analysis has

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recently been re-run with more current data, the results of which show that whilst there are a few changes to the suggested focus areas the majority of profiles produced last year remain relevant.

- 4.4 Whilst good progress is being made against the action plan, unfortunately many of the proxy measures chosen to represent the CSA priorities do not necessarily reflect this. Substance Misuse indicators show a fall in the '*numbers of drug and alcohol users successfully completing treatment*' however action plans have been put in place with the treatment provider to ensure that the number of successful discharges see significant improvements. Acquisitive Crime indicators show a rise in '*domestic burglary*' which is being tackled through Tasking and Coordination at both Division and Force level. Road Safety indicators show a rise in the '*number of KSI casualties*', although this is after a number of years of being on a downward trend. On a more positive note '*theft and handling stolen goods*' continues to show an improvement compared to both the previous 12months and the 2010/11 baseline. Whilst partners do not have direct control over many of the indicators it is hoped the actions taken to tackle the priorities will ultimately contribute to improvements across the county.

### 5.0 Next Steps

- 5.1 The current Kent Community Safety Agreement remains in effect until March 2014 when it will need to be replaced by a new multi-agency document covering the next three years from April 2014 to March 2017. The process and stages for developing a new agreement will be outlined at the next Kent Community Safety Partnership meeting in July.

### 6.0 Recommendations

- 6.1 The KCSP is asked to agree that the existing priorities should remain unchanged for the forthcoming year, unless any significant issues/priorities emerge from the local CSP strategic assessments.

#### Attachments:

Appendix A: CSA Performance Monitoring

#### For Further Information:

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