

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

**To:** Kent Community Safety Partnership – 17<sup>th</sup> July 2013

**Classification:** For Information

**Subject:** Kent Community Safety Agreement – Performance Update and Development of a New Agreement

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**Summary:** This report outlines the development of the next Kent Community Safety Agreement for 2014-17 and reviews progress in relation to the current agreement for 2013-14 and its associated action plans.

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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. Although the CSA covers a three year period, these priorities are reviewed annually and refreshed as appropriate. The priorities have subsequently been reviewed following the latest round of strategic assessments and there were no significant shifts in priorities.

## **Kent Community Safety Agreement – Performance Monitoring**

### **3.0 Progress towards the County Priorities**

- 3.1 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.
- 3.2 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:
- A pooled budget to commission Kent and Medway wide Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVA) services has been established and the contract was awarded to the new service provider in April 2013;
  - From the first week of July all areas of Kent and Medway will now be covered by Specialist Domestic Violence Court (SDVC) arrangements. The expansion of SDVC provision has been enabled via the new Kent and Medway IDVA contract.
  - The innovative school based programme 'Is it worth it?' which focuses on the impact of alcohol on ASB and on violent crime has reached 100,000 students in the last four years and continues in 2013, the next two week tour takes place in July 2013;
  - The Speed watch conference to support the existing volunteers and attract new support was held in April 2013.
- 3.3 Whilst good and significant 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 (see appendix). Nevertheless the proxy measures do highlight some areas that are in need and would benefit from a renewed focus from partners: domestic abuse, domestic burglary, violent crime and substance misuse.

### **4.0 Development of a new Community Safety Agreement**

- 4.1 The current Community Safety Agreement (CSA) remains in effect until March 2014 and a new multi-agency document covering the next three years from April 2014 to March 2017 will need to be developed during this financial year.
- 4.2 It was proposed that the development of the new CSA should align with any review of the Police and Crime Plan, as well as future developments in relation to commissioning by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and all budget setting processes. In order to achieve this, the current timeframe for the strategic assessment process has been brought forward to enable priorities to be identified and a new CSA to be drafted by the end of December.

#### **Amended timeline:**

Early June:	Request data from partners
June - August:	Collect data
August / September:	Produce data pack
August / September:	Analysis & identification of priorities
September / October:	Draft Priorities
October / November:	Consultation / partner workshops
November / December:	Draft Kent Community Safety Agreement
February / March:	Kent Community Safety Partnership sign off

## **Kent Community Safety Agreement – Performance Monitoring**

- 4.3 As in previous years the KCC Community Safety Unit will work with partner agencies to source datasets, collate information and co-ordinate both the strategic assessment process and the development of the Community Safety Agreement.

### **5.0 Next Steps**

- 5.1 The proxy indicators used in the current performance report will be reviewed as a result of national changes and will be revised as appropriate. It is difficult to choose proxy measures that will continue to be relevant throughout the three year life span of the agreement, therefore it is important when developing the associated performance framework for the new CSA that any measures are fluid and take into consideration the Police and Crime Commissioners focus around victims.
- 5.2 The KCC Community Safety Unit is working with partners to source and collate data for the upcoming strategic assessments and the Community Safety Agreement. In addition, preparations for the partnership workshop later this year are in the early stages of development. A progress update will be provided at the next Kent Community Safety Partnership meeting in October.

### **6.0 Recommendations**

- 6.1 The KCSP is asked to note the timeframe for the development of the new Community Safety Agreement and note the progress with regard the current Community Safety Agreement.

#### **Attachments:**

Appendix A: CSA Performance Monitoring

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

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