

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

To: Kent Community Safety Partnership – 17th October 2013

Classification: For Information

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

Summary: This report reviews progress in relation to the current Community Safety Agreement for 2011-14 and the development of the next Kent Community Safety Agreement for 2014-17.

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 Reduction 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.

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:
- Training on the new ASB case management system is being rolled out to police officers and usage of the system by Kent Police will be in place by the end of October 2013.
 - Since September 2013 the Alcohol and Cannabis Penalty Notice for Disorder (PND) diversion scheme is being provided locally within Kent rather than outside the county, helping to make it more accessible to clients.
 - A new Kent Community Alcohol Partnership (KCAP) area was launched in Gravesham in September.
 - Kent Police are working in partnership with a charity called “Breaking the Cycle” to bring an impactful education programme to secondary school students about violence. The programme commenced in Thanet and will be rolled out across a number of other schools in Kent and Medway from November 2013.
 - Presentations on the Road Safety Experience are being held at various meeting forums across the county including CSP’s and safeguarding children groups.
- 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 As in previous years the KCC Community Safety Unit has worked with partner agencies to source datasets and collate information for both the strategic assessment process and the development of the Community Safety Agreement. The data is currently being analysed to help identify potential priorities for the new Community Safety Agreement.
- 4.3 As mentioned in the last update report, a partnership workshop to discuss the new Community Safety Agreement is planned for 23rd October 2013 with staff from all statutory partners being invited. The aim of the workshop is to review draft priorities for the new agreement and to help establish links between the plans of District/Borough CSPs and the wider county partner plans, including the Police and Crime Plan.

5.0 Next Steps

- 5.1 Following on from the workshop a new Community Safety Agreement for 2014-17 will be drafted in consultation with partners and will be presented at the next KCSP meeting in March 2014 for approval.

6.0 Recommendations

- 6.1 The KCSP is asked to note the progress with regard the current Community Safety Agreement.

Attachments:

Appendix A: CSA Performance Monitoring

For Further Information:

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