

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

**To:** Kent Community Safety Partnership – 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014

**Classification:** For Decision

**Subject:** Kent Community Safety Agreement

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**Summary** This report provides an update on the development of the Kent Community Safety (CSA) Action Plan and the performance monitoring process. This report also seeks support from the KCSP to make changes to the format and content of the feedback reports.

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## **1.0 Background**

- 1.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 gave statutory responsibility to local authorities, the police, and key partners to reduce crime and disorder in their communities. Under this legislation the responsible authorities (commonly referred to as Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), were required to carry out three yearly audits and to implement crime reduction strategies.
- 1.2 The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 set out subsequent revisions to the 1998 Act, the most notable of which at district/borough level was the replacement of three yearly audits with an annual strategic assessment, triennial partnership plan and public consultations. For two tier authorities such as Kent, the statutory Community Safety Agreement was introduced.

## **2.0 Introduction**

- 2.1 The Community Safety Agreement (CSA) for 2014-17 outlines the key community safety priorities for Kent and replaces the previous agreement which expired on 31st March 2014. The CSA is mandatory for two tier authorities such as Kent and helps us to meet our statutory duty under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended by the Police and Justice Act 2006) in which responsible authorities are required to consider crime and disorder in the exercise of all their duties. This agreement aims to develop a more joined-up approach to public service delivery, to enable more effective and co-ordinated strategic planning across partner agencies and to ensure sustainable and lasting improvements in delivering outcomes. It recognises that community safety issues do not always respect district boundaries, and that coordination of effort can lead to economies of scale, joint working, and more effective outcomes.
- 2.2 In the previous meeting, which took place on the 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014, the new Agreement for 2014-17 was signed off by the KCSP members. Since then work has been undertaken to develop the associated action plan and performance monitoring indicators.
- 2.3 Whilst Medway Unitary Authority does not form part of this agreement, it does undertake a similar process, suitable for single tier authorities, which will include an annual strategic assessment of their community safety issues and production of a Community Safety Plan. Where appropriate, partners in Kent and Medway will work collaboratively to tackle common priorities.

### **3.0 Development of the Action Plan**

- 3.1 The action plan has been developed in partnership with various organisations and multi-agency groups across the county including Kent Fire and Rescue Service, Kent Police, Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy Group (KMDASG), KCC Public Health and Kent Drug and Alcohol Action Team (KDAAT) amongst many others.
- 3.2 There are a number of actions which sit under each priority; these actions are broad and encompass a variety of activities. Where possible the actions link to existing plans including the KMDASG Delivery Plan, Kent Alcohol Strategy or the Casualty Reduction (CaRe) Partnership Plan and will also link to many of the cross cutting themes within the Agreement.
- 3.3 Each priority has a lead, responsible for the coordination and reporting of the associated actions. Several of the identified priorities have pre-existing multi-agency partnership arrangements in place. These ensure a coordinated approach across organisations at a strategic level and help partners to deliver joint outcomes.
- 3.4 The Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) which meets as a sub-group of the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) will monitor the actions set out in the attached plan and review progress within each priority. The KCST will in turn report any achievements or areas of concern to the KCSP.

### **4.0 Performance Monitoring**

- 4.1 In addition to monitoring the actions set out in the attached plan the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) will also monitor a set of performance indicators chosen to represent the key priorities. Members of the KCST in conjunction with priority leads will agree a set of proxy measures in order to monitor the key priorities. Indicators are to be agreed in due course.
- 4.2 It has been suggested that the KCST sub-group should monitor both the action plan and indicators on behalf of the KCSP and report back any anomalies. A detailed performance report will be reviewed on a quarterly basis by the KCST enabling partners a more operational forum in which to discuss progress and raise any concerns or issues as well as potential solutions. Following this a summary overview report will be produced for the KCSP outlining progress and any specific issues but without the detailed performance report previously provided. Feedback will be reported to the KCSP based on any significant changes to proxy measures. A significant change in a proxy measure would mean changes which fall outside expected trends or seasonal fluctuations.
- 4.3 The terms of reference allow for this change in process, with the KCST monitoring the detail of the Community Safety Agreement, whilst the KCSP oversee the progress as a whole. The suggested changes to the monitoring and reporting process have been agreed in principle by the Chair of the KCSP and this paper seeks agreement from the members of the partnership to implement these changes.

## **5.0 Next Steps**

5.1 The proxy measures for the performance framework are to be agreed and finalised by partners and members of the KCST and regular reporting timescales are to be established.

## **6.0 Recommendations**

6.1 The KCSP is asked agree the contents of the attached Kent Community Safety Agreement Action Plan for 2014-17.

6.2 The KCSP is asked to agree the proposed changes to the performance monitoring and reporting process.

### **Attachments:**

Appendix A: Kent Community Safety Action Plan 2014-17

### **For Further Information:**

Jim Parris

Community Safety Manager

[James.parris@kent.gov.uk](mailto:James.parris@kent.gov.uk)