

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

**To:** Kent Community Safety Partnership

**Classification:** For Decision

**Subject:** Community Safety New Regulations and KCSP Terms of Reference

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**Summary:** This paper proposes an update to the terms of reference for the Kent Community Safety Partnership following recent legislative changes.

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## 1.0 Background

- 1.1 In September 2007 the Home Office published a comprehensive guide to effective partnership working for Community Safety Partnerships. The guidance was based upon good practice and case studies and was designed to support partnerships as they implemented the crime and disorder regulations.
- 1.2 The effective partnership working guide became known as the “Hallmarks of Effective Partnerships” and was designed to work closely with the changing legislation and to consolidate effective practice and ensure that all CSP’s delivered a common standard.
- 1.3 During 2010 the Home Office carried out an informal consultation with Community Safety Partnerships with the aim of reducing the bureaucracy and process associated with the work of community safety partnerships.
- 1.4 On the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2011 the 2007 Crime and Disorder (Formulation of Strategy) (Amendment) Regulations 2011 came into force in England. These amendments reflect the responses received during the consultation period and are aimed at freeing up community safety partnerships to enable them to focus resources on action, not meetings and bureaucracy. The aim being to hold action focussed meetings involving the appropriate people and to enable partnership plans to be aligned with other local planning processes.

## 2.0 Key Changes

- 2.1 The 2007 Regulations require each community safety partnership to establish a strategy group, that requirement still remains but a range of associated administration obligations under the 2007 Regulations have been removed:
  - District and County Strategy Groups are no longer required to have arrangements to govern the appointment and tenure of strategy group chairs.
  - There is no longer a requirement to have arrangements governing the frequency of strategy group meetings.
  - District strategy groups are no longer required each year to consider the skills and knowledge of group members
  - The detailed list of required members of county strategy groups has been removed. Now the members are simply to be “two or more persons appointed by one or more of the responsible authorities in the county area”.

**2.2** In terms of partnership plans the following changes have been made:

- A strategy group is required to prepare a partnership plan (regulation 10 of the 2007 regulations). That requirement remains.
- However, the previous requirement for the plan to cover a set period of three years has been removed. A strategy group can now decide for itself the time period covered by the strategy.

### **3.0 Implications**

**3.1** The majority of the changes will have little impact upon the day to day working of community safety partnerships. At a county level the terms of reference for the County Community Safety Partnership will need to be reviewed to ensure compliance. This will also provide an opportunity to review the required attendance at partnership meetings to ensure efficient decision making and reduce bureaucracy.

**3.2** The changes to partnership plans will have little impact as there will be need to review and refresh priorities on a regular basis to ensure they are appropriate for further consideration by the community Safety partnership.

### **4.0 Terms of Reference**

**4.1** The attached terms of reference (appendix a) have been updated to reflect the changes as per the changes to the 2007 Crime and Disorder (Formulation of Strategy) (Amendment) Regulations 2011.

### **5.0 Recommendations**

**5.1** That the revised Terms of Reference for the Kent Community Safety Partnership is approved.

#### **Attachments:**

Appendix A – Kent Community Safety Partnership terms of Reference.

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

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## **Appendix A**

### **KENT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**

#### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

##### **1. TITLE**

The group will be known as the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP).

##### **2. OVERARCHING PURPOSE**

(i) To agree and to performance manage a three year community safety agreement on behalf of the responsible authorities for Kent, refreshing it annually.

(ii) Through the collective focus of the responsible authorities and other partners to deliver safer and stronger communities that will contribute to the three countywide ambitions set out in the Vision for Kent. They being:

- to help the Kent economy to grow
- to tackle disadvantage
- to put the citizen in control

##### **3. RESPONSIBILITIES**

- to address community safety issues through joint working, recognising the importance that stronger communities can have to delivering safer communities
- to prepare and update a county wide strategic assessment based upon an aggregation of the Community Safety Partnerships strategic assessments
- to receive progress reports in respect of performance and activity against the Kent Community Safety Agreement
- to provide guidance on major cross agency projects and management information support systems
- the co-ordination of community safety activity to achieve county wide priorities as set out in the Community Safety Agreement and the countywide ambitions.
- to attract resources from appropriate funding streams

##### **4. MEMBERSHIP**

Criteria for membership

(i) Organisations represented on this group are those specified in the Crime and Disorder (formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 or later legislative revisions, namely:

- the chairs of each of the strategy groups for the areas within that county area;
- where the council for that county area has an elected member responsible for community safety, that member;
- one or more persons appointed by the chief officer of police any part of whose police area lies within the county;
- one or more persons appointed by the fire authority for any part of whose area so lies;
- one or more persons appointed jointly by the Clinical Commissioning Groups the whole or any part of whose area so lies.

- The Director of Public Health
- Representatives from the National Probations Service and the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company.
- 3 representatives of the Kent District Councils

(ii) Kent Community Safety Partnership meetings may be attended by persons who represent co-operating and participating persons and bodies for the areas in the county area and such other persons as the Kent Community Safety Partnership invites. To date these include: a representative of the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner, senior representative of the Kent Association of Local Councils, senior representative of Medway Community Safety Partnership, a representative of the Kent Housing Group and a senior representative of the Kent Criminal Justice Board.

(iii) Members of the Partnership will use their best endeavours to only be represented at meetings by persons able to make decisions on behalf of the body or group which they represent.

## **5. MEETINGS**

Frequency

The Kent Community Safety Partnership shall meet at 6 monthly intervals or at such other intervals as it shall decide.

## **6. QUORUM**

A meeting will be regarded as quorate if no less than 4 of the responsible authorities are represented.

## **7. CHAIRMAN**

- The Kent Community Safety Partnership will elect from amongst its members a Chairman who will serve for a period of two years from the date of their election.
- A Chairman may only be removed from office if more than 50% of the responsible authorities so decide by way of a vote at a meeting of the Partnership.

## **8. DECISION-MAKING**

The Partnership will use its best endeavours at all times to make decisions by consensus.