

**By:** Shafick Peerbux, Head of Community Safety (Kent County Council)  
**To:** Kent Community Safety Partnership – 15<sup>th</sup> March 2017  
**Classification:** For Decision  
**Subject:** Kent Community Safety Agreement Update

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**Summary** This report includes the annual review of the Kent Community Safety Agreement priorities including recommendations and provides an update on the current action plan and performance monitoring.

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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 Reduction Partnerships (now Community Safety Partnerships) 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) 2014/17 outlined the key community safety priorities for the county along with the cross-cutting themes that support the identified priorities. Whilst the agreement was published at the start of 2014/15 it was subject to an annual review and amended during the three year period as appropriate.

2.2 The CSA was most recently reviewed in March 2016. The outcome of that review recommended that the priorities be updated to replace violent crime and acquisitive crime with two new priorities of safeguarding and serious & organised crime incorporating a number of emerging issues such as child sexual exploitation, modern slavery and preventing violent extremism. Although the priorities were updated the cross-cutting themes remained unchanged (see below).

### **Priorities**

- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Domestic Abuse
- Substance Misuse
- Safeguarding
- Serious and Organised Crime
- Road Safety

### **Cross Cutting Themes**

- Early intervention, prevention & education
- Reducing Re-Offending
- Safeguarding Children & Young People
- Supporting Victims and Vulnerable Households / Individuals

2.3 The current Community Safety Agreement comes to an end on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 and the following report details the review process that has been undertaken including the proposed priorities and cross-cutting themes for inclusion in the new agreement.

### 3.0 CSA Review Process

- 3.1 The development of the new Community Safety Agreement has taken into consideration the outcome of local district/borough strategic assessments, partnership plans, emerging issues, new legislation and a new risk assessment matrix known as MoRiLE. Details of these elements are included in the draft Community Safety Agreement attached.
- 3.2 Local district/borough Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) have undertaken their annual strategic assessments and are currently finalising their priorities and developing plans for 2017/18, once these have been agreed and signed off by each local CSP the priorities can be fully incorporated into the new Community Safety Agreement. However, based on draft priorities the following appear to be the top issues that are emerging either as a main priority, cross-cutting theme or as an issue within a broader theme:
- Domestic Abuse (inc. sexual offences & serious violence)
  - Anti-social behaviour (inc. environmental)
  - Substance Misuse
  - Victims and Vulnerable People
  - Safeguarding (inc. public protection & resilience)
  - Crime / Serious & Organised Crime (inc. violent crime and acquisitive crime)
  - Road Safety
  - Reducing Reoffending
- 3.4 As part of this year's strategic assessment process the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) facilitated a pilot with district colleagues to trial the use of the MoRiLE risk assessment matrix (*Management of Risk in Law Enforcement*), as detailed in the report by the KCSP Working Group. The outcomes from MoRiLE have been incorporated within local assessments as well as the Community Safety Agreement to support the selection of priorities alongside the usual assessment tools.
- 3.5 Using PESTELO analysis members of the KCSP Working Group helped to identify upcoming events and existing or emerging issues and opportunities that may need to be considered. The analysis was also shared with district/borough colleagues to help inform their local strategic assessments. Many of the safeguarding issues which were identified by the Working Group in the last review such as preventing violent extremism, child sexual exploitation, modern slavery, online safety, looked after children etc. remain an area of focus and reflect the issues being identified within the legislation and partnership plans.
- 3.6 In addition to the above review of data and information, partnership plans and priorities are also taken into consideration in the development of the CSA including the recently refreshed (draft) Police and Crime Plan entitled '*Safer in Kent: The Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan April 2017 to March 2021*'. Many of these plans, including the district/borough strategic assessments, have identified priorities relating to supporting victims, vulnerable people and those with mental health concerns.

## 4 The new Community Safety Agreement

- 4.1 Following the outcome of last year's review, as mentioned in the introduction, changes were made to the priorities to reflect the emerging safeguarding issues and new duties that had not previously been referenced including child sexual exploitation, preventing violent extremism, modern slavery, organised crime groups etc. In the most recent review it is clear that these issues remain a focus for partners however there is also a need to have a stronger emphasis on supporting vulnerable people in relation to these issues including those with mental health concerns. As such it is recommended that the priority of 'Safeguarding' be expanded to 'Safeguarding Vulnerable People' to reflect the changing partnership focus.
- 4.2 In addition to the priorities the cross-cutting themes have also been reviewed and whilst it is recommended that the theme relating to early intervention be retained, it is suggested that the others be refreshed to better complement the proposed priorities. With the inclusion of 'Safeguarding Vulnerable People' as a main priority the cross-cutting themes relating to safeguarding children & young people and supporting vulnerable individuals can be replaced with a more inclusive theme to promote quality of life and community resilience; whilst reducing re-offending can be expanded to incorporate supporting victims (see below).

### **Priorities**

- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Domestic Abuse
- Substance Misuse
- Safeguarding Vulnerable People
- Serious and Organised Crime
- Road Safety

### **Cross Cutting Themes**

- Early intervention, prevention & education
- Reducing re-offending and supporting victims
- Improving quality of life and enhancing community resilience

- 4.3 Whilst the CSA is currently renewed every three years and reviewed annually it was suggested at the KCSP meeting in March 2016 that the Agreement could potentially become a rolling document. As such the newly developed CSA has been designed so that specific chapters as well as the appendices can be updated annually whilst elements such as the original legislation which sets out the statutory requirements for CSPs as well as the governance arrangements etc. can remain unchanged.

## 5 CSA Action Plan and Performance Monitoring

- 5.1 Partners are continuing to work towards the activities identified in the current CSA action plan linking in with various organisations and multi-agency groups across the county to help tackle the identified priorities and themes. The KCSP Working Group which meets as a sub-group of the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) is monitoring the activities set out in the Action Plan and reviewed the latest update at their meeting in January 2017.
- 5.2 Key achievements for 2016/17 delivered by partners as part of the Community Safety Agreement are outlined in Chapter 5 of the draft Community Safety Agreement as well as in other papers that will be presented at the meeting including :
- Annual Community Safety Conference
  - Kent Community Safety Team
  - Domestic Homicide Reviews

- Project Delivery
- Information Sharing
- Workshop Delivery

- 5.3 In addition to monitoring the action plan the KCSP Working Group also monitors a set of performance indicators chosen to represent the key priorities. Following the refresh of the priorities last year these indicators have been expanded to include proxy indicators for the new priorities incorporating data about organised crime groups, modern slavery, missing children etc. At this stage, there are no unexpected results with regards the proxy indicators, however the partnership is asked to note that the focus areas of domestic abuse and road safety, as previously reported, continue to be monitored.
- 5.4 Following the development of the new Community Safety Agreement and revision to the priorities and cross-cutting themes the action plan will also be reviewed and refreshed by the KCSP Working Group with the support of the Kent Community Safety Team.

## 6 Recommendations

- 6.1 The Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) is asked to agree the priorities and cross-cutting themes within the attached draft Community Safety Agreement, although this is subject to the final outcomes of the district/borough strategic assessments and any additional partnership feedback.
- 6.2 The group are asked to agree that the Community Safety Agreement be a rolling document with a refresh of the relevant chapters on an annual basis.

### Attachments:

Appendix A: Draft Community Safety Agreement - April 2017

### For Further Information:

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