

# Kent Community Safety Agreement



APRIL 2017

# Version Control

Version	Date	Changes
1.0	April 2017	New Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) – effective from April 2017

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# Foreword

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As Chair of the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) I am pleased to present the new Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) which takes effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017.

The Community Safety Agreement sets out how partners in Kent will work together to address the key community safety priorities for the County, identifying the shared objectives and outcomes required to improve the lives of the people of Kent. Whilst enforcement of the law will always play a major part in community safety, much can be done to prevent problems before they arise and a great deal of effort is devoted to supporting and safeguarding vulnerable people and their families, tackling issues of substance misuse, improving road safety, enhancing quality of life and developing community resilience.

This agreement replaces the 2014-17 CSA which included an action plan to help tackle the key priorities for the County and I am pleased to say much progress has been made by partners over the last three years, including the joint commissioning of domestic abuse services across Kent which came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017. The development of this new agreement and a refresh of the action plan will help to support and focus partner activities in addressing the key community safety issues identified in the latest review.

Since the last agreement there have been many changes in the world of community safety, however the challenging economic landscape remains an ongoing concern and all agencies and services are continuing to look at the opportunities this presents in applying new methods of service delivery and resourcing. In response to some of these challenges the KCSP supported the establishment of a joint Kent Community Safety Team (KCST), bringing together staff from Kent Police, Kent Fire and Rescue Service and Kent County Council to help promote closer and more joint working at a strategic level.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognise that the success of this agreement can only be achieved through the ongoing delivery of the associated action plans, which would not be possible without the considerable support of partner agencies at both district/borough and county level, as well as non-statutory organisations and the voluntary sector. I would therefore like to thank everyone involved for their efforts and for their continued support.

Mike Hill OBE  
*Chair Kent Community Safety Partnership*  
*Cabinet Member for Community and Regulatory Services*

# 1. Introduction

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- 1.1. The Community Safety Agreement (CSA) outlines the key community safety priorities for Kent and replaces the previous agreement which expired on 31st March 2017.
- 1.2. 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 delivery of all their duties.
- 1.3. 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, joined up working, and more effective outcomes.
- 1.4. The agreement also aims to deliver against the three countywide ambitions set out in the Vision for Kent 2012-22: to grow the economy; to tackle disadvantage; and to put citizens in control. These ambitions cannot be achieved without the commitment and contribution of all partners through their own delivery plans and strategies as well as multi-agency agreements such as the Kent Community Safety Agreement.
- 1.5. 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.

## 2. Legislation

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- 2.1. 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 now as Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), were required to carry out three yearly audits and to implement crime reduction strategies.
- 2.2. The Police and Justice Act 2006 introduced scrutiny arrangements in the form of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee, as well as introducing a number of amendments to the 1998 Act including the addition of anti-social behaviour (ASB) and substance misuse within the remit of the CSP strategies. Reducing reoffending was subsequently added by the Policing and Crime Act 2009.
- 2.3. The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 set out further 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.
- 2.4. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 introduced directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) to replace Police Authorities in England and Wales. This brought with it a requirement for the PCC to have regard to the priorities of the responsible authorities making up the CSPs and for those authorities to have regard to the police and crime objectives set out in the Police and Crime Plan. The legislation also brought with it a mutual duty for the PCC and the responsible authorities to act in co-operation with each other in exercising their respective functions.

# 3. Changes to the Community Safety Landscape

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In recent years there have been many changes both nationally and locally that impact upon the work of partners involved in community safety.

## Changes to Legislation

- 3.1. Domestic Homicide Reviews: The requirement for Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) to conduct Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) came into effect on 13th April 2011 and in Kent and Medway it was agreed that these would be commissioned by the Kent Community Safety Partnership utilising pooled funding on behalf of the local CSPs including Medway CSP. The process is managed, coordinated and administered by KCC Community Safety working as part of the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST). The DHR process has been developed and enhanced since its introduction and continues to involve input from a wide variety of partners from across the county and beyond. Updated statutory guidance from the Home Office released in December 2016 strengthened the role of the CSP in the DHR process and brought in additional requirements in order to meet the required standard.
- 3.2. Anti-Social Behaviour: The new Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, received royal assent on 13th March 2014. The Act introduced simpler more effective powers to tackle anti-social behaviour to provide better protection for victims and communities including a new Community Trigger and Community Remedy to give people a greater say in how agencies respond to complaints. Partners have been working together since the introduction of the legislation to effectively implement the changes across the county.
- 3.3. Safeguarding: Between 2015 and 2016 a number of new pieces of legislation were introduced to provide authorities with additional tools, powers and statutory duties to tackle community safety and safeguarding issues. The new legislation includes the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, Serious Crime Act 2015, Modern Slavery Act 2015 and Psychoactive Substances Act 2016. These pieces of legislation introduced a range of new duties including new reporting and referral mechanisms, staff awareness requirements and impacts on contract management, which need to be included in the everyday work of relevant organisations.

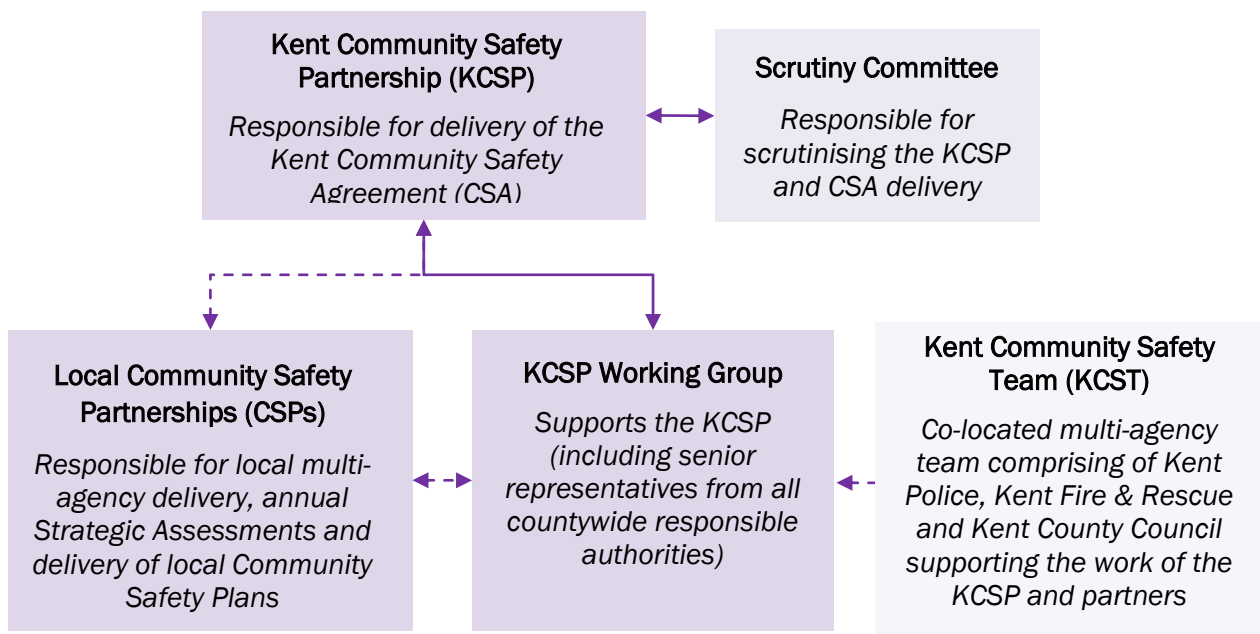


# 4. Governance

- 4.1. The Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) is responsible for the delivery of the Kent Community Safety Agreement priorities, with membership taken from senior officers across statutory partners (see below), local Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Chairs and the County Council portfolio holder.

The Responsible Authorities are:- Kent Police, District & Borough Councils, Kent County Council, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), Kent Fire & Rescue Service and Kent, Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company

- 4.2. The KCSP is supported by a Working Group consisting of senior representatives from all the countywide statutory partners. In addition, the multi-agency Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) which is formed of staff from Police, Fire & Rescue and KCC helps support the work of both county and district partners.
- 4.3. The statutory partners aim to effectively and efficiently deliver the priorities outlined in this agreement and to comply with statutory responsibilities.
- 4.4. The Scrutiny Committee will also serve as the Crime and Disorder Committee as required and therefore will have a statutory responsibility to review and scrutinise delivery of the Community Safety Agreement.





## 5. Key Achievements

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During 2016-17 the key priorities identified as those with the potential to benefit from being supported at a county level included Domestic Abuse, Substance Misuse, Safeguarding, Serious & Organised Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour and Road Safety. The priorities were addressed through a rolling partnership action plan which outlines the key aims of the agreement and ensures a coordinated approach by linking into existing multi-agency partnership arrangements where possible. Progress made by partners is monitored and reported to the Kent Community Safety Partnership on a regular basis by members of the Working Group.

Some of the progress and key achievements include:

- Annual Conference: The Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) has delivered an annual Community Safety Conference for the benefit of partners in Kent and Medway for a number of years with a different focus each year. The most recent conference was entitled: *“Drugs – Addiction, Treatment and the Journey Ahead in Kent and Medway”* and took place at the Ashford International Hotel on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2016 with over 150 delegates from partnership organisations in attendance. In addition, in 2016/17 the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) were finalists at the Kent Dementia Awards following the conference on Dementia held at the end of 2015.
- The Kent Community Safety Team (KCST): A co-located multi-agency team comprising of staff from Kent Police, Kent Fire and Rescue Service and Kent County Council was established in September 2015. Throughout 2016/17 the team has continued to develop and supports the work of all three agencies as well as the KCSP by helping to jointly deliver projects and workshops.
- Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs): During 2016/17 the KCSP commissioned a number of new DHRs and published two completed reviews following quality assurance from the Home Office. The Kent Community Safety Team continues to manage the current caseload on behalf of the Community Safety Partnerships across Kent and Medway and these are at various stages of the DHR process.
- Domestic Abuse Services: KCC Commissioned Services has been working with partners including the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to commission an Integrated Domestic Abuse Service across Kent. Following consultations with service providers, clients, members of the public and partners a commissioning framework was developed and applications have been received from relevant agencies to deliver services in Kent. The new service takes effect from 2017/18.

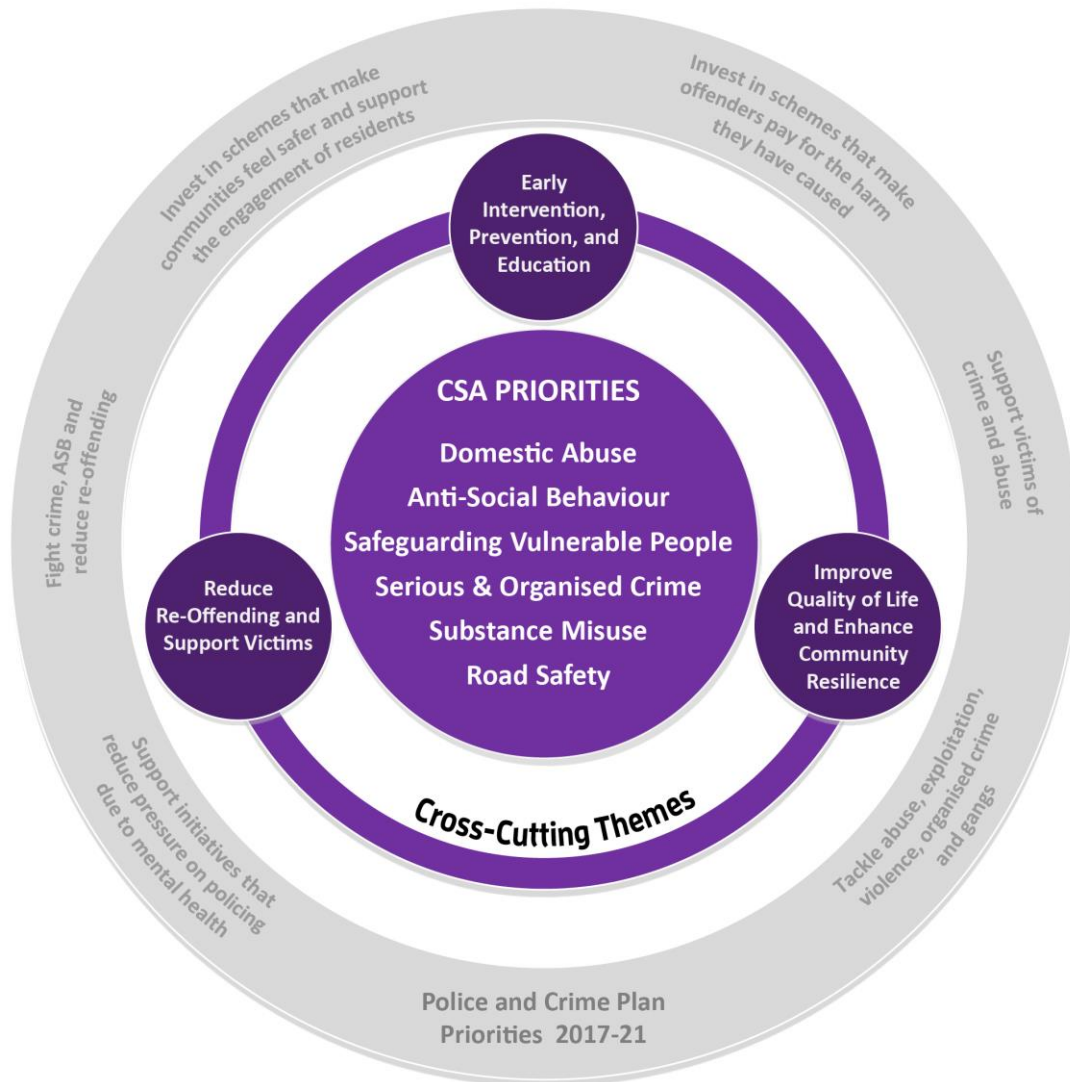
- **Project Funding:** In 2016/17 the KCSP used the community safety funding provided by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to fund a total of eight projects focusing on a variety of topics. These included support to tackle scams, child pedestrian training, the Licence to Kill roadshow, domestic abuse perpetrator programme, mental health project, 'Is it Worth It' schools tour, DHR funding and Project Liberty. The achievements and outcomes of these projects are monitored by the KCSP Working Group and reported back to the PCC.
- **Information Sharing:** The Kent Community Safety Team continues to co-ordinate and source data, reports and information on a variety of issues to be shared with community safety partners across the County via the Safer Communities Portal. The most recent developments includes the sharing of local profiles, produced by Kent Police, relating to serious and organised crime across the County.
- **Development of Drug & Alcohol Strategy:** KCC Public Health and Kent Police are working together to develop a joint drug and alcohol strategy for all partners. At the annual community safety conference in November 2016 partners had an opportunity to feed into the development of the strategy which was followed by a wider partnership and public consultation on the draft strategy. Partners are now working together to develop a final strategy for Kent.
- **Workshops:** During 2016/17 the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) organised and delivered a number of workshops to support partnership delivery including a Strategic Assessment workshop, MoRiLE pilot project, Online (e-safety) awareness raising, Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) tools & powers training and Community Safety Information Sessions.

Whilst the CSA action plan sets out how partners aim to address the overarching priorities across the county, each local CSP in Kent has their own community safety plan and associated initiatives aimed at tackling the most relevant issues for their residents.

## 6. County Priorities

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- 6.1. To help identify the community safety priorities for Kent as well as the local district/borough partnerships a wide variety of datasets are sourced from partner agencies and analysed to ascertain the key issues. The review of data is complemented by other sources of information such as horizon scanning (including legislative changes) and partnership plans etc. which all help to identify and formulate the priorities for the forthcoming year.
- 6.2. At a local level, the eleven Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) across Kent undertake an annual strategic assessment process to identify the priorities for their own district/borough community safety plans. The outcomes of these assessments for the new financial year are shown in the appendix and have been incorporated into the review of the priorities for the Community Safety Agreement (CSA).
- 6.3. In 2016-17 a pilot was undertaken by several of the district/borough CSPs as well as the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) to trial the use of the MoRiLE (*Management of Risk in Law Enforcement*) scoring matrix as part of the assessment process. The matrix helped partners to rank specific issues based on threat, risk and harm and to support the selection of the priorities within the local assessments and the Community Safety Agreement. Further details are provided in the appendix.
- 6.4. In recent years the priorities and themes within the Community Safety Agreement (CSA) have developed from more crime and disorder based priorities to incorporate a wider range of issues. These include a number of safeguarding issues and new duties such as preventing violent extremism, gangs, organised crime groups, child sexual exploitation, modern slavery, online safety, mental health, vulnerable people, victims etc. Many of which can be incorporated into the proposed themes of 'Safeguarding Vulnerable People' or 'Serious and Organised Crime' and are also reflected in the priorities identified by the local community safety partnerships.
- 6.6. In addition to the priorities, the CSA also includes a number of cross-cutting themes to be addressed within each priority as appropriate. Following the latest review it is recommended that the themes be updated to those shown in the diagram. The combination of priorities and themes identified within the CSA highlights the need for community safety partners to support and safeguard the most vulnerable members of society across a variety of issues.



- 6.7 The diagram above not only includes the priorities and cross-cutting themes for the Community Safety Agreement but also shows those identified by the Police and Crime Commissioner, reflecting the mutual need for CSPs and the PCC to have due regard for each other's priorities.
- 6.8 Several of the identified priorities already have existing multi-agency partnership arrangements in place that are ensuring a coordinated approach across organisations at a strategic level. These arrangements can be further enhanced with links to the Kent Community Safety Agreement and where necessary suitable co-operative arrangements and joint interventions can be established to deliver shared priorities or issues.

# 7. Leads

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Lead officers for each of the priorities have been identified below and have the responsibility for developing, with partners, the action plans to address the countywide priorities. The leads will also act as a champion for the designated priority and provide regular progress updates for the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) and Scrutiny Committee as required.

Priority	Lead
Domestic Abuse	Chair of Kent & Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy Group
Anti-social Behaviour	Head of Strategic Partnerships, Kent Police
Substance Misuse	Consultant in Public Health, Kent County Council
Serious and Organised Crime	Head of Strategic Partnerships, Kent Police
Safeguarding Vulnerable People	Group Head of Public Protection, Kent County Council
Road Safety	Director Operations, Kent Fire and Rescue Service

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## 8. Links to Plans

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The priorities set out in this Community Safety Agreement link to, and assist in the achievement of a number of national and local partnership plans and strategies including:

- Vision for Kent
- Safer in Kent: the Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan
- Local Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Community Safety Plans
- Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy
- Kent Drug and Alcohol Strategy
- KCC Framework for Community Safety
- Kent Fire and Rescue Service Corporate Plan
- Kent Criminal Justice Board Strategic Plan
- Kent and Medway Strategic Plan for Reducing Reoffending
- Medway Community Safety Plan
- Road Casualty Reduction Strategy for Kent
- Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board Strategic Plan
- Kent Safeguarding Children Board – Children and Young People Strategy
- Prevent Duty Delivery Board Action Plan
- Kent County Council's Strategic Statement 2015 – 2020: Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes
- Kent Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy

# 9. Responsible Authorities

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This agreement has been drawn up on behalf of the Partners of the Kent Community Safety Partnership and in association with the Office of the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner:-

- Kent Police
- Kent Fire and Rescue Service (KFRS)
- Kent County Council
- Local District/Borough Authorities
- Local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs)
- Kent, Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company (KSS CRC)
- Local District/Borough Community Safety Partnerships



# Appendix A: Strategic Assessments (2017-18)

Local Community Safety Partnership (CSP) strategic assessments:

All statutory partners including Police, Fire and Rescue, Health, Probation, County Council services, Local Authority services provided community safety information for use by the eleven Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) in Kent during the strategic assessment process to help determine their key priorities.

The following table shows the outcome of the local assessments completed in late 2016 - early 2017, with the key issues identified locally either as a main priority, cross-cutting theme or as part of a broader theme:-

Priority	No. of CSPs identifying these issues
ASB/Environmental	10
Substance Misuse	10
Domestic Abuse	9
Serious and Organised Crime ( <i>including violent crime, acquisitive crime, gangs, organised crime groups</i> )	8
Safeguarding ( <i>including child sexual exploitation, preventing violent extremism, modern slavery</i> )	7
Victims / Vulnerable People ( <i>including repeat victims</i> )	7
Reducing Reoffending	7
Mental Health	6
Road Safety	5
Community Confidence ( <i>quality of life, community activities/projects, agency collaboration</i> )	4

*Other focus areas identified by districts/boroughs include: young people, early intervention, health & wellbeing, missing children, safer socialising, criminal damage, hate crime, preventing fires etc.*

# Appendix B: MoRiLE Assessment (2016-17)

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In 2016-17 the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) facilitated a pilot with six district/borough community safety units in Kent to trial the use of the MoRiLE (*Management of Risk in Law Enforcement*) scoring matrix within the local strategic assessments. The aim of MoRiLE is to enable specific issues to be ranked based on threat, risk and harm and to help target resources at those which have the greatest impact on individuals and communities not just those with the greatest volume of incidents.

A national pilot is also in progress, which Kent is part of, to look at whether MoRiLE which was originally developed for use by law enforcement agencies can be adapted to the needs of multi-agency community safety partnerships (CSPs). The outcomes and learning from the Kent pilot will be fed back to the national pilot to help in the development of the scoring matrix to make it more user friendly for partners.

Many of the districts/boroughs involved in the Kent pilot have incorporated the methodology and outcomes within their strategic assessments to support the identification of local priorities. It should be noted that MoRiLE is not the only element used to identify priorities the assessment also takes into consideration resident's views, partner priorities, new legislation, emerging issues etc.

The Kent pilot looked at approximately 20 different elements of community safety from modern slavery to vehicle crime and whilst the resulting ranks for each specific issue varied across the county (depending on local needs) the following issues appeared in the top 5 priorities for at least one district:

Domestic Abuse, Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), Modern Slavery, Mental Health, Preventing Violent Extremism (PREVENT), Substance Misuse, Gangs, Reoffending, Antisocial Behaviour, Road Safety, Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) and Hate Crime

Whilst the above are a diverse range of issues some categories could be grouped together, if appropriate, under broader headings or themes such as: Safeguarding, Serious & Organised Crime, Vulnerabilities, Community Resilience etc.

# Appendix C: Horizon Scanning (2016-17)

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Using PESTELO analysis members of the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) Working Group helped to identify existing and future issues that could impact on communities and may need to be considered as part of community safety plans.

## **Political:-**

- Government to trigger Article 50 to initiate Brexit;
- Kent County Council and local council elections (*Maidstone, Medway & Tunbridge Wells*) in May 2017.

## **Economic:-**

- Impact of Brexit on the economy;
- Public sector budget cuts;
- Commissioning of services and securing new funding sources.

## **Social / Demographic:-**

Many issues identified relate to safeguarding and supporting the most vulnerable members of society including:

- domestic abuse;
- preventing violent extremism;
- child sexual exploitation;
- human trafficking/modern slavery;
- unaccompanied asylum seeking children and looked after children;
- organised crime groups;
- urbanised street gangs;
- psychoactive substances;
- mental health (including dementia);
- ageing population.

## **Technological:-**

- Cyber-crime and cyber-enabled crime;
- Online safety.

## **Environmental (and Geographical):-**

- New or potential developments i.e. Ebbsfleet, Paramount Studios, New Dartford Crossing, Op Stack Lorry Park;
- Extreme weather events, i.e. flooding.

## **Legislation:-**

Recently enacted legislation has introduced a number of statutory duties and opportunities including:

- Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014;
- Counter-terrorism and Security Act 2015;
- Modern Slavery Act 2015;
- Serious Crime Act 2015;
- Psychoactive Substances Act 2016;
- The Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016;
- Policing and Crime Act 2017.

## **Organisational:-**

- Public sector restructures and new ways of working;
- Increased collaboration between emergency services.

# Appendix D: Police & Crime Plan (2017-2020)

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The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 introduced directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) to replace Police Authorities in England and Wales. Under this legislation, the PCC is required to produce a Police and Crime Plan that sets out the vision and priorities for policing and community safety, as well as the objectives and ambitions that the Police will be held to account on. The legislation also includes a requirement for the responsible authorities making up the CSPs to have regard to the objectives set out in the Police and Crime Plan as well as a mutual duty to act in co-operation with each other in exercising their respective functions.

The following is an extract from the draft Police and Crime Plan entitled ***'Safer in Kent: The Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan April 2017 to March 2021'***

The guiding principles of the plan are:

- People suffering mental ill health need the right care from the right person
- Crime is important no matter where it takes place
- Vulnerable people must be protected from harm

The Chief Constable's priorities for the next four years are to:

1. Put victims first
2. Fight crime and antisocial behaviour
3. Tackle abuse, exploitation and violence
4. Combat organised crime and gangs
5. Provide visible neighbourhood policing and effective roads policing
6. Deliver an efficient service

The Police and Crime Commissioner will support the above by:

1. Holding the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of Kent Police's priorities
2. Supporting all victims of crime and abuse
3. Commissioning services that reduce pressure on policing due to mental health
4. Investing in schemes that make people safer and reduce re-offending
5. Making offenders pay for the harm that they have caused
6. Actively engaging with residents in Kent and Medway

The Police and Crime Plan priorities included in the diagram on p.12 of the Community Safety Agreement are a combination of the above objectives which CSPs have been asked to reflect within their local delivery plans.



*In partnership with*



For Further information on this Community Safety Agreement please contact the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST):

KCST Office  
Maidstone Fire Station  
Loose Road  
Maidstone  
Kent  
ME15 9QB

**Email:** [communitysafetyunit@kent.gov.uk](mailto:communitysafetyunit@kent.gov.uk)

**Tel:** 03000 410234

This document is available in other formats; please contact the KCST above by email or telephone.