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To: Kent Community Safety Partnership – 20th March 2019

Classification: For Decision

Subject: Kent Community Safety Agreement Update

Summary This report details the annual review of the Kent Community Safety Agreement, recommended priorities for 2019/20 and an update on the current action plan.

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) outlines the key community safety priorities for the county along with the cross-cutting themes that support the identified priorities. It is a rolling document which is reviewed and refreshed annually with the relevant Chapters and appendices being updated as required.
- 2.2 In the last review of the CSA which took place in March 2018 a new priority was added 'Preventing Extremism & Hate' whilst the cross-cutting themes were also revised to include 'Support Mental Health & Wellbeing' (see below). The current CSA took effect from April 2018.

Priorities

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

Cross Cutting Themes

- Early Intervention, Prevention & Education
- Reduce Re-Offending and Support Victims
- Improve Quality of Life and Enhance Community Resilience
- Support Mental Health and Wellbeing

- 2.3 The following report details the latest review process that has been undertaken including the proposed refresh to the priorities and cross-cutting themes.

3.0 CSA Review Process

- 3.1 The review 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 the risk assessment matrix known as MoRiLE. Details of these elements are included in the draft refresh of the Community Safety Agreement attached (Appendix A).
- 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 2019/20. Based on the 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. However, it should be noted that two districts are still in the process of setting their proposed priorities for the coming year, which once complete may result in some minor changes to the list below:
- Domestic Abuse
 - Safeguarding and Vulnerability
 - Anti-Social Behaviour
 - Serious and Organised Crime
 - Substance Misuse
 - Mental Health
 - Extremism & Hate
 - Tackling Violence
- 3.3 Following a pilot of the MoRiLE risk assessment matrix (*Management of Risk in Law Enforcement*) in 2017/18 the assessment tool was updated and a new template was used in the assessments for last year and this year. The assessment focuses on threat, risk and harm and as such the priorities ranked most highly tend to be those that cause the greatest harm to individuals and communities. The outcome from MoRiLE has been incorporated into the Community Safety Agreement to support the selection of priorities alongside the usual assessment tools.
- 3.4 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. Many of the safeguarding issues which were identified previously 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. One specific emerging issue identified in a number of different areas within the horizon scanning process is Brexit and the potential impacts on community safety and partner organisations.
- 3.5 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 Police and Crime Plan entitled '*Safer in Kent: The Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan April 2017 to March 2021*'. Similar to recent years many of these plans, including the district/borough strategic assessments, have identified priorities relating to supporting victims, vulnerable people and mental health.

4.0 Proposed Changes

- 4.1 Details of the proposed changes are summarised in the version control within the attached draft CSA (see Appendix A). There have been a number of minor changes within the document however the most significant updates are in the chapters covering changes to the community safety landscape and key achievements as well as the appendix detailing the outcomes from the district strategic assessments. Other elements of the agreement such as the original legislation which sets out the statutory requirements for CSPs and the governance arrangements etc. remain unchanged.
- 4.2 Although no major changes have been identified this year some of the emerging issues such as the Violence Reduction Challenge (VRC) launched by the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner in 2018/19 and potential community safety related impacts of Brexit were considered to determine whether a new priority or theme is required. However it is suggested that these issues and any associated actions required by the partnership can be incorporated into existing priorities such as Serious and Organised Crime, Safeguarding Vulnerable People and Preventing Extremism and Hate.
- 4.3 Similar to last year's review whilst most of the current CSA priorities have been identified in the strategic assessments and community safety plans of local CSPs, 'Road Safety' is now rarely listed as a standalone priority. This is not simply because it is no longer a concern but that local partnerships are limited in their ability to impact on this particular issue. At a county level road safety is still a focus for partners and as such it is recommended that it remain within the CSA but the KCSP is asked to note that the lead for this priority is the Kent and Medway Road Casualty Reduction Partnership and they will report back to the KCSP as necessary.
- 4.4 Conversely whilst Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) remains a specific focus for most local CSPs, it should be noted that there are limited opportunities at this time for County partners to contribute to this priority as the operational activities are undertaken by district / borough community safety partners. However as the purpose of the CSA is to outline the main priorities for the whole county and ASB is still part of the original remit of CSPs it is recommended that it should remain as a priority in the latest refresh.
- 4.5 It is clear from the latest review that the current priorities and cross-cutting themes appropriately reflect the key issues for community safety partners and as such it is recommended that they are retained within the CSA as outlined below and in section 2.2 of this report.

Priorities

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

Cross Cutting Themes

- Early intervention, prevention & education
- Reduce re-offending and support victims
- Improve quality of life and enhance community resilience
- Support mental health and wellbeing

- 4.6 In addition to the above recommendation that the CSA priorities and cross-cutting themes remain the same for the forthcoming year, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner has confirmed that there are no changes to the Chief Constable's priorities as detailed in the latest refresh of the Police and Crime Commissioner's *Safer in Kent: The Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan*. As such the diagram within Chapter 6 of the CSA remains unchanged.

5.0 Equality Impact Assessment

- 5.1 As part of the CSA refresh the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is being reviewed. The aim of the CSA is to make Kent's communities safer and stronger by bringing together partners from across the county to agree the key priorities and to develop joined-up approaches. Whilst it is recognised that some people may be more vulnerable and at greater risk of becoming a victim, the CSA is intended to benefit all residents and as such it is not anticipated that any identified group should be adversely impacted by the CSA or the activities within the action plan.
- 5.2 The EqIA refresh will be reviewed by both partners and KCC's Equality and Diversity Team to ensure all considerations have been made prior to sign-off.

6.0 CSA Action Plan and Achievements

- 6.1 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 2019.
- 6.2 Key achievements for 2018/19 delivered by partners 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:
- Preventing Extremism & Hate Conference
 - Kent Community Safety Team
 - Domestic Homicide Reviews
 - Project Delivery
 - Workshop Delivery
- 6.3 Following the refresh of the Community Safety Agreement the action plan will also be reviewed and updated by the KCSP Working Group with the support of the Kent Community Safety Team.

7.0 Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee

- 7.1 The Police and Justice Act 2006 introduced the requirement for a Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee to review the work of the partnership, as such on an annual basis KCC's Scrutiny Committee meets as the Crime and Disorder committee to act as a critical friend to scrutinise and challenge the work of the partnership and the outcomes from the Community Safety Agreement.

- 7.2 The Committee is due to meet on 3rd April 2019 to review the CSA and the work of the partnership over the last 12 months. The lead agencies for each of the CSA priorities will be in attendance to represent the KCSP and respond to any queries raised. This will include a review of performance data as well as partnership activities to address the issues. A verbal update on the preparations for Scrutiny will be provided at the KCSP meeting including any relevant issues relating to performance data.
- 7.3 Any recommendations or suggested changes arising from Scrutiny will be fed back to the KCSP members and the Working Group for action as appropriate.

8.0 Recommendations

- 8.1 The Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) is asked to:
- agree to retaining the current priorities and cross-cutting themes as detailed within the attached draft refresh of the Community Safety Agreement subject to any additional partnership feedback;
 - note the key achievements for 2018/19; and
 - note the upcoming Scrutiny Committee arrangements.

Attachments:

Appendix A: Draft Refresh of Community Safety Agreement - April 2019

For Further Information:

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