

By: Shafick Peerbux - Head of Community Safety, KCC
Shirley Brinson - Community Safety Team Leader, KCC

To: Kent Community Safety Partnership – 17th July 2019

Classification: For Information

Subject: Kent Community Safety Agreement Update

Summary This report includes details of the refreshed Kent Community Safety Agreement 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 2019 there were no changes to the priorities or cross-cutting themes but several chapters were updated including the Community Safety Landscape and Key Achievements. Whilst there were no changes to the priorities this year it was acknowledged that issues such as Brexit and the violence reduction agenda may have a potential impact on community safety activities in Kent. The current CSA was discussed and agreed at the March meeting of the KCSP and took effect from April 2019. The CSA is available on kent.gov.uk.

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

3.0 Action Plan Development

- 3.1 Following the development of the new Kent Community Safety Agreement the action plan has been refreshed by members of the KCSP Working Group, priority leads and other relevant partners to ensure that it appropriately reflects the updated priorities and cross-cutting themes. A draft of the refreshed plan is attached for information (Appendix A).
- 3.2 The action plan includes the key pieces of work that are being delivered by community safety partners across the county linking in with other multi-agency groups and strategies where possible, including the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group, the Kent and Medway Road Casualty Reduction Partnership, the Kent Drug and Alcohol Strategy, the Kent and Medway Gangs Strategy, Prevent Duty Delivery Board, Safeguarding Boards etc. Activities and links related to these groups and strategies are referenced throughout the action plan, (*shown in green*), to help support multi-agency delivery and partnership working and may be updated in-year subject to revisions and changes that take place within those groups and plans.
- 3.3 The plan, like the CSA, is a rolling document and as such retains a number of activities and projects which were delivered in 2018/19 such as cybercrime training, the development of the financial abuse video or purchase of TrueCall devices. The reason for not removing them at this stage is that there are still follow up actions to take, for example an evaluation of the training that has been delivered, promotion of the video, ongoing installation of scam call filtering devices in resident's homes etc.
- 3.4 Other actions which are either ongoing or take place annually have also remained in the refreshed version, such as delivery of Domestic Homicide Reviews and lessons learnt seminars; Adult Safeguarding Awareness Week activities; Information sharing; Raising awareness of campaigns etc. In addition some projects which began in 2018/19 but are yet to be completed also remain in the current plan. These include the refresh of the Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Services Website and Gangs training.
- 3.5 New actions that have been added to the plan primarily relate to the projects which the KCSP is supporting in 2019/20 utilising the Kent Police and Crime Commissioners 'Crime Reduction Grant' (CRG) funding. This includes a number of projects which support the Violence Reduction Challenge (VRC), such as Trauma Informed Practice, First Aid Training and educational material around underage sales of knives, etc. (*shown in purple*).
- 3.6 The refreshed plan details the overall aim for each priority, the planned outcomes, the actions to be taken, how delivery will be measured and reported and who is responsible for coordinating activity or feedback. This will remain a living document and will be reviewed, monitored and updated as appropriate throughout the year by the KCSP Working Group to account for any new activities, projects utilising the CRG funding, emerging trends, or significant legislative or political changes.
- 3.7 KCSP members are invited to feedback on the content of the draft action plan at the meeting or make suggestions at any point during the life of the plan should they identify a potential new action that might be appropriate for inclusion.

4.0 Performance Monitoring

- 4.1 In addition to monitoring the action plan the KCSP Working Group also monitors a set of proxy indicators chosen to represent the key priorities; these are being reviewed and refreshed currently to ensure that they remain relevant and reflect the refreshed activities within the plan.
- 4.2 Partners have also recommended that the performance report should monitor the quantitative outcomes from the action plan alongside qualitative outcomes, i.e. number of people attending training events; number of TrueCall devices installed etc. As such the performance report is currently being expanded to incorporate numeric action plan outcomes.
- 4.3 The KCSP Working Group will continue to monitor the proxy indicators that support delivery of the CSA and will highlight any issues or concerns to the Kent Community Safety Partnership at future meetings, as well as utilising the information gathered in-year to help inform the next Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee which is anticipated to take place in April 2020.

5.0 Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee

- 5.1 As mentioned at the previous KCSP meeting, the latest Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee was due to take place on 3rd April 2019 to review the CSA and the work of the partnership during 2018/19.
- 5.2 The Scrutiny Committee meeting took place as planned, with senior officers from the lead agencies for each of the CSA priorities in attendance to represent the KCSP and respond to any queries. Feedback from the committee was generally positive and the report that was submitted along with the webcast and the minutes of the meeting are available to view online.
- 5.3 Other committees that have taken place in recent months which may impact on the CSA include the Loneliness and Social Isolation Select Committee and the Knife Crime Select Committee. Any relevant recommendations from the above committees will be considered and if appropriate included in the CSA action plan.

6.0 Recommendations

- 6.1 The Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) members are asked to note the changes to the draft action plan which supports delivery of the refreshed Community Safety Agreement.
- 6.2 KCSP members are asked to provide feedback on the content of the draft action plan either at the meeting or via email to kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk (KCST) by 31st July 2019.

Attachments:

Appendix A: Draft Community Safety Agreement (CSA) Action Plan

For Further Information:

Shirley Brinson

KCC Community Safety Team Leader

shirley.brinson@kent.gov.uk

Shafick Peerbux

KCC Head of Community Safety

shafick.peerbux@kent.gov.uk