

## AGENDA

### KENT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

**Thursday, 24th March, 2022, at 10.00 am  
Online**

Ask for: **Anna Taylor**

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#### **UNRESTRICTED ITEMS**

*(During these items the meeting is likely to be open to the public)*

#### **A. Committee Business**

- A1 Introduction
- A2 Apologies and Substitutes
- A3 Declarations of Interest
- A4 Notes of meeting held on 18 November 2021 (Pages 1 - 4)

#### **B. Matters for Information/Discussion**

- B1 Kent Community Safety Agreement Review and Refresh (Pages 5 - 42)
- B2 Kent Community Safety Partnership Working Group Update (Pages 43 - 46)
- B3 Kent Police and Crime Commissioners response to Mental Health (Pages 47 - 48)
- B4 Kent and Medway Violence Reduction Unit Update (Pages 49 - 52)
- B5 Zero Casualty Strategy Update (Pages 53 - 54)

#### **C. Matters for Information**

- C1 Date of meetings in 2022
  - 14 July 2022
  - 17 November 2022
  - March 2023 (TBC)

**COMFORT BREAK for 10 minutes**

**D -RESTRICTED ITEM(S)**

Meeting not open to the press and public and reports not for publication

D1 Domestic Homicide Review Update

D2 Kent and Medway PREVENT Duty Delivery Update

D3 Kent and Medway Joint Exploitation Group Update

**13:00 Meeting to Close**

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL****KENT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**

NOTES of a meeting of the Kent Community Safety Partnership held in the on Thursday, 18 November 2021.

PRESENT: Mr P M Hill, OBE (Chairman), Mr Rivers (Vice-Chairman), Ms S Allen, Ms C Bright, Matthew Burbeck, Ms T Kadir, Mr B Loose, Ms L McMahon, Ms V Mital, Mr S Peerbux, Mr B Platt, Mr N Sparkes, Mr N Wilkinson, Cllr S Mochrie-Cox, Mrs A Oates, Ms E Cronin, Mr N Wickens, Ms S Annan-Vetch, Ms R Westlake and Widden

ALSO PRESENT:

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs A Taylor (Scrutiny Research Officer) and Mr M Dentten (Democratic Services Officer)

**UNRESTRICTED ITEMS****40. Declarations of Interest**

*(Item A3)*

No declarations were received.

**41. Notes of meeting held on 13 July 2021**

*(Item A4)*

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2021 were correctly recorded and a paper copy be signed by the Chairman.

**42. Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy Update**

*(Item B1)*

1. Ms Annan-Veitch (Policy Advisor, Kent County Council) and Ms Westlake (Commissioner, Kent County Council) gave a presentation which updated the Partnership on local and national Domestic Abuse policy developments. Topics covered in the presentation included: the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and new statutory duties; Kent Integrated Domestic Abuse Service (KIDAS); new funding and commissioning; the progress and timeline of Kent's Domestic Abuse strategy; and the development of a Kent and Medway Partnership Delivery Plan.
2. The Chair asked how new funding would be discharged. Ms Westlake confirmed that additional staff would be recruited to meet the new duties and deliver the projects mentioned in the presentation.
3. A Partnership Member asked how survivors input into the strategy. Ms Annan-Veitch reassured the Partnership that the public consultation had received extensive input and responses from survivors. The need to handle the issue

delicately, especially when involving children, in order to avoid further trauma was noted.

4. A Partnership Member asked how the sanctuary obligations in the Domestic Abuse Act would impact local authority housing. Ms Westlake confirmed that Strategic Commissioning were scoping the requirements. Ms Annan-Veitch informed the Partnership that the Act changed the priority order for public housing.
5. Ms Annan-Veitch agreed to update the Partnership annually on Domestic Abuse developments.

RESOLVED to note the update.

#### **43. Kent and Medway Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) Update** *(Item B2)*

1. DCI Loose (Kent and Medway Violence Reduction Unit) gave verbal summary of the report. He asserted that counties with VRUs had shown a greater reduction in youth violence than those without. He confirmed that mapping and profiling on youth street gangs was ongoing and that a multi-agency response was required. He informed the partnership that a report on moderated knife imagery was expected for early 2022. Concerning the Serious Violence Duty, introduced as part of recent legislation, he noted the statutory responsibilities for reducing violence.
2. Concerning funding, DCI Loose confirmed that the VRU had been successful in receiving £730,000 for two projects, which included a therapeutic intervention cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) service for individuals involved in serious violence, which started in October.
3. DCI Loose was asked how prevention would be focused. He confirmed that a review of the community engagement process was underway and highlighted the Home Office's requirements for prevention and intervention. He recognised the important role Kent Police's 70 officer Schools Teams would play in prevention.
4. DCI Loose was asked how the voice of young people were input into operations. He reassured the Partnership that young people's views were accounted for in the commissioning of all services. Contributions from Young People's Advisory Groups (YPAGs) were noted.

RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.

#### **44. Kent Community Safety Agreement Update** *(Item B3)*

1. Mr Peerbux (Head of Community Safety, Kent County Council) updated the Partnership on the Community Safety Agreement. He noted that it was Adult safeguarding awareness week and that a series of events have been promoted, with topics included digital safeguarding and adult grooming. He

stressed the importance of raising awareness and prevention as part of the 16 Days of Action Against Domestic Violence. In relation to the progress made on strategic assessments, he confirmed that there had been a delay in sourcing data and that a new data workshop was planned for December, to aide with reviewing priorities.

RESOLVED to note the update.

#### **45. Kent Community Safety Partnership Working Group Update**

*(Item B4)*

1. Mr Peerbux gave an update on crime reduction grant funding, which was given to the Community Safety Partnership by the Police and Crime Commissioner, to fund their programme of community safety projects. The progress of each project was shared with the Partnership. He confirmed that the Kent Community Safety team had continued providing community safety information sessions, with 3 delivered in 2021.
2. The Chair asked whether there was any risk of losing tactical pot funding. Mr Peerbux acknowledged the risk and noted that the funding was out of the control of the Community Safety team.
3. The Chair requested an update on Community safety team accommodation. Mr Peerbux agreed to report back to the Partnership at the appropriate time.

RESOLVED to note the progress and actions undertaken by the Working Group and the work of the KCST.

#### **46. Kent Police and Crime Commissioners response to Mental Health**

*(Item B5)*

1. Mr Wickins (Head of Policy Coordination and Research, Office of the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner) gave a verbal overview of the report, which detailed the findings of the Commissioner's Inquiry into Mental Health and Covid-19, and updated the Partnership on developments since the last meeting. He confirmed that the Commissioner had stepped down as the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners mental health lead. He advised that the Mental Health and Covid-19: Phase Two Report had been published and was publicly available at [www.apccs.police.uk/media/6493/apcc-mh-inquiry-phase-two-report-final.pdf](http://www.apccs.police.uk/media/6493/apcc-mh-inquiry-phase-two-report-final.pdf). In relation to Section 136 detentions, he noted the success of recent officer training and their advice helpline. Regarding the review of Safe Havens, he informed the Partnership that a recommendation had been made that they extend opening hours to 3am.
2. The Chair asked whether Safe Havens had a positive impact on Kent Police. Mr Wickins recognised that Safe Havens had reduced demand on all emergency services. He added that the positive impact was linked to public awareness of the service.

3. The Partnership agreed to retain the Kent Police and Crime Commissioners response to Mental Health as a standing item.

RESOLVED to note the update.

**47. Date of the next meeting**  
(Item C1)

RESOLVED that the future meeting date be noted.

**48. Domestic Homicide Review Update**  
(Item D1)

1. Mr Peerbux provided an update on the Kent and Medway Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) cases.

RESOLVED that the update and progress on all cases be noted.

**49. Kent and Medway PREVENT Duty Delivery Board Update**  
(Item D2)

1. Members received an update on the PREVENT Duty Delivery Board.
2. Mr Wilkinson shared the Resilience in Unity Project launch trailer (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MBihAJgTy80>) with partners.

RESOLVED that the update on the PREVENT Duty Delivery Board be noted.

**50. Kent and Medway Joint Exploitation Group Update**  
(Item D3)

1. Members received an update on the Kent and Medway Joint Exploitation Group.

RESOLVED that the update on the Kent and Medway Joint Exploitation Group be noted.

- (a) **FIELD**
- (b) **FIELD\_TITLE**

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

**To:** Kent Community Safety Partnership – 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**Classification:** For Decision

**Subject:** Kent Community Safety Agreement Update

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**Summary** This report details the annual review of the Kent Community Safety Agreement, recommended priorities for 2022/23 and an update on the current action plan.

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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) 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 2021 the priorities remained the same as the previous year but a new cross-cutting theme of 'Response and Recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic' was added to reflect the impacts that the pandemic had on all the priorities. The current published version took effect from April 2021.

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 and new legislation. Details of these elements are included in the draft refresh of the Community Safety Agreement attached.

- 3.2 Local district/borough Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) are in the process of undertaking their annual strategic assessments to identify their priorities and develop local plans for 2022/23. At the time of writing, draft priorities have been received from six CSPs. The assessment process this year has been affected by delays in the centralised sourcing of partnership data due to a staffing issue, which will be resolved ahead of next year's assessment process. The following are some of the main issues that are emerging either as a priority, cross-cutting theme or as part of a broader theme. Whilst many of the overarching key issues faced by community safety partners remain largely the same, it is the focus areas and action plans which tend to change in response to the needs of the community. It should be noted this year, that several CSPs have identified Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) as a focus area within their plans. As some CSPs are still in the process of agreeing their priorities for the coming year, some of themes from the list below may well change however it is not anticipated there will be significant changes to the types of priorities identified:
- Tackling Violence
  - Domestic Abuse
  - Anti-Social Behaviour
  - Safeguarding and Vulnerability
  - Strengthening Communities
  - Serious and Organised Crime
  - Substance Misuse
  - Mental Health
  - Reducing Offending and Reoffending
  - Extremism & Hate
  - Crime
  - Violence Against Women & Girls
- 3.3 In terms of partnership data there has been a delay in undertaking the analysis which would normally be presented as part of this review. This information is currently being reviewed and the CSA appendices will be updated to reflect the outcomes. Despite this, it is not anticipated that the data will show any anomalies that partners have not already identified and fed into the process as part of the refresh. If anything significant does arise which could impact the priorities, KCSP members will be contacted before publication.
- 3.4 Using PESTELO analysis members of the KCSP Working Group helped to identify existing or emerging issues and opportunities that may need to be considered. One area of concern is the ongoing impact of the pandemic and other world events which have led to increases in the cost of living as well as a higher demand for services and support. Another issue which has been identified by partners is Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), this is consistent with the early findings from the local CSPs priorities. Many of the other safeguarding issues which were identified previously such as preventing 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. A summary of the PESTELO analysis is included in Appendix C of the attached document
- 3.5 In addition, the Police and Crime Plan, which is produced by the Police and Crime Commissioner, has also been taken into consideration when refreshing the CSA as the KCSP has a statutory duty to have due regard to the objectives set out in the plan. The PCC has recently developed a new 3-year plan entitled 'Making Kent Safer' April 2022 to March 2025. The plan includes a set of guiding principles, key priorities and sets out what the PCC will do. As a brief summary, the focus areas for the priorities include: antisocial behaviour, violence against women & girls (VAWG), exploitation and abuse, organised crime & county lines, communities, road safety, and protecting young people. Further details can be found in Appendix D of the attached CSA and the full plan will be available on the Police website in due course.



## 4.0 Proposed Changes

- 4.1 There have been a number of minor changes within the document (as detailed in the version control) however the most significant updates are in the chapters covering key changes to the community safety landscape, key achievements, and county priorities as well as in appendices C and D which detail the horizon scanning (PESTELO) and the Police and Crime Plan (appendices A and B are still to be updated).
- 4.2 Last year the most significant issue to arise was the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and as mentioned in the introduction above, a new cross-cutting theme of '*Response and Recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic*' was added. Although most restrictions in England have been lifted (at the time of writing), and we have moved into the recovery phase, Coronavirus is still present in the community and we are now learning to live with it. It is therefore proposed to retain the theme but to adapt it slightly to acknowledge the potential impacts of other significant events, not just the current pandemic, which could affect the work of community safety partners in the future. Therefore, it is recommended the cross-cutting theme be changed to '*Response and Recovery from Significant Community Events*'.
- 4.3 As highlighted in the above sections, Violence Against Women and Girls' (VAWG) has emerged as a significant concern and it is proposed to incorporate it within the CSA priorities. VAWG is an umbrella term used to cover a wide range of abuses against women and girls such as domestic homicide, domestic abuse, sexual assault, abuse experienced as a child, female genital mutilation (FGM), forced marriage, misogynistic behaviours of InCels (involuntary celibates), harassment in work and public life, etc. While men and boys also suffer from many of these forms of abuse, they disproportionately affect women. Due to the nature of VAWG it could be included within a number of the existing priorities such as Serious Violence and Organised Crime, however it is proposed to add it to the Domestic Abuse priority and change the name to 'VAWG and Domestic Abuse'. Chapter 6 which details the priorities including the CSA diagram has been updated to reflect this recommendation and the recommendation outlined in 4.2 above.
- 4.4 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 rarely listed as a standalone priority. This is not simply because it is not 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 with the introduction of the Vision Zero Road Safety Strategy last year and the inclusion of the following priority in the new Police and Crime Plan 'Prevent road danger and support Vision Zero', it is recommended that it remain within the CSA. 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.
- 4.5 Conversely whilst Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) remains a specific focus for most local CSPs it should be noted that there are limited opportunities for County partners to contribute to this priority as the operational activities are undertaken by district / borough community safety partners. Whilst the focus of ASB tends to sit with local partners, 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.

- 4.6 It is clear from the latest review that the majority of 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 with the suggested changes to the Domestic Abuse priority and the cross-cutting theme as outlined below:

#### **Priorities**

- Anti-Social Behaviour
- VAWG\* and Domestic Abuse
- Substance Misuse
- Safeguarding Vulnerable People
- Serious Violence 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
- Response and Recovery from Significant Community Events

*\*Violence against women and girls*

### **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. In addition, in compliance with current requirements the document will be accessibility checked prior to publication.

### **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 2022.
- 6.2 Key achievements for 2021/22 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: Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR); project delivery, workshops and events, information sharing, etc. Final feedback on all the actions within the plan will be sought from partners at year-end, and if appropriate some additional details may be added to the key achievements section.
- 6.3 Following the refresh of the Community Safety Agreement, the action plan will also be reviewed and updated for 2022/23 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 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022 to review the CSA and the work of the partnership. The lead agencies for each of the CSA priorities will be in attendance to represent the KCSP and respond to any queries raised. 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:
- consider and comment on the proposed changes to the refreshed Kent Community Safety Agreement;
  - agree the priorities and cross-cutting themes for 2022/23;
  - note the upcoming Scrutiny Committee arrangements.

### **Attachments:**

Appendix A: Draft Refresh of Community Safety Agreement - April 2022

### **For Further Information:**

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KCC Community Safety Team Leader  
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Shafick Peerbux  
KCC Head of Community Safety  
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# Kent Community Safety Agreement



**DRAFT**

April 2022

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## Version Control

Version	Date	Changes
<b>1.0</b>	April 2017	New Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) – effective from April 2017
<b>2.0</b>	April 2018	Refreshed Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) - Updated document date to April 2018 - Ch.1 - reference added to 1.1 about version control - Ch.5 - achievements for 2017/18 added - Ch.6 - priorities/cross-cutting themes updated effective from April 2018, including refreshed diagram - Ch.7 - priority leads updated - Appendix A - strategic assessment outcomes updated - Appendix B - MoRiLE outcomes refreshed - Appendix C - refreshed horizon scanning - Appendix D - Police & Crime Plan details updated
<b>3.0</b>	April 2019	Refreshed Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) - Effective date changed to April 2019 - Ch.3 - updated legislation and addition of partnership changes and challenges - Ch.5 - achievements for 2018/19 added - Ch.6 - minor changes to the chapter acknowledging the 2019 review - Ch.8 - minor changes to the list of plans - Appendix A - strategic assessment outcomes updated - Appendix B - MoRiLE outcomes refreshed - Appendix C - refreshed horizon scanning - Appendix D - minor change acknowledging the latest review of the Police & Crime Plan
<b>4.0</b>	April 2020	Refreshed Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) - Effective date changed to April 2020 - Foreword – updated to reflect new version - Ch.3 - updated legislation partnership changes - Ch.5 - achievements for 2019/20 added - Ch.6 - minor change to one priority - Ch.7 - minor changes to the list of leads - Ch.8 - minor changes to the list of plans - Appendix A - strategic assessment outcomes updated - Appendix B - MoRiLE outcomes refreshed - Appendix C - refreshed horizon scanning - Appendix D - minor change acknowledging the 2020 review - Appendix E – Kent CSA Priorities and Cross Cutting Themes

5.0	April 2021	<p>Refreshed Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Effective date changed to April 2021</li> <li>- Foreword - updated to reflect latest version</li> <li>- Ch.3 - updated legislation and partnership changes</li> <li>- Ch.4 - change to the named responsible authorities</li> <li>- Ch.5 - achievements for 2020/21 added</li> <li>- Ch.6 - addition of a new cross-cutting theme</li> <li>- Ch.9 - change to the named responsible authorities</li> <li>- Appendix A - strategic assessment outcomes updated</li> <li>- Appendix B - MoRiLE outcomes refreshed</li> <li>- Appendix C - refreshed horizon scanning</li> <li>- Appendix E - addition of a new cross-cutting theme</li> <li>- Logos - updated logos to reflect the changes to the responsible authorities</li> </ul>
6.0	April 2022	<p>Refreshed Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Effective date changed to April 2022</li> <li>- Ch.3 - changes made to the landscape, legislation and partnership challenges</li> <li>- Ch.5 - achievements for 2021/22 added</li> <li>- Ch.6 - changes made to a priority and cross-cutting theme and updated diagram</li> <li>- Appendix C - refreshed horizon scanning</li> <li>- Appendix D - new Police and Crime Plan added</li> <li>- Appendix E - amendments to reflect Ch.6</li> </ul>



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# Foreword

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As Chair of the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) I am pleased to present the latest refresh of the Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) which takes effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022.

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, tackling issues of substance misuse, improving road safety, enhancing quality of life and developing community resilience.

I am pleased to say much progress has been made by partners over the last few years in addressing the community safety issues identified within the CSA and this latest update along with the refresh of the action plan will help support the ongoing focus of the Kent Community Safety Partnership.

The Community Safety landscape is ever changing and the problems we face are becoming increasingly more complex. The KCSP recognises the challenges in addressing these issues and operates alongside a number of cooperating bodies and other multi-agency partnerships. Over the coming year, the KCSP will work with and support the Violence Reduction Unit to tackle serious violence in the county including working with partners to implement the Government's proposed new Serious Violence Duty, as well as continuing to address the many other issues identified within the agreement. The more immediate issue during the last year has been the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and partners across Kent have worked hard to support residents and ensure services continue to be delivered whilst adapting to new ways of working. Inevitably this has impacted on some of the CSA activities but as we follow the Government's roadmap to recovery, we hope to see a return to more face-to-face interactions and continued partnership working to ensure this can take place safely.

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 the Kent Community Safety Team and 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 continued support during a very difficult time.

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. The CSA is reviewed and refreshed annually, so for details of the current version, effective date and changes to previous documents see version control (page 4).
- 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 unitary 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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The following Chapter outlines the key pieces of legislation and statutory duties that direct the work of the Kent Community Safety Partnership

- 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, a 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 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.
- 2.5. The requirement for Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) to conduct Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) came into effect on 13th April 2011 as a result of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004). In Kent and Medway it was agreed that these would be commissioned by the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) utilising pooled funding on behalf of the local CSPs including Medway. The process is managed, coordinated and administered by the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) with input from a wide variety of partners.

# 3. Key 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.

## National and International

- 3.1. Coronavirus (COVID-19): During the last two years the whole country, along with the rest of the world, has endured a range of measures as part of the response to tackling the pandemic, including several periods of lockdown. The measures put in place impacted on all walks of life in an effort to slow the spread of the virus and to save lives. These were unprecedented and whilst everyone worked hard to reduce the impact of the virus there were unfortunate knock on effects on communities and individuals, from social isolation, loneliness, stress / anxiety, financial impacts, relationship impacts, as well as some of the hidden harms which increased or were highlighted by the pandemic, including domestic abuse; mental health issues; homelessness; alcohol consumption; inequalities; etc. Whilst this significantly changed the way we live, it has also changed the way that partners are able to deliver services, with the working practices of many organisations changing forever, and many people continuing to work from home with reduced regular face-to-face contact with colleagues and partners. Despite the easing/removal of restrictions, COVID-19 is still present and community safety partners will continue to respond to the needs of the community and adapt their services and priorities as necessary, whilst also looking to a future beyond the pandemic.
- 3.2. Violence Against Women and Girls: Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is an umbrella term used to cover a wide range of abuses against women and girls such as domestic homicide, domestic abuse, sexual assault, abuse experienced as a child, female genital mutilation (FGM), forced marriage, misogynistic behaviours by InCels (involuntary celibates) and harassment in work and public life. While men and boys also suffer from many of these forms of abuse, they disproportionately affect women. It is a topic of even greater public interest following several recent high-profile cases, including the murders of Sarah Everard, Sabina Nessa, and the Kent Police Community Support Officer, Julia James. During the last 12 months the Home Office has published a Strategy on Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls; and the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner's new Police and Crime Plan entitled 'Making Kent Safer 2022-2025' includes this issue as a priority. In addition, the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has also set up a Violence Against Women (VAWG)

inquiry which includes an online survey, meetings with victims and working with partners to develop a series of tangible recommendations to improve practices in Kent.

- 3.3. War in Ukraine: The Russian invasion of Ukraine has so far led to at least 2.5 million people fleeing the country with EU officials predicting up to five million refugees. Many countries are imposing economic sanctions on Russia, and several well-known companies have suspended trading within Russia. Whilst undeniably the most significant impact of the war is on Ukraine and its residents, there are knock on effects across Europe and the rest of the world in terms of supporting the migration of refugees, provision of humanitarian aid, the rising cost of living as international trade is impacted and global commodity prices increase. In addition, it is important to be aware of any changes in community tensions, such as protests or demonstrations against the war, or a rise in anti-Russian sentiment affecting community relations.
- 3.4. UK Strategies to Tackle Drugs and Crime:
- In July 2021 the Home Office published the Beating Crime Plan '*Fewer victims, peaceful neighbourhoods, safe country*'. The plan sets out the strategic approach to: cutting homicide, serious violence and neighbourhood crime; exposing and ending hidden harms; and building capability and capacity to deal with fraud and online crime. It complements other existing strategies, and sits alongside other work on hidden harms, as well as work that the Government is planning for later this year when the domestic abuse and national cyber security strategies are due to be published. Nationally the Government is investing in a number of programmes and funding schemes to help strengthen the ability to tackle these issues, including: Safer Streets Fund, Violence Reduction Units, Supporting Families Fund, and tackling drugs supply and county lines. Some of these funding streams and programmes are already being utilised in Kent.
  - In December 2021 the Government published 'From Harm to Hope' a 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives by reducing the supply and demand for drugs and delivering a high-quality treatment and recovery system. The plan is the first Drugs Strategy which commits the whole Government along with public services to work together and share responsibility for creating a safer, healthier and more productive society. The main aims are to break drug supply chains; deliver a world-class treatment and recovery system; and reduce the demand for drugs through changing attitudes in society.
- 3.5. Exit from the European Union (EU): The United Kingdom (UK) left the EU, following the end of the Brexit transition period on 31 December 2020. Since then new rules on trade, travel and business for the UK and the EU have been implemented. The latest changes came into force in January 2022 for imported goods. As a key gateway to the Continent, Kent is strategically important, with 90 per cent of UK truck freight trade passing through the Short Straits at the Port of



Dover and Eurotunnel. With greater checks at ports under the new border arrangements there were concerns about potential lengthy border delays and lorry queues. To facilitate the new entry and exit checks required, inland border facilities have been established in Kent aimed at keeping traffic flowing through the ports. In addition, at times of significant cross-Channel delays, due to severe weather, industrial action, or possible impact of new border arrangements, a traffic management plan (Operation Brock) may be activated which includes a contraflow system on the M20.

- 3.6. Migration and Resettlement: At a national level, in 2021 the Government published a New Plan for Immigration (NPI) and introduced the Nationality and Borders Bill into Parliament, which is currently in the final stages. At a more local level, the Home Office is currently establishing a processing site in Kent for illegal migrants to provide safe and secure accommodation whilst the necessary checks are carried out. Some migrants who arrive in the UK are 'unaccompanied asylum seeking children' (UASC) and as such are placed in the care of the local authority. In June 2021 Kent County Council (KCC) warned that Kent's services for UASC were at breaking point and whilst some young people were transferred to other local authority areas, the majority remained in Kent. KCC has called on the Government to establish a longer term solution to manage this issue. The UK currently runs a number of resettlement schemes and in response to the Afghan refugee crisis, local authorities across Kent are providing support within their communities including Afghan resettlement schemes. Community sentiments are monitored although there is currently no suggestion of significant tensions. However going forward there is a possibility of both pro and anti-migrant related tensions occurring in Kent, which is consistent with the ongoing momentum of media coverage around 'small boat' migration.

### Changes to Legislation

- 3.7. Anti-Social Behaviour: The 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. Updated statutory guidance from the Home Office released in December 2017 has brought greater clarity around the use of the tools and powers introduced by the Act.
- 3.8. Safeguarding: Between 2014 and 2019 a number of pieces of legislation were introduced to provide authorities with additional tools, powers and statutory duties to tackle community safety and safeguarding issues. Including the Care Act 2014, Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (and subsequent amendments in 2019), Serious Crime Act 2015, Modern Slavery Act 2015 and Psychoactive

Substances Act 2016. These pieces of legislation introduced a range of duties including new reporting, referral and decision-making mechanisms, staff awareness requirements and impacts on contract management to be included in the everyday work of relevant organisations. More recently statutory guidance was introduced regarding inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' etc.

- 3.9. Domestic Abuse: The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 received Royal Assent on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Part 2 of the Act introduced a Domestic Abuse Commissioner for England and Wales with an amendment to the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004), requiring CSPs to send completed DHR reports to the DA Commissioner. In addition, the DA Commissioner's office is developing plans in line with their powers regarding greater oversight of DHRs (particularly the learning and recommendations), as well as other reviews which incorporate DA (such as Safeguarding Adult Reviews). The DA Commissioner has powers to compel public bodies to cooperate with her office and make recommendations for public bodies to respond to within 56 days. Part 4 of the Act gives Tier 1 authorities with support from Tier 2 authorities, statutory requirements linked to support within safe accommodation services, which are defined as refuge (communal and individual placements), sanctuary (security measures within existing homes), and move-on accommodation (as people move out of refuge or other safe accommodation into longer term homes). Part 4 of the Act requires Tier 1 authorities to; create a Local Partnership Board with responsibility for conducting a needs assessment (this is now available [here](#)); b) complete a Domestic Abuse Strategy on safe accommodation by Jan 2021 (available [here](#)); c) undertake commissioning activity in relation to accommodation-based services for both adult survivors and their children informed by the need's assessment; and d) monitor delivery against the strategy.
- 3.10. Serious Violence: In 2019/20 the Home Office ran a consultation on a new legal duty to support a multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling serious violence. The outcome was a decision to bring forward primary legislation to create a new duty on organisations to collaborate, where possible through existing partnership structures, to prevent and reduce serious violence. In addition, there was an intention to amend the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to ensure serious violence is an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships, in recognition of the important role of CSPs. The new duties have been progressing through Parliament as part of the 'Policing, Crime and Sentencing Bill', which was agreed by Parliament on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 and is now awaiting Royal assent. Although the legislation has not yet been introduced Community Safety partners are already working together to address serious violence as appropriate and awaits the introduction of the new legislation.



- 3.11. Fire Safety: The Fire Safety Act 2021 received Royal Assent on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2021. The Act was introduced to clarify who is responsible for managing and reducing fire risks in different parts of multi-occupational residential buildings to prevent future tragedies, such as the Grenfell Tower fire where 72 people lost their lives. In addition, the Government is also looking to introduce a Building Safety Bill which would give residents and homeowners more rights, powers and protections – making homes across the country safer. In particular residents in high-rise buildings will have more say in the management of their building. Whilst these new pieces of legislation do not directly affect the work of the multi-agency partnership, the requirements of the Act will make it easier for responsible authorities within the KCSP such as the Fire and Rescue Service to enforce the new duties and ultimately make the lives of residents in Kent safer.
- 3.12. Future Considerations: Recent national consultations on a variety of community safety related topics may lead to future changes in legislation or statutory guidance. The Government is currently undertaking a Victims Bill consultation which aims to build on the foundations provided by the Victims Code to improve victims' experiences within the criminal justice system. Some of the areas being looked at include community based support services and advocacy support. The Government has also been consulting on a proposed new Protect Duty, as a result of terror attacks in public spaces, such as happened at the Manchester Arena and other smaller scale attacks; with the aim to consider security measures at publicly accessible locations and the support needed from Government. In addition, following the introduction of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 the Government has sought views on draft Domestic Abuse Statutory Guidance to support the implementation of the Act with guidance and support to frontline professionals and sharing of best practice.

### Partnership Changes and Challenges

- 3.13. Violence Reduction: In response to the Government's national Serious Violence Strategy, the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) introduced a Violence Reduction Challenge (VRC) in 2018, a year-long study into the challenges around reducing violence. The PCC worked with victims, residents, charities, statutory bodies and others to learn about people's experiences of violent crime, its causes and how it can be tackled as well as challenging Partner agencies to look at opportunities to address this issue. In 2019, the OPCC was successful in being awarded Home Office funding to set up a multi-agency Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) in Kent to deliver a range of violence reduction projects. The VRU remains in place and has recently been awarded a three year funding settlement until March 2025. Some of the key challenges for partners in relation to violence include the implementation of the new Serious Violence duty (see 3.10) and tackling the issue of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) (see 3.2).

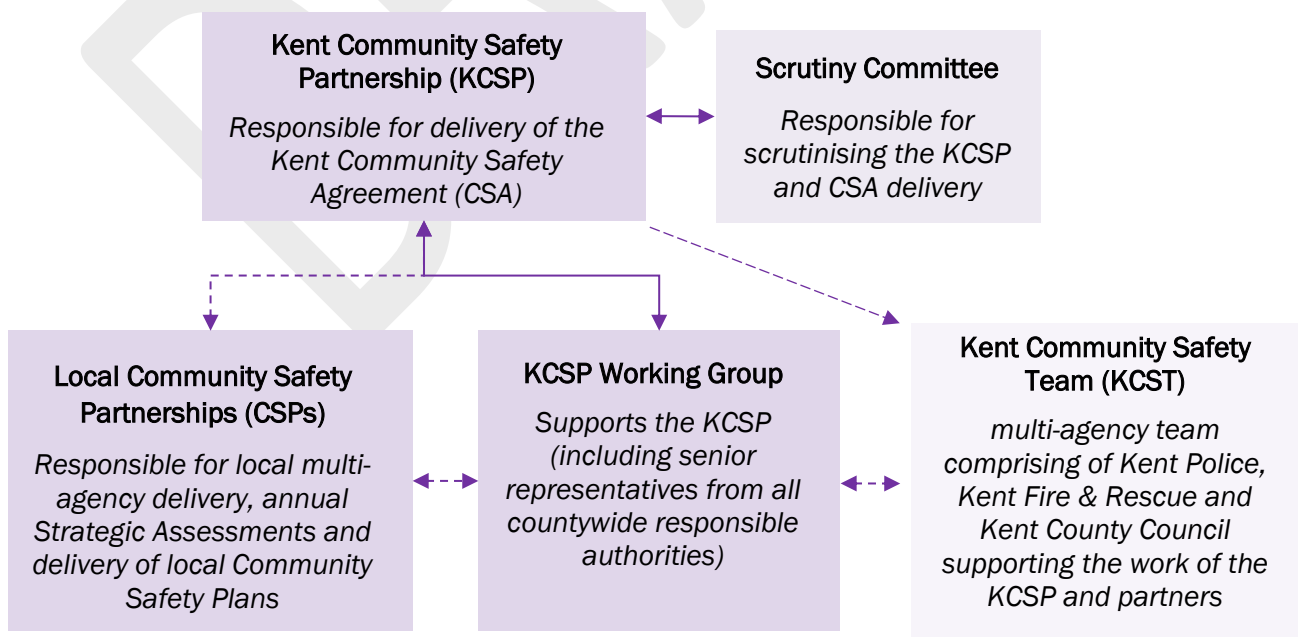
- 3.14. Increases in Service Demand: As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated lockdowns there has been an increased demand for support services in general, one example of which has been an increased demand for domestic abuse and sexual violence services. The PCC has been successful in bidding for additional funding from the Ministry of Justice to support our local domestic abuse service providers which includes funding for new IDVA and ISVA posts [*Independent Domestic Violence Adviser (IDVA) and Independent Sexual Violence Adviser (ISVA)*]. As well as this, the PCC has also been successful in gaining Home Office funding for domestic abuse and talking perpetrator programmes.
- 3.15. Probation Services: On 26 June 2021 the responsibility for all case management, community payback and accredited programmes was transferred from the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company (KSS CRC) to the Probation Service. Rehabilitative services are being delivered by providers, commissioned through a Dynamic Framework. In Kent and Medway, Employment, Training and Education (ETE) provision is being delivered by Interventions Alliance, Seetec's justice and social care division. In addition to the transfer of all case management, as the provider of probation services in Kent, the duty set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 as a responsible authority and statutory member of Community Safety Partnerships has also been transferred.
- 3.16. Kent and Medway Prevent: In June 2021 a Peer Review of Prevent in Kent and Medway was undertaken by the Home Office. The outcome and findings were shared with partners. The aim of the review was to evaluate Prevent delivery structures and processes within Kent and Medway with a view to developing recommendations for improvement and promoting best practice. The review identified significant best practice and opportunities to improve Prevent delivery. A Peer Review working group has been established to work through the recommendations over the next year. There was positive recognition of links with the KCSP and district/borough CSPs. In addition, the latest Counter-Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP) and the Counter-Terrorism Strategic Risk Assessment is currently being updated which will be shared with partners (as appropriate) to help raise the profile and understanding of the issues.

# 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 the responsible authorities (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, Kent Fire & Rescue Service, NHS Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group, and the Probation Service.

- 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 KCC 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 2021/22 the key priorities identified as those with the potential to benefit from being supported at a county level included Domestic Abuse, Substance Misuse, Safeguarding Vulnerable People, Serious Violence & Organised Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour, Road Safety and Preventing Extremism & Hate. The priorities are addressed through a rolling partnership action plan linking into existing multi-agency partnership arrangements where possible. Progress is monitored and reported to the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) on a regular basis by the Working Group.

Some of the progress and key achievements include:

- Kent Community Safety Team (KCST): As part of the KCST's role in sharing good practice and facilitating joint working, the team produces regular e-bulletins on Community Safety in Kent, highlighting and promoting partnership working. During 2021/22 the KCST produced monthly e-bulletins aimed at providing brief updates on emerging issues, such as changes to services, new documentation, data releases, media articles, funding opportunities, etc.
- Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs): During 2021/22 (to date) the KCSP has published five completed reviews following quality assurance from the Home Office, ensured that the recommendations from across a variety of different DHRs have been implemented; this includes several reviews which have been signed off with all recommendations complete. The Partnership is committed to ensuring that the learning from these tragic cases is shared with partners to not only help in preventing such homicides in the future, but also to help improve services for all victims of domestic abuse. The KCST continues to manage the current caseload on behalf of Community Safety Partnerships across Kent and Medway, these are at various stages of the DHR process. During 2021/22 significant work has taken place to improve arrangements for working with families who wish to engage with the DHR process, this included at least two face-to-face panel meeting where family members (accompanied by an advocate if requested), were able to meet with key agency representatives involved in their DHRs, and have the opportunity to ask questions of the panel.
- Project Funding: In 2021/22 the KCSP used the funding provided by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to fund a total of seven projects focusing on a variety of topics. These included a scams social media campaign ('spot the signs'), mental health crisis care support cards, dummy CCTV cameras, support for Business Crime Reduction Partnerships across Kent, ASB professional development training, NVR (Non-Violent Resistance) Foundation Level training and the OSARA problem solving training. The achievements and outcomes of these projects are monitored by the KCSP Working Group and reported back to the PCC.

- **ASB Training:** Organised by the KCST using Crime Reduction Grant Funding, ASB training for partners across the County was delivered in four face-to-face sessions in February 2022 at a variety of venues provided by district/borough colleagues. The training was a full-day focused on Community Protection Notices and Civil Injunction Notices with a range of ASB officers, Housing Officers, Community Safety Officers and some Police Officers in attendance. Feedback is currently being sought to assess the outcomes and benefits.
- **OSARA Problem Solving:** Organised by the KCST using Crime Reduction Grant Funding, the problem solving 'train the trainer' course was provided to a number of partners across the County. The course was delivered over a 2-day period as face-to-face training and included case studies and scenario planning. Attendees were provided with materials to assist with the onward cascading of the training to other colleagues and partners. Currently the KCST is in the process of developing a training offer to be shared with partners.
- **Workshops / Events:** During 2021/22, in addition to events already mentioned, the Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) organised and delivered a number of workshops to support partnership delivery including a Strategic Assessment Data workshop for district partners, and three Community Safety Information Sessions for staff in a number of districts on a variety of topics including: Domestic Abuse campaign, Stalking, Contextual Safeguarding, Preventing Extremism, Hate Crime, Kent and Medway Gangs Strategy, launch of My Community Voice, plus a number of operational and organisational updates, etc.
- **Learning and Information:** The KCST worked with the Kent & Medway Prevent Team and the Kent Police Hate Crime lead to refresh the 'Preventing Extremism & Hate Learning and Information Pack', which was originally developed in 2018/19 to support the community safety conference of the same name. The refreshed document includes the latest information, guidance, referral routes, useful contacts etc. It has been shared with partners as part of the latest e-bulletin but also formed part of the attendee pack for the recent CPD event on 'Preventing Hateful Extremism' on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022 which was delivered by the Kent and Medway Prevent Team and Kent Police. The event was delivered as a hybrid event with 80 attending in person and over 200 virtually. The event saw keynote speakers from external organisations as well as delivery by Kent Police and the Prevent team. Excellent feedback has been received and it is hoped to run a similar event in 2023.

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. This section sets out the key priorities for the Kent Community Safety Partnership for the forthcoming year along with a number of cross-cutting themes to be addressed within each priority as appropriate.
- 6.2. 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, which includes use of the MoRiLE scoring matrix (*Management of Risk in Law Enforcement*), 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.
- 6.3. At a local level, the twelve 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 CSA.
- 6.4. Over the 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, hate crime, gangs, organised crime groups, child sexual exploitation, modern slavery, online safety, cybercrime, mental health, vulnerable people, victims etc.
- 6.5. Since the first version of this document was published in April 2017, there have been a number of changes made to the priorities and cross-cutting themes as new issues emerged, with the refreshed CSA being published annually in April:
- 2018 – A new priority of ‘Preventing Extremism and Hate’ was introduced, which was previously included as part of the ‘Safeguarding Vulnerable People’ priority; In addition a new cross-cutting theme was added to ‘Support Mental Health and Wellbeing’.
  - 2019 – No major changes were made but it was agreed that Violence Reduction and the impact of Brexit would be incorporated into existing priorities i.e. Serious and Organised Crime, Safeguarding Vulnerable People and Preventing Extremism and Hate.
  - 2020 – The priority of Serious and Organised Crime was expanded to become ‘Serious Violence and Organised Crime’ to reflect new proposed



- duties around Serious Violence and the introduction of the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU)
- 2021 – A new cross-cutting theme was added entitled ‘Response and Recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic’ to reflect the impact of the pandemic across all the priorities
- 6.6. In the latest review for April 2022, it is evident that the issue of ‘Violence Against Women and Girls’ (VAWG) has become a focus both nationally and locally following several high profile events, with both the Home Office and the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner prioritising this as an issue (see 3.2). In addition a number of district / borough CSPs have identified VAWG within their plans and the Government has recently launched the ‘Enough’ campaign. As mentioned earlier, VAWG covers a wide range of abuses against women and girls and could be included within a number of the existing priorities including Serious Violence and Organised Crime. However, it has been suggested that it be added to the Domestic Abuse priority and the name changed to ‘VAWG and Domestic Abuse’.
- 6.7. It is proposed that the other priorities and cross-cutting themes remain fundamentally the same for 2022 but with a change in wording for the theme: ‘Response and Recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic’. Whilst most restrictions have been lifted in England (at the time of writing) and we have moved more into the recovery phase, COVID-19 is still present, and residents, communities, and businesses are still learning to live with it. It is proposed to retain this cross-cutting theme but to adapt it slightly to acknowledge the potential impacts of other significant events, not just Covid, therefore it is suggested that the theme be changed to ‘Response and Recovery from Significant Community Events’.
- 6.8. The only other item to note as part of this year’s review relates to ‘Road Safety’ as this remains an issue for county partners and the public in general, due to the impact that road safety has on the wider determinants of public health and community safety. The lead for this area of work is the multi-agency Road Casualty Reduction Partnership (RCRP), reporting back to the KCSP as necessary. Whilst Road Safety is less likely to be referenced as a standalone priority in the district / borough Community Safety Plans it has been added as a priority within the new Police and Crime Plan along with the Vision Zero Road Safety Strategy.
- 6.9. The diagram over the page not only includes the priorities and cross-cutting themes for the CSA as detailed above but also shows those identified in the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner’s new Police and Crime Plan entitled ‘Making Kent Safer’ 2022-25. This reflects the statutory requirement to have due regard for each other’s priorities.

- 6.10. 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. Including groups such as the *Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group*; *Domestic Homicide Review Steering Group*; *Road Casualty Reduction Partnership*; *Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-Agency Partnership*; *Kent & Medway Safeguarding Adults Board*; *Kent & Medway Joint Exploitation Group*; *Prevent Duty Delivery Board*; *Channel Panel*; *Hate Crime Forum*; *Kent & Medway Reducing Offending Board*; etc.
- 6.11. These multi-agency partnerships can be further enhanced with links to the Kent CSA and where necessary suitable co-operative arrangements and joint interventions can be established to deliver shared priorities or issues.

Proposed Changes - CSA Priorities and Cross-Cutting Themes:



\*VAWG = Violence Against Women and Girls



*Kent CSA priorities & themes (purple). Kent PCC's priorities from the Making Kent Safer Plan 2022-2025 Kent Plan (grey). See Appendix E for a table display of above diagram.*

- ASB includes: *Neighbour Disputes, Environmental Crime, Deliberate Fires*
- Safeguarding Vulnerable People includes: *Child Sexual Exploitation, Scams, Cybercrime, Victims, Vulnerable People at Risk of Exploitation*
- Serious Violence & Organised Crime includes: *Organised Crime Groups (OCGs), Gangs, Modern Slavery / Human Trafficking, Violence Reduction*
- Preventing Extremism & Hate includes: *Preventing Violent Extremism, Hate Crimes, Radicalisation, Terrorism, Counter-Terrorism, Brexit*
- *Response & Revery from Significant Community Events includes: COVID-19 pandemic*

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## 7. Leads

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.

**Please Note:** the leads listed in the table below are currently being reviewed and will be confirmed prior to publication.

Priority	Lead
VAWG ( <i>Violence Against Women and Girls</i> ) and Domestic Abuse	Chair of the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group
Anti-Social Behaviour	Superintendent of Partnerships and Child Centred Policing
Substance Misuse	Consultant in Public Health, Kent County Council
Serious Violence and Organised Crime	Head of Serious Crime Command, Kent Police
Safeguarding Vulnerable People	Group Head of Public Protection, Kent County Council
Road Safety	Assistant Director for Building and Customer Safety, Kent Fire and Rescue Service;
Preventing Extremism and Hate	Prevent and Channel Strategic Manager, Kent County Council

## 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
- Making Kent Safer 2022-2025 (Kent Police and Crime Plan)
- Local Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Community Safety Plans
- Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy
- Kent and Medway Gangs Strategy
- Kent Drug and Alcohol Strategy
- Kent County Council's Strategic Plan
- Kent Fire and Rescue Service Customer Safety Plan 2021-2031
- Kent Criminal Justice Board Strategic Plan
- Kent and Medway Strategic Plan for Reducing Reoffending
- Medway Community Safety Plan
- Vision Zero – Road Safety Strategy for Kent
- Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board Strategic Plan
- Prevent Duty Delivery Board Action Plan
- Counter Terrorism Situational Risk Assessment
- Prevent Community Engagement Plan
- 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
- NHS Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
- Probation Service
- Local District/Borough Community Safety Partnerships

# Appendix A: Strategic Assessments (2020-21)

**Please Note:** This section is still to be updated and currently contains information from 2020/21. This will be updated prior to publication.

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 twelve 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 with the key issues identified either as a main priority, cross-cutting theme or as part of a broader theme.

Priority	No. of CSPs Identifying these Issues
Domestic Abuse	12
ASB / Environmental	11
Safeguarding and Vulnerability (including child sexual exploitation, exploitation, vulnerable people, repeat victims)	9
Tackling Violence (including violent crime, violence reduction, youth violence, weapons)	9
Substance Misuse (including drugs & alcohol, night-time economy)	9
Serious and Organised Crime (including gangs, organised crime groups, county lines, modern slavery)	8
Mental Health	7
Strengthening Communities (cohesion, resilience, reassurance)	6
Crime (including acquisitive, property, doorstep crime & scams)	5
Reducing Offending and Reoffending	5
Extremism & Hate (including preventing violent extremism, counter-terrorism & hate crimes)	5
Young people and youth engagement	4
Road Safety	1

# Appendix B: MoRiLE Assessment (2020-21)

**Please Note:** This section is still to be updated and currently contains information from 2020/21. This will be updated prior to publication.

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.

At that time a national pilot was also in progress, which Kent participated in, to look at whether MoRiLE which was originally developed for use by law enforcement agencies could be adapted to the needs of multi-agency community safety partnerships (CSPs). 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.

An updated MoRiLE assessment matrix was developed by the national pilot in 2017 and has been used to inform the latest CSA refresh. The assessment looked at approximately 20 different elements of community safety from modern slavery to vehicle crime. The issues that caused the greatest harm and risk resulting in the highest overall score, unsurprisingly issues such as child sexual exploitation and modern slavery appear high in the rankings:

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	Mental Health
PREVENT	Organised Crime Groups (OCGs)
Modern Slavery	Cyber Crime
Domestic Abuse	Public Order
Gangs	Violent Crime
Anti-Social Behaviour	Hate Crime

Whilst the outcome from the MoRiLE assessment provides a list of priorities based on threat, risk and harm it is not used in isolation but is combined with the outcomes from the district strategic assessments, horizon scanning etc. As such the priorities identified within the CSA may not fully replicate the above listing however most if not all of the issues identified within MoRiLE do form part of the CSA priorities and cross-cutting themes.

# Appendix C: Horizon Scanning (2021-22)

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:

- Ongoing impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic
- Impact of trade and travel rules following EU exit
- War in Ukraine
- Local Council elections in May 2022

## Economic:

- Significant cost of living increases
- Fuel Poverty
- Impact of Covid-19 and EU exit
- Disruptions to trade and labour supply
- Funding pressure on public services
- Financial pressures on businesses and individuals
- Increased need for financial and other types of support, i.e. food banks

## Social / Demographic:

Safeguarding and supporting the most vulnerable members of society, including:

- violence against women and girls
- domestic abuse
- preventing violent extremism
- child sexual exploitation
- human trafficking/modern slavery
- looked after children
- organised crime groups
- serious violence / street gangs
- psychoactive substances
- hate crime
- mental health (including dementia)
- social isolation / loneliness

## Technological:

- Cyber-crime and cyber-enabled crime
- Online safety
- Increased demand.

## Environmental (and Geographical):

- New developments
- Extreme weather events, i.e. flooding
- Impact of Brexit on transport routes.

## Legislation:

Recent legislation introduced a range of statutory duties and opportunities including:

- Domestic Abuse Act 2021
- Counter-Terrorism & Sentencing Act 2021
- Fire Safety Act 2021
- EU (Withdrawal) Agreement Act 2020
- Stalking Protection Act 2019
- Counter-Terrorism and Border Security Act 2019

Upcoming legislation / duties includes:

- Police, Crime, Sentencing & Courts Bill (*inc. new serious violence duty*)
- Building Safety Bill
- New legal Protect duty
- New statutory guidance for domestic abuse

## Organisational:

- Impact of COVID-19 changing the focus of organisations and service delivery inc. new ways of working
- Public sector restructures
- Impact of Brexit and COVID-19 on business continuity.
- Implementation of new duties and strategies

## Appendix D: Police & Crime Plan (2022-2025)

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The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 introduced directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs). 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 new Police and Crime Plan entitled '**Making Kent Safer**' April 2022 to March 2025.

The guiding principles of the plan are:

- Crime is important no matter where it takes place - urban, rural or coastal communities
- Victims and witnesses at the heart of everything we do
- Ensure that vulnerable people and those suffering mental ill health get support from the right agency

Kent Police's priorities are to:

- Work with residents, communities and businesses to fight crime and antisocial behaviour
- Tackle violence against women and girls
- Protect people from exploitation and abuse
- Combat organised crime and county lines
- Be visible and responsive to the needs of communities
- Prevent road danger and support Vision Zero
- Protect young people and provide opportunities

The Police and Crime Commissioner will:

- Hold all agencies to account for the delivery of an effective and efficient criminal justice system
- Work in partnership with the police and others to prevent crime and antisocial behaviour
- Be responsive to emerging issues and trends through innovation
- Secure the funding that Kent needs through specific grants and the funding formula review
- Support volunteering
- Commission services for victims that are needs-led

The Police and Crime Plan priorities included in the diagram on p.20 of the Community Safety Agreement reflect the Kent Police's priorities detailed above.



# Appendix E: Kent CSA Priorities and Cross-Cutting Themes

As highlighted on page 21, Appendix E has been included in the document for digital accessibility purposes. The below tables show the Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) priorities and cross-cutting themes as well as the Kent Police's priorities from Police and Crime Plan 'Making Kent Safer'.

## Kent CSA Priorities:

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) & Domestic Abuse

Anti-Social Behaviour

Safeguarding Vulnerable People

Serious Violence and Organised Crime

Preventing Extremism and Hate

Substance Misuse

Road Safety

## Kent CSA Cross-Cutting Themes:

Early Intervention, Prevention and Education

Improve Quality of Life and Enhance Community Resilience

Support Mental Health and Wellbeing

Reduce Re-Offending and Support Victims

Response and Recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic

## Making Kent Safer (2022 – 2025) – Kent Police's Priorities:

Work with residents, communities and businesses to fight crime and antisocial behaviour

Tackle violence against women and girls

Protect people from exploitation and abuse

Combat organised crime and county lines

Work with residents, communities and businesses to fight crime and antisocial behaviour

Prevent road danger and support Vision Zero

Protect young people and provide opportunities



*In partnership with*



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



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

Tel: 03000 410234

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

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**By:** Shafick Peerbux - Head of Community Safety, KCC  
**To:** Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) – 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022  
**Classification:** For Information  
**Subject:** Kent Community Safety Partnership Working Group Update

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**Summary** This report provides an update on the key activities and projects being managed on behalf of the Kent Community Safety Partnership by the Working Group.

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## **1.0 Background / Introduction**

- 1.1 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 were required to form multi-agency 'Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships' to undertake this activity. Subsequent revisions introduced additional responsibilities to tackle anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and reduce reoffending, and the partnerships were renamed Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs).
- 1.2 The Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) operates at a county level, with the overarching purpose to manage the Kent Community Safety Agreement (CSA) on behalf of the responsible authorities in Kent and to deliver safer and stronger communities. The KCSP is supported by a multi-agency working group which has a particular remit to prepare and monitor the Community Safety Agreement, including the action plan and performance reports, as well as managing the Kent Community Safety fund on behalf of the governing group.

## **2.0 KCSP Funding – Crime Reduction Grant 2021/22**

- 2.1 The Kent Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) granted the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) £39,661 from the Crime Reduction Grant for 2021/22. The grant has been used to fund projects throughout Kent, focussing on the priorities identified in the Community Safety Agreement and the Police and Crime Plan. Similar funding was also provided by the PCC to all Community Safety Partnerships across Kent and Medway, to help deliver projects in support of local priorities.
- 2.2 A third of the funding (£13,220) was automatically allocated to a tactical pot, which could not be accessed until all projects funded by the Crime Reduction Grants in previous years had been completed. The KCSP Working Group worked with the outstanding project leads to ensure delivery. Following discussions with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), agreement was secured at the end of January 2022 to access the tactical pot funding. At that time, the OPCC advised that

any new requests for funding would need a clear rationale and a confidence that it could be delivered by the end of March 2022. Following the meeting of the KCSP Working Group (WG) on 31<sup>st</sup> January, work was underway to identify suitable projects to submit as a business case, but with the remaining timeframe there were limited options in terms of project proposals that would meet the criteria for delivery.

- 2.3 Unfortunately, the OPCC notified all CSPs on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February that access to the Tactical Pot was closed with immediate effect, and the KCSP is unable to submit any further proposals this year.
- 2.4 From the upfront allocated spending, the KCSP WG reviewed a range of projects and the following were approved:

<b>Projects 2020/21</b>	<b>Allocation</b>
Dummy CCTV camera's <i>Update - All dummy cameras are now in use. Spare ones have been sent to several Community Warden areas for use in doorstep crime prevention and anti-social behaviour.</i>	£750
'Spot the Signs' social media campaign <i>Update – The film has been promoted on YouTube and Facebook. So far, the film has reached 390,000 people and been viewed 130,315 times. 7,216 people have clicked through to the “Spot the Signs” webpage.</i>	£1,200
Mental Health Crisis Support Cards <i>Update – The design has been completed and the order for printing has been processed.</i>	£831.60
OSARA (problem solving) train the trainer <i>Update - The training was delivered in April 2021 to 14 attendees. So far, the learning has been shared with 20 Kent Police officers. The KCST is currently discussing creating training plans so that trainers can collaborate and deliver the training in pairs.</i>	£5,700
Business Crime Reduction Partnerships (BCRPs) <i>Update - All BCRP's have now spent their grants as intended, except Tonbridge (grant was to purchase equipment to upgrade the radio infrastructure but there has been delays in gaining permission to utilise a redundant airwave radio aerial).</i>	£11,315
NVR (Non-Violent Resistance) Foundation Level training <i>Update - The training has been completed. The proposed cost was originally for £500 – however, a different provider was offering the same course at a sooner date and lower price of £395.</i>	£395
ASB Tools & Powers Continual Professional Development for Partnerships <i>Update – The training took place at 4 locations around the County in February 2022.</i>	£3,400
<b>Total Spend:</b>	<b>£23,591.60</b>

- 2.5 Two of the projects that were initially agreed are not able to go ahead. The allocated funding for these projects will be refunded to the OPCC. These are:
- Community Safety Conference (virtual webinar) - £1,200 had been allocated to this project. Although various discussions took place with the KCSP WG and partners, a clear and suitable topic for the conference was not identified. There

are a number of potential topics which are still under discussion and it is hoped that this can be progressed in 2022/23.

- Missing Persons and Vulnerability Guidance WebApp roll out (online seminar) - £400 was allocated to this project. Due to delays with the app development, the app has not been fully rolled out. This means that there is no need for the online seminar at this stage.

2.6 In total, £1,455.40 will be refunded to the OPCC from the upfront allocation underspend.

### **3.0 KCSP Funding – Crime Reduction Grant 2022/23**

3.1 The Kent PCC confirmed on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022 that the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) will retain its current level of funding for 2022/23 of £39,661. However, a third of the funding (£13,220) will be automatically allocated to a tactical pot which cannot be accessed until all projects funded by the Crime Reduction Grants in 2021/22 have been completed.

3.2 The grant will be used to fund projects throughout Kent, focussing on the priorities identified in the Community Safety Agreement and the Police and Crime Plan.

3.3 The submission date for the 2022/23 business case to the OPCC is **15<sup>th</sup> April 2022**. Project proposals will be sought and collated from partners.

### **4.0 Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) Update**

4.1 The KCST has delivered three Community Safety Information Sessions in this financial year for the benefit of partners, which took place on 27<sup>th</sup> April, 15<sup>th</sup> July and 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021. Various topics were covered, including presentations about the Prevent Education Officers, domestic abuse in relation to older people, stalking, organised dog crime, contextual safeguarding, hate crime, and many others. The next Community Safety Information Session is provisionally scheduled to take place on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

4.2 As part of the KCST's role in sharing good practice and facilitating joint working, the team produces e-bulletins aimed at providing more frequent but brief updates on emerging community safety issues to practitioners across Kent, such as legislative changes, newly published documents, data releases, links to media articles, funding opportunities, etc. The bulletins are currently being sent out on a monthly basis and the latest one, which was sent on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022, included information on the newly published Domestic Homicide Review, International Women's Day, the Stop and Search Powers video which was funded by the CRG in 2020/21 ([click here to watch the video](#)), the refreshed Preventing Extremism and Hate partnership pack, and much more.

4.3 As part of Hate Crime Awareness Week, the KCST worked with the Kent & Medway Prevent Team and the Kent Police Hate Crime lead to refresh the 'Preventing Extremism & Hate Learning and Information Pack', originally developed in 2018/19 to



support the community safety conference of the same name. The refreshed document includes the latest information, guidance, referral routes, useful contacts etc. It has recently been circulated to attendees of the CPD event on 'Preventing Hateful Extremism' on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022, which was delivered by the Kent and Medway Prevent Team and Kent Police. As stated above, it has also been circulated to partners as part of the KCST bulletin but if anyone would like to request a copy, please contact [kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk).

- 4.4 The KCST also manages and maintains the public facing [Kent & Medway Domestic Abuse Support Services](#) website which provides information on DA services for Kent residents. If anyone is interested in any posters or cards to promote the DA Support Services website or needs any pull-up banners for any future events, please contact the [kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk).
- 4.5 The KCSP Working Group would like to encourage partners to contact the KCST if they have any suggested topics for the information sessions, brief updates for the bulletins, or any other suggestions for funding opportunities, training and/or collaborative working. In addition, if you would like to be added to the distribution list for the bulletins, please email the KCST: [kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk)

## **5.0 Review of the Kent Community Safety Team**

- 5.1 As mentioned at the last KCSP meeting an impartial review of the Kent Community Safety Team has been taking place over the last few months to provide recommendations for the future of the KCST based on the findings. The first stage of the review is complete, which included seeking feedback from a range of partners, senior officers and team members. As a result it has been agreed (subject to senior management sign off) that the MOU will be extended for a year whilst a more detailed plan is developed with clear goals and objectives for the multi-agency KCST and the constituent partners. This next stage of the review will be led by a multi-agency working group chaired by KFRS. In the meantime it should be noted that the KCST will no longer be co-located and their current office location will be returned to the KFRS estate. The Team will instead look to work in a hybrid manner utilising the technology at their disposal and, on occasion, by coming together in working spaces at various office locations throughout the year.

## **6.0 Recommendations**

- 6.1 The KCSP is asked to note the progress and actions undertaken by the Working Group and the work of the KCST.

### **For Further Information:**

Shafick Peerbux  
KCC, Head of Community Safety  
[shafick.peerbux@kent.gov.uk](mailto:shafick.peerbux@kent.gov.uk)



**To:** Kent Community Safety Partnership  
**Subject:** PCC update - mental health  
**Date:** 24 March 2022

#### **Introduction:**

1. This paper provides a brief update on developments relating to mental health.
2. As reported previously, the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has stepped down as the Association of PCCs lead for Mental Health, but remains committed to supporting those who are vulnerable as well as reducing mental health demand on Kent Police.

#### **The Police and Crime Plan:**

3. The [Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011](#) sets the requirement for PCCs to issue a police and crime plan that covers their term of office within the financial year they are elected.
4. The PCC was re-elected in May 2021 and so following significant consultation, a new Police and Crime Plan titled 'Making Kent Safer – April 2022 to March 2025' will be launched on 1 April 2022.
5. The Plan retains a focus on mental health, with one of the principles that will guide the actions and decisions taken by both the Chief Constable and the PCC being as follows:

*'Ensure that vulnerable people and those suffering mental ill health get support from the right agency  
 People with mental health problems or other vulnerabilities may have a range of complex needs, which the police alone are not fully equipped to meet. In some circumstances police involvement is necessary and unavoidable; they are often the first point of call in an emergency or for people in distress or crisis. However, on other occasions it is not in the interests of the person, nor the police or public to have officers taken away from their core front line duties unnecessarily.'*

*Whilst police officers have the training and skills necessary to identify when a person is vulnerable, they are not experts in specific illnesses or disabilities; rather they need to be able to recognise when intervention is necessary and refer the person to the right agency to ensure they receive timely and appropriate support.*

*Multi-agency working including information sharing, joint decision making and coordinated action are key to the effective identification of risk to vulnerable people, preventing those risks from escalating and ensuring the continued well-being of those concerned.*

*The Chief Constable and I will continue to work with others to both reduce demand on policing and ensure vulnerable people and those suffering mental ill health receive the right help from the right agency at the right time.'*

6. The Plan will be published on the [Office of the PCC's website](#) and shared with partners.

#### **Section 136 detentions:**

7. Section 136 of the Mental Health Act 1983 allows a police officer to take a person to a place of safety where they appear to have a mental disorder, are in a public place and in need of immediate care or control. Before detaining an individual, the officer (where practicable) must consult a healthcare professional.
8. The Policing & Crime Act 2017 quite rightly placed severe limitations on the use of police stations as a place of safety.
9. Kent Police continues to focus on improving the partnership response to people in crisis, ensuring they receive a first-class service from the relevant agency at the first point of contact.

10. The table below shows the number of Section 136 detentions from 2018 to January 2022. Detentions have continued to reduce since December 2019:

- 2020 saw a 13.0% decrease compared to 2019;
- 2021 saw a 27.1% decrease compared to 2020 and a 36.6% decrease compared to 2019;
- January 2022 saw 76 detentions compared to 110 in 2021.

Month	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Jan	117	152	146	110	76
Feb	101	148	155	144	
Mar	152	155	138	132	
Apr	147	161	113	99	
May	141	205	160	125	
June	146	149	150	128	
July	159	200	189	117	
Aug	166	194	201	112	
Sep	146	196	157	96	
Oct	156	200	150	89	
Nov	139	170	125	84	
Dec	127	136	114	74	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1697</b>	<b>2066</b>	<b>1798</b>	<b>1310</b>	

11. The step change has resulted in less vulnerable individuals being detained by police officers. Consequently, there is a much-reduced burden on frontline policing with appropriate interventions taking place by the right service at the right time. However, when officers do use Section 136 powers they continue to often experience protracted waits at Emergency Departments.

12. Internal training continues to be delivered by the Mental Health Team ensuring that people are not unnecessarily detained under Section 136 and appropriate advice is sought prior to every detention, with alternative powers and services considered.

13. Use of the 836 street-triage advice line continues, with a focus on improving availability and quality of clinical advice to front line officers dealing with persons in crisis. The Mental Health Team is supporting partners to review processes and practices to improve the quality of service to patients. This includes a CCG led deep dive into the response to children detained under Section 136.

14. The ambition is to create a 24/7 age appropriate crisis care service via NHS 111 by 2023/24 with a 24/7 crisis function for adults during 2022.

**Crisis care governance:**

15. The PCC continues to chair the Kent and Medway Mental Health Crisis Care Board which replaced the Crisis Care Concordat.

16. The Board met virtually in November and agenda items included:

- Draft Terms of Reference
- Development of key indicators
- Review of Safe Havens
- Update from the Mental Health Urgent & Crisis Care Oversight Group

**Recommendation:**

17. In light of the PCC stepping down as the national lead for Mental Health and to align with other strategic meetings, that an annual update on mental health is provided to the KCSP in March of each year (instead of each meeting).



**Title:** Update of the work of the Kent and Medway Violence Reduction Unit

**Author:** Mark Powell – Kent and Medway Violence Reduction Unit

**Date:** 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**To:** Community Safety Partnership Board

**Classification:** Official

The paper outlines the work of the Violence Reduction Unit and the findings from the Strategic Needs Assessment of January 2022. The Board are asked to note to contents of the report and agree to the recommendations.

## 1. Introduction.

- 1.1 The Kent and Medway Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) was initially established in September 2019 with grant funding from the Home Office. The funding was provided to the Police and Crime Commissioner to establish a multi-agency VRU to promote a public health approach to tackling serious violence in the County.
- 1.2 The VRU has a focus on tackling violence linked to Gangs and County Lines, weapons, violence with injury and robbery.
- 1.3 The VRU has two Directors on secondment from Kent Police and Kent County Council. There are five area based coordinators drawn from Kent Police, Kent County Council and Medway Council, three analysts from Kent Police who receive data from Kent Police, Kent County Council, Medway Council, the National Probation Service and Public Health. There is one project officer and one administrative assistant.
- 1.4 The VRU has received outline confirmation from the Home Office that there will be three year grant funding for the period April 2022 – March 2025. The funding will increase from the current core grant of £1,160,000 to £2,000,000 in the first year and £1,500,000 per annum for the remaining two years.

## 2. Finding of the Strategic Needs Assessment.

- 2.1 The VRU are required to complete an annual assessment of public place serious violence in the County. The work used data up to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and the main findings are:
  - All crimes of violence against the person increased by 3% in the year October 2022 – September 2021 when compared with the previous year.
  - Robbery decreased by 29% in this period.
  - Violence where injury was caused decreased by 7% in this period.
  - Sexual offences increased by 4% in this period.





- 2.2 Serious violence is unevenly spread across the County. Districts in North and East Kent generally experienced higher levels of serious violence than those in South and West Kent, although Maidstone had the fourth highest levels of serious violence. There are peaks in violence between 3 – 4 pm, 6 – 8 pm and during Night Time Economy hours of 11 pm – midnight.
- 2.3 The main types of serious violence that were recorded are: violence with injury; robbery; knives and weapons; violence linked to drug supply.
- 2.4 The number of County Lines operating in the County and supplying Class A drugs reduced from 64 – 40 in the last 12 months. The VRU identified 12 Young Street Groups in the time period. These are groups of young people and young adults who identify as a group, are involved in anti-social behaviour and violence, and are the precursors to more organised gangs. The mapping of these groups is new and cannot be compared with previous years.

### 3. Success Factors

- 3.1 There is a challenge to identify the critical factors which lie behind reductions in public place serious violence due to the restrictions placed on society due to Covid 19. The closure of the night time economy, limitations on public association and reductions in travel have all limited the opportunity for people to meet in public. The changes in behaviour amongst the public have impacted on the ability to evaluate specific interventions to test the efficacy of the specific intervention.
- 3.2 The VRU is tasked with using analysis to coordinate and promote a multi-agency preventative approach to serious violence. Feedback from partners has identified the following factors as supporting reductions in serious violence:
  - Improvements in the sharing of intelligence and analysis across organisations which has supported multi-agency discussions, planning and support to individuals of concern.
  - Young people and young adults at risk of criminal exploitation or who are involved in 'Young Street Groups' are now routinely identified and discussed at multi-agency meetings which include representatives from children's and adults' services which supports a more cohesive approach to tackling networks of individuals.
  - Organisations have adopted a place-based approach to violence prevention that sits alongside support to individuals. The identification of hotspots, and the response from services, has helped to create safer spaces and reduce opportunities for harm to occur.
  - Increases in the resources and support available to young people

### 4. Serious Violence priorities 2022 – 2023

- 4.1 The Serious Violence Duty places a requirement on Community Safety Partnerships to use a strategic needs assessment to design and implement a Serious Violence strategy that is informed by a Public Health approach to violence prevention. The VRU is tasked





with achieving similar aims and objectives. A single, consistent set of priorities across CSPs and the VRU supports the best use of resources.

- 4.2 The VRU will have a focus on five main types of serious violence which are based on the findings of the Strategic Needs Assessment. These are:

- Violence with injury
- Robbery
- Knives and weapons
- Violence linked to drug supply
- Sexual violence

- 4.3 The approach to tackle and prevent violence from occurring or recurring which the VRU aims to deliver jointly with Community Safety Partnerships is one that includes support for individuals involved in serious violence either as a perpetrator or a victim, and a preventative approach that focusses on both individuals or places where risks of violence are identified.
- 4.4 Funding to deliver diversionary activities in places affected by violence will be aligned and coordinated with Kent Police who will receive 'Grip' funding to Police presence in hotspot areas of serious violence.
- 4.5 The VRU proposes to work with Community Safety Partnerships to ensure that the voices of young people, parents and communities are heard and reflected in the design and delivery of services. Funding from the VRU will allow the recruitment of Participation Workers to work with young people and a Community Conferencing specialist service to work with communities affected by violence.
- 4.6 Further work will be commissioned to extend the Bystander Approach across the education sector, youth services and professionals. The Bystander Approach has been used to good effect in Scotland to promote the understanding that any individual can be an active bystander and take action to prevent harm from occurring.
- 4.7 The VRU will work with the 13 Community Safety Partnerships across Kent and Medway, and the Kent Community Safety Partnership sub-group on Serious Violence and Organised Crime to ensure that the work to tackle serious violence is coordinated.

## 5. Recommendations

- 5.1 The meeting is asked to note the findings of the Strategic Needs Assessment and to agree the priority areas and responses to serious violence.



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**By:** Rory McMullan – Casualty Reduction Manager, KCC Transportation

**To:** Kent Community Safety Partnership – 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**Classification:** For Information

**Subject:** Kents Vision Zero Strategy - Delivering Road Safety

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**Summary:** This paper updates the Kent Community Safety Partnership on the developments towards delivering Kent's Vision Zero Strategy which aims to reduce Road Casualties in Kent.

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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 KCC adopted a Vision Zero Strategy which follows 'The Safe System Approach' in the summer of 2021.
- 1.2 Safe System brings together a set of inter-dependent strands, encompassing safe speed, safe vehicles, safe behaviour, safe streets and post collision response.
- 1.3 A launch event which showcased the Safe System, was held at Manston Airport in September 2021. Speakers included Roger Gough, the Leader of Kent County Council, Matthew Scott the Kent Police Crime Commissioner, Prince Michael of Kent, and by video, Baroness Vere, Minister for Transport. Exhibitors included Kent Police, Kent Fire and Rescue Service, National Highways, DVSA and KCC, as well as suppliers to the sector.
- 1.4 The event showcased new Safe Vehicle technologies, such as Emergency Automatic Braking and Intelligent Speed Assistance.
- 1.5 The event and strategy were covered by local media including BBC and ITV television news. <https://www.itv.com/news/meridian/2021-09-15/vision-zero-kents-ambitious-target-to-eliminate-road-deaths-by-2050> .
- 1.6 Since the launch partners are working on developing delivery plans through the Kent and Medway Safer Roads Partnership.
- 1.7 A new collaboration has been established for Kent, to participate in a National Highways Driving for Better Business. This will target fleet managers in Kent.
- 1.8 The new updates to the Highway Code follow principles outlined in Vision Zero and have been promoted on social media and through stakeholder newsletters.
- 1.9 Processes to measure Safety Performance Indicators are being developed to give authorities a much better more nuanced picture on road safety performance than just relying on deaths and serious injury data.

## 2. Financial Implications

2.1 We will collaborate with partners and KCC departments to seek cost savings from joint working, this will form part of the remit of working groups.

2.2 We are awaiting national announcements as to further funding streams.

### **3. Vision Zero Programme details**

3.1 Work on the working groups is ongoing in the background, and a full programme will be launched in 2022, but there are a number of new initiatives.

3.2 The Driving for Better Business project includes development of a website, outreach to fleet managers in Kent. We aim to educate fleet managers about the business benefits of safer driving practices and new driving technology.

3.3 The 2022 updates to the Highway Code affect driver priority, pedestrian and cyclist rights of way, and mobile phone use behind the wheel. Kent and partners have been working on a communications programme to make all of Kent's Road users aware of the changes which include:

- *Hierarchy of Road Users - which places those road users most at risk in the event of a collision at the top of the hierarchy.*
- *People walking have priority at junctions.*
- *Cyclists should ride wherever they feel most visible and can take the centre of a lane if there is insufficient space for motorists to pass safely.*
- *Overtaking cyclists, pedestrians and horse riders, motorists should give at least 1.5 metres up to 30mph, and more space at higher speeds.*
- *Drivers must wait for a safe gap in the flow of cyclists to turn left or right.*
- *All uses of hand-held mobiles are banned, except in an emergency.*

### **4. Conclusions**

4.1 Reducing death and injury on Kent's roads is a continuing priority, and the concern of not feeling safe is a frequent community concern expressed to Kent County Council as the Local Highway Authority. As technology advances, road safety is the responsibility not only for the Highway Authority, but for a wide variety of stakeholders including schools, workplaces, fleet operators, visitor attractions, town and district councils, the blue light services, hospitals, the NHS and every road user in Kent. We aim to engage locally to deliver the safer roads and streets, safer speeds, safer vehicles, and better behaviour that Kent's communities deserve. The work on putting together working groups is under way.

### **5. Recommendation**

5.1 The Kent Community Safety Partnership are asked to note the Vision Zero Strategy update.

#### **Report Author**

Rory McMullan

Casualty Reduction Manager, KCC Highways

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