

AGENDA

KENT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

**Thursday, 16th November, 2023, at 10.00
am**

Ask for: **Lucy Tricker**

Contact: **lucy.tricker@kent.gov.uk**

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

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

A. Committee Business

- A1 Introduction
- A2 Apologies
- A3 Declarations of Interest
- A4 Notes of meeting held on 12 July 2023 (Pages 1 - 8)

B. Matters for Information/Discussion

- B1 Kent Community Safety Agreement Update (Pages 9 - 10)
- B2 Kent Community Safety Partnership Working Group Update (Pages 11 - 14)
- B3 Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board Verbal Update
- B4 Kent and Medway Serious Violence Duty Update (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)
(Pages 15 - 16)

C. Matters for Information

- C1 Date of next meeting
 - 14 March 2024

D. RESTRICTED ITEM(S)

Meeting not open to the press and public and reports not for publication

- D1 Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) Update
- D2 Kent and Medway PREVENT Duty Delivery Board (PDDB) Update
- D3 Kent County Council Serious Organised Crime Team Update

Thursday 9th November 2023

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL**KENT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**

NOTES of a meeting of the Kent Community Safety Partnership held online on Wednesday, 12 July 2023.

PRESENT: Mr H Hill (Chair), Mr J Rivers, Mr S Peerbux, Mr M Powell, Ms L McMahon, Ms S Brinson, Mr M Rolfe, Mr N Wilkinson, Ms K Jones, Mr S Mochrie-Cox, Mr B Platt, Ms A Oates, Superintendent P Steenhuis, Mr S Danesteh-Pour, Ms J Mookherjee, Mr A Harper, Ms V Widden, Ms D Prisacariu, Ms A Agyepong, Ms I Hunter-Whitehouse, Mr D Whittle, Detective Inspector J Ross, Ms C Bright and Ms F Shiringo.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms L Tricker and Mr D Westhoff

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS**89. Notes of meeting held on 21 March 2023**

(Item A4)

RESOLVED that the notes of the meeting held on 21 March 2023 were correctly recorded and be signed by the Chairman.

90. Kent Community Safety Agreement Update

(Item B1)

1. Ms S Brinson (Community Safety Team Leader, KCC) gave an overview of the eight priorities within the Community Safety Agreement (CSA) and highlighted that the action plan has been refreshed. The action plan includes the key pieces of work that are being delivered by community safety partners across the county linking in with other multi-agency groups and strategies where possible and includes projects being funded through the Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC) Crime Reduction Grant. It is a living document meaning that it can be updated and amended in-year should the need arise.
2. One priority within the CSA is tackling domestic abuse and includes actions to deliver and coordinate Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) as well as the DHR lessons identified seminars; improve the functionality of the Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Services website; and produce bitesize videos about the signs of domestic abuse and safety planning. The other priorities are Road Safety; Substance Misuse; Preventing Neighbourhood Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour; Serious Violence and Organised Crime; Safeguarding Vulnerable People; Preventing Extremism and Hate and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) have had their actions refreshed. There was also a miscellaneous category which includes improving the strategic assessment process, producing videos from training sessions, and delivering training on other aspects of the KCSPs work.
3. Mr S Peerbux (Head of Community Safety, KCC) added that following comments from the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee last year, the

action plan regarding safeguarding vulnerable people was also being developed to include a focus on scams.

4. The Chair thanked officers for the comprehensive report.
5. A Partnership Member raised a concern regarding the work of the Violence Reduction Unit and the governance aspect over the specified authorities who cover the county, highlighted on page five of the appendix. It was confirmed that the PCC had oversight of the Violence Reduction Unit and the word governance could be replaced with the word oversight.
6. A Partnership Member commented that the substance misuse priority needed to link in with partners who worked to tackle these crimes, particularly regarding the issue of supply. The Partnership Member asked if the safeguarding vulnerable people priority could liaise with Kent Police regarding the Local Drug Information System (LDIS).
7. A Partnership Member noted that Kent was the only PREVENT priority area in the Southeast of England, so PREVENT needed to remain a priority for the KCSP and needed to work closely with partners.
8. The Chair raised the issue of illegal vapes and asked if this would be included within the action plan. Ms Brinson confirmed that illegal vapes were being tackled from a trading standards and public health viewpoint, and the KCSP would continue to share information regarding the new duties surrounding illegal vapes. Ms Mookherjee (Public Health, KCC) added that illegal vaping was an emerging issue in public health and was being linked to the smoking cessation team. Mr Wilkinson (Assistant Director Contest and Serious Organised Crime, KCC) confirmed that illegal vaping also had the potential to be linked to serious organised crime, and therefore linked to many different partners.
9. Mr Peerbux confirmed that the report to the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee had been published and outlined the work that the KCSP and partners had undertaken on the priorities since 2022, but the Committee meeting would have a specific focus on preventing anti-social behaviour; serious violence and organised crime; substance misuse; and domestic abuse.

RESOLVED that the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP):

1. Noted the refreshed action plan which supports delivery of the Community Safety Agreement 2023/24.
2. Agreed to provide feedback on the content of the draft action plan via email to kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk (KCST) by the end of July 2023, or at any time in-year if new actions emerge.

91. Kent Community Safety Partnership Working Group Update (Item B2)

1. Mr Peerbux introduced the update and outlined the projects that had been funded the previous financial year using PCC grant funding. These included: the trauma awareness programme and training pack which had delivered

training to sixty professionals over four sessions, including professionals who worked directly with children and young people; a gaming and online awareness session on extremism which was available to approximately 900 school pupils. A VAWG Conference had also been delivered on 28 March 2023 which had been a hybrid event for 250 people, including many different agencies and partners. The event had included speakers on forensic psychology, misogyny and incel culture, and active bystanders and received positive feedback from delegates. A resource pack had been provided for delegates after the conference on the services available, and a video and PowerPoint had been uploaded to the Safer Communities Portal.

2. The KCSP has been allocated just under £40,000 from the PCC for the 2023/24 financial year to deliver projects, of which one third was being retained for in-year project spending. The Working Group had been presented with 15 scoping ideas, of which they then had chosen to shortlist seven for detailed project proposals. Six of these projects had since been approved by the KCSP and the PCC including domestic abuse training videos, tackling abusive behaviour, online library resources, tackling victim blaming language and continued professional development (CPD) event focused on hate and extremism and another focused on Anti-Social Behaviour.
3. The Kent Community Safety Team (KCST) held its first Community Safety Information Session (CSIS) in the new shorter format in June 2023, which outlined the new neighbourhood policing structure in Kent and had 60 attendees. The next CSIS was being held on 25 July 2023 with a focus on scams and dangerous dogs.
4. The Chair thanked the KCST for coordinating a successful VAWG Conference, which had included many interesting speakers and another member praised the market place which provided information on services but also an opportunity for networking.
5. It was noted that there was decision outstanding regarding funding for the online library joint project with the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU).
6. It was noted that the next KCSP conference would be in February 2024 and a working group are exploring this further.

RESOLVED that the KCSP:

1. Noted the progress and actions undertaken by the Working Group and the work of the KCST.

92. Kent Community Safety Partnership Terms of Reference Review *(Item B3)*

1. Mr Peerbux provided his annual review of the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the KCSP and its sub-groups. He highlighted the government consultation on CSPs and explained that a response to this consultation had been completed through the Chair, however, there have been no updates since.
2. It was noted that there were few changes to the ToRs, mostly in relation to the membership to reflect the Clinical Commissioning Groups changing to

Integrated Care Boards (ICB). The Serious Violence Duty and Domestic Abuse Act updates had also be added to the Terms of Reference following changes to legislation.

3. It was noted that the KCSP Working Group was currently without a Chair, and the DHR Steering Group was without a Vice-Chair. Mr Peerbux encouraged nominations from the KCSP group to these roles.

RESOLVED that the KCSP:

1. Agreed the Terms of Reference for the KCSP and approved the Terms of Reference for the KCSPs two subgroups (KCSP Working Group and the DHR Steering Group).
2. Noted that the KCSP Working Group and the DHR Steering Group currently requires a Chair and a Vice-Chair respectively.
3. All KCSP member organisations shown in the Terms of Reference should ensure that they are signed up to the latest version of the Kent and Medway Information Sharing Agreement.
4. Noted that the Terms of Reference for the KCSP and its subgroups will be reviewed annually and included as an agenda item at least once a year.

93. Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy Consultation

(Item B4)

1. Ms Agyepong (Assistant Director, Adult Social Care, KCC) introduced the update. The new Domestic Abuse Strategy would begin the consultation process on 24 July and would help to strengthen partnership working and how local authorities responded to domestic abuse situations, to ensure that victims of domestic abuse received support quickly and with a holistic approach.
2. Ms Hunter-Whitehouse (Senior Project Officer for Domestic Abuse, KCC) outlined the three key themes of the strategy which were intervention and prevention; immediate needs; and recovery; and the work that had been undertaken to develop these themes and the subsequent outcomes and actions. The Domestic Abuse Research team had conducted eleven interviews and fifty surveys with victims to ensure direct experience was included in the strategy.
3. It was noted the consultation would run from 14 July to 16 October to encourage as much feedback on the strategy as possible. The consultation would be promoted through videos and social media as well as more formal consultation methods and would be available in easy-read version.
4. The Chair questioned what would happen after the consultation and how the strategy would be embedded. Ms Hunter-Whitehouse confirmed that the strategy outlined 27 commitments which would be embedded through a detailed delivery plan, alongside sub-groups who would help to take forward actions and would include members of the KCSP. Ms Agyepong added that the strategy would also link to partner agencies such as the PCC, Department of Work and Pensions, and the Fire and Rescue Service.

5. A Partnership Member commented that it was good to see both Adults Social Care and Children's Social Care being included in the strategy at the intervention and prevention stage.
6. The Chair asked for an update on the report be presented to Committee once the consultation had concluded so KCSP Members could discuss how the strategy would be embedded.
7. A Partnership Member raised a concern as a definition for prevention was not included within the strategy. A concern was also raised regarding the clarity of who owned the strategy and the governance structures that would surround it, in accordance with legislation.

RESOLVED that the KCSP:

1. Noted the development of the strategy.
2. Considered the progress made report.
3. Considered the draft executive summary, and draft strategy.

94. Kent Police and Crime Commissioners response to Mental Health: Verbal Update

(Item B5)

1. Mr Harper (Chief Executive Officer, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner) introduced the update and provided an overview of the local and national mental health police response. The number of S136 detentions undertaken by police in Kent has been reducing year on year which has resulted in the lowest figure since records began for 2022/23. This was now in line with the national figure for S136 detentions. This positively impacted the person suffering from a mental health crisis as it meant they were being seen by the right person, and positively impacted the police as they had more time to focus on other issues, as well as giving more time to mental health specialists. The mental health police team in Kent had introduced new working practices such as an investigative process and consistent partnership approach, which focussed on the right patient intervention at the right time by the right partner. A new advice line, staffed by partners, had also been introduced in Kent which provided the police with direct clinical advice from professionals and resulted in fewer S136 detentions.
2. Mr Harper provided an update on the national mental health policing picture, as approximately 20-40% of a police officer's time was spent on mental health incidents. There were new mental health ambulances and increased mental health infrastructure systems in place nationwide, which included specialised S136 centres and new mental health cafes. There was also a National Partnership Agreement which introduced the Right Care, Right Person model across the country, although this was not mandated.
3. Superintendent Steenhuis (Kent Police) added that the S136 partnership approach focussed on ensuring the right care with the right partner, whether that be the police, KCC, or the Integrated Care Board. There were numerous projects across Kent and Medway including a new mental health safe haven in Medway, new mental health ambulances, and increased access to crisis care.

4. It was noted that there would be an annual update on Kent Police's response to mental health, as well as ad-hoc verbal updates when necessary.

RESOLVED that the Kent Police and Crime Commissioners response to Mental Health: Verbal Update be noted.

95. Neighbourhood Policing Restructure Update: Verbal Update
(Item B6)

1. Superintendent Steenhuis (Kent Police) introduced the update and explained that the restructure had begun to be rolled out on 7 June 2023, and this hoped to streamline processes and increase community engagement through ward-based beat police officers. The new restructure also included Child Centred Policing Team, a Neighbourhood Task Force, a Rural Task Force, and Prevention Hubs. 50 ward-based police officers were now in post, with the rollout expected to be complete in September 2024 at the latest through a phased approach.
2. The Chair raised a concern regarding the loss of Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), who had been successful at engaging with their communities and engaging with disadvantaged children and young people.
3. A Partnership Member echoed the Chair's comments and felt that PCSOs had provided good continuity in their communities. A concern was raised regarding the new ward-based police officers being redistributed outside of their communities. Superintendent Steenhuis confirmed that a robust extraction policy was being implemented to ensure that neighbourhood police officers were last to be extracted for events or issues that occurred across the borough.
4. A Partnership Member raised a concern regarding the definition of a ward, and if each ward in a district would receive one ward-based police officer. Superintendent Steenhuis stated that Kent Police had considered the volume of demand and level of harm when determining how many ward-based police officers to deploy. For example, one neighbourhood police officer might cover three to four wards depending on the demand and level of harm in an area. A map was available on the Kent Police website to show the area covered by a neighbourhood police officer.
5. Mr Peerbux highlighted that the KCC budget saving proposals in February 2023 had agreed to reduce the Kent Community Warden Service (KCWS) budget by £1million over two years, which equated to almost half of the overall budget. A consultation was being undertaken on the KCWS and the team would be looking to retain support for elderly residents in the community and community development projects. A community base would be retained, but the team would need to consider where community wardens were deployed, and relevant partners would be included in these conversations.

RESOLVED that the Neighbourhood Policing Restructure Update be noted.

96. Response to the Serious Violence Duty
(Item B7)

1. Mr M Powell introduced the report and provided a brief summary of the new Act and how it related to specified authorities. A new Serious Violence Prevention Partnership (SVPP) had been established, which would be chaired by the Police and Crime Commissioner, and they had already agreed the definition of serious violence, including public place violence, and violence linked to domestic and sexual abuse.
2. It was noted that the Violence Reduction Unit was focusing on young people aged 10-24, as they were disproportionately involved in serious violence as either perpetrators or victims, particularly regarding knife crime injury and robbery.
3. The SVPP Board had outlined their priorities which were commissioning a strategic needs assessment; developing a data sharing platform; and commissioning a report to understand multiagency links to ensure no duplication of work.
4. It was noted that the strategic needs assessment would be completed in January and would then be presented to KCSP Members.

RESOLVED that the KCSP note the contents of the report and support the actions from the Serious Violence Prevention Partnership Board.

97. Date of next meeting

(Item C1)

RESOLVED that the KCSP noted the dates of the next meetings.

98. Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) Update

(Item D1)

1. Mr Peerbux provided an update on the Kent and Medway Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) cases as well as case briefings on the most recently published cases for Kitty and Leanne which can be found on the KCC website using the link below.

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/partnerships/kent-communitysafety->

RESOLVED that the KCSP note the update on the Domestic Homicide Reviews.

99. Kent and Medway PREVENT Duty Delivery Board (PDDB) Update

(Item D2)

1. Mr Wilkinson (Assistant Director Contest and Serious Organised Crime, KCC) provided an update on the PREVENT Duty Delivery Board.

RESOLVED that the KCSP note the update on the PREVENT Duty Delivery Board.

This page is intentionally left blank

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

To: Kent Community Safety Partnership – 16th November 2023

Classification: For Information

Subject: Kent Community Safety Agreement Update

Summary This report includes details of progress with regards the Kent Community Safety Agreement action plan and the upcoming strategic assessments

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.

Priorities

- Preventing Neighbourhood Crime & ASB
- Domestic Abuse
- Substance Misuse
- Safeguarding Vulnerable People
- Serious Violence and Organised Crime
- Preventing Extremism and Hate
- Road Safety
- Violence against women and girls

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

3.0 Action Plan Update

3.1 At the KCSP meeting in July, members were presented with the refreshed action plan which supports delivery of the CSA priorities. The KCSP Working Group continues to monitor the activities identified and reviewed the latest updates at their meeting in October 2023. The next review will take place at their meeting in January 2024.

- 3.2 At this stage of the year all of the actions are in progress, this includes many activities which are ongoing such as the domestic homicide reviews, working with other multi-agency groups, information sharing, awareness raising etc. which link to the Partnership's role in leading and coordinating on countywide community safety issues. A report on the key outcomes of the action plan will be presented at the next KCSP meeting in March but in the meantime an update on the projects funded by the Crime Reduction Grant has been provided in the KCSP Working Group report.
- 3.3 There are some key activities within the plan which took place recently or are due to take place which are worthy of note, specifically working with other partnerships to promote and support delivery of awareness events such as Hate Crime Awareness, Safeguarding Adults Awareness Week, and 16-days of Action Against Domestic Abuse – further information about the latter two events can be found in the KCSP Working Group report and via the following website links: [16 Days campaign toolkit](#); [Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board](#).
- 3.4 The action plan remains a live document and can be updated and amended during the year as required.

4.0 Strategic Assessments

- 4.1 Sourcing of data from partner agencies for the annual strategic assessment process is in progress and statutory partners are being contacted to provide data for use by the district Community Safety Partnership's (CSPs) in their strategic assessments to help identify key community safety issues. This data and the outcomes from the local assessments will help inform the annual review of the CSA priorities.
- 4.2 The KCST is planning a data workshop for district partners undertaking local strategic assessments which will provisionally take place on 6th December. The Kent Police Central Analytical Team will be attending to explain what their data is showing in terms of trends, hotspots, emerging issues, etc. and to give partners a chance to ask questions. Additional speakers for the event are being identified with the aim to include initial findings from some of the Needs Assessments that are being developed or refreshed by partners including Serious Violence. The KCST is also commissioning the production of a Kent strategic assessment to help support the process and inform the refresh of the CSA.
- 4.3 The outcome of the next strategic assessment process and the review of the CSA priorities and cross-cutting themes will be presented at the next KCSP meeting in March 2024.

5.0 Recommendations

- 5.1 The Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) members are asked to note the update.

For Further Information:

Shirley Brinson
KCC Community Safety Team Leader
shirley.brinson@kent.gov.uk

Shafick Peerbux
KCC Head of Community Safety
shafick.peerbux@kent.gov.uk

By: Shafick Peerbux - Head of Community Safety, KCC

To: Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP) – 16th November 2023

Classification: For Information

Subject: Kent Community Safety Partnership Working Group Update

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.

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 2023/24

- 2.1 The Kent Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) allocated £39,661 grant funding to the Kent Community Safety Partnership to fund projects in 2023/24, focussing on the priorities identified in the Community Safety Agreement and the PCC's Making Kent Safer plan. As part of the terms and conditions a third of the funding was placed in a tactical pot for in-year spending. 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 In late April 2023, the KCSP Working Group reviewed a range of projects suggested by partners as possible options to receive funding in 2023/24. Of those recommended for funding the PCC approved upfront spending of £21,240 on the following six projects. A summary about each of the projects was included in the last report to KCSP members in July 2023, the following is a brief progress update:

- Reducing Abusive Behaviour Policy and Training (£4,200) – training has been commissioned and is due to be delivered in March 2023
- Domestic Abuse Bitesize Training Videos (£5,440) – work is underway on developing the video content and the graphics for the videos.
- Tackling Victim Blaming Language Training (£1,600) – four 2-hour online sessions have been commissioned and details of the events shared with partners across the county. Two sessions were delivered in September and October with a further two planned in November and December. Approximately 80 people have attended each session with positive feedback from attendees. The remaining sessions are fully booked but if anyone is interested and would like to be added to a waiting list please email the [KCST](#).
- Hateful Extremism CPD event (£3,500) – the event is planned for 27th February 2024. To date the venue and guest speakers have been confirmed and work on the agenda for the day is in progress.
- Anti-Social Behaviour event (£5,000) – the event is planned for 6th February 2024 (further details below).
- Community Safety Information Sessions (£1,500) – the events are being recorded and support for the editing is being explored.

2.3 The remainder of the funding (£18,421) was placed in the tactical pot for in-year use. Following confirmation from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner that the tactical pot could be accessed, several project proposals were received from partners for consideration by the KCSP Working Group in October 2023.

2.4 Based on the discussions undertaken by members of the KCSP Working Group, two projects outlined below, received a consensus of support and have been passed to the KCSP Chair for consideration. If agreed a business case will be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner for approval:

- **Gaming Together 2023/2024** (£3,450)
The Gaming Together Project (gaming bus) is a community engagement initiative to promote awareness of how hateful extremism and potential radicalisation is spread via gaming and how it can be countered.
- **BCRP extension to rural locations** (£3,186)
A Business Crime Reduction Partnership (BCRP) is a partnership-based approach to preventing crime and disorder. It is a subscription based, business-led, group working with police and the local authority to tackle crime and disorder affecting businesses and the wider community. This project seeks to extend the schemes radio coverage from town centres to rural businesses.

2.5 If the above two projects are approved by the PCC there will be approximately £11,700 remaining in the Tactical Pot. The KCSP Working Group are working with partners to identify suitable additional projects and are in receipt of two more proposals for consideration by partners. If KCSP members have any additional suggestions or would like to discuss potential projects, please contact: kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk.

3.0 Kent Community Safety Partnership Anti-Social Behaviour Event

- 3.1 The KCSP has delivered Community Safety events for the benefit of partners for a number of years based on an identified need. The most recent event centred around Violence Against Women and Girls was successfully delivered in March 2023.
- 3.2 A multi-agency Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Task and Finish Group (T&FG) has been established and at the last planning meeting it was agreed that the focus of the conference should be around Anti-Social Behaviour in line with Government's ASB Action plan (published in March 2023). The planning group have identified a number of key topics that could be explored within the overarching theme, including: Effects / health implications of Nitrous Oxide; E-Scooters / E Bikes; Community Payback; Housing / Homelessness; Fly tipping; Case Studies / Good Practice
- 3.3 The event planning is in progress with a number of venues being considered. Further planning meetings are scheduled to establish the exact content, format, and speakers. The aim is to hold the event on Tuesday 6th February 2024 in a hybrid format.

4.0 Kent Community Safety Team (KCST)

- 4.1 As part of the KCST's role in sharing information, good practice and facilitating joint working, the team produces and circulates monthly E-Bulletins on emerging community safety issues, relevant news, publications, publications and to highlight and promote community safety work to over 200 practitioners across the county.
- 4.2 The KCST delivers Community Safety Information Sessions (CSIS) covering a broad range of topics. For this financial year, the KCST partners have been trialling an alternative format for the CSIS events, making them shorter, lunchtime sessions, and delivering them more frequently. The KCST has devised a schedule around upcoming awareness weeks/topics as well as incorporating new and emerging issues in-year.
- 4.3 Four sessions have been delivered since the start of the financial year focussed on different topics: the first session was delivered to partners in June 2023 on the changes to Neighbourhood Policing in Kent. Subsequent sessions covered the topics of scams, dangerous dogs, Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy consultation, homelessness, Hate Crime (to coincide with Hate Crime Awareness week) and the legal position relating to E-Scooters. All sessions have been well attended and received positive feedback.
- 4.4 The KCST's next session will be delivered on 15th November with topics that support the upcoming awareness weeks mentioned below. Topics to be covered include Co-occurring Conditions linked to Domestic Abuse; and Perpetrator Interventions for domestic abuse and stalking.
- 4.5 If anyone has any suggestions of speakers/topics that would be relevant for the information sessions, or if you would like to attend, please contact the KCST via the team mailbox: kentcommunitysafetyteam@kent.gov.uk

- 4.6 The KCST, on behalf of the KCSP, are in the process of delivering DHR learning webinars. So far this year, two webinars have been delivered on different themes identified from the most recently published cases including: Trauma informed practice, Co-occurring conditions, Challenge and Triangulation of Information, Responding to Victims with complexities, Risk assessing, information gathering and sharing and Perpetrator invisibility.
- 4.7 The next DHR learning webinar will take place on 22nd November during the National Safeguarding Adults Awareness Week. The event will be delivered jointly with the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board (KMSAB) and will be focused on 'Who cares for the carers?' to include learning from both DHRs and recent Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs).
- 4.8 The KCST is currently working with the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board (KMSAB) on the annual Safeguarding Adults Awareness Week (SAAW) campaign (20th-24th November). The KCST has engaged with colleagues within the Kent Community Warden service and at a local district level to ensure that events/activities are taking place during the week as well as sharing the SAAW toolkit.
- 4.9 In addition, the team are also working with colleagues to support and promote the 16 days of Action Against Domestic Abuse which runs between 25th November to 10th December and will be sharing information with colleagues across Kent and Medway.
- 4.10 The KCSP Working Group would like to encourage partners to contact the KCST if they have any suggested 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

5.0 Recommendations

- 5.1 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



Title: Kent and Medway Serious Violence Duty Update

Author: Mark Powell – Director, Kent and Medway Violence Reduction Unit

Date: 8th November 2023

To: Kent Community Safety Partnership – 16th November 2023

Classification: Official

The paper outlines the progress towards the development of a strategic needs assessment for serious violence and the plans to develop a strategy to prevent violence from occurring. Partnership members are asked to note the contents of the paper.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 (“the PCSC Act”) received Royal Assent in April 2022. Part 2 of the PCSC Act creates a requirement for specified authorities to collaborate and plan to reduce or prevent serious violence.
- 1.2 The partnership must collectively create and publish a strategic needs assessment and develop a strategy which should outline the multi-agency response that the partnership will take to address the drivers identified in the strategic needs assessment and work to prevent and reduce serious violence in the local area. The strategy should set out how the proposed actions will enhance and complement existing local arrangements responding to serious violence.
- 1.3 Specified authorities must agree a partnership board which will oversee the work to tackle serious violence and are encouraged to adopt a Public Health approach to preventing serious violence.
- 1.4 The specified authorities are Police, Youth Offending, Probation, Integrated Care Board, Fire and Rescue, District and County Councils.

2. Arrangements

- 2.1 The specified authorities have agreed to collaborate across Kent and Medway to collectively discharge their responsibilities and will do so through a Serious Violence Prevention (SVP) Board chaired by the Police and Crime Commissioner. The exception is Gravesham Borough Council which will do so via the Gravesham Community Safety Partnership.
- 2.2 The Board includes the chairs of the Kent and Medway Youth Justice Boards, the Head of Probation, the Heads from Public Health in Kent and Medway, the Chief Nurse, an Assistant





Chief Constable and representatives from the District Councils and Community Safety Partnerships.

- 2.3 The following definition of serious violence has been adopted: *Specific types of crime such as homicide, knife crime, robbery and gun crime, and areas of criminality where serious violence or its threat is inherent such as in domestic abuse, sexual offences, gangs, county lines and drug supply.*
- 2.4 The terms of reference for the SVP Board were agreed at the Board meeting in October 2023 and include a seat for the head of the Kent Community Safety Partnership along with representatives from the District and Borough Councils, some of whom have asked to be represented via their Community Safety Manager. Board attendees will be expected to link discussions at the SVP board with those taking place at other boards where violence prevention may form part of the agenda.

3. Serious Violence Duty priorities

- 3.1 The SVP Board is required to publish a Strategic Needs Assessment and Serious Violence strategy by January 2024. The Board has asked the Violence Reduction Unit to lead the work.
- 3.2 The work to gather the data for strategic needs assessment will be completed by November 2023. The data is being shared by Police, Local Authorities, Probation, Health and other partners, and there is also consultation taking place with young people to hear their views on how violence affects them.
- 3.3 The specified partners within the Serious Violence Duty will be invited to contribute to surveys and workshops to explore the key priorities that they feel should form part of a strategy to prevent violence. The work will be carried out in November and December 2023.
- 3.4 The Serious Violence Board will meet on January 16th 2024 to discuss and agree the a Serious Violence Prevention Strategy.

4. Other priorities

- 4.1 The SVP board agreed a proposal to develop a multi-agency data sharing platform that will allow data sharing to be automated and which, if successful, will allow agencies to analyse data quickly and intuitively.
- 4.2 The SVP Board also agreed to be the responsible body that oversees the work of the Kent & Medway Violence Reduction Unit. The funding for the unit is in place until March 2025.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 The Partnership is asked to note the progress of the strategic needs assessment and to support the development of the serious violence prevention strategy.

