

**By:** Shafick Peerbux - Head of Community Safety, KCC

**To:** Kent Community Safety Partnership – 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023

**Classification:** For Decision

**Subject:** KCSP Terms of Reference Update 2023

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**Summary:** This paper details the annual review of the Terms of Reference for the KCSP and its subgroups.

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## **1.0 Background**

- 1.1 The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 introduced a number of revisions to the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 including the establishment of a County Strategy Group, known in Kent as the Kent Community Safety Partnership (KCSP). These regulations set out the remit for the group, meeting frequency, governance arrangements and included a detailed list of required members.
- 1.2 Amendments to these regulations came in 2010 and 2011 which removed some of the bureaucracy. As a result, the remaining requirements for the KCSP as set out in the regulations are:
- There shall be a County Strategy Group whose function shall be to prepare a community safety agreement based on the strategic assessments of local strategy groups (CSPs) for the county area.
  - The County Strategy Group shall consist of two or more persons appointed by one or more of the responsible authorities in the county area. The County Strategy Group may also be attended by persons who represent co-operating and participating persons/bodies and other partners that the Group invites.

## **2.0 KCSP Terms of Reference**

- 2.1 The KCSP terms of reference (ToR) were last updated and approved by the Partnership in July 2022. Since that time, there have been no legislative changes that would impact the governance arrangements for the Partnership.
- 2.2 The ToR for the KCSP remain largely unchanged (see Appendix A) aside from the 'Membership' section reflecting the NHS Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board who took on the responsibilities of the Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).
- 2.3 Additionally, the 'Responsibilities' section has been updated to acknowledge new and emerging legislation that impacts directly on the work of the KCSP for example the Serious Violence Duty introduced in the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022.

### **3.0 KCSP Subgroups Terms of Reference**

- 3.1 The KCSP has two subgroups which it is responsible for overseeing. The KCSP Working Group and Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) Steering Group, both have their own ToRs. The annual review of the subgroups ToRs has been aligned with that of the KCSP and as such members of these subgroups have also recently reviewed their respective ToRs.
- 3.2 The KCSP Working Group members recently reviewed their ToR (see Appendix B) and the majority of changes were in relation to the 'Membership' section to reflect NHS Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board but also to expand the KCC representatives who attend from the Contest and Serious Organised Crime and the Strategy, Policy, Relationships Corporate Assurance teams.
- 3.3 The DHR Steering Group members recently reviewed their ToR (see Appendix C) and there was one change within the 'Purpose' section to ensure compliance with Section 9 of the Domestic Violence Crime and Victims Act (2004) but also to 'be cognisant of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021'. The 'Responsibilities' section has been updated to include 'the intentional engagement of families where possible' as this is a significant aspect of the DHR process. The lessons learnt from DHRs will also be shared with the new 'Local DA Boards' which were established by the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.
- 3.4 There has been no further guidance received from the Home Office since the December 2016 changes to the statutory DHR guidance that would impact on the DHR Steering Group ToRs. It is understood that the Home Office will be reviewing the DHR guidance following a stakeholder consultation and the ToRs will be updated accordingly upon receipt of new guidance.
- 3.5 It is worth noting that currently the KCSP Working Group does not have a Chair and is being covered by the Vice-Chair from KCC until a new Chair is secured. Similarly, the DHR Steering Group which is also Chaired by KCC does not have a Vice-Chair. Therefore, it is anticipated that named representatives from partner agencies will be sought for election at the upcoming subgroup meetings in the Autumn.

### **4.0 Recommendations**

- 4.1 The KCSP members are asked to agree the Terms of Reference for the Kent Community Safety Partnership and approve the Terms of Reference for the KCSPs two subgroups (KCSP Working Group and the DHR Steering Groups).
- 4.2 KCSP Members are asked to note that the KCSP Working Group and the DHR Steering Group currently requires a Chair and Vice-Chair respectively.
- 4.3 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.

4.4 The KCSP members are asked to note 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.

**Attachments:**

Appendix A – Kent Community Safety Partnership ToR

Appendix B – Kent Community Safety Partnership Working Group ToR

Appendix C – Domestic Homicide Review Steering Group ToR

**For Further Information:**

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