
AGREE THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP WORKING PARTY FOR 2015/16

To: **Community Safety Partnership Working Party – 02 July 2015**

Main Portfolio Area: **Community Services**

By: **Senior Democratic Services Officer**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **Thanet Wide**

Summary: **The purpose of this report is to introduce the terms of reference that were adopted at the Overview & Scrutiny Panel and offer Members an opportunity to suggest changes where appropriate.**

For Decision

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 On 26 May 2015 Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel set up three working parties that included the Community Safety Partnership Working Party. The Community Safety Working Party's work fulfils the statutory requirement by the Council to scrutinise the performance of the Community Safety Partnership.
- 1.2 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Sections 5 to 7 set out the statutory framework for responsible authorities to work with other local agencies and organisations to develop and implement strategies for tackling crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and re-offending adversely affecting neighbourhoods and the environment in any given area in relation to local government boundaries.
- 1.3 Sections 19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 gave effect for local Councils to 'hold to account' Community Safety Partnerships. The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) (Amendment) Regulations 2010 was published in order to update the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 2009/942) which gave further effect to the oversight role of the local Councils' Overview & Scrutiny Committees. These regulations further provided for the local authorities (local Councils) to assign a scrutiny role to scrutinise the functioning of the responsible authorities.
- 1.4 The responsible authorities are defined in section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. This was updated by further legislation relevant to specific sectors (Policing and Crime Act 2009, Health and Social Care Act 2012 and the responsible authorities for Thanet are now;
- a) Kent Police;
 - b) Local authorities – TDC and KCC;
 - c) Kent Fire and Rescue Services;
 - d) Kent Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company;
 - e) Thanet Clinical Commissioning Group (NHS).

- 1.5 These responsible authorities are collectively known as the Community Safety Partnership (previously known as the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership). Section 19 of the 2006 Police and Justice Act requires that each local authority sets up a crime and disorder committee with the powers to review, scrutinise and make reports and recommendations regarding the functioning of responsible authorities (in their collective form, the Community Safety Partnership).

2.0 The Current Situation

- 2.1 The Panel agreed that the Community Safety Partnership Working Party be made up of seven members and the terms of reference assigned to the sub-group are as detailed in Annex 1 to the report.
- 2.2 Members may wish to suggest further changes to terms of reference. If such changes were to be made, recommendations would have to be forwarded to the next meeting of the Panel to be finalised.
- 2.3 The terms of reference provide the framework for Members to agree the work programme for the working party. This issue will be covered in more detail in a separate item elsewhere on the agenda.

3.0 Options

- 3.1 Members may wish to amend the draft terms of reference.
- 3.2 The sub-group could opt to leave the terms of reference for 2015/16 as reflected in Annex 1 to the report.

4.0 Next Steps

- 4.1 If the sub-group has come up with changes to the terms of reference that were agreed at the Overview and Scrutiny Panel, then such changes ought to be brought back to the main Panel for consideration and finalisation.

5.0 Corporate Implications

5.1 Financial and VAT

- 5.1.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

5.2 Legal

- 5.2.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report. The Overview and Scrutiny Panel is empowered to set up a sub-committee to carry-out its statutory function of scrutinising the operations of the Community Safety Partnership.

5.3 Corporate

5.4 Equity and Equalities

- 5.4.1 There are no equity and equalities issues arising directly from this report. However all decisions to be made by Council bodies ought to take into

consideration the equity and equalities impact implications of such decisions on the local community.

6.0 Recommendation

6.1 If appropriate, Members are asked to agree amendments to the terms of reference and forwarding any amendments to the next meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 18 August 2015.

7.0 Decision Making Process

7.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Panel can assign sub-committees to conduct in-depth reviews of any issues of relating to the functions of the Council and any other matters that affects the local area (i.e Thanet District area) and make recommendations to appropriate bodies of Council.

Future Meeting:	Date: 18 August 2015
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Contact Officer:	Charles Hungwe, Senior Democratic Services Officer, ext 7186
Reporting to:	Nick Hughes, Committee Services Manager, ext 7208

Annex List

Annex 1	Terms of Reference of the Community Safety Working Party for 2015/16
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Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
None	N/A

Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	N/A
Legal	N/A