
THANET COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN UPDATE FOR 2015 – 2016 AND PLAN FOR 2016-17

To: Community Safety Partnership Working Party – 01 February 2016

By: Jessica Bailey – Community Safety Team Leader

Classification: Unrestricted

Ward: All wards

Summary: This report reviews progress made against the Community Safety Plan for 2015-16 and proposes the draft Community Safety Plan and focus areas for 2016-17.

For Decision

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The council has a statutory duty via the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to work jointly with other 'responsible authorities' which includes County Council, Police, Fire, Probation and Health services, to reduce crime and disorder and reoffending through the facilitation of a Community Safety Partnership (CSP). Thanet District Council facilitates the CSP on behalf of these agencies.

1.2 Under the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009, the council also has a further scrutiny function, to review the performance of the Community Safety Partnership, through the Community Safety Working Party (referred to within this report as 'the Working Party'), as a subgroup to Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

1.3 For 2015-16 the Working Party agreed to base this around the four focus areas:

- Safeguarding people vulnerable to committing or being a victim of crime
- Reducing Reoffending
- Tackling the drivers of crime and Anti-Social Behaviour
- Engaging with partners and the community

1.4 This report details the key topics for discussion at the meeting and the monitoring framework for next year's plan.

2.0 Review of Community Safety Plan for 2015-16 – Q4 Performance Report

2.1 Working party members will received a copy of the draft Community Safety Plan monitoring report for the end of the year (Q4). It details all progress to date against each action contained within the Community Safety Plan for 2015-16 and is included in Annex I. This report will be considered by members to assess progress against the year's Community Safety activity.

2.2 The Community Safety Plan timescales align with the financial calendar, and as such, partners have until the end of March to fully complete projects, however, 26 out of the 30 actions have already been completed.

3.0 Key achievements for 2015-16:

3.1 Safeguarding People vulnerable to committing or being a victim of crime

- Strengthened the ways we work jointly to support vulnerable young people, through delivery of 15 family support panels that provided intensive support and has improved joint working with social services.
- Seconded an early help worker who is now dedicated full time, to working with the combined Community Safety Unit and improving outcomes for 'at risk' young people through diversionary activities.
- Worked jointly with the Home Office as part of the Ending Gangs and Youth Violence peer review and have shared best practice and improved intelligence.
- Produced an e-learning package for training on Domestic Abuse legislation changes and raised awareness and shared best practice around Domestic Homicide reviews.

3.2 Reducing Reoffending

- Following the successful pilot last year, Police continue to use personal body worn cameras as a visible deterrent and to improve evidence capture. 8 licensed premises have also now started to use cameras.
- Made better use of positive role models, through supporting the 'Say it' Child Sexual Exploitation programme intervention in local schools.
- Delivered a gangs 'outreach' programme for young people, with St Giles Trust.

3.3 Tackling the drivers of crime and anti-social behaviour

- Extended availability of 'One Stop Shop' support services, 14 'Neighbourhood Responsibility Panels' have been held, supporting 21 clients.
- Delivered additional training for front line workers around Mental Health.
- Co-ordinated and supported delivery of the Thanet Alcohol Strategy
- Undergone and scheduled additional training around 'online safeguarding' and 'Preventing Extremism'.
- Continued to support the Community Pastor Scheme – 58 patrols were carried out over peak periods, which equated to 1200 volunteer hours. Direct advice and support was given to 1758 people.

3.4 Engaging with partners and the community

- Reviewed existing engagement provision in schools – over 1500 pupils engaged;
- Consulted with young people through Kent Youth Service to understand their views;
- Invited schools into the council to meet with CSP agencies;
- Developed an extensive communications programme and improved output – (CSP facebook and twitter followers have doubled) on social media platforms to raise awareness of CSP services and projects;
- Held 17 public meetings and significantly increased responses to our annual safety consultation, particularly including a younger demographic.

4.0 Outstanding actions from 2015-16

- 4.1 To date, one action (12) is still being delivered and will be completed by the end of this financial year (plan deadline); dates for Prevent awareness training have been set for February 2016 but not yet delivered to staff.
- 4.2 A further action (27) which proposed Kent Fire and Rescue Service establish a separate Road Safety Task Group was delivered in a different format and incorporated into existing workstreams, which included educational awareness and safety messages. Campaigns were also promoted as part of the communications advertorial programme the partnership initiated in local and online media formats. It is also the partnerships intention to also include work in this area as part of the partnership plan for 2016-17 and will be covered in a later section of this report.
- 4.3 A final two actions (19 + 17) relate to redevelopment of Integrated Offender Management processes with adults and young people, and due to restructuring with KCC Early Help and Youth Offending Teams this action has not yet been able to be finalised, and will carry over to 2016-17 activity.
- 4.4 As this is a fluid document, it continues to be updated as and when progress is made and will be finalised at the end of the financial year and tabled at the first Working Party of the new year.

5.0 Community Safety Plan for 2016-17

- 5.1 The focus areas for the Community Safety Plan are established through a process of data analysis, consultation and collaborative planning.
- 5.2 Partnership data is firstly provided by all agencies, assessed by Kent County Council Community Safety Unit and then reviewed locally.
- 5.3 The initial review of data for Thanet shows whilst overall crime trends are showing decreases - reductions in all crime, of 4.3%, (Jan- Dec 2015 compared to Jan – Dec 2014), Thanet's performance is not as good as other parts of Kent, and Thanet still has higher volumes in a number of crime categories. Thanet also has higher levels of deprivation, problematic offenders and vulnerable people living within our district.
- 5.4 Following the data analysis, a practitioner stakeholder event is then held, where officers, informed by the data and local knowledge, discuss emerging issues and share their own organisation's objectives. Over 90 stakeholders from 16 public, private and voluntary agencies attended the event, held in December 2015.
- 5.5 A draft set of focus areas are formulated and residents are then consulted for their views based on local perceptions of safety in the district. The consultation is being held during January 2016 and although final figures are currently still being processed, initial analysis shows over 350 responses, which is the highest ever response rate.
- 5.6 To date, 78% of respondents are in support of the proposed themes. Full analysis will be produced on conclusion of the consultation.
- 5.7 We are continuing the approach taken last year plan to focus on broader themes rather than individual crime types. By taking a holistic approach, action can be taken simultaneously on both disrupting those offenders that continue to cause significant harm, but also to provide continued support to people with the greatest need.

6.0 Proposed focus areas for 2016-17

6.1 The Community Safety Plan will focus on the following focus areas;

- **Reducing Offending and Reoffending**
 - Divert first time entrants and repeat offenders from the criminal justice system
 - Prevent low level anti-social behaviour from escalating into criminality
 - Tackle violence and crimes that cause the most harm to communities

- **Safeguarding our most vulnerable people**
 - Identify and support those susceptible to all forms of exploitation
 - Break cycles of abuse and vulnerability
 - Address isolation and improve community based support

- **Improving community confidence and agency collaboration**
 - Raise awareness and education of community safety activity
 - Integrate and co-locate services to improve delivery and replicate innovation
 - Engage and empower communities through positive re-enforcement
 - Use reparation and volunteer support to improve the physical environment

6.2 These compliment the strategic priorities of the new Thanet Leadership Group which have oversight of the CSP and other key boards such as Health and Well-Being and Invest Thanet.

6.3 They also allow each of the partners to relate them to their own objectives such as the Kent Police and Kent Fire and Rescue Service control strategies. This will ensure partnership efforts compliment but don't duplicate ongoing work.

7.0 Delivery of the Plan

7.1 Unlike previous years, partners have decided not to create the action plan straight away. As the development process starts in December, some objectives that were set were either no longer feasible for implementation by the time it came to deliver them in April or had changed direction. This restricted the partnership's ability to be able to respond dynamically to the most challenging issues facing the district.

7.2 Having broader themes, will enable a fluid partnership response to Community Safety, which can evolve and adapt as required, and be more flexible and responsive to crime trends and issues that emerge as the year progresses.

7.3 It is proposed that delivery will be managed by the establishment of task and finish groups, in early April 2016, focussing on each of the three focus areas.

7.4 Each group will be co-ordinated and driven by an operational lead officer, who will be supported and overseen by a strategic lead officer from a mixture of partnership agencies. This two tier structure at both an operational and strategic level will provide a more thorough mechanism for delivery of the Community Safety Plan for 2016-17.

7.5 On inception, each Task and Finish project group will complete action plans and establish measures of success. It is proposed these action plans are submitted to the Community Safety Working Party for agreement at their first meeting in 2016-17.

8.0 Accountability and performance management

- 8.1 It is proposed that each task and finish group will report back to the Community Safety Working Party and Executive Board at each meeting to ensure accountability.
- 8.2 Update will also be provided at a strategic level to the Leadership Board, to ensure priorities remain aligned with wider remits, and to prevent duplication with other multi agency groups.

9.0 Options

- 9.1 To review the draft Community Safety Plan Q4 monitoring report for 2015-16 and prepare a summary for Overview and Scrutiny Panel on the performance of the partnership for 2015-16.
- 9.2 To make recommendations for adoption or amendment of the Draft Thanet Community Safety Plan 2016/17 focus areas, as set out in Annex II.

10.0 Corporate Implications

10.1 Financial

- 10.2 District Council Community Safety staff facilitate the Community Safety Partnership alongside their TDC function of anti-social behaviour case management. Salaries for these staff are covered within the budget for 2016-17.
- 10.3 The Kent Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has confirmed the CSP will be awarded a grant of approximately £31957 depending on their final government settlement. This will be available for the Task and Finish groups to ensure delivery of the actions and expenditure will be agreed by the TCSP Executive Group.

10.2 Legal

- 10.2.1 In relation to any decision or project implemented by any department in the local authority, under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the local authority has a duty to do all that is reasonable to prevent crime and disorder.
- 10.2.2 This Community Safety Plan provides evidence of compliance by the District Council and other responsible authorities of the statutory functions contained within the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and subsequent updates in other legislation.

10.3 Corporate

- 10.3.1 The draft Community Safety Plan priorities in 2016-17 support the corporate plan objectives, Priority 1: A clean and Welcoming Environment and Priority 2: Supporting neighbourhoods. This directly supports 'continuing to work with partners to improve community safety.' Taking a partnership approach also supports corporate value 1: Delivering value for money, particularly around targeting resources and delivering more cost effective services.

11.0 Recommendation(s)

- 11.1 To note the updates and prepare a summary for Overview and Scrutiny on the performance of CSP agencies and progress made against the objectives set in the 2015-16 plan.
- 11.2 To make recommendations to Overview and Scrutiny Panel for agreement of the 2016-17 Community Safety Plan.

12.0 Decision Making Process

- 12.1 As the Community Safety Plan is a policy framework document, this report will go to Cabinet with final approval reserved to Council.

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Annex List

Annex I	Community Safety Plan 2015-16 – Q4 Monitoring Report
Annex II	Draft Community Safety Plan 2016-2017

Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	
Legal	