

Thanet Community Safety Partnership Plan 2017-2020

Council	22nd March 2017
Report Author	Jessica Bailey, Community Safety Team Leader
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Lin Fairbrass, Deputy Leader
Status	For Information
Classification:	Unrestricted
Key Decision	No
Ward:	All wards

Executive Summary:

This report sets out the proposed Thanet Community Safety Partnership (TCSP) Plan for 2017-20.

This report sets out the proposal for the partnership to continue three similar overarching focus areas for the next three years; Reducing Offending and Reoffending, Safeguarding Vulnerability and Community Reassurance. More detailed activity that each agency is leading on is set out within each partners action plan and will be updated and refreshed each year.

As this is a joint partnership plan, whilst the District Council plays a role in administration and facilitation, it is not accountable for all agencies' delivery. Scrutiny has an important role to hold partner agencies to account.

The report asks for the proposed themes and draft actions within the Community Safety Plan to be agreed, to enable partner agencies to commence delivery and work jointly to improve Community Safety in Thanet.

Recommendation(s):

That the Council

1. Approve the Thanet Community Safety Plan for 2017-20;

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS	
Financial and Value for Money	<p>There is no negative financial impact on 2017-18 budgets arising from this report.</p> <p>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 2017-18.</p> <p>The Kent Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has confirmed that the Thanet Community Safety Partnership will be awarded a grant of approximately £33116 (depending on final government settlement). This will be available for delivery of the 2017 plan activity, so no additional spend is anticipated from 2017-18 budgets.</p> <p>The commissioner has agreed that Community Safety Partnerships will get the same amount agreed for the next three years, in line with inflationary adjustments.</p> <p>Expenditure of the Police and Crime Commissioner funding will be ratified by the TCSP Executive Group in advance and financial monitoring returned twice yearly to the office of the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner, in line with any spending guidelines.</p>
Legal	<p>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 it reasonable to prevent crime and disorder and reduce reoffending.</p> <p>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.</p>
Corporate	<p>There are no perceived corporate risks associated with this report.</p> <p>The draft Community Safety Plan focus areas in 2017-20 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.</p>
Equalities Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty	<p>Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to the aims of the Duty at the time the decision is taken. The aims of the Duty are: (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it, and (iii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.</p> <p>Protected characteristics: age, gender, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief and pregnancy & maternity. Only aim (i) of the Duty applies to Marriage & civil partnership.</p>

	Please indicate which aim is relevant to the report.	
	Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act,	✓
	Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it	✓
	Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.	✓
There no equity and equalities issues arising directly from this report but the Council needs to retain a strong focus and understanding on issues of diversity amongst the local community and ensure service delivery matches these. It should also be noted that a theme contained within the plan focuses on protecting vulnerable individuals.		

CORPORATE PRIORITIES (tick those relevant)✓	
A clean and welcoming Environment	✓
Promoting inward investment and job creation	
Supporting neighbourhoods	✓

CORPORATE VALUES (tick those relevant)✓	
Delivering value for money	
Supporting the Workforce	
Promoting open communications	✓

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Thanet District 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 Each CSP is required to undertake an annual assessment of all relevant agency data to identify emerging crime and disorder trends. These trends, along with feedback from public and partner consultation, then inform focus areas and themes for Community Safety Plan activity for the coming year.
- 1.3 Whilst each partnership agency has put forward proposed actions, due to the plan being produced before the financial year, the action plan may be subject to some change, once budgets and resources are finalised for the next financial year.

2.0 Last year's Community Safety Plan (2016-17)

- 2.1 Last year's plan (for the financial year 2016-17) was very ambitious, with over 50 actions for partner agencies being agreed, under the same three themes, reducing offending and reoffending, safeguarding vulnerability and community confidence.
- 2.2 To date, 16 actions have been completed. Highlights have included:
 - Over 441 joint anti-social behaviour investigations, including obtaining 4 criminal behaviour orders, 5 civil injunctions, 2 premises closures, 58 Community Protection Warning Notices and 5 Community Protection Notices.
 - Organising 61 community payback reparation events which has included painting work, litter sweeps and graffiti removal, potentially saving others from picking up these costs
 - Facilitated the support of 64 prolific offenders to foster rehabilitation
 - Set up a bespoke mental health peer support group which is now independently supporting other ex-service users

- Assisted over 500 children visits to the Kent Safety Centre and 436 home safety visits
- 2.3 A further 28 actions remain ongoing and underway and due for completion by the end of the financial year. These include:
- A number of ongoing projects, running until the end of the financial year, such as -
 - diversionary youth engagement work with Early Help
 - Mental Health Peer Support group
 - Domestic Abuse notification scheme and support group
 - Partnership support of the 'Safety in Action' event – scheduled to take place in March 2017
- 2.4 Work streams from six actions will continue into the financial year of 2017-18. Three will be factored into either existing day to day work, such as all out multi agency operations and extending use of the new ASB legislation. A feasibility assessment of the remaining three has identified a need for additional work:
- Further multi agency work around alcohol related disorder
 - Extending use of the new ASB legislation
 - Additional vulnerability work to support victims
- 2.5 Not all projects are always able to be concluded within a neat twelve month timeframe, due to their complexities. This focus on longer term planning for Community Safety initiatives supports a recommendation to consider three year focus on themed areas with updated annual action plans.
- 2.6 Feedback from practitioners at the stakeholder engagement and planning event in December also highlighted a preference for fewer but more in depth and longer term projects and initiatives, which potentially may take longer than the year's cycle to complete.
- 2.7 Partners felt having longer to plan, deliver and evaluate projects would enable the partnership to deliver more in depth and thorough intervention, as opposed to a higher volume of smaller more piecemeal initiatives.
- 2.8 The draft Community Safety Plan 2017-20 proposes a continuation of similar overarching themes, to be consistent for the next three years with an annual refresh of the action plan each year.

3.0 Thanet Community Safety Plan 2017 - 20

- 3.1 The focus areas for the Community Safety Plan are established through a process of data analysis, consultation and collaborative planning.
- 3.2 Partnership data is provided by all agencies, assessed by Kent County Council Community Safety Unit and then reviewed against local context and understanding.
- 3.3 Following 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. This year a more focussed event was held where 55 practitioners from 16 public, private and voluntary agencies attended a planning event, held in December 2016.
- 3.4 Focus areas are then proposed and residents engaged with for their views based on local perceptions of safety in the district. This engagement was held between 04 – 27th January 2017 and was been promoted online, in local newspapers, circulated to groups by email and to secondary school children in citizenship classes as well as handed out where possible.

- 3.5 The partnership has an obligation to canvas the views of stakeholders on the proposed focus areas. 340 responses to the survey were received. 75.9% agreed or strongly agreed with the proposed focus areas for the partnership, of reducing offending and reoffending, safeguarding vulnerable people and community reassurance.

4.0 Proposed focus areas

- 4.1 Practitioners and (initial) resident feedback received to date supports continuing similar overarching themes as previous years. The themes also meet the wider strategic objectives of all the Community Safety Partnership agencies.

- **Reducing Offending and Reoffending**

This will include targeted work on the most prolific repeat offenders, diverting first time entrants and maximising the use of new legislation to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour. Focus will also include high volume crimes that cause the most harm to communities, including violent crime particularly in the Night Time Economy.

- **Safeguarding Vulnerability**

This area will include initiatives to support victims of domestic abuse and exploitation, as well as strengthen awareness and alternative provision for those affected by mental health and substance misuse.

- **Community Reassurance**

This theme is worded slightly differently from the previous year in that the focus is primarily on providing 'reassurance' to communities to strengthen and support them, as opposed to being called community 'confidence.' The focus will however, cover similar themes of engagement to identify local priorities and jointly find solutions, as well as raising awareness of the work of all partnership agencies.

- 4.2 These focus areas remain complimentary to the strategic priorities of all of the partner agencies, as well as the Thanet Leadership Group, Health and Well-Being and Invest Thanet. This will ensure partnership efforts compliment but don't duplicate ongoing work.

- 4.3 The full draft Community Safety Plan for 2017-20 (including the action plan for 2017-18) is included in Annex 1.

5.0 Accountability and performance management

- 5.1 Each partner agency has proposed actions and projects that they will lead on delivering and be responsible for. This is slightly different to previous years and aimed to give clearer ownership and accountability to each agency.

- 5.2 Senior representatives from each Community Safety Partnership agency have been consulted and agreed to the provisional draft proposals in the plan.

- 5.3 The current Community Safety Working Party work programme does not include scrutiny of this plan as three separate scrutiny topics were chosen when the work programme was set. The chair of the Community Safety Working Party is invited to the Community Safety Partnership Executive Group alongside the portfolio holder and Senior Managers from each of the respective agencies.

- 5.4 Quarterly updates will be recorded against the measures of success set out in the proposed action plan and full evaluation on conclusion of longer term projects provided to the Community Safety Executive Group.

- 5.5 It is the Community Safety Partnership Executive Group who agrees the final operational Community Safety action Plan. Updates will also be given to the chair of the Community Safety Working Party upon request alongside a mid-year update to the full overview and scrutiny panel.
- 5.6 The action plan is a working document any may undergo minor operational changes if in the course of the year a significant issue emerges requiring a partnership focus, or following a request from the CSP executive Group or scrutiny.
- 5.7 The Overview and Scrutiny Panel held a productive discussion and challenge around the proposed plan this has led to the inclusion of speeding and inconsiderate parking into the plan. There were also requests for further updates on a number of the proposed projects as they progress through the year.

Contact Officer:	Jessica Bailey, Community Safety Team Leader
Reporting to:	Penny Button, Head of Safer Neighbourhoods

Annex List

Annex 1	Draft Community safety Plan for 2017-2020
---------	---

Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
None	N/A

Corporate Consultation

Finance	Matt Sanham, Financial Services Manager
	Clive Bowen, External Funding Officer
PR	Hannah Thorpe, Head of Communications
Legal Services	Ciara Feeney, Legal Services Manager