

# Public Document Pack



Date: 7 March 2014  
Our ref: OSP/Supplementary/Agenda  
Ask For: Charles Hungwe  
Direct Dial: (01843) 577186  
Email: charles.hungwe@thanet.gov.uk

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

11 MARCH 2014

A meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel will be held at **7.00 pm on Tuesday, 11 March 2014** in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent.

### Membership:

Councillor Gideon (Chairman); Councillors: Harrison (Vice-Chairman), Cohen, Driver, Campbell, Edwards, I Gregory, K Gregory, Scobie, Huxley, Hornus, Matterface, Moore, Nicholson, D Saunders, M Tomlinson, Watkins and Worrow

## SUPPLEMENTARY A G E N D A

Item  
No

Subject

7. **TRANSEUROPA DEBT REVIEW - FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT**  
(Pages 1 - 8)
8. **THANET COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN FOR 2014-2015** (Pages 9 - 38)
9. **CALL-IN OF INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER DECISION - DREAMLAND COMPENSATION PAYMENTS** (Pages 39 - 42)

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**TRANSEUROPA DEBT REVIEW TASK & FINISH GROUP FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

To: **Overview & Scrutiny Panel – 11 March 2014**

Main Portfolio Area: **Operational Services/Financial Services**

By: **Corporate & Regulatory Service Manager**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **Thanet Wide**

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**Summary:** The Transeuropa Debt Review TFG was set up by the Overview to conduct an investigation and report back their findings and recommendations to the Panel. This report provides the commentary about such findings and the recommendations.

**For Decision**

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**1.0 Introduction and Background**

1.1 On 29 July 2013, Members of the Overview & Scrutiny Panel met for an extraordinary Meeting and agreed to establish the Transeuropa Debt Review Task & Finish Group (TFG) to consider the following issues as detailed in the terms of reference below:

1. To review the circumstances leading to the Transeuropa debt;
2. To consider options available to Council to recover the debt;
3. To identify any lessons learned from the Transeuropa debt and how this impacts on the Council's debt management processes;
4. To produce a final report with recommendations for submission to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

**2.0 The Current Situation**

2.1 The TFG met five times on the following dates:

15 August 2013;  
7 October 2013;  
19 November 2013;  
17 December 2013;

20 January 2014

- 2.2 The sub-group took witness statements from senior officers, previous and current leaders of Council; previous and current Cabinet Members of Financial Services and senior Council Officers.
- 2.3 Members of the sub-group also submitted written questions to the CEx and inspected Council documents that were considered relevant to this investigation. The CEx responded in writing to these Member questions.

### **3.0 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

The key findings were as follow that:

1. Members generally agreed that Thanet District Council (TDC) officers and Members acted in good faith in the understanding that there was no other supplier waiting to provide this type of service to Thanet;
2. Members of all political parties and officers acted in good faith at all times in dealing with this matter.
3. Members observed that one of vessels, the Spirit of Ostend was left to sail away from the Ramsgate Port when it could have been temporarily detained to ascertain the possibility for Council to recover the £380,005-08 owing to Council. An opportunity was therefore missed by Council.
4. "We the sub-committee believe that the permission to let the Spirit of Ostend leave Ramsgate Harbour was an error."

### **4.0 LESSONS LEARNT BY MEMBERS OF THE TFG**

Members of the sub-group acknowledged the following as lessons learnt by Council as a result of the Transeuropa debt issue:

1. Members acknowledged that some lessons had been learnt from this incident; particularly the need for efficient record keeping of engagement with third parties and within Council when transacting important Council business (including commercial transactions).
2. There was a need to conduct comprehensive analysis of all financial risks that could occur and determine what mitigatory measures Council would need to put in place in order to minimise such risks.
3. There was a need to provide evidence that Cabinet was making appropriate calculated risk management for any debts even before such debts accrue to £150,000 are reported to Cabinet and Full Council;
4. After the local government elections in May 2015; appropriate in-depth Member mandatory training should be provided to all newly elected Members;
5. Specific training should be provided to Cabinet Members;

6. When faced with a situation where there is a lack of information for Members to make informed decisions in future; Members should challenge officers and demand to be given adequate information;
7. If then Members still do not get the requested information; corrective action should be taken against officers;
8. In future, if TDC sought an agreement for the re-arranging of debt; Audit should check if such an arrangement is effective and efficient;

#### **4.1 LESSONS LEARNT BY THE PAST & CURRENT CABINET**

Members of the past and current Cabinet expressed the view that there were some lessons to learn from this incident. These include:

1. All officers and Members involved in the decision making process made their best efforts in making the best decisions. They thought through issues that were extremely complicated and involved complicated permutations;
2. That if Cabinet had known that the debt was never going to be made right, Members would have stopped the arrangement made with the ferry company;
3. The importance of having robust corporate processes was highlighted in this incident; including the need to have robust audit trail and recording of officer meetings in relation to this subject;
4. The need for more clarity for the Leader of Council, other Cabinet Members and officers when handling such matters in the future.
5. The role of Section 151 Officer should be separate from that of the Chief Executive.
6. Council could consider a different form of governance arrangements for the Ramsgate Port. Council could consider setting up the Ramsgate Port as a separate business entity that is run outside the other Council business activities and then getting a dividend from the operations of that business

#### **4.2 LESSONS LEARNT BY TDC OFFICERS**

The following are the lessons learnt as reflected by senior Council officers:

1. The need for formal noting of significant decisions. This included the need for recording sensitive confidential commercial information;
2. The need to ensure the recording of Member and officer decisions;
3. The need for setting up formal timelines in the process of recording these important corporate decisions;

4. The need to acquire evidence regarding the due diligence that would have been carried out on any new investor(s) to ascertain their viability on a proportional basis;
5. The need to have a criteria for processing key decisions: - The structure of decision making should be timed so that Members and officers know when to make tough choices by setting 'trigger-points' in the decision making process;
6. There was need to include the legal steps to be taken in order to recover debts that relate to port customers. This included the need to look at such issues as 'securing Council debts.'

## **5.0 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. In future commercial agreements relating to debt and similarly significant matters should be kept on record; supported by adequate (fulsome and complete) records of the following:
  - a. All meetings held by officers, Members and other relevant parties;
  - b. All relevant telephone conversations by officers, Members and other relevant parties;
  - c. All emails and other correspondences between officers, Members and other relevant parties;
  - d. Members generally agreed that all this information should kept in chronological order and in sufficient detail. Such information should be supplied to Members when required.
2. Council should conduct detailed risk analysis on any major projects and such information should be disclosed to Members;
3. Make available relevant commercial information (e.g. rules governing the lien issues); could be made available to senior Members of Council across political parties;
4. Council should adopt a reporting procedure to Cabinet to make Members aware of the build-up of the debt before such debts are report to Full Council when they reach the £150,000 limit;
5. In carrying out a financial risk assessment, due diligence should also be conducted and the outcome reports should be made fully available to Cabinet Members;
6. Council should provide appropriate in-depth mandatory training to all newly elected Members;
7. Council should provide specific training to Cabinet Members;
8. In future, if TDC sought an agreement for the re-arranging of debt; Audit should check if such an arrangement is effective and efficient;

9. Where there is a lack of information for Members to make informed decisions in future; Members should challenge officers and demand to be given adequate information;
10. If then Members still do not get the requested information; corrective action should be taken against officers;
11. Council should not waste any more of the tax payers' money to recover the debt unless new information emerges.

## **6.0 Options**

- 6.1 Members of the Overview & Scrutiny Panel may opt to adopt without amendments the recommendations that have been put forward by the Transeuropa Debt Review TFG and then forward these recommendations to Cabinet.
- 6.1 Members may opt to adopt the recommendations (in section 5.0 of the report) with amendments and forward them to Cabinet.

## **7.0 Corporate Implications**

### **7.1 Financial**

- 7.1.1 The outstanding debt in respect of Transeuropa has been written off within the 2013/14 accounts, as already approved by Members. It has been assumed, for the purpose of the write-off, that none of the outstanding debt will be repaid as part of the winding up of Transeuropa.

### **7.2 Legal**

- 7.2.1 The Council has been advised by its external lawyers that it has no reasonable prospects of recovering the debts attributable to the collapse of Transeuropa Ferries NV and its associated companies.

### **7.3 Corporate**

- 7.3.1 Effective governance arrangements require that the Overview & Scrutiny Panel plays an effective critical friend role for both pre- and post-decision scrutiny.

### **7.4 Equity and Equalities**

- 7.4.1 There are no equity and equalities issue arising directly from this report.

## **8.0 Recommendations**

Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel are requested to:

- 8.1 Receive and note the report;
- 8.2 Adopt the findings, lessons learnt and recommendations of the Transeuropa Debt Review TFG as reflected in Section 5.0 of the report;
- 8.3 Forward the recommendations to Cabinet for consideration by the executive.

## 9.0 Decision Making Process

9.1 This is a review project that was assigned to a sub-group by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel. The final recommendations would need to be referred to Cabinet for consideration as the executive make the final decision on such matters.

Contact Officer:	Charles Hungwe, Senior Democratic Services Officer, Ext 7186
Reporting to:	Glenn Back, Democratic Services & Scrutiny Manager, Ext 7187

## Annex List

Annex 1	Transeuropa Debt Review TFG – Terms of Reference
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## Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
None	N/A

## Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	Sarah Martin, Financial Services Manager
Legal	Harvey Patterson, Corporate & Regulatory Services Manager



### TRANSEUROPA DEBT REVIEW TASK & FINISH GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR 2013/14

#### A. TERMS OF REFERENCE

##### General

To review the circumstances relating to the insolvency of Transeuropa and the arising debt to Thanet District Council.

##### Membership, Chairmanship and Quorum

Number of Members	Nine
Political Composition	3 Labour 3 Conservative 1 TIG 1 I 1 UKIP
Substitute Members Permitted	Yes
Political Balance Rules apply	No
Appointments/Removals from Office	By the Overview and Scrutiny Panel
Restrictions on Membership	Non-Executive Members only
Restrictions on Chairmanship	None
Quorum	Five
Number of ordinary meetings per Council Year	Meetings will be called as required and as reflected in the work programme below

##### Terms of reference

1. To review the circumstances leading to the Transeuropa debt;
2. To consider options available to Council to recover the debt;
3. To identify any lessons learned from the Transeuropa debt and how this impacts on the council's debt management processes;
4. To produce a final report with recommendations for submission to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

##### Notes

This task & finish group was established in principle by the decision of the Overview & Scrutiny Panel on 29 July 2013.

##### Delegation

None

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## THANET COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN FOR 2014 – 2015

To: **Overview and Scrutiny Panel – 11 March 2014**

By: **Martyn Cassell – Community Safety and Leisure Manager**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **All wards**

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**Summary:** This report details the process undertaken by Thanet Community Safety Partnership to develop the Thanet Community Safety Plan for 2014-15.

The report asks for the principles of the Community Safety Plan including its priorities and proposed actions to be agreed following approval from the Community Safety Partnership Working Party to allow partner agencies to work together to help reduce crime and disorder in the district.

### For Decision

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#### **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (updated in various other legislation since) placed a number of obligations on the Council and other 'responsible authorities' (County Council, Police, Fire, Probation, Health via Clinical Commissioning Groups) to form a Community Safety Partnership (CSP) that would enable agencies to work together to help impact upon crime and disorder, substance misuse and reduce re-offending in the local area. Thanet District Council facilitates the CSP on behalf of these agencies.
- 1.2 Each CSP is required to do a strategic needs assessment of all of the relevant data that partners collate and then pull this together into a strategy (the Community Safety Plan) that identifies priority issues and actions to try and resolve/reduce them.
- 1.3 The last year has seen further big changes proposed to the police and community safety landscape with a new draft 'Anti-social Behaviour Bill' currently going through the royal assent process, wholesale changes to the Probation Service and the commissioning of victim support services to be undertaken by Police and Crime Commissioners. The Community Safety Plan makes due reference to these changes in the industry.
- 1.4 This report identifies the process undertaken to develop the Community Safety Plan and asks members to agree the priorities and proposed actions for 2014-15.
- 1.5 The Community Safety Plan Priorities and draft action plan will be considered by the CSP Working Party on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014 and so a supplementary note is likely to be required.

## 2.0 Thanet Community Safety Plan 2014/15 – development and detail

2.1 Each year the partnership undertakes a number of processes to get to the final Community Safety Plan. This year they were;

- Produce a strategic assessment
- Consult with other partners and the public
- Produce an action plan to detail what we will do over the next year

2.2 The purpose of a strategic assessment is to provide knowledge and understanding of community safety issues to the members of the Thanet Community Safety Partnership (TCSP).

2.3 Kent County Council community safety unit collated a range of data sets from county organisations. District Council Community Safety Officers then co-ordinated an assessment of this data. This was done considering patterns, trends and shifts in order to identify the priorities. Data was also compared to other districts in Kent and areas similar to Thanet. All key agencies supplied a representative to input into this process.

2.4 Once the initial data analysis was completed the different, the crime types were ranked using a set county criteria and a more detailed analysis was then undertaken on these shortlisted priorities. A summary of the strategic assessment is provided within the draft Community Safety Plan found at annex 1. The priorities identified are shown below;

Anti-social Behaviour	Domestic Abuse
Violent Crime	Substance Misuse
Acquisitive Crime	Public Perceptions and Confidence

2.7 Over 50 staff from agencies in the CSP then attended a 'Community Safety Conference' to discuss the priorities and identify 'emerging issues' that would fall under one or more of the priorities. This was slightly different approach to last year that looked for specific actions under each of the priority headings. This was decided on the basis that the action plan needs to be a fluid document that is able to change direction throughout the course of the year to ensure resource is directed to the most pressing issues and also because many actions could contribute to more than priority. The draft Community Safety Plan including the list of emerging issues is found at Annex 1.

2.8 Responsibility for delivery of the Community Safety Plan is shared amongst the statutory members of the CSP Executive Group. The Executive group agreed the draft Community Safety Plan principles at their meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> February 2014, with understanding that the 'proposed actions' column may change either prior to the final publication of the plan or throughout the year as new trends/issues arise that outweigh the previously considered ones. The measure of success column is also left blank as these will be decided at the initial partner working groups and the aim is to then agree and monitor them through the CSP working party process.

2.9 Alongside the partner consultation, an online survey for residents to comment on whether they support the priorities is currently open. Feedback from this will be used to amend the plan in-line with resident opinions, alongside suggestions received from specific community representatives including resident association chairs,

neighbourhood watch co-ordinators and ward Councillors at the community safety forum held on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2014. Further consultation was also done through the four Neighbourhood Engagement Meetings which encourage residents to comment on community safety issues in their local area.

- 2.10 The CSP Working Party will receive a presentation of the draft plan at the meeting to be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014 and will be asked to make a recommendation to Overview and Scrutiny to agree the principles of the plan and the suggested priorities/emerging issues.

### **3.0 Options**

- 3.1 To approve the Draft Thanet Community Safety Plan 2014/15 principles, priorities and emerging issues to focus on as set out in Annex 1.
- 3.2 To make suggestions for improvement and then approve the Draft Thanet Community Safety Plan 2014/15 principles, priorities and emerging issues to focus on as set out in Annex 1.

### **4.0 Corporate Implications**

#### **4.1 Financial**

- 4.1.1 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 2014-15.
- 4.1.2 The Kent Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has confirmed that Thanet Community Safety Partnership will be awarded a grant of £34,317 to assist in the delivery of the CSP functions. This will be used for commissioning organisations, distributing to local groups for specific crime prevention projects and the development of publicity material to better inform residents of the help available to them.

#### **4.2 Legal**

- 4.2.1 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 it is reasonable to prevent crime and disorder.
- 4.2.2 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.

#### **4.3 Corporate**

- 4.3.1 The strategic assessment recommendations and Community Safety Plan priorities in 2014-15, coincide with the corporate plan objectives set in the 2012-2016 plan (mainly priority 4 'To make our district a safer place to live' and priority 10 'To influence the work of other agencies to ensure the best outcomes for Thanet').

### **5.0 Recommendation**

- 5.1 That, taking into consideration the recommendations from the CSP Working Party from 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014 as set out in Annex 2 of the report; the Overview and Scrutiny Panel recommends to Cabinet the priorities and proposed actions in the Thanet Community Safety Plan 2014/15 as set out in Annex 1 to the officer's report.

## 6.0 Decision Making Process

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

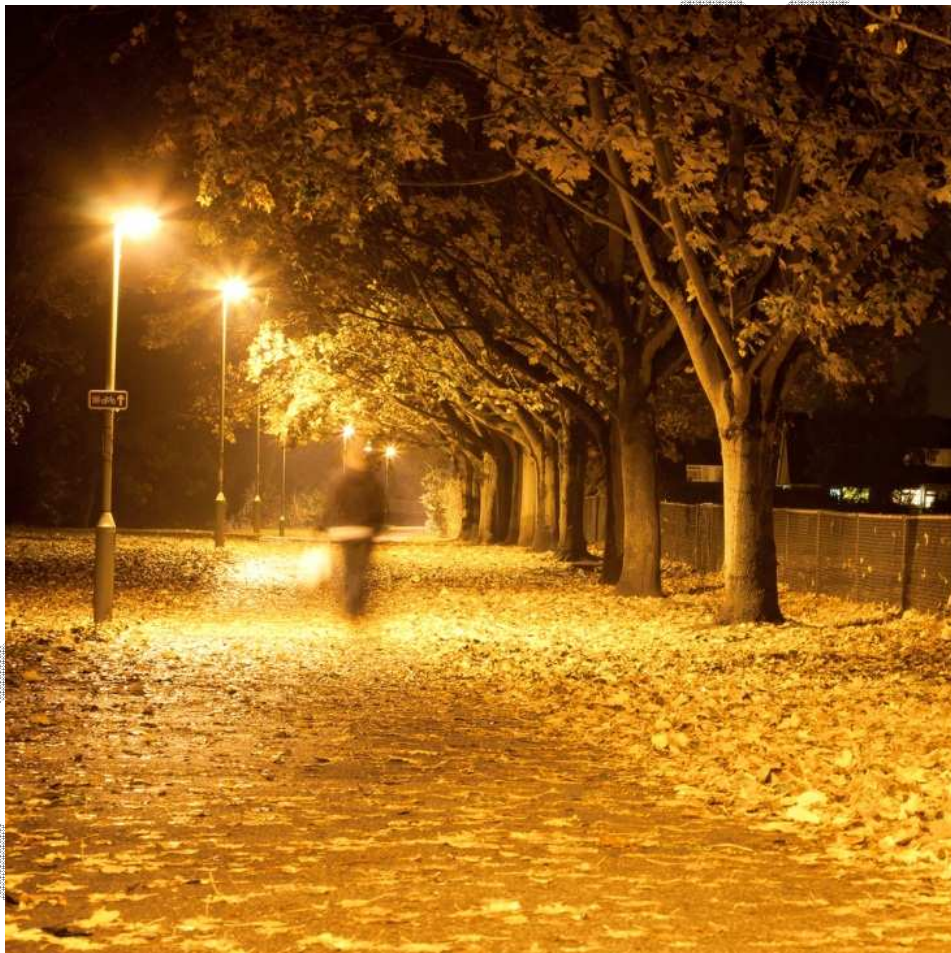
Contact Officer:	Martyn Cassell, Community Safety and Leisure Manager x7367
Reporting to:	Madeline Homer, Community Services x7123 Penny Button, Environmental Health Manager x7425

### Annex List

Annex 1	Draft Community Safety Plan 2014-2015
Annex 2	Community Safety Partnership WP Chairman's Report

### Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	Matthew Sanham, Financial Services Manager Clive Bowen, External Funding Officer
Licencing	Philip Bensted, Licencing Manager
CCTV	Phil Snook, Environmental Enforcement Officer
PR	Hannah Thorpe, PR and Publicity Manager



## Community Safety Plan 2014/2015

## Contents

1.	<i>Foreword</i>	3
2	<i>Background and context</i>	4
3.	<i>Key achievements for 2013-14</i>	5
4.	<i>How does it all work?</i>	7
5.	<i>Priorities for 2014-15</i>	8
6.	<i>Emerging issues and actions</i>	11
<i>Appendices:</i>		
	<i>Partnership structure</i>	16
	<i>Agency meetings</i>	17
	<i>Public meetings</i>	18
	<i>Useful phone numbers</i>	19
	<i>Glossary of terms</i>	20



# 1. Foreword

Welcome to our partnership plan for 2014-15, which outlines how we are going to collectively tackle Community Safety issues in Thanet. This plan sets out our performance over the last 12 months, identifies priority areas for the next year and outlines what we are going to do to improve them.

For 2012-13 the partnership agreed to focus on; Anti Social Behaviour (ASB), Domestic Abuse, Substance Misuse, Violent Crime and Acquisitive Crime and 36 multi agency actions were agreed by partners under these themes.

To date, 22 actions have been completed, 9 remain ongoing and due for completion by the end of the financial year and four actions are proposed to form part of this years plan due to changes to legislation which prevented their commencement.

We would like to thank all of the agencies within the partnership, who have jointly worked to achieve a number of positive outcomes including, implementing three Dispersal Orders to be more equipped in tackling ASB, delivering training inputs to multi skill officers and improve efficiency, raise awareness about loan sharking and the impact of violent crime and have facilitated an extensive property marking scheme for victims of burglary.

In the monitoring period of 01 October 2012 – 30 September 2013, Thanet has seen an increase in crime, of 3.9%, which equates to an additional 400 offences. This is slightly higher than the Kent average of a 3.7% increase, but is consistent with increases seen across Kent. Reports of Anti Social Behaviour to Kent Police have seen a decrease of 811 incidents<sup>1</sup>, however reports to Thanet District Council for ASB including noise nuisance, flytipping and abandoned vehicles, have seen an increase of 581 incidents, compared to the previous year.

Thanet continues to have the highest levels of Domestic Abuse in the county, with 710 or the 2894 incidents recorded as being repeat. Violence Against the Person, Theft and Burglary offences have also all seen increases in the last year.

The Community Safety landscape continues to evolve and the partnership continues to face challenges in having to adapt the way services and initiatives are delivered.

Further legislative changes by the government are to be finalised this year to give practitioners a new toolkit to robustly tackle Anti social Behaviour. The Transforming Rehabilitation agenda will also change the way the offenders are managed and the how the partnership works to reduce reoffending. This year has also seen the introduction of Health and Wellbeing Boards and the integration of Clinical Commissioning groups into the partnership.

The Kent Police and Crime Commissioner has pledged to continue to support Community Safety Partnerships and has agreed a grant of £34,317 for 2014-15 to support activity. This will mainly be spent by the agencies to help deliver the actions in the plan but some will also be used to form a 'Community Safety Fund' that local groups can bid for to help tackle issues in their ward or street.

A review of this year's data recommends keeping the focus areas as **Anti Social Behaviour, Domestic Abuse, Violent Crime, Substance Misuse and Acquisitive Crime** however also recommends the inclusion of **Road Safety and Public Perceptions**, in acknowledgement of resident concerns and a renewed need for the partnership to be promoting itself more effectively. This also aligns with the Kent Community Safety County focus areas for 2011-14.

**Chief Inspector Nick Gossett**

**Thanet District Commander**

**Cllr Iris Johnston**

**Cabinet member for Community Safety  
Thanet District Council**

## 2. Background and context

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, changed the way crime and anti-social behaviour was to be tackled, as it recognised that in order to be effective, agencies needed to work together to address the issues collectively. Each local area formed a Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) which are now called Community Safety Partnerships (CSP's).

### Who are the partnership?

Thanet's Community Safety Partnership is made up of key statutory partners that have to ensure specific obligations such as public engagement and delivery of an action plan are met.

Our statutory partners are: Thanet District Council, Kent County Council, Kent Police, Kent Fire and Rescue Service, Kent Probation and Thanet Clinical Commissioning Groups (which have the responsibility for health services locally). We also work with a large number of public and private sector partners as well as voluntary and community groups to collectively implement and deliver initiatives that will help all areas of Thanet become a safe place to live, work and visit.

### Why do we have a plan?

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places obligations on the Community Safety Partnership to produce an annual Community Safety Plan, to outline how all partners intend to work together to impact upon crime and disorder, substance misuse and reduce reoffending in the local area.

### How does this link with the national, county and local context?

In developing this plan a number of relevant strategies and plans were considered. This ensures that we comply with relevant national and local strategic direction. These plans include but are not limited to:

- *Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012*
- *Protection of Freedoms Act 2012*
- *Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011*
  
- *Anti Social Behavior, Crime and Policing Bill 2013-14*
- *Offender Rehabilitation Bill 2013-14*
- *Children and Families Bill 2013-14*
- *Helping Troubled Families turn their lives around (Home Office 2013)*
  
- *Police Crime Commissioner Plan 2013-17*
- *Kent and Medway Community Safety Agreement 2014-15*
- *Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy 2013- 16*
- *Kent Policing Plan 2011-15*
- *Kent and Medway Strategic Plan for Reducing Reoffending (2012-15)*
- *Kent Fire and Rescue Service Road Safety Plan (2013-15)*
  
- *Thanet District Council Corporate Plan 2012-16*

### 3. Key achievements for 2013/14

Last year's community safety plan focused on Anti-Social Behaviour, Domestic Abuse, Substance Misuse, Violent Crime and Acquisitive Crime. 36 actions were set and to date 22 have been completed with 9 still ongoing and due for completion by the end of the financial year. Four actions have been delayed due to changes to the Anti-Social Behaviour tools and powers and will form part of this year's plan.

#### Anti Social Behaviour

- The partnership facilitated a training event for over 30 partners, to multi skill officers and enable more appropriate signposting.
- 42 high risk or complex cases have been referred for multi agency support through the partnership's ASB panel process. 36 cases have now been closed following collaborative interventions. The panel has also been extended to incorporate the Margate Task Force, Selective Licensing and Troubled Families.
- Enforcement action has been taken successfully on a number of cases, this has included 25 formal warning letters issued by officers, 14 acceptable behaviour agreements issued to those causing nuisance behaviour within our communities.
- Three dispersal orders have been implemented, two in Margate – Mill Lane and Albion Road and one in Leopold St, Ramsgate. This has given police additional powers to tackle nuisance groups.
- The partnership has also increased working with mental health practitioners to most appropriately tackle offending behaviour.
- We have improved and streamlined evidence gathering processes to prevent duplication and enable a more effective service to be provided to victims. This means that whether you report something to police or the Council it will be dealt with in the same way.

#### Domestic Abuse

- Partners have continued to run regular seasonal awareness campaigns aligned with national campaigns.
- A joint domestic abuse support car operation, staffed with Police Officers and Independent Domestic Violence Advisors, ran for 10 nights during December and attended 23 incidents to support victims, capture evidence and signpost to additional support services.
- A mentoring program has been set up to support young men at risk of instigating abuse in relationships and sessions have been delivered in secondary schools to over 250 young people, encouraging them to have positive relationships.

## **Violent Crime**

- Police have delivered sessions to raise awareness around violent crime, guns and knives, to over 1300 secondary school students across 13 schools in Thanet.
- Multi agency partners have supported the loan shark awareness week of action in January 2014 to encourage reporting and gather intelligence locally.
- A specialist diversionary sports program has been created and delivered to young people to foster better cohesion in communities. Whilst undertaking the sports activities these young people are educated on the need to co-operate with each other both in school and in their communities. To date over 30 young people have attended the session from a range of ethnic backgrounds.

## **Substance Misuse**

- Signage has been installed in targeted locations to raise awareness of the Designated Public Places Order (DPPO) which aims to tackle anti-social drinking in public places. Over 50 confiscations of alcohol have been made in these hotspots.
- Service provision provided by Turning Point has been integrated into the partnership. Outreach workers have delivered additional sessions to engage with hard to reach individuals misusing substances.
- Kent Fire and Rescue Service have delivered two Youth Engagement Around Road Safety (YEARS) courses in Thanet in liaison with the Youth Offending Service.
- Targeted multi-agency evening operations have been delivered with Trading Standards, Kent Police and Council teams to tackle underage sales and licensed premises.

## **Acquisitive Crime**

- 26 visits checking second hand goods and car boot sales for stolen items have been carried out by officers from Kent County Council's trading Standards teams and local Police officers.
- The Smartwater property marking scheme has been expanded and KCC Wardens and Police Community Support Officers have given advice to over 100 people and marked items in 49 vulnerable properties.
- Seasonal burglary awareness has been delivered by putting balloons through open windows, over 800 properties were visited checking for open windows with the owners not at home during the summer and home security advice was given to 107 people.

## **4. How does it all work?**

### **Strategic Assessment**

The Community Safety Partnership has to identify emerging crime and disorder trends and this is done through the production of a Strategic Assessment of the district. Data is analysed from all of the partners to produce recommended priorities.

The priorities are then compared with other districts and ranked against a number of factors, including volume, trend over time, resident’s perception and how much it is felt the partnership can influence. The top ranked priorities are analysed in depth, to help guide practitioners in formulating actions that they feel will have an impact on each priority. Residents are also consulted at the same time on the list of the top priorities to ensure we understand the issues that impact them the most.

### Stakeholder Consultation

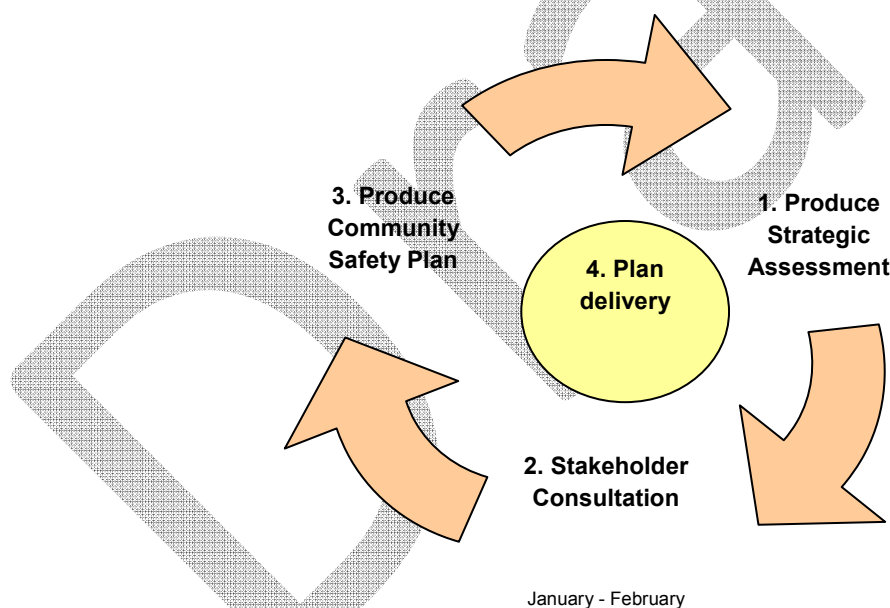
Each year we ensure that we consult on Community Safety priorities with residents and partners and also ensure we are accountable by feeding back on our progress. We do this by meeting with residents at the community safety forum and neighbourhood engagement meetings as well as holding practitioner meetings throughout the year.

In December we held a Community Safety conference for practitioners to review provisional priorities and in February ran a consultation event asking for residents views.

### Producing the Plan

Following on from the data assessment and partner/public consultation, specific actions are developed that aim to make an impact on the priority issues that we have established. These actions are finally reviewed and agreed by the senior managers in the relevant agencies and scrutinised by the Council’s political groups.

The plan is then delivered throughout the financial year of April – March, with regular performance monitoring to make sure we are achieving what we set out to.



## 5. Priorities for 2014/15

The following areas were identified through the Strategic Assessment and resident consultation and are recommended as priorities for the 2014-15 partnership plan. They also align with the County Community Safety Agreement for 2014-15.

### Anti-Social Behaviour

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) can be defined as “behaviour likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress”. (Crime and Disorder Act 1998). It can include incidents of neighbour nuisance, problem groups, graffiti, flytipping, deliberate fires or nuisance vehicles.



Overall there has been a decrease in the number of reports of ASB to Kent Police but an increase in reports to Thanet District Council.

Thanet has the highest levels of Anti-Social Behaviour in the County. 5988 incidents of ASB were reported to Kent Police for 01 October 2012 – 30 September 13, compared to 6801 in the previous year. An additional 3185 incidents were reported to Thanet District Council departments which included reports of noise nuisance, graffiti, abandoned vehicles and flytipping.

Analysis highlights that Margate Central, Cliftonville West, Central Harbour and Eastcliff wards experience the highest volumes of ASB. Thanet has the highest levels of ASB in the County.

### Through this plan we aim to:

- Identify and actively target offenders and hot spot locations
- Provide support to victims and witnesses
- Empower communities to tackle ASB
- Divert those at risk from becoming involved in ASB

## Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse is any incident or pattern of incident of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over by a current or previous partner or family member.

For 01 October 2012 – 30 September 2013, 2894 incidents of domestic abuse were recorded for Thanet, of those 710 are recorded as repeat. Thanet has the highest levels of Domestic Abuse in the county.

Analysing local postcode data based around caseloads, high volumes can be seen with clients in the Cliftonville West ward, indicated by the CT9 (2) postcode prefix and Newington and Northwood wards, indicated by CT12 (6).

### Through this plan we aim to:

- Challenge underlying attitudes and behaviours through raising awareness.
- Break the cycle of abuse and intervene early with those at risk.
- Identify and support victims of domestic abuse
- Increase provision for low and medium risk victims
- Take action to ensure perpetrators are brought to justice
- Work with other partners to obtain the best outcomes for those affected by domestic abuse and their families.

## Violent Crime

Violent crime is the sum of violence offences where the offender has used, or threatened to use force, whether or not there is any injury.

Thanet has seen an increase in Violence Against the Person (VAP) offences, with 2503 incidents reported from 01 October – 30 September 2013. The highest levels can be seen in the Margate Central and Cliftonville West wards.

### Through this plan we aim to:

- Robustly tackle violence associated with Night time Economy Disorder
- Identify young people involved with violent crime
- Identify and target repeat offenders who are exploiting vulnerable groups
- Identify and disrupt gang activity
- Prevent further placements of vulnerable people into sensitive locations
- Raise awareness of violent extremism

## Substance Misuse

Substance misuse is the inappropriate use of substances such as drugs and alcohol to the extent where the use is having a negative impact on an individual's wellbeing, that of their family or the wider community. This can also include the misuse of legal highs and solvents.

Thanet has the highest volume of drug offences in the county. For the available data period of April 2012 – March 2013 recorded by Kent Police, there were 447 recorded drug offences. This was an increase of 26 incidents compared to the previous year.

Public perceptions recorded through the Kent Crime and Victimization Survey, of people using or dealing drugs have improved compared to previous years, with 9.3% of people reporting to it being a 'very' or 'fairly' big problem in their area.

Between 1<sup>st</sup> June 2012- 21<sup>st</sup> May 2013, 496 people were admitted into hospital for mental and behavioural disorders due to psychoactive substance use<sup>2</sup>, with 162 being repeat admissions.<sup>3</sup> The majority of those admissions were from Margate Central, Eastcliff, Cliftonville West and Central Harbour wards. Between 1<sup>st</sup> June 2012- 21<sup>st</sup> May 2013 108 individuals were admitted into hospital for alcohol related involvement, 12 were repeat admissions. Of those that disclosed their place of residence, the majority came from Cliftonville West (16.6%), Eastcliff (14.2%). Men aged between 40-44 and women aged between 44-49 have the highest admissions occurrences.

### Through this plan we aim to:

- Reduce demand of substances
- Restrict the supply of substances
- Raise awareness of the risk of harm
- Target and disrupt groups actively misusing
- Identify and support those at risk of being exploited through substance abuse

## Acquisitive crime

Acquisitive crime is defined as offences where the offender derives material gain from the crime and is usually considered the sum of a number of 'theft related' offences, including domestic burglary, shoplifting and vehicle thefts.

A review of acquisitive crime offences, shows Thanet has the highest volume of burglary dwelling offences in the county. For 01 October 2012 – 30 September 2013, 893 incidents were recorded. This is considerably higher than other districts, with the next highest volume being Canterbury with 512 incidents.

For the same period, there were 970 recorded incidents of shoplifting, which is an increase of 95 compared to the previous year. Theft of a pedal cycle has also seen an increase of 49 offences, with 316 incidents recorded. Thefts from motor vehicles have decreased by one incidents, with 614 incidents recorded for the reporting period

### Through this plan we aim to:

- Support victims of acquisitive crime
- Disrupt the supply of second hand goods

<sup>2</sup> Psychoactive substance use included substances such as alcohol, opioids, cannabis, sedatives, hypnotics, cocaine, but does not include tobacco.

<sup>3</sup> Data provided by KCC Public Health

- Increase preventative campaigns
- Divert young and first time offenders
- Actively target prolific and repeat acquisitive crime offenders

## Road Safety

Road Safety refers to methods and measures for reducing the risk of a person using the road networks. This is a new priority for the partnership, for 2014-15 although has been a focus area for the County Community Safety Agreement in previous years.

30.2%<sup>4</sup> of Thanet residents, asked as part of the Kent Crime and Victimization Survey, feel that speeding vehicles is a very or fairly big issue in their area. This is a slight decrease compared to the previous year, in which 34.9%<sup>5</sup> of people asked, felt it was an issue. Thanet has the highest perceptions in the county, despite the perceptions in other districts having shown increases.

From January – September, Thanet has seen an increase in 49 casualties, with 354 recorded for 2013. Compared to other districts, Thanet is fourth in the county. Casualties of drivers aged 17-24 is the lowest in the county, but has the highest levels of child casualties and powered two wheelers.

### Through this plan we aim to:

- Raise awareness of the key reasons for accidents
- Deliver preventative campaigns for speeding
- Educate road users to influence behavior change
- Engage other partners to improve road safety

## Public and Agency Engagement

Public perceptions relate to what our communities believe to be the truth about crime and community safety and how confident and safe they feel in their local area.

Each agency will hold a huge amount of information that can be shared with others to help inform actions and make interventions. Frontline staff also need to be aware of the priorities and actions and how they contribute to the delivery of this plan.

### Through this plan we aim to:

- Foster positive relationships with our communities
- Provide accessible and transparent Community Safety services
- Identify issues that matter most to residents and work in partnership to find solutions
- Raise the profile of the partnership and projects
- Present regular, accurate information about progress of the Partnership and the agency work
- Share information amongst the partners

## Emerging Issues and Actions

The following pages show more specific issues that need to be tackled over the next year by the agencies that help contribute to the priorities above. These have been developed using the statistics, comments from partners and by the public.

<sup>4</sup> Kent Crime and Victimization Survey Rolling year ending March 2013

<sup>5</sup> Kent Crime and Victimization Survey Rolling year ending March 2012



A core set of principles will be used in all of the issues

- Prevention wherever possible,
- Early intervention,
- Targeting prolific offenders,
- Targeting resources to hotspot areas
- Supporting victims

These emerging issues and proposed actions will be subject to change throughout the year to enable partners to re-direct resources and respond to changes in real-time. The CSP executive board will be responsible for monitoring the delivery of actions and this will be independently scrutinized by the district's CSP working party .

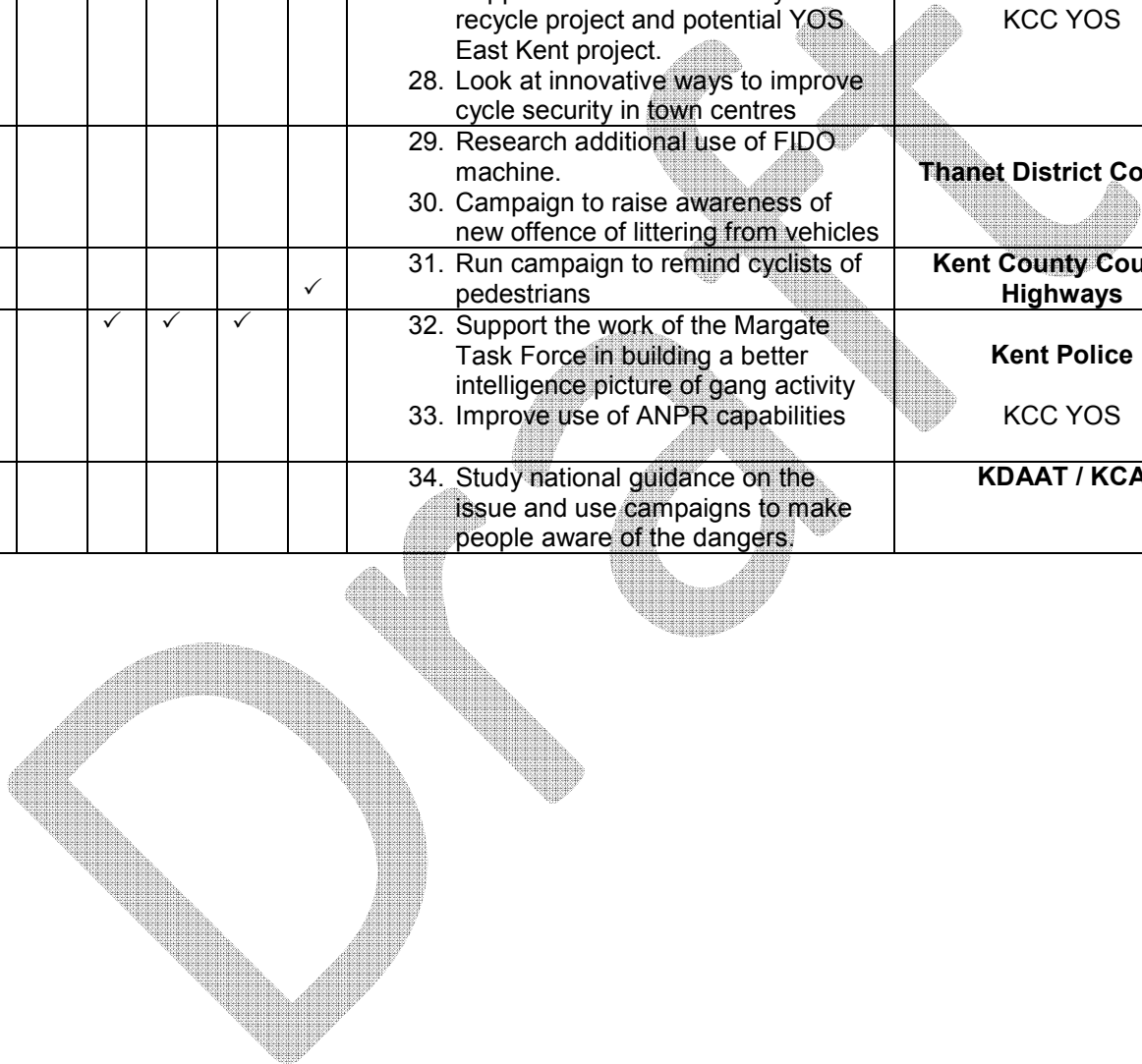
Draft

Emerging issue	Which of the current priorities does this impact upon?						Proposed Actions	Lead agency Support agencies	Measures of Success / Outcomes
	Anti-Social Behaviour	Domestic Abuse	Violent Crime	Substance Misuse	Acquisitive Crime	Road Safety			
Poor resident confidence and satisfaction, increase knowledge of what is being done and a more visible profile of the agencies	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop a partnership communications strategy</li> <li>2. Seasonal campaigns project</li> <li>3. Implement 'action weeks' in hot spot areas</li> <li>4. Continue to support Neighbourhood Engagement Meetings where residents can report issues in their area and explore alternative ways to update key community groups.</li> <li>5. Set up a 'Community Safety Fund' for local groups to use for tackling specific local issues</li> </ol>	<b>Thanet District Council</b>  All partner communications leads	
Problems associated with street drinking in the district – making it harder for them	✓		✓	✓	✓		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Develop and deliver one pilot of the 'Reduce the Strength' national campaign</li> </ol>	<b>Thanet District Council</b>  Turning Point Kent Police KCC Public Health Thanet CCG	
Understand the changes in key legislation and work out how these will benefit local communities and issues	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. ASB legislation – consider changes to how we enforce ASB</li> <li>8. Integrate the new Probation structures and ensure smooth transition in partnership working to target prolific offenders.</li> </ol>	<b>Thanet District Council</b>  All partners to feedback on those relevant to their agencies	

Emerging issue	Which of the current priorities does this impact upon?						Proposed Actions	Lead agency Support agencies	Measures of Success / Outcomes
	Anti-Social Behaviour	Domestic Abuse	Violent Crime	Substance Misuse	Acquisitive Crime	Road Safety			
<b>Young people and crime:</b> <b>a) Preventing first time offending</b> <b>b) Tackling high impact crime</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	9. Increase the level of parenting support for adolescents through Troubled Families initiative and other parenting programmes 10. Increase the level of multi-agency support available through the Youth Inclusion Support Panel 11. Ensure young people at risk engage with diversionary activities. 12. Develop additional targeted programmes for young people committing high impact crime	<b>KCC Youth Offending Service (YOS)</b>  Kent Police  Kent County Council  Thanet District Council  Engage Youth Forum	
<b>Seasonal issues with alcohol and young people</b>	✓		✓	✓			13. Target seasonal beach parties 14. Pursue project where PCSOs train with the RNLI beach lifeguards to have a better presence in hotspot areas. 15. Awareness / Education sessions delivering key messages in local secondary schools.	<b>KDAAT / KCA</b>  Kent Police  Thanet District Council  KCC YOS  Youth organisations	
<b>Engaging Young people about road safety</b>							16. Run YEARS programme in Thanet 17. Scooter Academy sessions to raise awareness of potential dangers	<b>Kent Fire and Rescue Service</b>  KCC YOS	

Emerging issue	Which of the current priorities does this impact upon?						Proposed Actions	Lead agency Support agencies	Measures of Success / Outcomes
	Anti-Social Behaviour	Domestic Abuse	Violent Crime	Substance Misuse	Acquisitive Crime	Road Safety			
Poor image of our town centres due to night-time economy problems	✓	✓	✓	✓			18. Community Pastors 19. Specific police teams 20. Turning Point A+E nurses	<b>Kent Police</b>  Turning Point Thanet Churches Thanet District Council	
Perceptions of speeding & dangerous driving						✓	21. Support 'Speedwatch' volunteers through purchase of new equipment	<b>Kent Fire and Rescue Service</b>  Kent Highways	
Medium risk victims of domestic abuse – are the right level of resources available		✓					22. Identify any gaps in provision of available services for victims 23. Continue to run a Domestic Abuse support car at peak times	<b>Thanet Domestic Abuse Forum</b>	
Fill the gap for local domestic abuse perpetrator programmes		✓					24. Pilot a new programme that can be run locally and provide shorter interventions for those not subject to offence conditions 25. Develop programme to work with young people who are identified as being at risk of committing violence against parents	<b>Thanet Domestic Abuse Forum</b>	

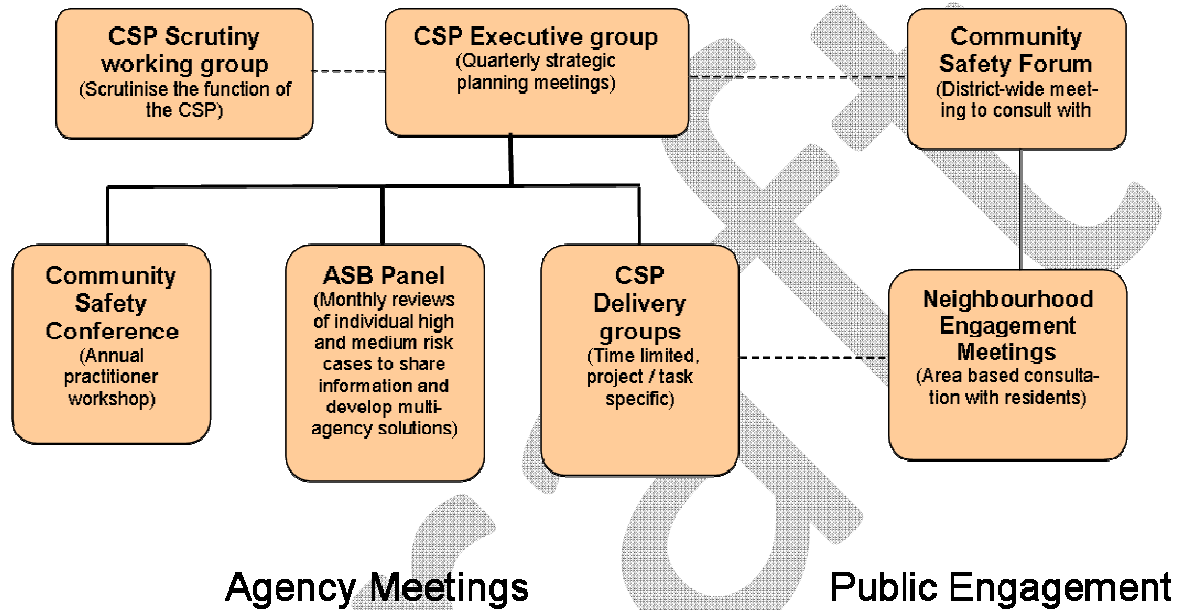
<b>Increase in pedal cycle thefts</b>					✓		26. Property marking 27. Support and refer into the cycle recycle project and potential YOS East Kent project. 28. Look at innovative ways to improve cycle security in town centres	<b>Kent Police</b>  KCC YOS	
<b>Litter and dog fouling</b>	✓						29. Research additional use of FIDO machine. 30. Campaign to raise awareness of new offence of littering from vehicles	<b>Thanet District Council</b>	
<b>Cycling on pavement</b>	✓					✓	31. Run campaign to remind cyclists of pedestrians	<b>Kent County Council</b> <b>Highways</b>	
<b>Increase in out of area perpetrators</b>	✓		✓	✓	✓		32. Support the work of the Margate Task Force in building a better intelligence picture of gang activity 33. Improve use of ANPR capabilities	<b>Kent Police</b>  KCC YOS	
<b>Legal Highs</b>							34. Study national guidance on the issue and use campaigns to make people aware of the dangers.	<b>KDAAT / KCA</b>	



# Appendices

## i. Partnership structure

Agencies of the partnership meet throughout the year via a number of different forums aimed at coordinating activity, monitoring trends and ensuring clear information sharing. The partnership also oversees a comprehensive system of consultation with residents through its public engagement structure.



### Agency Meetings

#### Community Safety Partnership Executive Group

Is made up of senior managers from the statutory agencies and other partners who act as a board overseeing the decisions and direction of the partnership. They are responsible for agreeing and ensuring their organisations help to implement the Community Safety Plan.

#### Community Safety Partnership Scrutiny working group

This group is coordinated by the District Council political members and provides a scrutiny function, ensuring all processes have been complied with and that partners are working together. The group also oversees strategic planning and makes recommendations on the decisions of the partnership.

#### Community Safety Conference

This is an annual practitioner meeting where the strategic assessment data is reviewed and verified by wider partners, best practice is shared and ideas generated to inform and draft the annual community safety plan.

## Community Safety Partnership Delivery group(s)

Delivery groups are set up to for the delivery of a specific partnership initiative, or as a response to a sudden emerging trend. They meet as frequently as is required and feed back to the Community Safety Partnership Executive Group.

## Multi-Agency ASB Case Panel

Is an operational panel that meets monthly and is attended by front line practitioners to review and discuss high and medium risk ASB cases that require multi agency provision. This is to ensure joined up working, prevent duplication and ensure information is shared reducing the chance of cases being ignored.

## Public Meetings

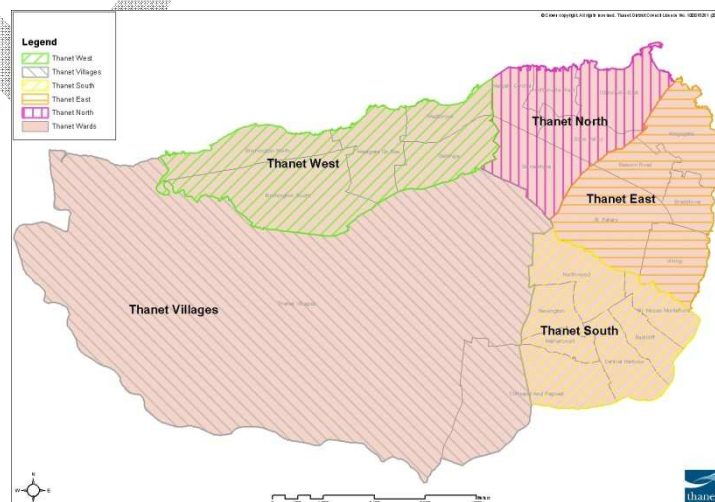
### Community Safety Forum

This is a focus group that includes local Councillors, neighbourhood watch co-ordinators, chairs of resident associations and other public groups to meet with senior managers from each of the CSP agencies and look at the strategic planning, discuss priority issues and find out about the progress of the partnership against its action plan. It is not an opportunity to make area specific observations. It is also an opportunity for residents to get involved in partnership projects and find out more about Community Safety.

### Neighbourhood Engagement Meetings (NEM)

The partnership also delivers Neighbourhood Engagement Meetings to identify the issues that matter most to residents in our local communities. The district is divided into North, East, South and West geographical areas – with those living in more rural areas attending whichever location is closest and most relevant to them. A quarterly meeting takes place for each area.

The NEM meeting is attended by a range of partners including police officers and PCSOs for that area, district council representatives and KCC Wardens. Members of the community are free to pose questions or make observations about their area, even down to street level. Meeting dates are advertised on the Kent Police and District Council Websites in advance and are an opportunity to collectively problem-solve community safety issues.



## ii. Useful Phone Numbers

Thanet District Council	01843 577000
Thanet Gateway services	08458 247 202
Kent Police	101 (In an emergency: 999)
Kent Fire and Rescue Service	01622 692121
Kent County Council	08458 247 247
KCA UK (formerly Kent Council for Addiction )	01795 590 635
Eastern and Coastal Kent NHS Patient advice and liaison service:	01795 590 635
Kent Probation – Thanet Office	03000 473218
Hyde Housing Association	0800 389 3576
Turning Point	0300 123 1186
Kent Drug And Alcohol Action Team (KDAAT)	01622 221676
National Domestic Violence Helpline	0808 2000 247
Orbit South Housing Association Thanet Office	0800 678 1221
Sanctuary Housing Association	0800 781 4755
Southern Housing Association	08456 120 021
Town and Country Housing Association	0845 873 1321
Porchlight	0800 5677699
Victim Support	0845 3030900
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111

To find out who your local Police Community Support Officer and Police Constables are, or to see when your next neighbourhood meeting is visit [www.kent.police.uk](http://www.kent.police.uk) or call Thanet Community Safety Partnership 01843 577888



### iii. Glossary of terms:

<b>ASBO</b>	Anti Social Behaviour Order, a criminal or civil order Local Authorities and Police can apply for to the courts to place prohibitions on an individual who is causing persistent ASB. It is legally binding and carries maximum penalties of imprisonment if breached.
<b>ABA</b>	Acceptable Behaviour Agreement, an informal intervention used by ASB practitioners to agree with potential perpetrators of lower level ASB prohibitions. Can also be called an Acceptable Behaviour Contract or ABC.
<b>ANPR</b>	Automatic Number Plate Recognition – technology to help track vehicles that have been involved in offences.
<b>Dispersal Order</b>	Order providing police additional blanket powers to disperse groups of 2 or more who are causing ASB or likely to cause ASB for a period of 48 hours. The order must be agreed and signed off by the respective Senior Officers of the Local Authority and Local Police Force.
<b>Drug Testing on Arrest (DtoA)</b>	Pilot scheme introduced in Thanet for 2011-12 where people arrested for a number of offences which can be linked to supporting substance misuse, such as theft from a motor vehicle and acquisitive crimes, undergo compulsory drug testing. If they test positive, or refuse testing, sanctions are imposed.
<b>Independent Domestic Violence Advisors</b>	Specialist staff that deal with helping victims of domestic abuse. This project is a new county-wide programme co-ordinated by Kent Probation and funded by a range of district and county organizations.
<b>KCA UK (Kent Council for Addiction )</b>	Formerly Kent Council for Addiction , now covering other parts of the UK and known just as KCA UK. Provides substance misuse services. Currently provide youth substance misuse services in East Kent.
<b>Kent Crime and Victimisation Survey (KCVS)</b>	Is a telephone survey of randomly selected households across Kent. It asks questions about issues such as experiences of behaviour, confidence in the police, confidence in the Criminal Justice System, feelings of safety, worry about crime and perceptions of anti-social behavior.
<b>Kent Fire and Rescue Service (KFRS)</b>	The fire and rescue service responsible for delivering services, including rescue and preventative initiatives for each district in Kent.
<b>Looked After Child (LAC)</b>	Children who are in the care of social services.
<b>Neighbourhood Engagement Meetings (NEM)</b>	Neighbourhood Engagement Meetings. Localised meetings for residents, geographically based, to discuss community safety issues of concern with local police and council officers.
<b>NEET</b>	Not in Education or Employment or Training

<b>Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs)</b>	Members of support staff employed by Kent Police to support Police Officers in tackling crime and Anti Social Behaviour issues in local communities
<b>Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)</b>	Elected representatives charged with securing efficient and effective policing and community safety.
<b>S27 dispersal</b>	is a police power, introduced in the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006, where Officers can give people a direction to leave an area for up to 48 hours, if their presence is, or is likely to cause, alcohol related crime and disorder.
<b>YEARS project</b>	A Youth Engagement Around Road Safety project that can be delivered to schools or groups at risk of offending.
<b>Youth Inclusion Support Panels (YISP)</b>	Multi agency panel which aims to prevent offending and anti-social behaviour by identifying and supporting young people aged 8–17 who are at high risk of offending and anti-social behaviour, before they enter the youth justice system.
<b>Youth Offending Team</b>	Multi-agency teams set up to manage young offenders, undertaking functions such as setting up reparation plans to ensure community sentences are completed and prevent further reoffending.

The responsible authorities of the Thanet Community Safety Partnership are;



**Kent  
Police**



**Kent Fire &  
Rescue Service**



**Thanet Clinical Commissioning Group**



*Changing Lives  
Reducing Crime*

Thanks also go to all of the other members of the  
Community Safety Partnership

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### **COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP WORKING PARTY CHAIRMAN'S END OF YEAR REPORT TO OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL**

To: **Overview & Scrutiny Panel – 11 March 2014**

Main Portfolio Area: **Community Services**

By: **Cllr Campbell, Chairman of the Community Safety Partnership Working Party**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **Thanet Wide**

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**Summary:** **The report provides information updates regarding the work of the Community Safety Partnership Working Party in 2013/14.**

#### **For Information**

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#### **1.0 Introduction and Background**

- 1.1 On 3 March 2014, Members of the Community Safety Partnership Working Party met at the last meeting of the 21013/14; and consider amongst other issues the current Community Safety Plan (CSP) and the proposed plan for 2014/15. The final outcome of the current Plan would be considered by Members in the new municipal year (2014/15).
- 1.2 The sub-group Chairman would like to share information regarding some of the highlights of the outcomes of the plan in the third quarter of this municipal year.

#### **2.0 ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (ASB)**

- 2.1 There was a welcome decline in reported incidents in Thanet but there still were the highest recorded incidents in Kent. This included Criminal Damage incidents which have increased in Thanet against a backdrop of declining incidents in the rest of Kent.
- 2.2 There are 9 actions within the CSP under ASB, 6 have been completed 3 will not be achieved by fiscal year end this is explained by changes to ASB legislation. The 3 are:

AS01: Restorative Practice Clinics - new protocols are being prepared;

AS04: Streamline ASB information for each agency - New ASB toolkit in prep;

AS07: Victim Support project based on BRAVE model introduced in Birmingham meetings have taken place training programme to be established.

#### **3.0 DOMESTIC ABUSE**

- 3.1 There had been a reported increase in reported incidents in Thanet in line with rest of Kent. This increase was a double edged sword, police informed the

Working Party that they were having greater success in reaching most difficult to reach groups with more, mainly women, coming forward and reporting incidents of abuse. A domestic abuse worker had now been deployed with a police officer on reported incidents this post being funded by TDC.

- 3.2 There are 6 actions under this priority 5 completed with 1 still on-going to reach completion by April 2014.

#### **4.0 VIOLENT CRIME**

- 4.1 Violent Crime was viewed as defined by the individual against whom the crime had been committed. There had been a dramatic rise in Thanet 32% which is also reflected across Kent 30%.

- 4.2 This has been explained in part by the now more rigorous recording regime in place across Kent. However this is a worrying trend and the WP concerns were made known to the Police.

- 4.3 There were 6 actions under this priority and all had been completed.

#### **5.0 SUBSTANCE MISUSE**

- 5.1 There had been a small decrease in reported incidents in Thanet against an increase in the rest of Kent. A "Reduce the Strength" Campaign was to be piloted in Ramsgate and would be launched on 13 March 2014.

- 5.2 There were 8 actions under this priority and all had been completed.

#### **6.0 ACQUISITIVE CRIME**

- 6.1 there had been an increase of 17.5% of reported incidents in Thanet against an increase of only 4% in Kent. The WP found this disappointing and somewhat alarming. The Police explained that again this was in part due to a change in their recording methodology but of course this methodology also applies across the rest of Kent where the increase of reported incidents was less than one quarter the increase in Thanet.

- 6.2 There were 7 actions under this priority, 5 had been completed and 2 were on-going. The two on-going activities were as follows:

- AC04: Smart water marking - till end of year;
- AC05: Increase awareness of personal safety and bogus callers - till end of year.

#### **7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN FOR 2014/15**

- 7.1 Next year's Safety Plan is under construction. It will concentrate on the same five priorities included in this year's Safety Plan which are ASB, Domestic Abuse, Violent Crime, Substance Misuse and Acquisitive Crime but will add 2 more; which are highlighted in section 8.0 and section 9.0 of the report.

#### **8.0 ROAD SAFETY**

- 8.1 The Kent Fire and Rescue Services will lead on a campaign to create more awareness on road safety in Kent. The issue regarding road safety was raised by the respondents to the Kent Crime and Victimisation Survey and at residents meetings.

## **9.0 PUBLIC AND AGENCY ENGAGEMENT**

- 9.1 The Community Safety Partnership Team felt that they should have a greater role in shaping the publicity about actions and activities they are providing in Thanet for Thanet's residents.

## **10.0 KENT POLICE – REQUEST FOR A MEMBERS BRIEFING**

- 10.1 The sub-group was advised at the meeting on 3 March 2014 that the Police in Kent (and therefore Thanet) are to undergo a re-organisation that would be implemented around the end of June to early June this year. The Chairman of the Working Party requested the Police to hold an all TDC Members Briefing when details of the pending re-organisation had been finalised. If agreeable such a briefing session would need to be provided to Members before the re-organisation was implemented.

- 10.2 The Police agreed to the request.

## **11.0 Corporate Implications**

### **11.1 Financial and VAT**

- 11.1.1 There were no financial implications arising directly from this report.

### **11.2 Legal**

- 11.2.1 There were no legal implications arising directly from this report.

### **11.3 Corporate**

### **11.4 Equity and Equalities**

- 11.4.1 There were no equity and equalities issues arising directly from this report.

## **12.0 Recommendation**

- 12.1 Members are requested to receive and note the report of the Chairman of the Community Safety Partnership Working Party.

## **13.0 Decision Making Process**

- 13.1 The Overview & Scrutiny Panel can set up working parties that would need to report back issues for either the Panel's information or as recommendations on any of the activities that fall within their given tasks (terms of reference).

Contact Officer:	Charles Hungwe, Senior Democratic Services Officer, Ext 7186
Reporting to:	Glenn Back, Democratic Services & Scrutiny Manger

## **Annex List**

None	N/A
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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
Communications	N/A



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**CALL-IN OF INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER DECISION - DREAMLAND – COMPENSATION PAYMENTS**

**To: Overview and Scrutiny Panel - 11<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

**Main Portfolio Area: Finance/Regeneration**

**By: Director of Community Services**

**Classification: Unrestricted**

**Ward: Margate Central**

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**Summary: To receive a report detailing the procedure for making an advanced payment for compensation following the CPO for Dreamland.**

**For Information**

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**1.0 Introduction and Background**

- 1.1 Following the confirmation of the CPO the Council appointed Bidwells to undertake an assessment of value of the freehold and leasehold interest of the land and buildings relating to Dreamland in order to establish the compensation position and to represent the Council in respect of responding to any compensation claims including any formal application for advanced payment as detailed within section 52 of the Land Compensation Act 1973 which provides a right to an advance payment of compensation from the acquiring authority (i.e. the Council).
- 1.2 Bidwells have assessed that there would be a compensation payment due on the loss of income from the Car Park and Amusement Arcade which has triggered the advance payment provisions of the Land Compensation Act 1973.

**2.0 Statutory Provision for Advance Payments**

- 2.1 Any request under section 52 must be made by the person entitled to the compensation (“the claimant”), must be in writing, must give particulars of the claimant’s interest in the land and (see section 52(2)) *“shall be accompanied or supplemented by such other particulars as the acquiring authority may reasonably require to enable them to estimate the amount of the compensation in respect of which the advance payment is to be made.”*
- 2.2 The amount of an advance payment is 90% of either an agreed compensation figure or the figure for compensation as estimated by the acquiring authority.
- 2.3 When the land is mortgaged, as in this case different rules will apply depending on whether the charge is more than or less than the advance payment. Where the mortgage is less than the advance payment (see section 52ZA), the acquiring authority must reduce the amount paid to the claimant by the amount required to clear the mortgage. The balance may then be paid to the mortgagee if the claimant so requests and the mortgagee consents to the making of the payment. However, a payment must not be made until the interest of any mortgagee whose interest has priority is released

(see section 52ZA(4)(b)). If the value of the charge is more than the advance payment (see section 52ZB), no payment is made to the claimant. Instead, payment is made to the mortgagee provided that the claimant so requests and the mortgagee consents to the making of the payment (see section 52ZB(3)). If there is more than one mortgagee (see section 52ZB(7)), *“payment must not be made to a mortgagee until the interest of each mortgagee whose interest has priority to his interest is released.”*

- 2.4 If it should appear to the acquiring authority that its original estimate is too low, there are provisions in sections 52, 52ZA and 52ZB which allow the estimate to be revised.
- 2.5 Section 52ZC(2) places the onus on the claimant to provide the acquiring authority *“with such information as they may require to enable them to give effect to those (ie sections 52ZA and 52ZB) sections.”* Section 52ZC(3) provides that a request for an advance payment under section 52ZA or section 52ZB must be made in writing and must be accompanied by the written consent of the mortgagee.
- 2.6 As the Dreamland site is subject to a number of charges which exceed the value of the advance payments that our valuers have recommended we are in the process of seeking clarification from the claimants’ representatives as to which of mortgagees should be paid.
- 2.7 It should be noted that where the amount or aggregate amount of any advance payment made on the basis of the acquiring authorities estimate of the compensation exceeds the compensation as finally determined or agreed the excess shall be repaid.

### **3.0 Options**

- 3.1 Due to legal requirements payments are due to former landowners/mortgagees.

### **4.0 Corporate Implications**

#### **4.1 Financial and VAT**

- 4.1.1 The Council has factored in sufficient monies in the capital programme to deal with the anticipated level of compensation.

#### **4.2 Legal**

- 4.2.1 There is a legal requirement to make an advance payment, regardless of any decision taken later at Lands Tribunal.

#### **4.3 Corporate**

- 4.3.1 The delivery of the Dreamland project supports the following priorities in the Corporate Plan Priority 1: *Economy and Growth*, Priority 2 *Tackling disadvantage*, Priority 5 *Parking & Transportation*, Priority 8 *Culture & diversity*, Priority 10 *Working in partnership*, Priority 11 *Preserving our public spaces*.

#### **4.4 Equity and Equalities**

- 4.4.1 There are no equity or equality issues arising directly from this report.

### **5.0 Recommendation**

- 5.1 That the report be noted.

Contact Officer:	Madeline Homer – Director of Community Services
Reporting to:	Sue McGonigal – Chief Executive

**Annex List**

None	N/A
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**Background Papers**

Title	Where to Access Document
None	N/A

**Corporate Consultation Undertaken**

Finance	Sarah Martin, Financial Services Manager
Legal	Peter Reilly, Litigation Solicitor

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