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## THANET COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN FOR 2013 – 2014

To: **Overview and Scrutiny Panel – 23 April 2013**

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 2013-14.**

**The report asks for the Community Safety Plan including its priorities and actions to be agreed following approval from the CDRP 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' (Police, Fire, Probation, Health) 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 a big change in the police and community safety landscape with the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners and a new draft Anti-social Behaviour Bill that could lead to changes in how we operate in future years. 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 actions for 2013-14.
- 1.5 The Community Safety Plan Priorities and draft action plan were considered by the CDRP Working Party and members recommended that Overview and Scrutiny approve the document.

#### **2.0 Thanet Community Safety Plan 2013/14 – 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 relating to each district. District Council Community Safety Officers then co-ordinated a strategic assessment of this data. This was done through intelligence analysis and ranking of crime and ASB types considering patterns, trends and shifts that identified the emerging priorities. Data was also compared to other districts in Kent and areas similar to Thanet.

2.4 Once the initial data analysis was completed, the results were circulated to key partners to check for agreement on the draft priorities for the following year. Once agreed, 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 can be shown in the table below;

		<b>Priorities</b>				
		ASB (including environmental)	Domestic abuse	Violent Crime	Acquisitive crime & theft offences	Substance misuse (including alcohol)
<b>Cross cutting themes</b>		Targeting prolific offenders / repeat locations				
		Safeguarding vulnerable & young people				
		Prevention & early intervention				

2.5 Alongside the partner consultation, an online survey was published for residents to comment on whether they supported the priorities identified. The report on this survey identified that 89% of respondents supported the priorities selected. Further consultation was done through the Neighbourhood Engagement Meetings which encourage residents to comment on community safety issues in their local area.

2.6 The CDRP Working Party were also consulted on the draft priorities and made a recommendation to Overview and Scrutiny Committee that they accept the priorities and actions contained in the plan.

2.7 Over 80 staff from agencies in the CSP then attended a 'Community Safety Conference' to develop action plans around each of the priorities. The full Community Safety Plan including the table of actions is found at Annex 1.

2.8 Responsibility for delivery of the Community Safety Plan is shared amongst members of the CSP Executive Group. A copy of the CSP Engagement Structure can be seen at Annex 2.

2.9 Resident engagement will continue with open forums and neighbourhood panel meetings.

### **3.0 Options**

3.1 To approve the Thanet Community Safety Plan 2013/14 as set out in Annex 1.

3.2 To amend and then approve the Thanet Community Safety Plan 2013/14.

## **4.0 Corporate Implications**

### **4.1 Financial**

4.1.1 District Council Community Safety staff undertake the facilitation of the Community Safety Partnership alongside their TDC function of anti-social behaviour case management. Salaries for these staff are covered within the budget for 2013-14.

4.1.2 The Kent Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has confirmed that Thanet Community Safety Partnership will be awarded a grant of £39,878 to assist in the delivery of the CSP functions. This will be used for commissioning organisations, development of publicity material and any equipment required to carry out the actions in the plan. The PCC has requested that this money not be used to cover staff costs wherever possible.

### **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 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 2013-14, 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**

6.1 That taking into consideration the recommendations from the Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership Working Party as reflected in Section 2.6 of the report; the Overview and Scrutiny Panel recommends to Cabinet the priorities and actions in the Thanet Community Safety Plan 2013/14 as set out in Annex 1 of 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.

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## **Annex List**

Annex 1	Community Safety Plan 2013-2014
Annex 2	CSP Engagement Structure 2013

**Corporate Consultation Undertaken**

Finance	Sarah Martin, Financial Services Manager
Legal	Gary Cordes, Legal Services Manager
Environmental Health	Penny Button, Environmental Health Manager
Communications	Hannah Thorpe, Corporate Communications Officer