

## Annual Community Safety Briefing

Overview & Scrutiny Panel	16th April 2024
Report Author	Jo-Anna Taylor, Community Services Manager
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Keen, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods
Status	For Recommendation
Classification:	Unrestricted
Key Decision	No
Ward:	All wards

### Executive Summary:

This report aims to review the Thanet Community Safety Partnership Plan and the annual strategic assessment. Based on this evaluation, it recommends the adoption of the Community Safety Plan by the Community Safety Partnership. According to Section 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Crime and Disorder Committee is responsible for reviewing both the strategic assessment and the Community Safety Partnership plan.

### Recommendation(s):

Members of the Crime and Disorder Committee are asked to;

1. Note and scrutinise the Community Safety Partnership Plan and consider any recommendations to the Community Safety Partnership Chair (currently, Chief Inspector Ian Swallow) and the Community Services Manager (currently, Jo-Anna Taylor).

### Corporate Implications

#### Financial and Value for Money:

- **Resource Allocation:** Local authorities need to allocate financial resources effectively to support the implementation of CSP plans. This includes funding for crime prevention initiatives, community engagement, and partnership working.
- **Cost-Benefit Analysis:** Assessing the value for money of CSP activities is crucial. Authorities must weigh the costs of interventions against the expected benefits in terms of crime reduction, community safety, and improved quality of life.

## Legal:

- **Statutory Responsibility:** Local authorities have a statutory duty to identify local priorities through strategic assessments. These assessments inform the CSP plan and guide resource allocation.
- **Compliance with Legislation:** Authorities must ensure that their CSP activities align with the provisions of the relevant acts. Non-compliance could lead to legal challenges or reputational risks.

## Risk Management:

- **Risk Assessment:** Local authorities should conduct risk assessments related to crime and disorder in their communities. This informs the strategic assessment and helps identify areas of concern.
- **Mitigation Strategies:** Authorities need to develop risk mitigation strategies within the CSP plan. These may include targeted interventions, community engagement, and collaboration with other agencies.

## Corporate

The recommendations support The Council's Core Business Objectives in the following areas:

- Embedding CSP plans requires alignment across different departments within the local authority. Effective communication and coordination are essential.
- Authorities must establish clear performance metrics to evaluate the effectiveness of CSP activities. This ensures accountability and transparency.
- Engaging with partners (such as police, health services, and probation and fire and rescue services) is critical. Authorities need to foster collaborative relationships to achieve shared goals.

## Equality Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty

- **Equity and Inclusion:** Local authorities must consider the impact of CSP plans on different demographic groups. Ensuring equal access to safety measures and addressing inequalities is vital.
- **Consultation and Participation:** Authorities should involve diverse community members in the strategic assessment process. This promotes inclusivity and responsiveness to community needs.

## Corporate Priorities

- This report relates to the following corporate priorities: -
- **To keep our district safe and clean:** Our primary goal is to ensure the safety and cleanliness of our district. By implementing effective measures with the Thanet Community Safety Partnership, to reduce crime and disorder, creating

an environment that encourages reassurance for residents and visitors, along with investment and growth.

- **To deliver the housing we need:** We recognise the importance of housing within our community. Our commitment is to deliver the housing required to meet the needs of our residents, both now and in the future. Working with the Thanet Community Safety Partnership to design out crime for new builds.
- **To protect our environment:** Preserving our environment is a top priority. We strive to minimise crime and disorder across the district, benefiting current and future residents as well as visitors.
- **To create a thriving place:** Collaborating with our partners, we work diligently to provide a range of community safety initiatives throughout the district. These efforts include diversionary activities and proactive and reactive measures to reduce crime and disorder.
- **To work efficiently for you:** Our commitment extends to working efficiently for the benefit of Thanet residents and visitors. We strive to enhance processes, streamline services, and ensure that our efforts align with needs and expectations. By doing so, we aim to create a district that thrives, serves its community effectively by reducing crime and disorder as a community safety partnership, hand in hand with Thanet District Council.

## 1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 outlines the statutory requirements for responsible authorities to collaborate with local agencies, organisations, and individuals. Their goal is to develop and implement strategies to address crime and disorder, ultimately creating safer communities. These statutory partnerships are known as Community Safety Partnerships (CSP).
- 1.2 The key authorities involved in CSPs include the Police, Fire and Rescue Authority, Local Authorities, Health Partners, and Probation Services. These partnerships operate at the district, county, unitary, or borough level, tailoring their strategies to the specific needs of their communities. The underlying principle is that effective collaboration among various agencies is essential for ensuring safer neighbourhoods and tackling crime and antisocial behaviour.

## 2.0 The current situation

- 2.1 The Thanet Community Safety Partnership Executive members have carefully reviewed and unanimously agreed upon the Community Safety Plan and Strategic Assessment. The Thanet Community Safety Partnership Executive has assessed the strategic plan and successfully implemented initiatives to sustain the decline in crime and disorder within the district.

## 3.0 Options

- 3.1 Consider the Community Safety Partnership Plan and accept the recommendations given by the Community Safety Partnership Executive group; Kent Police, Thanet District Council, Probation, KFRS, Heath, KCC, Public Health, DWP, Commissioned Services.
- 3.2 Consider the Community Safety Partnership Plan and make changes, taking into account your constituency observations.

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Reporting to: Penny Button (Head of Neighbourhoods)

## **Annex 1**

Current CSP Plan

■ Community Safety partnership Plan (4).pdf

## **Background Papers**

None

Corporate Consultation

**Finance:**

**Legal:**