

11 July 2013		ITEM 6
Cleaner, Greener and Safer Overview and Scrutiny Committee		
Report on Thurrock Community Safety Partnership		
Report of: Chief Superintendent Andy Prophet, Chair of Thurrock Community Safety Partnership		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: No	
Accountable Head of Service: Gavin Dennett, Head of Public Protection		
Accountable Director: Lucy Magill, Director of Environment and Public Protection		
This report is: Public		
Purpose of Report: To provide the Overview and Scrutiny Committee the opportunity to review the performance, both qualitative and quantitative, of the Thurrock Community Safety Partnership (TCSP) in 2012/13 and provide insight into the priorities for the Partnership and Police and Crime Commissioner for 2013/14		

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Performance:

All crime in Thurrock remained static for the year 2012/13 when compared against the previous year with 11,666¹ crimes committed. This equates to 73.23 crimes per 1,000 population which is higher than our 15 comparable Community Safety Partnerships.

There were 5,767 incidents of Anti-social Behaviour in Thurrock in 2012/13 reported to Essex Police; a decrease of 13%, 851 fewer incidents, than in 2011/12.

In line with Essex Police, the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) had a target to reduce crime by 1% and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) by 2% in 2012/13

Priorities:

The 2013/2014 Partnership Plan builds on the partnership's Strategic Assessment, helping us to develop and plan our activities to address the priorities outlined in the assessment whilst providing value for money, and an 'intelligence led' approach to community safety.

The priorities for 2013/2014 are:

1. Reduce anti-social behaviour
2. Tackle violence against women and girls
3. Reduce youth offending and the reoffending rates of adults and youths;

¹. These are preliminary statistics and not yet confirmed by the Home Office

4. Reduce domestic burglary and vehicle crime

Police and Crime Plan:

The elected Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Essex came into post in November 2012 and published the Police and Crime Plan for Essex in March 2013. The Police and Crime Plan outlines the Police and Crime Commissioner's ambition in bringing together the police and wider partners more effectively to reduce crime, improve community safety and support victims of crime across Essex.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 That Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the performance of the Thurrock Community Safety Partnership for the year 2012/13

1.2 That Overview and Scrutiny support the recommendations within the strategic assessment for 2012

1.3 That Overview and Scrutiny committee support the 4 priorities of the CSP for the year 2013/14, which are:

- 1. Reduce anti-social behaviour**
- 2. Tackle violence against women and girls**
- 3. Reduce youth offending and the reoffending rates of adults and youths;**
- 4. Reduce domestic burglary and vehicle crime**

1.4 That Overview and Scrutiny committee note the links that have been made to support delivery of the PCC's Police and Crime Plan

2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

2.1 This purpose of this report is to:

- i) Share the progress of delivery of the Thurrock Community Safety Partnership (TCSP) 3 year community safety strategy for 2011/14;
- ii) Highlight the priorities and actions to deliver the priorities in 2013/14 based on the findings of the strategic assessment of 2012;
- iii) Demonstrate how the TCSP will support the PCC in delivery of the Police and crime plan.

2.2 In December our partners came together to develop the strategic assessment; the purpose of which is to inform the CSP about the scale and scope of crime, disorder and community safety issues within Thurrock. It went onto inform the

Partnerships plan for 2013 / 2014 and contribute towards the overall strategic assessment for Essex and the Police and Crime Plan.

The highest proportion of crime in Thurrock surrounds anti-social behaviour, violence against women and reoffending. The main wards of concern, going forward for Thurrock are:

- Grays Riverside and West Thurrock and South Stifford for Anti-social Behaviour
- Grays Riverside and West Thurrock and South Stifford for violence against women
- Ockendon and Belhus with regards to offences involving theft, whether that is vehicle crime or dwelling burglary.

2.3 From the findings outlined in the strategic assessment the Community Safety Partnerships Strategic Board identified the following priorities for 2013/2014:

1. Reduce anti-social behaviour (nuisance, environmental and personal, including that motivated by hate);
2. Tackle violence against women and girls (domestic abuse, sexual violence and in particular the vulnerable, such as child exploitation, rape, and honour-based abuse);
3. Reduce youth offending and the reoffending rates of adults and youths;
4. Reduce domestic burglary and vehicle crime

2.3.1 Reduce Anti-social Behaviour (ASB)

Key Findings:

- Anti-social behaviour has reduced by 13% between April 2013 and March 2013
- The highest number of reports to the police are with regard to young people, either being or perceived to be being, anti-social
- The main hotspot for ASB and hate crime is the Gray's Riverside ward,
- 24% of offenders of ASB are aged under 18
- Public concerns raised over levels of street drinking in both young people and street drinkers in Grays

To support this priority Thurrock Community Safety Partnership will:

- Continue to promote and increase referrals to multi-agency meetings to reduce the risk to victims of ASB, in particular our more vulnerable residents
- Identify hot spot areas through multi agency working and once identified respond to the problems, including cruisers
- Use appropriate enforcement actions to reduce under age drinking, including a community alcohol partnership working with retailers and residents
- Work with safeguarding adults on "supporting vulnerable communities"

2.3.2 Tackle violence against women and girls

Key Findings:

- There were 2,080 incidents of domestic abuse, reported to the police in 2012/13, 179 less victims than the previous year
- 72% of victims were female.
- 42% were repeat victims
- There were 136 serious sexual offences (including rape, sexual assault by penetration, sexual offences against a child and pornography) in the 12 months to end March 2013. An increase of 35 offences.

To support this priority Thurrock Community Safety Partnership will:

- Provide advocacy support for victims of domestic abuse who engage with the criminal justice system
- Reduce the risk to victims of domestic abuse by ensuring that the appropriate multi agency support is provided
- Continue to promote awareness of honour based abuse, which includes forced marriage and female genital mutilation, amongst officers and residents
- Work with the Children's Partnership and Local Safeguarding Children's Board to promote awareness of e-safety to young people and parents/carers
- Work in partnership to deliver Thurrock's Violence Against Women and Girls Action plan

2.3.3 Reduce re-offending

Key Findings:

- Lifestyle indicators contributing to offending in Thurrock are: thinking and behaviour; lifestyle and associates; and alcohol abuse.
- Troubled families are key to reducing re-offending by young people and in breaking the cycle of offending within families

To support this priority Thurrock Community Safety Partnership will:

- Work with partners to have a robust Integrated Offender Management scheme in Thurrock. Integrated Offender Management (IOM) is a new way of working across agencies with both statutory and non-statutory offenders (statutory offenders refers to those who are on a court order or post prison release licence). IOM provides support for those who engage with the scheme and consequences for those who continue to offend. The numbers on the scheme fluctuate; we average 50 in Thurrock and aim to ensure that these offenders are the ones causing the most harm to our residents.
- Link to Troubled Families programme which identifies and provides support to families who meet the criteria through either i) worklessness; ii) anti-social behaviour; iii) school attendance
- Provide increased support for those offenders with alcohol needs and evaluate the pilot project to provide an alcohol link worker who supports offenders into treatment services
- Implement a risky behaviour project aimed at educating 105 young people on the consequences of their behaviour with the aim of reducing offending by young people.

2.3.4 Reduce domestic burglary and vehicle crime

Key Findings:

The strategic assessment highlighted that Thurrock had suffered from an increase in domestic burglary and vehicle crime (theft from and theft of vehicles) in the 12 month period to the end of October 2012. Some of this crime was seasonally linked and the majority of offenders for both crimes were male.

To support this priority Thurrock Community Safety Partnership will:

- Target crime prevention campaigns to hot spot areas and victims
- Provide intelligence led response to hot spot crimes and areas by all agencies through a tasking meeting
- Put in place “days of action” in priority crime areas which will engage with residents and provide relevant and timely crime prevention advice
- Target burglary campaigns seasonally i.e. September to February

2.4 The strategic assessment supports the agreement of the 4 identified priorities for Thurrock, however makes the following recommendations to support delivery:

2.4.1 That it is recognised that not all serious crime is reported to the police and that other agencies hold data. In particular there is a lack of evidence with regard to on line child exploitation and honour based abuse and actions need to be developed within the violence against women action plan.

2.4.2 Whilst the strategic assessment identifies the recording of crime types and whole community concerns it does not identify those crimes which are a greater risk for some vulnerable groups. The Partnership should continue to work with the learning disability and children’s stay safe groups to provide focus for these vulnerable characteristics.

2.4.3 Serious Youth Violence is an emerging problem for Thurrock and many other areas of Essex and a joint approach is recommended.

2.4.4 Violent extremism is still a risk for Thurrock and it is important awareness raising is embedded into everyday work with vulnerable groups.

2.5 The structure of the partnership has been refreshed in line with the priorities to ensure coordinated activity

2.6 The Police and Crime Commissioner has provided Thurrock CSP with £58,050. This has supported a number of projects in Thurrock which will deliver on the following focus areas of the PCC:

- Ensuring local solutions meet local problems

Thurrock Community Safety Partnership shares a crime analyst which directs operations and activity to improve community safety for residents.

- Reducing domestic abuse

Thurrock Community Safety Partnerships preventing risky behaviours project aimed at working with 105 young people will raise awareness of domestic

abuse and seek to reduce through supporting victims and making perpetrators aware of the consequences

- Reducing youth offending and youth re-offending

This will be addressed through an activities day for troubled families, highlighting the consequences of crime within the risky behaviour project, tasking (including stay safe operations) and support for offenders on the Integrated Offender management scheme

- Tackling the consequences of drugs, alcohol abuse and mental health

Thurrock Community Safety Partnerships analyst will be doing a piece of work around alcohol related crime and again the risky behaviours project will seek to address these issues and raise awareness of consequences.

- Improving crime prevention

Will be delivered by intelligence led activity, identified by the analyst and prioritised for action by Thurrock Community Safety Partnership tasking group who have been given a budget to target mini localised projects

- Increasing efficiency on policing through collaborative working

Thurrock Community Safety Partnership will support this area through intelligence led activity, identified by the analyst and prioritised for a range of actions across partners by tasking.

2.7 We will be producing our next strategic assessment in quarter 3 (Dec 2013) which will enable us to refresh our priorities and delivery plan for 2014/15

3. IMPACT ON CORPORATE POLICIES, PRIORITIES, PERFORMANCE AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

3.1 The Thurrock Community Safety Partnership is central to delivering Thurrock Council's strategic objective to: Build pride and respect to create safer communities.

3.2 The CSP action plan links closely to and supports delivery of Thurrock Council's Violence Against Women and Girls strategy

3.3 The strategic assessment in identifying the 4 priorities took into account community concerns and the partnership will take action to support the more vulnerable members of the community.

4. IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial

Implications verified by: Mike Jones
 Telephone and email: **2772**
mjones@thurrock.gov.uk

There are no financial implications from this report

4.2 Legal

Implications verified by: David Lawson
Telephone and email: **2087**
dlawson@thurrock.gov.uk

This report fulfils our legal obligations and there are no legal implications arising from this report

4.3 **Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: Samson DeAlyn
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There are no equality and diversity implications arising from this report. The CSP is committed to providing services and support to address the needs of all members of the community. Our Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has been refreshed following the strategic assessment to:

Consider issues relating to age, disability, gender, race, religion & belief and sexual orientation. Obtain a clearer understanding of how different groups may be affected. Develop responses to address the issues and identify good practice.

4.4 **Other implications (where significant) – i.e. Section 17, Risk Assessment, Health Impact Assessment, Sustainability, IT, Environmental**

This report will help the Partnership ensure that it is delivering on its commitments to Section 17.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 The priorities for the Thurrock Community Safety Partnership for 2012/13 are to:

1. Reduce Anti-social Behaviour
2. Tackle violence against women and girls
3. Reduce Re-offending
4. Reduce domestic burglary and vehicle crime

5.2 The CSP have identified appropriate actions and resources to address the 4 priorities and have established a structure which facilitates working together and enables joined up delivery.

5.3 With reduced resources across partners the CSP is maximising resources available by multi-agency meetings for crime and ASB which are driven by intelligence.

BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT:

- Partnership Strategic assessment 2012
http://www.shapingthurrock.org.uk/safer/pdf/strategic_assessment_2012.pdf
- Partnership Delivery Plan
http://www.shapingthurrock.org.uk/safer/pdf/partnership_plan_2013.pdf
- Police and Crime commissioners Police and Crime Plan for Essex:
www.essex.police.uk/about/publications/policing_plan.aspx
- PCC community safety funding grant application

APPENDICES TO THIS REPORT:

- None, please see links above

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