

<b>9 February 2017</b>		<b>ITEM: 5</b>
<b>Cleaner, Greener, Safer overview and scrutiny committee</b>		
<b>Update on community safety partnership hubs</b>		
<b>Wards and communities affected:</b> All	<b>Key Decision:</b> Not applicable	
<b>Report of: Michelle Cunningham</b>		
<b>Accountable Head of Service:</b> Julie Rogers		
<b>Accountable Director:</b> Steve Cox		
<b>This report is public</b>		

## **Executive Summary**

Essex Police with the Local Authorities in Essex and partners have piloted 4 Community Safety Hubs (CSH) in Tendring, Braintree, Uttlesford and Thurrock. The post implementation review found that CSH have been successful in promoting stronger working relationships between Police and partners and that information sharing and communication has improved.

The O & S committee requested that an update report be brought back to them on progress of the pilot.

The strategic vision of Essex Police is now to establish co-located working of CSH to maximise the benefits of collaborative working with partners to deliver Community Safety Partnership (CSP) priorities through:

- building upon existing community partnerships and good practice
- developing better information sharing, closer working practices, and collaborative working between partners
- providing an integrated and effective delivery of the objectives of the local CSP plan in line with locally identified needs

### **1. Recommendation(s)**

- 1.1 That the committee support the concept of a co-located community safety partnership hub**
- 1.2 That the committee work with Essex Police command team to agree a mutually suitable agreement**

## **2. Introduction and Background**

- 2.1 Thurrock Community Safety Partnership has been in discussions with Essex Police (EP) for the past year to identify how we can progress a Community Safety Hub (CSH) in Thurrock.

CSH are a means of bringing together partners to address the issues facing the District and improve outcomes for residents, businesses and visitors. The diverse challenges facing partners in Thurrock include gang related violence, domestic and sexual abuse and exploitation, child sexual exploitation, modern day slavery and human trafficking, hate crime and anti – social behaviour as well as the more traditional acquisitive crime i.e. burglary and vehicle crime

- 2.2 Currently the CSH is based in Grays Police Station. EP hub staff include: Licensing officer, Essex Watch officer, ASB officer, 2 Children and Young People Officers, Crime Prevention Tactical Advisor, Hate Crime Officer and Missing Persons Liaison Officer.
- 2.3 The Community Policing Team (CPT) currently work out of South Ockendon Police Station. This venue is also accessed by Thurrock Council ASB team for meetings and operations. The CPT consists of: 1 Inspector, 2 sergeants, 9 constables, 10 PCSO, 5 special constables (all voluntarily on CPT), and 11 Volunteer Police Cadets.
- 2.4 CPT work to Thurrock Community Safety Partnership (CSP) plan. Objectives are similar to those of EP plan and are agreed between the CSP manager and the district commander. 3 priorities are agreed quarterly. The priorities for Quarter 4 2017 are: Child Sexual Exploitation; Modern Day Slavery and Hate Crime.
- 2.5 Thurrock Council Troubled Families, Thurrock Council ASB team, CSP manager, Lakeside security, Essex County Fire & Rescue Service, Port of Tilbury Police, and Integrated Offender Management team all currently attend tasking meetings fortnightly in the CSH.

Thurrock CSP also has regular multi agency meetings to address Gang related violence, PREVENT matters, and Hate Crime, as well as Locality Action Group meetings to discuss high harm ASB and hate crime matters.

- 2.6 A joint Communication plan is in place between Essex Police and Thurrock Council and agreed by the CSP. Information Sharing Agreements are in place however they do require refreshing.

## **3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options**

- 3.1 Strong partnership working between partners and Essex Police is in place, the main issue is that of accommodation. At this time, partners are located in their own buildings (notably Thurrock Council Civic Offices and old Corringham

housing office (youth offending service)) and Police have the Hub at Grays Police station and CPT based at Ockendon police station.

- 3.2 Next step is to revisit the option of co-located accommodation at Thurrock Council Civic Offices with the proposal cost being negotiated. It is proposed that Essex Police have access to 8 hot desks workstations.

#### **4. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 4.1 It is requested that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee endorse continued partnership working and a drive for a co-located Community Safety Hub in order to provide improved cohesive and coordinated services for the residents of Thurrock

#### **5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)**

- 5.1 Not applicable

#### **6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact**

- 6.1 This way of working supports delivery of the Councils priority: Build pride, responsibility and respect.
- 6.2 Closer partnership working will lead to increased information sharing and therefore improve response to community concerns.

#### **7. Implications**

##### **7.1 Financial**

Implications verified by: **Laura Last**  
**Management Accountant, Corporate Finance**

There are no direct budget implications at this stage as negotiations are ongoing between Thurrock Council and Essex Police regarding where a co-located Community Safety Hub should be situated

##### **7.2 Legal**

Implications verified by: **Martin Hall**  
**Solicitor / Housing Team Leader**

There are no legal implications arising from the report.

##### **7.3 Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: **Natalie Warren**  
**Community Development and Equalities  
Manager**

There are no negative implications on diversity and equality. With a focus on priority of hate crime closer working can only support improved equality for the residents of Thurrock

7.4 **Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

Improved working on the community safety priorities will have a positive bearing on Thurrock Councils duty to deliver on S17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

8. **Background papers used in preparing the report** (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

- Quarterly update report from Thurrock District Commander , Essex Police

9. **Appendices to the report**

- None

**Report Author:**

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