

13 July 2017		ITEM: 8
Cleaner, Greener and Safer Overview and Scrutiny Committee		
Thurrock Community Safety Partnership		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: No	
Report of: Julie Rogers, Chair of Community Safety Partnership		
Accountable Head of Service: Julie Rogers, Head of Environment		
Accountable Director: Steve Cox, Corporate Director of Environment and Place		
This report is Public		

Executive Summary

Performance:

All crime in Thurrock increased by 4.9% for the year 2016/17 when compared against the previous year with 13,058¹ crimes committed. Provisional data² for Thurrock indicates that Thurrock has a lower crime rate per 1,000 residents than our comparator community safety partnerships.

There were 5,442 incidents of Anti-social Behaviour in Thurrock in 2016/17 reported to Essex Police; a decrease of 2.9%, 165 fewer incidents, than in the previous year.

Priorities:

The Partnership Plan for 2016/17 identified 3 priorities from the partnership's Strategic Assessment. This allows 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 2016/2017 were:

1. Reduce Youth offending and re-offending of adults & young people

This will address volume crimes of domestic burglary and violent crime

2. To reduce harm to and safeguard vulnerable victims from: Domestic

abuse; Sexual offences including rape; Child sexual exploitation; Gang Related Violence; Hate crime; Anti-social behaviour; Cyber bullying; Honour

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

² IQuanta provisional data before it is finalised and published by the Office for National Statistics

based abuse and Serious Organised Crime encompassing Modern day slavery & Fraud where victims are vulnerable

3. Violent extremism: Delivering the Governments counter terrorism strategy – Prevent locally.

There is one change to our priorities for 2017/18: Serious Organised Crime encompassing Modern day slavery and Human trafficking to reflect the changes to this agenda nationally.

Police and Crime Plan:

The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) within the 2016 Police and Crime Plan has set out 7 focus areas:

- More local, visible and accessible policing
- Crack down on Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Break the cycle of domestic abuse
- Reverse the trend in serious violence
- Tackle gangs and organised crime
- Protect children and vulnerable people
- Improve safety on our roads

These priorities are reflected in our own local priorities.

1. Recommendation(s)

1.1 That Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the performance of the Thurrock Community Safety Partnership for the year 2016/17.

1.2 That Overview and Scrutiny committee support the 3 priorities of the Community Safety Partnership for the year 2017/18, which are:

- 1. Reduce Youth offending and re-offending of adults & young people to address volume crimes of violent crime, both with and without injury and Domestic burglary.**
- 2. To reduce harm to and safeguard vulnerable victims from: Domestic abuse, Sexual offences including rape, Child sexual exploitation and abuse (CSE), Gang related violence, Hate crime, Anti-social behaviour, Cyber bullying, Honour based abuse i.e. forced marriage and female genital mutilation and Serious Organised Crime in relation to Modern day slavery & Human Trafficking.**
- 3. Violent extremism (Prevent agenda).**

1.3 That Overview and Scrutiny committee note the links that have been made to support delivery of the PCC's Priorities.

2. Introduction and Background

2.1 This purpose of this report is to:

- i) Update the committee on the of delivery of the Thurrock Community Safety Partnership (TCSP) priorities for 2016/17;
- ii) Highlight the priorities and actions to deliver the priorities in 2017/18 based on the findings of the strategic assessment of 2016;

2.2 The priorities for 2016/17 focused on those more "hidden" crimes which often go unreported but have a huge impact on vulnerable victims and lead to long term health and well-being concerns and ultimately can result in safeguarding procedures.

The Partnership also continues to recognise 2 issues which are considered high risk but have insufficient information to fully understand the threat and the subsequent actions required. These are modern day slavery and child sexual exploitation.

The Partnership continue to raise awareness about these priorities and develop action plans to address. The Community Safety Partnership Board has agreed that these priorities should remain as is for the year 2017/18. The strategic assessment is based on the risk matrix, which considers varying factors such as public concern, seriousness, harm and cost, and has been used to validate and support these priorities continuing.

In addition the TCSP has a statutory duty for re-offending and all partners need to prioritise through the integrated offender management scheme those causing most harm to the community that we live in.

2.3 Reduce Re-offending

To support this priority Thurrock Community Safety Partnership will:

- Work with partners to have robust Integrated Offender Management scheme in Thurrock and develop action plan
- Ensure the cohort has priority offenders on it including young people
- Have robust performance monitoring and access to data to identify criminogenic need
- Prevention Advice and Support Services will use and utilise established services to support families, where ASB and offending behaviour has been identified.
- Promote access to restorative justice project
- Continue to develop young people at risk programme to deter young people from offending

2.3.1 Reduce Harm to and Safeguard Vulnerable Victims

To support this priority Thurrock Community Safety Partnership will:

Violence Against Women and Girls

- Develop a new VAWG strategy and action plan in response to National guidelines
- Analyse results of risk avert in our pilot secondary schools and refer promote to other schools
- Continue to work with safeguarding housing team to provide support for all victims of domestic abuse, including standard and medium risk
- Increase awareness raising amongst elderly community on domestic and sexual abuse
- Deliver preventative education programmes for learning disabled in regards to sexual abuse
- Raise awareness of honour based abuse to professionals

Anti-social behaviour

- High risk victims shared with multi agency partners through locality action groups to enable safeguarding and victim focused outcomes
- Communicate with residents though you said we did to promote work to address ASB
- Promote use of ASB case reviews
- Implement Public Spaces Protection Order in Grays

Hate crime

- High risk victims shared with multi agency partners through locality action groups to enable safeguarding and victim focused outcomes
- CSP analyst to provide quarterly problem profiles to identify scale of problem and develop ongoing responses
- Build, pride, responsibility and respect within communities, through hosting Tilbury festival
- Continue to promote the hate crime ambassador role and promote hate incident reporting centres through “stop it now” project
- Engage with communities through the Independent Advisory Group to Essex Police

Gang related Violence

- Conduct analytical review of drugs market
- Implement gangline project in Thurrock
- Monitor risk of acid attacks
- Increase awareness of gang related violence and links to CSE and missing persons across departments and agencies
- Raise awareness of “cuckooing” amongst vulnerable communities

Child Sexual Exploitation

- Ensure CSE embedded within gang related violence work
- Work with licensing to increase awareness amongst taxi providers and licensed premises
- Host joint conference with LSCB to raise awareness

Modern day Slavery

- Work with anti-slavery partnership coordinator to tackle in partnership
- Roll out “stop the trafficking” training to front line professionals

2.3.2 PREVENT Violent Extremism

To support this priority Thurrock Community Safety Partnership will:

- Continue to raise awareness with the community and professionals and links to safeguarding
- Follow Channel processes and ensure fit for purpose
- Update our action plan in line with the latest local profile

2.4 The Community Safety Equality Impact Assessment has highlighted:

1. There is a need to focus on the vulnerable within our communities as they are at greater risk of serious harm
2. Older people are at greater risk of distraction burglary and rogue traders
3. Young people are at greater risk of sexual exploitation, cyber bullying, & gang related violence.
4. There is an under reporting of hate crime within the disabled, transgender, and sexual orientation communities
5. Learning disabled are at risk of being “cuckooed” in relation to gang violence
6. Females are more likely to be a victim of domestic abuse
7. There is a gap around information with regards to same sex domestic abuse victims.
8. Hot spot areas are Grays Riverside, South Ockendon and Tilbury Riverside and St Chads.

The structure of the partnership is in line with the priorities to ensure coordinated activity and will be further reviewed as we work with Essex police to develop our community safety partnership hub.

3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options

- 3.1 The recommendations are based on the following information with regards to crime:

Summary of crime performance for 1/4/16 to 31/3/17

Crime	Total crimes	No. change	% change
Burglary in dwelling	727	+ 28	+ 4%
Racially / Religiously aggravated	192	+ 54	+ 39%
Robbery	144	+ 28	+24%
Sexual offences	243	- 5	- 2%
Vehicle offences	1833	+ 146	+8.7%
Violence against the person	3266	+ 231	+ 7.6%

- 3.2 In the wake of Brexit and the Paris terror attacks we saw a marked increase in reported hate crime locally. This has not currently been replicated following the recent terrorist attacks in England.

Violence Against the Person has seen a rise across the force. This is attributed in part to the inclusion of malicious communications in this category and increased efficiency in the recording of these crimes following review.

- 3.3 Trend analysis, which formed part of the research to develop these delivery plans, confirmed that whilst reported levels of ASB continue to fall, reported crime is increasing, particularly the categories of violence against the person; vehicle offences; and robbery, however we performed well in comparison to Essex.

District	% change in Crime	District	% change in Crime
Harlow	-0.5%	Basildon	8.0%
Malden	3.5%	Castlepoint	9.3%
Rochford	4.1%	Tendring	13.7%
Thurrock	4.9%	Epping	15.8%
Colchester	5.0%	Chelmsford	16.4%
Southend	5.5%	Brentwood	16.7%
Braintree	7.2%	Uttlesford	21.5%

4. Reasons for Recommendations

- 4.1 The Thurrock Community Safety Partnership remains committed, through its members, to working with the PCC to develop and implement innovative programmes to tackle crime, keep our communities safe and improve support for victims. This will need to be undertaken against continuing challenges to funding and resourcing within our partner organisations.

Each of our Priorities is supported by action plans to drive activity, progress of which will be carefully monitored by the partnership

- 4.2 Whilst developing individual action plans on hidden harms impacting young people; specifically gang related violence; CSE; on line safety; and Prevent it is important to recognise that there is a common theme in that the young people impacted by these crimes, sometimes as offenders, are themselves vulnerable due to a variety of factors including substance misuse; school exclusion; going missing from home; and exposure to domestic abuse.
- 4.3 Whilst much progress has been already made, the Partnership is determined to continue to raise awareness and encourage the reporting of hate crime and is working with Essex Police and Victim Support to re-energise the “stop the hate” project through hate crime ambassadors and incident reporting centres.

4.4 Our multi-agency groups, set up to tackle operational issues around crime, offenders and anti-social behaviour continue to deliver improvements in community safety for our residents, in particular our most vulnerable through close working with adult safeguarding teams.

4.5 Similarly, emphasis will continue to be given to raising awareness of violence against women and girls with the development of a new VAWG strategy and action plan to deliver it.

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

5.1 The strategic assessment in identifying the 3 priorities took into account community concerns highlighted in the Thurrock Council resident's survey 2016 and the partnership will take action to address the concerns raised over groups hanging around on street corners, people using and dealing drugs and being drunk or rowdy in public places.

5.2 The priorities and delivery plan were signed off by all partners within the Community Safety Partnership

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

6.1 The Thurrock Community Safety Partnership is central to delivering Thurrock Council's strategic objective to: Build pride, responsibility and respect

6.2 The CSP action plan links closely to and supports delivery of Essex's domestic abuse commissioning strategy 2015-2020

7. Implications

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by: **Laura Last**
Corporate Finance

The CSP has a grant from the Police and Crime Commissioner of £24,976, a reduction of 30% on last year, and an £18,347 contribution from Thurrock Council.

These funds have all been allocated to support delivery of the priorities

There are no financial implications from this report.

7.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Adam Rulewski**
Litigation and Prosecutions Barrister

By s.17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Local Authorities are under a duty to prevent crime and disorder in their area. This report supports that objective.

7.3 Diversity and Equality

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

Our Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has been refreshed following the strategic assessment and identified the following:

1. There is a need to focus on the vulnerable within our communities as they are at greater risk of serious harm.
2. Older people are at greater risk of distraction burglary and rogue traders.
3. Young people are at greater risk of sexual exploitation, cyber bullying, & serious youth violence.
4. There is an under reporting of hate crime within the disabled, transgender, and sexual orientation communities.
5. Learning disabled are At risk of being “cuckooed” in relation to gang violence.
6. Females are more likely to be a victim of domestic abuse.
7. There is a gap around information with regards to same sex domestic abuse victims.
8. Hot spot areas are Grays Riverside, South Ockendon and Tilbury Riverside and St Chads.

This has been taken into consideration within our delivery plans.

7.4 **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

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):

- Partnership Strategic assessment 2016
- Partnership Delivery Plan
<https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/community-safety-partnership/thurrock-community-safety-partnership>
- Police and Crime Plan www.essex.pcc.police.uk/priorities-for-essex/police-and-crime-plan/

9. Appendices to the report

None – see links above

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