

20 September 2019		ITEM:10
Health and Wellbeing Board		
Thurrock Community Safety Partnership Update		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: Non Key	
Report of: Michelle Cunningham – Community Safety Partnership Manager		
Accountable Assistant Director: Daren Spring, Assistant Director for Street Scene and Leisure		
Accountable Director: Julie Rogers, Director of Environment and Highways		
This report is Public		

Executive Summary

This report provides Health and Wellbeing Board the opportunity to review the performance, both qualitative and quantitative, of the Thurrock Community Safety Partnership (TCSP) in 2018/19 and provides insight into the priorities for the Partnership for 2019/20.

1. Recommendation(s)

- 1.1 That Health and Wellbeing Board note the performance of the Thurrock Community Safety Partnership for the year 2018/19**
- 1.2 That Health and Wellbeing Board support the 4 priorities of the Community Safety Partnership for the year 2019/20, which are:**
 1. Tackling Offending
 2. Violence and Vulnerability
 3. Local Community and Visibility
 4. Counter Extremism and Terrorism
- 1.3 That Health and Wellbeing Board recognise the links that have been made to Thurrock’s Health and Well-being strategy.**
- 1.4 That Health and Wellbeing Board he requirement to work collaboratively across Essex on the Police and Fire Crime Commissioners Violence and Vulnerability framework.**

2. Introduction and Background

- 2.1 All crime in Thurrock increased by 19.9% for the year 2018/19, when compared with the previous year, with a total of 17,271¹ crimes committed. This is a consistent theme across Essex with Essex Police reporting an 18.3% change in crime rates. It should be noted that some of this reported increase is attributable to the change in recording rules, particularly in relation to violent crime. N.B. national data is not yet published
- 2.2 There were 4,546² incidents of Anti-social Behavior (ASB) reported to Essex Police in Thurrock in 2018/19; this is illustrating a decrease of 10.4%, 527 fewer recorded incidents, than in the previous year. This compares favorably to Essex, reporting a 5.9% decrease in ASB.
- 2.3 The reporting of an increase in recorded crime, in particularly violent crime substantiates the concerns being raised by partners and communities throughout the year, however the decrease in reported ASB does not correlate with what communities are telling us and confirms that a continued focus on police reporting is required.
- 2.4 The National perception, as measured by the Crime survey³, of people saying that crime has gone up has increased annually since 2016. This is in line with public perception of Thurrock residents and is attributable to concerns over lack of visibility of Police. This is being addressed through the increase in Community Policing Team and the new Town Centre teams which are funded through the Police and Fire Crime Commissioner (increase in policing precept). Through this additional funding there are now 17 Community Policing Officers (including 2 children and young people officers), 7 Town Team Officers and 3 Sergeants. Whilst the increase in reporting is of Local and National concern it is envisaged that through the increased funding residents will start to see a positive impact. The Police Public Perception survey results are showing a quarterly increase in confidence in policing in Thurrock.
- 2.5 The Partnership Plan for 2018/19 identified 3 priorities from the partnership's Strategic Assessment. This allowed the opportunity 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.

¹ . As recorded and reported by Essex Police statistics

² As recorded and reported by Essex Police statistics

³www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/adhocs/010241perceptionsofchangingcrimelvelsatanationalandlocallevelbyrollingquartersyearendingmarch2016toyearendingmarch2019

The priorities for 2018/2019 were:

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

With a focus on the priority of Violent Crime with Injury

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

- a. **Domestic Abuse**
- b. **Sexual Offences, including Rape**
- c. **Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse**
- d. **Gang Related Violence**
- e. **Hate Crime**
- f. **Anti-Social Behaviour**
- g. **Cyber Bullying**
- h. **Honour Based Abuse i.e. Forced Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation**
- i. **Serious Organised Crime in relation to Modern Day Slavery & Human Trafficking.**

3. Violent Extremism: Delivering the Governments Counter Terrorism Strategy, 'Prevent', locally.

2.6 The priorities for 2019/20 have been refreshed in line with the findings of our strategic assessment and as a result, Thurrock Community Safety Partnership (CSP) will focus on four core priorities which will all support the Chief Constables vision with regards to a focus on the four V's, namely:

- Violence
- Vulnerability
- Visibility
- Victims

2.7 In delivering the four identified priorities the Community Safety Partnership will ensure that there is a Victim centered approach toward:

1. Tackling Offending

- Preventing youth offending
- Targeting repeat and prolific offenders
- Reducing victims of burglary

2. Violence and Vulnerability

- Tackle violence with injury
- Tackle gang related activity and offensive weapons
- Ensure a coordinated approach to safeguard against gangs and child criminal exploitation
- Support all victims of domestic abuse, sexual offences including rape, child exploitation and abuse, stalking and honour based abuse i.e.

forced marriage and female genital mutilation and target the perpetrators of those offences

- Tackle Violence Against Women and Girls in line with current strategy 2017/20

3. Local Community and Visibility

- Identify and tackle patterns, trends and hot spots for anti-social behaviour through increased visibility and enforcement
- Reduce harm to and safeguard victims from hate crime
- Community engagement

4. Counter Extremism and Terrorism

- Preventing violent extremism locally

2.8 In identifying these priorities we recognise the changing world we live in and will be closely monitoring any impact that the development of Thurrock's night time economy may have. We will be reviewing and refreshing the Violence Against Women and Girls strategy in 2020 to encompass all gender related abuse.

2.9 The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) must pay due regard to the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) priorities which are laid out within the 2016/20 Police and Crime Plan which sets out 7 focus areas:

- More local, visible and accessible policing
- Crack down on 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

3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options

Victim Based Crime Crime Type	Offences			
	2017/8	2018/9	# diff.	% diff.
Violence Against the Person	3940	5696	1756	44.6
Violence with injury	1297	1476	179	13.8
Violence without injury	1721	2257	536	31.1
Sexual Offences	315	344	29	9.2
Robbery	205	244	39	19.0
Burglary (all types)	1238	1134	-104	-8.4
Vehicle Offences (incl. Interference)	2012	2341	329	16.4
Theft ⁵	3219	3388	169	5.3
Criminal Damage incl. Arson	1652	1801	149	9.0
Racial/Religiously Aggravated Offences	185	212	27	14.6
Possession of Weapons	119	170	51	42.9

Summary of crime performance for 1/4/18 to 31/3/19 compared to 2017/18⁴:

- 3.1.1 There continues to be a rise in Violence Against the Person (44.6%), of which 38.2% is domestic related (2176 incidents). This is comparable to an increase across Essex of 39.4%. The increase in possession of weapons is a worrying trend and is borne out by those coming into the Youth Criminal Justice System.
- 3.1.2 Whilst vehicle crime overall has increased there has been a 3% reduction in theft from a vehicle.
- 3.1.3 The increase in racial/religious offences follows a reduction seen in the previous year, however hate crime remains under reported. Based on the 2015/16, 2017/18 crime survey for England and Wales 53% of hate crime was reported to the Police⁶.
- 3.1.4 There were 6 case reviews of ASB requested in the year to March 2019, of which 1 met the threshold. This was successfully resolved through a house move.
- 3.1.5 The priorities for 2018/19 continued to focus on “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 lead to safeguarding procedures. In relation to gang related violence, there has been an increase in vulnerable person’s property being “taken over” (cuckooed) for profit.

⁴ As provided by Essex Police from STORM data

⁵ Including theft from person, of a pedal cycle, shoplifting and other

⁶ Home Office Hate Crime Report England and Wales 2017/2018

- 3.1.6 The partnership continues to raise awareness of these crimes within the community and has action plans, which are continuously reviewed, in place to address.
- 3.1.7 Residents, through forums, local Councillors and community engagement events, continue to tell us that whilst recorded ASB has fallen in the year, this is not the perception of residents. To address this funding has been made available through Council surplus in 18/19 to support the Council and Police with additional operations and resources to address ASB and gang related violence. There is an ongoing challenge to encourage reporting through a number of channels to either the Police, Council or anonymously to Crimestoppers.
- 3.1.8 The TCSP also has a statutory duty for re-offending and all partners are required to prioritise, through the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) Scheme, those causing most harm to the community. The reduction seen in burglary can in part be attributed to the work of the IOM team in Thurrock, crime prevention advice provided to residents (including sheltered housing tenants) about distraction burglary, improved security measures through Well Homes, target hardening and improvements to enhance residents security, as well as the use of CCTV and the ongoing contribution from use of ANPR cameras, activity of Neighbourhood Watch and Active Citizens.
- 3.1.9 The revised priorities for 2019/20 have a greater emphasis on Violence and Vulnerability, in particular in relation to tackling gang related activity and offensive weapons, as well as addressing community concerns regarding ASB and visible policing.
- 3.1.10 The Strategic Assessment conducted in 2018 is based on a risk matrix which considers varying factors such as public concern, seriousness, harm and cost, and has been used to validate these priorities.

3.2 Activity to deliver on priorities 2018/19

3.2.1 Re-Offending

Partners worked together at a workshop to refresh the Integrated Offender Management Scheme in Thurrock, with a revised action plan driven by data from the Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC). This has led to an improved partnership response to support offenders.

Thurrock has made 38 referrals to the Restorative Justice Service between April and January.

Youth at Risk programme has been delivered in 5 schools, to 60 of our most vulnerable pupils.

3.2.2 Violence Against Women and Girls

A Coordinator has been recruited to develop our local response to the National strategy. This has improved governance and partnership working.

Thurrock hosted J9 training with 153 attendees including business representatives.

SERICC were commissioned to develop a similar training programme for Sexual Abuse with 173 people attending our “Challenging Myths Changing Attitude Training”.

3.2.3 Hate Crime

There have been 25 referrals to our Locality Action Groups with actions in place to safeguard victims.

Pop Up community engagement events were held to promote reporting in 2 hot spot areas.

Awareness raising was added to our Prevent training with 120 attendees.

All Waste Operatives, Environmental Supervisors and Managers attended an awareness raising session, in response to incidents reported.

3.2.4 Child Sexual Exploitation

Training has been delivered to all licensed taxi drivers in Thurrock and is now being rolled out to hotel premises.

3.2.5 Gang related Violence

Gangline delivered gang awareness in 6 schools and over 200 professionals attended their training.

Crucial crew included knife crime awareness sessions to 1100 year 6 pupils 11 injunctions were secured against members of the C17 gang alongside 2 criminal behaviour orders. A further 2 have been obtained in 2019.

Additional funding supported the Op Raptor Team, enabling them to conduct 14 proactive patrols and enforcement of C17 injunctions, 1 covert operation with 10 officers, and a joint operation with the fraud team which resulted in 30 arrests and 6 breaches.

3.2.6 **Violent Extremism**

Prevent awareness workshops were delivered to 120 professionals.

The prevent duty toolkit has been completed and the action plan refreshed to reflect the learning from the training.

The Counter Terrorism Local Profile is being disseminated as appropriate and the risk assessment and action plan updated accordingly.

The Channel Panel has been refreshed and new process of referrals adopted.

3.2.7 **Anti-Social Behaviour**

Following concerns raised by residents, the Council allocated funding to encourage reporting and to support the activities of Op Raptor to tackle gang related violence and to develop initiatives to address anti-social behaviour.

Engagement with residents, partners from Police, Housing, Youth Services, PASS and community safety has resulted in a proposal being developed to address ASB in the borough through:

- Target Hardening areas to create barriers to causes of ASB
- Operations to increase visibility and enforcement
- Prevention to work with young people at risk of causing ASB, and;
- Engagement with residents

Essex Police completed additional hours of high visibility policing operations in Purfleet, Tilbury, Stanford Le Hope, Aveley and South Ockendon to combat ASB and for the period 1st October 2017 to 30th September 2018 they issued:

- 78 Community Protection Warnings,
- 6 Community Protection Notices and
- 2 Criminal Behaviour Orders

Improvements to CCTV to address ASB have been made on the Garrison Estate, in Derwent Parade and Seabrooke Rise

Enforcement of the Public Spaces Protection Order in Grays High Street, improved CCTV and additional resourcing of Op Raptor has led to a 44% reduction in ASB and 16% reduction in violent crime in Clarence St, The Mall, High Street and George St, between 2018 and 2017. This was supported by joint patrols of Essex Police Officers and Thurrock Environmental Enforcement Officers throughout the borough with a focus on Grays and Tilbury.

3.3 Thurrock Council now have four Quadrant Officers in place and are able to work effectively throughout the borough. The team attend to reported Environmental crime daily and are visible throughout the borough including completing area patrols. The Council's Environmental Enforcement Officers

and ASB Officers have now been accredited under a Home Office initiative that enables the Chief of Police for Essex to designate limited police powers to employees of non-police organisation, who are in a community safety role and contribute towards community safety while maintaining a high profile enforcement presence on the streets. To achieve this the officers were required to undergo training and pass assessments which were conducted by Essex police.

3.3.1 Under the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme, Environmental Enforcement officers and the ASB Officers can now use the following powers:

- Power to issue penalty notices for disorder
- Power to issue fixed penalty notices for cycling on a footpath
- Power to require giving of name and address
- Power to deal with begging
- Power to require name and address for anti-social behaviour
- Power to require persons aged under 18 to surrender alcohol
- Power to seize tobacco from a person aged under 16
- Power to issue FPN for persons believed to be causing harassment, alarm or distress
- Consumption of alcohol by a person under 18 or allowing such consumption

3.3.2 Last year 3,011 service requests were issued to officers who investigated and responded and resulted in some of the following:

- 166 Fixed Penalty Notices [FPN's] were issued because of fly tipping incidents – a total of £66,400
- 77 vehicles were assessed and deemed to meet the criteria for abandonment – a total of £15,400. Of these 14 vehicles were removed by our contractor
- 132 Community Protection Warnings (CPW) and 13 Community Protection Notices (CPN) were issued in respect of various nuisances that were causing a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those living in the locality
- 61 unauthorised encampments were reported, with the majority dealt with by the council in partnership using the court process

3.3.3 A number of businesses were found to be non-compliant with their waste duty of care resulting in FPN's being issued totally £5,100.

3.3.4 Officers are now equipped with both digital radios and body worn cameras. This has enabled them to work in much safer environment especially when lone working. It also gives them easier access to other officers in different teams whilst also being able to capture evidence at the scene.

3.3.5 The additional funding also supported Op Caesar to combat motorcycle nuisance in Thurrock which saw in nine months a 50% reduction through

Essex Police carrying out 120 actions against people carrying out these kinds of offences including;

- Six people arrested for various offences;
- 25 warnings issued about offences;
- Four letters sent to insurance companies reporting fraud;
- 41 people reported for having no insurance, driving without a licence and careless riding;
- Eight people receiving tickets for vehicle defects;
- 11 vehicles seized, two stolen vehicles recovered and one house searched;
- Six stop and search actions;
- One rider from South Ockendon banned and fined £1,040.

3.4 Work planned to deliver on priorities in 2019/20

3.4.1 Reduce Re-Offending

- Work with the Homeless Team to support access to housing through offenders and develop use of Well Homes project to support with intervention
- Develop work in children's social care to work with perpetrators of domestic abuse
- Support the Blue Light project to address alcohol as a high criminogenic need of our priority offenders
- Continue to promote restorative justice and improve positive outcomes

3.4.2 Tackle Gang Related Activity and Offensive Weapons

- Use the prevent, disrupt and enforce model to manage identified gang nominals who reside in Thurrock
- Continued use and enforcement of gang injunctions and Criminal Behaviour Orders
- Develop a plan to focus on criminal and sexual exploitation
- Develop and promote prevention & intervention programmes in schools
- Raise awareness of "cuckooing" amongst vulnerable communities

3.4.3 Tackle Violence against Women and Girls

- Refresh Thurrock VAWG action plan to reflect emerging trends and refresh our strategy in line with national changes.
- Continue to raise awareness of domestic abuse through J9 training
- Continue to raise awareness of sexual violence and abuse through Challenging Myths: Changing Attitudes training

- Support Thurrock Housing Safeguarding Team to obtain DAHA Accreditation; the benchmark for how housing providers should respond to domestic abuse in the UK
- Raise awareness of stalking with communities and professionals
- Engage with the community liaison officers within the Housing Safeguarding Team to deliver practical support to identified individuals requiring assistance

3.4.4 **Anti-social behaviour (ASB)**

- High risk victims shared with partners through our Locality Action Groups (LAGs) to enable safeguarding and victim focused outcomes
- Continue to enforce Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO's) in Grays and West Thurrock
- Direct visible out of hours patrols to address ASB hot spots
- Through the Park Engagement Officers deliver activities in the parks across the borough and become a visual presence, directly working with the community to improve behaviour
- Through Thurrock Council's Environmental Enforcement Officers we will have a visible presence to reduce litter, flyposting and fly tipping.
- Increased Policing in Thurrock, increasing visibility, in particular in Grays, Ockendon and Stanford Le hope where the 7 Town Centre Policing Officers have been allocated. .
- Joint tasking of Police and Environmental Enforcement Officers, in relation to CSP Objectives.
- Application for Unauthorised Encampment injunction.

3.4.5 **Hate Crime**

- Share high risk victims with partners through LAGs to enable safeguarding and victim focused outcomes
- Continue to engage with our diverse communities to build confidence to report
- Raise awareness of hate crime in schools
- Continue to promote the hate crime ambassador role and promote hate incident reporting centres through "stop it now" project

3.4.6 **Community Engagement**

- Host partnership Pop up events to engage with residents in hot spots
- Continue engagement with Essex Police through "Coffee with Cops"
- Work with CVS and community groups e.g. neighbourhood watch to promote the "Report it" campaign

3.4.7 Counter Extremism and Terrorism

- Identify local threats and monitor
- Encourage greater awareness and challenge within communities
- Safeguard those that are vulnerable to extremism
- Deliver appropriate intervention

3.5 The Community Safety Equality Impact Assessment has highlighted that there is a need to focus on the vulnerable within our communities as they are at greater risk of serious harm and that older people are at greater risk of distraction burglary and rogue traders. Young people are at greater risk of exploitation including sexual, trafficking, cyber bullying, radicalisation and gang related violence. Hate crime within the disabled, transgender and sexual orientation communities continue to have low rates of reporting. Learning disabled are at risk of “cuckooed” in relation to gang violence. Females are more likely to be a victim of domestic and sexual violence and abuse. There is also a gap around information about same sex domestic abuse victims.

3.6 The Thurrock Community Safety Partnership remains committed, through its members, to working with the PFCC to develop and implement innovative programmes to tackle crime, keep our communities safe and improve support for victims.

3.7 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, and particularly the categories of violence against the person; vehicle offences; and robbery, however burglary continues to show a reduction in offences.

3.8 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.

3.9 The biggest challenge facing the CSP continues to be to improve public confidence to continue to report community issues either to the Police, Council or anonymously to crimestoppers.

4. Reasons for Recommendation

4.1 The purpose of this report is to update the board on the delivery of the Thurrock Community Safety Partnership (TCSP) priorities for 2018/19 and highlight the priorities and actions to deliver the priorities in 2019/20 based on the findings of the strategic assessment of 2018.

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

5.1 N/A

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

6.1 The Thurrock Community Safety Partnership is central to delivering Thurrock Council's priority of:

People – a borough where people of all ages are proud to work and play, live and stay.

This means:

- High quality, consistent and accessible public services which are right first time
- Build on our partnerships with statutory, community, voluntary and faith groups to work together to improve health and wellbeing
- Communities are empowered to make choices and be safer and stronger together

6.2 The Health and Wellbeing Board agreed to amend Goal 2 of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy earlier this year and **Goal 2** is now *Healthier and Safer Environment*, however there are a number of areas that the CSP contribute to in ensuring residents of Thurrock are able to live healthier and safer.

6.3 The strategic assessment in identifying the 4 priorities took into account recent consultation with residents in some areas of the borough and it is our understanding that in many cases Anti-social behaviour is going unreported and therefore the reported reduction in ASB is not giving us an accurate picture.

7. Implications

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by: **Rosie Hurst**

Interim Senior Management Accountant

The CSP has a grant from the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner of £24,976, the same as last year and an £18,343 contribution from Thurrock Council. These funds have all been allocated to support delivery of the priorities.

A further £750K allocation of surplus funding 18/19 has been provided in response to resident concern and feedback, to tackle ASB and gang related violence across the borough over the next 3 years

The PFCC and partners have been successful in obtaining additional funds to support targeted work to tackle violence and vulnerability.

There are no financial implications from this report.

7.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Tim Hallam**
Acting Head of Law, Assistant Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer

There do not appear to be any direct legal implications arising from this report

7.3 Diversity and Equality

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

The Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has been refreshed following the Strategic Assessment and the gaps identified in 3.5 are addressed within the action plans.

7.4 Other implications (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder, or Impact on Looked After Children)

This report outlines the Council and its Partners commitment to ensuring they are delivering on Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act legislation.

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 2018
- Partnership Delivery Plan

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/

- ASB case review report:

www.thurrock.gov.uk/sites/default/files/assets/documents/asb-scr-2018-v01.pdf

9. Appendices to the report

- Essex Violence and Vulnerability framework

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