

REGENERATION, COMMUNITY AND CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

27 JUNE 2013

ANNUAL SCRUTINY OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Report from Neil Howlett, Community Safety Partnership Manager

Author Neil Howlett, Community Safety Partnership Manager

Summary

A presentation will be given by the Vice-Chairman of the Community Safety Partnership updating the committee with details of the outcomes of last year's priorities and issues for the forthcoming year.

1. Budget and Policy Framework

- 1.1 The crime and disorder scrutiny provisions of the Police and Justice Act 2006 took effect from 30 April 2009. A report to the Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 27 August 2009 outlined the effects including the need to scrutinise the activities of the Community Safety Partnership.
- 1.2 Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 requires every local authority to have a crime and disorder committee with the power to review, scrutinise, and make reports and recommendations regarding the functioning of responsible authorities. This Committee has been designated as the Council's crime and disorder Committee regarding the functioning of the responsible authorities that comprise the Community Safety Partnership.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is co-ordinated through the Partnership Office based at Medway Police Station, with specific responsibility for performance delivery of the Community Safety Plan.
- 2.2 The previous Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Customer Contact was the Chair of the Community Safety Partnership, comprising representatives from Medway Council, Kent Police, Medway Clinical

Commissioning Group (replacing NHS Medway), Kent Probation and Kent Fire and Rescue Service. Police and Crime Commissioners, unlike police authorities, are not responsible authorities under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The process to elect a new Chair will take place at the next meeting of the CSP Strategic Executive Group on July 11th 2013.

2.3 The current Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-2016 was adopted by Council on 25 April 2013 and identifies five priorities for the year. These priorities will each contribute to the safety of people of living, working or visiting Medway and are as follows:

- Tackle drug and alcohol abuse.
- Tackle ASB and enviro-crime.
- Reduce re-offending.
- Tackle domestic abuse.
- Reduce the Number of People Killed or Seriously Injured in Road Traffic Collisions.

3. Risk management

3.1. The recommendations in this report minimise the principal risks associated with the crime and disorder scrutiny powers by recognising the importance of constructive dialogue with the organisations making up the CSP and also the importance of co-ordinated and collaborative working.

3.2. There are reputational, environmental, economical and legal risks to the Council for not pro-actively pursuing an improvement in crime and disorder levels.

4. Legal and Financial Implications

4.1 There are no direct legal implications and the proposed Community Safety Plan can be contained within the current allocated budget.

4.2 The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has submitted her Police and Crime Plan, and has proposed for Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) to be allocated a budget to use for grant funding activities. Medway CSP will be given a total grant for 2013/14 of £118,369.

4.3 The PCC has stated that the purpose of this grant is to be used for one off community safety activities, rather than funding posts. This agreement will only cover this financial year only. There is no guarantee as to future funding. The PCC has also requested that they are provided with details on how this funding will be used to meet our priorities as well as the Policing and Crime Plan.

5. Recommendations

5.1. The Committee is asked to consider the performance of the Community Safety Partnership and delivery of the 2012/2013 Community Safety Plan and to

make recommendations that may be considered for incorporation into future activities of the Community Safety Partnership.

- 5.2 That in future years the Committee, at the end of the calendar year, scrutinise the annual strategic assessment, which then may result in changes to the CSP's priorities.
- 5.3 That senior members of the CSP should be invited to attend meetings of the Committee for the annual CSP report and other meetings where specific community safety issues are discussed throughout the year.

Lead officer contact

Daniel Kalley, Democratic Services Officer
Tel No: 01634 332715 Email: daniel.kalley@medway.gov.uk

Background papers

Community Safety Plan 2013–2016
Community Safety Action Plan 2013-2016
Crime and Disorder Act 1998
Police and Justice Act 2006
Crime and Disorder, Formulation and Implementation of Strategy, Regulations 2007
Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) (Amendment) Regulations 2011.
Localism Act 2011
Medway's Sustainable Communities Strategy 2010-2026