

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

10 April 2017

Is the final decision on the recommendations in this report to be made at this meeting?

Yes

Annual Review of the Community Safety Partnership

Final Decision-Maker	Overview and Scrutiny
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor Lynne Weatherly, Portfolio Holder for Communities and Wellbeing
Lead Director	Paul Taylor, Director of Change and Communities
Head of Service	Adam Chalmers, Head of Partnerships and Engagement
Lead Officer/Report Author	Terry Hughes, Community Safety Manager
Classification	Non-exempt
Wards affected	All Wards

This report makes the following recommendations to the final decision-maker:

1. That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes the content of the Community Safety Partnership Plan and fully endorses the work of the Community Safety Partnership; and
2. That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee highlights any areas of the Partnership's work that it would like to look at further.

This report relates to the following Five Year Plan Key Objectives:

- A Confident Borough

A review of crime and disorder in the borough and in particular the Community Safety Partnership Plan, ensures that effective scrutiny of the work undertaken by the responsible authorities within the Partnership takes place, and that community safety priorities are delivered.

Timetable	
<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Date</i>
Community Safety Partnership	9 February 2017
Management Board	1 March 2017
Communities CAB	22 March 2017
Overview & Scrutiny	10 April 2017
Cabinet	13 April 2017
Full Council	26 April 2017

Annual review of the Community Safety Partnership

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 require that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee shall meet to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other actions taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions as the Committee considers appropriate.
- 1.2 One of the functions of Council as the responsible authority is the production of an annual Community Safety Partnership Plan. Each year, prior to its presentation to Full Council, members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are presented with the Plan and given an opportunity to discuss its content, the work of the Partnership over the previous year and more broadly, to highlight any areas of crime and disorder in the borough which they feel should be looked at in more detail.

2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Tunbridge Wells Borough Council's Community Safety Partnership was set up in 2010 and is a multi-agency organisation that works to create strategies and practical solutions towards the reduction of crime and disorder in the borough. The Partnership comprises the following organisations:

- West Kent Police
- Kent Fire and Rescue Service
- NHS West Kent
- Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
- Kent Drug and Alcohol Action Team
- HM Court Services
- Kent County Council
- Police and Crime Commissioner
- Kent Probation
- Town and Country Housing Group
- Neighbourhood Watch

2.2 The responsible authorities within the Partnership are required by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to formulate and implement a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in the area. The strategy takes the form of the partnership plan. The annual review provides details of the Community Safety Partnership's priorities in 2017-18, as follows:

1. Domestic abuse
2. Road safety
3. Alcohol and substance misuse
4. Vulnerable victims

2.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee may additionally be interested in the following areas of community safety in the borough:

- Kent Police's ongoing work in dealing with gang crime and associated criminality.
- The partner organisations within the Community Safety Partnership, their independent and collective responsibilities, and the primary drivers that direct the Partnership's policies.
- Counter terrorism and current threat levels.
- Road Safety and the three E's (engineering, education and enforcement).
- The government's Devolution agenda and its potential impact on the role local authorities play in the structure of community safety.

3. AVAILABLE OPTIONS

3.1 The Committee could choose not to consider the report or endorse the recommendations. This would not be the preferred option for the reasons stated at 4.1 below.

3.2 The Committee could choose to consider the report and endorse the recommendations. Consideration of the Plan also provides an opportunity for Members to look at the work of the Community Safety Unit and its role within the Partnership.

4. PREFERRED OPTION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Option 3.2 is preferred. The Committee has a statutory requirement under the 2006 Police and Justice Act to act as the relevant Crime and Disorder Committee for the borough and consideration of the Community Safety Plan falls within the Committee's remit. This is also referred to in [part 3 of the Council's constitution 8.4.2.10](#)

4.2 Members are asked to comment on the work of the Community Safety Partnership and decide whether they wish to look further at any of the issues raised within the Plan or as a result of discussion at the meeting.

5. CONSULTATION RESULTS AND PREVIOUS COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

- 5.1 The Community Safety Partnership plan was considered by the Communities Cabinet Advisory Board on 22 March, prior to its presentation to Cabinet on 13 April and Full Council on 26 April. The Cabinet Advisory Board fully supported the Plan and the recommendations for the four priorities listed in 2.2 above.

6. NEXT STEPS: COMMUNICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION

- 6.1 The views and comments of Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be taken into account prior to the Plan's presentation to Full Council for adoption on 26 April 2017.

7. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AND IMPLICATIONS

Issue	Implications	Sign-off (name of officer and date)
Legal including Human Rights Act	The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 require that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee shall meet to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other actions taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions as the Committee considers appropriate.	Estelle Culligan, Interim Head of Mid-Kent Legal Partnership
Finance and other resources	There are no financial implications resulting from the recommendations in the report.	Jane Fineman, Head of Finance and Procurement
Staffing establishment	There are no staffing implications resulting from the recommendations in the report	Nicki Carter, Human Resources Manager
Community safety	The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is the responsible committee for the scrutiny of crime and disorder in the borough.	Terry Hughes, Community Safety Manager
Equalities	Decision-makers are reminded of the requirement under the Public Sector Equality Duty (s149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups, and (iii) foster	Sarah Lavallie, West Kent Equalities Officer

	<p>good relations between people from different groups. The decisions recommended through this paper could directly impact on end users. The priorities identified have due regard to the need to:</p> <p>Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment or victimisation for women and men who experience domestic abuse.</p> <p>Advance equality of opportunity (remove disadvantage) by focusing on reducing child road casualties as data shows children are disproportionately affected compared with other age groups.</p> <p>The strategic assessment has not identified any specific needs or disadvantage relating to the protected characteristics of ethnicity, disability, religion/belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy or maternity, marital or civil partnership status or gender reassignment. The strategic assessment has identified cross-cutting issues, in line with central government priorities, which will address issues that may affect people with protected characteristics, such as the safeguarding of children and young people and supporting <i>vulnerable victims</i>.</p>	
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8. REPORT APPENDICES

The following documents are to be published with this report and form part of the report:

- Appendix A: Community Safety Partnership Plan 2017-18