



**REPORT of
HEAD OF LEISURE AND LIVEABILITY**

to
**Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting as the
CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE
9 MARCH 2011**

MALDON COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP - UPDATE ON PROGRESS

[To view APPENDIX 1, please click here](#)

[To view APPENDIX 2, please click here](#)

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members on the position concerning the financial spending plans of the Maldon Community Safety Partnership (CSP) for the financial year 2011 / 12 and to provide an update on agreed priorities for 2011 / 12 and progress with the Strategic Assessment.

2. AREA FOR DECISION / ACTION

- 2.1 This report is for Members information.
- 2.2 Attached at **APPENDIX 1** is a copy of the Community Safety Partnership financial statement, as approved by the Responsible Authorities Group Strategy (RAGs) at its meeting of 17 February 2011.
- 2.3 A copy of the Basic Command Unit Fund spend to date and a copy of the expenditure proposals for the remainder of the financial year, as approved by RAGs at its meeting on 17 February 2011 will be circulated at the meeting as it is in the process of being updated.

3. LINKS WITH CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 This report fits with the Council's Corporate Objective 'Supporting an Active Local Economy' and 'Promoting Civic Pride' by helping to support initiatives which make our District a safer place to live and work.

4. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – On 16 December, 2010, the Council decided to end the Service Level Agreement for part funding of three Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) posts as part of the spending review. It is understood

from the Police that the numbers of PCSO's will not reduce in the short term following this decision. Officers also decided not to continue to fund the Youth Participation and Development Officer post when the contract expires on 31 March, 2011. The Community Safety Team will continue to work with young people through specific project work. A new project will commence during 2011 to engage young people with the democratic process of the Council. The Council is also working with Town and Parish Councils to provide Ranger Services in agreed areas such as Burnham-on-Crouch. Duties will include regular patrols to reduce incidents of anti social behaviour and dog fouling. The Ranger Service works closely with the Community Safety Team and Police. All Rangers have accredited status.

- (ii) **Impact on Risk** – There is no risk attached to this report for the Council in the current financial year.
- (iii) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – External resources are as yet unconfirmed to meet commitments within the financial year 2011 / 12. It is thought that the decision upon Area Based Grant Allocation will be made at or soon after the Safer Essex Meeting to be held on 10 March 2011 but that some top slicing to fund countywide interventions may occur. Provision has been made within existing 2011 / 12 estimates to continue to fund the Community Safety Development Officer and the Anti Social Behaviour Coordinator until the external financial position is made clear.
- (iv) **Impact on the Environment** – The objectives as included within the Strategic Assessment are delivered by the Community Safety Partnership and help to keep the Maldon District a low crime area.

5. CONCLUSIONS

5.1 Partnership priorities as agreed at the RAGs Meeting on 17 February 2011 are as follows:-

- Maintain / reduce low levels of crime and anti social behaviour
- Reduce the harm caused by alcohol and drug misuse
- Reduce fear of crime and anti social behaviour
- To reduce road traffic collisions

5.2 The Maldon Community Safety Partnership has allocated funding to meet the commitments within the Delivery Plan for the current financial year to 31 March 2011. Essex County Council has proposed changes to the way in which the Area Based Grant (ABG) is allocated in the next financial year (2011 / 12). Towards the end of last year the Home Office indicated funding would be reduced. Since that time RAGs has been considering how to re shape the partnership to deal with this eventuality. A letter from the Essex County Council Portfolio holder, Councillor Mrs Tracey Chapman, was received on 16 February 2011 and is the most recent communication concerning allocation of ABG at the time of writing, a copy of which is attached at **APPENDIX 2**.

- 5.3 Work on the updating of the Strategic Assessment and Annual Delivery Plan for 2011 / 12 is almost complete and a draft of these documents has been circulated to partners for comment, and will be put to the RAGs meeting on 22 March 2011 for approval.
- 5.4 Members are reminded of the outcome of the joint Peer Review between Maldon and Chelmsford Community Safety Partnerships. Measures suggested in this review such as streamlining of numbers of sub groups and reduction of numbers of objectives have been taken on board. Also, as part of the streamlining process a shared Service Level Agreement for the provision of a part time Community Safety Partnership Manager is currently under negotiation for 2011 / 12, with identified savings being put back into the Maldon Community Safety Partnership to continue to fund frontline posts namely Anti Social Behaviour Coordinator and Community Safety Development Officer. In the meantime, the interim Management arrangements are continuing to cover the vacant Community Safety Partnership Manager post, funded by this authority until 31 March 2011.

6. RECOMMENDATION

That the report be noted.

Background Papers: Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment and Delivery Plan 2010 / 11 and 2011 / 12; Joint Peer Review Safer Chelmsford and Maldon Community Safety Partnership; Letter from Councillor Mrs Tracey Chapman received 16 February 2011.

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