



REPORT of DIRECTOR OF SERVICE DELIVERY

**to
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (MEETING AS THE CRIME AND
DISORDER COMMITTEE)
13 MARCH 2019**

MALDON DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 Members are asked to note the progress of activities undertaken by the Maldon Community Safety Partnership (CSP) since the last meeting held on 29 November 2019 and be aware of the strategic priorities which are being proposed by the partnership for 2019/20.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members review and comment on the new current progress and the success of the initiatives undertaken by the partnership to date.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

3.1 Statutory Duties

- 3.1.1 The new strategic priorities are listed below following the completion of the strategic assessment and pending endorsement by the Responsible Authorities Group (RAG) on 6 March 2019. Officers have been supported by an analyst from Essex Police for this strategic assessment and partners have been involved in the process to determine the new priorities by using a crime risk matrix, crime severity scores and public perception. These priorities will be confirmed to Essex Police and the Office of Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (OPFCC), and reflect priorities already identified in the current Police and Crime Plan and Essex Police Crime Prevention Strategy. It should be noted that reducing reoffending remains a statutory function for all community safety partnerships and is embedded in the priorities listed below:

- Tackling violent crime (with an emphasis on gangs, organised crime, drug trafficking and domestic abuse)
- Driving down antisocial behaviour in public places (with an emphasis on youth nuisance and improved partnership visibility)
- Identifying and supporting vulnerable people (with an emphasis on emotional health and wellbeing, mental health and a proactive approach to those at risk of exploitation, domestic abuse and sexual offences)

- Ensuring the implementation and delivery of the Essex Police rural crime strategy
 - Promoting road safety and challenging irresponsible driving (with an emphasis on speeding and street racing)
- 3.1.2 These priorities will contribute to the Council’s Corporate Goal of “Helping communities to be safe, active and healthy” which are highlighted as activities in the business plan for the directorate for 2018/19 and will feature in the new corporate plan for 2019/23. Each activity has a clear timescale and milestone to enable performance monitoring of each project associated to the activity. Activities are reported quarterly on the TEN performance management system and monthly through the community safety partnership hub tasking meetings.
- 3.1.3 The current Essex Police performance figures for the rolling year to 31 January 2019 (compared to the same period last year) showed an increase in all crime by **24.7%** (541 more offences) and a decrease in anti-social behaviour by **12.2%** (105 less incidents). It should be noted that there has been an increase in all crime in Essex by 17%. A summary of the crime profile for Maldon will be presented at the meeting by Chief Inspector Gerry Parker. A copy of the Essex Police force performance summary for Maldon and the Essex comparison are attached as **APPENDICES 1 and 2**. Some more local context of the issues surrounding these crime increases will be given at the meeting.
- 3.1.4 Works continue around the Prevent agenda to support the current local action plan and statutory responsibilities. A SET (Southend, Essex and Thurrock) policy, guidance and an Essex Prevent Action Plan have been completed and are monitored on a quarterly basis at the Prevent Multi-Agency Group with the last meeting being held on 27 February 2019. Officers attended a Prevent Development Day in June 2018 which involved an excellent range of speakers who focused on radicalisation from several different perspectives. The Community Safety Manager also attended an Operation Explorer training event on 21 January 2019. Officers continue to engage with communities through the recently refreshed Independent Advisory Group which meets every two months with the last meeting being held on 21 January 2019. This acts as a good forum to discuss community tensions, hate crime and policing interventions such as stop and search, and gives a voice to underrepresented communities.
- 3.1.5 Members will recall that the partnership that two domestic homicides had occurred and both incidents met the criteria of a Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) under Section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004. These reviews are now concluded with final reports being sent to the Home Office quality assurance panel which met in July 2018. Feedback for one of these reviews has been received from the panel requesting a few minor amendments but approving the report for publication. This was subsequently published on the Southend and Thurrock Domestic Abuse Partnership (SETDAB) website in October 2018. The second review was returned from the Home Office requiring further works with a resubmission date set for 31 December 2018 which was duly met. The more recent DHR (third) from April 2017 is being managed under the new centralised process with Essex County Council (ECC) and was presented to the Home Office panel in June 2018 under a new format. This new centralised process is working very well and has enabled staff to

dedicate more time to ensuring that the partnership addresses local issues which impact on the district.

3.2 **Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Update**

- 3.2.1 Officers to continue to work in partnership with the OPFCC on several current initiatives such as violence and vulnerability, integrated offender management, community safety hubs and rural crime. The OPFCC recently circulated a violence and vulnerability framework on behalf of Safer Essex which was subsequently approved, and the future delivery of the framework was discussed at the Safer Essex meeting held on 26 September 2018. The OPFCC facilitated the launch of the Essex Police Crime Prevention Strategy on 12 November 2018. In addition to this, a rural crime advice day was held on 14 November 2018 at Slamsey's Farm in Braintree District. The Maldon Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) public meeting was held on 8 January 2019 at Maldon Town Hall and was attended by approximately thirty members of the public where a variety of community safety issues were discussed. Roger Hirst and his colleagues also provided a briefing for elected members at the council offices on 7 February 2019 which was attended and provided some active debate.
- 3.2.2 The OPFCC confirmed that core funding for 2018 /19 will be **£12,527** with the sum of **£1,708** being top sliced for the centralised DHR process (**£14,235** in total). Members should note that the Commissioner opted to increase the policing precept for Council Tax in 2018/19 following extensive consultation with a large element of this funding going towards community policing (150 officers across the force). This equated to twelve additional officers for the district policing area of which six officers are being deployed to Maldon District specifically for local response and the other six being into the community policing team. The Police, Fire & Crime Panel has also approved a further increase in the precept for 2019/20 which again will see a further increase in key policing staff across several areas. A copy of the presentation provided by Roger Hirst at the recent briefing highlights where these staff will be deployed and is attached as **APPENDIX 3**. The OPFCC community safety development fund is open for bids at present and officers have supported several voluntary groups to make a bid for funding. The OFPCC has made a bid on behalf of Essex to the Home Office early intervention youth fund which closed in September 2018. An announcement was made earlier this month to confirm that the bid was successful and £664,000 has been allocated to Essex over the next eighteen months to address youth violence. This will see a central Violence and Vulnerability unit set up in the new community safety partnership at Chelmsford City Council in March 2019.

3.3 **Community Safety Partnership Hub**

- 3.3.1 The community safety hub for Maldon and Chelmsford meets on the first Tuesday of each month and has a tasking process which links to the current priorities of the community safety partnership. This group now has a much wider partnership focus with new members attending from social care, youth offending, probation services and the children's health and wellbeing service. Maldon representative at these meetings is from community safety and protection officers, and the chair of Maldon NHW. Sub groups of the partnership continue to meet on a regular basis and work streams for each individual group are effectively impacting on various areas of community safety. The community policing team will be moving to offices at

Chelmsford City Council in March 2019 which will ensure better partnership working and improved performance with Maldon officers “hot desking” within the new hub when appropriate. The partnership has had a clear focus on organised crime and the impact which it has on the district. Operation Overwatch was deployed in July and October 2018, and February 2019 which resulted several arrests through intelligence led enforcement and effective use of stop and search powers. Regarding antisocial behaviour, current “hot spots” for the district include Promenade Park, Southminster and Tollesbury, and effective partnership action is being taken to address the youth nuisance and low-level antisocial behaviour such as issuing eight community protection warning notices to individuals with strict conditions about their future behaviour. Operation Enlightenment commenced on 1 February 2019 which has seen police officers allocated to all three secondary schools serving in Maldon District including the alternative provision unit in Heybridge. This will provide a valuable resource for early intervention within the school environment and help tackle poor behaviour and vulnerability. Officers continue to support the work of the Essex Police Gypsy, Traveller & Rural Engagement Team (GTRET) to address rural crime and a day of action was held on 8 November 2018 focussing predominantly on the Dengie peninsular.

- 3.3.2 Officers continue to facilitate a group which has been set up to support schools in tackling anti-social behaviour and vulnerability with pupils displaying risky behaviours. This is working well and data sharing, and intelligence is much more effective. This acts as a valuable early intervention tool and hopefully will correct bad behaviour before escalation. The forum currently case manages twenty-seven young people and receives strong attendance from partner agencies and schools. Maldon CSP will be working much closer with ECC Youth Offending Services and will be using a new framework deal with young people at risk of exploitation during the coming year. Officers are also attending groups with registered social landlords and mental health practitioners to tackle anti-social behaviour. We continue to host the Maldon and Burnham action groups which have a case log of seventeen and facilitate the Maldon Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) meetings every two months which get good attendance. A new watch is currently being developed in Mayland.

3.4 **Progress on Action Plans**

- 3.4.1 The partnership has delivered education and interventions for a wide range of areas for this current year which has included the following work.
- Crucial Crew for Year 6 students (543 students);
 - Violence & Vulnerability Training by St Giles Trust (1500 students);
 - Gangs and County Lines training delivered at Ormiston Rivers Academy and a professionals/parent’s session
 - Young Driver Safety Event with Essex Fire & Rescue Service (EFRS) and Safer Essex Roads Partnership (SERP);
 - TRU Cam delivered throughout Maldon District;
 - 3PR School Safety Initiative adopted by primary schools;
 - Working with SERP to address speeding concerns adjacent a school;
 - Social Landlord Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Training – Tools & Powers;

- Firebreak with Essex Fire & Rescue Services (delivered in February 2019);
- Tollesbury Youth Club (launch March 2019);
- Street Art Project at Burnham Skate Ramps;
- J9 Domestic Abuse Training (staff and partnership staff, further sessions delivered in January 2019);
- Secondary School Education on alcohol, drugs and psychoactive substances for Year 7 (300 students);
- Get Ready for Summer;
- Just Play Football Initiative (Maldon and now extended to Burnham);
- Stay Safe this Summer;
- Collaborative Enquiry by Mid Essex Children's Partnership Board at a secondary and primary school in Maldon District;
- Design Council Public Sector Programme (focus on public health);
- Targeted multi-agency engagement and awareness project planned for the Dengie w/c 10 June 2019;
- Action Counters Terrorism (ACT) Training by Essex Police.

3.4.2 The partnership has recently commissioned St Giles Trust (www.stgilestrust.org.uk) to undertake education, awareness and mentoring within secondary schools to highlight the risk of young people becoming criminally or sexually exploited by gangs or organised crime groups. This work, the SOS project, was delivered to the Plume School in April 2018 and was delivered to Ormiston Rivers Academy in October 2018 and includes education sessions for parents, students and teachers. Officers continue to carry out educational events. This included the delivery of Stay Safe this Summer to 300 Year 7 students in July 2018 focussing on alcohol and drug awareness (including psychoactive substances). Get Ready for Summer was held at the Promenade Park on 26 July 2018 and included a wide range of both statutory and voluntary partners. Crucial Crew was delivered to 553 Year 6 students between 17 - 20 September 2018 and included workshops on fire safety, road safety, internet safety, park safety, first aid and alcohol awareness. The Gangs and County Lines professional drama sessions delivered at Ormiston Rivers Academy (two year groups) in January 2019 were funded by the Maldon Youth Strategy Group and were very well attended by students, professionals and parents. Three additional sessions are scheduled for the Plume Academy later this year.

3.4.3 Officers attend the Missing and Child Exploitation (MACE) 1 and MACE 2 meetings to ensure that the needs of vulnerable children for the district are addressed and that processes are in place to tackle the criminal and sexual exploitation of young people. These have been improved by adopting the police 4P's process of safeguarding vulnerability. The most recent meetings were held on 26 February 2019. A SET Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Toolbox has now been approved and a school's resource pack has now been developed and is available to primary and secondary schools. Officers also attend Mid-Essex Stay Safe, Mid-Essex Children's Partnership Board and the County Safeguarding Leads meeting. Ali Burlington, Community Safety Development Officer, has recently been accredited as the Child Exploitation

Champion for Maldon District Council. Maldon will be delivering a See It Stop It campaign to address exploitation during 2019/20 which will upskill businesses and organisations to spot the signs of exploitation.

- 3.4.4 The community safety team continues to tackle reported anti-social behaviour and since the last meeting in November 2018 it has dealt with seven neighbour disputes, five cases of cannabis odour and five cases of youth nuisance.
- 3.4.5 The Firebreak project was delivered by EFRS between the 11–15 February 2019 and was attended by ten young people from the Dengie area. This five-day course provides new skills to these vulnerable young people which is equivalent to a D grade GCSE. This project received excellent feedback from parents, carers and Ormiston Rivers Academy.
- 3.4.6 Officers continue to focus on road safety and an event was held in May 2018 to educate and change behaviour of young drivers. This was held at Maldon Fire Station and involved a variety of partners. The community protection officers continue to deliver the successful TRU-CAM speed enforcement initiative at various approved sites within the district. The community protection team has achieved over 1,800 vehicle captures since 1 April 2018 to the present day. The effective use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) also contributes to the safety of the roads in the district and the various operations undertaken by the Safer Essex Roads Partnership.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Members note the proposed new priorities for 2019/20 and progress on the action plan. The shared working arrangements between Maldon and Chelmsford continue to support local priorities, high level policing priorities and the priorities of the current PFCC plan and this will strengthen with the co-location of the community policing team in March 2019 and additional policing resources coming in at the end of this year. Maldon CSP remains efficient and responsive to emerging issues and more importantly positions itself strongly for future funding arrangements with the Essex PFCC, statutory partners and local/national initiatives.

5. IMPACT ON CORPORATE GOALS

- 5.1 These priorities contribute to the Council's Corporate Goal of "Helping communities to be safe, active and healthy" and are highlighted as activities in the business plan for the directorate for 2018/19.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i). **Impact on Customers** – Helping communities to be safe, active and healthy.
- (ii). **Impact on Equalities** – None.
- (iii). **Impact on Risk** – None.

- (iv). **Impact on Resources (financial)** – Members should note that sustainable funding of posts to cover statutory duties will remain a challenge but remain manageable whilst we receive an annual OPFCC grant.
- (v). **Impact on Resources (human)** – As above.
- (vi). **Impact on the Environment** – None.

Background Papers:

Appendices 1, 2 and 3 (as above).

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