



**REPORT of
DIRECTOR OF SERVICE DELIVERY**

to
**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (MEETING AS THE CRIME AND
DISORDER COMMITTEE)**
19 MARCH 2020

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 14 November 2019 and be aware of the proposed strategic priorities for 2020 / 21.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members review and comment on the current progress and the success of the initiatives undertaken by the partnership to date and note the strategic priorities for 2020 / 21.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

3.1 Statutory Duties

- 3.1.1 Work on the strategic assessment for the period 2018 / 19 (1 October 2018 – 30 September 2019) has been completed and the findings of the assessment were presented to the Maldon Responsible Authorities Group on 6 February 2020. Officers were supported by a criminal intelligence analyst from Essex Police for this strategic assessment and partners were involved in the process to determine the new priorities by using a crime risk matrix, crime severity scores and public perception. The new priorities, listed below, reflect priorities already identified in the current Police and Crime Plan, the Essex Police Crime Prevention Strategy and the current Essex Police Strategic Assessment (control 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 and reducing reoffending (with an emphasis on gangs, drugs and county lines, knife crime and domestic abuse);
- Driving down antisocial behaviour in public places (with an emphasis on youth nuisance and improving communications with our residents);
- Identifying and supporting vulnerable people (with an emphasis on emotional health and wellbeing, social isolation, suicide prevention, hate crime and a proactive approach to those at risk of exploitation);

- Tackling rural and environmental crime;
 - 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” and are highlighted as activities in the 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 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 2020 (compared to the same period last year) showed an increase in all crime by **17.5%** (561 more offences) and a decrease in anti-social behaviour by **9.9%** (87 less incidents). It should be noted that there has been an increase in all crime in Essex by **8.6%**. A summary of the crime profile for Maldon will be presented at the meeting by Chief Inspector Steve Scott-Haynes from the Chelmsford and Maldon Community Policing Team. A copy of the Essex Police force performance summary for the county is attached as **APPENDIX 1**. **APPENDIX 2** details the offences year on year by District. Some more local context of the issues surrounding these crime increases will be given at the meeting.
- 3.1.4 The Essex Prevent Action Plan has been completed and is monitored on a quarterly basis at the Prevent Multi-Agency Group with the last meeting being held on 4 November 2019. The Maldon District CSP action plan has been refreshed to accommodate these changes. Officers continue to work with the Prevent Team and local Counter Terrorism Security Advisors (CTSA) to ensure that local risks are addressed. A new legal duty to protect public spaces from terror attacks will be introduced by the government soon so this exercise will provide a useful format for future designs. Officers continue to engage with communities through the Independent Advisory Group which meets every quarter with the last meeting being held on 13 January 2020. 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. The Community Safety Manager attended a Special Interest Group on Counter Extremism (SIGCE) on 24 January 2020 which was very informative and current considering the risks being experienced in Essex at present.
- 3.1.5 The partnership has a duty in relation to Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking under the Modern Slavery Act 2005. Officers received an awareness session from Stop the Traffik on 8 January 2020 and this was then extended to partnership staff on 6 February 2020 where forty members of staff from various partner organisations attended. A further training session has been arranged for 20 March 2020. The Essex Community Safety Network (ECSN) also received a presentation by Detective Inspector of the Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Unit at Essex Police on 27 February 2020.
- 3.2 **Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Update**
- 3.2.1 The OPFCC confirmed that core funding for 2020/21 will be **£12,527** with the sum of **£1,708** being top sliced for the centralised DHR process (**£14,235** in total). Officers continue to work in partnership with the OPFCC on several current initiatives such as

violence and vulnerability, prolific offender management, community safety hubs and rural crime. The partnership continues to support the priorities identified in the Police and Crime Plan 2016 - 2020 and is involved in several multi-agency groups that support this work locally and across Essex. The OPFCC are currently running a consultation to seek views for Police and Crime Plan for 2020 and beyond using the #MakeADifference campaign. The results of this consultation will help inform the office of the views of Essex residents in relation to safety concerns and priorities.

- 3.2.2 The Police, Fire and Crime Panel (PFCP) approved a further increase in the council tax precept for 2019 / 20 which has seen a further increase in key policing staff across several areas. The most notable change for policing district has seen a new town centre unit set up in July 2019 which includes one sergeant and eight police constables. These officers are based in the community safety hub and focus on the city centre and South Woodham Ferrers and Maldon town centres. The Rural Engagement Team (RET) has also doubled in size which supports the priority of tackling rural crime and works closely with the Council's community protection officers. The PFCP met again in February 2020 to consider a further increase in precept and approved the sum of £5.67 per annum which will allow the recruitment of another 151 extra officers in 2020 / 21, an increase of 519 officers in the last three years. As previously reported, the Office of the Fire, Police and Crime Commissioner (OFPC) made a bid on behalf of Essex to the Home Office early intervention youth fund which was successful and £664,000 has been allocated to Essex to address youth violence. Essex County Council (ECC) has also contributed £500,000 to this budget for 2019 / 20 and a further £1,160,000 was awarded in September 2019 following a successful bid for the Violence Reduction Unit. This has seen a central Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) set up in the new community safety partnership hub with a budget of approximately £2.2 million for Essex. The Community Safety Manager attends the Violence and Vulnerability Operations Board which reports into a Strategic Board. It should be noted that in addition to funding above, Essex Police has been awarded £1.76 million surge funding to tackle serious violence. Funding proposals for this agenda are complete with several interventions already in place. It should be noted that the VRU is eligible for a further £1.1 million for 2020 / 21 through a bidding process and the OPFCC will be topping up this fund by £200,000 and ECC by £500,000 for 2020 / 21.
- 3.2.3 The VRU has funded awareness training across Essex: Every Contact Counts, three sessions will be delivered to staff and partners on 9 March 2020.

3.3 **Community Safety Partnership Hub**

- 3.3.1 The community safety partnership 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, Family Solutions, Peabody, Full Circle, Open Road 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 Neighbourhood Watch (NHW). Subgroups 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 Chelmsford and Maldon community policing team moved to offices at Chelmsford City Council on 26 March 2019 which has ensured better

partnership working and improved performance with Maldon officers “hot desking” within the new hub when appropriate. This has already improved joint working within the respective teams which will provide a much better service for the public in terms of performance, visibility and reassurance. This facility was highlighted as good practice in a recent “Investors in the People” assessment for Chelmsford City Council.

- 3.3.2 Regarding antisocial behaviour, current “hot spots” for the district include Promenade Park and the town centre. Effective partnership action has been taken to address youth nuisance and low-level antisocial behaviour in Burnham-on-Crouch, Tollesbury, Tillingham and Southminster. Operation Enlightenment commenced in March 2019 which has seen a police officer and a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) allocated to all secondary education establishments 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. This has been well received by the ten schools in Maldon / Chelmsford engaging with 69 visits being made and 102 hours spent in schools between September and December 2019. Officers continue to support the work of the Rural Engagement Team (RET) to address rural crime and supported a week of action in October 2019. Officers attend the MACE 1 and MACE 2 (Missing and Child Exploitation) 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 recently been improved by adopting the police 4P’s process of safeguarding vulnerability so that the outcomes of these meetings can be more effectively measured, and a further review was completed in June 2019 which has seen this process become more effective. Officers also attend Mid-Essex Stay Safe, Mid-Essex Children’s Partnership Board (MECPB), Chelmsford & Maldon Behaviour and Attendance Partnership (BAP), Maldon Youth Strategy Group and the County Safeguarding Leads meeting. Members should be aware that the MACE and BAP groups were both awarded funding by the Violence Reduction Unit to support young people who are on the cusp of exclusion or deemed high risk in terms of vulnerability.
- 3.3.3 Officers continue to work with a variety of practitioners to provide education and intervention opportunities. Crucial Crew has been reviewed and focus groups were held with primary school staff to ensure that this still meets the needs of the Personal, Health, Social, Health and Economic (PHSE) curriculum and current risks (i.e. gangs, knife crime, exploitation, healthy relationships). Crucial Crew is being delivered on the 30, 31 March and 1 April 2020 with sets from Colchester United Football Club (CUFC), Essex Police Community Policing Team, Alcohelph and Maldon District Council health practitioners. CUFC have been introduced into several Maldon schools and youth clubs doing education sets on knife crime, gangs and values, and using sport as a diversionary activity. 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. 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-on-Crouch action groups and facilitate the Maldon NHW meetings every quarter and cascade crime information. The next NHW group meeting is 24 March 2020. A

successful parents awareness session was held at the Plume Academy on 22 January 2020 which attracted over 100 parents and further training in the school environment is programmed for 18 March 2020.

- 3.3.4 The procurement stage for the installation of CCTV for Maldon District is now complete and a contract has been awarded. This contract will commence on 1 April 2020 with works being completed by 31 July 2020. Once these works are complete, Maldon District Council will consider remote monitoring options with Chelmsford City Council and the use of their 24/7 CCTV control centre.

3.4 **Progress on Action Plans**

- 3.4.1 The partnership has the following projects delivered or planned for this current year.

- Crucial Crew for Year 6 students (30 and 31 March and 1 April 2020);
- Older Persons Crucial Crew being developed with the University of the Third Age;
- Violence and Vulnerability Training (November 2019 – March 2020);
- Gangs and County Lines training delivered to professionals on 28 June 2019 by St Giles Trust;
- Community Payback delivered throughout the district in cemeteries and green spaces;
- Young Driver Safety Event planned for Spring 2020 with EFRS (Essex Fire and Rescue Service) and SERP (Safer Essex Roads Partnership);
- TRU Cam delivered throughout Maldon District with 4,500 captures from 1 April 2018 – 31 December 2019;
- Public engagement events to support Rural Crime (w/c 7 October), Coffee with Cops (19 September), Hate Crime (18 October) and Adult Safeguarding (22 November);
- Silver Sunday Event at the Forget Me Not Tea Rooms on 6 October 2019;
- 3PR School Safety Initiative adopted by primary schools;
- Working with SERP to address speeding concerns adjacent a school;
- Tollesbury Youth Club (launched March 2019);
- J9 Domestic Abuse Training for Community Partners (staff and partnership staff, delivered on 26 November 2019);
- Just Play Football Initiative (Maldon and now extended to Southminster);
- 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);
- EFRS targeted multi-agency engagement and awareness project delivered on the Dengie w/c 10 June 2019;
- ACT (Action Counters Terrorism) Training by Essex Police;

- Parents Gangs Awareness Sessions and Student Sessions by Reach Every Generation (22 January and 18 March 2020)
- Stop the Traffik – training sessions on human trafficking and modern-day slavery (10 February and 20 March 2020)

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Members are asked to note the proposed new priorities for 2020 / 21 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 has strengthened with the co-location of the community policing team in March 2019 and additional policing resources in town centres and rural areas. Maldon CSP remains efficient and responsive to emerging issues and more importantly positions itself strongly for future funding arrangements with the Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, 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 corporate plan.

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: Appendix 1 (Essex Police Performance Summary).

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