



**REPORT of  
DIRECTOR OF SERVICE DELIVERY**

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to  
**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (MEETING AS THE CRIME AND DISORDER  
COMMITTEE)**  
**29 FEBRUARY 2024**

**MALDON DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

Members are asked to note the progress of activities undertaken by the Maldon Community Safety Partnership (CSP) since the last meeting held on 12 October 2023.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

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

**3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES**

**3.1 Statutory Duties**

3.1.1 Officers are currently working on the strategic assessment, and this will be presented to the Responsible Authorities Group on 14 March 2024 for endorsement. This will involve a data review, crime risk matrix scoring and analysis of perception data. The crime risk matrix scores for Maldon District showed the following offences of highest concern: domestic abuse (high and medium risk), rape, trafficking of drugs, robbery, and dwelling burglary. Headline priorities are likely to remain the same as the previous year with some changes to the narrative based on the current risks. Proposed priorities will reflect priorities already identified in the revised Police and Crime Plan, the Essex Crime Prevention Strategy, Maldon District Council's (MDC) Corporate Plan (2023-27) and the current Essex Police Strategic Assessment. Officers are also working on Operation Minerva data (female victimisation) to establish areas of risk within the district and the new mapping tool for reporting unsafe areas for women which may also impact on priorities. The joint strategic needs assessment that is now a requirement under the Serious Violence Duty is now complete and officers receive monthly data sets on Power Bi to help identify trends and hotspots.

3.1.2 The current priorities are highlighted on the MDC website. It should be noted that reducing reoffending remains a statutory function for all community safety partnerships and is embedded in the priorities listed below. Reducing serious violence is also a new statutory duty.

- Tackling crime and reducing reoffending (with an emphasis on serious violence, crime, gangs, drug trafficking and high harm offences);
- Driving down anti-social behaviour in public places (with an emphasis on youth nuisance and improving partnership visibility);

- Identifying and supporting vulnerable people (with an emphasis on domestic abuse, violence against women and girls, social isolation, suicide prevention, poor mental health and hate crime);
- Increase confidence in identifying and reducing rural crime;
- Promoting road safety and challenging irresponsible driving.

3.1.3 The current Essex Police Maldon performance figures for the rolling year to 31 January 2024 (compared to the same period last year) showed a decrease in all crime by **5.3%** (194 less offences) and a decrease in anti-social behaviour by **51.5%** (244 less incidents). It should be noted that there has been a decrease in all crime in Essex by 5.9% with a decrease in anti-social behaviour by 38.5%. A summary of the crime profile for Maldon will be presented at the meeting by Chief Inspector Paul Ballard. A copy of the Essex Police force performance summary for the county is attached as **APPENDIX 1**.

3.1.4 Officers continue to work with the Essex Police to ensure that local risks are addressed. The Community Safety Manager (CSM) chairs the Essex County Prevent Group and attends the Essex Contest Board. The most recent Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP) briefing (Quarter 2) was on 21 November 2023 and strategic members have been briefed on current risks. Maldon data has been submitted to Essex County Council (ECC) prior to the annual benchmarking session with the Home Office which is scheduled for 11 March 2024. New guidance with a toolkit for local authorities was published on 7 September 2023: [Prevent duty toolkit for local authorities - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-toolkit-for-local-authorities)

3.1.6 New duties that will impact on the work of the partnership will be the Protect Duty (Martyn's Law). This received Royal Assent in Autumn 2023 and detailed guidance will be available from the government in Spring 2024. Martyn's Law will impose requirements on premises and events to increase their preparedness for, and protection from, a terrorist attack. The law will require premises to take proportionate steps, depending on the size and nature of the activities that take place. This will be based on qualifying premises and capacity thresholds: standard tier (capacity of 100 or more, enhanced tier (800 or more) and places of worship (standard tier regardless of capacity).

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

3.2.1 The partnership continues to support the priorities identified in the refreshed Police and Crime Plan which was extended until 2024. Members should note that there will be an election for the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) on 2 May 2024 and the pre-election period will run from 22 March – 2 May 2024 inclusive.

3.2.2 Works continue with several multi-agency groups that support this work locally and across Essex. The Maldon representative for the Police Fire and Crime Panel is Councillor Simon Burwood. The Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (OPFCC) confirmed that core funding for Maldon in 2023 / 24 was **£12,527** and the necessary funding forms were completed and returned as part of the funding agreement. Officers had their annual meeting with the PFCC office on 8 February 2024 to review performance. The annual PFCC conference is being held on 29 February 2024 at Boreham House and the CSM will be presenting at this conference on anti-social behaviour with the Deputy Chief Constable.

3.2.3 Maldon District was awarded funding for three projects in the recent round of PFCC Safer Streets funding for 23/24 and 24/25, and officers are planning these works to be commenced in the coming months:

- Safety projects to complement the design of the new Maldon promenade skate park - £132,252
- A women's safety project for Maldon District - £16,000
- A CCTV scheme for Burnham-on-Crouch - £40,874

### 3.3 Community Safety Partnership Hub and Progress Update

3.3.1 The Community Safety Partnership Hub for Chelmsford and Maldon was re-launched on 5 July 2023 following recent discussions. The new style meetings are held fortnightly on Wednesday from 09.30-10.30hrs meets bi-monthly and has a tasking process which links to the priorities of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP). The new process will include a tasking update from the Community Policing Team (CPT) Sergeant (Sgt), licensing, a two-week forecast, identified hotspots, patrol plans, communications, complex cases, and organised crime groups. Fortnightly tasking with Essex Police and the Community Safety Team is also held on Tuesdays. There is an individual action plan for Maldon CSP plus a tasking update which is monitored to ensure that partner actions are completed and performance managed.

3.3.2 Current concerns for the partnership hub focus on violence and vulnerability, and disruption of organised crime. Education sessions are being planned with secondary schools to provide awareness of risk in the community and vulnerability. Monitoring "hot spots" such as Maldon High Street, Promenade Park, Hythe Quay, and some of the parks across the district where young people are congregating and consuming alcohol and misusing drugs is undertaken by the effective use of CCTV and officer patrols by the partnership. Partnership operations are proving successful and in recent months there have been significant arrests to disrupt both local and County Line drug networks. Officers are also dealing with some complex antisocial behaviour complaints where mediation has been offered to parties to resolve the situation. Meetings to discuss the road safety issues on the Lower Burnham Road are also ongoing between a variety of partners. Officers will also be commencing a consultative piece of work with the charity Make Space for Girls in the coming months. The partnership has been providing support to communities that have been impacted by dwelling burglary incidents.

3.3.3 Current project works for 2023/24 include:

- Healthy relationships and exploitation awareness sessions for schools in May 2023
- Safe, Well and Secure visits delivered with Essex County Fire and Rescue Service (ECFRS) between 23 -25 May 2023 (1,499 doors knocked, 512 face-to-face contacts, 95 safe and well referrals and 117 home fire safety checks)
- Maldon Street Week was held on 27 May – 3 June 2023
- Crucial Crew was delivered to Year 6 students in June 2023 – theatre production on exploitation and knife crime awareness
- Public engagement events in Maldon, Heybridge, Tollesbury and Burnham-on-Crouch (999 days)
- Senior Safety event delivered for over 65's delivered on 2 October 2023
- Trucam is currently being delivered across 18 parishes at 45 different locations and a new unit has been ordered to improve capability

- PREVENT Duty met and scored 3 (standard met) by Home Office in April 2023 and 2024 session planned for 12 March 2024
- Effective use and joint working using CCTV with annual compliance reported to Biometrics and Surveillance Camera Commissioner
- Safeguarding awareness training delivered and Section 11 Audit completed
- Hate crime awareness sessions in Burnham-on-Crouch and supporting hate crime awareness week
- Joint patrols with Essex Police and the Tri Service Officer to tackle community concerns
- Close working relationship with Essex Police Rural Engagement Team (RET) to tackle issues such as fly tipping and unlicensed waste carriers
- Partnership working with Essex Police in the form of joint patrols to encourage responsible dog ownership
- Supporting Let's Talk sessions with Essex Police
- Joint patrols with ECC Youth Service at key locations
- Intelligence sharing with secondary schools to safeguard any identified vulnerable persons
- Engagement with youths through the Just Play football initiative
- J9 Domestic abuse awareness training supporting domestic abuse awareness week
- Sanctuary housing referrals for domestic abuse
- Bespoke meetings for local concerns (Cold Norton burglary series)
- Works are due to commence for a community safety hub which will allow a shared working space for the partnership, district council, Essex Police and South Essex Parking Partnership

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 That Members note the priorities for 2023 / 24 and progress on the community safety partnership. The shared working arrangements between Maldon and Chelmsford continue to support local priorities, high level policing priorities and the priorities of the revised PFCC plan and has strengthened with the co-location of the CPT and additional policing resources in town centres and rural areas. The increased footprint for the CPT at MDC offices will strengthen this partnership further. 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 STRATEGIC THEMES**

- 5.1 These priorities contribute to the Council's vision of "Through our projects, actions, communication, partnerships and policies we will work to support our communities, the health and well-being of our residents, and to provide safe and clean places to live in and enjoy."

#### **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 PFCC grant and other funding opportunities.
- (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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