



**REPORT of
DIRECTOR OF CUSTOMERS AND COMMUNITY**

to
**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (MEETING AS THE CRIME AND
DISORDER COMMITTEE)**
12 OCTOBER 2016

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 since the last meeting held on 9 March 2016.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- (i) that Members note the proposed priorities and action plan for 2016 / 17 and the success of the initiatives undertaken by the partnership to date;
- (ii) that Members note the questions and answers arising from the meeting of the Parish Clerks Forum on 5 July as detailed within **APPENDIX 2** of this report

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

3.1 Statutory Duties

3.1.1 The statutory duties for the community safety partnership were reported to the committee at the previous meeting. Work on the strategic assessment for 2016 will commence to determine the strategic priorities for 2017 / 18 and officers will work alongside the newly appointed analyst for Local Policing Area North together other partners. Members are reminded that the current priorities for Maldon District are set out below and they complement the Essex Police strategic themes and the draft priorities identified the new Police and Crime Commissioner plan:

- Reducing Crime, the Fear of Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour;
- Protecting and Supporting Vulnerable People and Victims of Crime;
- Reduction in the Harm Caused by Alcohol and Drug Misuse;
- Promoting Road Safety and Challenging Irresponsible Driving;
- Reducing Reoffending.

3.1.2 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 2016 / 17. Each activity has a clear timescale and milestone to

enable performance monitoring of each project associated to the activity. The most recent crime figures for the period 1 April 2016 to 31 July 2016 (compared to the same period last year) show an increase in all crime by 8.5% (67 more offences) and a decrease in anti-social behaviour by 8.3% (93 less incidents). Members should note that at the time of writing all crime performance for Essex has shown an increase by 8.3%. A copy of the most recent Essex Police strategic management performance data for the whole of Essex is attached as **APPENDIX 1** in order for Members to make comparisons across Essex.

- 3.1.3 Members should note that the partnership was notified by Essex Police that two domestic homicides had occurred in the district during July 2015 and March 2016 respectively and following meetings with partner organisations decisions were made to notify the Home Office that the incidents met the criteria of a Domestic Homicide Review which under Section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 the community safety partnership has a statutory duty to undertake. The Home Office has acknowledged these letters and work continues on each review.
- 3.1.4 The Community Safety Manager now attends strategic meetings which also support the Essex Police high level strategic priorities which include child sexual exploitation, violence suppression, gangs and vulnerabilities, modern day slavery and radicalisation. Each one of these themes now has an action plan for delivery for the community safety partnership, district council and partners. The Community Safety Manager also represented the partnership on the HM Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) workshop on police effectiveness on 9 September 2016. Maldon District Council accessed a one-off grant of £10,000 from the Home Office to facilitate local training within the District for Preventing Violent Extremism. An Officer from the team, Ali Burlington, has already undertaken WRAP (Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent) training and will be cascading this training to frontline staff and community safety partners. This funding was also used to promote awareness of radicalisation and ideology for Essex County Council (ECC) Social Care staff where Me & You Education delivered training on 22 September 2016. The partnership has also recently accessed funds from the Essex Police and Crime Commissioner and Behaviour Attendance Partnership to deliver awareness sessions on gangs, drugs and knives. Additional education is being offered to schools within the district.
- 3.1.5 The next scheduled Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting to discuss the performance of the partnership will be this current meeting on Wednesday 12 October 2016. The annual face the public event is scheduled for Tuesday 1 November 2016 and will be held in partnership with the Police and Crime Commissioner and Essex Police.

3.2 **Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Update**

- 3.2.1 Members should note that Roger Hirst was elected to the role of PCC following with the election which took place on 5 May 2016.
- 3.2.2 A draft PCC plan for the new commissioner is currently out for consultation and a report has been prepared for Community Services Committee in order for comments to be considered for a corporate response. Officers and members have attended the “deep dive” consultation sessions for the proposed priority themes as part of this consultative exercise. The vision of the new PCC is “Safe and secure communities

are the bedrock on which we build success and wellbeing for all". This is evidenced in the plan with it having a clear victim centric approach. The initial view of the author of this report is that the proposed policing priorities are to be commended and support the current priorities of the community safety partnership. However, at the initial launch of this draft plan there was some valuable feedback from Leaders and Chief Officers across Essex which will be addressed in the final version. The proposed policing priorities are:

- More local, visible and accessible policing;
- Crack down on anti-social behaviour;
- Be tough on domestic abuse;
- Reverse the trend in serious violence;
- Tackle gangs and organised crime;
- Protect children and vulnerable people from harm;
- Improve safety on our roads.

3.2.3 Core funding for 2016 / 17 has been confirmed as £14,235 (which was the same figure for 2015 / 16). The partnership has also been successful in obtaining joint funds from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for underpass projects and education awareness sessions on gangs, drugs and knife crime as mentioned earlier in this report. The most recent graffiti art project was completed in August 2016 in Burnham-on-Crouch where young people from the area were encouraged to participate and take ownership of the area. This was a good example of community cohesion and strengthening local communities. The Community Safety Manager is working with the OPCC to commission a service to provide education and mentoring around gangs and the associated violence linked with them. The OPCC has committed funding to the sum of £100,000 for 2016 / 17 and 2017 / 18.

3.3 **Community Safety Hubs**

3.3.1 The first meeting of the community safety hub for Maldon and Chelmsford will be on Tuesday 4 October 2016. Initially, this will be the respective Councils and Essex Police prior to extending the invite to community safety partners in November 2016. 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. Good examples of this is the work of the MAG and BAG (Maldon and Burnham-on-Crouch Action Groups) and the newly formed Young Persons Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Group which involves secondary and primary schools who can raise issues in relation to young people on the risk of offending and thus provide focussed early intervention. There is a natural cross cutting of projects across the respective groups, which allow partners to feed into actions where appropriate. Team members regularly attend police tasking on a fortnightly basis and receive regular information such as Operation Insight / Element data, MACE data and safeguarding data to ensure that the partnership remains responsive to emerging crime trends such as monitoring of the offender cohort, community cohesion issues and children at risk of exploitation.

3.4 Progress on the 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 work on:

- Gangs, drugs and knives;
- Driver education and enforcement;
- Preventing Violent Extremism;
- The Independent Advisory Group;
- Community Engagement;
- Crucial Crew for Year 6 and Adults with Learning Disabilities;
- Reality Roadshow for Year 9;
- Stay Safe This Summer for Year 10;
- Keep Safe;
- Door Step Clubs;
- Domestic Violence Awareness;
- Supporting initiatives such as Mayland Boxing, Seven Freerun and Just Play;
- Restorative Justice;
- Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Awareness;
- Dementia Awareness.

3.4.2 The new High Sheriff, Lorna Rolfe JP, visited Maldon District Council on 19 September 2016 and met with the Chief Executive to discuss community safety issues. This was followed by a visit to Crucial Crew at Stow Maries Aerodrome. Crucial Crew is an educational session delivered to a majority of Maldon's primary schools (Year 6 students). This year's sets included sessions on alcohol, road safety, bullying, internet safety and stranger danger. The High Sheriff conveyed her thanks in writing following the visit and described the team as "a committed bunch of individuals and their enthusiasm is infectious". A full evaluation of this project is carried out each year to ensure that it improves every year and remains current.

3.4.3 At the meeting of this committee on 9 March 2016 it was resolved that 'officers report back to this Committee with the priorities decided by the Parish Councils following the meeting of the Parish Clerks Forum'. The meeting was held in early July and Inspector Andy Sawyer attended. Notes of the issues raised and answers given are detailed at **APPENDIX 2** of this report.

4. CONCLUSION

4.1 That Members note the proposed priorities and draft action plans for 2016 / 17 and that shared working arrangements between Maldon and Chelmsford continue to support local priorities, high level policing priorities and the proposed priorities of the new PCC plan. Maldon CSP remains efficient and responsive to emerging issues and more importantly positions itself strongly for future funding arrangements with the

Essex Police 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 new draft business plan for the directorate for 2016 / 17.

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.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – As above.
- (vi) **Impact on the Environment** – None.

Background Papers:

APPENDIX 1 - Essex Police Performance Summary (July 2016).

APPENDIX 2 – Notes of Parish Clerks Forum

Enquiries to: Spencer Clarke, Community Safety Manager, (Tel: 01621 875814).