



**REPORT of  
DIRECTOR OF CUSTOMERS AND COMMUNITY**

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to  
**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (MEETING AS THE CRIME AND  
DISORDER COMMITTEE)**  
**18 APRIL 2017**

**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 12 October 2016 and be aware of the new strategic priorities which were adopted in March 2017.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

That Members note the new priorities for 2017 / 18 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 statutory duties for the community safety partnership were agreed at the Responsible Authorities Group on 17 March 2017 following the completion of the strategic assessment which is attached as **APPENDIX 1**.

- Reducing crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour;
- Promoting road safety and tackling irresponsible driving;
- Protecting and supporting vulnerable people and victims of crime;
- Reduction in harm caused by alcohol and substance misuse;
- Tackling rural crime and strengthening communities.

- 3.1.2 The current Essex Police performance figures for the cumulative year to 28 February 2017 (compared to the same period last year) showed an increase in all crime by **2.9%** (63 more offences) and a decrease in anti-social behaviour by **8.8%** (89 less incidents). It should be noted that there has been an increase in crime in Essex by **8.1%**. A summary of the crime profile for Maldon will be presented at the meeting by Chief Inspector Ronnie Egan. A copy of the Maldon performance summary is attached as **APPENDIX 2** together with a document which identifies how we are performing against councils in our most similar groups. This useful comparison is attached as **APPENDIX 3**.

- 3.1.3 Works continue around the Prevent agenda to support the current action plan and statutory responsibilities. Maldon District Council has accessed a one-off grant of £10,000 from the Home Office to facilitate local training within the District. Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP) training, a practitioners' conference and schools/social care training has already been delivered with this funding. A draft SET (Southend, Essex and Thurrock) policy and guidance has been produced together with a draft Essex Prevent Action Plan. These were considered for approval at the Prevent Multi-Agency Group on 7 December 2016 and presented to Safer Essex on 14 December 2016 and subsequently agreed.
- 3.1.4 Members will recall that Essex Police informed the partnership that two domestic homicides had occurred. Both of these incidents met the criteria of a domestic homicide review under Section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004. The Home Office was duly notified and scoping letters have been sent out to community safety partners and other statutory organisations. Officers have procured independent chairs / report writers for the two cases. The first review group will be considering the draft report on 24 April 2017. The second review has been scoped and will commence in April 2017. The partnership was successful in obtaining a grant of £5,000 from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Community Safety Development Fund to support expenditure on these reviews. However, Members should note that a consultation paper has been circulated by SET (Southend, Essex and Thurrock) Domestic Abuse Board (with a response due on 24 March 2017) in relation to the proposed centralisation of Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) processes which is supported by the partnership and a response was submitted on 17 March 2017.

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

- 3.2.1 Members should note that Roger Hirst was elected to the role of PCC for a four year term in May 2016 and a public meeting was held at the council offices on 27 February 2017 which attracted 32 attendees. This meeting predominantly focused on the closure of Maldon police station and rural crime. The new Police and Crime Plan 2016 - 2020 was launched on 22 November 2016 following an extensive period of consultation. 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 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. The new policing priorities are:
- More local, visible and accessible policing;
  - Crack down on anti-social behaviour;
  - Breaking the cycle of domestic abuse;
  - Reverse the trend in serious violence;
  - Tackle gangs and organised crime;
  - Protecting children and vulnerable people;
  - Improve safety on our roads.

- 3.2.2 The Office of the PCC (OPCC) confirmed that core funding for 2017 / 18 will be **£12,527** assuming that there is a positive outcome to the ongoing DHR consultation. The Maldon contribution towards this fund equates to **£1,708**. Three bids were made to the second round of Community Safety Development Forum (CSDF) for work to train registered social landlords in Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) tools and powers, to financially support the domestic homicide reviews as discussed earlier and to pilot a Tru-Cam initiative in Maldon. The ASB bid was unsuccessful so officers are looking at a more cost effective way of delivering this training in partnership with Chelmsford community safety partnership. The DHR bid was successful as mentioned earlier and the Tru-Cam pilot was approved (**£7,000**). The Community Safety Manager supported the OPCC in relation to the procurement of a supplier to provide support around gangs and associated violence. A **£200,000** fund for 2016 / 17 and 2017 / 18 has been made available to six areas in Essex to tackle gangs and associated organised crime of which Chelmsford is one. Chelmsford has very close links with Maldon and a great deal of the work undertaken by the successful tenderer, Gangsline will be delivered to students at Heybridge Alternative Provision School. This will be a valuable asset for the partnership because it addresses an emerging threat which has a major impact on violence, drug distribution and vulnerability.
- 3.2.3 The PCC has recently commenced a public consultation on governance arrangements with Essex Fire and Rescue Service: A Local Case for Change. This consultation closes in May 2017 and a report is being considered at Community Services Committee on 11 April 2017 to obtain the views of Maldon District Council members. A link to the consultation can be found at: <http://www.essex.pcc.police.uk/localcaseforchange/> which includes a short but very informative film which explains the process and proposals. It should be noted that Responsible Authorities Group (RAG) members agreed to support the “governance” model.

### 3.3 **Community Safety Hubs**

- 3.3.1 The community safety hub for Maldon and Chelmsford meets on a monthly basis and has a tasking process which links to the current priorities of the community safety partnership. 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 new group which has been set up to support schools in tackling anti-social behaviour and vulnerability with pupils displaying risky behaviours 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 rural crime tasking to help address the issues impacting on Maldon from this crime type. A weekly rural crime briefing note is now circulated to partners by Police Constable (PC) Andy Long.

### 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;
  - Firebreak;

- Prevent;
- Community Engagement - including the Independent Advisory Group (IAG);
- 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 – Southminster;
- Domestic Violence Awareness;
- Supporting initiatives such as Mayland Boxing, Seven Freerun and Just Play;
- Restorative Justice;
- Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Awareness;
- Dementia Awareness.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 That Members note the new priorities for 2016 / 17 in particular the addition of “tackling rural crime and strengthening communities” which is very applicable to the district in light of the crime trends for the past few years. The shared working arrangements between Maldon and Chelmsford continue to support local priorities, high level policing priorities and the priorities of the current PCC plan and Essex Police Crime Prevention Strategy. Maldon Community Safety Partnership (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 2017 / 18.

#### 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** – Maldon Strategic Assessment.

**APPENDIX 2** - Essex Police Performance Summary (January 2017).

**APPENDIX 3** – Crime Comparison for Most Similar Groups.

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