



**REPORT of
DIRECTOR OF CUSTOMERS AND COMMUNITY**

to
**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (MEETING AS THE CRIME AND
DISORDER COMMITTEE)**
8 NOVEMBER 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 18 March 2017 and be aware of the strategic priorities which were adopted by the partnership in March 2017.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That Members note 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 current key priorities are listed below and following the completion of the strategic assessment and subsequent endorsement by the Responsible Authorities Group (RAG) on 17 March 2017. These priorities have been confirmed to Essex Police and the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and were taken into consideration during the development of the 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. The work on the strategic assessment for this coming year will commence soon and a crime assessment will be provided by the Essex Police Local Police Authority (LPA) North analyst by the end of November 2017.

- 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 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 business

plan for the directorate for 2017 / 18. Each activity has a clear timescale and milestone to enable performance monitoring of each project associated to the activity.

- 3.1.3 The current Essex Police performance figures for the cumulative year to 31 August 2017 (compared to the same period last year) showed an increase in all crime by **4%** (43 more offences) and a decrease in anti-social behaviour by **4.5%** (21 less incidents). It should be noted that there has been an increase in crime in Essex by **13.7%**. A summary of the crime profile for Maldon will be presented at the meeting by Chief Inspector Ronnie Egan. A copy of the Essex Police force performance summary is attached as **APPENDIX 1**. Essex Police will be holding a public engagement event on 15 November 2017 at the Council offices where a variety of stakeholders will be invited to contribute their views on policing matters.
- 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 11 September 2017. The Community Safety Manager has received a copy of the Counter Terrorism Local Profile and will brief Members at the meeting. Officers continue to engage with communities through the recently refreshed Independent Advisory Group which meets every two months.
- 3.1.5 Members will recall that two domestic homicides had occurred and 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 first review, DHR1, had the final report presented to the RAG on 6 October 2017 by the chair and report writer, Liz Hanlon. The second review, DHR2, had a panel meeting on 29 September 2017 where all IMRs (Independent Management Reviews) were considered. Recommendations will be proposed at the next panel meeting next month. Since the last meeting the partnership was informed of a further domestic homicide on 17 April 2017 which also met the criteria. This review, DHR3, is being managed under the new centralised process with Essex County Council (ECC) and the first panel meeting was held on 19 September 2017 with the second meeting on 16 October 2017 shortly after the trial. 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 and Crime Commissioner Update**

- 3.2.1 Members should note that a representative of the OPCC attended the last RAG meeting and gave an overview of current activities which may affect Maldon District. Officers to continue to work in partnership with the OPCC on a number of current initiatives. The annual PCC public meeting was held at the council offices on 27 February 2017 which attracted 32 attendees and the next meeting is programmed for 20 February 2018. This meeting predominantly focused on the closure of Maldon police station and rural crime. RAG members should note that the local police response team is now based at the Council offices (<http://www.essex.pfcc.police.uk/news/new-policing-base-opens-maldon-district-council-offices/>) and that the new rural crime unit is operational from 2 October 2017 with additional resources. Members should note that Essex Police is launching the new Rural Crime Prevention Strategy on 16 November 2017 at Stow Maries

Aerodrone. The Police and Crime Plan 2016 - 2020 was launched on 22 November 2016 and Roger Hirst (Police and Fire Commissioner) will be presenting an update on the first year of the plan to Safer Essex on 20 October 2017. The current 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 OPCC confirmed that core funding for 2017 / 18 will be **£12,527** with the sum of **£1,708** being top sliced for the centralised DHR process (**£14,235** in total). The PCC funded Tru-Cam initiative will be launched in October 2017 now that Maldon District Council community protection officers are trained and certified to deliver speed enforcement on behalf of Essex Police. The Tru-Cam pilot received (**£7,000**) PCC CDSF funding in 2016/17. 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 have 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 recent developments suggest that criminal and sexual exploitation is now active in the district. 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. RAG members should note the Essex Youth Offending Team (YOT) have recently launched a new framework for young people becoming involved in criminal exploitation and officers have agreed to work in partnership with the YOT to deliver this.

3.2.3 RAG members will recall that they supported the PCC in relation to governance arrangements with Essex Fire and Rescue Service: A Local Case for Change. RAG members should note that Roger Hirst officially took on the role as the country's first Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner on 1 October 2017 (<http://www.essex.pfcc.police.uk/news/roger-hirst-takes-role-countrys-first-police-fire-crime-commissioner/>).

3.3 **Community Safety Hubs**

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. Officers receive a fortnightly tasking document to ensure that they are aware of current issues. 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 Essex Police. The partnership also receives a weekly Operation Element briefing which provides a community tension overview (local and national). Members should note that Maldon District Council entered into a formal arrangement with Essex Police in September 2017 and the Local Response Team are now co-located at the Council Civic offices with the option of the Community Policing Team hot-desking when appropriate.

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 the following work.
- 3.4.2 Officers continue to work alongside Essex Police and North LPA partners to develop an action plan to tackle gangs and organised crime. This plan will be managed through the Violence and Vulnerability Board (strategic group) using the North Essex against Gangs Partnership (Tactical group) to deliver the work. The draft plan is based on the 4P measures (Pursue, Protect, Prepare and Prevent) and will link well with the current piece of work procured by the OPCC. Local activities include joint working with the Operation Raptor Team and October will see a month of action under Operation Essex.
- 3.4.3 Officers attend the MACE 1 (Missing and Child Exploitation) 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. The most recent meetings were held on 26 September 2017. A SET CSE Toolbox has now been approved and a schools resource pack has now been developed and is available to primary and secondary schools. Officers have also recently attend Mid-Essex Stay Safe (18 September 2017), Mid-Essex Children's Partnership Board (28 September 2017) and the County Safeguarding Leads (28 September 2017) meeting. Members should note that both secondary schools in the district received a professional drama based on exploitation entitled Chelsea's Choice on 18 October 2017. This project has been funded by the Youth Strategy Group and delivered through the ECC Youth Service.
- 3.4.4 Officers continue to carry out educational events. This included the delivery of Stay Safe this Summer to 300 year 7 students in July 2017 focussing on drug awareness (including psychoactive substances). Get Ready for Summer was held at Promenade Park on 27 July 2017 and included a wide range of partners including Essex Police, Essex Fire and Rescue Services (EFRS), NHW, Essex Watch, Provide, Anglian Water, Victim Support, Red Cross, Safer Roads Partnership, Moat Housing, Environment Agency, HM Coastguard, Land Rover Rescue and Maldon District Council. Whilst this event was mainly to give advice and information, 30 people signed up for various watches and 12 people booked home fire safety visits. Crucial Crew was delivered to over 600 year 6 students between 25 - 29 September 2017 and included workshops on fire safety, road safety, anti-bullying, internet safety, park safety, first aid and alcohol awareness. The High Sheriff of Essex, Mr Simon Hall, attended on 27 September 2017 and was suitably impressed by the project. Officers are currently working with the Community Voluntary Service (CVS) to deliver the "Warm Maldon Project" which will support vulnerable people over the winter months

through distributing warm packs and promoting flu vaccination campaigns. There was also the launch of a Keep Safe website in June 2017 which is a pan Essex website allowing people with learning disabilities (plus families and carers) to access local information to support them.

- 3.4.5 Maldon Skate Park Project was completed on 8 and 9 August 2017. A professional graffiti art company, Brave Arts, were commissioned to work with local people to design and paint the skate park. Over 20 young people helped deliver this project over the two days.
- 3.4.6 Officers continue to engage with the public to ensure that we are aware of perceptions of crime in certain areas and have used events such as Get Ready for Summer, Blackwater Country Show and Burnham-on-Crouch Carnival. This will complement the on-line surveys which we complete each year.
- 3.4.7 Members should note that the Automated Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) system for the Dengie Peninsular is now live and operational at both locations. Essex Police will be asked for some sanitised performance statistics to indicate the effectiveness of this system.
- 3.4.8 Maldon District Council is currently procuring the upgrade of the CCTV system which covers the High Street and Promenade Park. Once complete, the new high definition cameras with local recording facilities will be able to be monitored 24/7 on a trial basis at the Chelmsford CCTV control centre which has direct video and radio links with Essex Police. It is anticipated that this will enhance the safety of these areas significantly.
- 3.4.9 Members should note that at the recent RAG meeting held on 6 October 2017 that funding was agreed from partnership funds to support the following initiatives. The annual OPCC grant is used to support ongoing revenue costs associated with partnership posts.
- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) awareness training for social landlords;
 - Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) signage;
 - Just Play football initiative (extend to Burnham-on-Crouch);
 - CCTV contribution for a pilot to enable Maldon CCTV to be remotely monitored;
 - J9 domestic abuse awareness;
 - Vulnerability awareness training for young people.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 That Members note the priorities for 2017 / 18 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 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 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 but remain manageable whilst we receive an annual OPCC grant.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – As above.
- (vi) **Impact on the Environment** – None.

Background Papers:

APPENDIX 1 – Essex Police Performance Summary.

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