



**REPORT of
DIRECTOR OF CUSTOMERS AND COMMUNITY**

**to
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (MEETING AS THE CRIME AND
DISORDER COMMITTEE)
14 MARCH 2018**

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 8 November 2017 and be aware of the strategic priorities which are being proposed by the partnership for 2018 / 19.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members review and comment on 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 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.

- 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 Work on the strategic assessment is now complete and new strategic priorities will be considered by the Responsible Authorities Group at the next meeting on 13 April 2018. Officers have been supported by an analyst from Essex Police for this strategic

assessment and partners have been involved in the process to determine the new priorities by using a crime risk matrix, crime severity scores and public perception.

- Tackling Violent Crime
- Driving Down Antisocial Behaviour in Public Places
- Identifying and Supporting Vulnerable People
- Ensuring the Implementation and Delivery of the Essex Police Rural Crime Strategy
- Promoting Road Safety and Challenging Irresponsible Driving

3.1.3 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. Each activity has a clear timescale and milestone to enable performance monitoring of each project associated to the activity.

3.1.4 The current Essex Police performance figures for the rolling year to 31 January 2018 (compared to the same period last year) showed an increase in all crime by **4.4%** (107 more offences) and a decrease in anti-social behaviour by **0.5%** (1 less incident). It should be noted that there has been an increase in crime in Essex by **11.7%**. 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**.

3.1.5 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 13 February 2018. The Home Office wrote to local authorities on 2 February 2018 to advise of the planned improvements to the Channel process following the Dovetail project which was piloted during 2017. This will involve setting up regional hubs to undertake the Channel process. It is likely that the East of England will move over to this new process towards the end of 2018. Officers continue to engage with communities through the recently refreshed Independent Advisory Group which meets every two months.

3.1.6 Members will recall that the partnership that two domestic homicides had occurred and both of these incidents met the criteria of a Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) under Section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004. These reviews are now reaching a conclusion with final reports being prepared for the Home Office quality assurance panel. The more recent DHR from April 2017 is being managed under the new centralised process with Essex County Council (ECC) and the next panel meeting is on 14 March 2018. 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, Fire and Crime Commissioner Update**

3.2.1 Members should note that a representative of the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (OPFCC) 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 OPFCC on a number of current initiatives such as violence and vulnerability, community safety hubs and rural crime. Members should note that Essex Police launched the new Rural Crime Prevention Strategy on 16 November 2017 at Stow Maries Aerodrome in partnership with the OPFCC, Rural Crime Forum and Essex Rural Partnership. A team member from the Gypsy, Traveller and Rural Engagement Team (GTRET) will be attending this meeting to give an overview of the focus of the work being undertaken in this new strategy.

- 3.2.2 The OPFCC confirmed that core funding for 2018 / 19 will be **£12,527** with the sum of **£1,708** being top sliced for the centralised DHR process (**£14,235** in total). Members should note that the OPFCC funded Tru-Cam initiative is now operational and being undertaken by Maldon District Council community protection officers who are trained and certified to deliver speed enforcement on behalf of Essex Police. The Tru-Cam pilot received (**£7,000**) CDSF funding in 2017. Members should note that the commissioner has opted to increase the policing precept for Council Tax in 2018/19 which is the subject of a future report to the Community Services Committee on 27 March 2018. It is likely that an element of this funding will go towards community policing.

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. This group now has a much wider partnership focus with new members attending from social care, youth offending and the children's health and wellbeing service. 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.
- 3.3.2 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. Maldon CSP will be working much closer with ECC Youth Offending Services and will be using a new framework deal with young people at risk of exploitation during the coming year. Officers are also attending groups with registered social landlords and mental health practitioners to tackle anti-social behaviour.

3.4 **Progress on 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.
- Crucial Crew for Year 6 students (600 students);
 - Fire Break (10 students);
 - Door Step Sports Club;
 - Street Art Project;
 - Secondary School Education on drugs and psychoactive substances for Year 7 (300 students);

- Just Play;
 - Stay Safe this Summer.
- 3.4.2 The partnership has recently commissioned St Giles Trust to undertake education, awareness and mentoring within secondary schools to highlight the risk of young people becoming criminally or sexually exploited by gangs or organised crime groups. This work will continue throughout 2018 and include education sessions for parents, students and teachers.
- 3.4.3 Officers attend the MACE (Missing and Child Exploitation) 1 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 13 February 2018. A Southend, Essex and Thurrock Child Sexual Exploitation (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 also attend Mid-Essex Stay Safe, Mid-Essex Children's Partnership Board and the County Safeguarding Leads 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. Maldon will be delivering a See It Stop It campaign to address exploitation during 2018 which will upskill businesses and organisations to spot the signs of exploitation.
- 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 & Rescue Service, Neighbourhood Watch, 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, Burnham Carnival and Maldon Christmas Fayre. This will complement the on-line surveys which we complete each year.

- 3.4.7 Members should note that the Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) camera system for the Dengie Peninsular is now live and operational at both locations. Essex Police gave a presentation to the Community Services Committee on 16 January 2018 as part of a consultation exercise which also gave some valuable data on the effectiveness of ANPR.
- 3.4.8 Members should note that at the RAG meeting held on 6 October 2017 funding was agreed from partnership funds to support the following initiatives. The annual OPFCC grant is used to support ongoing revenue costs associated with partnership posts.
- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) awareness training for social landlords - £500 (completed);
 - Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) signage - £2,000;
 - Just Play football initiative (extended to Burnham-on-Crouch) - £2,500;
 - CCTV contribution for a pilot to enable Maldon CCTV to be remotely monitored - £5,000 (to go live summer 2018);
 - J9 domestic abuse awareness - £400 (training delivered);
 - Vulnerability awareness training for young people – £5,000 (St Giles Trust commissioned to deliver in Spring 2018).

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 That Members note the proposed priorities for 2017 / 18 and the new processes used to determine these priorities. 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 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, 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 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 OPFCC 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).