



# **Safer Maidstone Partnership**

## **Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013–2018**

### ***'Delivering Safer Communities'***

#### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The Maidstone Community Safety Partnership (CSP) was formed as a result of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, which required local councils, police and other agencies to set up Crime and Disorder Reductions Partnerships (CDRPs) and to work together to tackle local crime problems. The Maidstone CSP is made up of Responsible Authorities (those bodies for whom membership of the CSP is a statutory obligation) and voluntary members.

<b>Responsible Authorities</b>			
Maidstone Borough Council	Kent Fire and Rescue Service	Kent Police	
Kent County Council	Kent Probation Service	Office of Kent Police and Crime Commissioner	West Kent NHS

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 The Maidstone Community Safety Plan 2013-18 is a rolling five year document, which highlights how the CSP plans to tackle community safety issues that matter to the local community. This plan is revised annually through reviewing information provided from a wide range of organisations in a strategic assessment, to ensure that current issues can be taken into account into the activities undertaken by the CSP. The Plan seeks to promote a more holistic approach, with a greater emphasis on prevention and harm reduction. For example, the harm done by alcohol has far reaching consequences that go beyond potential disorder and violence in the night-time economy; the implications for health and wellbeing have also to be taken into account; with their longer term implications.

#### **3. Priorities**

- 3.1 The strategic assessment document that has been produced for 2011/12 provides a crime overview of Maidstone Borough highlighting the issues that are of most importance to our communities and enables the CSP to identify emerging trends and plan actions to tackle these issues. A copy of the latest Strategic Assessment can be obtained from [communitysafety@maidstone.gov.uk](mailto:communitysafety@maidstone.gov.uk). From the available data and analysis, five key priorities have been agreed and are reflected in the SMP Partnership Plan.

The priorities are:

- **Antisocial behaviour (ASB)**  
To work in partnership to reduce incidents of ASB towards repeat or vulnerable victims/locations, targeting rowdy nuisance behaviour, fly-tipping and noise.  
To reduce the perception of the local community that believe ASB is a large problem in their local area, with emphasis on noisy neighbours and increase the satisfaction of those that we deal with.
- **Domestic abuse**  
Work to reduce repeat victimisation of domestic abuse victims and ensure effective services are in place to support and meet the needs of victims.
- **Reducing reoffending**  
Work to embed the responsibility of reducing re-offending across all agencies for all age groups, including awareness raising of existing services and activities. Work will be targeted around known reasons for people to offend, including education, training and employment as well as addressing housing needs.
- **Road safety**  
To continue multi-agency work promoting road safety awareness to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on the roads.
- **Substance misuse**  
To continue multi-agency work to reduce the impact of drug and alcohol misuse on individuals and the local community, including drunken behaviour, binge and underage drinking.

### 3.2 How we are going to tackle these issues

The CSP has created an action plan detailing how each priority will be addressed, which is shown in the action plan (see item 6). These activities range from revising current processes to ensuring that services are delivered as effectively as possible, creating value for money and also commissioning new services and projects in areas of need. The CSP is committed to achieving these priorities and has set targets against what we are planning to achieve, shown in item 6.

### 3.3 Priority leads

Lead officers for each of the priorities have been identified as set out below and have the responsibility for developing and delivering, with partners, the action plans to deliver the Maidstone borough priorities. The leads will also act as a champion for the designated priority and provide regular progress updates for the Safer Maidstone Partnership, the Maidstone Locality Board and the borough council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee as required.

Priority	Lead Officer/Agency
<b>Antisocial behaviour</b>	Insp Jody Gagan-Cook, Kent Police
<b>Domestic abuse</b>	Ian Park, Maidstone Domestic Violence Forum
<b>Substance misuse</b>	Angela Painter, The Kenward Trust
<b>Reducing re-offending</b>	Insp Jody Gagan-Cook, Kent Police
<b>Road safety (killed or seriously injured)</b>	Nick Silvester, Kent Fire and Rescue Service

## **4. Organisational changes – a local overview**

### **4.1 Safer Maidstone Partnership (SMP)**

In 2010, the Improvement and Development Agency for Local Government (IDeA) undertook a peer review of the SMP, the crime and disorder reduction partnership for the Maidstone borough. As a result of the review and its recommendations and to ensure compliance with Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 which directs that we must have community safety embedded into our planning, our policy and our operational day-to-day activity, the SMP structure was revised to ensure that there is a more robust intelligence-led business process.

The SMP brings together people from local government, the NHS, the police, the fire service, probation, local businesses, housing providers and voluntary and community organisations to work as a team to tackle issues such as crime, education, health, housing, unemployment and the environment in Maidstone Borough. SMP membership is made up of the public sector agencies including Kent County Council, Maidstone Borough Council, Kent Police, Office for the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner, NHS, Kent Fire and Rescue Service, Kent Probation Service and Maidstone Prison and also incorporates members from other key partners including Maidstone Mediation, Kenward Trust, CRI, Golding Homes and Town Centre Management. The SMP is currently chaired by Chief Inspector Jon Bumpus, District Commander for Maidstone Police.

### **4.2 Community Safety Unit**

The Maidstone Community Safety Unit (CSU) continues to grow. In recent months, existing Borough Council and Kent Police staff have been joined by partners from Kent Community Wardens, Trading Standards and local Registered Providers, such as Golding Homes. In the coming months other partners including the Integrated Offender Management Unit will also be based with the CSU. Increasing the range of partners working as part of the CSU is a key priority to ensure community safety related issues are tackled holistically.

### **4.3 Kent Police**

As part of the force's modernisation programme, changes have been made to the command of the new policing divisions. Three policing divisions, **East**, **West** and **North**, have replaced the previous six areas. This has seen a shift of some of the current area commanders to new posts within the organisation's new structure, and marks a slimming-down of management posts across the force. Local policing is at the heart of the new model and there has been a significant increase in neighbourhood constables and sergeants across the county.

### **4.4 Police and Crime Commissioner**

In November 2012, Ann Barnes was chosen as the first Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Kent and will be accountable for how crime is tackled in the police force area. The new PCC will aim to cut crime and deliver an effective and efficient police service within Kent. The role provides stronger and more transparent accountability of the police, ensuring community needs are effectively met and local relationships improved through building confidence and restoring trust. The PCC will work in partnership across a range of agencies at local and national level to ensure there is a unified approach to preventing and reducing crime.

## 5. The Kent County Perspective

5.1 The Kent Community Safety Agreement is an amalgamation of the strategic assessments undertaken annually by the local Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) across Kent. The common issues and priorities from these assessments have been identified and key stakeholders consulted to identify any potential gaps and cross-cutting themes for inclusion in the agreement. The following priorities have been identified for 2011/12 as those with the potential to benefit from being supported at a county level, with the cross-cutting themes to be addressed within each priority:

PRIORITIES	
Anti-social behaviour including environmental	
Domestic Abuse	
Substance Misuse	
Acquisitive crime (i.e. thefts/shoplifting)	
Violent Crime	
Road Safety	
CROSS-CUTTING THEMES	Early Intervention, Prevention & Education
	Priority Neighbourhoods / Geographic Focus
	Vulnerable Households & Individuals
	Safeguarding Children & Young People
	Reducing Re-Offending

## 6. Maidstone Community Safety Partnership Action Plan and Targets

The Action Plan sets out a series of actions and performance targets through which the priorities supporting the CSP Plan will be delivered for the period 2013–2018. The Action Plan makes clear arguments for building stronger and safer communities in Maidstone, with the actions identified against each priority supporting the overarching aim to reduce crime and disorder and its impacts. The plan will be reviewed annually to allow for new projects and priorities to be added.

### Priority 1: Antisocial behavior

Aim	Action	Anticipated Outcomes		Lead Agency
<p><b>To work in partnership to reduce incidents of ASB towards repeat or vulnerable victims / locations, targeting rowdy nuisance behaviour, fly-tipping and noise.</b></p> <p><b>To reduce the perception of the local community that believe ASB is a large problem in their local area, with emphasis on noisy neighbours and increase the satisfaction of those that we deal with.</b></p>	<p>Identification of ASB hotspots and multi-agency tasking through the weekly CSP Partnership Tasking and Action Group meeting and monthly ASB meeting.</p> <p>Work to address high perceptions of ASB in the borough, in particular in relation to noisy neighbours through activities such as Noise Week, Love Where You Live and Fly tipping poster campaign.</p> <p>Ensure an effective customer response to incidents of ASB (contact, treatment, actions and follow up)</p> <p>Review current mobile camera deployment and provision.</p>	<p>Reduction in reported ASB across the borough. Quicker targeted response to priorities for CSP. Support for at-risk families through Progress Programme referrals process.</p> <p>Reduced percentage of community who consider there is a high level of ASB. Increased awareness of work undertaken to tackle ASB. Targeted action to tackle ASB issues.</p> <p>Increase in customer satisfaction</p> <p>More effective service through co-ordination of existing resources.</p>		<p>Maidstone Community Safety Unit (CSU)</p> <p>Maidstone CSU</p> <p>Maidstone CSU</p> <p>Maidstone CSU</p>
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Baseline Sept 2011</b>	<b>Kent-wide comparison</b>	<b>Target (by 2018)</b>	
ASB incidents per 1,000 population	22.67%	25.25%	Reduce to 20% in the Kent-wide comparison by 2018	
Increasing overall customer satisfaction with regards to how ASB incidents are managed in Maidstone	80.6%	Not currently recorded	85%	

**Priority 2: Domestic abuse**

Aim	Action	Anticipated Outcomes		Lead Agency
<p><b>To work to reduce repeat victimisation of domestic abuse victims and to ensure effective services are in place to support and meet the needs of victims.</b></p>	<p>Support the development and implementation of a Maidstone Domestic Abuse Action Plan to support the CSP Plan.</p>	<p>Increased access to information for agencies, victims, families and friends; improvement of agency links to DV Forum; improved referral routes; improved awareness and access to services for adults, children and teenage victims.</p>	<p>Maidstone Domestic Violence Forum</p>	
	<p>Support the continuation of a One-Stop Shop to increase support to victims.</p>	<p>Improved awareness and access to services for adults, children and teenage victims.</p>	<p>K-dash</p>	
	<p>Support the Specialist Domestic Violence Court and the work of the Independent Domestic Violence Advisors.</p>	<p>Increased number of domestic abuse cases seen at Court.</p>	<p>HM Court Services</p>	
	<p>Continuation of the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) in Maidstone.</p>	<p>Increased referrals from wider range of agencies. Support to high risk victims of domestic abuse.</p>	<p>Maidstone Domestic Violence Forum</p>	
Indicator		Baseline Sept 2011	Kent-wide comparison	Target (by 2018)
Number of DA incidents per 1,000 population		15.92	16.88	Maintain below the Kent-wide comparison
% who are repeat victims		23.3%	23.5%	Reduce to 21%
% of Police MARAC referrals (West Kent)		39.62%	50.76%	Maintain current levels

**Priority 3: Reducing reoffending**

Aim	Action	Anticipated Outcomes		Lead Agency
<p><b>To work to embed the responsibility of reducing re-offending across all agencies for all age groups, including awareness raising of existing services and activities. Work will be targeted around known reasons for people to offend, included education, training and employment as well as addressing housing needs.</b></p>	<p>Undertake awareness raising activities to highlight statutory agencies responsibilities to tackle reducing re-offending and to raise awareness of existing work to tackle offending.</p>	<p>Reduced re-offending across all groups.</p> <p>Increased number of project suggestions for unpaid work schemes through Probation, YOS and HMPS.</p>		<p>SMP Reducing Re-offending sub-group</p> <p>SMP Reducing Re-offending sub-group</p>
Indicator		Baseline Sept 2011	Kent-wide comparison	Target (by 2018)
First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10 – 17 (YISP/YOS)		13.7%	12.8%	Reduce to 12%
Proportion of adult and juvenile offenders who re-offend		25.1%	23.7%	Reduce to 23%

**Priority 4: Road safety - killed or seriously injured (KSI)**

Aim	Action	Anticipated Outcomes		Lead Agency	
<p><b>To continue multi-agency work promoting road safety awareness to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on the roads.</b></p>	<p>Deliver road safety education programmes (e.g. RUSH, Car'nage) delivered in schools, colleges and community groups in the borough.</p> <p>Focus campaigns on discouraging drink driving and using mobile phones.</p> <p>Engage with the business community (which often includes young drivers) through the Driving Business Safely Campaign</p>	<p>Reduced road fatalities and serious injury caused by young drivers and drivers of two-wheeled vehicles.</p>	<p>Reduced road fatalities and serious injury caused by drinking drive and mobile phone use.</p>	<p>Reduced road fatalities and serious injury caused by speeding and careless driving.</p>	<p>Kent Fire and Rescue Service</p> <p>Kent Council Council</p> <p>SMP Road Safety (KSI) sub-group</p>
Indicator		Baseline Sept 2011	Kent-wide comparison	Target (by 2018)	
Perception speeding vehicles		27.4%	28.0%	Reduce to 25%	
Delivery of RUSH education programme to Year 11 students		3,000	Not applicable	RUSH delivered to 3,000 Year 11 students annually	
Road users killed or seriously injured (all)		58	N/A	Reduce to 40	



**Priority 5: Substance misuse**

Aim	Action	Anticipated Outcomes		Lead Agency
<p><b>To continue multi-agency work to reduce the impact of drug and alcohol misuse on individuals and the local community, including drunken behaviour, binge and underage drinking.</b></p>	<p>Raise awareness and implement activities as part of a 2-year Alcohol Action Plan supporting the Don't Abuse the Booze project.</p> <p>Directed operations and supervision to be undertaken to ensure that licensed premises are well run.</p> <p>Engage with licensees through the Night-time Economy Forum and call ins to licensed premises.</p> <p>Provide a reassuring presence in the night-time economy</p> <p>Launch a Directory of Substance Misuse and poster campaign.</p> <p>Increase multi-agency street outreach through CRI and other providers.</p>	<p>Reduction in underage drinking across Maidstone.</p> <p>Raised young people's awareness of the dangers of drugs and alcohol.</p> <p>Reduced impact on the local community and individuals as a result of alcohol misuse.</p> <p>Reduced underage sales through licensed premises.</p> <p>Reduced impact on the local community and individuals as a result of alcohol misuse.</p> <p>Improved promotion of responsible drinking messages within licensed premises.</p> <p>Improved perceptions around safety in the night-time economy.</p> <p>Increased access to information for agencies and service users.</p> <p>Increased number of people accessing and completing treatment for substance misuse.</p>	<p>SMP Substance Misuse sub-group</p> <p>MBC Licensing/Trading Standards</p> <p>MBC Licensing</p> <p>MBC Licensing/Trading Standards</p> <p>Urban Blue/Street Pastors</p> <p>Maidstone CSU</p> <p>CRI</p>	
Indicator	Baseline Sept 2011	Kent-wide comparison	Target (by 2018)	
Perception drunk/rowdy	7.7%	11.4%	Reduce to 7%	
Perception using dealing/drugs	4.3%	11.4%	Reduce to 4%	
Perception overall feelings of safety	95.8%	94.2%	Maintain current levels	
Number of discarded needles picked up	2,400	Not available	Reduce to 1,200	

## **7. Plan for and Effectively Police Major Events in Maidstone**

The Maidstone CSP will work in partnership with emergency services, district councils, other police forces, businesses and the community to ensure security planning is consistent across all agencies.

## **8. Metal theft**

A rise in the price of copper, lead and other non-ferrous metals has led to a dramatic increase in the number of metal thefts across the UK due to their scrap value. The CSP will monitor levels of metal theft in the locality devising plans, if necessary, to tackle any further increases. The Partnership is working with scrap metal dealers, recyclers and other agencies to promote the use of SmartWater forensic technology. New laws came into force in 2012, banning all cash transactions and unlimited fines for people caught trading the metal.

## **9. Consultation on Priorities and Partnership Plan**

Maidstone has some clearly defined urban as well as rural areas, often with competing demands on resources and emphasis on what local priorities should be. Through the annual Strategic Assessment and future consultation events, stakeholders will be informed of progress against the Partnership Plan to ensure there are no other compelling issues that should be included in the Plan.

## **10. Authorisation**

### **Jon Bumpus**

Chief Inspector, Maidstone Police

### **Martin Adams**

Area Manager, Kent Fire and Rescue Service

### **Alison Broom**

Chief Executive, Maidstone Borough Council