AGENDA

EXTERNAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING



(ACTING AS THE CRIME AND DISORDER OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE)

Date: Wednesday 24 March 2010

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Meeting Room 6D, Maidstone

House, King Street, Maidstone

Membership:

Councillors Hotson (Chairman), Batt, Mrs Gibson,

Hinder, Marchant, Paterson, Sherreard

and Yates

Co-optee Mr Brian Sangha

Page No.

- 1. Apologies.
- 2. Notification of Substitute Members.
- 3. Notification of Visiting Members.

Continued Over/:

Issued on 16 March 2010

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David Petitores

David Petford, Chief Executive, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone Kent ME15 6JQ

4.	Disclosures	by	Members	and	Officers:
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- a) Disclosures of interest.
- b) Disclosures of lobbying.
- c) Disclosures of whipping.

5. To consider whether any items should be taken in private because of the possible disclosure of exempt information.

6. Safer Maidstone Partnership Scrutiny.

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<u>Approximate Timings</u>

10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Anti-Social Behaviour.

11 a.m. to 11.15 a.m. Target Setting.

11.15 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. Communication with Councillors.

7. INFORMATION: Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Scrutiny Protocols

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MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXTERNAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 24 MARCH 2010

REPORT OF HEAD OF CHANGE AND SCRUTINY

Report prepared by Louise Smith

1. SAFER MAIDSTONE PARTNERSHIP SCRUTINY

- 1.1 Issue for Consideration
- 1.1.1 To consider the work of the Safer Maidstone Partnership (SMP) in reducing anti-social behaviour in the Borough.
- 1.1.2 To consider the ways in which SMP targets are set.
- 1.1.3 To consider the ways in which the SMP communicates with Councillors.
- 1.2 Recommendation of Head of Change and Scrutiny
- 1.2.1 That the External Overview and Scrutiny Committee interviews the representatives of the Safer Maidstone Partnership to:
 - a) identify the role of each partner in tackling anti-social behaviour and how these roles compliment each other;
 - b) establish how targets are set; and
 - c) identify the methods of communication with councillors

and make recommendations for improvement if this is considered necessary.

- 1.3 Reasons for Recommendation
- 1.3.1 Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 placed a responsibility on all local authorities to scrutinise the work of their local crime and disorder reduction partnership (CDRP) at least once a year.

 Maidstone's CDRP is the Safer Maidstone Partnership (SMP).
- 1.3.2 Maidstone Borough Council carried out its first SMP scrutiny meeting on 7 September 2009; the minutes of this meeting are attached at Appendix A for information.

1.3.3 Home Office guidance on the scrutiny of CDRPs states:

"The introduction of crime and disorder scrutiny committees enhances existing partnership arrangements by developing a clear structure for overseeing and reviewing the delivery of joint responses on community safety and by creating a clearer link between partner agencies and the public on community safety.¹"

Following the initial SMP scrutiny meeting, discussions were held with representatives from each political group on the Committee and the Crime and Disorder co-optee to identify topics for consideration at the next SMP scrutiny meeting. It was felt that focussing discussion on specific topics would enable the Committee to more effectively review the delivery of joint responses on community safety.

1.3.4 It was agreed that the meeting would focus on anti-social behaviour, with two minor additional topics of target setting and communication with Councillors.

1.3.5 Anti-Social Behaviour

- 1.3.6 Key questions that Members wished to consider included:
 - How does the partnership both prevent and tackle ASB?
 - What resources are put into tackling ASB?
 - How is ASB dealt with in both urban and rural areas?
 - How is the local community engaged in tackling ASB?
 - How are perpetrators of ASB worked with to discourage future offences?
- 1.3.7 Information on reported anti-social behaviour in the SMP area is attached at <u>Appendix B</u>, along with information on other CDRP areas in Kent for comparison at <u>Appendix C</u>.
- 1.4 Alternative Action and why not Recommended
- 1.4.1 The Committee could decide not to consider anti-social behavior however it was agreed that committee meetings would focus on topics to ensure it remained effective and this topic was agreed at a premeeting of representatives of the committee.
- 1.5 <u>Impact on Corporate Objectives</u>
- 1.5.1 This discussion would meet the corporate objective for Maidstone to be a place that has strong, healthy and safe communities.

¹ Home Office Guidance for the Scrutiny of Crime and Disorder Matters – England; Implementing Sections 19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act 2006(May 2009)

1.6	Other In	<u>mplica</u>	ations	
1.6.1				
	1	1.	Financial	
	2	2.	Staffing	
	3	3.	Legal	
	2	4.	Equality Impact Needs Assessment	
	Ę	5.	Environmental/Sustainable Development	
	6	5.	Community Safety	
	7	7.	Human Rights Act	
	8	3.	Procurement	
	g	9.	Asset Management	

1.7 Relevant Documents

1.7.1 Appendices

Appendix A – Minutes of External Overview and Scrutiny Meeting, 7 September 2009

Appendix B – Information on anti-social behavior by ward

Appendix C – Information on other CDRP areas in Kent

1.7.2 Background Documents

IS THIS A KEY DECISION REPOR	<u>RT?</u>
Yes	No X
If yes, when did it first appear in the	e Forward Plan?
This is a Key Decision because:	
Wards/Parishes affected:	

MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXTERNAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2009

PRESENT: Councillor Hotson (Chairman)

Councillors Marchant, Mrs Gibson, Mrs Parvin,

Paterson, Yates and Warner

APOLOGIES: Councillors Batt and Sherreard

48. The Committee to consider whether all items on the agenda should be web-cast.

Resolved: That all items on the agenda be web-cast.

49. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Councillors Batt and Sherreard.

50. Notification of Substitute Members.

It was noted that Councillor Warner was substituting for Councillor Batt.

51. Notification of Visiting Members.

It was noted that Councillor Chittenden was a visiting Member with an interest in Agenda Item 8, "Scrutiny of the Safer Maidstone Partnership".

52. Disclosures by Members and Officers:

There were no disclosures.

53. To consider whether any items should be taken in private because of the possible disclosure of exempt information.

Resolved: That all items be taken in public as proposed.

54. Appointment of Co-optee.

Resolved: That Mr Brian Sangha be co-opted as a voting member of the

Committee when it acted in its capacity as the Crime and

Disorder Committee for 2009-10.

55. Scrutiny of the Safer Maidstone Partnership.

The Chairman welcomed the representatives of the Safer Maidstone Partnership (SMP) Strategy Group and reminded the Committee that there was now a statutory obligation to scrutinise the SMP. It was highlighted that the meeting was an opportunity to identify what the SMP did, how, and what the future held.

The SMP representatives then introduced themselves as:

- David Petford, Chief Executive of Maidstone Borough Council and Co-Chairman of the SMP;
- Chief Superintendent Alasdair Hope from Mid-Kent Police, who was in attendance in his capacity as the Co-Chairman of the SMP;
- Tim Thompson, an independent member of the Kent Police Authority (KPA);
- Molly Norley, Local Children's Services Partnership Manager for Maidstone 1 who was in attendance on behalf of Chris Jones from Kent County Council;
- Nick Silvester, Partnership Manager for South Division for Kent Fire and Rescue Service (KFRS);
- Chief Inspector David Pascoe, Maidstone Borough Commander from Mid-Kent Police; and
- Jessica Mookherjee, Assistant Director for Public Health at NHS West Kent (formerly the West Kent Primary Care Trust and referred to as "the PCT").

Chief Supt. Hope then outlined the responsibilities and structure of the SMP. The SMP, as a Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) had a statutory responsibility to reduce crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour (ASB) and substance misuse. An additional responsibility to reduce re-offending in relation to criminal offences, ASB and substance misuse would be introduced next year. There were six statutory partners: the police, the local authority (in Maidstone's case this included the borough and the county council), the police authority, the primary care trust and the fire and rescue service. Kent Probation Service would be a statutory partner from early 2010 to help the SMP deliver its new responsibility in relation to re-offending. There was also a wide range of non-statutory partners including Maidstone Housing Trust and Maidstone Mediation. With regard to the organisation of the SMP, the Strategy Group was made up of the 6 statutory partners plus a selection of nonstatutory partners; this was the key decision making group which could allocate resources, set priorities and performance targets, and hold to account delivery groups. The seven SMP delivery groups were made up of practitioners and linked to the statutory responsibilities. There was also "partnership tasking and co-ordination", whereby practitioners within delivery groups met once a fortnight to address very specific local issues. At these meetings, practitioners were provided with information and data to help them to make informed decisions on where to allocate the delivery group's resources. The Partnership was aware that the issues it was tackling were dynamic rather than static and were different according to location and time of day. The SMP therefore had to be flexible in order to respond to issues as they arose. A Community Safety Unit (CSU), comprising a multi-agency group of practitioners to share information and data amongst partners, was to be based in Maidstone House. This would allow all practitioners to agree quickly on courses of action. It was hoped that all SMP partners would join the CSU.

Chief Supt. Hope informed Members that the business process model for the SMP was the National Intelligence Model (NIM). This allowed the SMP to identify its priorities and allocate resources accordingly. CDRPs were subject to a significant change agenda and the Home Office had recently introduced the "Six Hallmarks of Effective Partnerships" which outlined how CDRPs should operate.

Mr Petford informed Members that a Policy Group acted above the Strategy Group; this consisted only of the 6 statutory partners and met twice a year. The main target of the SMP was to reduce crime, and this was being achieved; there had been a 10.1% reduction in the last quarter. Mr Petford was concerned about the information currently being received by the SMP Strategy Group as it was quite technical and included a lot of data but not enough information and analysis; he was working to change this. Mr Petford also felt that the statutory partners other than the police and Maidstone Borough Council needed to be more involved in the activities of the SMP. Finally, the Strategy Group was now meeting 6 times a year rather than 12, which made the meetings more productive. The overall structure of the SMP was being reviewed to ensure that it was as efficient and relevant as possible.

Mr Thompson explained that the police authority role on CDRPs was historically unclear as police authorities did not provide a direct public service. The role of the KPA on the SMP was therefore to consider the priorities and responsibilities of the SMP and evaluate how the police was contributing to the delivery of these. The KPA aimed to ensure that a coordinated approach was taken to community consultation between the police, KPA and the SMP; that the police's contribution to the information-sharing protocol effectively met the needs of the SMP; that the police, KPA and SMP planning processes were aligned and targets and priorities were not conflicting; and to monitor the police's contribution to the SMP to secure efficiency, effectiveness and value for money.

Ms Mookherjee stated that the key issues for the PCT on the SMP were alcohol, drugs, other substances, domestic violence and harm to the person. The PCT covered an area of six boroughs and was moving towards two organisations, separating the provider and commissioner roles. In the future, the PCT would have a less direct role in delivery, so communication to providers would need to be extremely clear to explain what services were required to deliver priorities.

Mrs Norley explained that each Local Children's Services Partnership (LCSP) had a police representative on its board who led on the "staying safe" priority, ensuring that local needs were addressed and all partners were working together to improve outcomes for children and young people. The LCSP Plans underpinned the statutory responsibilities of the SMP. The SMP allowed the LCSP to maximise partnership working and the data sharing protocol ensured that local, up-to-date information was available.

Appendix A

Mr Silvester stated that the key aims of the KFRS were to reduce fires and road traffic collisions. It therefore ran a large education programme which reached 9,347 students a year in 156 sessions. Each education key stage was targeted, starting with basic information and ending with initiatives targeting young drivers for example "Grow Up, Slow Down" and "Know the Limits". "Operation Carmageddon" brought a crash scenario outside a nightclub and engaged with people outside of the nightclub to show them the effects of a collision on people involved. The KFRS brought to the partnership resources and funding that were not available elsewhere, and it worked with a number of the key partners to assist them to achieve the partnership's aims. The KFRS had a youth diversion group which would this year start targeting hotspots for youth offending; this would particularly work to assist rural parishes. It was also involved in a number of youth groups such as MAYDAG (Multi-Agency Youth Development Action Group) and the Power Project.

Chief Inspector Pascoe assured Members that the SMP was not complacent about improving crime figures and partners asked many probing questions to ensure consistent improvements were made. Both the police and the SMP had their performance measured against "most similar" forces and CDRPs, which helped to identify any issues. The NIM required a strategic assessment to be carried out each year and the best quality information possible was required to inform this; Chief Inspector Pascoe would be seeking more information this year to further improve the quality of the strategic assessment. The CSU was a strong driver for the future working of the SMP and for finding long-term solutions. Kent Police had been successful in bidding to take part in the "Tackling Knives Action Programme", and one of the reasons for this success was the fact that the SMP signed off the police plan. The SMP was looking at the possibility of establishing task and finish groups to tackle specific issues rather than having standing delivery groups.

The Committee then discussed a number of issues:

Community Engagement

The Chairman highlighted concerns with regard to Member involvement with the SMP and suggested that more information, for example minutes of meetings, needed to be made available to Members. Mr Petford explained that in terms of Member involvement, the Cabinet Member for Community Services sat on the SMP Strategy and Policy groups, whilst a Kent County Council Member also attended. Of other CDRPs in Kent, three were chaired by Members whilst 9 had officer chairmen; of these 9, 3 were co-chaired, so Maidstone was not unusual in this respect. Mr Petford was aware of Member concern over information from the SMP and a website was to be launched soon which would make information easily available. MBC's Head of Communications was the Partnership's communications officer.

[Councillor Mrs Parvin in the chair for the remainder of the meeting]

Appendix A

A Councillor asked how the SMP met its statutory responsibility to engage with communities. Chief Inspector Pascoe stated that engaging with the community was the SMP's biggest challenge. PACTs (Partners and Communities Together) were one way in which the police tried to encourage the community to come forward with any issues, and Councillors were encouraged to inform him of any issues in their wards. The police would be coming to speak to the Full Council later in the year to consult on their priorities.

Mr Sangha asked the partners how adequately they considered the SMP to be resourced to ensure effective delivery of consistent messages. Mr Petford stated that some interesting initiatives were being developed, for example the use of leaflets targeting areas at a ward and sub-ward level. The Committee requested examples of these leaflets.

A Councillor highlighted the need for information to be provided in plain English, and Mr Petford agreed that it was vital to ensure that the right communication was made at the right level. This included informal communication within communities being passed on to all the relevant agencies via Councillors to ensure that the right issues were being addressed.

Partnership Working and Information Sharing

A Member stated that little information was received from KFRS. Mr Silvester explained that KFRS supplied data to the SMP and confirmed that this could be made available to Members if required.

With regard to co-operation between the police and PCT, Ms Mookherjee explained that the two organisations were working together to share data and to ensure that data was collated in a way that was useful to both. They also worked together on the "Urban Blue" bus initiative to tackle health and crime issues in the night-time economy.

A Councillor asked whether a Tasking and Coordination Group was in place and Chief Inspector Pascoe confirmed that the Strategy Group took on this role. In response to a further question, Chief Supt. Hope explained that the SMP had a 3-year plan that was revised each year. MBC's Community Safety Co-ordinator kept a timetable monitoring when decisions needed to be reviewed to ensure that this was carried out.

<u>Funding</u>

In response to queries about funding, Mr Petford explained that the SMP received the following funding: Safer Stronger Communities Fund - £170,000; Basic Command Unit Fund - £68,000; Community Chest - £42,500; Performance Reward Grant 2008-2010 - £50,000 had been received so far; Kent Police - £20,000; MBC - £20,000; KFRS - £2,500; and Kent Police Authority - £5,000. He stated that MBC's contribution to the SMP was approved through the budget setting process and decisions on how to spend that money were made by the SMP Strategy Group. The Committee requested a copy of the SMP accounts.

9 5

A Councillor requested assurance that the delivery of the SMP priorities would not be affected by the budget savings that public sector organisations needed to achieve. Chief Supt. Hope confirmed that the 2009-10 budget was secure, however there was a lack of clarity around the 2010-11 budget both in terms of funding through the Kent Partnership and Government, and individual partner budgets. The SMP's strategy was to seek as much resource as possible and to bid for "top up" funding where possible. Mr Petford stated that the direct funding from individual partners was not as important as the need to coordinate spending and working amongst partners to maximise all available resources.

Domestic Violence

Chief Supt. Hope gave an example of the importance of partnership working in tackling crime and ASB. He explained that in an incident of domestic violence, the police would be required to deal with the offender, and as drugs or alcohol were often involved, health services would also have a role. With regard to alcohol, the Council had a role in terms of licensing. If children were in the household, social services would need to be involved, along with education. Voluntary sector services may also be required to support the victim. Additionally, the probation service would then have a key role in terms of reducing re-offending and revictimisation.

Mr Sangha noted that in the SMP plan, for those issues where the major partners were leading, performance was improving; however performance was not improving at the same rate for tackling domestic violence. Mr Petford explained that it often took a long time to see results from initiatives to tackle such issues; however the SMP had helped to fund a domestic violence officer in the court and was looking at performance measures to ensure that this achieved results. Ms Mookherjee highlighted that incidences of domestic violence were under-reported nationally, and so while domestic violence was worrying, the reporting of incidences was positive as it meant action could be taken. Mr Petford also stated that various new measures were being brought in to help courts to tackle the issue.

Chief Supt. Hope highlighted that nearly one quarter of violence in the borough was domestic violence and so this was a key issue for the Partnership. One of the main triggers for domestic abuse was concerns about money, and the construction industry had been one of the hardest hit in the recession. Maidstone had a higher than average proportion of construction-related jobs, and therefore the borough was likely to be harder hit than many by the recession. Using this kind of data enabled the SMP to keep track of issues in the borough and ensured that resources were appropriately allocated.

A Councillor queried the role of education and Mrs Norley explained that there was a new initiative in Maidstone working with the women's support service to deliver training for teachers in schools and staff in children's centres, along with representatives working in homes, to allow them to

Appendix A

recognise signs of domestic violence. There was also the CAF (Common Assessment Framework) system whereby anyone in a school with a concern about a family could complete a CAF form that was then submitted to a "single point of access" meeting. At this meeting all agencies could share information about the family to ensure that concerns were picked up. The CAF system identified a lead professional who coordinated the work of all agencies and provided a single point of contact for the family.

A Councillor referred to the recent "Baby P" case and Mrs Norley stated that Single Point of Access meetings aimed to ensure all agencies worked together so that issues were not missed. In the future there would be a shared database for all children, and all of the professionals involved with any family would be flagged up. Therefore if there was a lot of activity in relation to one family, that would trigger a different review of that family.

Other

A Councillor highlighted that Maidstone had the worst road safety record in Kent and suggested that the SMP had a greater role to play in addressing this. Mr Silvester stated that there were several bodies already working together to address road safety, however if there was an issue that could best be addressed by the SMP partners, proposals could be brought to the strategy group. Chief Supt. Hope agreed that road safety was a concern however it was not part of the SMP's remit and it was not funded to tackle the issue. Mr Petford highlighted that road safety would be better dealt with by other agencies, but when issues of ASB or crime were leading to road safety issues, that was when the SMP could become involved.

A Councillor suggested that it would be useful for the Licensing Committee to receive certain crime information from the SMP to assist it when it reviewed its policy with regard to reducing crime and disorder. Mr Petford agreed that it would be useful for the Licensing staff to speak with the Community Safety staff to consider how best to equip the Licensing Committee with the information it needed.

The Chairman thanked the partners for their attendance.

The Committee then discussed the key issues arising from the meeting and agreed that a communications plan was required for the SMP and Member involvement in the SMP needed to be improved. Members also asked for a timescale for the review of the SMP plan with a view to potentially looking at this review when it arose. It was agreed that numerical data from all partners was required to help to inform the future work programme of the Committee, along with information on who collated this information for the SMP. A Councillor also noted that it would be useful to find out which districts the SMP was compared to as this comparison could be useful information. Finally, it was noted that a full membership list of the SMP was available and the Acting Overview and Scrutiny Manager was requested to forward this to the Committee for information.

Resolved: That

- a) Copies of the SMP accounts, examples of SMP communications leaflets and a timescale for the review of the SMP plan be forwarded to the Committee;
- b) The Licensing Department be recommended to speak with the Community Safety department to identify how best to equip the Licensing Committee with information to fulfil its role;
- c) The SMP be recommended to produce a full communications plan to be considered by the Committee at a later date;
- d) Involvement of elected Members in the SMP be improved;
- e) Data provided to the SMP by the statutory partners also be made available to the Committee;
- f) The Committee be provided with contact details for the officer responsible for collating data for the SMP; and
- g) Information on the "most similar" districts used for performance comparison by the SMP, plus a full membership list of the SMP, be provided to the Committee.

56. Duration of the Meeting.

6:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.

Anti-Social Behaviour by Ward as at 11/03/10

Info from http://maps.police.uk/

Explanation of Terms

Total crimes is the number of individual incidents. Crime rates means the number of crimes per 1000 people.

Allington

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 8.7 to 9.3 (7.7%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
0.4	1.4	1.8	1.2
0.4	1.1	2.4	1.3
Nov	De c	Jan	Average
3	10	13	8.7
3	8	17	9.3
	0.4 0.4 Nov	0.4 1.4 0.4 1.1 Nov	Nov c Jan 3 10 13

Show: Total crimes | Crime rates



Barming

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 1.3 to 1.7 (25%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	0.4	0.9	0.4	0.6
2009/2010	1.3	0.9	0	0.7
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009		Dec 2	Jan 1	Average 1.3



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people.

Bearsted

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has decreased from 10.3 to 7.7 (25.8%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	1	1.5	1.3	1.3
2009/2010	0.9	1	1	0.9
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009			Jan 11	Average 10.3



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people.

Boughton Monchelsea and Chart Sutton

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has not changed (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	1.2	1.2	0.4	0.9
2009/2010	0.8	1.6	0.4	0.9
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009		Dec 3	Jan 1	Average 2.3



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people.

Boxley

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has decreased from 21 to 11 (47.6%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	2.4	3.3	1.8	2.5
2009/2010	1	1.1	1.9	1.3
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009				Average 21



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people.

Bridge

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 13 to 20 (53.8%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	3.3	2.7	1.5	2.5
2009/2010	1.4	5.6	4.6	3.9
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009			Jan 8	Average 13



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people.

Coxheath and Hunton

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 8 to 16.7 (108.3%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	1.5	1.3	0.7	1.2
2009/2010	3.2	1.6	2.5	2.5
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	10	9	5	8
2009/2010	22	11	17	16.7

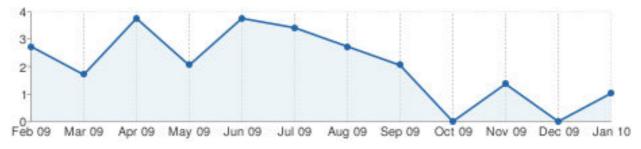


^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people.

Detling and Thurnham

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has decreased from 3.3 to 2.3 (30%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	1.7	1.4	0.3	1.1
2009/2010	1.4	0	1	0.8
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	5	4	1	3.3



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people.

Downswood and Otham

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has decreased from 9.7 to 6.3 (34.5%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	2.5	1.8	6.1	3.5
2009/2010	2.2	1.8	2.9	2.3
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	7	5	17	9.7



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people

East

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has decreased from 33.7 to 21.3 (36.6%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	3.6	4.9	3.9	4.1
2009/2010	3	2.3	2.6	2.6
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	29	40	32	33.7



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people.

Fant

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 22 to 36.3 (65.2%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	1.7	2.9	3.8	2.8
2009/2010	4.7	4.7	4.5	4.6
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009			Jan 30	Average 22



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people.

Harrietsham and Lenham

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 6 to 8.7 (44.4%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	0.6	1.7	1.1	1.1
2009/2010	1.3	1.1	2.4	1.6
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	3	9	6	6



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people.

Headcorn

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 11.3 to 19 (67.6%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	1	2.8	3.1	2.3
2009/2010	3.3	4.7	3.7	3.9
	Nov	_	7	A
	INOV	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009		14	Jan 15	11.3



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people.

Heath

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 11 to 15.7 (42.4%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	1.9	1	2.4	1.8
2009/2010	2.7	1.9	2.9	2.5
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009			Jan 15	Average 11



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people.

High Street

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 86.3 to 112.3 (30.1%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

1 1					
	Nov	Dec	Jan		Average
2008/2009	9.3	12.5	9.9		10.6
2009/2010	13.4	14.6	13.4		13.8
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Α	verage
2008/2009	76	102	81	8	6.3
2009/2010	109	119	109	1	12.3



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people

Leeds

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 1.3 to 2.3 (75%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	1.8	0	0	0.6
2009/2010	0.4	0.9	1.8	1
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	4	0	0	1.3



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people

Loose

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 2 to 4.3 (116.7%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	0	1.3	1.3	0.9
2009/2010	0.9	2.2	2.6	1.9
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	0	3	3	2



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people.

Marden and Yalding

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 7.7 to 9.7 (26.1%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	0.6	1.4	0.9	1
2009/2010	1.9	1.1	0.6	1.2
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	Е		_	
	5	11	/	7.7



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people.

North

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 20.3 to 28.3 (39.3%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	3.3	2	1.9	2.4
2009/2010	3.1	2.6	4.4	3.4
	Nov	Dec	lan	Average
		DCC	Jan	rtterage
2008/2009	28	17		20.3



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people.

North Downs

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 3 to 3.3 (11.1%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	0	2.5	1.2	1.2
2009/2010	1.2	1.6	1.2	1.4
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	0	6	3	3



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people.

Park Wood

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has decreased from 32 to 27.3 (14.6%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	6.3	7.9	7.4	7.2
2009/2010	6.7	4.7	7	6.1
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	28	35	33	32
2009/2010	30	21	31	27.3

Show: Total crimes | Crime rates



^{*}Number of crimes per 1000 people

Shepway North

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 37 to 37.3 (0.9%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	3.7	4.8	4.2	4.2
2009/2010	2.3	3.7	6.9	4.3
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
		200		7
2008/2009	32			37



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people.

Shepway South

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 15 to 25.3 (68.9%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	2.6	1.5	2	2
2009/2010	2.9	3.3	4.2	3.5
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	19	11	15	15



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people

South

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 15 to 25.3 (68.9%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	2.6	1.5	2	2
2009/2010	2.9	3.3	4.2	3.5
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	19	11	15	15



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people.

Staplehurst

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has increased from 8 to 10.7 (33.3%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	1.7	1	1.4	1.4
2009/2010	1.2	0.9	3.4	1.8
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	10	6	8	8



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people

Sutton Valence and Langley

The average number of anti-social behaviour incidents in this area has decreased from 7.3 to 5 (31.8%) (compared to the same three month period last year)

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009	1.8	3.3	2.9	2.7
2009/2010	1.8	2.9	0.7	1.8
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Average
2008/2009		Dec 9	Jan 8	Average 7.3



^{*} Crime rates show number of crimes per 1000 people

Results based on STORM Live as at 12:34hrs on Monday 8th March 2010 and, therefore, subject to change

Anti-social behaviour incident types are defined by the National Standard for Incident Recording.

				Maid	stone			
		Financi	al year			Rolling	g year	
	Apr 09 to	Apr 08 to	%	Number	March 09	March 08	%	Number
	Feb 10	Feb 09	change	change	to Feb 10	to Feb 09	change	change
Abandoned vehicles	70	60	16.7%	10	79	67	17.9 %	12
Animal problems	112	78	43.6%	34	123	89	38.2%	34
Begging/vagrancy	15	51	-70.6%	-36	17	55	-69.1%	-38
Hoax calls ES	151	105	43.8%	46	155	111	39.6%	44
Inappropriate use/sale/possession of fireworks	36	34	5.9%	2	37	36	2.8%	1
Littering/drugs paraphernalia	44	48	-8.3%	-4	46	56	-17.9%	-10
Malicious communications	551	495	11.3%	56	605	545	11.0%	60
Noise	176	168	4.8%	8	188	181	3.9%	7
Nuisance neighbours	896	650	37.8%	246	974	687	41.8%	287
Prostitution related activity	5	0	n/a	5	5	0	n/a	5
Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour	2625	2717	-3.4%	-92	2921	2985	-2.1%	-64
Street drinking	19	34	-44.1%	-15	23	36	-36.1%	-13
Trespass	39	30	30.0%	9	44	30	46.7%	14
Vehicle nuisance/ inappropriate vehicle use	1121	1220	-8.1%	-99	1238	1332	-7.1%	-94
Total ASB incidents	5860	5690	3.0%	170	6455	6210	3.9%	245

				Ash	ford			
	Financial year				Rolling year			
	Apr 09 to	Apr 08 to	%	Number	March 09	March 08	%	Number
	Feb 10	Feb 09	change	change	to Feb 10	to Feb 09	change	change
Abandoned vehicles	60	59	1.7%	1	70	70	0.0%	0
Animal problems	97	57	70.2%	40	104	61	70.5%	43
Begging/vagrancy	18	13	38.5%	5	18	13	38.5%	5
Hoax calls ES	79	86	-8.1%	-7	85	93	-8.6%	-8
Inappropriate use/sale/possession of fireworks	13	40	-67.5%	-27	14	40	-65.0%	-26
Littering/drugs paraphernalia	25	26	-3.8%	-1	27	30	-10.0%	-3
Malicious communications	502	432	16.2%	70	538	489	10.0%	49
Noise	99	107	-7.5%	-8	110	114	-3.5%	-4
Nuisance neighbours	620	407	52.3%	213	655	441	48.5%	214
Prostitution related activity	1	2	-50.0%	-1	1	2	-50.0%	-1
Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour	1549	1476	4.9%	73	1727	1656	4.3%	71
Street drinking	11	16	-31.3%	-5	11	16	-31.3%	-5
Trespass	17	25	-32.0%	-8	18	26	-30.8%	-8
Vehicle nuisance/ inappropriate vehicle use	721	580	24.3%	141	818	674	21.4%	144
Total ASB incidents	3812	3326	14.6%	486	4196	3725	12.6%	471

				Cante	erbury			
		Financi	al year		Rolling year			
	Apr 09 to	Apr 08 to	%	Number	March 09	March 08	%	Number
	Feb 10	Feb 09	change	change	to Feb 10	to Feb 09	change	change
Abandoned vehicles	79	98	-19.4%	-19	94	103	-8.7%	-9
Animal problems	112	72	55.6%	40	122	74	64.9%	48
Begging/vagrancy	113	119	-5.0%	-6	126	139	-9.4%	-13
Hoax calls ES	152	122	24.6%	30	162	132	22.7%	30
Inappropriate use/sale/possession of fireworks	25	35	-28.6%	-10	27	35	-22.9%	-8
Littering/drugs paraphernalia	61	72	-15.3%	-11	74	82	-9.8%	-8
Malicious communications	585	482	21.4%	103	638	528	20.8%	110
Noise	241	204	18.1%	37	253	217	16.6%	36
Nuisance neighbours	1145	764	49.9%	381	1220	808	51.0%	412
Prostitution related activity	5	1	400.0%	4	5	1	400.0%	4
Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour	2992	2701	10.8%	291	3269	3010	8.6%	259
Street drinking	57	59	-3.4%	-2	61	60	1.7%	1
Trespass	28	29	-3.4%	-1	30	30	0.0%	0
Vehicle nuisance/ inappropriate vehicle use	914	829	10.3%	85	1008	906	11.3%	102
Total ASB incidents	6509	5587	16.5%	922	7089	6125	15.7%	964

				Dartford &	Graveshan	1		
		Financi	ial year		Rolling year			
	Apr 09 to	Apr 08 to	%	Number	March 09	March 08	%	Number
_	Feb 10	Feb 09	change	change	to Feb 10	to Feb 09	change	change
Abandoned vehicles	150	149	0.7%	1	166	167	-0.6%	-1
Animal problems	97	92	5.4%	5	110	101	8.9%	9
Begging/vagrancy	25	37	-32.4%	-12	30	38	-21.1%	-8
Hoax calls ES	229	197	16.2%	32	247	214	15.4%	33
Inappropriate use/sale/possession of fireworks	73	62	17.7%	11	73	64	14.1%	9
Littering/drugs paraphernalia	50	89	-43.8%	-39	56	96	-41.7%	-40
Malicious communications	762	749	1.7%	13	840	821	2.3%	19
Noise	236	207	14.0%	29	250	220	13.6%	30
Nuisance neighbours	1321	904	46.1%	417	1379	969	42.3%	410
Prostitution related activity	2	1	100.0%	1	2	1	100.0%	1
Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour	3977	4134	-3.8%	-157	4360	4501	-3.1%	-141
Street drinking	50	76	-34.2%	-26	66	77	-14.3%	-11
Trespass	29	58	-50.0%	-29	30	60	-50.0%	-30
Vehicle nuisance/ inappropriate vehicle use	1762	2162	-18.5%	-400	1971	2372	-16.9%	-401
Total ASB incidents	8763	8917	-1.7%	-154	9580	9701	-1.2%	-121

				Do	ver			
		Financi	al year			Rolling	g year	
	Apr 09 to	Apr 08 to	%	Number	March 09	March 08	%	Number
	Feb 10	Feb 09	change	change	to Feb 10	to Feb 09	change	change
Abandoned vehicles	54	56	-3.6%	-2	59	59	0.0%	0
Animal problems	97	63	54.0%	34	107	71	50.7%	36
Begging/vagrancy	27	40	-32.5%	-13	32	43	-25.6%	-11
Hoax calls ES	168	119	41.2%	49	182	129	41.1%	53
Inappropriate use/sale/possession of fireworks	35	37	-5.4%	-2	35	37	-5.4%	-2
Littering/drugs paraphernalia	39	46	-15.2%	-7	40	49	-18.4%	-9
Malicious communications	571	416	37.3%	155	615	452	36.1%	163
Noise	111	158	-29.7%	-47	115	168	-31.5%	-53
Nuisance neighbours	701	542	29.3%	159	742	589	26.0%	153
Prostitution related activity	0	0	n/a	0	0	0	n/a	0
Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour	2522	2566	-1.7%	-44	2789	2794	-0.2%	-5
Street drinking	21	32	-34.4%	-11	23	33	-30.3%	-10
Trespass	20	25	-20.0%	-5	24	25	-4.0%	-1
Vehicle nuisance/ inappropriate vehicle use	906	880	3.0%	26	1005	970	3.6%	35
Total ASB incidents	5272	4980	5.9%	292	5768	5419	6.4%	349

				Med	lway				
		Financi	al year		Rolling year				
	Apr 09 to	Apr 08 to	%	Number	March 09	March 08	%	Number	
	Feb 10	Feb 09	change	change	to Feb 10	to Feb 09	change	change	
Abandoned vehicles	148	145	2.1%	3	166	168	-1.2%	-2	
Animal problems	168	98	71.4%	70	177	105	68.6%	72	
Begging/vagrancy	91	83	9.6%	8	105	91	15.4%	14	
Hoax calls ES	324	296	9.5%	28	351	327	7.3%	24	
Inappropriate use/sale/possession of fireworks	96	128	-25.0%	-32	99	130	-23.8%	-31	
Littering/drugs paraphernalia	94	112	-16.1%	-18	105	124	-15.3%	-19	
Malicious communications	1099	984	11.7%	115	1200	1085	10.6%	115	
Noise	336	326	3.1%	10	355	343	3.5%	12	
Nuisance neighbours	1868	1476	26.6%	392	1987	1595	24.6%	392	
Prostitution related activity	56	28	100.0%	28	58	36	61.1%	22	
Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour	6861	7214	-4.9%	-353	7502	8000	-6.2%	-498	
Street drinking	91	104	-12.5%	-13	102	104	-1.9%	-2	
Trespass	65	93	-30.1%	-28	70	103	-32.0%	-33	
Vehicle nuisance/ inappropriate vehicle use	2461	2510	-2.0%	-49	2716	2757	-1.5%	-41	
Total ASB incidents	13758	13597	1.2%	161	14993	14968	0.2%	25	

				Seve	noaks			
		Financi	al year			Rolling	g year	
	Apr 09 to	Apr 08 to	%	Number	March 09	March 08	%	Number
	Feb 10	Feb 09	change	change	to Feb 10	to Feb 09	change	change
Abandoned vehicles	62	63	-1.6%	-1	67	66	1.5%	1
Animal problems	75	60	25.0%	15	80	63	27.0%	17
Begging/vagrancy	15	13	15.4%	2	15	14	7.1%	1
Hoax calls ES	98	132	-25.8%	-34	145	137	5.8%	8
Inappropriate use/sale/possession of fireworks	19	36	-47.2%	-17	20	36	-44.4%	-16
Littering/drugs paraphernalia	15	28	-46.4%	-13	18	34	-47.1%	-16
Malicious communications	369	284	29.9%	85	401	332	20.8%	69
Noise	102	80	27.5%	22	108	83	30.1%	25
Nuisance neighbours	383	308	24.4%	75	404	327	23.5%	77
Prostitution related activity	0	0	n/a	0	0	0	n/a	0
Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour	1179	1280	-7.9%	-101	1292	1399	-7.6%	-107
Street drinking	7	9	-22.2%	-2	7	10	-30.0%	-3
Trespass	10	25	-60.0%	-15	11	25	-56.0%	-14
Vehicle nuisance/ inappropriate vehicle use	577	549	5.1%	28	637	597	6.7%	40
Total ASB incidents	2911	2867	1.5%	44	3205	3123	2.6%	82

				She	pway			
		Financi	ial year			Rolling	g year	
	Apr 09 to	Apr 08 to	%	Number	March 09	March 08	%	Number
_	Feb 10	Feb 09	change	change	to Feb 10	to Feb 09	change	change
Abandoned vehicles	54	57	-5.3%	-3	58	61	-4.9%	-3
Animal problems	95	72	31.9%	23	101	82	23.2%	19
Begging/vagrancy	19	27	-29.6%	-8	19	33	-42.4%	-14
Hoax calls ES	96	124	-22.6%	-28	112	133	-15.8%	-21
Inappropriate use/sale/possession of fireworks	26	41	-36.6%	-15	28	43	-34.9%	-15
Littering/drugs paraphernalia	34	27	25.9%	7	36	30	20.0%	6
Malicious communications	595	446	33.4%	149	640	470	36.2%	170
Noise	101	128	-21.1%	-27	109	138	-21.0%	-29
Nuisance neighbours	723	593	21.9%	130	760	639	18.9%	121
Prostitution related activity	0	1	-100.0%	-1	0	1	-100.0%	-1
Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour	2237	2091	7.0%	146	2463	2343	5.1%	120
Street drinking	27	25	8.0%	2	33	26	26.9%	7
Trespass	26	19	36.8%	7	29	20	45.0%	9
Vehicle nuisance/ inappropriate vehicle use	678	733	-7.5%	-55	760	800	-5.0%	-40
Total ASB incidents	4711	4384	7.5%	327	5148	4819	6.8%	329

	Swale								
	Financial year				Rolling year				
	Apr 09 to Feb 10	Apr 08 to Feb 09	% change	Number change	March 09 to Feb 10	March 08 to Feb 09	% change	Number change	
Abandoned vehicles	60	81	-25.9%	-21	63	88	-28.4%	-25	
Animal problems	93	74	25.7%	19	104	81	28.4%	23	
Begging/vagrancy	14	14	0.0%	0	16	15	6.7%	1	
Hoax calls ES	187	170	10.0%	17	199	186	7.0%	13	
Inappropriate use/sale/possession of fireworks	44	57	-22.8%	-13	46	59	-22.0%	-13	
Littering/drugs paraphernalia	52	50	4.0%	2	56	54	3.7%	2	
Malicious communications	597	511	16.8%	86	647	550	17.6%	97	
Noise	179	153	17.0%	26	191	160	19.4%	31	
Nuisance neighbours	962	771	24.8%	191	1041	815	27.7%	226	
Prostitution related activity	3	0	n/a	3	3	0	n/a	3	
Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour	2812	2863	-1.8%	-51	3061	3171	-3.5%	-110	
Street drinking	21	26	-19.2%	-5	24	27	-11.1%	-3	
Trespass	59	113	-47.8%	-54	64	123	-48.0%	-59	
Vehicle nuisance/ inappropriate vehicle use	1264	1129	12.0%	135	1367	1260	8.5%	107	
Total ASB incidents	6347	6012	5.6%	335	6882	6589	4.4%	293	

	Thanet							
	Financial year				Rolling year			
	Apr 09 to	Apr 08 to	%	Number	March 09	March 08	%	Number
	Feb 10	Feb 09	change	change	to Feb 10	to Feb 09	change	change
Abandoned vehicles	123	98	25.5%	25	128	114	12.3%	14
Animal problems	111	62	79.0%	49	117	67	74.6%	50
Begging/vagrancy	51	51	0.0%	0	56	55	1.8%	1
Hoax calls ES	245	204	20.1%	41	273	216	26.4%	57
Inappropriate use/sale/possession of fireworks	34	55	-38.2%	-21	34	56	-39.3%	-22
Littering/drugs paraphernalia	52	46	13.0%	6	55	55	0.0%	0
Malicious communications	673	587	14.7%	86	724	660	9.7%	64
Noise	209	175	19.4%	34	229	182	25.8%	47
Nuisance neighbours	1442	1065	35.4%	377	1537	1128	36.3%	409
Prostitution related activity	5	6	-16.7%	-1	5	6	-16.7%	-1
Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour	3823	3672	4.1%	151	4123	4003	3.0%	120
Street drinking	33	56	-41.1%	-23	37	57	-35.1%	-20
Trespass	39	40	-2.5%	-1	42	40	5.0%	2
Vehicle nuisance/ inappropriate vehicle use	1208	1200	0.7%	8	1342	1299	3.3%	43
Total ASB incidents	8048	7317	10.0%	731	8702	7938	9.6%	764

	Tonbridge & Malling							
	Financial year				Rolling year			
	Apr 09 to	Apr 08 to	%	Number	March 09	March 08	%	Number
	Feb 10	Feb 09	change	change	to Feb 10	to Feb 09	change	change
Abandoned vehicles	56	57	-1.8%	-1	59	63	-6.3%	-4
Animal problems	48	44	9.1%	4	53	49	8.2%	4
Begging/vagrancy	12	24	-50.0%	-12	15	26	-42.3%	-11
Hoax calls ES	67	52	28.8%	15	70	57	22.8%	13
Inappropriate use/sale/possession of fireworks	24	34	-29.4%	-10	24	35	-31.4%	-11
Littering/drugs paraphernalia	25	27	-7.4%	-2	25	31	-19.4%	-6
Malicious communications	335	273	22.7%	62	367	305	20.3%	62
Noise	119	101	17.8%	18	126	109	15.6%	17
Nuisance neighbours	543	433	25.4%	110	592	459	29.0%	133
Prostitution related activity	1	0	n/a	1	1	0	n/a	1
Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour	1673	1465	14.2%	208	1832	1632	12.3%	200
Street drinking	15	13	15.4%	2	16	13	23.1%	3
Trespass	8	17	-52.9%	-9	10	17	-41.2%	-7
Vehicle nuisance/ inappropriate vehicle use	901	753	19.7%	148	987	794	24.3%	193
Total ASB incidents	3827	3293	16.2%	534	4177	3590	16.4%	587

	Tunbridge Wells								
	Financial year				Rolling year				
	Apr 09 to Feb 10	Apr 08 to Feb 09	% change	Number change	March 09 to Feb 10	March 08 to Feb 09	% change	Number change	
Abandoned vehicles	58	49	18.4%	9	62	63	-1.6%	-1	
Animal problems	68	36	88.9%	32	71	39	82.1%	32	
Begging/vagrancy	28	15	86.7%	13	30	17	76.5%	13	
Hoax calls ES	91	83	9.6%	8	95	86	10.5%	9	
Inappropriate use/sale/possession of fireworks	23	27	-14.8%	-4	26	27	-3.7%	-1	
Littering/drugs paraphernalia	21	20	5.0%	1	22	21	4.8%	1	
Malicious communications	368	321	14.6%	47	390	365	6.8%	25	
Noise	131	112	17.0%	19	136	117	16.2%	19	
Nuisance neighbours	498	400	24.5%	98	533	429	24.2%	104	
Prostitution related activity	1	3	-66.7%	-2	1	3	-66.7%	-2	
Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour	1508	1408	7.1%	100	1631	1566	4.2%	65	
Street drinking	25	24	4.2%	1	26	28	-7.1%	-2	
Trespass	7	17	-58.8%	-10	10	20	-50.0%	-10	
Vehicle nuisance/ inappropriate vehicle use	583	589	-1.0%	-6	631	656	-3.8%	-25	
Total ASB incidents	3410	3104	9.9%	306	3664	3437	6.6%	227	

MAIDSTONE PROTOCOLS FOR CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

- **1.** These protocols assume:
 - The continued operation of the Police and Justice Act 2006;
 - The continued existence of a Crime and Disorder Committee within the Overview and Scrutiny Function at Maidstone Borough Council (currently the External Overview and Scrutiny Committee);
 - The existence of a Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership for the Borough of Maidstone (currently the Safer Maidstone Partnership);
 - A partnership approach, working with responsible authorities within the Borough (and, where appropriate, beyond) as a "critical friend".
- **2.** The purpose of this protocol is to ensure effective interaction between the Safer Maidstone Partnership and the Crime and Disorder Committee to:
 - Enhance the public accountability of the Safer Maidstone Partnership;
 - Establish acceptable and appropriate ways of working between the two bodies; and
 - Develop and maintain a positive working relationship for the benefit of the residents of the Borough of Maidstone.
- **3.** The protocols are based on the following principles:
 - Overview and Scrutiny of the Safer Maidstone Partnership should focus on supporting the reduction of crime and anti-social behaviour and reducing fear of crime and anti-social behaviour in the Borough of Maidstone.
 - Safer Maidstone Partnership Overview and Scrutiny should seek to minimise any unnecessary additional administrative burdens on responsible authorities.
 - Crime and Disorder Committee agendas need to be developed in conjunction with the Safer Maidstone Partnership.
 - It is the intention of the Crime and Disorder Committee to require the Safer Maidstone Partnership to demonstrate added value in the work it does.
- **4.** The Crime and Disorder Committee has the statutory power to:
 - Consider Councillor Calls for Action made in relation to community safety matters;
 - Review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions; and
 - Make reports or recommendations to the local authority with respect to the discharge of those functions.
 - "The responsible authorities" means the bodies and persons who are responsible authorities within the meaning given by section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (c.37) (authorities responsible for

crime and disorder strategies) in relation to the local authority's area.

Maidstone Borough Council has a responsibility to work with Kent County Council and other district councils on the scrutiny of community safety issues where this is possible, for example through joint development of work programmes. The Overview and Scrutiny Team will seek to identify opportunities for joint working through the Kent and Medway Overview and Scrutiny Officer Network and present proposals to the Crime and Disorder Committee and the Safer Maidstone Partnership as these develop.

6. Communication

- 6.1 The Crime and Disorder Committee and the Safer Maidstone Partnership will each nominate a named officer to be the main point of contact. That officer will direct all correspondence to the appropriate person.
- 6.2 The Overview and Scrutiny function will inform the Safer Maidstone Partnership of all Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programmes on a six monthly basis to give Partners the opportunity to comment on any items that they feel appropriate to their own work. The Safer Maidstone Partnership will also be invited to propose future work items for the Crime and Disorder Committee where it wishes to do so, though the Committee is under no obligation to take these on.
- 6.3 The Safer Maidstone Partnership will inform the Crime and Disorder Committee of its forthcoming work on a six monthly basis and consult the Committee on its work where appropriate. In particular, the Safer Maidstone Partnership should consult the Crime and Disorder Committee on its Partnership Plan.
- 6.4 Both parties will inform the other of structure changes and significant changes to priorities or future plans to ensure accuracy of information.

7. Information Sharing

- 7.1 The Safer Maidstone Partnership will distribute public minutes of full Partnership, Policy group and Strategy group meetings to members of the Crime and Disorder Committee as soon as these are agreed.
- 7.2 The Crime and Disorder Committee may also request informal notes of delivery group meetings where this is relevant to work being carried out by the Committee.
- 7.3 The Safer Maidstone Partnership is required to respond to requests for information by the Crime and Disorder Committee "as soon as reasonably possible". These requests from councillors should be well focussed and thought through.
- 7.4 Information provided to the Crime and Disorder Committee by responsible authorities should be depersonalised and should not include any

information that would be reasonably likely to prejudice legal proceedings or current or future operations of the responsible authority. These requirements cannot be bypassed by Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 i.e. by putting an item onto Part II of a committee agenda.

8. Meeting Protocols

- 8.1 The Committee has a duty to meet at least once a year and is recommended to meet at 6 monthly intervals to ensure the ongoing building and maintenance of knowledge. Review task and finish groups may meet outside of these formal meetings with the requirement to report findings in full at a Crime and Disorder designated meeting.
- 8.2 Officers or employees of responsible authorities or of co-operating persons or bodies are required to attend meetings of the Crime and Disorder Committee to answer questions or provide information. The Committee will endeavour to give at least one month's notice to persons requested to attend. The person required must attend on the specified date unless they have a reasonable excuse not too.
- 8.3 Prior to meetings between the Crime and Disorder Committee and the Safer Maidstone Partnership, the Overview and Scrutiny function will:
 - Agree meeting dates as far in advance as possible;
 - Provide meeting paperwork at least 5 working days prior to the meeting;
 - Provide the Safer Maidstone Partnership with a list of proposed questions or key areas of inquiry.
- 8.4 When representatives of the Safer Maidstone Partnership are invited to attend meetings of the Crime and Disorder Committee, the following protocols will apply:
 - Committee Members should endeavour not to request detailed information from representatives of the Safer Maidstone partnership at meetings of the Committee, unless they have given prior notice through the appropriate officer. If, in the course of question and answer at a meeting of the Committee, it becomes apparent that further information would be useful, the representative being questioned may be required to submit it in writing to members of the Committee through the appropriate officer.
 - In the course of questioning at meetings, representatives of the Safer Maidstone Partnership may decline to give information or respond to questions on the ground that it is more appropriate that the question be directed to a more senior representative.
 - Representatives of the Safer Maidstone Partnership may decline to answer questions in an open session of the Committee on the grounds that the answer might disclose information which would be exempt or confidential as defined in the Access to Information Act 1985. In that event, the Committee may resolve to exclude the

- media and public in order that the question may be answered in private sessions.
- Committee members may not criticise or adversely comment on any individual representative of the Safer Maidstone Partnership by name.
- The Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, as published in the Maidstone Borough Council Constitution, will apply to all meetings.
- 8.5 A record will be made of the main statements of witnesses appearing before the Committee and agreed with the witness prior to publication or use by the Committee. Committee meetings may be electronically recorded and web-cast.

9. Reporting and Recommendations

- 9.1 Section 19(2) of the Police and Justice Act 2006 states that where the Crime and Disorder Committee makes a report or recommendations, a copy shall be provided to each of the responsible authorities.
- 9.2 In accordance with Section 19(8) of the Police and Justice Act, the authority, person or body to which a copy of the report or recommendations is passed shall:
 - a) Consider the report or recommendations;
 - b) Respond to the Crime and Disorder Committee indicating what (if any) action it proposes to take; and
 - c) Have regard to the report or recommendations in exercising its functions.
- 9.3 The relevant partner (or partners, including the full Safer Maidstone Partnership) will have 28 days to formally respond to any recommendations made by the Committee, or if this is not possible as soon as reasonably possible thereafter. The relevant partner(s) will inform the Crime and Disorder Committee Chairman if delays are expected.
- 9.4 The Overview and Scrutiny function will ensure that drafts of Committee reports are made available for comment by the Safer Maidstone Partnership Strategy Group and any adverse comments or concerns reported to the Committee before the final report is published.
- 9.5 The Chairmen of the Safer Maidstone Partnership will be given advance notice of the date of publication of the report and consulted on the text of any accompanying press release.

10. Co-option

- 10.1 The Crime and Disorder Committee may co-opt additional members as it sees appropriate. These co-optees:
 - Have the same entitlement to vote as any other member;

- May not be co-opted where the committee is considering a decision or action for which that person was wholly or partly responsible, or otherwise directly involved;
- May not out-number the permanent committee members;
- Must be an employee or officer of a responsible authority or cooperating person or body; and
- Cannot be a member of the Executive.

The relevant responsible authority will be consulted as to the most suitable person prior to co-option, and the membership of the co-optee can be withdrawn at any time.

- 10.2 Home Office guidance for the scrutiny of crime and disorder matters, states that "local authorities should, in all instances, presume that the police authority should play an active part at committee when community safety matters are being discussed and particularly when the police are to be present". In light of this guidance, Kent Police Authority will be invited to propose a member for co-option onto the committee when community safety matters are being considered.
- 11. These protocols will be reviewed after every third meeting of the Crime and Disorder Committee by the Committee Chairman and the Safer Maidstone Partnership Chairmen to ensure that they remain fit for purpose.