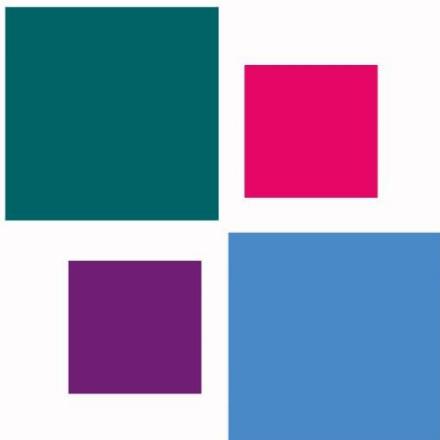


Maidstone
Borough Council

**Safer
Maidstone
Partnership**

Strategic Assessment

2020-21



1. Executive Summary

2019-2020 was a year where the SMP grew in both understanding and strength. It put in place stronger foundations for more partnership working, greater understanding and better use of powers that will keep Maidstone a safe place to live, work, visit and learn.

It was another year of challenges, with national concerns, such as Brexit, knife crime and now the risk of a world-wide pandemic from COVID-19. Locally there have been challenges that are both home-grown, but more often from outside the borough. These challenges continue to galvanise the partnership, ensuring that the right people, personalities, processes and policies are in place to support the services that are delivered across the partnership. The outcomes based approach, delivered synergistically, has been life changing. Our growth has raised awareness, challenged tired processes and reached the most vulnerable people in our borough, supporting their needs, no matter how complex.

Delivery throughout 2019/2020 across the SMP priorities, outlined in the report, shows the adaptability of the partnership to understand the intricacies of complex and emotive issues and to find new or improved ways to protect those affected. Whether that's delivering seminars on domestic abuse or knife crime. Or supporting/protecting vulnerable people/communities by adapting services. Or challenging inappropriate behaviour through enforcement. The SMP's innovative approaches have been recognised across the County and by Partnerships across Britain, with much of our work seen as "best" and "good" practice.

The report shows that these foundations will be necessary to continue to deliver a safe borough. Whilst overall crime has dropped by nearly 2%, key areas still provide challenges. Analysis supports the SMP Priorities set out in the 2019-2022 Community Safety Plan, with only minor changes to provide greater focus on growing trends and changes in service delivery. The priorities for 2020/2021 are:

- Protecting our communities against serious, violent and organised crime (including modern-day slavery)
- Keeping children and young people safe
- Reducing the harm caused by domestic abuse (including stalking)
- Reduce the impact of substance misuse on our community
- Safeguard people whose mental health makes them vulnerable to becoming a victim or where it leads to an impact on the wider community

Beyond the SMP, our priorities are reinforced by the priorities of other key partnership entities. They continue to support the priorities of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office, particularly around violence and young people. They also compliment the work of the newly introduced Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) and the new look Local Children's Partnership Board.

These priorities provide a clear understanding for those in the partnership and the wider public of the areas where we will focus our combined resources and will continue to develop services and initiatives.

2. Contents

<u>1.</u> <u>Executive Summary</u>	1
<u>2.</u> <u>Contents</u>	2
<u>3.</u> <u>The Aim of this Strategic Assessment?</u>	3
<u>4.</u> <u>The Background of Strategic Assessments?</u>	3
<u>5.</u> <u>Methodology</u>	3
<u>6.</u> <u>Priorities for the Safer Maidstone Partnership for 2020/2021</u>	4
<u>7.</u> <u>Delivery of Maidstone's Community Safety Partnership Plan 2019-2022 Priorities</u>	4
<u>Protecting our communities against serious and organised crime (including modern-day slavery)</u>	5
<u>Keeping children and young people safe</u>	7
<u>Reducing the harm caused by domestic abuse (including stalking)</u>	11
<u>Reduce the impact of substance misuse on our community</u>	15
<u>Safeguard people whose mental health makes them vulnerable to becoming a victim or where it leads to an impact on the wider community</u>	18
<u>7.</u> <u>Other Data Sources Analysed</u>	20
<u>7.1</u> <u>Police Crime Data</u>	220
<u>7.2</u> <u>Results of deploying Town Centre team</u>	223
<u>7.3</u> <u>Public opinions on feelings of safety</u>	226
<u>7.4</u> <u>Anti-Social Behaviour</u>	227
<u>7.5</u> <u>Community Trigger</u>	229
<u>7.6</u> <u>Hate Crime Data</u>	229
<u>7.7</u> <u>Integrated Offender Management</u>	230
<u>7.8</u> <u>Maidstone Mediation</u>	230
<u>8.</u> <u>Key Conclusions and Recommended Changes to the Community Safety Plan 2019-2022</u>	30
<u>Appendix 1- Demographics</u>	34
<u>Appendix 2- MoRiLE:</u>	35
<u>Appendix 3 -Glossary</u>	35

3. The Aim of this Strategic Assessment?

This is the strategic assessment produced for Safer Maidstone Partnership (SMP) for the period 2019-20 and puts in place the priorities for the 2020-21 Partnership Plan.

The purpose of this strategic assessment is to provide knowledge and understanding of community safety problems to the members of the SMP. This will be done through intelligence analysis and will identify the emerging priorities by considering the patterns, trends and shifts relating to crime, disorder and substance misuse. Additionally, it will include a performance assessment of how far the partnership has achieved its previous priorities.

By setting the local SMP priorities and providing detailed analysis, the various strategic and operational working groups will be able to evolve their action plans for the upcoming year.

4. The Background of Strategic Assessments?

In 2006, a review of the partnership provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the Police Reform Act 2002 led to a series of recommendations to strengthen and extend existing requirements further through the experience gained from partnership working. This resulted in a new set of national minimum standards which came into force in August 2007.

The 1998 Act included the requirement to produce a detailed crime and disorder audit through consultation with key agencies and the wider community and had to use the findings to identify strategic priorities and set targets and performance measures. The new national standards placed a legal obligation on responsible authorities to comply with the specified requirements, one of which was the creation of a strategic assessment in place of the previous 3 yearly audit.

5. Methodology

Data for this year's Strategic Assessment has been sourced by the Kent Community Safety Unit from a variety of statutory partners including Police, Health, Probation and KCC Services. They are available in the Partnership data sets section on the Kent Safer Communities portal. A number of different data display tools have been included in this year's assessment for the purpose of putting the context of crime data into more perspective, over a longer period of time.

Maidstone Borough Council and other authorities in Kent have again incorporated the MoRiLE (Management of Risk in Law Enforcement) scoring matrix methodology of ranking offences based on threat, risk and harm within this year's Strategic Assessment see Appendix 1

6. Priorities for the Safer Maidstone Partnership for 2020/2021

The information collated for this year's Strategic Assessment, detailed within this document and summarised in section X identifies that the priorities for the SMP for the following year should be:

- Protecting our communities against serious, violent and organised crime (including modern-day slavery)
- Keeping children and young people safe
- Reducing the harm caused by domestic abuse (including stalking)
- Reduce the impact of substance misuse on our community
- Safeguard people whose mental health makes them vulnerable to becoming a victim or where it leads to an impact on the wider community

This is a minor amendment to the priorities set out in the Maidstone Community Safety Partnership Plan 2019-2022 which will be updated accordingly to reflect the progress made to date.

7. Delivery of Maidstone's Community Safety Partnership Plan 2019-2022 Priorities

Strategic subgroups, operational groups and specialist teams work collectively to develop, co-ordinate and deliver activities which were developed primarily to help launch the new CSP Plan and lay down the foundations for the next two years before the CSP Plan is refreshed. For each priority, the partnership has:

- Produced an active action plan containing measurable activities and indicators
- Ensured that there are resources available to deliver these plans
- Submitted funding applications to obtain additional resources where required

Details of what has been delivered to date in each area is summarised in the tables that follow. As these are active action plans, designed to evolve over the life of the current CSP Plan, some of the actions are ongoing and new actions will be added in the coming months, specifically as a result of the data provided within this report to members of the SMP.



Protecting our communities against serious and organised crime (including modern-day slavery)-Delivered through the Serious & Organised Crime Panel

Organised Crime is defined as planned and co-ordinated criminal behaviour and conduct by people working together on a continuing basis. Their motivation is often, but not always, financial gain. Organised crime in this and other countries recognises neither national borders nor national interests.

Actions currently identified or delivered	Status	Update
Deliver a minimum of four days of action spread over the year to disrupt criminality linked to OCGs. At least one day per quarter focussing on Rogue Trading, Trafficked workers/modern day slavery, Waste Crime, Night-Time Economy (NTE) and Brothels.	Ongoing	Partners have collaborated in a number of planned actions and operations to disrupt organized crime in the borough. These have resulted in enforcement action, including vehicle seizures.
Increase intelligence reporting by holding a training session with KCC and Kent Police Intel teams to ensure information is shared appropriately.	Ongoing	Increased engagement with the SOCP has led to greater levels of intelligence sharing across the partnership, particularly in relation to active OCGs. A training event is being planned for 2020.
Ensure prolific offenders identified within OCGs are referred to the Integrated Offender Management Scheme for robust multi-agency management of their offending behaviour	Delivered	Integrated Offender Management (IOM) are an integral part of the SOCP, attending regularly and contributing to the strategies in place to tackle active OCGs.
Deliver a series of events to raise awareness of the risks and dangers of Illegal Money Lending and support services	Ongoing	Following on from multi-agency training provided in January 2019, MBCs Community Protection Team, on behalf of the SMP, were the only district authority in the South East to secure funding to run an awareness raising event in January 2020. The event incorporated a multi-agency signing of the National Illegal Money Lending Team's "Stop Loan Sharking" Charter committing those agencies to taking steps to prevent and protect people from Illegal Money Lenders as part of their service.

Support KCCs Doorstep Crime initiative to help safeguard the vulnerable from opportunist serial offenders	Ongoing	Support was provided through the PCC's Tactical Fund to appoint an analyst to undertake a review of data around vulnerability in order to identify those at risk of doorstep crimes. The outcome of the analysis is expected shortly and will help to inform future actions.
Introduce a scheme to promote safer socialising in the borough to prevent / reduce violent crime in the NTE.	Ongoing	The SMP have looked to support licensed premises in providing a framework that enables them to further prevent violent crime in the NTE. A new Red, Amber Green (RAG) rating system was introduced encouraging premises to risk assess their activities and make adequate provision to support safety. Emergency Trauma Packs were also provided by Maidstone BID, a scheme now supported by the VRU across the county. Safer Socialising will build on this initiative, further encouraging premises to introduce awareness training for domestic abuse, substance misuse and other activities that threaten safety in the NTE. Consideration is currently being given to undertaking a survey of NTE users to better understand their thoughts and concerns around safety whilst socializing in Maidstone.

The work of the SOCP has successfully disrupted the activity of four Organised Crime Groups to the point where they have been archived. This is because they are no longer deemed to be criminally active in the area. Over the year the SOCP has been working on up to 3 OCG's at any one time, with each group being subject to a 4P Plan, coordinating the actions of officers from across the SMP. Currently the SOCP has only one active OCG on our area, with intelligence on other potential groups being considered.

Kent Police also has a very effective RAPTOR team operating in the area. This team targets gang related activity. With no home grown gangs active in the borough the work of this team is predominantly focused on the growing threat of the well documented "County Line" gangs. The success of this unit has included operations in Metropolitan Police areas to take action against the gangs trying to establish themselves in the borough. This threat remains active, with young people in particular being targeted for recruitment.



Keeping children and young people safe - Delivered through the Community Youth Safety Group (CYSG)

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a type of sexual abuse. When a child or young person is exploited they're given things, like gifts, drugs, money, status and affection, in exchange for performing sexual activities.

Actions	Status	Update
Review locations where ASB is prevalent to understand what action can be taken to reduce incidences	Delivered	Hot Spot Meetings have been introduced, looking at issues in Marden, Ringlestone, Yalding and Shepway, using a contextual safeguarding model. Outreach, location-based assessments and enforcement have reduced ASB in these areas. A specific training session on "Tackling ASB in Partnership", hosted by MBC, covered tools/powers that protect young people and encourage parents to prevent their children from engaging in ASB.
Undertake a youth safety survey that will improve understanding of young people's fears, particularly around carrying knives	Ongoing	In March 2020 the SMP launched their Voice of Young Maidstone Safety Survey. Funding secured from the VRU was used for a launch event for schools and their "Young Ambassadors". The survey for 10-18 year olds collate their views on areas such as their own safety in and around school, safety where they live and the risk taking behaviour of their closest friends. The survey will help parents and professionals truly understand the safety profile of Maidstone's young people.
Deliver an event for senior secondary schools' staff, raising awareness of the threats young people face with the possibility of delivering further education packages to students and staff across the borough	Delivered	The event at Kent Police Training college was attended by senior staff from most of Maidstone's Secondary Schools. Presentations on the threat of gang culture, knives and violent crime, youth service provision across the borough and how to engage with local support services were delivered
Improve the knowledge of employees within partners around gang / CSE issues to ensure frontline staff recognise the risk factors and are empowered to safeguard and signpost appropriately	Delivered	Online training was provided that can be accessed by partners via a Kent County Council service.

Undertake assertive outreach work to safeguard young people in areas where CSE and gang activities are believed to be taking place	Ongoing	Alongside the ASB Hotspots meeting, assertive outreach has continued throughout the year, with officers from across the SMP engaging with groups of young people on a regular basis, providing diversionary activities, support and advice to those who engaged.
Hold 10 meetings per year with partners to discuss both local youth ASB and CSE concerns utilising a multi-agency approach	Delivered	Previously the gang's intelligence meeting, the CYSG has been refocussed on to keeping children and young people safe. The group meets regularly to discuss this action plan alongside any concerns around ASB or young people at risk. The group has linked into the Local Children's Partnership Board, actively working to align their priorities with the needs of the group at a strategic level. The group also sent a multi-agency team to the VRU Hackathon, competing against 25 other teams and was able to secure funding for a pilot initiative called "My Place".
Raise awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) across all sectors	Delivered	ACEs are now a fundamental part of service delivery across the SMP. "Trauma Informed Approach" training has been provided by KCC Public Health to NHS and Social Services staff. ACEs awareness is also a key delivery strand for awareness training around Domestic Abuse, as detailed later in the document.
Increase support for depression, self-harm and suicide awareness in young people (schools, GPs etc) to address their vulnerability (From Mental Health Plan)	Ongoing	A public health approach is being adopted to tackling issues that affect young people. Work is ongoing to increase suicide awareness and to develop mechanisms to support those in need.
Introduce a scheme to support Young People who are relocated to Maidstone by other local authorities in order to minimise the risk of ASB	Ongoing	As detailed above, a CYSG team was successful in obtaining £5000 to pilot an initiative of their own creation. "My Place" will proactively engage with Young People who are moved to Maidstone where they have links to Gangs or serious ASB. Providing diversion and support to help them integrate into our Borough.

Youth Justice

Over the previous year youth offences have increased from **97** to **110**, an increase of **13 (13%)**; these crimes were committed by **35** individuals. However, there has been a decrease in the number of individuals committing crime, from **51** to **35 (31%)**.

Breakdown of Young Offenders across the borough

Ward	2018-19
Bearsted	1
Bridge	2
Coxheath and Hunton	2
Detling and Thurnham	1
East	1
Harrietsham and Lenham	2
Headcorn	1
Heath	2
High Street	4
Leeds	1
Marden and Yalding	3
North	1
Park Wood	4
Shepway North	4
Shepway South	4
Staplehurst	1
TOTAL	35

Age and Gender of Offenders	Female	Male
Age 13		3
Age 14	1	1
Age 15	2	3
Age 16		5
Age 17 +	1	5

Comparing this to the population totals for that age group, which equates to approximately **15,900** young people, the number of offenders is very small with only **0.2%** convicted of an offence. The approximation is due to the population figures ranges not being exact with the youth offending data; see table below. The following table shows the number of convicted children broken down by their ward, gender and age group.

There are varying reasons that could be associated with this, including outreach that is conducted in the community with young people at risk, early interventions as part of the 'Prevent' agenda, effective monitoring of previous offenders, the Police ethos to view young people as victims as opposed to offenders in order to avoid criminalising young people or changes in attitudes towards groups of youths and their perception as a gang. In order to fully explore the reasons, further work will be required by way of an in-depth thematic study.

In referring to 'gangs' it is imperative that labels are not assigned without evidence, thought or research; to assume that a group of young people are a gang would not serve the priorities of the SMP and seek to reduce the effectiveness of work on confirmed gang members. Hallsworth and Young (2006) defined the following:

- Peer Group - A small, unorganised, transient grouping occupying the same space with a common history. Crime is not integral to their self-definition.
- Street Gang - A relatively durable, predominantly street-based group of young people who see themselves (and are seen by others) as a discernible group for whom crime and violence is integral to the group's identity.
- An Organised Criminal Network - A group of individuals for whom involvement in crime is for personal gain. The gain is mostly measured in financial terms. Crime is their 'occupation'.

These definitions will be important in order to focus resources and priorities where required.

Whilst risk presented by County Lines Gangs, Gangs from other areas and Gang Culture remains a threat in Maidstone, these are proactively policed. There are currently no "home-grown" gangs active in the borough. There are a number of active Peer Groups who are subject to engagement and disruption plans.

Introduction of District Contextual Safeguarding Meetings.

The success of the CYSG has been recognised by KCC who's Adolescent Services team have asked that the SMP use the group to adopt a format already piloted in East Kent. The partnership engagement in the CYSG makes Maidstone one of the most suitable authorities to adopt the new format ahead of a role out across the rest of Kent. The changes to be introduced from April will see the CYSG rebranded as the District Contextual Safeguarding Meeting (DCSM) with a revised agenda that will reflect a stronger contextual safeguarding approach and will see the hot spot meetings rebranded as Complex Adolescent Risk Meetings (CARMs). CARMS will now sit as an escalation pathway for individuals, groups or places, whereby a multi-agency plan of action, based on the OSARA and 4 Ps models, will be introduced to manage the risks of those involved. This meeting will continue to update the SMP but will build stronger relationships with KCC's Adolescent Services team and provide trends and risk data for the Strategic Local Children's Partnership Board. The SMP, including the new VRU, will work closely across these groups and the revised action plan will reflect, but not duplicate any plans created by these strategic and operational groups.

Reducing the harm caused by domestic abuse (including stalking)-

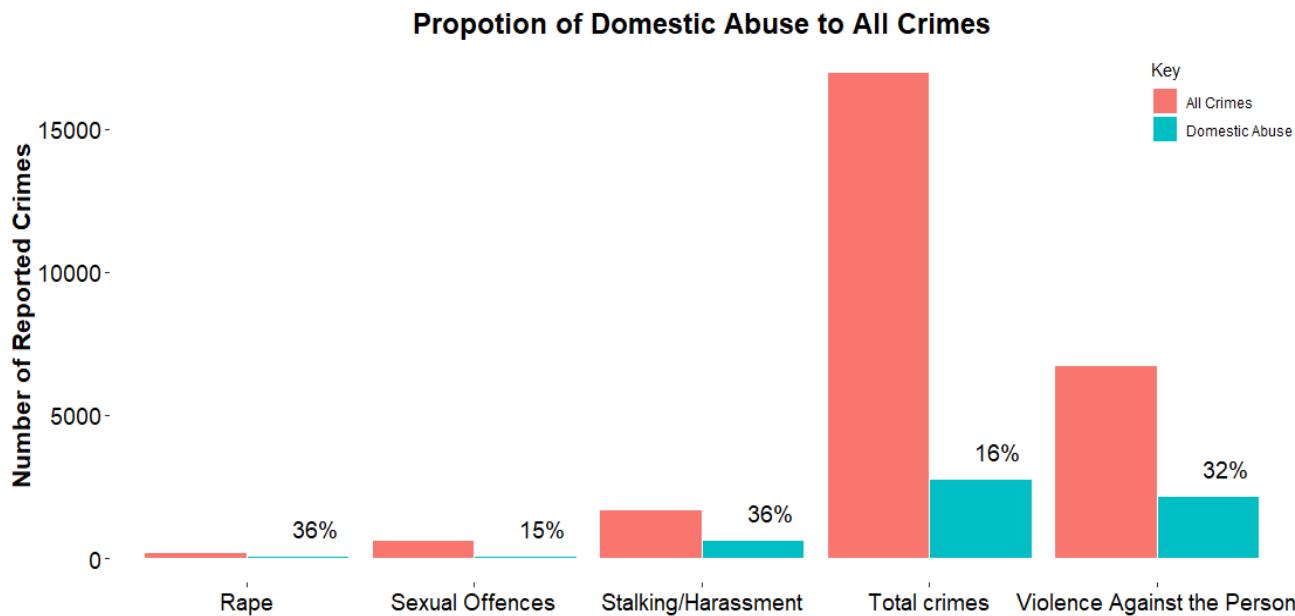


Delivered through the Domestic Abuse Forum

Domestic abuse is any type of controlling, bullying, threatening or violent behaviour between people in a relationship. This can encompass but is not limited to physical, emotional, psychological, sexual or financial.

Actions	Status	Update
Continue delivery of the White Ribbon campaign. Encourage men to challenge violence against women. A Charity Football Match is being organised in collaboration with Maidstone FC to raise awareness of the issue.	Delivered	In May 2019 Maidstone Borough Council competed with Kent Police for the inaugural "One Maidstone Shield". The event was used to raise awareness and funding for the White Ribbon and More Than Words, a charity helping parents whose children are disabled.
Heads Up - Campaign to raise awareness of Claire's Law and Stalking. Work with businesses and with Mid Kent College who run a hair and beauty course. Provide training to raise awareness of domestic abuse and the support services available (such as the One Stop Shop, DA Helplines and Freedom Programme).	Ongoing	Work is ongoing to deliver an event for hairdressers. An initial event in October 2019 was cancelled due to a limited number of delegates committing to attend. However, sessions are planned for delivery at Saks Academy Maidstone and Mid Kent College.
Use crime data to produce hot spot maps of the borough to establish where this campaign should be targeted		Kent Police have produced data that shows the distribution of Domestic Abuse across the borough. High Street Ward was highest for incidents, significantly higher ahead of the second highest, Park Wood. The wards surrounding High Street (North, East, Farnham, Bridge and South) also all feature in the top 10 wards. These six wards accounted for 42.5% of the boroughs Domestic Abuse. Marden and Yalding are the only rural wards to feature in the top 10. The figures show that the urban One Stop Shop provision in the High Street Ward is reasonably well placed. Rural One Stop Shops were trailed at focal points within Marden, Headcorn and Staplehurst. However, there was very little use of the service. This may have been due to victims fearing being identified whilst accessing the service. An alternative provision, using community based Domestic Abuse Champions is being developed instead.

Deliver a training session to GPs to raise awareness of DA to improve understanding of the services available and the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences.		Two sessions have been delivered by the SMP to over 60 GPs and other CCG staff, raising awareness of the signs of domestic abuse, the services available and the impact of abuse on the development of children.
Launch the Zero Tolerance campaign to tackle sexual harassment and abuse against women in the night time economy. Working with Mid Kent College, One Maidstone and NTE businesses.	Ongoing	Linked to Safer Socialising, the SMP have created DA Guardians in the NTE, who have been given training to help them recognise abuse and to help those in need by referring them to the appropriate services. This will continue to be rolled out to more NTE businesses and to Day Time Economy businesses too.
Through temporal analysis of reported DA arrange for domestic abuse support workers to attend calls to domestic incidents with Kent Police officers over periods where reports of domestic abuse are highest.	Ongoing	The logistic of this is still being investigated by Kent Police and other SMP Partners to determine the viability of undertaking an initiative around events that are known to lead to increased incidents of domestic violence.
Listen to the voice of survivors. Establish the means to capture the views of those who have been subject to domestic abuse to ensure that the services we are delivering provide the right support needed.	Ongoing	Clarion have reviewed their processes to ensure they capture feedback from survivors. KCC Children Services, who run a Freedom programme to support victims of abuse, have supported one survivor to become an ambassador for survivors, contributing actively to raising awareness and developing support programs.
Arrange and host a practitioners' conference to increase networking, knowledge sharing and understanding of DA issues in Maidstone and the support available.	Ongoing	A practitioners' conference has been arranged for March. Titled "Domestic Abuse- Cradle to the Grave" the conference will invite practitioners, from across services and sectors, to one of two sessions at County Hall. An awareness session will also be provided to Elected Members at March's Member's Briefing.
Develop a Domestic Abuse Champions Network (concept developed for delivery in Year 2)	Ongoing	Building on the DA Champion Role in KCC Children Services, their Survivor Ambassador and the NTE DA Guardians , work is ongoing to create a Champions Network, creating Champions across sectors, who can act as a source of support and awareness in their business or community.



Domestic abuse sits as both a local, county and national priority that is supported through local mechanisms such as the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) which provides support and protection to families and individuals in high risk domestic abuse situations. There is also the commissioning of the Independent Domestic Violence Advisor service (IDVA) which provides support and guidance to victims of DA. Each district also delivers a 'one-stop shop' where all victims of domestic abuse can receive advice and support.

Currently, **16%** of all crime is related to Domestic Abuse and Domestic Abuse equates to **32%** of all violent crime.

It is a seasonal problem, the probability increases in the summer months and shorter periods throughout the year due to an increase in socialising and celebrating around May and August Bank Holidays, Valentine's Day, Father's Day, Christmas and New Year.

One-Stop Shops & Sanctuary

Domestic Abuse 'One Stop Shops' offer free advice, information and support from a range of agencies under one roof to help victims of domestic abuse. Maidstone's one stop shop is hosted at the Salvation Army in Union Street and provides advice on housing, legal matters, policing and specialist DA advice.

In the year 2018/19 (Oct 2018 - Sep 2019) the table below demonstrates that there were 262 attendances at the Maidstone One-Stop Shop, a rise of 3 compared the same period last year.

Year	Female	Male	Total
2017/18	247	12	259
2018/19	242	20	262

As part of the 'Sanctuary' scheme home visits are conducted that help keep victims of domestic abuse in their own homes by installing extra security measures. Over the reporting period October 2018 – September 2019 there have been 37 Sanctuary Referrals which is consistent with the 38 referrals in the previous period.

Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARACs)

MARACs are meetings where information about high-risk domestic abuse victims (those at risk of serious harm) is shared between local agencies. By bringing all agencies together at a MARAC, a risk-focused, co-ordinated safety plan can be drawn together to support the victim. MARACs now cover all persons aged 16 years and over.

Maidstone has had 202 MARAC cases between the periods of Oct 2018 - Sep 2019. This compares to 209 cases the previous 12 months, a decrease of 7 cases. Of the 202, 66 were repeat cases, this equates to 33% of all cases which is down by 1 case from last year. There were 232 children in the households with 2 under 18 victims.

Again the data across this area of work demonstrates a continued need for the SMP to focus on reducing the harm caused by domestic abuse (including stalking). Significant steps have been taken in the last 12 months to raise awareness across the Public Sector, but with 6 women a week losing their lives as a result of violence or suicide after domestic abuse nationally, there is still work to be done to support men and women with abusive partners.



Reduce the impact of substance misuse on our community - delivered through Community Protection Team, Housing Outreach Service and Licensing

Substance abuse or misuse is formally defined as the continued misuse of any mind-altering substance that severely affects person's physical and mental health, social situation and responsibilities.

Actions	Status	Update
Review the current PSPO to ensure the power is still necessary/proportionate or needs amendment	Ongoing	A report will be brought to CHE Committee during 2020, outlining the results of the review and the associated recommendations.
Utilise One Maidstone Ambassadors to enforce Town Centre PSPO	Delivered	An agreement is in place for One Maidstone Ambassadors to work alongside Kent Police and Maidstone Officers in enforcing the PSPO where necessary in the town.
Launch the Blue Light project to help treat resistant drinkers who place a burden on public services	Discontinued	This initiative was investigated but deemed unnecessary, as the Housing Outreach team secured funding for a Change, Grow, Live officer within their team to support those with habitual substance misuse issues.
Investigate the use of closure orders against illegal sales of tobacco/alcohol	On-hold	Alternative powers are being considered to support KCC Trading Standards and Licensing as necessary.
Carry out a minimum of 12 licencing inspections on local off licences and convenience stores identified as an issue in regard to street population and ASB Nominals	Delivered	The new Police Licensing Officer has undertaken over 1000 proactive inspections since April 19, issuing warnings and penalty notices and taking reviews for breaches of licensing conditions. He has been recognised as the most proactive licensing officer in Kent
CPT to submit intel reports to licensing relating to premises identified as linked to Street Population (PSPO Process)	Delivered	This is now an adopted process due to the close working relationship of both teams.
Develop a bottle watch program that is deliverable where alcohol is sold or consumed by people at risk, such as vulnerable or young people (Year 2)	On-hold	Will be reconsidered in 2020 if deemed necessary and proportionate.

Substance misuse relates to the use of drugs, alcohol and includes New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) previously known as 'legal highs'.

Kent police recorded drug offences includes both offences of drug supply and possession. Under this category of crime Maidstone has seen a **23.9%** increase in drug offences from November 18 – October 19 when compared to last year's data. This is an increase from **318** offences to **394** offences; or **76** more crimes this year. The Kent area as a whole saw an increase of **13%** and only Medway (**-8.7%**) and Shepway (**- 9.7%**) saw a decrease. As detailed later in this report, this is largely due to the proactive work of Kent Police who undertook significantly more Stop Searches in this period in comparison to previous



23.9%

Increase in Drug offences

Alcohol related hospital admissions



14.4%
Increase in Kent Admission

Maidstone has the highest hospital admission in the whole of Kent with year on year increase of **18.7%** higher than Kent's average. The table below shows the number of alcohol related hospital admissions in Kent districts.

District	Sep-17 to Aug-18	Sep-18 to Aug-19	Difference	% change from previous year
Ashford	41	53	12	29%
Canterbury	51	95	44	86%
Dartford	62	45	-17	-27%
Dover	37	67	30	81%
Gravesham	62	55	-7	-11%
Maidstone	139	165	26	19%
Sevenoaks	60	42	-18	-30%
Shepway	38	54	16	42%
Swale	59	60	1	2%
Thanet	67	111	44	66%
Tonbridge & Malling	98	72	-26	-27%
Tunbridge Wells	70	78	8	11%
All Kent	784	897	113	14%

Substance Misuse Services

Over the past year KCC have commissioned 513 services of structured treatment for adults and young people across Kent; this was in comparison to 508 the previous year, an increase of 5. The below table shows how these services were made up.

Age	Oct 17 - Sep 18	Oct 18 - Sep 19	% change		Oct 17 - Sep 18	Oct 18 - Sep 19	% change
17 and under	16	7	-56%	Alcohol Only	164	179	9%
18 - 24	46	32	-30%	Non-Opiate Only	50	48	-4%
25 - 34	117	128	9%	Non-Opiate & Alcohol	81	68	-16%
35 - 44	151	160	6%	Opiate	213	218	2%
45 - 54	120	124	3%	Total	508	513	1%
55 - 64	51	56	10%				
65+	7	6	-14%				

Needle Finds

The following table shows the official annual figures for needle finds in the borough from October-18 to September-19 that were removed by the council's waste management service. These figures include the contents of external needle bins that are strategically placed in the town to try and reduce discarded needle. There has been an increase of a **5%** increase of needles found/retrieved from last period.

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
2017/2018	125	73	283	126	218	106	155	69	189	113	9	468	1,934
2018/2019	283	381	196	143	164	84	205	87	85	85	203	120	2,036

Within the borough the top five locations for needle finds are as follows:

October-17 to September-18		October-18 to September-19	
Location	Count	Location	Count
Lower Boxley Road	364	River Steps	406
Needle bins	266	Needle bins	219
Whatman Park	190	Rear of property in Week Street	200
Amphitheatre	81	Viaduct	162
Old Palace	64	Lower Boxley Road	100

Community Safety Vulnerability Meeting

Based on figures collected since January 19 , approximately 48 % of the cases raised had either a diagnosed or undiagnosed substance misuse concern.



Safeguard people whose mental health makes them vulnerable to becoming a victim or where it leads to an impact on the wider community

Mental health refers to our cognitive, behavioural, and emotional wellbeing - it is all about how we think, feel, and behave. The term 'mental health' is sometimes used where there is an absence of a mental disorder e.g. personality disorders.

Actions	Status	Measure
Introducing strategic overview for the CSVG to help identify service direction, provisions and shortages	Ongoing	Data for the last year has been collated and shows that 63% of the cases brought to the CSVG relate to issues were mental health, diagnosed or undiagnosed, is believed to be a factor. New terms of reference and a new referral scheme have been developed for introduction in April 2020.
Developing a leaflet to raise awareness of vulnerable people who self-neglect and how to refer them for support	On-hold	With considerable focus on violence reduction in young people and domestic abuse this area this has not yet been actioned, but will be prioritised in 2020
Increase support for depression, self-harm and suicide awareness in young people (schools, GPs etc) to address their vulnerability	On-going	Delivered through Youth Safety Action Plan
Arrange a self-neglect summit for 2020/21 that brings together different agencies and experts to raise awareness of self-neglect and hoarding	Ongoing	Work is ongoing to develop a self-neglect summit for Quarter 2 of 2020/2021. This will utilise the knowledge from across the SMP to raise awareness of the support available for some of the most vulnerable people across the borough.
Identify funding opportunities to run a hoarding and self-neglect project	Ongoing	Funding sources are still being explored.



27%
**Increase in
The Use of
Section 136**

Section 136 of the Mental Health Act means that the police have the power to take a person to a place of safety or keep them in a place of safety. It cannot be used to remove someone from their own home, or someone else's home. It is most often used in public places, like a street or park.

Figures for Section 136 use in the borough (where an individual is sectioned for their own or others' safety) have increased year on year for Maidstone and last year it was used **142** times, as opposed to **112** the previous year an increase of **30**, this equates to an increase of **27%**.

Last year in Maidstone, mental health referrals for young adults saw an increase of **5%** to **1342** cases compared to **1279** the previous year. In older adults there also saw an increase of **11%** to **849** cases compared to **763** the previous year.

Hospital admissions for mental and behavioural disorders due to psychoactive Substance misuse

District	Sep-17 to Aug-18	Sep-18 to Aug-19	Difference	% change from previous year
Ashford	310	366	56	18%
Canterbury	537	563	26	5%
Dartford	335	317	-18	-5%
Dover	395	456	61	15%
Gravesham	412	404	-8	-2%
Maidstone	690	636	-54	-8%
Sevenoaks	312	308	-4	-1%
Shepway	439	486	47	11%
Swale	454	438	-16	-4%
Thanet	625	805	180	29%
Tonbridge & Malling	404	408	4	1%
Tunbridge Wells	377	441	64	17%
All Kent	5,290	5,628	338	6%

The table lists the total number of hospital admissions (includes repeat admissions) for mental and behavioural disorders due to psychoactive substance misuse. The **636** Maidstone admissions relate to **443** individuals. Overall Maidstone had a decrease from **690** admissions last year representing a percentage change of **-7.8%**.

The data shown in the table is not broken down by substances but will include alcohol, NPS and illegal substances.

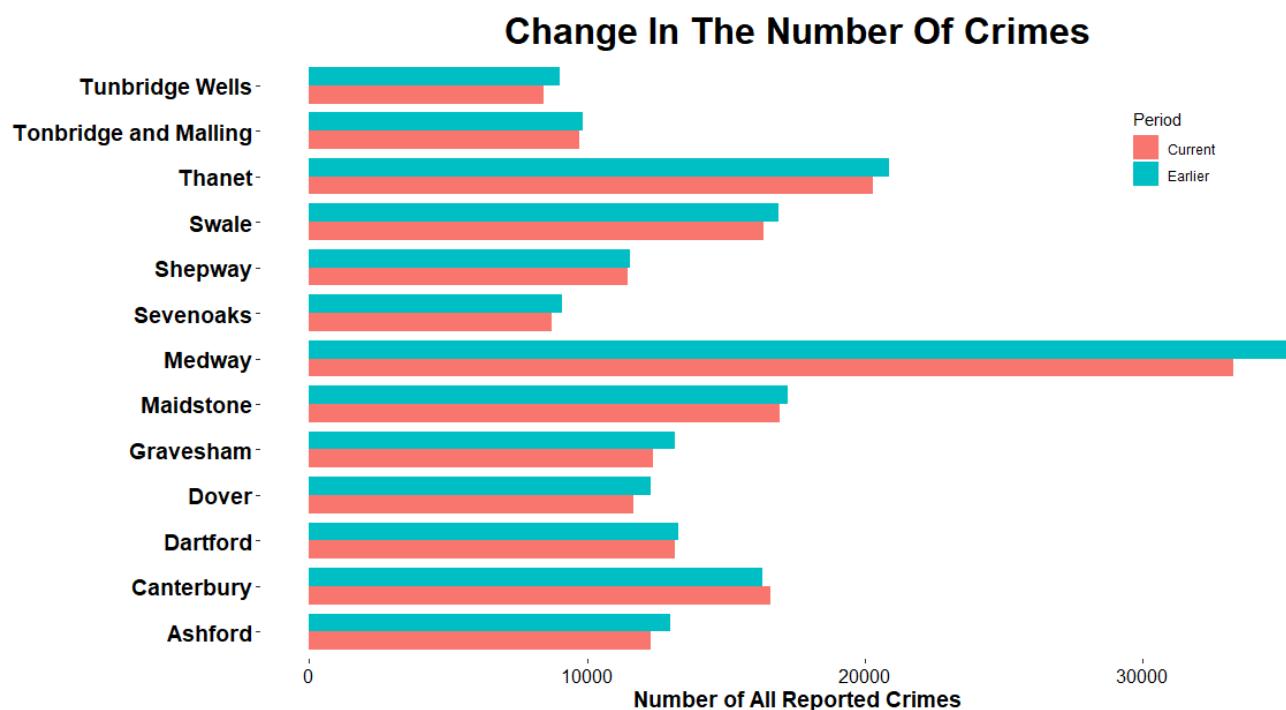
Community Safety Vulnerability Meeting

Based on figures collected since January 19, approximately 63 % of the cases raised had either a diagnosed or undiagnosed mental health concern.

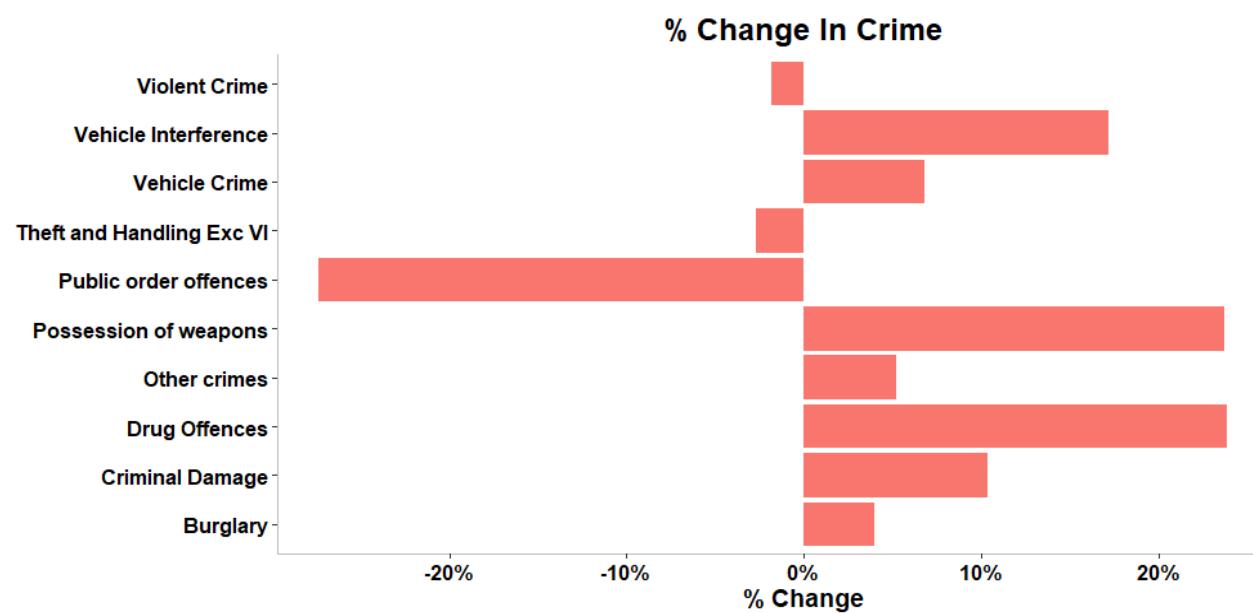
8. Other Data Sources Analysed

7.1 Police Crime Data

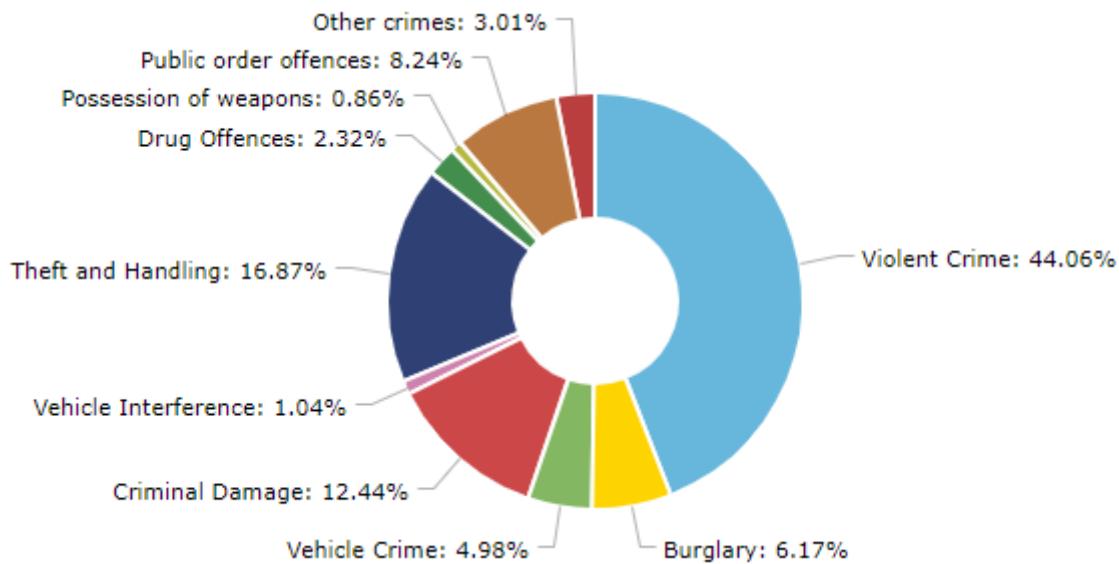
All crime in the borough dropped by **-1.7%** in the period November 2018 to October 2019 compared with the same period the previous year, from a total of **17,244** crimes to **16,947** crimes. This compares to a Kent Force wide percentage change of **-3.3%**. We can also see how the numbers of crimes have changed compared to the same time in the last period in the 'Change In Number Of Crimes' chart.



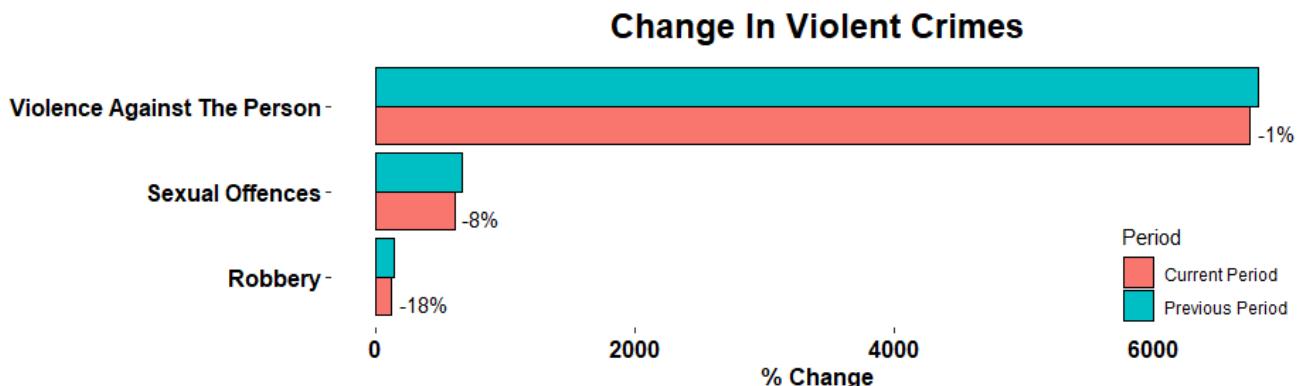
In addition, the '%Change in Crimes' chart shows how crime has changed since last period for specific crimes in Maidstone.



The chart below helps us to further understand the proportion of crimes. We can clearly see that violent crimes account for the most recorded crimes.



There is a **2%** drop in violent crimes, and violent crimes are split into three different categories as shown below. We can see there is a significant drop of **-8%** in sexual offences compared to the previous period.



The data above represents crime data taken for the period 1st November 2018 – 31st October 2019. All crime in Maidstone has seen a 1.7% reduction compared to the same period 2017/18. Although there is an overall reduction in crime, some crime types have seen an increase, however it is important to understand the context behind the data.

Violent Crime has seen a reduction of 2%, this is a decrease of 140 actual crimes. Whereas the more significant percentage increases of 17% seen in Vehicle interference offences is only 26 additional crimes.

Nationally, the Home Office is keen to roll out the learning achieved through Violence Reduction Units piloted in Glasgow, London and Cardiff. Kent is identified as one of 18 counties across England and Wales that could benefit from this approach. Towns with a vibrant night-time economy are acknowledged as tending to have higher instances of violent crime and Maidstone is no different in that context.

The SMP will work closely with the Kent VRU to better understand the detail behind the statistics in order to develop plans and actions to reduce violent crime. Areas of

deprivation are linked to violent crime and the Council's Strategic Plan's objective to tackling deprivation and tackling health inequality places the Council in a strong position to achieve this. Similarly, the mature partnership approach in Maidstone with Public Health aligns with the early learning from the pilot areas that prevention measures with Public Health can have positive impact in tackling this issue.

Vehicle interference offences spiked around April – May 2019 around the time a known suspect for this type of offence was brought to justice. The following months saw significant decreases in these crimes.

Domestic abuse is still a priority with 16% of all crime is related to Domestic Abuse and Domestic Abuse equates to 32% of all violent crime reported.

The two largest increases in crime are seen in offences of possession of weapons and drug related offences. Both these increases are a direct result of efficient and effective proactive policing in Maidstone including the increased use of stop search powers.

1,101 stop searches were completed in Maidstone during the relevant period this is a 90% increase in stop searches completed in Maidstone compared the same period in 2017/18.

The most significant decrease in offences is witnessed in public order offences (-30%), a figure replicated across the Kent Police Force. The Central Analytical Team have provided context to this data explaining the data reflects the integrity of crime recording systems in Kent. Incidents previously recorded as a public order offence (e.g. shouting at someone in public) are now more frequently being recorded as common assaults if the victim states they were put fear of violence being used against them.

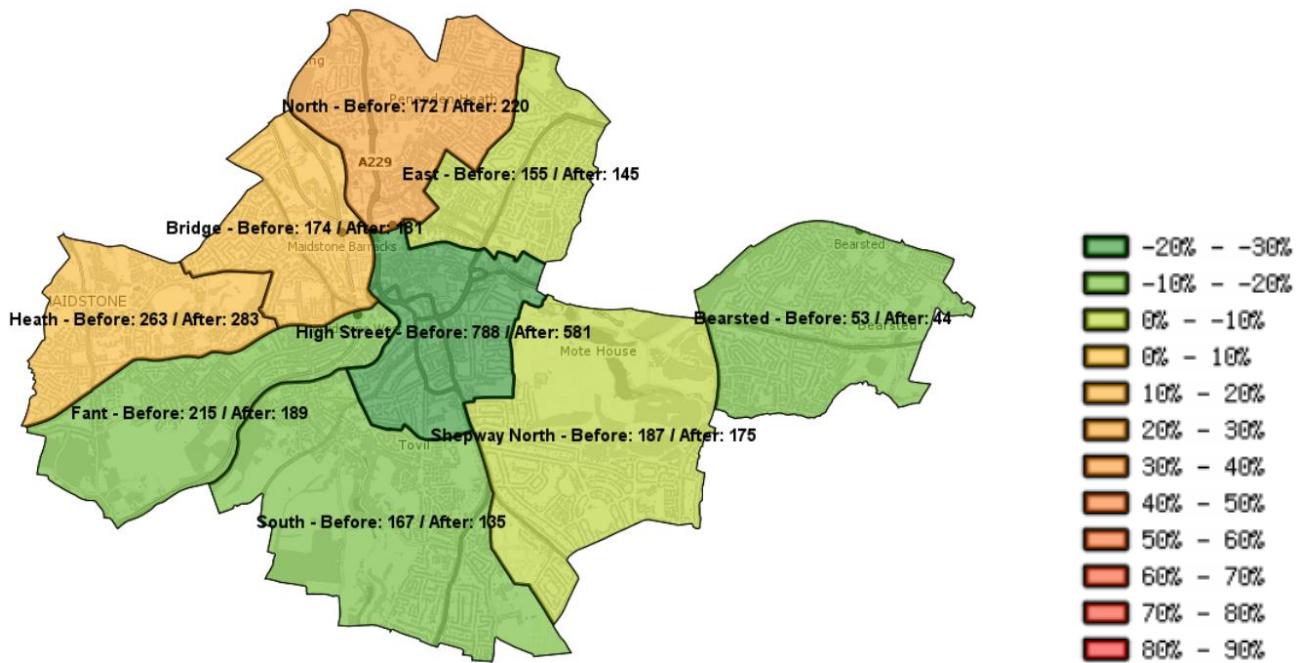
Processes have been implemented through the vulnerability investigation teams to support repeat victims of sexual assault and it is believed this has contributed to the 8% decrease in sexual offences reported.

In supporting the above figures supplied by Kent Police, the National Probation Service (NPS) has seen a percentage change of -23% (from 218 to 167) in total violent crimes from last year for individuals they manage.

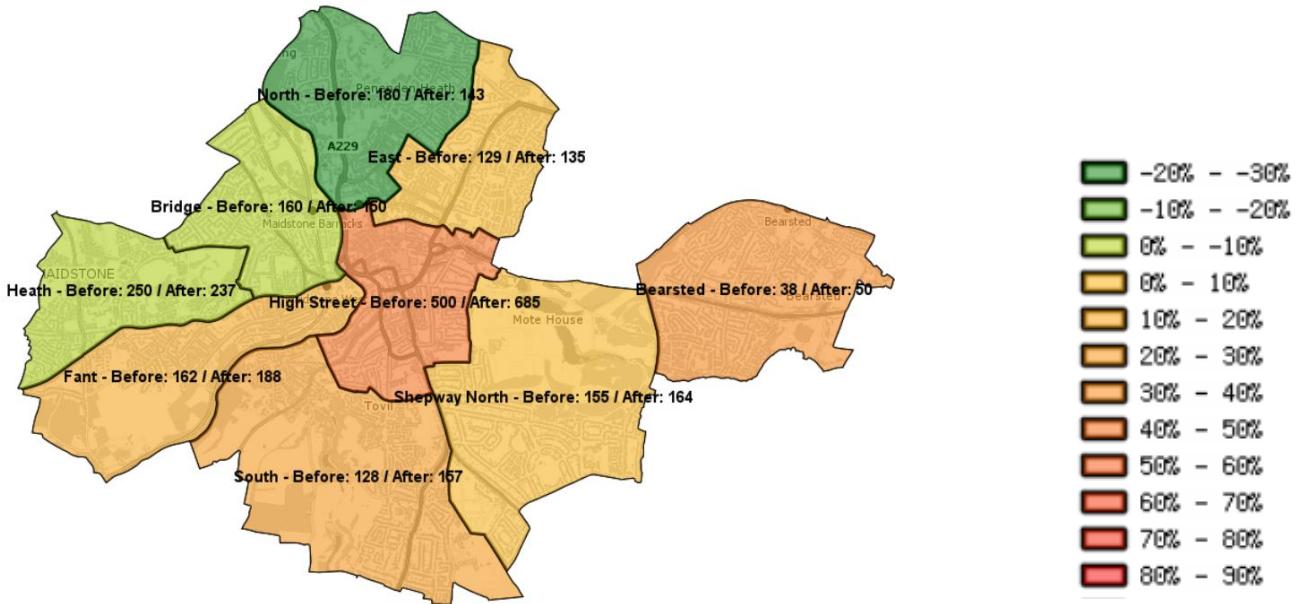
7.2 Results of deploying Town Centre team

On the 12th October 2019 a Town Centre team was introduced in the High Street. The analysis below shows the percentage change in crime after the introduction of the Town Centre team. The period we are looking at is from the date the Town Centre team was introduced to the day before the data was extracted (19 February 2020). We compare this with the same 12 month period to account for seasonality.

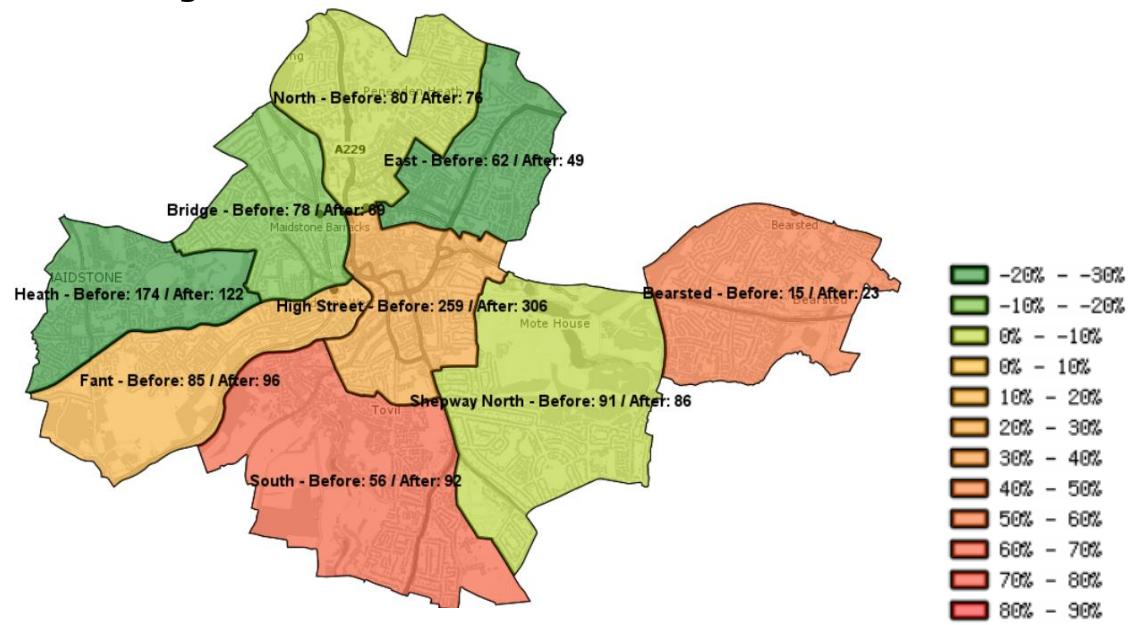
All Crimes



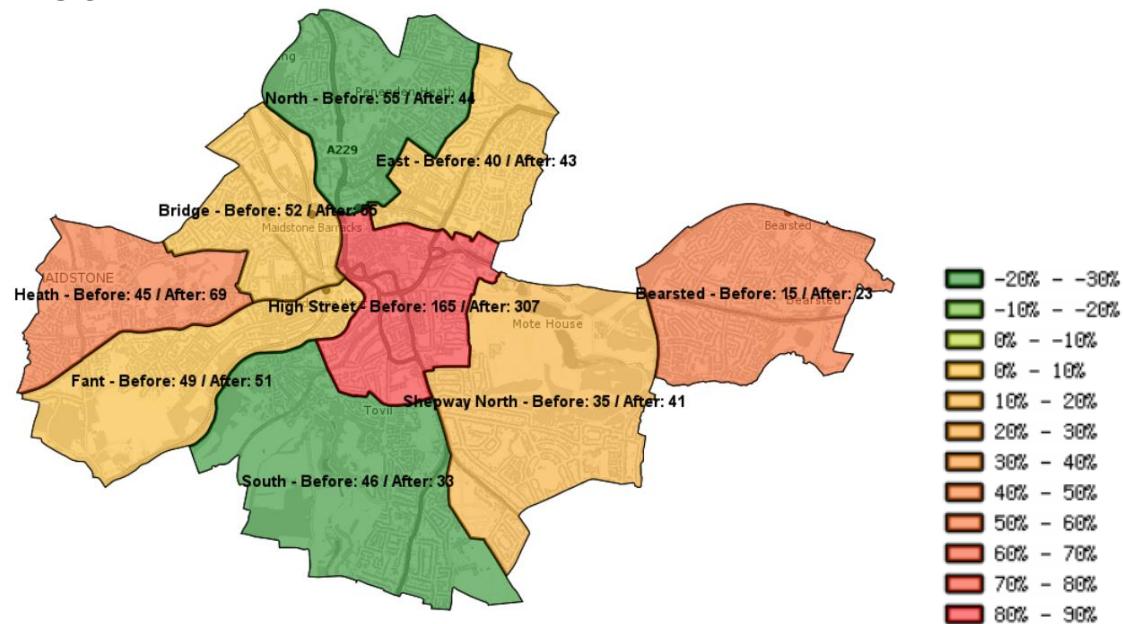
Victim Based Crime



Violence Against the Person



Theft



The police team dedicated to the Town Centre was only recently implemented, making it difficult for the purpose of this report to assess the impact this will have on the existing data. Since their introduction, the Town Centre team have made over 120 arrests, completed over 180 stop and searches and taken details for over 150 crime reports. In addition they have secured evidence, including statements and CCTV footage for numerous cases leading to improved evidence gathering resulting in an increase in the quality of investigations.

They are completing high visibility patrolling on a daily basis in the town ensuring they frequently patrol areas of concerns and have worked with partners in MBC Community Protection Team to issues numerous Community Protection Warning to person acting in an Anti-Social Manner in the town centre. The team have utilised the Knife-bar on numerous occasions and have seized drugs and weapons making Maidstone safer for everyone.

Although the data does show that all crime data in three of the seven wards appears to be higher this year after the introduction of the town team the numbers are low and there is no evidence this crime is displaced from the town.

In fact and examination of the High Street data suggests that the greatest impact in crime levels has been within this actual ward. Within the High Street we have seen Theft rise from 165 offences last year pre the Town Centre team to 307 recorded offences this year over the same period. This suggests that having proactive visible officers in the town is giving retailers and the public the confidence to report incidents to police.

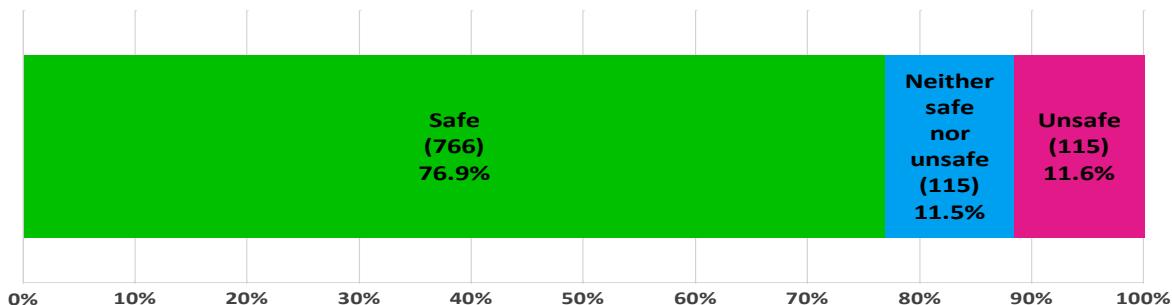
7.3 Public opinions on feelings of safety

Respondents were asked about how safe or unsafe they feel in their local area during the day and during the night. These questions were previously asked in the 2017 Resident Survey. The original question gave respondents six answer options, to show strength of answer and provide a N/A answer options. The results shown below excluded the N/A responses

During the Day

A total of 996 respondents gave an answer to this question. Overall, 76.9% responded they felt Very safe or Fairly safe. The most common response across all answer options was 'Fairly safe' with 41.9% answering this way

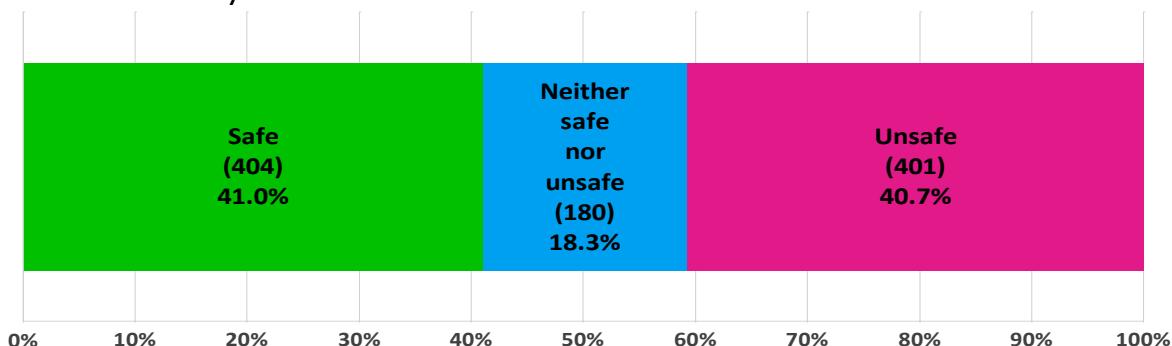
When this question was asked in the 2017 Resident Survey 94% of all respondents said they felt 'Very safe' or Fairly safe' and just 2.5% said they felt 'Unsafe' or 'Very unsafe'.



During the Night

A total of 985 respondents gave an answer to this question. Overall, 41.0% responded they felt 'Very safe' or 'Fairly safe'. The most common response across all answer options was Fairly safe with 33.1% answering this way.

When this question was asked in the 2017 Resident Survey 60% of all respondents said they felt 'Very safe' or Fairly safe' and just 22% said they felt 'Unsafe' or 'Very unsafe'.



7.4 Anti-Social Behaviour

Antisocial behaviour is defined as 'behaviour by a person which causes, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to persons not of the same household as the person. Whether it is an individual or a large group whose behaviour is causing annoyance or distress, the work of the Community Safety Unit, Community Protection Team and other SMP Partners has sought to find innovative ways to use the powers available to disrupt or stop ASB.

Amongst the most effective tools is the Community Protection Notice introduced by the Anti-social behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. The CPN allows authorised officers to require those who are behaving or allowing behaviour to occur to take action to prevent its recurrence. It is the legislations' requirement to issue a formal written warning, referred to by officers as a CPW, that has proven the most effective aspect of this power, because the compliance rate for warnings, over the notices themselves, is around 90%. The Community Protection Team has issued **27** CPWs in the reporting period and only **3** Community Protection Notices (CPNs). Kent Police have issued a further **4** CPWs and **1** CPNs. However, a recent partnership training input on the use of these powers will see a significant increase in the use of this diverse tool. No CPNs were breached in the reporting period.

Another powerful tool is the Public Space Protection Orders. Maidstone currently has three PSPOs, one for ASB associated with Begging and Drinking and two for dog control (Fouling and Exclusion areas). All the PSPOs will be reviewed in 2020 to ensure that are still effective. Data from the reporting period shows that there has been only one recorded breach of the Town Centre PSPO for begging. This compares to 31 breaches for the equivalent period last year. A review of this has found that this is largely due to the effectiveness of MBCs Homeless Outreach Team who have significantly reduced the homeless population in Maidstone and tackled the associated ASB with effective support to those who were frequent offenders. An MOU with Kent Police and One Maidstone will empower officers from the Borough Council to work alongside Police Officer and BID Ambassadors to tackle offenders not engaging with the support that is so readily available from the Outreach Team

Further changes have been made to the process allowing customers to report issues with noise from neighbours etc. A new advanced triage provides customers with the opportunity to report and upload evidence of a noise nuisance online. Where the noise is not considered overly detrimental, advice is provided automatically. However, where evidence is provided, officers are now able to assess the impact of the noise more efficiently and to focus more time on investigations where a significant issue has been identified. The new process has reduced the number of neighbour related nuisance noise complaints reaching the back offices by over 40%.

Following some refinement of the process, the figures provided in last year's assessment have been adjusted to better reflect the work undertaken by the Community Protection Team. The remit of the Community Protection Team includes statutory areas outside the scope of this report, but the following covers behaviour based issues, particularly those considered, or closely linked, to be anti-social behaviour for the reporting period

Description	2018	2019	Comments
All Anti-social behaviour complaints	143	190	As more proactive of the Community Protection Team has seen more cases recorded than previous years.
Dangerous and Nuisance dogs (Not strays)	36	53	The most significant increase relates to concerns raised about dogs that are alleged to be dangerous (10 more cases) but this is not considered to be a significant risk area.
Dog Fouling	41	13	The team have not actively campaigned against dog fouling for a number of years. Whilst it remains an issue in some areas, responsible dog ownership and greater awareness of the use of litter bins for bagged dog waste is leading to a reduction in irresponsible dog owners.
All noise nuisance including amplified music and barking	728	587	As previously detailed, the new noise process provides customers with advice, without necessarily needing the back-office resource. The requirement to provide evidence also reduces/prevents malicious noise complaints.
Other Nuisance (Odour, dust etc.)	204	210	No significant change
Street trading enquiries/complaints	9	12	No significant change
Straying and lost dogs' enquiries	475	438	It is felt that the introduction of the requirement for dogs to be chipped may have led to a reduction in strays, however further work is required to understand the extent of the issue and to determine whether more effective powers can be introduced to encourage dog owners to proactively prevent their dog from straying.

Breakdown of Community Protection Notices

Warnings			Notices		
Reason	2018	2019	Reason	2018	2019
ASB	13	17	ASB	3	2
Nuisance/Dangerous Dog (inc Barking)	12	4	Nuisance/Dangerous Dog (inc Barking)	1	0
Noise	11	4	Noise	0	1
Nuisance	12	1	Nuisance	2	0
Unauthorised Encampments	0	5	Unauthorised Encampments	0	1
Total	48	31	Total	6	4

Unauthorised Encampments

Year	No. Encampments	No. Locations	Avg Time in Situ	Total Days	No. of disruption
2018	10	6	3.7	37	
2019	7	5	1	11	

As reported in the last Strategic Assessment the Community Protection Team have reviewed the powers used to tackle Unauthorised Encampments, focussing on the behaviour of those present through the Community Protection Powers. As detailed above the use of formal warnings has had a significant impact on the disruption caused by unauthorised encampments. Alongside welfare checks, officers assess whether any of the behaviour can be considered unreasonable, such as parking on a recreation area, driving dangerously or other forms of anti-social behaviour affecting the local community. Where an issue is identified a warning issued asking the occupants to leave the borough.

7.5 Community Trigger

The 'Community Trigger' gives victims of persistent anti-social behaviour the ability to demand a formal case review where the locally defined threshold is met, in order to determine whether there is further action that can be taken. In the period being reported on there have been no community triggers actioned, this is a reduction on the previous year where there had been one community trigger application. The number of Community Trigger applications made across the County remain very low.

7.6 Hate Crime Data

15%
*Increase in
Hate Crimes*



The term 'hate crime' can be used to describe a range of criminal behaviour where the perpetrator is motivated by hostility or demonstrates hostility towards the victim's disability, race, religion, sexual orientation or transgender identity.

Over the last reporting period there have been **426** reported hate crimes this is compared to **370** the previous year which is a **15%** rise. Race prejudice accounts for **69%** of the hate crime and we have seen an increase of **23** more cases. On a positive side, there was no crimes relating to gender prejudice this year compared to 8 in the previous year. The table below show a breakdown of the hate crimes (*need to keep in mind that can be categorised into multi groups*).

	This Year	Last Year	Change
Race (Ethnic) prejudice	309	286	+23
Religion/faith/belief prejudice	32	16	+16
Gender prejudice	0	8	-8
Disability prejudice (inc mental)	48	26	+22
Age prejudice	3	3	0
Transgender	3	3	0
Sexual Orientation	51	51	0

7.7 Integrated Offender Management

The IOM process is a multi-agency approach to manage individuals, both young and adult, who are at risk of causing the most harm to their communities. The emphasis has moved away from solely Serious and Acquisitive Crime (SAC) to a more Threat, Risk and Harm approach which includes not only SAC, but Domestic Abuse (DA), Serious Violence, Gang activity, Organised Crime Groups (OCG), Troubled Families, Terrorism, Trafficking and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

The IOM Cohort is currently at **241**, this is **3%** decrease (**-10**) compared to the same time last year which was expected due to the IOM emphasis transition. West Division represents

36% of the cohort followed by East Division (**34%**) and North (**30%**).

The current cohort is made up of:

- **240** males aged 16 – 70
- **1** female aged 31
- **15** individuals managed by Youth Justice Services (2 of which are in Medway)

In Maidstone, 58% of the cohort in the community committed no offences in the last 3 months. Between them they committed 147 offences before starting IOM and only 61 offences whilst on IOM.

7.8 Maidstone Mediation

Maidstone Borough Council supports Maidstone Mediation in its role of effecting change and positive relationships between adults, families, and adolescents. In Maidstone they have undertaken **57** anger management referrals in school and direct referrals to the charity.

- **21** Family and parent/teen referrals
- **33** serious student conflict mediations in school environment
- **2** Restorative Processes
- **25** Schools in the Borough that have received Peer Mediation Training, approximately 300 children.
- **15** Neighbour mediated interventions for varying issues.

9. Key Conclusions and Recommended Changes to the Community Safety Plan 2019-2022

- Protecting our communities against serious and organised crime (including modern-day slavery)**

To reflect the emerging positive learning from the national Violence Reduction Unit pilots, it is recommended that this priority be amended to read “Protecting our communities against serious, violent and organised crime (including modern-day slavery).”

This amendment reflects an increase in reported incidents and fear around knives and violent crime on a local and national level. The introduction of the VRU will lead to a number of further opportunities to source funding to undertake more initiatives to raise awareness and tackle offenders, which will also impact on children and young people priority.

The SMP acknowledges that the Town Centre with its vibrant night-time economy will by its nature feature more prominently in violent crime statistics. The SMP is ready to embrace new ways of tackling violent crime through better prevention models with Public Health and by tackling social and financial deprivation. This approach will sit alongside existing measures, such as the increase in the use of police stop search powers that has led to an increase in people found in possession of weapons; and building on other initiatives such as RAG rating for premises and the planned Safer Socialising initiative, which will ensure our NTE in particular remains a safe but vibrant place.

Despite the efforts to disrupt and reduce the impact of OCG’s and Gangs in the borough the intelligence and threat, particularly from County Lines supports the need for this priority to remain a priority for the SMP.

- Keeping children and young people safe**

Young people and their safety is a factor across all of the CSP Plan priorities. Whether that is through the impact of ACEs on their development or their own risk-taking behaviour, they remain a core area of focus for the SMP. The introduction of the VRU and the evolution of KCC led Adolescent Services and Local Children’s Partnership Group will see a more structured approach to not only tackling those children at risk, but will also look at those deeper areas of need around resilience, communities and families, so as to put in place strategic level changes to service delivery in the borough. The Voice of Young Maidstone safety survey will play a key role in understanding how our young people feel about the borough and the risks that exist in their world. Initiatives, such as “My Place” will target the most vulnerable and will be supported, alongside other initiatives, through a new DCSM and CARMS meetings structure to pioneer more consistency across the county. The CSP Plan should be amended to reflect this.

- **Reducing the harm caused by domestic abuse (including stalking)**

Whilst Violent Crime as a whole saw a reduction, domestic abuse remains an area of concern. As a traditionally underreported crime, the increases are seen largely as a positive as we work together to break the silence that conceals this crime in too many households. It remains vital that we continue to raise awareness of the support that is available to victims and support them to becoming survivors. In order to do so we must continue to look at the data available and ensure that our services support the most vulnerable in their homes, whether that is in the urban or rural communities. Initiatives such as the DA Guardians and DA Champions, in urban and rural areas respectively, will continue to be key areas of focus for the DA Forum over the next year, alongside ensuring we take a trauma informed approach to understanding the impact domestic abuse has on the development of children. The CSP plan should be updated to reflect this.

- **Reduce the impact of substance misuse on our community**

The CSP Plan 2019-22 agreed that substance misuse, whilst an area of concern did not require a specific sub-group as many of the actions identified are delivered through specific teams within the partnership. Substance misuse is a cross-cutting issue that remains an aggravating factor in the concerns raised by the other subgroups, although the data suggests a significant decrease in young people requiring structured treatment.

The work of the housing outreach team at Maidstone Borough Council has had a significant impact on the behaviour of a cohort with complex needs, reducing the concerns from previous years. Their intensive engagement with this cohort has meant there has been less need to use the PSPO or other powers to tackle ASB in the Town Centre. Whilst there has been a small increase in the number of needles found, this figure was skewed by the needles found in a property off of Week Street, many of which had been in that property for many years. Usage of the needle bins remains positive too. Substance misuse remains an area of concern, not least because of its relationship to the other priorities in the CSP Plan.

- **Safeguard people whose mental health makes them vulnerable to becoming a victim or where it leads to an impact on the wider community**

Like substance misuse, mental health remains an area that requires further work, particularly because of the impact across the other priorities and the welfare of the individuals concerned. Increased awareness at a global level is reflected in the local profile of mental health and its impact on our communities. It is estimated that 68% of cases brought to the weekly Community Safety Vulnerability Meeting involved someone with or with a suspected mental health concern.

Much of the work undertaken by the SMP has a positive impact on mental health in the borough but some key areas of concern remaining, particularly with some of the more vulnerable groups in our society. The growing impact is also reflected in concerns around suicide, particularly in men and young people. It is felt that mental health should receive more attention in year 2 of the plan to reflect the growing impact it has across the priorities.

- **Other areas considered**

The 5 priorities identified in this section are echoed across the SMP with multi-agency working remaining pivotal. Growing levels of engagement across public, private and voluntary sectors is protecting residents and communities and continues to identify those still at risk of exploitation from those whose behaviour creates that risk.

ASB in general, Prevention against radicalisation and reducing reoffending, have also been considered as priorities in their own right. It remains our view that these are intrinsic elements of the work undertaken across the five main priorities and therefore do not need to be prioritised separately at this time.

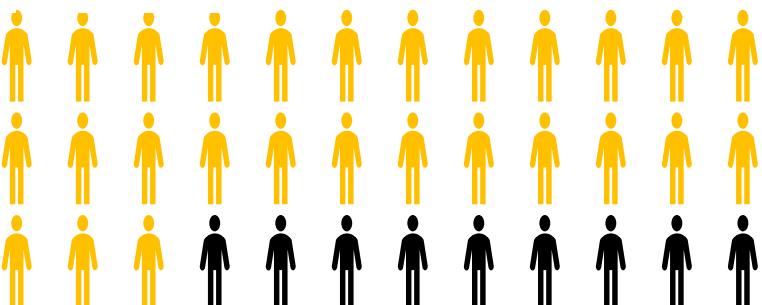
The data within this document does not identify any further areas of concern that cannot be incorporated into the 5 priorities identified in the 2019-2022 plan. Therefore the plan should be updated as described in this section.

Appendix 1 Demographics

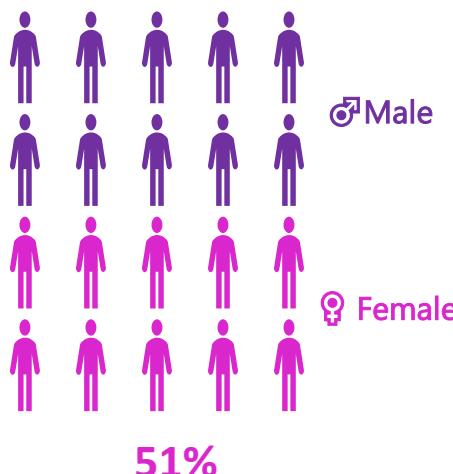
170,000 People Live In Maidstone

Maidstone Borough is the largest Kent local authority district area. Over the last 10-years Maidstone's population has grown by 13.5%. The growth in Maidstone's population is set to continue with current forecasts suggesting a further increase of 18% by 2037.

75% Of People Live In
an Urban Area



49%



♂ Male

♀ Female

51%

Age Groups
18 - 24
25 - 44
45 - 60
61+

Appendix 2

MoRiLE:

The Kent Community Safety Unit has explored the use of the MoRiLE (Management of Risk in Law Enforcement) scoring matrix to look at ranking offences based on threat, risk and harm. Maidstone Borough Council and others in Kent have again incorporated this methodology within this year's Strategic Assessment.

The rationale behind MoRiLE is that it targets resources at offences that would have the biggest impact on individuals and organisations/areas. This is in contrast to concentrating solely on crime figure tables which can sometimes provide a skewed view on threats and risk based only on the frequency/volume of crimes.

Each thematic crime area is scored individually against various criteria. There is then a formula that calculates a final score. These are then ranked high to low, listing priorities based on threat, risk & harm which can then contribute to the SMP's final recommendation of priorities.

Appendix 3

Acronym Glossary

- **ASB** = Anti-Social Behaviour
- **BOTD** = Burglary Other Than Dwelling **CCG** = Clinical Commissioning Group
- **CARM-** Complex Adolescent Risk Meeting
- **CDAP** = Community Domestic Abuse Programme
- **CDRP** = Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership
- **CGL** = Change, Grow, Live
- **CPT** = Community Protection Team
CSE = Child Sexual Exploitation
- **CSP** = Community Safety Partnership
- **CSU** = Community Safety Unit
- **CSVG** = Community Safety Vulnerability Group
- **CYSG** = Community Youth Safety Group
- **DA** = Domestic Abuse
- **DCSM** = District Contextual Safeguarding Meeting
- **HMIC** = Her Majesties Inspectorate of Constabulary
- **IDVA** = Independent Domestic Violence Advisor
- **IOM** = Integrated Offender Management
- **JSNA** = Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- **KCC** = Kent County Council
- **KFRS** = Kent Fire & Rescue Service
KSSCRC = Kent Surrey & Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company
- **MARAC** = Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
- **MBC** = Maidstone Borough Council
MOJ = Ministry Of Justice
- **MoRiLE** = Management of Risk in Law Enforcement
- **MSG** = Most Similar Groups
- **NPS** = National Probation Service or New Psychoactive Substances depending on context
- **NTE** = Night Time Economy
- **OCG** = Organised Crime Group
- **OSS** = One Stop Shop for DA
- **SOCP** = Serious and Organised Crime Panel
- **PCC** = Police & Crime Commissioner
- **PS** = Psychoactive Substances **SMP** = Safer Maidstone Partnership
- **SOC** = Serious Organised Crime **UE** = Unlawful Encampments
- **VATP** = Violence Against The Person
- **VCS** = Voluntary & Community Service
- **VRU** = Violence Reduction Unit