

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY ACTING AS THE CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Tuesday 20 December 2022
Time: 7.15 pm
Venue: Town Hall, High Street Maidstone

Membership:

Councillors English (Chairman), Cannon (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Blackmore, Brice, Cleator, Conyard, Garten, Hastie, Hinder, Jeffery, Knatchbull, McKenna and T Wilkinson

The Chairman will assume that all Members will read the reports before attending the meeting. Officers are asked to assume the same when introducing reports.

<u>AGENDA</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
1. Apologies for Absence	
2. Notification of Substitute Members	
3. Urgent Items	
4. Notification of Visiting Members	
5. Disclosures by Members and Officers	
6. Disclosures of Lobbying	
7. To consider whether any items should be taken in private because of the possible disclosure of exempt information	
8. Minutes of the Meeting Held on 18 October 2022	1 - 6
9. Presentation of Petitions (if any)	
10. Question and Answer session for Members of the Public (if any)	
11. Questions from Members to the Chairman (if any)	
12. Safety Review - Internal Stakeholder Consultation	7 - 17

Issued on Monday 12 December 2022

Continued Over/:

Alison Broom

Alison Broom, Chief Executive

INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC

In order to ask a question at this meeting, please call **01622 602899** or email committee@maidstone.gov.uk by 5 p.m. one clear working day before the meeting (i.e. by 5 p.m. on Friday 16 December 2022). You will need to provide the full text in writing.

If your question is accepted, you will be provided with instructions as to how you can access the meeting.

In order to make a statement in relation to an item on the agenda, please call **01622 602899** or email committee@maidstone.gov.uk by 5 p.m. one clear working day before the meeting (i.e. by 5 p.m. on Friday 16 December 2022). You will need to tell us which agenda item you wish to speak on.

If you require this information in an alternative format please contact us, call **01622 602899** or email committee@maidstone.gov.uk.

To find out more about the work of the Committee, please visit www.maidstone.gov.uk.

MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 18 OCTOBER 2022

Attendees:

Committee Members:	Councillors English (Chairman), Cannon, Mrs Blackmore, Brice, Cleator, Conyard, Garten, Hinder, Jeffery, Knatchbull, T Wilkinson and Brindle
---------------------------	---

13. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Hastie and McKenna.

Councillor Blackmore stated that she would be leaving the meeting at 8 p.m., with it noted that Councillor Jeffery would arrive during the course of the meeting, due to pre-existing commitments.

14. NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Councillor Brindle was present as Substitute Member for Councillor McKenna.

15. URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

16. NOTIFICATION OF VISITING MEMBERS

There were no Visiting Members.

17. DISCLOSURES BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

There were no disclosures by Members and Officers.

18. DISCLOSURES OF LOBBYING

There were no disclosures of lobbying.

19. EXEMPT ITEMS

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

20. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6 OCTOBER 2022

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 October 2022 be approved as a correct record and signed.

21. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

There were no petitions.

22. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS

There were no questions from Local Residents.

23. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO THE CHAIRMAN

There were no questions from Members to the Chairman.

24. SAFETY REVIEW - EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

The Democratic Services Officer briefly introduced the report, referencing the example questions included within point 2.4 of the report that the Committee could use and/or adapt in consulting the external stakeholders present at the meeting.

The attendees were as follows, with each attendee having provided the Committee with a brief introduction on their organisation and their role within it:

- Martyn Jeynes, Community and Strategic Partnerships Manager (Maidstone Borough Council)
- Mark McLellan, District Commander (Kent Police)
- Steve Kent, Inspector (Kent Police)
- Ellen Shaw, Youth Hub Delivery Manager Maidstone (Kent County Council)
- Ilsa Butler, Bid Manager (One Maidstone)
- Emma Price, Violence Reduction Unit Co-Ordinator (Kent and Medway Violence Reduction Unit)

The Chairman explained that representatives from Golding Homes, Mid-Kent College and The Mall were unavailable to attend the meeting; however written responses would be provided to any questions raised during the meeting specifically for those stakeholders.

In response to questions, the Community and Strategic Partnerships Manager outlined the actions being implemented through the Safer Streets Funding, which included the provision of Bystander training, the renovations proposed to Brenchley Gardens to provide a designated space for police monitoring, the use of control tools such as drinks covers to distribute to users of the night-time economy and additional CCTV cameras for Brewer Street; the maintenance of those cameras would be accounted for through the service's existing Council budget. One Maidstone would be co-ordinating the funding and support for the 'Best Bar None' initiative, with an aspiration for an annual review of the scheme to become standard practice in future years beyond the safer streets funding period.

The funding provided was short term, and it was stated that it was difficult to deliver the types of projects being undertaken by the TCTF across short timescales. The financial contributions provided by Golding Homes and One Maidstone to support the TCTF were noted. The positive performance and importance of the partnership working demonstrated through the TCTF and the Council's work with partner agencies was emphasised; in part, this intended to address factors that may lead to or contribute to traumatic childhood experiences, which in turn could lead to unwanted behaviour in later years.

Several Members of the Committee questioned the attending witnesses on the reporting of crime and use of data. The Chief Inspector emphasised that caution should be taken in reviewing 'snap-shots' of crime data, with a full data set likely to demonstrate the successes of the partnership working; consideration should be given to the fact that residents had felt comfortable to report the crimes taking place. The Chief Inspector stated that partnership working was a priority to Kent Police.

The Community and Strategic Partnerships Manager confirmed that the borough's crime statistics would be reviewed as part of the Council's annual strategic assessment in early 2023, before their publication within the Community Safety Plan (CSP). The CSP would be considered by the Committee in March 2023. It was expected that the level of crime, particularly serious crime, would decrease given the partnership working in place, with the Shepway Task Force having achieved a 33% reduction in serious crime alongside a net increase in the reporting of crime, during its operation.

The importance of collective partnership working to promote the night-time economy was highlighted, with reference to the World Cup, Christmas and post-Christmas periods. The Chief Inspector outlined the actions being taken by Kent Police in ensuring public safety during the World Cup. The Bid Manager highlighted One Maidstone's six-weekly night-time economy forum, which was attended by local venues and partner agencies. From this, Kent Police were informed of events such as sports screenings to ensure that the appropriate resources were available. The Bid Manager stated that if Members would like to receive further communications on the forum's discussions, this could be facilitated.

The Community and Strategic Partnerships Manager stated that the rates of domestic abuse (DA) would likely be affected these time periods and the national economic position, but that the Council and its partnership organisations were working on a series of initiatives to address DA. This included the Domestic Abuse Safety Plan, Domestic Abuse Safety Forum and the promotion of the 'one stop shop' at the Council's Trinity Building; the latter had been a crucial service for the Council to deliver in providing assistance to victims. The provision of DA training across multiple organisations to raise awareness of the signs of, and disclosures around DA was outlined.

During the discussion, several Members of the Committee emphasised the importance of communications to the wider public, as it was felt that these could be improved. This included publicising successful interventions, the positive performance of partnership working and the importance of publicising the contact details for services such as DA. In response, the Democratic Services Officer was requested to distribute the DA forum's upcoming events and contact details to the Committee, for information and re-distribution.

The Community and Strategic Partnerships Manager reiterated that a significant portion of the Safer Streets Funding was designated for communications. It was stated that the communications teams of the respective partnership agencies aligned their communications to synonymously publicise the work undertaken. The Chief Inspector stated that they were aware of the Committee's desire for improved communications from having watched the 6 October 2022 meeting, and that they would consider how Kent Police communicated the achievements made with Members, town centre business owners and the wider public in response. Members were requested to continue reporting crime, to assist Kent Police in

directing resources and implementing the OSARA problem solving technique as required.

The work of the Town Centre Task Force (TCTF) and Community Safety Teams was usually publicised within each of the Council's Borough Insight Magazines, with the upcoming issues to again include one-and-a-half pages on the partnership and One Maidstone's Street Pastors. It was requested that the contact details for those organisations and the DA forum be included.

Several Members of the Committee expressed concern at the increased usage of Nitrus Oxide. In response, the Community and Strategic Partnerships Manager explained that only the sale, rather than possession, of Nitrus oxide was a criminal offence which made it difficult to address.

The use of vaping devices was more prevalent in the town centre than Nitrus oxide use, with the former being a public health crisis nationally. The Council worked jointly with the Kent and Medway Violence Reduction Unit (K&MVRU) and Kent County Council to raise the profile of vaping. The TCTF proactively sought to obtain closure orders for those businesses within the town centre that distributed vaping devices and Nitrus oxide to young people, where linked to anti-social behaviour and the unlawful provision of those substances to young people. Nitrus oxide usage within the borough's rural areas had been raised with the Kent Substance Misuse Alliance (KSMA) and local services. The Community and Strategic Partnerships Manager stated that the link to the public consultation on the KSMA's strategy would be provided to the Committee.

The Committee were informed that One Maidstone would be completing a 'Bid Term 2' document, which would track the opening and operation of shops within the town centre across the past five years. This would assist in managing these types of concerns, alongside assisting the TCTF in policing the area as a residential and commercial district.

The Community and Strategic Partnership Manager outlined the types of evidence that were required in obtaining a closure order, with the TCTF having a fortnightly strategic operations meetings focusing on the 'pursue' workstream, with partner organisations sharing information to assist in the actions being taken.

In response to questions on One Maidstone's services provided, the Bid Manager stated that there were four Street Ambassadors that would address any matter compromising the town centre's vitality. This included anti-social behaviour. The Street Ambassadors worked between 7 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. across the town centre footprint, which included Brenchley Gardens and the northern part of Week Street. The Bid Manager stated that Maidstone Business Improvement District was often used as an example of best practice to other BIDs, due to the partnership working in place which was felt to be a fantastic opportunity. An example of the partnership working in place was that the town centre CCTV equipment and associated data belonged to the Council but was operated by One Maidstone; the costs were underwritten by the businesses within the BID.

Several Members of the Committee questioned the provision of training and youth services, as part of the overarching work being conducted by the partnership. In response, the Community and Strategic Partnerships Manager stated that the Council was working with two other Local Authorities, and the K&MVRU to provide a Bystander training package for the Maidstone Borough. The training would be

provided to security teams, businesses and those operating within the night-time economy, to support them in their 'professional curiosity' and identify individuals that may be at low-to-medium risk of exploitation. The K&MVRU were leading on training trainers to deliver the Bystander training from around November or December 2022, alongside training from the Boys2Men. The training provided would be delivered with the relevant partnering organisations, such as Kent County Council and family liaison officers. Further information would be provided to the Committee when available.

The Violence Reduction Unit Co-Ordinator outlined the activities available at Maidstone Youth Hub, which were free to access. The importance of education was emphasised, with the K&MVRU working to change the language used in association with young individuals, such as the incorrect usage of the word 'gang'. The Bystander training would be provided to young people, addressing the language used around reporting an issue versus 'snitching', to remove those barriers. Another aim was to reach out to those individuals that may be vulnerable or at risk of exploitation, with the buddy tagging system outlined, which had been successful for those that had used it well. In February 2023, an event would be held for young people across Kent, alongside the Hope Collective, to encourage young people to outline the issues in their communities and areas for change. The event would be attended by a public figure to talk to the young individuals in attend about their early life experiences and how these had been overcome.

In response to questions, the Violence Reduction Unit Co-Ordinator referenced the placement of the Knife Angle in Brenchley Gardens, stating that 30 knives had been handed in during its display. The K&MVRU had also facilitated workshops with local schools at the Hazlitt Theatre on educating young people on knife crime. The importance of training was reiterated however the Committee were advised that it was important to ensure that individuals, particularly young males, did not feel marginalised, as feedback from schools indicated that this had occurred. Local schools had been asked to join the Commitment Pledge, which focused on keeping pupils safe from knife and violent crime.

The partnership working taking place to provide local youth services was highlighted, with the Youth Hub Delivery Manager stating that 326 youth club would be open on weekends and supported by Outreach Youth Workers after 6 p.m. if needed, to provide suitable support to young people. The Community and Strategic Partnerships Manager stated that the funding for the club had been secured by the K&MVRU and would be staffed by KCC's Youth Services, with the Council to train the security guards. The lease for the club had been taken out on by One Maidstone on the Council's behalf.

The Committee expressed that the work undertaken by the TCTF and the Council's partner agencies including those that had attended the meeting, was extremely positive, with specific reference made to the youth services being provided. The need to improve the communications being produced to highlight this work was reiterated. The role of Members in supporting the services provided and engaging with young people was raised, including through direct contact such as by attending external meetings, such as the Maidstone Youth Forum, conducting site visits to the partnership organisations and through raising the work undertaken with their respective political groups.

The Youth Hub Delivery Manager stated that Councillors would be welcome to attend a meeting of the Maidstone Youth Forum; the forum was currently identifying their top five issues of importance.

Ahead of the meeting's closure, the external attendees in attendance were asked to consider the following question, with an answer to be provided at a later date:

'What would you like Maidstone Borough Council to do, that we are not doing?'

The Committee also wished for the below questions to be put to the Housing Associations operating within the Town Centre:

'How do you (as an organisation) deal with Anti-Social Behaviour issues in relation to enforcing your tenancy agreements?'

'Would you (as an organisation) like to consider setting up a specific email response system for Members of Parliament and Councillors (in reporting issues of anti-social behaviour)?'

The attendees were thanked for their contributions to the meeting, as part of the evidence collection process to the review.

RESOLVED: That the safety review be continued at the next available meeting of the Committee.

Note:

Councillor Brice arrived at 6.33 p.m., confirming that whilst she was a Council Representative on the One Maidstone BID Advisory Board, she had no disclosures of interest or lobbying to declare.

Councillor Jeffery arrived at 7.14 p.m., confirming that he had no disclosures of interest or lobbying to declare.

Councillor Blackmore left the meeting at 8.06 p.m.

25. DURATION OF MEETING

6.30 p.m. to 8.31 p.m.

Note: The Committee adjourned between

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**20 DECEMBER
2022**

Safety Review – Internal Stakeholder Consultation

Timetable	
Meeting	Date
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	20 December 2022

Will this be a Key Decision?	No
Urgency	Not Applicable
Final Decision-Maker	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Lead Director	Angela Woodhouse, Director of Strategy, Insight & Governance
Lead Officer and Report Author	Oliviya Parfitt, Democratic Services Officer
Classification	Public
Wards affected	All

Executive Summary

This report outlines the next steps of the Committee’s review into town centre safety.

Purpose of Report

Decision

This report makes the following recommendations to the Committee

1. To continue its Safety Review through interviewing internal stakeholders in attendance; and
2. To provide direction on the next steps of the review

Safety Review – Internal Stakeholder Consultation

1. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AND IMPLICATIONS

Issue	Implications	Sign-off
Impact on Corporate Priorities	<p>The four Strategic Plan objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embracing Growth and Enabling Infrastructure • Safe, Clean and Green • Homes and Communities • A Thriving Place <p>The recommendations of the report support the continuation of the Safety Review commenced at the 6 October 2022 meeting of the Committee. The outcomes of the review could materially improve the Council’s ability achieve all corporate priorities, due to the Committee’s role in reviewing and recommending actions on its work topics.</p>	Director of Strategy, Insight & Governance
Cross Cutting Objectives	<p>The four cross-cutting objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage is Respected • Health Inequalities are Addressed and Reduced • Deprivation and Social Mobility is Improved • Biodiversity and Environmental Sustainability is respected <p>The recommendations of the report support the continuation of the Safety Review commenced at the 6 October 2022 meeting of the Committee. The outcomes of the review could materially improve the Council’s ability achieve all cross-cutting objectives, due to the Committee’s role in reviewing and recommending actions on its work topics.</p>	Director of Strategy, Insight & Governance
Risk Management	See Section 5 of the report.	Director of Strategy, Insight & Governance

Financial	The proposals set out in the recommendation are all within already approved budgetary headings and so need no new funding for implementation.	Democratic Services Officer
Staffing	We will deliver the recommendations with our current staffing.	Director of Strategy, Insight & Governance
Legal	In accordance with Part 1A of the Local Government Act 2000 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) the Council is operating under Executive Arrangements. These arrangements must include provision for the appointment of one or more Overview and Scrutiny Committees to review and scrutinise the Executive decisions made, or other actions taken – LGA 2000, Section 9F	Legal Team
Information Governance	The recommendations do not impact personal information (as defined in UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018) the Council processes.	Senior Information Governance Officer
Equalities	The recommendations do not propose a change in service therefore will not require an equalities impact assessment	Equalities and Communities Officer
Public Health	We recognise that the recommendations have the potential to positively impact the population health or that of individuals.	Democratic Services Officer
Crime and Disorder	The report's recommendations will not impact Crime & Disorder, however the Committee is likely to propose recommendations aimed at positively impacting crime and disorder in concluding the Safety Review.	Director of Strategy, Insight & Governance
Procurement	No impacts identified.	Director of Strategy, Insight & Governance
Biodiversity and Climate Change	There are no immediate implications on biodiversity and climate change at this stage of the review. If any implications arise, these will be highlighted at that time.	Biodiversity and Climate Change Officer

2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting on the 6 October 2022, the Committee formally began its Safety Review. The review focuses on examining the current measures in place, and identifying any improvements required, in ensuring the safety of individuals within Maidstone Town Centre.
- 2.2 The review continued at the Committee's 18 October 2022 meeting, where representatives of Kent Police, Kent County Council, Kent and Medway Violence Reduction Unit and One Maidstone were in attendance to give verbal evidence to the Committee. The minutes of that meeting can be accessed via the link provided in section 9 of this report.
- 2.3 At the conclusion of that meeting, the external stakeholders were asked the following question:

1 - 'What would you like Maidstone Borough Council to do, that we are not doing?'

The Kent and Medway Violence Reduction Unit and KCC submitted a response, and this has been provided in appendix 2 to the report.

- 2.4 The Committee also requested that Housing Associations operating within the Town Centre be asked the following questions:

1 - 'How do you (as an organisation) deal with Anti-Social Behaviour issues in relation to enforcing your tenancy agreements?'

2 - 'Whether they would like to consider setting up a specific email response system for MPs and Councillors'

Any responses received ahead of the 20 December 2022 meeting will be distributed to the Committee with the Chairman's agreement.

- 2.5 The next stage of the review is to interview internal stakeholders as part of the evidence collection process. This should take place with consideration given to the previous two meetings, and the written evidence submitted by external stakeholders (as outlined in points 2.3 and 2.4 above) attached to this report.
- 2.6 The internal stakeholders invited have been listed below, with consideration having been given to the review's scope attached at appendix 1 to this report.

Communications Manager
Community & Strategic Partnerships Manager
Head of Housing and Regulatory Services

- 2.7 For this part of the review, the Committee may want to focus their questioning on the key themes identified from the 6 and 18 October 2022 meetings. These were based on the questions asked and sentiments expressed by the Committee and Officers. These are attached at appendix 3 to the report.

Example Questions may include:

- How have the improved safety measures been communicated to the public?
- Do you think there needs to be an improvement in how safety measures are communicated with the public?
- What can Members do to support improved safety in the town centre?
- Is there anything Officers would like to raise regarding the suggestions put forward by External Stakeholders?
- Is there any updated information available since the last meeting of the review, on the training being provided?

2.8 This report and associated appendices will be sent to the internal stakeholders to support them in preparing to attend the 20 December 2022 meeting of the Committee.

3. AVAILABLE OPTIONS

3.1 There is no preferred option from an officer perspective, as this report aims to support the Committee in continuing its review by providing the relevant supporting information required.

4. RISK

4.1 The risks associated with this proposal, including the risks if the Council does not act as recommended, have been considered in line with the Council's Risk Management Framework. We are satisfied that the risks associated are within the Council's risk appetite and will be managed as per the policy.

5. CONSULTATION RESULTS AND PREVIOUS COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

5.1 This report supports the Committee in the continuation of its Safety Review.

6. NEXT STEPS: COMMUNICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION

6.1 As agreed by the Committee in July 2022, this review into safety is part of a wider review into Safety & Enforcement. The safety element of the review was to encompass:

Safety in the Town Centre (commence in September 2022)
Night-time Economy (commence in December 2022)

6.2 Due to the delay in progressing the review, in part due to having to cancel the September 2022 meeting and giving precedence to the call in received at the November 2022 meeting, the Committee is now likely to complete the safety in the town centre element of the review in January 2022. The Night-time economy aspect of the review will likely start in either January or February 2022. **This will delay the review into the Council's**

enforcement, and it may not be possible for this review to be completed before the end of the Municipal year.

Projected Timetable

Review Focus	Meeting Date/s applicable
Safety Review	20 December 2022 24 January 2022 – recommended actions presented to committee.
Night-Time Economy Review	24 January 2022 – begin night-time economy evidence collection 21 February 2022 – continue evidence collection/recommended actions agreed. 21 March 2022 – recommended actions agreed/formal report on both aspects presented to committee for consideration.

6.3 This has been included for information and is reflected within the Committee’s work programme included within the agenda papers for this meeting.

7. REPORT APPENDICES

The following documents are to be published with this report and form part of the report:

- Appendix 1: Review Scope
 - Appendix 2: Requests received from External attendees at the 18 October 2022 meeting.
 - Appendix 3: Themes identified from 6 and 18 October 2022 Meetings
 - Appendix 4: Data from previous resident survey’s relating to safety in the town centre (to follow)
-

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Agenda papers and minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meetings held on 6 and 18 October 2022:

6 October 2022: [Your Councillors - Maidstone Borough Council](#)

18 October 2022: [Your Councillors - Maidstone Borough Council](#)

Communities, Housing and Environment Committee Agenda (Acting as the Crime & Disorder Committee), 2022-2025 Community Safety Plan and Strategic Assessment – March 2022: [Your Councillors - Maidstone Borough Council](#)

Overview and Scrutiny acting as the Crime and Disorder Committee
Safety Review Scope

<p><u>Proposed Topic</u></p> <p>Safety and Enforcement.</p> <p>Safety aspect to be looked at first, followed by enforcement (two separate but related reviews) and take place at formal Committee Meetings.</p>
<p><u>Description and Reason for Review</u></p> <p>Description</p> <p>Review into safety and Council's provision of enforcement services, to identify actions and/or policies for implementation to improve these services.</p> <p>Reason for Review</p> <p>At its previous meeting the committee agreed to conduct a review into the topics, with the aspects of safety relating to the town centre and the night-time economy.</p> <p>A suggestion to review enforcement was also put forward by the Executive, with the Lead Member for Environmental Services in attendance indicating Committee input into the resourcing of enforcement would be welcomed.</p>
<p><u>Link to Priorities</u></p> <p>Strategic Priorities: Safe Clean and Green A Thriving Place</p> <p>Executive Priorities: Maintaining a tough stance on crime and anti-social behaviour, working closely with the Police and utilising the Council's own powers and resources.</p> <p>Other: Aligns with Executive proposal to review enforcement alongside support expressed at the meeting by the Lead Member for Environmental Services.</p>
<p><u>Safety Review (Primary Review)</u></p> <p>Review to be carried out at Committee.</p> <p>To include safety in the town centre and the night-time economy; review of existing measure to identify any required changes (lines of enquiry).</p> <p><u>Approach:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Overview and Scrutiny Member Briefing – 6 October 2022 (briefing note to be provided)

2. Evidence Collection: Town Centre Safety

18 October 2022 meeting – External Stakeholder Evidence Collection

- Mid-Kent College
- The Mall
- Housing Providers
- Youth Forum

22 November 2022 meeting – Internal Stakeholders (now December 2022)

- Communications Team
- Economic Development Team
- Chairman of the CHE PAC
- Lead Member for Communities and Engagement
- Evidence from previous resident surveys.

From December 2022 (now January 2022): Night-time Economy

Evidence Collection

(as above)

- Kent Police, including Licensing Officer
- Community and Strategic Partnerships Manager
- Licensing Officers (MBC)
- Chairman and Vice-Chair of Licensing Committee
- Other groups associated with night-time economy
- Consider results from previous resident surveys
- Night-Time economy forum (One Maidstone)
- Street pastors & Urban Blue

Virtual attendance provided to consultees.

NOTE: The proposed timescales and stakeholders to be consulted may be subject to change as the review progresses. This may be due to overlap between safety and the night-time economy.

At its meeting on the 18 October 2022, the Committee asked the external attendees the following question:

'What would you like Maidstone Borough Council to do, that we are not doing?'

The table below outlines the requests received in response.

<p>Kent and Medway VRU & KCC Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When a Member receives a report of an issue, that this be shared at the time to ensure that the actions and discussions are relevant and appropriate to current incidents. • Identify best ways to communicate best practice, the initiatives and the events taking place • Actively link to youth settings to experience first hand the inputs offered by and voice of young people • Engage with training opportunities made by available by the Community Safety Partnership, such as Active Bystander Approach, Contextual Safeguarding, OSARA, and trauma-informed awareness to increase the understanding of the training provided to Maidstone Practitioners, the underlying causes of behaviours and the outcomes hoped to be achieved • Advise on whether invitations to the Local Children's Partnership Group Forum or Young People's conversation would be of interest
<p>One Maidstone</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider ways that the night-time economy businesses can be supported in rebutting any negative or inaccurate perceptions of the town centre at night. • To continue with the good collaborate working already in place with the Council and its partnership agencies.

NOTE: The above requests have been summarised where appropriate.

Appendix 3: Themes identified from the 6 and 18 2022 October Meetings of the Committee

The following themes have been identified from the Committee's questions and sentiments expressed during the meetings held on the 6 and 18 October 2022.

Theme	Sub-Topics
Communications (outward)	Reporting of positive progress Use of Apps Social Media usage by the Council and partnership organisations. Borough Insight
Partnership Working and Future Actions	Positive impact of partnership working within the Town Centre; includes Council Police Force Town Centre Businesses and Organisations Members Future aspirations of the partnership agencies, including actions that the council can take to assist partnership organisations
Housing Providers	Housing providers role in managing anti-social behaviour.
Training	Contextual Safeguarding By-Stander Training Provision of training
Youth Services	Methods of engaging with young individuals, such as through the youth hubs and the 3-2-6 club. Maidstone Youth Forum
Funding	Funding Sustainability National Funding Schemes: Youth Investment Fund Safer Streets Fund
Crime	Levels of Crime in the Town Centre Crime around the Town Centre and 'local super output area' Tackling crime in the Town Centre from individuals travelling from outside of the area.