



COMMITTEE TITLE: Clean & Green Committee

DATE: 11 September 2023

REPORT TITLE:	Chairs Update
REPORT OF:	Marcus Hotten, Director of Environment Kim Anderson, Corporate Manager – Communities, Leisure & Health

This report provides an update to Members in relation to the areas covered under the Terms of Reference of the Clean & Green Committee.

The Chair of Clean & Green Committee initiated four task and finish groups consisting of:

- Community Parks Task & Finish Group
- Fly Tipping Task & Finish Group
- High Street clean up Task & Finish Group
- Footways, Cycle Routes and bridleways Task & Finish Group (meeting to take place on 8th September 2023)

Members indicated which group they would like to be part of and meetings have now taken place.

- **Community Parks Task & Finish Group**

Officers and members considered future plans and opportunities of the Country Parks. Officers will consider costings, resources and funding opportunities for the any of the opportunities. Initially, Officers will concentrate of Hutton Country Park, seeking to develop a management plan, and firm up a vision for the park.

- **Fly Tipping Task & Finish Group**

Members looked at Keep Britain Tidy advice for opportunities to reduce fly tipping and make improvements to behaviours.

Consider stickers to highlight fly tipping and fines in place as a deterrent on waste bins that are being used for domestic/commercial waste or left next to bins as a deterrent and to identify that the Council are acting on it.

Consider a review of bulky collections options – frequency and quantity.

Housing and Enforcement officers to attend the next meeting.

- **High Street clean up Task & Finish Group**

Cllr Aspinell met with County Councillor Scott regarding High Street parking. Cllr Scott took all information away and come back with actions we can put in place.

Red routes/TRO were discussed as an option and would look at how other Councils have managed this.

A number of alleyways need to be cleaned up.

Need to enquire use of BT phone boxes on the high street as they are not being used for the correct purpose.

Consider tree lining of the High Street.

- **Footways, Cycle Routes and bridleways Task & Finish Group (meeting to take place on 8th September 2023)**

High Street Parking

On Friday 18th August the Leader Chief, Executive and officers met with representatives of the South Essex Parking Partnership (SEPP) who manage on street parking for the borough to discuss the options for the parking issue in Brentwood High Street.

The potential to consider a clamping service was discussed but SEPP explained that clamping would be a viable option. The resources implications would be to extensive as it would require removal lorries, secure compound storage, appropriate policy and approval from Essex County Council approval.

However, SEPP confirmed that a 'Red Route' could be viable in the High Street and that preliminary planning work has already begun.

SEPP advised that they are planning a 'red route' trial in Sawyers Hall Lane, outside the schools to assess its impact and success. Once this has been implemented and trialled they are hoping to implement something similar in the High Street.

SEPP are producing a map of the High Street with a proposed 'red route' to bring to a further meeting so that details such as disabled bays, bus stops and any other exceptions can be considered and factored in to any plans.

It was further acknowledged that although a 'red route' does not require cameras to operate, having them installed ensures a more effective method of enforcement for infringements and a deterrent. Cameras for 'red routes' have to be Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) and only specific cameras approved by the Secretary of State can be used for 'red routes'.

SEPP will be providing the spec of these approved cameras to officers so that additional research in terms of cost, viability of integration with our control room, software, and the option of Brentwood Control Room operating the cameras. This would mean camera operators would need to be a trained Civil Enforcement Officer which also requires research.

Further research work will be conducted on the viability of Brentwood CCTV Control Room operating these cameras and a further meeting with Nick Binder from SEPP to

look at a draft map of a 'red route' in Brentwood High Street with any other requirements will be organised.

EV Chargers

Believe (the trading name of Liberty Charge) will be seeking planning permission for the EV chargers, planning is expected to be submitted by no later than 23rd June. The requirement for planning permissions is due to the size of the charging points at King Georges and Chatham Way and the fact that the points will be within 2m of the Highway at Chatham Way. Due to the need for planning the proposed earliest timeframe for installation is going to be September this year depending on when planning permission is granted.

Both Car parks will have two fast and two rapid chargers installed. There are also 4 charging points proposed for the visitor's car park at the Town Hall the Council needs to balance the need for visitor parking for those using the services from the Town Hall and installing electric vehicle charging. Legals are progressing on the proposed charging points for the town hall.

Community Safety & Partnership

On July 5th the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) away day took place which was attended by all members and key partners. The day allowed partners to consider the Strategic Assessment, and review and agree our priorities for the coming year. We also took the opportunity to review the structure of our CSP including the format and frequency of meetings.

Following the review and findings from our strategic assessment it was agreed to have 3 new priorities with the respective issues to address:

Protecting the Community:

- Engagement, Education & Enforcement
- Perception
- Drugs
- VAWG
- ASB
- High Streets
- Road Safety
- Hate Crime
- Violent Crime/Knife Crime
- Domestic Violence

Protecting the Environment:

- Environmental Crime
- Education, Engagement & Enforcement
- Fire Safety
- Protecting green spaces

Protecting the Future:

- Engagement, Education & Enforcement
- Vaping/Drugs
- Knife Crime
- Road Safety

To accommodate and address these new priorities we have altered the structure of our CSP to have two overarching strategic meetings a year, 4 sub operational group meetings and 3 different taskforce groups, each with one of the 3 new priorities as their objective, to meet regularly to report to the operational group on their respective priorities.

In addition, we have divided Brentwood into 6 areas with the intention to deliver two CSP engagement events in each area to educate, engage and temperature check the work of the CSP and our priorities with our community.

Operation Dial - On the 27th March 2023 Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak launched the ASB Action Plan, in which he stated that 16 areas across England and Wales will be funded to support a Hotspot or Immediate Justice Pilot to tackle ASB. It was indicated that ten areas would be selected for the Hotspot Pilots, one being Essex.

On 10th May 2023 the Home Office formally notified Essex Police Fire & Crime Commissioner (PFCC) that Essex will be a pilot area in the ASB Hotspot initiative. Further details and guidance were then provided around the parameters of the pilot and a commitment of £1,000,000 to deliver it, along with £50,000 to fund additional analytical support.

The Home Office stated the Hotspot response will require a multi-agency presence and funding would not be ringfenced solely for police activity but also include local authorities.

Following this instruction local authorities worked with police data analysts to identify 11 hotspots in Essex with the highest reports of anti-social behaviour outside of the existing police Operation Grip, where this trial would be conducted by both police and local authority patrols funded by the Home Office via PFCC.

An area in Brentwood was identified as an ASB hot spot which is Railway Square and the surrounding locale with an agreed action plan with PFCC for Community Safety to patrol the area twice a week out of hours and hold a monthly night of action.

This trial began in Brentwood on 18th July with Community Safety conducting out of hours patrols twice a week and funding from PFCC agreed.

Community Safety- Engagement/Campaigns/Projects

The partnership has continued to deliver Community Safety engagement events across the borough and wider Essex where possible. Since January 2023, over 30

events have been delivered. Another area of focus for the partnership is linking in with local, regional, and national campaigns including:

- Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)
- Operation Dial, ASB hot spot patrols as detailed above
- Assisting Essex police with their 'Walk with Us' initiative at transport hubs during rush hour
- Anti-spiking events with police in and around our night-time economies
- White Ribbon Day- Engaging with men and boys to end violence against women
- National Road Safety Week
- Project Edward – European Day without a road death

Projects

Through the CSP the Community Safety team remain committed to tackling key issues for Brentwood by focussing on specific projects such as working closely with local schools and facilitate and Chair the Schools Liaison Meeting every month. This includes representatives from all local secondary schools as well as Essex Police, ECC (Essex County Council) Youth Service, and other community agencies.

Through this group excellent relationships have been formed and go from strength to strength improving communication and collaboration.

Projects being delivered include:

- Purchasing two electric bikes for police and community safety to conduct joint patrols across the borough
- Project Minerva - PFCC Initiative to work with police data and identify hot spots where offences against women and girls are identified and implement partnership action plans to reduce reported offences.
- Mentoring Sessions for young people to help with communication, personal development and to work on behaviours, vulnerabilities, consequences and self esteem
- Outreach work in hotspot areas to engage with young people

- N-Act Theatre performances for all schools. 'Friend' is a play about gangs, county lines, knife crime and consequences
- 'Unacceptable' performance on peer-on-peer behaviour and awareness around sexism, sexual harassment and sexual violence isn't acceptable
- Crime awareness sessions delivered in schools around drugs, gangs, and knife crime
- Boxing project established in the Brentwood Centre for young people
- Speedwatch has been revamped with a new dedicated website and email, greater focus on delivering services and improved communications across Essex. This will still be co-ordinated by the Community Safety team & volunteers. Whilst this scheme is primarily to target speeding drivers it is also a very visible presence in a locality which can only help to assist with discouraging burglars.
- The Essex Restorative and Mediation Service holds offenders to account and helps them take responsibility for the harm they have caused. Victims are given the chance to explain the impact the crime or conflict has had on them, ask questions of the perpetrator, and seek an apology.
- Seasonal Burglary Operation - The partnership has previously been involved in targeting and preventing the seasonal increase in burglaries that occurs across the whole county over the Winter months and will do so again this year.
- Operation Insight consists of a system of analysis and the deployment of resources into 'hot spots' likely to suffer burglaries, reducing the chance of them occurring. Intelligence is shared with partners and the Council's Community Safety team then disseminate to other departments within the Council to make sure staff are aware and can factor this information into their regular patrols, visits, and work schedule etc.

The Baker Partnership Hub Update

The HUB continues to thrive and be a productive and innovative environment for Essex Police Community Policing Team to work alongside Council's Community Safety team and wider community safety partners such as Essex County Fire & Rescue Service, Essex Probation, NHW, Crime Stoppers, SEPP, and Youth Services

as well as many more. We will soon be joined by Phoenix who will be providing outreach for drug and alcohol abuse.

This has greatly improved our already healthy partnership with daily communication between the agencies which has resulted in quicker results such as closure orders and dealing with community safety issues immediately; we recently planned our joint operations with police to patrol Brentwood's half marathon and assisted in both police and Council obtaining legal orders to curb anti-social behaviour and manage repeat offenders. It also enables us to continue to have the following regular meetings between partners:

- Weekly Community Safety Intelligence and Tasking
- Daily Police Briefings
- Biweekly ASB and CCTV project meetings
- Monthly ASB partnership meetings
- Ad Hoc case review meetings
- Partnership engagement and ops planning

These partnership meetings have resulted in better/productive use of available resources, an improved intelligence product identifying hot spots, repeat offenders, times of offences and emerging community safety trends and issues, improved use of CCTV and camera positioning, improved regular community engagement, improved communications on individual cases between agencies, prompter and more accurate responses to victims and more accurate risk assessments.

We plan to hold some interactive workshops with members in our HUB in the next twelve months to further illustrate the success of the HUIB and the benefit partnership working is having for our community.



