

27th January 2015

Audit & Scrutiny Committee

Annual Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Report

Report of: *Ashley Culverwell, Head of Borough Health Safety and Localism*

Wards Affected: *All*

This report is: *Public*

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The attached Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Annual Scrutiny Report provides an update on the work of the partnership over the year and gives details of crime figures relating to the CSPs strategic priorities. It also includes details of activities undertaken by the partnership.
- 1.2 The report compares crime figures for 1st October 2013 to 30th September 2014 with 1st October 2012 to 30th September 2013. Whilst reductions have been achieved in most crime types and all crime has seen 508 less offences (12.8% reduction) there has been an increase in violent crime. On further examination 41% of the violent offences related to altercations which occurred within the hours of daylight including incidents such as, road traffic and parking disputes, schools and playground bullying and dangerous dogs. Violent offences relating to the night-time economy was 32% of the total and 27% were linked to domestic violence. The majority of violent offences occurred within the home.
- 1.3 During the time period Brentwood achieved the highest reductions in all crime across the County.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 requires every Local Authority to have a Crime and Disorder Committee with the power to review, scrutinise, and make reports and recommendations regarding the functioning of the CSP. Under the scrutiny arrangements in place the Committee are asked to note the work of the CSP as outlined in the annual report attached at Appendix 1 and refer any comments or concerns to the partnership.

3. Introduction and Background

- 3.1 The requirement for local authorities to have a Committee which carries out a scrutiny role was enacted by the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 that came into force for local authorities in England on 30th April 2009.
- 3.2 The Act and the Regulations do not require Council's to alter existing committee structures but specify that there must be a formal place where community safety matters can be discussed.
- 3.3 At the Policy Board meeting on 17.6.2009 (minute 78 refers) it was agreed that the Overview and Scrutiny Panel will carry out the function of Crime and Disorder Committee. Since then this Committee (Audit and Scrutiny Committee) was established by the Council in June last year with terms of reference including overview and scrutiny.
- 3.4 Each year the CSP provides an annual report to the Committee.

4. Issue, Options and Analysis of Options

- 4.1 As outlined in section 3.1 the Committee are asked to perform the scrutiny function for the CSP.

5. Reasons for Recommendation

- 5.1 The Committee is asked to consider the work of the CSP as summarised in the attached annual report and to refer any comments or concerns to the partnership. This provides a scrutiny and monitoring function of the Council's partnership role in improving community safety.

6. Consultation

- 6.1 The CSP undertake a Strategic Assessment each year which considers all crime and disorder for the borough. This information helps identify any longer term emerging concerns and trends which is then used to agree the Strategic Priorities for the forthcoming year. All members of the partnership are involved and consulted during this process. This year the partnership also undertook its first public consultation which is continuing.

7. References to Corporate Plan

- 7.1 This report and the work of the CSP are aligned to the Council's corporate priority in relation to a Safe Borough in terms of:
- Reducing anti-social behaviour
 - Reduce offending by young people
 - Increasing community confidence

8. Implications

Financial Implications

Name & Title: Jo-Anne Ireland, Director of Strategy & Corporate Services
Tel & Email 01277 312712, jo-anne.ireland@brentwood.gov.uk

- 8.1 The current level of support provided to the CSP is budgeted.

Legal Implications

Name & Title: Chris Potter, Monitoring Officer & Head of Support Services
Tel & Email 01277 312860 christopher.potter@brentwood.gov.uk

- 8.2 The Council are statutory partners of the CSP as outlined in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.
- 8.3 The Council have a protocol in place to overview and scrutinise the work of the CSP.
- 8.4 Delegated Member responsible for community safety sits on the CSP and is currently the Vice Chair.

Other Implications (where significant) – i.e. Health and Safety, Asset Management, Equality and Diversity, Risk Management, Section 17 – Crime & Disorder, Sustainability, ICT.

The partners of the CSP all adhere to health & safety standards and comply with equality and diversity, and safeguarding policies.

9. Background Papers (include their location and identify whether any are exempt or protected by copyright)

9.1 None

10. Appendices to this report

- Appendix A - Community Safety Partnership Annual Scrutiny Report

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