



SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Thursday, 15 December 2022

Subject	East Suffolk Crime & Disorder Committee: Review of the East Suffolk Community Safety Partnership
Report by	Mary Rudd, Cabinet Member for Community Health
Supporting Officer	<p>Nicole Rickard Head of Communities Nicole.rickard@eastsuffolk.gov.uk 07766 998074</p> <p>Alex Heys Digital Marketing, Safeguarding and Community Projects Manager Alex.heids@eastsuffolk.gov.uk 07711 065086</p> <p>Anita Humphrey Communities Manager Anita.humphrey@eastsuffolk.gov.uk</p> <p>Julia Catterwell Communities Officer: Woodbridge, Melton and Deben Peninsular Julia.catterwell@eastsuffolk.gov.uk</p> <p>East Suffolk Council plays the central role in co-ordinating the CSP action plan, although courtesy invites to this meeting were sent to all Responsible Authorities.</p>

Is the report Open or Exempt?	OPEN
Wards Affected:	All Wards

Purpose and high-level overview

Purpose of Report:

To provide the East Suffolk Scrutiny Committee, sitting in its capacity as the Council's Crime and Disorder Committee under the provisions of the Police and Criminal Justice Act, with a reminder of the role, responsibilities and structure of the East Suffolk CSP.

The report outlines the relationship between the Safer Stronger Communities Board at Suffolk level and the East Suffolk Community Safety Partnership. It also outlines key areas of activity and ambitions for the next twelve months, as set out in the recently-revised CSP Action Plan.

Options:

This report is intended to inform the review of the Community Safety Partnership by the Scrutiny Committee (sitting as the Crime and Disorder Committee). It is a factual account of how the Partnership currently works and proposed changes, including refreshing the CSP priorities and Action Plan.

Recommendation/s:

That the Scrutiny Committee reviews and comments on the current position of the CSP, including the CSP Action Plan and receive a presentation at the meeting on the two areas of the Plan that it has prioritised in terms of a 'deep dive' namely Violence Against Women and Girls and Anti-Social Behaviour.

Corporate Impact Assessment

Governance:

Oversight of the work of the East Suffolk Community Safety Partnership is through the Scrutiny Committee sitting as the Crime and Disorder Committee once a year, as well as through the Safer Strong Communities Board at Suffolk level. The Assistant Cabinet Member who leads on Community Safety sits on the Safer Stronger Communities Board. An organisational chart is attached in Appendix A.

ESC policies and strategies that directly apply to the proposal:

The work of the Community Safety Partnership and various projects that sit under the umbrella of the partnership fit within the 'We are East Suffolk' Strategic Plan – 'Enabling Our Communities' priority. The Community Safety Partnership does not have a Strategy but does have an Action Plan, which is discussed in more detail below.

Environmental:

There is no specific focus on the environment in the Community Safety Partnership – although some projects, e.g., Community Focus Days, may include community clean ups as part of a wider programme of events.

Equalities and Diversity:

The aim of the Community Safety Partnership is to increase the safety of, and reduce harm to, all East Suffolk residents. However, it includes strategies focused on reducing types of harm specifically targeted at groups with Protected Characteristics: for example, Hate Crime (around which data is collected on the basis of race, disability and sexual orientation) and Violence Against Women and Girls.

Financial:

Funding of £9,783 has been available to the CSP annually, for the last three years, provided by Suffolk Public Sector Leaders via Suffolk County Council. An additional pot of £16,500 was available in 2021/2022 for work specifically focused on reducing the risk of Criminal Exploitation of Young People (CEOYP). However, there is currently no funding available beyond March 2023.

Human Resources:

The resource to co-ordinate the work of the Community Safety Partnership sits within the Communities team at East Suffolk Council with significant input and liaison with Suffolk County Council Officers. There are also a range of statutory partners who take responsibility for the delivery of certain elements of the action plan, or help deliver specific projects, including the Police and Probation.

ICT:

All Community Safety Partnership meetings have been held via Teams since the Covid-19 pandemic began in March 2020.

Legal:

There is no specific resource implication for the Legal Team within the overarching work of the CSP, although they may be called upon in relation to specific areas of activities identified within the Action Plan, for example enforcement action in relation to Anti-Social Behaviour.

Risk:

Risk assessments are undertaken in relation to individual projects as relevant.

External Consultees:

A range of partners are actively involved in the Community Safety Partnership (East Suffolk) and the Safer Stronger Communities Board (Suffolk)

Strategic Plan Priorities

Select the priorities of the Strategic Plan which are supported by this proposal: (Select only one primary and as many secondary as appropriate)		Primary priority	Secondary priorities
T01	Growing our Economy		
P01	Build the right environment for East Suffolk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P02	Attract and stimulate inward investment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P03	Maximise and grow the unique selling points of East Suffolk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P04	Business partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P05	Support and deliver infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
T02	Enabling our Communities		
P06	Community Partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P07	Taking positive action on what matters most	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P08	Maximising health, well-being and safety in our District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P09	Community Pride	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
T03	Maintaining Financial Sustainability		
P10	Organisational design and streamlining services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P11	Making best use of and investing in our assets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P12	Being commercially astute	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P13	Optimising our financial investments and grant opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P14	Review service delivery with partners	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
T04	Delivering Digital Transformation		
P15	Digital by default	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P16	Lean and efficient streamlined services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P17	Effective use of data	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
P18	Skills and training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P19	District-wide digital infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
T05	Caring for our Environment		
P20	Lead by example	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P21	Minimise waste, reuse materials, increase recycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P22	Renewable energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P23	Protection, education and influence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
XXX	Governance		
XXX	How ESC governs itself as an authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
How does this proposal support the priorities selected? The Community Safety Partnership plays an integral part in maximising safety in our District. It delivers on longer term strategic aims such as raising awareness of and changing attitudes to hate crime and violence against women and girls, and tackles local priorities around community safety such as anti-social behaviour. In addition, it supports the development of community pride by increasing safety, reducing harm and facilitating people from different communities and backgrounds to live together.			

Background and Justification for Recommendation

1 Background facts	
1.1	The East Suffolk Community Safety Partnership was established to work to improve the quality of life and keep our residents, visitors and employees safe. The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act gave birth to Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) by giving local authorities and the police new responsibilities to work in partnership with other organisations and the community to draw up strategies to reduce crime and disorder. Designed to tackle crime and disorder at a local level, the Act recognises that the people who live and work in the area are best placed to identify and address the problems facing them.
1.2	Key to the strength of the CSP is the Responsible Authorities, those agencies who must co-operate as part of the partnerships. These are: Suffolk Constabulary Suffolk and Norfolk Probation Trust Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service Suffolk County Council The District Council Public Health
1.3	Each CSP develops an action plan based on a county-wide strategic assessment. The CSP action plan closely mirrors the strategic objectives set out by Suffolk County Council and the Safer Stronger Communities Board. However, the activity included in the plan has been designed so that it does not duplicate existing work delivered by the Police, Suffolk County Council and other Responsible Authorities but instead focuses on opportunities for new activity and collaboration. The action plan is delivered by the CSP, with the Responsible Authorities, Suffolk County Council and East Suffolk Council all working together.
1.4	Each CSP undergoes a strategic assessment every three years, with the next one for East Suffolk occurring in 2023. However, the action plan is refreshed each year based on new data, with any emerging areas of focus being considered. In 2022 a workshop was held with key partners to consider new and emerging data and refresh the priorities and actions within the plan.
1.5	An overview of work at Suffolk level, including the Safer Stronger Communities Board provided by the Community Safety Team at Suffolk County Council is attached in Appendix C.
2 Current position	
2.1	Community Safety Partnership action plan The current CSP action plan was refreshed between March and November 2022, with the aim of focusing on local issues while still delivering activity against key strategic priorities. Those key priorities were identified based on national and local

data, and with input from Responsible Authorities, particularly Suffolk County Council. They include: (more information about these areas of focus and key projects within them is provided in Appendix C):

- Hate Crime
- Preventing Radicalisation
- Modern Slavery
- Anti-social behaviour
- Criminal Exploitation (formerly known as County Lines)
- Violence against women and girls (VAWG)
- Volume crime
- Fraud

Fraud is a new Priority included in the action plan, based on an SSCB focus on what is clearly a growing threat to community safety. Volume Crime has been added at a local East Suffolk level on the basis of its visibility to local communities and the effect it has on community confidence. It includes crimes such as burglary and car crime.

Each of the Priorities includes activity that aims to drive increased engagement with communities, better understanding in those communities of the problems the Priorities encompass, more confidence in communities to report crime, and more confidence that crime is being tackled. This takes the shape of both direct work and broader communication campaigns.

The CSP has also added three underlying themes to the Action Plan:

Data: where the focus is on identifying and sharing as much useful data as possible to help maximise the impact of all Partners' work

Reporting: where all Partners work together to understand, optimise and promote reporting routes for all our Priorities, to reduce the underreporting of crime

Digital: where all Partners share intelligence and insight into the intersection between the Priorities and the digital world, to increase understanding and mitigate the outsize effect digital has on many of the Priorities in the action plan

Due to the nature of the required activity, SCC, ESC and the Police take responsibility for leading delivery of many of the priorities in the action plan. SCC has clearly defined and detailed strategies around many of the current priorities, which are highly sensitive and complex to tackle and need subject experts to scope and deliver relevant work programmes at a countywide level. The Police also have clearly defined strategies and statutory responsibilities around several of the current priorities. ESC has an established network of staff who work directly with the CSP or who deliver activity linked to the Priorities as a matter of course. However, a number of activities are allocated to all partners in the plan where responsibility is clearly shared and delivery is best achieved with all partners working together.

	The current iteration of the CSP action plan was signed off in November 2022, therefore only a limited amount of the activity in the new plan has been delivered. However, the plan represents an exciting opportunity to deliver important activity that would not be delivered otherwise, to collaborate in key areas like data and digital, and to cohere more effectively as a group around shared objectives.																																				
2.2	Community Safety Partnership engagement As stated in 1.2, the CSP includes several statutory partners (Responsible Authorities). Engagement from some of these partners had gradually decreased over time, due in part, no doubt, to increased workloads because of Covid. However, the process of engaging partners in order to refresh the action plan has improved this situation significantly.																																				
2.2	Projects Successful projects have been delivered under all priorities as set out in previous iterations of the action plan. A summary of projects funded by the CSP is in Section 2.5 below. These projects specifically cover ground not covered otherwise and deliver vital information about, and raise awareness of, key areas of focus.																																				
2.3	Community Safety Partnership meetings The full CSP meets virtually once every 3 months. Additional meetings are held regularly between the ESC leads and key partners to identify priority projects and to drive the action plan forward.																																				
2.4	Relevant strategies SCC produce a range of strategic documents which cover all areas of focus highlighted in the CSP action plan.																																				
2.5	Funding Funding of £9,783 has been available to the CSP annually for three years (2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22). An additional pot of £16,500 was available in 2021/2022 for work specifically focused on reducing the risk of Criminal Exploitation of Young People (CEOYP). Due to the relatively low level of CEOYP in East Suffolk, the £16,500 pot remains unspent, although a proposed Criminal Exploitation hub to be located, potentially, in Lowestoft, will provide a focus for work and use of those funds. <table><tr><th>Date</th><th>Project</th><th>Price</th></tr><tr><td>28/07/2019</td><td>Rendlesham skate park safety event</td><td>£420</td></tr><tr><td>12/09/2019</td><td>AlterEgo County Lines Theatre Production</td><td>£8,700</td></tr><tr><td>01/10/2019</td><td>Hate Crime Conference</td><td>£400</td></tr><tr><td>01/12/2019</td><td>Crucial Crew merchandise</td><td>£1,070</td></tr><tr><td>29/01/2020</td><td>Removal of PSPO signs</td><td>£812</td></tr><tr><td>01/02/2020</td><td>County Lines event</td><td>£500</td></tr><tr><td>01/03/2020</td><td>Crucial Crew first aid refresher</td><td>£450</td></tr><tr><td>31/03/2020</td><td>Hate Crime Conference</td><td>£400</td></tr><tr><td>08/07/2020</td><td>Summer Diversionary Activities resource</td><td>£480</td></tr><tr><td>31/03/2021</td><td>Coastal Action against abuse</td><td>£1,050</td></tr><tr><td>30/07/2021</td><td>Contribution to ‘Go Bags’</td><td>£225</td></tr></table>	Date	Project	Price	28/07/2019	Rendlesham skate park safety event	£420	12/09/2019	AlterEgo County Lines Theatre Production	£8,700	01/10/2019	Hate Crime Conference	£400	01/12/2019	Crucial Crew merchandise	£1,070	29/01/2020	Removal of PSPO signs	£812	01/02/2020	County Lines event	£500	01/03/2020	Crucial Crew first aid refresher	£450	31/03/2020	Hate Crime Conference	£400	08/07/2020	Summer Diversionary Activities resource	£480	31/03/2021	Coastal Action against abuse	£1,050	30/07/2021	Contribution to ‘Go Bags’	£225
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	14/09/2021	To develop and provide Domestic Abuse information online	£1,050
	07/03/2022	A programme of work to reduce long-term anti-social behaviour problems on the Gunton estate.	£8,970
	<p>The current core funding remaining is £3,181. Once this is spent, although the CSP will still be able to facilitate projects working with its partners, the lack of funds will obviously mean it is likely to be significantly less effective in reducing crime and disorder.</p> <p>This is unfortunate timing, because, for reasons explained in more detail in section three, the CSP is about to move into a new, even more pro-active, stage. Reengagement with Responsible Authorities, and the progress made by ESC's ASB transformation project (which is designed to improve ESC's response to ASB), will generate a wealth of new ideas and initiatives which it will be difficult to progress without funding.</p>		
2.6	<p>Membership</p> <p>The core membership of the CSP is made up of the Chair, East Suffolk Council officers, and representatives from Suffolk County Council and the Responsible Authorities named in section 1.2.</p>		
2.7	<p>Other Resources</p> <p>In addition to the financial resources for the Community Safety Partnership, the CSP is supported by several members of the ESC Communities team. They take the lead on delivery against relevant priorities and work with Responsible Authorities, other ESC departments, providers and communities to deliver on CSP priorities.</p>		

3 How to address current situation

3.1	<p>Deliver the new action plan</p> <p>The new action plan represents a significant opportunity to improve community safety. It was designed in co-production with all Responsible Authorities and focuses on activity to be delivered in collaboration. The new overarching themes are an important addition that will positively influence both collaborative work and the work that all partners deliver outside of the scope of the CSP. It is more deliverable and measurable because it focuses more on practical, visible activity and has clear KPIs.</p>
3.2	<p>Continued engagement of Responsible Authorities</p> <p>The workshop to generate the new action plan, and subsequent Task & Finish Groups for each Priority, brought all Responsible Authorities (RA) together. The co-production of the action plan has embedded buy-in and each RA has clear sole or joint responsibilities for workstreams or projects. Together, this will mean an enhanced level of co-operation and engagement. The Terms of Reference for the CSP have been updated to incorporate the new Themes around data, digital and reporting, and even more emphasis has been put on collaboration. Significant effort will be made to keep RA engaged in order that skills, experience and intelligence from as broad a range of sources continue to be shared, including the</p>

	delivery of a simple communications plan that will underpin joint working, facilitate knowledge sharing and ensure all partners stay engaged.
3.3	<p>Deliver creative and effective solutions</p> <p>Working more closely together, the CSP has generated an effective and creative action plan. The CSP plans to employ two additional strategies to ensure that the plan continues to evolve and maintain quality:</p> <p>1: hearing a broader range of voices. The CSP will work harder to hear a broader range of voices to inform the design and delivery of projects, including young people through the Youth Voice programme, people with disabilities through the two East Suffolk Disability Forums, and those communities at risk of hate crime.</p> <p>2: conducting research and forging closer links with other CSPs. High performing projects identified through research and working more closely with other CSPs to understand their successes and failures will help the CSP deliver more efficient and effective projects.</p>
3.4	<p>Measuring the output and outcomes of activity</p> <p>Setting SMART objectives in the refreshed action plan will now allow the CSP to better measure the outputs and outcomes of its activity. Measurement will employ a range of metrics, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media reach and engagement • End user numbers for training, events and groups • Quantitative and qualitative data collected directly from target audiences on experiences, behaviours, attitudes and emotions, using nationally recognised as well as bespoke indicators
3.5	<p>Attract additional funding</p> <p>With no ongoing funding currently available, the CSP will struggle to continue to deliver on its objectives. If funding could be made available, then the new, localised objectives, designed to deliver better, more tangible outcomes for local communities, could be achieved, bringing significant benefit.</p>

4 Reason/s for recommendation

4.1	The report provides an overview of the East Suffolk Community Safety Partnership, including its relationship with the Safer Stronger Communities Board at Suffolk level, and outlines the refreshed CSP priorities, achievements including the reengagement of partners and ambitions around measuring impact and benchmarking against other CSPs.
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Appendices

Appendices:

Appendix A	CSP Organisational Chart
Appendix B	SSCB Programme Office Update Q2 2022/23

Appendix C	East Suffolk CSP Action Plan
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Background reference papers:		
Date	Type	Available From
None		