



**SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**Thursday, 17 March 2022**

<b>Subject</b>	East Suffolk Crime & Disorder Committee: Review of the East Suffolk Community Safety Partnership
<b>Report by</b>	Mary Rudd, Cabinet Member for Community Health
<b>Supporting Officer</b>	Nicole Rickard Head of Communities <a href="mailto:Nicole.rickard@eastsuffolk.gov.uk">Nicole.rickard@eastsuffolk.gov.uk</a> 07766 998074  Alex Heys Communities Manager <a href="mailto:Alex.veys@eastsuffolk.gov.uk">Alex.veys@eastsuffolk.gov.uk</a> 07711 065086

Is the report Open or Exempt?	OPEN
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	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 and outlines key areas of activity, including plans to review and refine the CSP Action Plan and ambitions for the next twelve months.

### **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 further report later in 2022 following the refresh of the CSP priorities and Action Plan.

## 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 additional 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:**

No external consultees in relation to the development of this report. However, 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 <a href="#">Strategic Plan</a> which are supported by this proposal: <i>(Select only one primary and as many secondary as appropriate)</i>		Primary priority	Secondary priorities
<b>T01</b>	<b>Growing our Economy</b>		
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"/>
<b>T02</b>	<b>Enabling our Communities</b>		
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"/>
<b>T03</b>	<b>Maintaining Financial Sustainability</b>		
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"/>
<b>T04</b>	<b>Delivering Digital Transformation</b>		
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"/>
<b>T05</b>	<b>Caring for our Environment</b>		
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"/>
<b>XXX</b>	<b>Governance</b>		
XXX	How ESC governs itself as an authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>How does this proposal support the priorities selected?</b></p> <p>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.</p>			

## 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 (see Appendix B). The CSP action plan currently closely mirrors the strategic objectives set out by Suffolk County Council and the Safer Stronger Communities Board but with a focus on specific activities such as awareness raising and communications campaigns for subjects such as Hate Crime and Prevent. 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.
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	<b>Community Safety Partnership action plan</b> The current CSP action plan was based on national and local data, and with input from Responsible Authorities, particularly Suffolk County Council. It focuses on large, strategic priorities and is divided into areas of focus under specific activity types as follows (more information about these areas of focus and key projects within them is provided in Appendix B):

Awareness raising against the six priorities:

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

Communications campaigns:

- Amplifying central campaigns on all areas of focus

Building Community Confidence around reporting and supporting the victims of:

- VAWG
- Prevent
- Hate Crime

Additional projects, including:

- ASB transformation (working to improve and standardise East Suffolk Council ASB policies and procedures to ensure better outcomes for victims and communities)
- Creating safe spaces for the vulnerable and at risk
- Working with employers on domestic violence
- Training frontline staff to work with victims of domestic violence

SCC take responsibility for leading delivery of many of the priorities in the current action and in the context of the current action plan, this makes sense. 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.

However, focus on the current priorities has caused some issues. The clear direction established in the plan, alongside the complexity and sensitivity of some of the areas of focus, can make it difficult for the CSP to identify and deliver local projects. For example, while it is always important to try to shape attitudes and encourage tolerance around a subject like Hate Crime, there is less prevalence in East Suffolk's relatively ethnically homogenous community, and therefore less opportunity in terms of working with 'at risk' communities. Equally, activity around Prevent is structured by well-researched and nationally recognised programmes that can leave less room for creativity (and can mean that creativity is sometimes not sensible, since it might lead to unintended outcomes).

That said, significant activity has been delivered through the CSP against all priority areas and much of this important activity would not be delivered otherwise. The CSP is in a unique position to work with its partners to identify gaps in provision and plug those gaps with bespoke programmes.

	In ongoing discussions with SCC, it has become clear that there is the opportunity for more flexibility in the design and delivery of the action plan. This includes both choosing priorities and defining activity to meet the objectives defined under those priorities. The current action plan can be significantly refreshed to better reflect local priorities based on local data, moving away, if the data supports it, from the larger strategic priorities to more tactical priorities based on local need. This represents a significant opportunity for the CSP going forward.																														
2.2	<p><b>Community Safety Partnership engagement</b></p> <p>As stated in 1.2, the CSP includes several statutory partners (Responsible Authorities). However, engagement from some of these partners has gradually decreased over time, due in part, no doubt, to increased workloads because of Covid but also, perhaps, because of the strategic nature of the action plan – although this situation is currently improving.</p>																														
2.2	<p><b>Projects</b></p> <p>As outlined above, successful projects have been delivered under all priorities. A full list is included in the action plan and 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.</p>																														
2.3	<p><b>Community Safety Partnership meetings</b></p> <p>The full CSP meets virtually once every 3 months. Additional meetings are held regularly between the ESC leads to identify projects and to drive the action plan forward.</p>																														
2.4	<p><b>Relevant strategies</b></p> <p>SCC produce a range of strategic documents which cover all areas of focus highlighted in the CSP action plan.</p>																														
2.5	<p><b>Funding</b></p> <p>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.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Project</th> <th>Price</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <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> </tbody> </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
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	31/03/2021	Coastal Action against abuse	£1,050
	30/07/2021	Contribution to 'Go Bags'	£225
	14/09/2021	To develop and provide Domestic Abuse information online	£1,050
	<p>The current core funding remaining is £14,400, although a funding proposal for £8,000 has just been agreed, leaving £6,400 remaining in reserves, which will be spent in the next few months. 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><b>Membership</b></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><b>Other Resources</b></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><b>Refresh the action plan</b></p> <p>Every year, SCC provide refreshed data through the Strategic Assessment to inform the ongoing development and delivery of the Community Safety action plan. Now that we know that the action plan can diverge from the County plan and be shaped locally, this represents an excellent opportunity to define a new action plan. A CSP workshop is being held in late April, after the data has been received from County, to refresh the action plan. Activity proposed includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Properly re-engaging all Responsible Authorities, understanding their own local priorities and identifying where priorities intersect and could be added to the plan</li> <li>• Using SCC data and local data from the Responsible Authorities to identify which areas of crime and disorder at a more local level could be included in the plan in addition to, or to replace, the priorities identified at a county level</li> <li>• Setting SMART objectives for each priority, where possible</li> </ul>		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generating ideas for relevant projects and activities that could be funded and/or delivered in partnership to help the CSP achieve its newly defined objectives</li> </ul> <p>If this activity is agreed and delivered, it will mean that the next iteration of the CSP action plan is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• more comprehensive and effective because it includes input from a wider range of partners and uses more relevant data to inform it;</li> <li>• more deliverable, because it identifies a wider range of potential activity;</li> <li>• more measurable because its objectives will be SMART;</li> <li>• ultimately is more relevant to the issues around community safety that are felt most keenly by East Suffolk residents.</li> </ul>
3.2	<p><b>Reengagement of Responsible Authorities</b></p> <p>It is proposed that the workshop to generate the refreshed action plan will be part of an ongoing programme of engagement with the Responsible Authorities (RA). It is likely that the refreshed action plan will include clear sole or joint responsibilities for workstreams or projects for each RA. Equally, the co-production of the action plan should embed buy-in. Together, this will mean an enhanced level of co-operation and engagement. In addition to this, it is proposed that the CSP will create a simple communications plan that will underpin joint working, facilitate knowledge sharing and ensure all partners stay engaged.</p>
3.3	<p><b>Deliver creative and effective solutions</b></p> <p>Working more closely together, with a broader range of input from Responsible Authorities, the CSP should be able to generate more creative and effective solutions to issues of community safety. The CSP plans to employ two additional strategies to ensure that's the case:</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><b>Measure the output and outcomes of activity</b></p> <p>Setting SMART objectives in the refreshed action plan will 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"> <li>• Social media reach and engagement</li> <li>• End user numbers for training, events and groups</li> <li>• Quantitative and qualitative data collected directly from target audiences on experiences, behaviours, attitudes and emotions, using nationally recognised as well as bespoke indicators</li> </ul>

3.5	<p><b>Attract additional funding</b></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>
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4 Reason/s for recommendation	
4.1	<p>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 proposals for refreshing CSP priorities, action planning and CSP ambitions around reengagement of partners, measuring impact and benchmarking against other CSPs.</p>

## Appendices

Appendices:	
<b>Appendix A</b>	CSP Organisational Chart
<b>Appendix B</b>	East Suffolk CSP Action Plan
<b>Appendix C</b>	Suffolk County Council Community Safety Update

Background reference papers:		
Date	Type	Available From
	None	

# APPENDIX A

## Safer and Stronger Communities Governance

