

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY BOARD**

**12 April 2012**

**Report of the Chief Executive**

**Part 1- Public**

**Matters for Recommendation to Cabinet**

**1 COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP – STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT**

**To report on the latest Strategic Assessment produced for the Community Safety Partnership and to receive a brief presentation on the key findings**

**1.1 Introduction**

- 1.1.1 In 2006, a review of the partnership provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the Police Reform Act 2002 led to a series of recommendations to strengthen and extend existing requirements further through the experience gained from partnership working. This resulted in a new set of national minimum standards which came into force in August 2007.
- 1.1.2 The 1998 Act included the requirement to produce a detailed crime and disorder audit through consultation with key agencies and the wider community and had to use the findings to identify strategic priorities and set targets and performance measures. The new national standards placed a legal obligation on responsible authorities to comply with the specified requirements, one of which was the creation of an annual Strategic Assessment in place of the previous 3 yearly audit.
- 1.1.3 The Strategic Assessment would identify current and possible future crime, disorder and substance misuse issues from sound evidence and robust analysis. The introduction of these Assessments was designed to move partnerships toward a more intelligence-led business planning approach. Producing Assessments at least once per year was also intended to help partnerships understand the problems and potential causes in their areas, and to allow them to respond more effectively to the communities they serve. Moving from a three-yearly audit to an annual Strategic Assessment allows for a more timely response to changes, although it is also recognised that interventions employed by the CSP may not take immediate effect and annual changes are likely, therefore, to be relatively small.
- 1.1.4 Data collected for this Strategic Assessment relates, wherever possible, to the time period October 2010 to September 2011. School-based data is based on

academic (September to August) years. Where different dates have been used these are clearly stated in the report.

1.1.5 In undertaking this Assessment, data relating to each community safety topic were collated and analysed, using data from a range of organisations, the results of which are provided in separate documents. From this analysis, topics were aggregated into their logical community safety groups and overall scores assigned. The second section of the report provides a summary of each of the aggregated topics, highlighting those that were priorities in the past year. From these, high-level recommendations for priorities for the coming year are made. Due to the cross-cutting and overlapping nature of many of the topics, the Strategic Assessment should normally be considered as a single document providing a strategic overview of community safety within Tonbridge and Malling, rather than reviewing each topic individually and in isolation.

1.1.6 A copy of the Strategic Assessment is attached at annex one for your information.

## **1.2 Presentation of the key findings arising from the Strategic Assessment**

1.2.1 Richard Beesley, Elections and Special Projects Manager, produced the Strategic Assessment on behalf of the Community Safety Partnership and he is going to give a brief overview of the key findings.

## **1.3 Legal Implications**

1.3.1 None

## **1.4 Financial and Value for Money Considerations**

1.4.1 There are no financial considerations related to the Strategic Assessment itself but any projects carried out to address some of the issues raised would be funded through the Community Safety Partnership.

## **1.5 Risk Assessment]**

1.5.1 All risk assessments are undertaken as appropriate

## **1.6 Equality Impact Assessment**

1.6.1 See 'Screening for equality impacts' table at end of report

## **1.7 Recommendations**

1.7.1 That the Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment be **SUPPORTED AND ENDORSED**.

Background papers:

contact: Alison Finch

Nil

David Hughes  
Chief Executive

<b>Screening for equality impacts:</b>		
<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>	<b>Explanation of impacts</b>
a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to cause adverse impact or discriminate against different groups in the community?	No	
b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper make a positive contribution to promoting equality?	Yes	Work of the CSP includes a focus on helping vulnerable people, including victims of domestic abuse and hate crime.
c. What steps are you taking to mitigate, reduce, avoid or minimise the impacts identified above?		

*In submitting this report, the Chief Officer doing so is confirming that they have given due regard to the equality impacts of the decision being considered, as noted in the table above.*