



Strategic Assessment 2011

October 2010 – September 2011

Produced by:

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Important Information

Version Control

Version	Date	Author(s)	Brief description of changes
0.2	15 Nov 2011	R Beesley	Initial load of information. Word 2007 format.
0.3	16 Dec 2011	R Beesley	Additional data added, reformatted, comments from CSU included.
1.0	21 Dec 2011	R Beesley	Amended version.
2.0	19 Jan 2012	R Beesley	Approved version for circulation to CSP members.

Sensitivity Issues

The final version of this Strategic Assessment is unrestricted. However, data supporting this assessment is not always publically available, and should not be disclosed without prior authorisation.

Maps

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Introduction

Aim of this Strategic Assessment

This is the Strategic Assessment produced for the Tonbridge and Malling Community Safety Partnership (CSP) for the period October 2010 to September 2011. It will be used to update the priorities and planned activities for the 2012-13 Community Safety Partnership Action Plan.

The purpose of this Strategic Assessment is to provide knowledge and understanding of community safety issues to the members of the Tonbridge and Malling CSP, and to provide a sound evidence base upon which the Partnership can base future prioritisation. The assessment is based upon intelligence analysis and identifies the emerging priorities by considering the patterns, trends and shifts relating to aspects of community safety. Additionally, it includes a performance assessment of how far the partnership has achieved its previous priorities and an update of those issues that are identified as emerging priorities.

Background of Strategic Assessments

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.

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.

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.

Contributors to this Assessment

The Strategic Assessment has been produced on behalf of the Tonbridge and Malling Community Safety Partnership by Richard Beesley in consultation with Mark Raymond and Kelly Webb who represented the CSP. In addition, thanks are gratefully expressed to partners represented through the Kent Connects portal producing the 2011 Strategic Assessments, and to the other local partners with whom we have worked.

Methodology

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.

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 available from the analyst. 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.

Information Sources

Data and information used in producing this Assessment has been provided, directly or otherwise, from the following organisations:

- Association of Chief Police Officers
- Association of Police Authorities
- Association of Public Health Observatories (PHO's)
- BBC
- Children, Family and Education, KCC
- Clean Kent Partnership
- Community Health Profiles
- East Coast Kent PCT
- Every Child Matters
- Home Office
- Institute of Alcohol Studies
- iQuanta
- Kent & Medway Safety Camera Partnership
- Kent Adult Social Services
- Kent Community Support Unit
- Kent Community Wardens
- Kent County Council
- Kent Drug and Alcohol Action Team
- Kent Fire & Rescue Service
- Kent Highways/Jacobs
- Kent Police
- Kent Probation
- Kent Public Health Information Library
- Kent Trust Web
- Kent Youth Offending Service
- Kenward Trust
- Local Alcohol Profiles for England
- London Health Observatory
- NHS West Kent
- Nomis
- North West PHO
- North West Public Health Observatory
- Office for National Statistics
- ONS Labour Market Statistics
- Power Project
- Russet Homes
- South East Coast Ambulance Service (SECAmb)
- South East England Public Health Observatory
- South East PHO
- Supporting People
- The NHS Information Centre
- Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council
- Tonbridge & Malling Community Safety Unit
- Town & Country Housing Group
- Trading Standards
- Women's Support Services
- Youth Offending Service (YOS)

Limitations Of This Report

Note that the 2009-10 figures for recorded crimes have been revised since the publication of the 2010 Strategic Assessment; as a result, the overall crime rate for that year is now reported as being 49.4 rather than 50.6 although the number of recorded crimes remains unchanged at 5,871 as previously reported. All areas and crime types have had their figures revised; some have increased whereas others have decreased as a result. Comparisons with earlier reports are therefore not possible.

The definitions of Anti-Social Behaviour used by the Police were changed in April 2011 to follow the new National Standards for Incident Reporting (NSIR). Whilst standardising the approach to recording ASB nationally, this does mean that no comparative data is available for earlier periods.

The detailed analysis pack, referred to above, was compiled on behalf of the Kent Partnership using data and commentary from a number of sources. That report has been supplemented using local information but has not been edited or refined in any other way. Data, interpretation and/or commentary for some community safety issues which was available for the 2010 Strategic Assessment was no longer available for this Assessment. Where possible, alternative sources have been used.

As in previous years, the statistics in this report focus on *reported* and *recorded* incidents and crimes.

Executive Summary

Overall levels of recorded crime have remained fairly stable, rising by just 2 offences, over the past year.

Levels of many community safety issues have fallen, most particularly Burglary, reducing the need for the partnership to consider them as key priorities for the coming year.

However, against a backdrop of falling recorded crime levels, some crime types have increased. In particular, incidents of recorded domestic abuse have increased by a further 4%, and there has been an increase in drug offences of 8%. Levels of some types of ASB continue to rise, and community concern is still high.

Through this Strategic Assessment, key community safety issues have been identified as priorities for the Tonbridge & Malling CSP for the coming year. It is recognised, however, that in these times of budget constraint, more creative delivery of services may be required to be able to effectively tackle some of these issues during the next twelve months.

It is important to note that specific community safety issues may remain a priority for one or more partners of the CSP, but not be a priority for the partnership as a whole. This Assessment is designed to identify and highlight those issues that should be partnership priorities for the coming year, regardless of individual partner priorities.

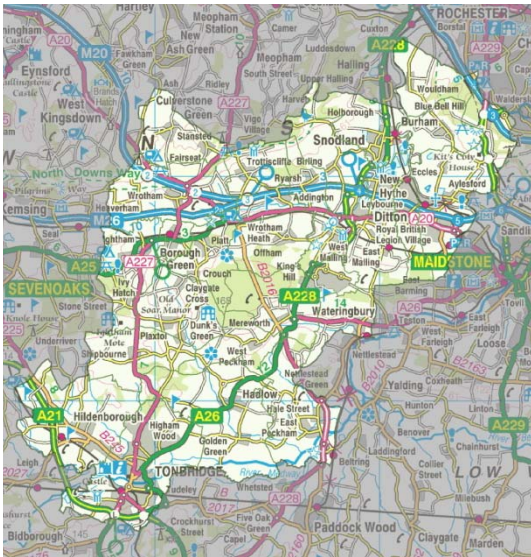
Recommendations

1. Endorse the priorities set out below, as discussed through this Assessment.
2. Consider targeted activities in the geographical areas identified.
3. Review current service provision in light of the current and foreseen funding levels, to ensure effectiveness and efficiency.
4. Consider targeted awareness-raising activities for specific crime types.
5. Continue to review activity on a regular basis to ensure appropriate and proportionate resourcing.

Priorities for 2012

- Domestic abuse
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Young People
- Substance misuse
- Violent Crime
- Road safety

Tonbridge & Malling



The Area

The borough of Tonbridge and Malling lies in the heart of Kent and is an area of variety and historical interest. The borough is largely rural with few large settlements; Tonbridge in the south being the largest and home to around 34,000 residents. The remainder of the borough is dotted with villages and smaller towns.

Industry and commerce are concentrated around Tonbridge, Aylesford, Ditton, Larkfield and Snodland. Mineral extraction has been carried out in the area for many years. Paper and packaging mills, distribution, general and light industry and many small businesses make up the industrial scene. The borough is a popular area for office location and high tech development, particularly at the Kings Hill business and residential community.

The Community Safety Partnerships surrounding the borough of Tonbridge and Malling are those of Sevenoaks District to the west, Medway Unitary Authority to the north, and the boroughs of Tunbridge Wells and Maidstone to the south and east respectively.

The Economy

Tonbridge and Malling is generally affluent, although the continued national economic downturn has affected the borough. The model-based estimates from Nomis suggest a slight reduction in the number of unemployed residents, from 3,200 in the period April 2009-March 2010 down to

2,800 in the period April 2010-March 2011. This represents a decrease from 5.2% of the working age population down to 4.8%. The rate in Tonbridge & Malling remains below those of Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks. Note, however, that all historic values have been revised since the last Strategic Assessment.

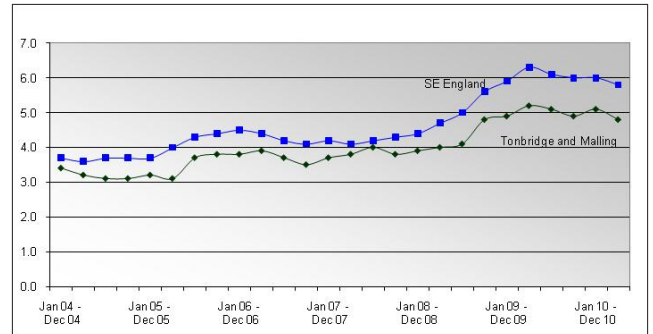


Chart 1. The model-based unemployment rate for Tonbridge & Malling (green) and SE England (blue) on a rolling year basis calculated each quarter, from January 2004 to March 2010. Source: Nomis, Office for National Statistics.

The number of Tonbridge & Malling residents claiming Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) rose in the year ending September 2011 by 5%, contrary to the decrease the previous year. The disparity between modelled unemployment and JSA is well known and well explained.¹

Using JSA claimants as an indicator (the only one of the two available at Ward level), unemployment rates for the working age population vary across the borough. The lowest rate is in Ightham (4 claimants, or 0.3%); this is compared to the highest rates in Trench (4.4%), Snodland East (4.2%) and East Malling (3.4%).

The majority of those unemployed are aged 18-24 years old. This reflects a pattern seen both locally and nationally, as also seen last year. In Tonbridge & Malling, 18-24 year olds account for 30% (up from 28% last year) of all of those unemployed and in the KCC area the proportion is 32% (up from 27%).

Tonbridge and Malling has traditionally had relatively good household income levels. In 2010 the gross weekly pay for Tonbridge & Malling residents working full time fell by 4% to £552, compared to a continuing increase across the South East (of 2% to £548).

¹ http://www.detini.gov.uk/unemployment_measures.pdf

The Community

The latest population figures for mid-2010 estimate that there are 118,800, an increase of 1.2% since the previous year. Tonbridge & Malling remains the 5th largest local authority district in the Kent County Council (KCC) area.

The majority (61%) of Tonbridge and Malling's population live in the urban areas, with the remaining 39% living in the surrounding rural areas and settlements².

Tonbridge & Malling has a younger age profile compared to the county average, with a greater proportion of 0-14 year olds than the average for the KCC area. Tonbridge & Malling also has a higher proportion of residents aged 30-49 compared to the county average³. However, the proportion of residents aged 60 and over is expected to rise from around 20% to nearly 30% over the next twenty years, with an increase of around 17,000 people. This compares to a total population increase of 27,000 people in the same time frame. In contrast, the proportion of young people (aged 10-19) is expected to decrease slightly; from 13.6% in 2006 to 12.5% in twenty years' time. This is an increase of around 2,000 people⁴.

Over the last 10-years Tonbridge & Malling's population has grown by 11.1% (an additional 11,900 people)⁵. This is the third highest rate of growth of any Kent district. The growth in Tonbridge & Malling's population is set to continue with current forecasts suggesting that over the next 20-years the population of the borough will increase by 13.7% (an additional 15,600 people)⁶. This is the fifth highest rate of growth expected for any Kent district and a growth rate that is just under the county average. This level of growth is related to the additional 9,000 homes that are to be built in the borough between 2006 and 2026.⁷ In recent years, there has been some population growth throughout the borough, most rapidly in Kings Hill as the development continues to expand.

Since 2002 the proportion of older people has increased from 17.9% to 20.0% in 2010. Simultaneously the proportion of children and young people (aged 0-15) has decreased to 20.6%.

² 2008 Lower Super Output Area population estimates (experimental), Office for National Statistics, aggregated to 2008 ward level population estimates by Research & Intelligence, Kent County Council.

³ Mid-2008 population estimates, Office for National Statistics.

⁴ 2006-based population projections, Office for National Statistics.

⁵ 2000-2010 Mid-year population estimates, Office for National Statistics.

⁶ South East Plan Strategy-based demographic forecasts (Sept 09), Research & Intelligence, Kent County Council.

⁷ The South East Plan (adopted May 2009) <http://www.gos.gov.uk/gose/planning/regionalPlanning/815640/>

Although Tonbridge and Malling is not particularly diverse in terms of ethnic backgrounds with around 90% of residents describing themselves as White British and 3.5% as another White ethnic group, there have been changes since 2001. In 2001 the proportions were 96% White British (now 90%) and 2.5% another White background (now 3.5%). The majority of the population is stable, with little tourism- or student-related surges in population numbers.

Key facts		Change	
Borough population	a	118,800	↑ 1.2%
Unemployment rate	b	4.8%	↓ 7.6%
Gross weekly pay	c	£552	↓ 4%
Proportion White-British	d	90.3%	↓ 0.6pp
Educational attainment	e	61.2%	↑ 5.8pp

Table 1. Key facts about Tonbridge & Malling. (a) Mid-2010 population estimate, ONS; (b) Model-based unemployment rate April 2010-March 2011, Nomis; (c) Gross weekly pay based on full-time workers, Nomis; (d) Mid-2009 population estimates, ONS; (e) Proportion of pupils at Key Stage 4 achieving five or more GCSE's [including English and Maths] at grade A* - C in 2009-10, Health Profiles. Change relates to previous year; 'pp' indicates percentage points.

There are pockets of relative deprivation within the borough that contrast starkly with more affluent neighbourhoods. The Tonbridge and Malling Sustainable Community Strategy identifies the wards of East Malling, Snodland (East and West) and Trench as priority areas for regeneration work. Over 3,170 children (12% of children in the Borough) live in families receiving means-tested benefits.

Health

There are health inequalities within the Tonbridge and Malling area. Men living in the less deprived areas have 5 years higher life expectancy than those from more deprived local areas within Tonbridge and Malling. The health of children is generally better than the England average. For example, rates of tooth decay and teenage pregnancy are below the national average.

The burden of ill health related to smoking, obesity and a lack of physical activity are widely reported and familiar to the public. Less so, but also important and avoidable, are some of the ill health burdens relating to alcohol, mental illness and sexual health issues and behaviours, and how these can link to crime and disorder. One such issue are some young people's lifestyles, incorporating binge drinking and sexual activity.

Central to improving the health of local people is a focus on community development and community involvement. These approaches will enable people to take greater

responsibility and have more control over their own health and health services. Indicators of health in Tonbridge and Malling are good in comparison with other areas in England. Estimated rates of smoking and binge drinking are below the England average and the percentage of adults who eat healthily is above the England average.

The local priorities for improving health as laid out by the Director of Public Health for Kent are:

- Reducing health inequalities
- Improving children’s mental health and well-being
- Improving sexual health and reducing teenage pregnancies
- Preventing disease and enabling adults to live healthier lives
- Enabling more older people with chronic diseases to live and access treatment closer to home
- Reducing substance misuse and excessive alcohol drinking

Within Tonbridge and Malling, specific health priorities have been identified as:

- Helping people to maintain a healthy weight
- Helping people to stop smoking
- Encouraging people to do more exercise (including walking)
- Improving sexual health
- Reducing teenage pregnancies
- Encouraging people who drink alcohol to do so sensibly
- Improving mental health and wellbeing
- Improving the health of older people

Many of these targets have an indirect link to community safety.

Indicator	Rate
Smoking (a)	23.4%
Binge drinking (b)	15.0%
Obesity (c)	22.5%
Fruit and vegetable consumption (d)	30.2%

Table 2. Key modelled estimates of healthy lifestyles indicators, 2003-05. Source: Office for National Statistics. a. Proportion of adult residents that smoke; b. Proportion of adult residents that had drunk 8 or more units (if male) or 6 or more units (if female) of alcohol on any one or more days in the week before the survey interview; c. Proportion of adult residents with a body mass index of 30 or above; d. Proportion of adult residents that consumed 5 or more portions of fruit and vegetables on the day before the survey interview.

Services

Tonbridge and Malling is located close to London, and has good transport links both to London and to the coast and so on into mainland Europe. These routes include two major motorways and the mainline railway that branches at Tonbridge. As well as providing opportunities for commuters, these transport services provide opportunities for travelling criminals that have a negative impact on the community safety of the area.

Each of the settlements have some shopping facilities although no major shopping centres outside of the high streets of Tonbridge and West Malling. Local shops are supplemented by an increasing number of farmers’ markets throughout the villages.

Tonbridge has a thriving night time economy, which also contributes to the Community Safety issues in the borough. Elsewhere in the borough, most night time economy activity is displaced to the larger population areas nearby such as Maidstone.

Tonbridge & Malling is served by 43 local authority primary schools, 8 secondary schools, and 2 special schools, along with a number of independent schools and one pupil referral unit (PRU). In addition to offices and outreach services, the borough also houses Tonbridge Police Station, used as the custody suite for West Kent.

Overview

Community Safety Priorities, 2010-11

The priorities identified through the 2010 Strategic Assessment are listed below. This 2011 Assessment, whilst considering each of the former priorities, was based upon a 'zero base' to identify and recommend new priorities for the coming year.

- Domestic abuse
- Anti-social behaviour (including environmental crime)
- Substance misuse
- Young people
- Burglary
- Violent crime
- Road safety

The Scanning Process

All data available from partners was collated and analysed. The detail of this analysis is available in the detailed analysis pack referred to previously. From these analyses, each community safety topic has been scored on six criteria:

- Community Concern
- Trend Increasing
- Volume
- Level of harm
- Poor Performance compared to MSG⁸/County
- Partnership can add value

Each criteria has been scored either 0 (indicating none, or no evidence), 1 (low), 3 (medium) or 5 (high). For some topics, no scores were applied as they were considered as sub-topics of a higher-level analysis. In previous years, the Tonbridge and Malling CSP aggregated crime types and community safety topics together; this allows for greater flexibility in approach and gives a better picture of the overall pattern of community safety issues. This aggregation has been done, following the scanning exercise, and the aggregated scores are shown below.

The scores for 'the level of harm' and 'partnership can add value' were agreed by the CSP in previous years, and these scores have been not been changed since then to allow standardisation and comparisons to be made over time. Other scores are based on available evidence using a standardised approach.

The level of community concern has been taken into account using information gathered through local, county and national surveys as well as representation to PACT meetings, community forums and local council meetings.

⁸ MSG – Most Similar Group.

Community Safety Issue	Community concern	Trend increasing	Volume	Level of harm	Performance comparison	Partnership value	Total	Rank
Domestic abuse	1	3	5	5	3	3	20	1
Anti-Social Behaviour (incl environmental crime)	5	3	5	1	1	5	20	1
Young People	5	3	3	1	3	5	20	1
Substance misuse	3	3	3	3	3	3	18	4
Violent Crime (excl domestic abuse)	3	1	5	5	1	3	18	4
Road safety	3	3	3	3	3	3	18	4
Criminal damage (incl graffiti)	3	1	5	1	3	3	16	7
Theft & Handling	1	3	5	1	1	3	14	8
Fraud & Forgery	3	3	1	1	3	1	12	9
Burglary	1	0	3	3	1	3	11	10
Vehicle crime (Theft of & From Motor Vehicle)	1	0	3	1	3	3	11	10
Fire safety	1	0	1	5	1	3	11	10

Table 3. Results of the scanning exercise for this Strategic Assessment. 'Performance comparison' compares Tonbridge & Malling with other parts of Kent and with the Most Similar Group (MSG); 'Partnership value' is an indicator of the added value provided through and by the partnership, rather than the individual members thereof.

Initial Findings

Community Safety Priorities

Based on the Scanning Process (see previous pages), the community safety priorities for the coming year are listed below.

Continuing Priorities

- Domestic abuse
- Anti-social behaviour (including environmental crime)
- Young people
- Substance misuse
- Violent crime
- Road safety

Emerging Priorities

There are no priorities emerging through this Strategic Assessment that were not part of the priority list from last year.

Ceased Priorities

Tackling 'Burglary' was a priority identified in the previous Strategic Assessment. Due to the successes in reducing the trend and volume of the partnership, and the relatively good performance compared to elsewhere in Kent and the MSG, burglary is no longer identified as a strategic priority for the Tonbridge & Malling Community Safety Partnership. However, the CSP will continue to monitor burglaries and react if required.

It is recommended that the six priorities scoring the highest through the assessment process be endorsed as the key priorities for the Partnership for the coming year. However, the CSP and its subgroups meet regularly to review emerging and developing trends and it is expected that the CSP will maintain vigilance and allocate resources as appropriate to tackle with other priorities as they emerge.

It is important to note that specific community safety issues may remain a priority for one or more partners of the CSP, but not be a priority for the partnership as a whole. This Assessment is designed to identify and highlight those issues that should be partnership priorities for the coming year, regardless of individual partner priorities.

The following sections of this Strategic Assessment provide an overview of All Crime in Tonbridge and Malling, followed by a summary of each of the existing and emerging priorities.

Detailed Analysis : Overview

All Crime

During the period October 2010 to September 2011, there were 49.4 crimes per 1,000 population, a marginal increase of 2 crimes from the previous year. This represents 5,873 recorded crimes.

Tonbridge & Malling has the third lowest crime rate in Kent, and sixth lowest in the MSG. However, only two districts had an increase worse than Tonbridge & Malling (Sevenoaks with an increase of 119 recorded crimes, or 2.4%; and Dover with an increase of 80 recorded crimes, or 1.3%).

Tonbridge & Malling has a sanction detection rate of 36.1%, which places this area seventh best in Kent.

Data from the Probation Service indicates that there are zero Prolific Priority Offenders (PPOs) in Tonbridge & Malling, down from two last year. The numbers of community orders, licenses and custody are all lower than last year (by 38%, 30% and 63% respectively).

	Rate, 2010-11	Detection rate
Tonbridge & Malling	49.4	36.1%
MSG average	52.3	n/a
Lowest in MSG	44.3	n/a
Highest in MSG	65.9	n/a
Sevenoaks	44.3	28.1%
Tunbridge Wells	47.3	36.6%

Table 4. The overall rate of recorded crime per 1,000 population in Tonbridge & Malling compared to our Most Similar Group (MSG) and nearest geographical neighbours. Years are October 2010 to September 2011. Detection rate is the sanction detection rate; available only for Kent districts. Source: iQuanta and Kent Police.

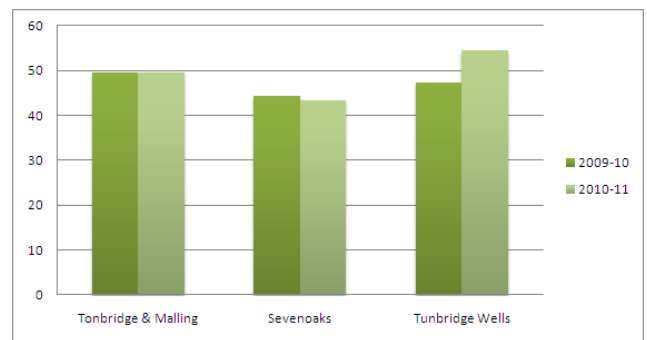


Chart 2. The overall rate of recorded crime in each of the West Kent Community Safety Partnership areas, for this year and last (October to September years). Source: iQuanta.

Detailed Analysis : Continuing Priorities

Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse is defined as violence against the person (VAP) or sexual crime where the probable cause is 'Domestic Violence – family or intimate partner.' The Government defines domestic abuse as 'Any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between adults who are or have been intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender or sexuality.' This can include assaults, but also includes harassment. Research shows Domestic Abuse has clear links with alcohol and, to a lesser extent, drug use.

It is important to remember that these figures only represent Domestic Abuse that was actually reported to the Police. It is widely accepted that domestic abuse is under-reported. The British Crime Survey (BCS) 2007/08 estimates suggest that, nationally, domestic violence accounts for around 16% of all violent incidents, but also that reporting of domestic violence in the BCS should be five times higher. There is an inherent difficulty in accurately recording domestic abuse, as most is unreported. Increases in reported crime may be due, in part, to an increase in reporting rather than an increase in offences.

During the period October 2010 to September 2011, there were 13.2 recorded domestic abuse incidents per 1,000 population, an increase of 4% (49 incidents) from the previous year. This represents 1,194 recorded crimes.

Tonbridge & Malling has the fourth lowest rate of domestic abuse in Kent. However, the increase (4.3%) is greater than the increase across Kent as a whole (1.8%).

There were 285 recorded repeat victims of domestic abuse during the year, a rise of 3.3%. This gives rise to a repeat victim percentage of 23.9% – slightly above the Kent average (23.7%), but below the Tonbridge & Malling figure for last year.

It is widely acknowledged that most incidents of domestic abuse are still not reported to the Police. The number of domestic abuse incidents reported to the Police in Kent and Medway during 2009/10 was 21,712. Using a Home Office Statistical Toolkit, it is estimated that the actual number of female victims (the toolkit currently only calculates female victim data) of domestic abuse in Kent is 53,953. The toolkit calculates the total cost to Kent and Medway services in dealing with the effects of domestic abuse and sexual assault to be £317,125,587.

It has been suggested that the numbers of both domestic abuse incidents and repeat victims of domestic abuse are likely to rise into next year. There is also likely to be increased demand for housing-related support services due to the continuing impact of the 'credit crunch' and economic recession. There are going to be likely increases in substance misuse, incidences of domestic abuse and general poverty and homelessness.

Women fleeing domestic abuse are the most ethnically diverse client group, with 22% of new clients during the year identified as belonging to Minority Ethnic groups.

There remains insufficient refuge provision in West Kent. In addition, some of the current refuges cannot support women with larger families or women with complex need; and within limited resources some refuges have to prioritise the needs of younger women with dependent children over those of single women. Tonbridge and Malling has no refuge (but has a jointly commissioned a refuge in a neighbouring district). According to client records for the financial year 2010/11, 2 women from the borough fled domestic abuse and accessed refuges elsewhere in the county.

During the financial year 2010/11, 21 people (from a county total of 167) fleeing domestic abuse newly accessed floating support services.

Analysis by KCC has identified Snodland East, Trench, East Malling and Medway wards as being priority areas with regards to domestic abuse.

Priority scoring

Domestic abuse scored a total of 20 points in the last Strategic Assessment, and scores the same this year. As such, domestic abuse remains a key priority for the coming year.

Community concern	1
Trend increasing	3
Volume	5
Level of harm	5
Performance compared to MSG/County	3
Partnership can add value	3
Total	20

Anti-Social Behaviour, incl. environmental crime

The definitions of Anti-Social Behaviour used by the Police were changed in April 2011 to follow the new National Standards for Incident Reporting (NSIR). Whilst standardising the approach to recording ASB nationally, this does mean that no comparative data is available to previous periods.

Each applicable partner of the Tonbridge and Malling CSP collects anti-social behaviour (ASB) information in slightly different ways due to their specific requirements. This means information cannot be compared between agencies, nor between geographical areas. Comparisons to our iQuanta MSG or across Kent are not possible for overall Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) levels due to the large number of categories, and the range of different organisations that record ASB. There is no central repository for all ASB data. It is important to note that, where calls reporting ASB are made to the Police, the same report may or may not have also been made to other partners; thus aggregation of calls to a standardised total is not possible. Similarly, the boundaries between 'crime', environmental crime, and ASB have become blurred such that there is now considerable overlap between them. Graffiti, for example, is considered both criminal damage and environmental crime by different agencies.

Kent Police have recorded 1,777 incidents of ASB in the six months from April to September 2011; this is equivalent to 14.9 per 1,000 population. This is the second lowest in Kent. Of these, 145 incidents were recorded as being 'youth-related'; the fifth lowest in Kent.

Police statistics also highlight the number of repeat venues for ASB. In Tonbridge & Malling there were 285 repeat venues; this is the third lowest in Kent.

Since one year ago, there has been a decrease in the number of complaints about noise (from 368 reports to 318 in the twelve months to September 2010), although this remains above the figure from the previous year.

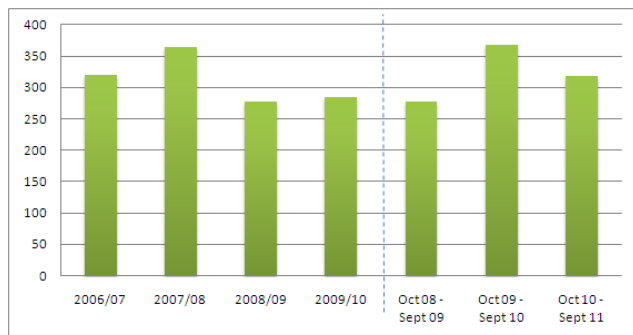


Chart 3. The number of complaints received by TMBC regarding noise by financial year (and October – September year where shown). Source: TMBC Environmental Health.

The number of fly-tipping incidents has reduced again (from 484 to 429), and the number of fixed penalty notices (FPNs) relating to littering offences have reduced by around 46% (from 238 to 128).

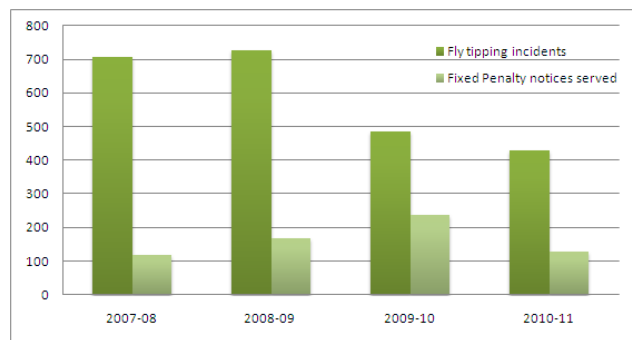


Chart 4. The number of fly tipping incidents, and the number of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) issued for littering and dog fouling by TMBC, October – September years. Source: TMBC Environmental Health.

Data from the Kent Crime and Victimization Survey (KCVS) shows that the proportion of people who think that ASB is a very or fairly big problem in their local area has fallen from 2.8% to 2.1% over the past year. This is now the second lowest rate in Kent and substantially below the Force average of 4.5%. However, there have been substantial increases in the proportion of residents who feel vandalism and graffiti are problems in their area (8.2 percentage points higher, now at 18.4% of respondents) and the proportion who believe people using/dealing drugs are a problem (up 8.2pp, now at 15.2%); these are both amongst the worst rates in Kent. Overall feelings of safety, recorded through the same survey, are now 2.3pp lower than one year ago, with 94.8% of respondents feeling safe.

Information from the Community Wardens indicates a variable level of concern over ASB, with some communities reporting problems and others suffering only low levels. PACT panels continue to report aspects of ASB amongst their greatest concerns. Analysis by KCC has identified Snodland East, Trench and East Malling as being priority areas with regards to ASB.

Priority scoring

ASB scored a total of 20 points in the last Strategic Assessment, and scores the same this year. As such, ASB remains a key priority for the coming year.

Community concern	5
Trend increasing	3
Volume	5
Level of harm	1
Performance compared to MSG/County	1
Partnership can add value	5
Total	20

Young People

There has been a further reduction in the number of young offenders within the Youth Offending Service (YOS) in Tonbridge & Malling, falling by 12.7% to 192 offenders. YOS data shows that 1.5% of the total population are offenders (down from 1.7% last year), compared to 1.7% across Kent as a whole. Three-quarters of young offenders in Tonbridge & Malling are male.

Tonbridge & Malling had a reduction in the number of first time entrants (FTEs) into the Youth Justice System, countering the increase reported last year. The number of FTEs fell by 10% to 130. As last year, Trench ward had the highest number of young offenders (a total of 20), followed by Snodland East and East Malling.



Chart 5. The number of young offenders by ward, for the five wards with the highest figures, July 2010 to June 2011. Source: Kent YOS.

Young people in Tonbridge & Malling were responsible for 355 offences (6.5% of all crimes committed by young people), up slightly from 350 last year. Males were responsible for an average of 1.9 offences per person (down from 2.3) whilst, for females, the average number of offences per person was 1.6 (up from 1.4).

The types of offences most frequently committed by young people in Tonbridge & Malling reflect those of the county – Theft and handling stolen goods, and Violence against the person. However, whilst there has been a small reduction in the number of theft offences committed by young people (down by 2 offences), there has been a larger increase in the number of violent crime offences (up 22%), although overall numbers remain low.

The number of young people recorded as NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training) has fallen to 5% in July 2011, and is below the Kent (5.6%) and UK average (6.6%).

In Tonbridge & Malling 49% of primary and 47% of secondary school children reported having been bullied, compared to a KCC average of 48% and 41% respectively. Around half of those reporting having been bullied also reported that they were still being bullied.

The number of racial incidents in schools in Tonbridge & Malling has increased by 2, to a total of 63; this is the fifth lowest in Kent.

There has been a further reduction in the number of fixed term exclusions from secondary schools (although data on the length of exclusion is no longer available so comparisons are not possible with previous years). In the 2009-10 academic year, 2.5% of all pupils (primary and secondary) were excluded for a fixed period; this is below the 3% Kent average. However, 5.6% of pupils from Trench ward were excluded during the same period.

Permanent exclusions increased from 10 to 13 secondary school aged pupils in Tonbridge & Malling, giving an overall rate of 0.03% of all pupils. However, the rate in Trench was ten times higher than that (0.3%). Tonbridge & Malling has the third lowest rate in Kent. It is worth noting that, across Kent, over half of all permanent exclusions of secondary school pupils were of children with Special Educational Needs (SEN), either with or without a Statement; the figure for primary pupils was over 90%.

During the six-months April to September 2011, there were 64 domestic abuse notifications with regards to young people. This is the lowest across Kent, although there were 1,313 notifications not assigned to any district. Kent Children's Social Services received 276 referrals between July and September 2011, the second lowest in Kent. The highest number of referrals were for children in Snodland East ward.

Intelligence-based targeting of retailers has led to test-purchases and subsequent prosecution reports being filed for underage sales of alcohol and tobacco in Tonbridge & Malling. There were a total of 7 test alcohol purchases, resulting in 2 fails. During the year there have been 1 license review, 1 penalty notice issued and 1 warning/prosecution.

Priority scoring

Young people scored a total of 20 points in the last Strategic Assessment, and scores the same this year. As such, young people remain a key priority for the coming year.

Community concern	5
Trend increasing	3
Volume	3
Level of harm	1
Performance compared to MSG/County	3
Partnership can add value	5
Total	20

Substance Misuse

Between October 2010 and September 2011, there were 2.8 recorded drug offences per 1,000 population in Tonbridge & Malling (330 offences). This is an increase of 7.8% from the previous year. The rate is now 11th lowest in Kent, and above the Kent average and 10th in the MSG. Part of the reason for the high levels in Tonbridge & Malling are due to the custody suite for West Kent being at Tonbridge Police Station; any drugs found on persons after arrest and transfer to Tonbridge from neighbouring areas result in the crime being recorded in the custody suite and so against the Tonbridge & Malling figures.

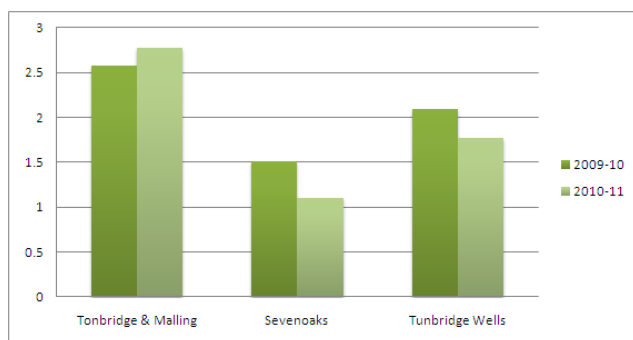


Chart 6. The rate of recorded drug offences in each of the West Kent Community Safety Partnership areas, for this year and last (October to September years). Source: iQuanta.

The number of ambulance pick-ups due to overdose or poisoning has continued to fall, down 45% over the past twelve months to 164 across Tonbridge & Malling. This gives a rate of 1.4 pick-ups per 1,000 population. Tonbridge & Malling now has the second lowest rate in Kent. Trench, Vauxhall, Kings Hill and East Malling all have higher rates (above 2.0 pick-ups per 1,000 population).

During the 2010/11 financial year, there were a total of 209 hospital admissions due to mental and behavioural disorders due to psychoactive substance use (including both alcohol and drugs). This is a reduction of 14% from the previous year. Tonbridge & Malling has the third lowest number of admissions in Kent. The highest numbers of admissions were from Hadlow, Mereworth and West Peckham ward (16 admissions); Blue Bell Hill and Walderslade (16); and East Malling, Trench and Vauxhall wards (each with 15).

Tonbridge & Malling now has one of the lowest numbers of hospital admissions due to the toxic effects of alcohol in Kent. During the financial year 2010/11, there were 49 such admissions – a reduction of 11%. The greatest number of admissions were from Trench (8) and Ditton (7).

According to the NHS Information Centre, alcohol is now 44.4% more affordable (2010 figure) compared to relative prices in 1980, based on a per-capita analysis. This is an

increase from 44.0% in 2009, although this figure remains below that of 2005.

KDAAT report that there are 79 problem drug users in Tonbridge & Malling; this is the second lowest figure in Kent. However, there has been a 25% increase in the number of Tonbridge & Malling residents accessing structured treatment over the past three years.

The total Kent population aged 18-64 estimated to be dependent on illicit drugs in 2010 is 32,098. Home Office data indicates that 7.4% of the population is alcohol dependant; in Kent, this indicates about 60,000 people aged 15-65.

Alcohol dependence is an important cause of homelessness, which exacerbates the health and social problems associated with alcohol. Up to 50% of rough sleepers are dependent on alcohol. For single homeless people, the figure is 33%. There is generally a high overlap between drug and alcohol users and also a high level of overlap between both drug and alcohol users and other groups such as those with mental health problems, offenders, rough sleepers and single homeless. As many as two thirds of those with known substance misuse problems also have a mental health problem.

The KCVS shows that 7.6% of residents believe that drunk or rowdy individuals are problem in their local area – a decrease of 1.4pp from last year, and below the Kent average. In contrast, the proportion of respondents that believe people using or dealing drugs was a problem in their local area was 15.2%, an increase of 8.2pp. This is above the Kent average.

Analysis by KCC has identified East Malling, Aylesford and Medway as being priority areas with regards to substance misuse. East Malling is ranked 19th of all Kent wards in this regard.

Priority scoring

Substance misuse scored a total of 20 points in the last Strategic Assessment, and scores 18 this year. As such, substance misuse remains a key priority for the coming year.

Community concern	3
Trend increasing	3
Volume	3
Level of harm	3
Performance compared to MSG/County	3
Partnership can add value	3
Total	18

Violent Crime

Violent crime includes Violence against the person (VAP), robbery, and sexual offences. During the period October 2010 to September 2011, there were 9.51 recorded crimes per 1,000 population, a decrease of 4.2% (49 offences) from the previous year. This represents 1,130 recorded crimes. Tonbridge & Malling has the second lowest rate of violent crime in the county (after Sevenoaks), and second in the MSG.

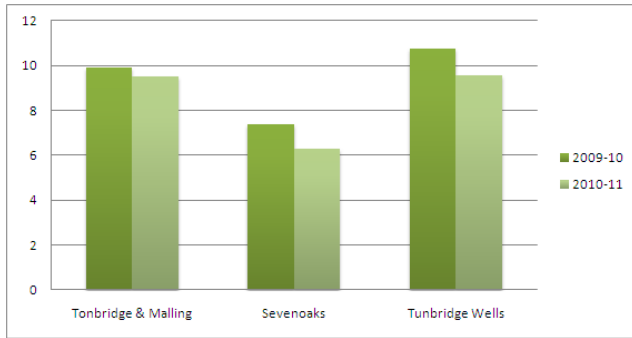


Chart 7. The rate of recorded violent crime offences in each of the West Kent Community Safety Partnership areas, for this year and last (October to September years). Source: iQuanta.

The sanction detection rate for violent crime offences is 55.2% in Tonbridge & Malling, which is significantly above the rate for all crime (36.1%), and above the Kent average for this crime type (47.5%). This rate also puts Tonbridge & Malling as the best in Kent.

According to the 2009/10 British Crime Survey, victims believed the offender(s) to be under the influence of alcohol in half (50%) of all violent incidents; hence partners are able to contribute to reducing this type of crime. In one in five (20%) violent incidents nationally the victim believed the offender(s) to be under the influence of drugs (BCS data).

Violence against the person has decreased by 3% (32 offences) to 8.8 recorded crimes per 1,000 population (1,045 offences in total). Violence against the person constitutes 92.5% of all violent crimes in Tonbridge & Malling. Castle and Vauxhall wards stands out in the statistics with 209 incidents (21.86 violent crimes per 1,000 population in Castle ward). This is in part due to its town centre location and night time economy activities.

Tonbridge and Malling has few recorded offences of robbery. Robbery has fallen by 10 (33%), from 30 to 20 offences. The rate in Tonbridge and Malling (0.17 per 1,000 population) remains substantially below the average for Kent and the MSG, placing Tonbridge & Malling second in both comparisons. Medway and Judd wards have noticeably higher rates of robbery compared to other parts of the Borough, with 0.84 and 0.83 per 1,000 population respectively.

Sexual offences have decreased by 7 offences (9.7%), from 72 to 65. This gives a rate of 0.55 recorded sexual offences per 1,000 population; this is below the Kent and MSG averages. Tonbridge & Malling ranks third lowest in the county and fourth in the MSG.

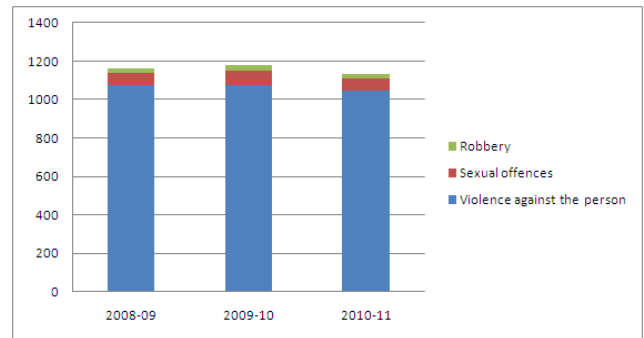


Chart 8. The rate of recorded violent crime offences in Tonbridge & Malling for each of the past three years (October to September), highlighting the relative proportion of the three crime types (Violence against the person – blue; Sexual offences – red; Robbery – green). Source: iQuanta.

Over the last year the number of ambulance pick-ups due to assault (including sexual assault) have increased by 35%, to 296; this equates to 2.52 per 1,000 population. Tonbridge & Malling now has the eleventh lowest rate of pick-ups for this category in the county. Castle (1.45 pick-ups per 1,000 population), Trench (1.33) and Snodland East (1.26) are the highest in the Borough.

There were 54 hospital admissions due to assault in Tonbridge & Malling between August 2010 and July 2011.

Analysis by KCC has identified Trench, Snodland East and Medway as being priority areas with regards to violent crime.

Priority scoring

Violent crime misuse scored a total of 18 points in the last Strategic Assessment, and scores 18 again this year. As such, substance misuse remains a key priority for the coming year.

Community concern	3
Trend increasing	1
Volume	5
Level of harm	5
Performance compared to MSG/County	1
Partnership can add value	3
Total	18

Road Safety

Road traffic collision (RTC) data is typically monitored over a rolling three-year period. In the period to 2010, there was a decrease in the average number of crashes from 329 to 319. However, there was an increase in the number of KSI crashes over the same period from 38 to 41.

The average number of casualties has also decreased (441 to 422), whilst the KSI casualties have increased (43 to 47). These figures suggest that whilst the number of accidents overall has reduced, their severity has increased.

	2009	2010		
Crashes	329	319	↓	10
KSI crashes	38	41	↑	3
Casualties	441	422	↓	19
KSI casualties	43	47	↑	4

Table 5. The average annual number of crashes and casualties, both total and KSI, for the three-year periods ending in 2009 and 2010 calendar years. Source: Kent Highways.

Including motorways, the number of KSIs in Tonbridge & Malling was 65 – an increase of 6 from the previous three-year period. This is the highest number in Kent, and is attributable to the motorway junctions and major high-speed routes in the Borough. The overall trend since 1994-8 continues to show a reduction despite this short-term increase. The peak months for KSIs were March, May and July. Half of all KSIs were car users (the highest rate in Kent) and 9 of these were aged 17-24 (also the highest in Kent).

Mortality from alcohol-related land transport accidents stands at 1.0 per 100,000 population, a reduction from the previous year (of 1.5) and less than the regional average (of 1.6).

The KCVS now records the proportion of respondents that feel speeding vehicles are a problem in their local area. In Tonbridge & Malling, 23.4% of respondents indicated this was a problem. This is below the Kent average (28.0%) and is the second lowest in Kent.

Illegal parking is often raised as an issue at PACT meetings, and nearly half of residents identified 'nuisance parking' as a problem in their area through the 2008 TMBC Residents' Panel survey.

During 2010/11 there were a total of 8,669 penalty charge notices (PCNs) issued in Tonbridge and Malling for parking offences. This is a negligible reduction compared to the previous year (17 PCNs). The number of PCNs issued in relation to car park offences has decreased by 1.8%, compared to an increase of 3.0% in the number issued due to on-street parking offences.

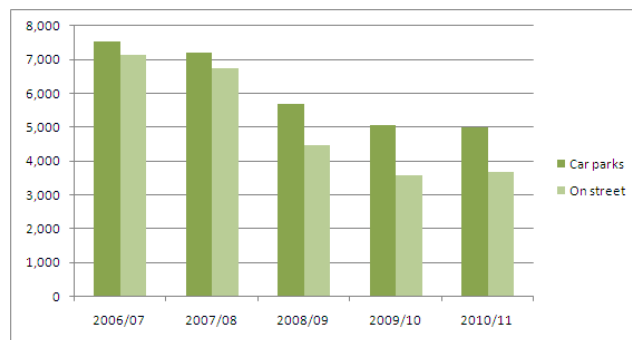


Chart 9. The number of Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) issued in Tonbridge & Malling in car parks (dark green) and due to on-street parking offences (light green). Source: TMBC Parking Office.

There have been no major changes in the reasons for tickets being issued over the past three years.

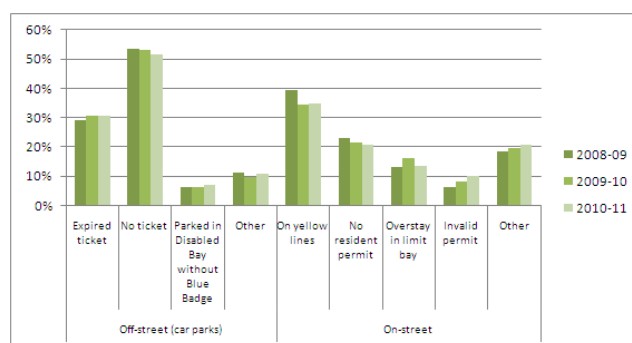


Chart 10. The number of PCNs issued in Tonbridge and Malling by category, comparing 2008-09 (dark green) with 2009-10 (light green). Source: TMBC Parking Office.

Kent Fire & Rescue Service continue to attend the more serious road traffic collisions, and continue to promote road safety through a variety of campaign methods. This includes Carmageddon and "Car 'n' Age" events, along with awareness activities for motor cyclists using the Fire Bike.

Priority scoring

Road safety was confirmed as a priority through the last Strategic Assessment, and scores 18 this year. As such, road safety remains a key priority for the coming year.

Community concern	3
Trend increasing	3
Volume	3
Level of harm	3
Performance compared to MSG/County	3
Partnership can add value	3
Total	18

Detailed Analysis : Ceased Priorities

Burglary

During the period October 2010 to September 2011, there were 4.3 recorded burglary dwelling offences per 1,000 households. This is a decrease of 29.8% (86 offences) from the previous year. This represents 203 recorded crimes, which is 3% of all crime in the Borough. This compares favourably with the 13.8% reduction in burglary dwelling across Kent as a whole. Tonbridge & Malling has the third lowest rate of burglary dwelling the county, and is now the lowest in the MSG (a significant improvement from eighth last year).

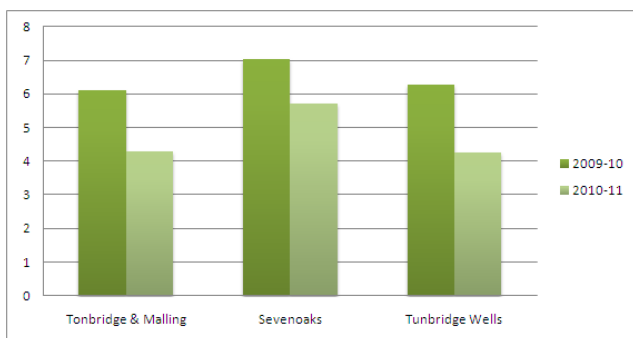


Chart 11. The rate of recorded burglary dwelling offences in each of the West Kent Community Safety Partnership areas, for this year and last (October to September years). Source: iQuanta.

Rates of burglary dwelling vary across the Borough. The highest rates are in Snodland East (12.1 per 1,000 households) and Wrotham (10.5).

The most recently available data from the TMBC Residents' Panel reporting on residents' perceptions revealed that 11% of residents considered burglary of homes to be a problem in their area; this varied from 3% in Judd ward up to 37% in Ightham.

During the period October 2010 to September 2011, there were 3.2 recorded burglary other than dwelling (BOTD) offences per 1,000 population, a decrease of 13.1% (57 offences) from the previous year. This represents 377 recorded crimes. This is a better reduction than in Kent overall (which saw a 5.8% reduction). Tonbridge & Malling is now placed third lowest in Kent and second lowest in the MSG. Downs ward has the highest rate in the Borough at 7.2 per 1,000 population.

The number of distraction burglaries has decreased again, with only 6 recorded crimes in the period. However West Malling & Leybourne ward, and Hadlow, Mereworth and West Peckham each had two of these offences.

Priority scoring

Burglary scored a total of 18 in the last Strategic Assessment. However, due to the significant reductions in volume and positive trend analysis, the score for this year is 11. As such, burglary is no longer a key priority for the coming year although it will continue to be monitored through the regular CSP meetings.

Community concern	1
Trend increasing	0
Volume	3
Level of harm	3
Performance compared to MSG/County	1
Partnership can add value	3
Total	11

Detailed Analysis : Geographical Analysis

Introduction

It is clear that community safety issues do not uniformly affect all parts of the borough, or all sections of our community. Based on the information provided by partners and analysis by KCC, 'hotspot' wards have been identified in terms of the priority community safety issues for the coming year.

Priority areas for regeneration

The Tonbridge and Malling Sustainable Community Strategy identifies the wards of East Malling, Snodland (East and West) and Trench as priority areas for regeneration work. These three wards emerge a number of times in the overall analysis.

Priority wards

The following emerge as priority areas through the KCC analysis.

Snodland East

Anti-social Behaviour
Domestic Abuse
Violent crime

Trench

Anti-social Behaviour
Domestic Abuse
Violent crime

East Malling

Anti-social Behaviour
Domestic Abuse
Substance Misuse

Medway

Domestic Abuse
Substance Misuse
Violent crime

Aylesford

Substance Misuse

Priority Selection Process

Priority Assessment Scores

The table on page 11 shows the priority assessment scores for each of the aggregated community safety topics considered through this Strategic Assessment.

Based on these scores, the community safety priorities recommended for the coming year are as follows.

Domestic abuse

Anti-Social Behaviour

(incl environmental crime)

Young People

Substance misuse

Violent Crime

(excl domestic abuse)

Road safety

In addition, particular attention ought to be paid to the three priority communities as well as hotspots highlighted in this Assessment and through the regular Tactical meetings held by members of the CSP.

Domestic abuse

The continued increase in recorded domestic abuse, against an overall backdrop of falling crime, along with the relatively high volume of domestic abuse, low levels of reporting and high levels of harm, necessitate that further targeted action is taken to reduce this type of crime. The Tonbridge and Malling CSP is advised to determine specific additional activities to address this community safety issue.

Anti-social behaviour

The volume and trend of ASB are always hard to accurately measure, but the indications are that elements of ASB have continued their upward trend. Coupled with the tangible and effective benefits of partnership working in reducing ASB, mean that this should remain a priority for the Tonbridge & Malling CSP.

Young people

Although the number of young offenders continues to fall, other figures are increasing and there remains considerable community concern. There are continued valuable opportunities in partnership working, resulting in youth crime and youth victims remaining a priority for the CSP.

Substance misuse

The majority of the other community safety issues identified as priorities for the coming year are exacerbated by substance misuse. Coupled with an increasing trend and relatively high volumes, this highlights the need for the Tonbridge and Malling CSP to continue to tackle substance misuse as a priority for the coming year.

Violent crime

Violent crime continues to be a high-profile and high-volume offence, accounting for nearly 20% of all recorded crime in Tonbridge and Malling. As such, it should remain a priority for the CSP to tackle.

Road Safety

Although the number of crashes and casualties overall have fallen, the number of KSI crashes and casualties have increased. A significant proportion of these are young car users. Coupled with relatively high levels of concern and opportunities for partners to work collaboratively, road safety should remain a priority for the CSP.

Burglary

Due to the significant reductions in volume and positive trend analysis burglary is no longer a key priority for the coming year although it will continue to be monitored through the regular CSP meetings.

Current Partnership Activity

Introduction

The CSP already undertakes a considerable number of activities to address the community safety issues identified in this Strategic Assessment as priorities for the coming year. A selection of these are listed below.

Not all activities undertaken by partners are listed; with a focus instead on the partnership work. It is important to recognise that the CSP is advised not to simply continue providing existing services, but to consider the impact and effectiveness of each activity in addressing the community issue listed. This is particularly important given the focus on limited resources at the current time.

Domestic abuse

WSS Freedom programmes.

WSS drop-in sessions, group work, and out-of-hours service at Tonbridge Police station.

CDAP programmes.

Domestic Abuse Floating Support Services (from Supporting People).

The MARAC process.

Specialist Domestic violence court.

Review of service provision by the Audit Commission.

DASS Service for male victims.

ISVA for sexual violence.

Anti-social behaviour

Each partner of the CSP already has activities and initiatives to tackle ASB.

The CSP has an ASB subgroup to discuss ASB issues, and a tasking group to identify specific individuals and cases.

Clean Kent Campaign focussing on littering, graffiti, abandoned cars and fly-tipping.

Parenting support.

Mediation service.

Young people

Power Project.

Beat Project.

Football with Charlton Athletic.

Substance misuse detached youth worker.

Education Welfare Officers.

Diversionary activities.

Youth Offending Service.

Tackling underage purchases / proxy sales.

Restorative Justice.

KCC Youth Service.

Substance misuse

Alcohol control zones.

Awareness raising events.

Tackling underage purchases.

KDAAT and Supporting People activity.

Kenward Trust youth engagement work.

Alcohol Clinics.

Violent crime

Pubwatch.

Safer Towns Partnership.

Independent Sexual Violence Advisor.

Road Safety

Carmageddon.

Car 'n' Age.

Speedwatch.

Kent Highway Services Road Safety Team initiatives.

Operation Cubit.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Conclusion

The levels of most types of recorded crime in Tonbridge and Malling have fallen over the past year, with a few notable exceptions. Given continuing resource implications, the Tonbridge and Malling CSP are encouraged to also review current activities to ensure they provide effective and efficient value for money.

The Tonbridge and Malling CSP are invited to review the recommendations below and endorse the new priorities for the coming year, and to then meet ahead of the new financial year to discuss the detailed action plans for each priority.

Recommendations

As a result of this Strategic Assessment, the following are recommended. This Strategic Assessment does not set out the detailed activities that the CSP should focus on, but identifies the broad topics that should be considered in developing the 2012-13 action plan.

1. Endorse the priorities set out below, as discussed through this Assessment.
2. Consider targeted activities in the geographical areas identified.
3. Review current service provision in light of the current and foreseen funding levels, to ensure effectiveness and efficiency.
4. Consider targeted awareness-raising activities for specific crime types.
5. Continue to review activity on a regular basis to ensure appropriate and proportionate resourcing.

Priorities for 2012

- Domestic abuse
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Young People
- Substance misuse
- Violent Crime
- Road safety

Appendices

Appendix I : Most Similar Groups

For the purposes of comparing, monitoring and managing performance, each CSP and police force is allocated to a 'Most Similar Group' (MSG). These groups provide a benchmark for comparison of crime rates and other indicators with similar areas elsewhere in England & Wales. Since the previous Strategic Assessment, there have been changes to the MSGs; these do not affect the CSP group, but there have been changes to the MSG for West Kent BCU.

MSG for Tonbridge and Malling CSP

Kent - Tonbridge & Malling
Thames Valley - Cherwell
Cambridgeshire - Huntingdonshire
Hampshire - Basingstoke & Deane
Hertfordshire - North Hertfordshire
Hampshire - New Forest
Kent - Sevenoaks
Lancashire - Wyre
Thames Valley - Aylesbury Vale
Hertfordshire - Dacorum
Bedfordshire - Central Bedfordshire
Derbyshire - High Peak
Avon & Somerset - North Somerset
Lincolnshire - South Kesteven
Hampshire - East Hampshire

MSG for West Kent BCU

Kent - West Kent
Wiltshire - Wiltshire
Thames Valley - Cherwell
Cheshire - Cheshire Eastern
Leicestershire - Counties of Leics & Rutland
Sussex - West Sussex
Thames Valley - West Oxfordshire
Thames Valley - West Berkshire
Dorset - Dorset
Hampshire - North & East Hampshire
Essex - Essex South Eastern
Thames Valley - Aylesbury Vale
West Mercia - North Worcestershire
Cambridgeshire - Cambridgeshire Central
Warwickshire - Warwickshire County

MSG for Kent Police force

Kent
Leicestershire
Essex
Lancashire
Avon & Somerset
Hertfordshire
Devon & Cornwall
Bedfordshire

Appendix II : Glossary

ASB	Anti-social behaviour.	KFRS	Kent Fire & Rescue Service.
BOTD	Burglary of a building other than a dwelling.	KSI	Killed and Seriously Injured. A category indicating the severity of a road traffic collision (RTC).
CDRP	Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership. This is a statutory partnership between local authorities and other local agencies and organisations whose role is to develop and implement strategies to tackle crime and disorder in their area.	MSG	Most Similar Group.
CSP	Community Safety Partnership, an alternative name for a CDRP.	PACT	Partners And Communities Together. The PACT process allows for community consultation and monitoring of priorities at a local level.
Fly-tipping	The illegal dumping of waste, fly-tipping is monitored in the borough by TMBC and recorded on Fly-Capture.	PCN	Penalty Charge Notice.
FPN	Fixed Penalty Notice.	PCSO	Police Community Support Officers.
iQuanta	The Home Office website that compares crime performance figures of CDRPs and BCUs against others in their MSG or Force.	Recorded crimes	These are crimes recorded by Kent Police, and so appearing in crime statistics.
KCC	Kent County Council	RTC	Road Traffic Collision. RTCs are categorised by severity.
KCVS	Kent Crime and Victimisation Survey.	Strategic Assessment	An annual review of progress of a CDRP/CSP against existing priorities, and to establish new priorities for the coming year.
KDAAT	Kent Drug and Alcohol Action Team.	TMBC	Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council.
		VAP	Violence Against the Person.
		YOS	Youth Offending Service.

Notes
