

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**COMMUNITIES ADVISORY BOARD**

**01 March 2016**

**Report of the Director of Central Services and Monitoring Officer**

**Part 1- Public**

**Matters for Information**

**1 COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (CSP) UPDATE**

**An update on some of the recent work of the Tonbridge & Malling Community Safety Partnership (CSP)**

**1.1 The Community Safety Partnership (CSP)**

- 1.1.1 The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is a body of organisations who work together to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour within the Borough. There is a CSP for each borough/district in the country. Organisations involved in our CSP include Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Kent Police, Kent Fire & Rescue Service, Kent County Council, the Clinical Commissioning Group and Kent Probation. Other members include Circle Russet (and other housing associations), Victim Support, Neighbourhood Watch and support services (such as Kenward Trust).
- 1.1.2 Funding for the CSP comes from a number of different sources including the Police and Crime Commissioner, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Kent Fire & Rescue Service and Circle Housing Russet.
- 1.1.3 Each year the CSP reviews statistical data to decide on its key priorities for the year ahead and develops action plans to address key issues within these priorities. The action plans for 2016/17 are currently being drafted and will be brought to the next meeting of this Board for information. The current priorities for the CSP are to tackle anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and domestic abuse. It is likely that the priorities for 2016/17 will change slightly to include the overarching themes of Safeguarding (to incorporate domestic abuse, child sexual exploitation and counter terrorism), Health and Wellbeing (to incorporate substance misuse and mental health) and Safer Communities (to incorporate anti-social behaviour, environmental crime, road safety and gangs).
- 1.1.4 Partners will be discussing these proposed priorities for 2016/17 at their Development Day to be held on 25 February. They will also be reviewing meeting structures and looking at funding for 2016/17. The outcomes of these discussions will be reported at the next Board.

## **1.2 Tackling Anti-social behaviour**

- 1.2.1 The Community Safety Partnership continues to tackle Anti-social behaviour and during the year ran training for partners on the new ASB Act. Following on from this the Police, Borough Council and Circle Housing Russet were able to apply, and obtain 7 Civil injunction warning letters and one Criminal Behaviour Order for individuals within East Malling. The Civil Injunction warning letters included prohibitions to get the individuals to stop behaving anti-socially and also included some positive requirements. The Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) was issued against an adult who was convicted in court for a variety of offences related to being drunk and disorderly. He received a custodial sentence and on release from prison his CBO will prevent him from being in possession of an open container of alcohol in any public place within the alcohol control zone in Tunbridge Wells or within a one mile radius of Tonbridge Railway Station.
- 1.2.2 We are currently working to develop some Public Spaces Protection Orders for areas within the borough and once available the details will be brought to the appropriate Board for discussion and agreement.
- 1.2.3 A current issue being dealt with is Ashby's Point in Tonbridge where we are receiving reports of anti-social behaviour in the communal areas. The Tonbridge & Malling ASB Officer, Sarah Taylor has been working closely with Town & Country Housing Association to address the issues and some offenders have been identified with CCTV so will be dealt with appropriately.

## **1.3 Restorative Justice**

- 1.3.1 During 2015/16 the CSP received funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner towards Restorative Justice. Restorative Justice allows the victim of crime to open a conversation (if they wish to) with the offender of the crime. It also allows the offender to think about their actions and make amends. We used the funding from the PCC to commission Maidstone Mediation to deliver a victim led Restorative Justice service throughout Tonbridge and Malling.
- 1.3.2 During the year Maidstone Mediation were able to deliver awareness training to frontline staff and were able to progress with accreditation towards the RSQM Restorative Justice Quality Mark, from the Restorative Justice Council. So far 6 cases have been facilitated in the borough. We are working with partners to raise the profile of this work and to encourage further referrals.

## **1.4 One Stop Shop for victims of Domestic Abuse, Tonbridge**

- 1.4.1 The One Stop Shop for victims of domestic abuse runs in Tonbridge at 4 New Wharf Road every Wednesday from 9.30am until 12pm. This is hosted by Circle Housing Russet with representatives from DAVSS (Domestic Abuse Volunteer Support Service), Choices (a domestic abuse charity) and Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council also attending.

1.4.2 Anyone who is experiencing domestic abuse can drop in to the sessions to get free advice, support or information. So far this year 55 people have visited the sessions.

## **1.5 Safer Towns Partnership**

1.5.1 The Safer Towns Partnership is continuing to thrive and this year 50 radios have been rented to businesses, generating income for the Partnership. There are currently 16 people excluded from the businesses in Tonbridge (to prevent them from committing crimes) and Mandy Smith, the Safer Towns Co-ordinator continues to visit the businesses on a regular basis to keep them informed of issues including the High Street Improvement scheme. She also uses her Safer Towns Partnership website to keep businesses informed of news, issues and excluded persons.

1.5.2 During the last year Mandy was also able to award two businesses (The Humphrey Bean and The Slug and Lettuce) with a Safer Socialising Award. This is an award scheme for licensed members of the Partnership and it aims to encourage licensed premises members to achieve higher standards of management and operation as a demonstration of their ability to help reduce crime and disorder and anti-social behaviour in pubs, clubs and licensed premises. The Awards were given to the two businesses in a ceremony during April 2015.

1.5.3 Mandy will continue to work with the businesses and encourage additional businesses to join the scheme.

## **1.6 Joint Community Safety Unit Operations**

1.6.1 During the year the Community Safety Unit run targeted operations around particular issues. This year we have so far run two operations, Op Orkney at Leybourne Lakes Country Park and Op Volume in Ditton, Kings Hill and Borough Green.

1.6.2 Operation Orkney ran on Saturday 18 July 2015 to raise awareness of the issues of the killing of wildlife, illegal fishing, unauthorised swimming and lighting of BBQs at Leybourne Country Park. In addition there was illegal parking which resulted in restricted access to the park for emergency vehicles. The aim of Op Orkney was to raise awareness with members of the public regarding these issues, particularly water safety and enforce any anti-social behaviour on the day.

1.6.3 Partners attending on the day included civil enforcement officers, environment enforcement officers and rangers from Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Kent County Council Community Wardens, Police, PCSOs, Kent Fire & Rescue Service and the Environment Agency. They were able to hand out leaflets explaining water safety and a group of 10 people who were participating in unauthorised swimming were asked to leave the site. The Police seized some drugs and a man was cautioned for possession. The Environment Agency also checked that the

fishermen all had licences and were using appropriate fishing equipment. In addition five penalty notices were issued to cars parked on double yellow lines along Lunsford Lane which is designated as the emergency access entrance for the Country Park.

- 1.6.4 Operation Volume took place on 14 January 2016 and was arranged as a road safety operation. Kent Fire & Rescue Service and Kent Police worked together to target drivers and, as well as any enforcement actions they were also given restorative justice to try to prevent them from committing the offences again.
- 1.6.5 Op Volume was held in Ditton (A20), Kings Hill (Jubilee Way) and Borough Green (Potters Mede). On the day 51 drivers were stopped. 35 drivers were stopped for excessive speed, 9 for mobile phone usage, 5 for no seat belt, 1 defective exhaust, 1 lady who was putting on her make up. On top of this there was also some other intelligence gathered and a drugs search carried out.

## **1.7 Social media**

- 1.7.1 The CSP is developing the use of Twitter and Facebook to send out messages to residents. So far in 2015/16 we have sent out over 50 Twitter messages about a variety of topics (such as crime prevention, events and advertising items such as the One Stop Shop).
- 1.7.2 Follow us on Twitter @TM\_CSP or on Facebook, search for Tonbridge & Malling Community Safety Partnership.

## **1.8 Legal Implications**

- 1.8.1 None

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

- 1.9.1 Any funding requirements are provided through the Community Safety Partnership.

## **1.10 Risk Assessment**

- 1.10.1 All risk assessments are under taken as appropriate.

## **1.11 Policy Considerations**

- 1.11.1 Crime & Disorder Reduction

Background papers:

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Nil

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