

# TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PARISH PARTNERSHIP PANEL

17 November 2016

### Report of the Central Services Director

#### Part 1- Public

#### Matters for Information

#### **1 COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE**

**To provide an update on the work of the Tonbridge & Malling Community Safety Partnership**

#### **1.1 Anti-social behaviour across the borough**

- 1.1.1 The Community Safety Partnership recently received reports of groups of (mainly) youths gathering outside McDonalds and the Butchers shop in Tonbridge High Street, causing intimidation and anti-social behaviour. Representatives from the Police and Borough Council met with the manager of McDonalds to look at how this issue could be resolved. As well as trying to identify those causing the ASB, the Police agreed to put some Dispersal Orders in place. These give the police additional powers to move on anyone over 10 who has caused or is likely to cause ASB and are in place for set time periods.
- 1.1.2 So far, several Dispersal Orders have been granted and have been successful, with a number of people being dispersed to more suitable locations (Tonbridge Sports Ground) and with some arrests made for a breach of the Order (e.g. they returned to the area).
- 1.1.3 Those who were moved on will be visited and warnings given to them (and their parents) about their behaviour. We hope that all of these actions will ensure that there will be a reduction or cessation of the ASB occurring.
- 1.1.4 We have also been working to tackle issues of anti-social behaviour in West Malling and as well as trying to identify those causing the issues the Police have put in place some Dispersal Orders. The latest Dispersal Order was put in place over the weekend of Bonfire Night. There were no calls received over this weekend in relation to reports of anti-social behaviour.
- 1.1.5 As many will know, Sarah Taylor has now left her post as Anti-social Behaviour Officer. We have advertised for a replacement and we hope to have someone in post by the beginning of December.

## **1.2 Operation Valletta**

- 1.2.1 Operation Valletta took place on 20 July to target drivers committing offences. Kent Fire & Rescue Service and Kent Police worked together and as well as any enforcement actions, they were also giving drivers' restorative justice to try to prevent them from committing offences again. During this operation Officers stopped a total of 75 cars in Cannon Lane, Tonbridge and London Road, Hildenborough.
- 1.2.2 Of these 75, 39 people were stopped for speeding offences, with a further 32 stopped for not wearing a seatbelt. A further four were stopped for using a mobile phone at the wheel. Once a car had been stopped by an officer, and if it was deemed appropriate, they were offered the choice of speaking with fire crews about road safety or receiving a penalty. This was not the case for seven drivers who were travelling too fast to qualify for this restorative justice. Instead they received traffic offence reports.

## **1.3 Independent Police Advisory Group (IPAG)**

- 1.3.1 The Independent Police Advisory Group (IPAG) is a group of people who meet to act as a 'critical friend' to the Police. As critical friends IPAG members constructively advise and challenge Kent Police on their policies, procedures and practices and advise the force on how to enhance these areas, so that policing performance is improved.
- 1.3.2 An IPAG for Tonbridge & Malling has recently been set up and they are looking for members who are able to represent sections of the community to attend. Meetings are held at 6pm at Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council offices, Kings Hill and in 2017 meetings will be held on Wednesday 25 January, Wednesday 12 April, Wednesday 5 July and Thursday 5 October.
- 1.3.3 If you would like further information or would like to register your intention to attend the next meeting please contact [ipag.sevenoaksdistrict@gmail.com](mailto:ipag.sevenoaksdistrict@gmail.com).

## **1.4 Community Speedwatch**

- 1.4.1 The Community Safety Partnership is encouraging Parish Councils and other community groups to set up Community Speedwatch schemes within their areas. Speedwatch is a community based scheme that helps volunteers make their local roads safer by reducing speeding without penalising passing drivers.
- 1.4.2 A group of two or three police trained volunteers operate at carefully selected roadside sites where speed limits of 20, 30 and 40 miles per hour (mph) are in place. Using a portable speed indication device, they accurately measure the speed of passing vehicles.
- 1.4.3 Without using photography, the volunteers capture and report details about the vehicles travelling at, or above, nationally recommended speed thresholds (25, 35 and 46 mph). The details of vehicles reported speeding are stored by Kent Police

for 12 months. A letter of advice may be sent in that time to the registered owners of vehicles who repeatedly speed and/or drive at more than 50% over the limit. Police officers usually hand deliver advice letters to frequent offenders.

- 1.4.4 Kent Police helps schemes get started safely by training all new volunteers and pre-approving areas where they will operate. They can also help with funding towards any equipment needed.
- 1.4.5 If you are interested in setting up a Speedwatch in your area you can get details by phoning 01622 653781 or email [speed.watch.data@kent.pnn.police.uk](mailto:speed.watch.data@kent.pnn.police.uk)

## **1.5 Legal Implications**

- 1.5.1 None

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

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

## **1.7 Risk Assessment**

- 1.7.1 All appropriate risk assessments will be undertaken as required.

## **1.8 Policy Considerations**

- 1.8.1 Crime & Disorder Reduction

Background papers:

Nil

Adrian Stanfield  
Central Services Director

contact: Anthony Garnett,  
Licencing and Community  
Safety Manager