

# **Tonbridge and Malling**

## **Community Safety Partnership**

### **Partnership Plan 2014 - 2015**



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## **Partnership Plan 2014 - 2015**

### **Introduction**

The Tonbridge and Malling Community Safety Partnership (CSP) produces an annual Plan which sets out the objectives that the Partnership will work towards to address crime and anti-social behaviour issues in the Borough over the coming year. The Plan is based on a Strategic Assessment that looks at current data and trends to address the priorities for the Borough in reducing and tackling crime and disorder. This year the CSP has agreed to focus on three key issues and these are: anti-social behaviour (ASB) including criminal damage, domestic abuse and substance misuse. Underlying these priorities will also be the cross cutting themes of reducing reoffending, early intervention, prevention and education, mental health and vulnerable households and individuals. Tasking processes will continue to review all crime types and will respond to any significant issues that arise. Further details about the actions that will be taken to address these issues will be discussed later in the Plan.

The Community Safety Unit, based at Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council offices, Kings Hill is now fully operational and between April 2013 and March 2014 dealt with XXX repeat or vulnerable people reporting issues to the police. This is an increase of XX on the previous year. The CSU also engages Partners to work on a more multi-agency approach. Partnership working within the CSU will continue to be developed throughout the year.

The Community Safety Partnership has reviewed the number and type of meetings it holds every year with a view to focusing multi-agency working on priority issues and enhancing its response to new issues which arise through better use of the Partnership's tasking processes. A reduction in the overall number of meetings will result in less administration and will hopefully lead to more partners being engaged in the work of the Partnership over the year.

This year the CSP will link in to the Police and Crime Plan developed by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). Funding for Community Safety Partnerships from the PCC has been confirmed and we will use this to address our local priorities. We will also have regard to the objectives stated within the Police and Crime Plan. The PCC has announced that there will be no in year targets and that there will be a focus on encouraging sustainable improvements in performance.

### **Review of actions 2013/14**

Crime levels within Tonbridge and Malling continue to fall and the Partnership is pleased with the successes it has achieved to ensure that residents and visitors can remain safe within the borough. From April 2013 to March 2014, recorded crime levels within Tonbridge and Malling fell by XXX. In the same time period there was also been a XXX reduction in the number of anti-social behaviour incidents reported to the police.

Within the Partnership Plan for 2013/14 the Partnership set itself a number of targets and the table below gives details of the actions set and whether or not the Partnership was able to achieve these targets.

<b>Action/target</b>	<b>Baseline 2012/13</b>	<b>2013/14 target</b>	<b>2013/14 actual figures</b>	<b>Reduction/increase achieved</b>
<b>Anti-social behaviour</b>				
Develop 'Themis' to case manage ASB cases	N/A	Themis up and running		
Increase the number of referrals to Mediation services to deal with neighbourhood disputes	33	40		
Continue the work of the ASB Task Group and achieve an improvement in behaviour of 80% of cases	82%	80%		
Link in with the 'Family Focus' initiative to provide early intervention to families committing ASB	New project	74 families		
Nominate at least 20 projects to Community Payback	8	20		
Work with Registered Social Landlords to prevent ASB especially nuisance neighbour reports	N/A	N/A		
Support diversionary activities for young people such as the Fighting Chance Judo project and Y-2 Crew scheme	N/A	N/A		
The YISP Power Project to receive at least 40 referrals during the year	33	40		
Review the ASB Policy and ensure adoption by key partners	N/A	Adoption of policy		

Action/target	Baseline 2012/13	2012/13 target	2012/13 actual figures	Reduction/increase achieved
<b>Domestic Abuse</b>				
Identify actions to reduce repeat victims	N/A	N/A		
Undertake research on best practice to tackle repeat victims	N/A	N/A		
Ensure the new IDVA service meets the need of high risk victims (At least 50% of MARAC cases to be supported through the IDVA service)	New service	50% of cases		
Ensure at least 50 low/medium risk victims are supported	39	50		
Ensure at least 10 male victims are supported and publicise the service available to them	3	10		
Ensure at least six men refer themselves to the Community Domestic Abuse Programme	8	6		
Run a training session for front line staff, including information about the MARAC process	N/A	1 session		
Develop a schools programme in at least two schools in the borough	N/A	2 schools		
Consider the establishment of a One Stop Shop/Drop in service in the Tonbridge area	N/A	One set up		
Promote the Maidstone One Stop Shop to Malling residents	N/A	N/A		
Continue to publicise the services available within the borough	N/A	N/A		
Run at least one Freedom Programme in the borough	N/A	1 held		
Run a campaign highlighting the unacceptability of domestic abuse	N/A	1 held		

Action/target	Baseline 2012/13	2013/14 target	2013/14 actual figures	Reduction/increase achieved
Where possible attend Community events run by Russet and provide information on services available	N/A	N/A		
Continue to support the ISVA service	N/A	N/A		
<b>Substance misuse</b>				
Kenward Trust to work in at least 6 locations as part of their 'Community Outreach Services'	6	6		
To respond to intelligence and carry out Test Purchasing as appropriate	3	3		
Encourage more referrals to CRI (for adults) and KCA (for young people)	New service	New service		
Continue the work of the KCAP in Snodland and consider rolling out to other areas	N/A	Ongoing		
Publicise the substance misuse services available for the public	N/A	N/A		
Run operations to target the supply of illegal drugs	N/A	N/A		
Promote IBAs at appropriate events	N/A	N/A		
Run a substance misuse campaign during the year (possibly around legal highs)	N/A	One held		
Include information about substance misuse issues in introductory sessions with new tenants	N/A	N/A		
Continue to develop the work of the Snodland drugs initiative and roll out to other areas if appropriate	N/A	N/A		
Work with agencies to develop preventative/early intervention work in schools	N/A	N/A		

## **Review of projects and initiatives 2013/14**

During 2013/14 the Community Safety Partnership undertook a variety of projects and initiatives linked to the actions above. Below are more details about some of the initiatives/projects mentioned above and also some additional projects which were run during the year to address issues which arose during the year.

Although it is sometimes difficult to measure success rates, the Partnership believes that these projects and their successes have made an impact on the reductions in crime and has resulted in positive outcomes for local people.

### ***Tackling anti-social behaviour (ASB) including environmental crime***

The ASB Task Group continued to work with those causing anti-social behaviour and aimed to address the root causes of that behaviour. The Task Group consists of different agencies who discuss individual cases (using the Information Exchange Protocol to discuss personal information). Agencies attending include the TMBC ASB officer, social landlords, education, social services, the youth offending service and the police.

During 2013/14 the Group dealt with XX young people, XX adults and X families. Actions taken to stop their behaviour included visiting the offenders and issuing three warning letters. XX Acceptable Behaviour Agreements were also issued and a Restorative Justice approach was undertaken with XXX, which was successful and their behaviour ceased. Of the XX individuals or families dealt with XX had improved their behaviour and were removed from the Task Group agenda. The group also looked and support and education for families and individuals to be sign posted to various agencies for extra support and intervention.

The YISP Power Project had XX referrals in 2013/14 and there was a reduction of XX First Time Entrants (FTEs) in the criminal justice system seen across the Borough from 93 in 2011/12 to 73 in 2012/13.

Maidstone Mediation were able to work with both young people within schools and also work with individuals involved in neighbour disputes. During the year they worked with XX schools within the borough and dealt with XX neighbourhood disputes in the Malling area and XX cases in the Tonbridge area.

During the year the CSP worked with Kent Probation to develop the Community Payback scheme. During the year the Community Payback scheme was able to complete XX projects including cutting back vegetation, litter clearance and removal of graffiti.

During this year the Family Focus programme (also known as the Troubled Families programme) has engaged with X families during the year. We have been able to claim for XXX.

The Community Safety Partnership has also reviewed its ASB Policy and this will shortly be agreed by all partners, including Social Landlords. We have been able to support youth diversion schemes including the Y-2 Crew scheme and the Fighting

Chance Judo project and have been working with Russet Homes to prevent ASB, particularly around nuisance neighbour reports.

### ***Tackling domestic abuse***

Tackling domestic abuse was a key priority for the Community Safety Partnership during 2013/14 and the focus this year was on reaching repeat victims. We commissioned two services during the year, DAVSS (Domestic Abuse Volunteer Support Service) and the county wide IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor) service. DAVSS provided support for low to medium risk victims and were able to support XX people. They also supported X male victims. The IDVA service was commissioned countywide and in Tonbridge & Malling provided support for our high risk victims. The IDVA was able to support XX high risk victims and supported X people through the MARAC process.

A Freedom Programme for women was held in January and X women attended. We also looked at the possibility of establishing a One Stop Shop in Tonbridge. We are still progressing this as it has proved difficult to find a venue that is suitable.

The CSP also provided support for the CDAP (Community Domestic Abuse Programme) who this year formed their own charity. XX men attended a programme which began in XX.

### ***Tackling substance misuse***

The Community Safety Partnership continued to commission the Kenward Trust to provide their Community Outreach services in the borough, which targets areas that have been highlighted as a hotspot for mainly underage users of alcohol and other substance misuse. Over XX young people were supported directly through the project this year. Trading Standards were able to carry out XX test purchases in the borough which resulted in XXX. The police continued to run operations to target drug users and information was placed in the Borough Council's newsletter about sensible drinking.

In Snodland the Kent Community Alcohol Partnership (KCAP) continued to develop. The KCAP aims to tackle underage and encourage sensible drinking. During the year each licenced premises was visited at least once and given training and advice on the Challenge 25 scheme. One fine was issued to for proxy purchasing and we held several events to advertise the scheme within Snodland.

### ***Road safety***

Although not one of the priorities for 2013/14, the CSP continued to support the work of the KCC Road Safety team and provided support for their campaigns on drink driving at Christmas time and their seat belts campaign.

### ***Safer Town's Partnership***

Work continued with the Safer Town's Partnership to encourage shops to sign up to this scheme and during the year the number of businesses participating in the scheme increased from XX to XX. XX individuals were excluded through the scheme and XXX. The Safer Town's Partnership was also awarded a distinction in the Safer Business Award, one of only a few schemes in the country to receive this award.



## Priority Issues for 2014 – 2015

The Strategic Assessment undertaken during the autumn of 2013 has identified the priority areas for the Partnership to tackle during 2014 – 2015 and the Partnership held an 'away day' in February 2014 to discuss the areas that they would focus on during the next year. The Strategic Assessment used data provided by partners, as well as feedback from residents, to recommend priorities for the forthcoming year. Feedback from residents was gathered through engagement with residents at community events and through a Borough Council Residents Panel survey. The information arising from consultation with residents was used to inform the priorities within the Strategic Assessment and was also taken into account when the Partnership agreed its priorities for 2014/15.

The top priorities agreed through the Strategic Assessment for 2014/15 are:

- Anti-Social Behaviour (including environmental crime and criminal damage)
- Domestic Abuse
- Substance Misuse

It was also agreed that there would be cross cutting themes underlying the priorities. These would be reducing reoffending, prevention and education, mental health, vulnerable households and individuals and positive activities. It was agreed that whilst young people did not need to become a priority on its own, the needs of young people should also be considered within each of the priorities above.

Reducing reoffending is a statutory requirement for the Community Safety Partnership and is why the Partnership now has this as a cross cutting theme. The Probation Service has been working closely with the Community Safety Unit to raise this issue and currently reoffending rates in Kent are lower than the national average and lower than predicted amounts. However, we are not complacent and we will be linking in to the additional activities now available including the Integrated Offender Management Units and Restorative Justice to help prevent reoffending. The CSP will also be monitoring the development of the new National Probation Service and Community Rehabilitation Company covering Kent.

Although the main focus of the CSP will be the priorities as mentioned above, it will still continue to monitor other types of crime and this will be undertaken through the tasking and co-ordinating processes. The Community Safety Unit now holds monthly meetings where issues of concern are raised and partners can be tasked to address issues as they arise. The CSU daily meeting will continue to look at repeat and vulnerable victims of anti-social behaviour and to address key crime concerns.

The following pages set out the objectives for the Community Safety Partnership and explain how the CSP will set its actions for this year. Action plans will be produced through the Working Groups and will therefore not appear in this plan. The action plans to be produced will not include details about the numerous activities already undertaken by partners, town and parish councils, the voluntary sector and others as part of their day to day work, but will highlight activities in addition to core work, which partners will undertake throughout the forthcoming year.

Funding for actions included within the Action Plan is available from a number of different sources, including a contribution that a number of partners make to a 'Local Partnership Fund' and the funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). The amount of funding that the CSP will receive from the PCC will reduce and this may impact on some of the services that the CSP funds. It is important for the Partnership to ensure that all initiatives provide value for money and that they are effective in reducing crime and disorder in the Borough. Regular monitoring of each project will be undertaken by the Partnership and an evaluation will be provided on completion of the project.

When preparing the action plans, issues such as equality and diversity will be considered to ensure that any person, regardless of their protected characteristic feels safe in the Borough. The Partnership continues to support and fund a telephone reporting line for anyone wanting to report sexual or hate crimes. It also takes reports of disability hate crimes seriously and works together to ensure that information is shared to ensure any issues are resolved. An Equality Impact Assessment was carried out during 2012 to ensure that the Partnership was considering equality issues in all its work.

Issues relating to counter terrorism have also been considered by the Partnership. The Community Safety Partnership works with Kent Police and other Community Safety Partnerships to ensure that we are working together with others to undertake any actions which may be necessary to prevent individuals from becoming drawn into extremism.

The CSP will continue to be involved with the 'Troubled Families' initiative led by KCC. Locally the project is known as 'Family Focus' and is currently working with over 80 families to identify their issues and put services into place that can help resolve those issues. We will continue to work with KCC to identify the next cohort of families during 2014/15.

## Partnership Plan 2014 - 2015

This year, as it did last year, the Community Safety Partnership has agreed that rather than giving details of actions within this Partnership Plan it will establish working groups for each priority theme who will prepare their own action plans. The establishment of the working groups will ensure that the action plans can be focused and developed by individuals who have specialist knowledge about each of the priority themes.

The CSP has however, set itself key objectives which it would like to achieve by the end of the year and these are listed below. It has also set out a number of focus areas which it will consider within each of the working groups. These are also listed below.

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**Key objectives** for the Community Safety Partnership for 2014/15 are:

- To reduce the number of reports of anti-social behaviour
- To reduce the number of repeat victims of domestic abuse
- To increase the number of people accessing appropriate support for drug and alcohol misuse
- To tackle the root causes of crime and anti-social behaviour through the 'Family Focus' initiative

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➤ **Area of focus 1: Reducing reoffending**

The Community Safety Partnership has a statutory responsibility to reduce reoffending and it will do this through taking a co-ordinated approach to tackling the root causes of offending. The work will be led through the Integrated Offending Management unit which will bring together partners to look at issues such as housing, employment and substance misuse interventions. Although these officers are no longer based within CSUs we will continue to link in where appropriate.

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➤ **Area of focus 2: Prevention and education**

Preventing individuals from becoming involved in crime or anti-social behaviour is a key outcome for the Partnership and much of this work will be led through the Family Focus initiative which will identify families at risk and will put early interventions in place to prevent any escalation of problems.

The CSP will also consider how it educates young people around issues such as domestic abuse and road safety.

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➤ **Area of focus 3: Mental health**

An increasing number of ASB cases can be linked to individuals with mental health issues. For the next year the CSP will continue to focus on this area to see if there is more that it can do to support people with these problems. We will identify those services that are currently available and ensure that these are promoted to the individuals that require them.

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➤ **Area of focus 4: Vulnerable households and individuals**

The CSP will continue to work to ensure that any vulnerable households or individuals receive the support that they require. Each repeat or vulnerable person who reports anti-social behaviour to the police will be discussed at daily briefing meetings and actions will be put in place to ensure that their problem is resolved.

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➤ **Area of focus 5: Positive activities**

The CSP believes that young people need positive activities to help divert them from becoming involved in anti-social behaviour or crime and so will continue to support and fund projects such as the Y-2 Crew summer holiday activity scheme to ensure that there are accessible activities for young people to get involved with.

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### Membership of the Community Safety Partnership and contact details

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