

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**COMMUNITIES AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY SELECT COMMITTEE**

**22 May 2024**

**Report of the Interim Chief Executive**

**Part 1- Public**

**Matters for Recommendation to Cabinet - Non-Key Decision (Decision may be taken by the Cabinet Member)**

**1 COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2024 - 2025**

**The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is required to publish an annual plan of its work. This gives details of the initiatives it has carried out during the previous year and details of the priorities for the forthcoming year.**

**1.1 The Tonbridge & Malling CSP Partnership Plan 2024 – 2025**

1.1.1 The Community Safety Partnership is required to publish an annual plan of its work and the actions that it plans for the forthcoming year. A copy of the Plan is attached at **Annex 1** and gives details about the initiatives that were undertaken during 2023/24 and information about the Partnership's priorities for 2024/25.

1.1.2 Successful initiatives run during 2023/24 include continuing support for victims of domestic abuse, our work to tackle anti-social behaviour, support for youth provision in the borough and events to distribute crime prevention items. The Partnership Plan gives further details of these projects and shows the value that partnership can add.

1.1.3 Crime levels within the borough are low and the borough remains one of the safest in the county. From April 2023 to March 2024, there were 7,621 incidents of victim-based crime recorded within Tonbridge and Malling, compared to 7,784 the previous year (a decrease of 2.1%). There were increases in reports of vehicle crime (7.5%) and burglary of business and community premises (27.7%) but reductions in violent crime (-9.8%), criminal damage (-8%) and crimes against society (-14.1%). The borough remains one of the safest in the county and we have the fourth lowest victim-based crime rate in Kent.

1.1.4 The Partnership has agreed six priorities for 2024/25. These are:

- Acquisitive crime including shoplifting, burglary and theft.
- Anti-Social behaviour including environmental crime
- Domestic Abuse

- Safeguarding Vulnerable People including mental health, child sexual exploitation, modern slavery and human trafficking, substance misuse, fraud and scams and youth diversion
- Violent Crime including Serious Violence, Violence Against Women and Girls and Stalking
- Preventing extremism and hate

1.1.5 The Partnership added acquisitive crime as a priority this year as they were concerned about the increase in shoplifting and theft offences. They have set some actions to start to address this issue and hope to see a decrease during the year.

1.1.6 For each of the priorities an Action Plan has been developed with partners and these will be progressed during the year. These action plans are also included within the Partnership Plan. The actions will be monitored by the Community Safety Partnership Strategy Group.

## **1.2 Legal Implications**

1.2.1 None

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

1.3.1 Any funding requirements are provided through the Community Safety Partnership. The Partnership receives funding directly from the Police and Crime Commissioner.

## **1.4 Risk Assessment**

1.4.1 All risk assessments are under-taken as appropriate.

## **1.5 Equality Impact Assessment**

1.5.1 The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

## **1.6 Policy Considerations**

1.6.1 Community Safety

## **1.7 Recommendations**

1.7.1 That the Community Safety Partnership Plan 2024/25 as set out in Annex 1 BE SUPPORTED AND ENDORSED.

The Interim Chief Executive confirms that the proposals contained in the recommendation(s), if approved, will fall within the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.

Background papers:

Nil

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