

**TO: THE EXECUTIVE**  
**12 April 2016**

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**COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (CSP) PLAN 2014 – 2017 - 2016 REFRESH**  
**Assistant Chief Executive**

**1 PURPOSE OF DECISION**

- 1.1 The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 places a duty on Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) to produce an annual strategic assessment and a three-year partnership plan to reduce crime, disorder and substance misuse.

**2 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 **That the 2016 Refresh of the priorities and targets contained within Community Safety Partnership Plan 2014-17 be recommended to Council for endorsement.**

**3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 To seek Executive's endorsement of the CSP Plan.

**4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 The publication of a CSP Plan is a statutory requirement and therefore there are no alternative options to consider. The priorities adopted result from the annual CSP Strategic Assessment as well as partnership and community consultation. These priorities will be discussed by the CSP at its meeting on 14 March 2016.

**5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

**Review of the 2015 Refresh**

- 5.1 The CSP has a strong track record of partnership working which has contributed to the continued reduction in crime figures.
- 5.2 Successful reductions (period from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 up to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015 compared to the same period the previous year) included the following:
- 0.9% reduction in Overall Crime
  - 25.4% reduction in Burglary Dwelling
  - 38.6% reduction in Burglary Non Dwelling
  - 11.3% reduction in Theft of Vehicle
  - 17.1% reduction in Bicycle Theft
- 5.3 Since 2015 some crimes such as violent and sexual offences have seen an increase in reports but this is believed to be due to changes that were made to the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) last year. The aim of NCRS is to be victim focused and maintain a consistent data set of recorded crime allegations across all forces.

- 5.4 CMT considered the 2015 Strategic Assessment on 18 February 2016. The CSP Plan refresh translates the assessment into a practical plan for action.
- 5.5 There are five statutory members of the CSP: Local Authority, Police, Probation Service, Clinical Commissioning Group and Fire Service. The CSP and the CSP Executive both meet quarterly and the performance monitoring of these targets will take place at these meetings.
- 5.6 The CSP has agreed two themes to its work:
- Crime
  - Anti-social Behaviour (ASB)
- 5.7 The priorities that sit beneath them are set out in the CSP Plan (Appendix A) following the outcomes and recommendations of the 2015 Strategic Assessment. These are shown as follows:
- **Priority 1: Serious Violence**
    - Violence Against the Person
    - Sexual Offences
  - **Priority 2: Protection of Vulnerable People**
    - Domestic Abuse
    - Internet-Related Crime and Abuse
    - Child Sexual Exploitation
    - Preventing Violent Extremism
  - **Priority 3: Drug Offences**
  - **Priority 4: Youth Crime Prevention**
  - **Priority 5: Acquisitive Crime**
    - Burglary Dwelling
    - Burglary Non Dwelling
  - **Priority 6: Environmental ASB**
  - **Priority 7: Nuisance ASB**
    - Loutish, Rowdy and Noisy Behaviour
    - Suspicion or Observation of Drug Dealing
  - **Priority 8: Personal ASB**
    - Nuisance Neighbours
    - Neighbour Disputes
- 5.8 Three criteria were used to identify strategic priorities: the paired comparison method of priority, current trends and projections as well as police priorities (as identified by partner and community consultation).
- 5.9 Despite only scoring in one of these categories, the partnership recognises the impact that Burglary Dwelling has, particularly as a driver of fear of crime, and therefore it is recommended that this remains a strategic priority. It has also been decided to include Burglary Non- Dwelling as a priority given that it was significant in the paired comparison and is highlighted in the TVP priorities. This replaces the

acquisitive crime category of Shoplifting, which has not been identified as a priority in the 2015 Strategic Assessment.

- 5.10 The only other priority that does not feature in the 2016 refresh of the plan is Fly Tipping as this was not identified through the strategic assessment as a priority. However, Environmental ASB in general is recommended to remain as a priority under the ASB theme.
- 5.11 It is recommended that the CSP continues to focus on Youth Crime Prevention and Drug Offences. Trafficking of drugs and observation or suspicion of drug dealing emerged as priorities from the scanning exercise.
- 5.12 Internet-related crime and abuse, child sexual exploitation and preventing violent extremism did not feature in the Strategic Assessment scanning exercise. However the Partnership recognises the significant impact these issues have on vulnerable people and therefore recommends a priority of Protection of Vulnerable People.
- 5.13 Internet-related crime is not made up of any single crime type but comprises a number of crime categories that are facilitated by the internet rather than taking place in the 'real world', e.g. fraud, possession of indecent images. It is recommended that the CSP uses national research and locally available data to monitor emerging trends and threats to keep pace with changing patterns of crime to protect the community from these types of offences.
- 5.14 Recent years have seen a number of high profile stories from across the country hitting the national news regarding cases of grooming, with links to sexual exploitation. The CSP acknowledges the importance of avoiding complacency in Bracknell Forest and not to think that it couldn't happen here. It is recommended that the partnership looks at the risks of grooming for sexual exploitation and decides what it needs to do to mitigate against these risks.
- 5.15 The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2016 places a duty on specified authorities (including Local Authorities) to 'have due regard, in the exercise of its functions, to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'. It is recommended that preventing violent extremism is included under the priority of Protection of Vulnerable People.
- 5.16 Much of the work on Protection of Vulnerable People will involve awareness-raising, early intervention and prevention. As such the targets for this priority are largely based around the initiatives that will be delivered throughout the year in a variety of settings rather than traditional outcomes.
- 5.17 The 2014/17 CSP Plan sets out what will be done to bring about improvements in all these priorities.
- 5.18 Further minor amendments to the CSP plan may be made following adoption by the CSP.
- 5.19 The CSP does take steps to evaluate the work that it delivers to ensure that it is effective in meeting the partnership's aims and targets. One example of this is the DASC Project which has evolved to look at ways to reduce severity of offences and recidivism. This work is also being evaluated by Cambridge University and once their study has been concluded they will carry out a full assessment and produce a report which will be available in 2017.

- 5.20 As of the end of January 2016 crime levels are at their lowest in over 20 years. It is also notable that the reduction in all crime of 9% follows 5 years of consecutive crime reduction: 9% in 2014/15, 5% in 2013/14, 10.8% in 2012/13, 17% in 2011/12 and 10% in 2010/11.
- 5.21 Fear of crime in Bracknell Forest is also very low. The results from the online survey that informed the Strategic Assessment demonstrate that the majority of respondents felt that Bracknell Forest has either become a better place to live or there has been no change over the last year. The perception from the vast majority of people is that levels of crime and anti-social behaviour have either gone down or stayed the same. The 2014 Bracknell Forest Residents' Survey asked respondents to indicate the three things they liked best about living in the borough. This was an entirely spontaneous question and respondents were not prompted with answers. The low level of crime in the borough was one of the top 5 responses given.
- 5.22 The Borough Council can make a major contribution through its responsibilities which include protection of children, education, youth services, social services, licensing, environmental health and planning. The Council also supports the Youth Offending Service and the Community Safety Team as well as facilitating the CSP.

## **6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

### Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 None.

### Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 There are no financial implications as delivery can be achieved within existing resources.

### Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.3 An Initial Equalities Screening Record Form was completed for this 3 year plan and it was determined that there will be no negative effect on any one group within the borough therefore a full Equalities Impact Assessment was not required. The 2016 Refresh of the 2014-2017 CSP Plan has not identified any significant changes in priorities.

### Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 None.

## **7 CONSULTATION**

### Principal Groups to be Consulted

- 7.1 Partners of the CSP.
- 7.2 Council Executive.
- 7.3 Overview and Scrutiny Commission (Crime and Disorder Committee) – via email.

Method of Consultation

- 7.4 The plan has been consulted on with CSP, its relevant sub groups as well as other partnerships and the voluntary sector.

Representations Received

- 7.5 None at present.

Background Papers

2016 Refresh of the 2014–2017 CSP Plan.

Contact for further information

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