ASHFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Notice of a Meeting, to be held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent TN23 1PL on Tuesday 25th February 2014 at 7.00 pm.

The Members of this Committee are:-

Cllr Adby (Chairman);

Cllr Chilton (Vice-Chairman);

Cllrs. Apps, Bartlett, Bennett, Burgess, Davison, Feacey, Hodgkinson, Mrs Hutchinson, Link, Miss Martin, Mrs Martin, Mortimer, Smith, Yeo.

Agenda

Page Nos.

- 1. **Apologies/Substitutes** To receive Notification of Substitutes in accordance with Procedure Rule 1.2(iii)
- 2. **Declarations of Interest:-** To declare any interests which fall under the following categories, as explained on the attached document:
 - a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI)
 - b) Other Significant Interests (OSI)
 - c) Voluntary Announcements of Other Interests

See Agenda Item 2 for further details

3. Minutes – to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of this Committee 1 - 6 held on the 28th January 2014

Part I – Matters Referred to the Committee in Relation to Call-In of a Decision made by the Cabinet

None for this meeting

Part II – Responses of the Cabinet to Reports of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

None for this Meeting

Part III - Ordinary Decision Items

None for this Meeting



Part IV – Information/Monitoring Items

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JV/VS 14 February 2014

Queries concerning this agenda? Please contact Rosie Reid:
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Declarations of Interest (see also "Advice to Members" below)

(a) <u>Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI)</u> under the Localism Act 2011, relating to items on this agenda. The <u>nature</u> as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared, and the agenda item(s) to which it relates must be stated.

A Member who declares a DPI in relation to any item will need to leave the meeting for that item (unless a relevant Dispensation has been granted).

(b) Other Significant Interests (OSI) under the Kent Code of Conduct as adopted by the Council on 19 July 2012, relating to items on this agenda. The <u>nature</u> as well as the existence of any such interest must be declared, and the agenda item(s) to which it relates must be stated.

A Member who declares an OSI in relation to any item will need to leave the meeting <u>before the debate and vote</u> on that item (unless a relevant Dispensation has been granted). However, prior to leaving, the Member may address the Committee in the same way that a member of the public may do so.

- (c) <u>Voluntary Announcements of Other Interests</u> not required to be disclosed under (a) and (b), i.e. announcements made for transparency reasons alone, such as:
 - Membership of outside bodies that have made representations on agenda items, or
 - Where a Member knows a person involved, but does <u>not</u> have a close association with that person, or
 - Where an item would affect the well-being of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc. but not his/her financial position.

[Note: an effect on the financial position of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc; OR an application made by a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc, would both probably constitute either an OSI or in some cases a DPI].

Advice to Members on Declarations of Interest:

- (a) Government Guidance on DPI is available in DCLG's Guide for Councillors, at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/240134/Openness_and_transparency_on_personal_interests.pdf
 plus the link sent out to Members at part of the Weekly Update email on the 3rd May 2013.
- (b) The Kent Code of Conduct was adopted by the Full Council on 19 July 2012, with revisions adopted on 17.10.13, and a copy can be found in the Constitution at
 - http://www.ashford.gov.uk/part-5---codes-and-protocols
- (c) If any Councillor has any doubt about the existence or nature of any DPI or OSI which he/she may have in any item on this agenda, he/she should seek advice from the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer or from other Solicitors in Legal and Democratic Services as early as possible, and in advance of the Meeting.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of a Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford on the **28**th **January 2014.**

Present:

Cllr. Adby (Chairman)

Cllr. Chilton (Vice-Chairman)

Cllrs. Apps, Bartlett, Britcher, Buchanan, Davison, Feacey, Hodgkinson, Mrs Hutchinson, Link, Mortimer, Smith.

In accordance with Procedural Rule 1.2 (iii) Councillors Britcher and Buchanan attended as Substitute Members for Councillors Bennett and Yeo respectively.

Apologies:

Cllrs. Bennett, Burgess, Miss Martin, Mrs Martin, Yeo.

Also Present:

Finance Manager, Development Control Manager, Senior Scrutiny Officer, Member Services & Scrutiny Support Officer.

297 Declarations of Interest

Councillor	Interest	Minute No.
Feacey	Made a 'Voluntary Announcement' as he was Chairman of the Ashford Volunteers Bureau.	
Mrs Hutchinson	Declared an 'Other Significant Interest' as a close family member may be involved in contracting for Council Services in the future. She left the Chamber for the whole of the item.	300

298 Minutes

Resolved:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of this Committee held on the 26th November 2013 be approved and confirmed as a correct record.

299 Report of the Budget Scrutiny Task Group

The Chairman of the Budget Scrutiny Task Group introduced this report and explained that the Task Group had met on several occasions to consider the budget.

He offered his thanks for their hard work to Councillors Apps, Burgess, Mortimer, and Mrs Martin, and to Julia Vink and other officers who had been involved in the process. He said Members no longer had much knowledge of budget assumptions since the Medium Term Financial Planning Task Group had been disbanded. He suggested either resurrecting this Group, or that Members should be briefed during the course of the year. He considered it was regrettable that the decision to freeze council tax had been announced after the Task Group had finished their meetings. He identified a need to reconcile the counter-inflationary strategy with the new policy of freezing council tax. He also considered that a discussion was needed on how to use the new homes bonus. He moved that the report should be agreed.

One Member queried whether the report was a personal statement by the Chairman, or whether it had been agreed by the Task Group. The Chairman confirmed that he had presented his report to the whole Group, who were in agreement with the content.

There was much discussion about the fact that the intention to freeze council tax had not been communicated to the Task Group until after they had completed their meetings, and that the Chairman had only discovered this intention through attending the Cabinet meeting. Members expressed disappointment with the timing of the announcement and considered this was a discourtesy to the Task Group, although not a deliberate mis-steer or maliciously intended. Members suggested that the Chairman should voice his concerns, and it was agreed that the following comment should be submitted to Cabinet:

'the Overview and Scrutiny Committee feels it was a discourtesy to the Budget Scrutiny Task Group that the Cabinet decided to change its recommendations to Council from a 2% increase in Council Tax to a freeze after the Task Group had finished its work'.

In response to a question about the current status of reserves, the Finance Manager advised that in accordance with the Focus 2013-15 document the Cabinet planned to release £1 million in 3 years to support growth. This would reduce reserves balances and full details on the status of reserves and advice on the adequacy of reserves would be provided in the budget report.

There was also discussion regarding the use of the New Homes Bonus (NHB) to balance the books in light of the intended freeze of council tax. The Finance Manager advised that the funding gap would be met through a grant from Central Government as well as through NHB receipts. Cabinet was also considering other funding options. Members considered that a comment was needed regarding reliance on the NHB to meet the funding gap as this was not what it had been intended for and because they believed it was designed to give existing communities lasting legacy following new homes development. It was agreed that the following comment should be placed with the Committee's recommendations to Cabinet:

'to ensure that New Homes Bonus is not habitually used to fund revenue gap but instead used to create legacy projects for the benefit of the Borough'.

Members considered that the report was concise and easy to read and agreed that it should be submitted to Cabinet.

Recommended:

That Cabinet

- (i) be advised that the O&S Committee regards the Council's draft 2013/14 budget as achievable;
- (ii) endorses the Risk Matrices and the risks identified within them, particularly noting those that fall in the shaded part of the matrix;
- (iii) ensures that New Homes Bonus is not habitually used to fund revenue gap but instead used to create legacy projects for the benefit of the Borough,

and to note that:-

(iv) the Overview and Scrutiny Committee feels it was a discourtesy to the Budget Scrutiny Task Group that the Cabinet decided to change its recommendations to Council from a 2% increase in Council Tax to a freeze after the Task Group had finished its work.

300 Fly posting and graffiti – powers and obligations for the Council

The Development Control Manager introduced this report, which had been written in conjunction with the Assistant Health, Parking and Community Safety Manager. He explained that she was unable to attend the meeting due to an unexpected incident and she sent her apologies. The Development Control Manager advised that he understood the remit from the Committee was to have a better understanding of what the Council could do in relation to the problems of fly posting and graffiti, and this report set out to define these terms and explain what could be done now and in the future.

A Ward Member from South Ashford said there had been recent graffiti attacks in her Ward. She asked for advice on how to get rid of the graffiti. The Development Control Manager advised that Mike Cook was the person to contact in the Council. If the graffiti was on private property, and the Council was asked to remove it, they would be likely to charge a commercial rate, although it was likely to be competitive in comparison with local commercial operators.

In response to a question from a Member, the Development Control Manager advised that the fine for fly posting and graffiti had recently risen from £1,000 to £2,500. As a result of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act the Council could now prosecute those who benefitted from fly posting, although the Council did not often prosecute because it was expensive, and more cost effective and immediate solutions were used. He also explained that the Council operated a two-pronged approach; using prevention methods to stop fly posting, and approaching owners of graffitied premises and advising them to remove the graffiti immediately to discourage further damage.

In response to a question from a Member, the Development Control Manager confirmed that the Council would only remove graffiti from Council property. Where a graffitied property was owned by another organisation, such as Kent County Council, the Council would draw their attention to the graffiti and encourage them to remove it. One reason why the Council would not remove graffiti from non Councilowned property was that if there was any damage, the Council could be liable for the cost. The Council did offer a service to remove graffiti, but this was only with the owner's permission, and was chargeable.

The Chairman of the Committee said that the Town Centre Action Team were doing a wonderful job and he asked the Development Control Manager to pass on his thanks for their hard work.

A Member asked about dealing with dumped refuse, and cited an area on the Kingsnorth road where a settee and mattresses had been dumped in a ditch. The Development Control Manager advised that this was fly tipping not fly posting, and that this issue was dealt with by the Contracts Team in the Culture and Environment Department.

A Member described a situation where a shop had been covered by graffiti at the request of the owner, who considered it artwork. The neighbours were not happy with the situation and said it was graffiti and should be removed. The Member asked how one would define graffiti, and who would decide whether it was graffiti or artwork. The Chairman advised the Member that the appropriate officers within the Council could advise.

The Leaf Lounge café and a tattoo parlour on Christchurch Road were both raised as examples of decorated buildings which were considered unsightly. The Development Control Manager advised that this was a complex issue because it had to be decided whether the decoration was artwork, advertising or graffiti. If it was an advertisement, it could need consent under the Town and Country Planning Act. Unsightly building decoration at a high level could also be dealt with through planning legislation. However, where the decoration was close to the ground, and had been done with the owner's consent, there might be little that could be done about it.

The Development Control Manager said that further enforcement powers were expected later in the year, including more immediate action for dealing with fly posting, graffiti and other actions which impacted on the appearance of the borough.

Resolved:

That the report be received and noted.

301 Future Reviews and Report Tracker

It was suggested that the issue of fly tipping be added to the Tracker to be considered by the Committee later in the year, and this was agreed.

A Member raised the question of how the Borough had fared in the recent wet weather, and whether there had been any specific impacts or lessons learned. The Senior Scrutiny Officer advised that details could be included in the Information Report to Members.

It was suggested that an update on the ongoing situation at the Stour Centre be provided for a future meeting. The Senior Scrutiny Officer said she would make some enquiries and circulate any appropriate information to Members.

Resolved:

that

- (i) the Future Reviews and Report Tracker be noted;
- (ii) a report on fly tipping be put on the Tracker.

Agenda Item No:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Report To:

Date:

Ashford Community Safety Partnership: an update on the Report Title:

Community Safety Partnership activity in the Borough

Report Author: James Hann, Assistant Health, Parking and Community

Safety Manager

Summary: The Community Safety Partnership works to make the

Borough a better place to live and work and to reduce crime

and disorder. Members are presented with statistical

information relating to the current Strategic Assessment and the work that has been carried out by partners in the past 11

months.

Members are welcome to ask questions about any aspect of

the Community Safety Partnership.

Key Decision: No

Affected Wards: The Ashford Community Safety Partnership covers the whole

borough.

Recommendations: The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the

information contained within this report.

Policy Overview: The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is designated as the

committee responsible for Crime & Disorder under the Police

Justice Act 2006.

Financial

The Community Safety Partnership is provided with a grant

Implications: by the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Risk Assessment Not applicable.

Background

Papers:

Community Safety Partnership strategic assessment and

tactical delivery plan for 2013/14 (both attached)

Contacts: james.hann@ashford.gov.uk Tel: (01233) 330608

Agenda Item No.

Report Title:

Purpose of the Report

- The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is designated as the committee responsible for crime and disorder under the Police Justice Act 2006. Annually the Committee reviews various aspects of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP).
- 2. Community safety partnerships are statutory crime and disorder reduction partnerships, enabling responsible authorities to develop and deliver local strategies to reduce crime and disorder. The responsible authorities work with 'cooperating bodies' to achieve their objectives.
- 3. In April 2013, the responsible authorities for the Borough of Ashford were Kent Police, Ashford Borough Council (ABC), Kent Fire and Rescue Service (KFRS), Kent Probation, Kent County Council (KCC) and the Ashford Clinical Commissioning Group who work together to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour that affects our communities. These agencies have a statutory duty to come together and work with other groups, organisations and agencies to prevent crime and disorder. Other partners include KCA, Moat Housing, Pipeline, Turning Point, Immigration & Border Control, NHS, South East Coast Ambulance Service and the Kent Drug and Alcohol Action Team.
- 4. The CSP has a responsibility to convene a strategy group of all responsible authorities in the CSP (although it can invite other organisations); prepare a strategic assessment of local crime and community safety priorities, using information provided by partner agencies and the community and produce an action plan to meet those priorities.
- 5. The Crime and Disorder Regulations 2007 requires responsible authorities to show that their CSP offers value for money.
- Overview and scrutiny enables councils to hold responsible authorities to account for local action and local public spending. Sections 19-21 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 introduced community safety scrutiny.
- 7. The role of the overview and scrutiny committee is to review, scrutinise and make reports or recommendations to the responsible authorities of the CSP.

Background

- 8. Ashford's Community Safety Partnership completes an annual strategic assessment which refreshes the priorities and planned activities to provide the knowledge and understanding of community safety problems to the members of the CSP (Appendix A).
- 9. The 2013/14 priorities were:
 - Anti-social behaviour and environmental crime

- Domestic abuse
- Substance misuse
- Acquisitive crime
- Violent crime
- Road safety
- 10. Each priority has a lead agency tasked with developing and delivering the tactical delivery plans and updates are provided on a quarterly basis to the CSP.
- 11. Following a review of the community safety work that the Council carries out the Community Safety Service was formed; combining the Community Safety Unit with the monitoring centre.
- 12. 2013/14 saw one of the most ambitious programmes of combined community safety partnership work that the borough has seen. Not all the actions have been completed, as of the date of this report, but the majority of actions have been completed and most of the remaining actions are scheduled to take place in the coming weeks before the end of the financial year.
- 13. On December 12th 2013 the Police and Crime Commissioner attended the CSP quarterly meeting and afterwards travelled to Tenterden to see two CSP initiatives taking place in the area. The Commissioner subsequently wrote to the CSP thanking the partnership for arranging the visit and stated:

"I was particularly impressed with the excellent Partnership working demonstrated by Ashford CSP. The enthusiasm portrayed by the staff shone through and I would like to thank all those involved in the visit. The projects being undertaken truly highlight the brilliant initiatives that can be achieved through partnership working."

Review of performance

Anti-Social Behaviour including Environmental Crime

14. The information provided in this section is provided by the Kent Police Partnership Pack but unfortunately doesn't break down the type of anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents reported.

	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	Difference	% diff	1,000	_	County Rank 2012/13
Ashford	3,568	3,826	3,628	-276	-7.1%	30.64	5	6
Kent	53,232	51,318	46,700	-7,644	-14.1%	31.85	-	-

15. The data provided above shows the number of incidents of ASB reported to Kent Police for the Ashford borough has decreased by -276 incidents. However, recent statistics obtained have reported that between April 2013 and 23 January 2014 the number of ASB cases was 2103, which is an impressive reduction of 1723 and at the present moment ranks 4th in the county.

- 16. Last year it was reported that Park Farm and Stanhope were most affected by ASB however this year the location has changed with Victoria Ward having the greatest volume with 758 reports.
- 17. It is reported that the public perceive vandalism, graffiti and deliberate damage; rubbish and litter; and fly tipping to be the most problematic types of ASB.

Fly Tipping

- 18. Fly tipping incident figures reported by local authorities through Flycapture show an increase when compared to 2010/11 and 2011/12. Data previous to this date since 2006 there was a steady decrease.
- 19. Below is a table displaying the annual summary of fly tipping incidents as reported by local authorities through Flycapture.

	2005 /06	2006 /07	2007 /08	2008 /09	2009 /10	2010 /11	2011 /12	2012 /13
Ashford	1,177	1,450	1,177	1,123	1,049	876	874	946
Kent	30,692	27,854	21,196	12,963	11,970	10,316	11,620	12,135

- 20. The locations where fly tipping has been reported in the past few months include the Chilmington area (i.e. Mock Lane, Bartletts Lane and to a lesser extent Chilmington Green Lane).
- 21. Another area that also has quite a high level of fly tipping at present is rural Great Chart (e.g. Goldwell Lane, Daniels Water, Etchden Road).
- 22. Some areas have experienced fly tipping in the past year, such as Warren Lane and the Newlands Road & Hurst Lane area (Charing Heath), but this appears to have decreased since November.
- 23. Fly tipping outside flats / bin stores still remains high. For example the 6 blocks in the Hillbrow Lane area, Bybrook Road, Newtown and in some areas of Stanhope continues to be a problem with bulk items being dumped at the rear of properties.

Criminal Damage

- 24. Ashford is currently ranked 4 out of the 12 districts with 1 being the lowest. There has been a year on year decrease of criminal damage in the Ashford borough, with a reduction of 57 crimes recorded in 2012/13 when compared with 2011/12. The areas in Ashford that have suffered the greatest volume of criminal damage were the Victoria and Stanhope wards.
- 25. Work undertaken by the CSP to reduce ASB Lead agency: Ashford Borough Council:
 - Ensure victims of ASB receive appropriate support, including early identification of vulnerable & repeat victims.
 - Early identification & assessment of perpetrators to ensure appropriate actions are taken; including referral to multi-agency groups which manage

- perpetrators, use of appropriate sanctions such as ASBO's & closure orders
- Provision of Joint Family Management Programme to provide intensive support to parents, where anti-social behaviour & youth crimes are evident. Work closely with Children's Services & other partners to join up work around Ashford Supporting Families.
- Introduction & adoption of Themis software system for partner recording of ASB. A fully developed case management to strengthen the approach to deal with high risk & vulnerable victims.
- KCC Wardens to engage with the local community at the earliest opportunity to assess & review impact of ASB upon a community.
- Pilot Community Resolution Panels in Stanhope & Victoria wards, using a restorative approach to tackling low level anti-social behaviour & neighbour disputes.
- Attend all repeat victim ASB calls.
- Multi-agency operations targeting anti-social behaviour hotspots, including a robust enforcement of the Designated Public Places Order and hotspots in the night time economy.
- To hold school surgeries giving young people the opportunity to discuss concerns.
- 6 monthly Environmental Visual Audits in Stanhope & Victoria wards to determine multi-agency response to documented issues.
- Social housing providers to engage in noise related issues and to take enforcement action when appropriate.
- Provide graffiti cleaning kits to community groups and aim to increase the number of community groups accessing graffiti removal kits and the number of clean-ups.
- 26. The Ashford Supporting Families programme is being led by Ashford Borough Council in the borough. This national programme has seen a commitment by Kent to turn around 2,560 families over a three year period. The criteria for inclusion are based on three main elements; reducing the number of school absences, reducing crime and ASB and reducing worklesseness.
- 27. The approach is to have a designated worker assigned to each identified family and the four delivery streams of Kent's Family Intervention Model are as follows:
 - Family Intervention Project Workers providing a persistent, assertive and challenging approach.
 - **FIP Light Workers** are full time dedicated posts focussing on family function providing practical support.
 - Lead Workers (allocated from existing key partners) acting as an advocate for the family, with the ability and authority to influence other agencies.
 - Family Support Workers dedicated resource focussing on 'initiating' contact with identified troubled families.
- 28. 165 families have been identified in the borough and a considerable amount of work with partners in the CSP and beyond are starting to have significant impacts on worklesseness, school attendance and crime and ASB with some of the families that required a different approach to those tried in the past. A separate report will be made to Members about the results of this imitative,

- but the reduction ASB by families involved in the programme is undoubtedly having an impact on the recorded ASB levels in the borough.
- 29. Ashford and the surrounding area currently has the lowest reports of ASB in the Eastern Division and Ashford's Police are attending more ASB calls than any other area in Kent. In the month before Christmas Ashford had a 100% customer satisfaction rate.
- 30. There are a number of reasons as to why Ashford is currently being successful in reducing its ASB levels.
- 31. Operation Claxton ensures that Ashford has a dedicated unit focusing on ASB patrols every day in the hours that ASB is more likely to occur and targets the people that are known to be causing problems.
- 32. Any young people that are stopped are referred to the Joint Family Management Planning Team to find out why the youths were engaged in ASB and see if there is any support that can be offered at home or in school.
- 33. Victims of ASB are called back within 48 hours to identify if there was anything more the police or other agencies could have done.
- 34. The partnership approach means Kent Police work with partners, such as the housing providers and Ashford Borough Council, to resolve as many ASB problems as possible.
- 35. Appendix B has the details about how the partners have progressed with each task.

Domestic Abuse

36. The following information has been supplied by Kent Police and relates to the period April - March.

No of incidents:

	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	No diff	% diff	Per 1,000 pop aged 16+	County Rank
Ashford	1,307	1,448	1,452	4	0.3%	15.48	6
KCC	18,376	18,978	19,259	281	1.5%	16.28	-

No of repeat victims (includes 16-17 year olds):

	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	No diff	% diff	Per 1,000 pop aged 16+	County Rank
Ashford	337	341	352	11	3.2%	3.75	6

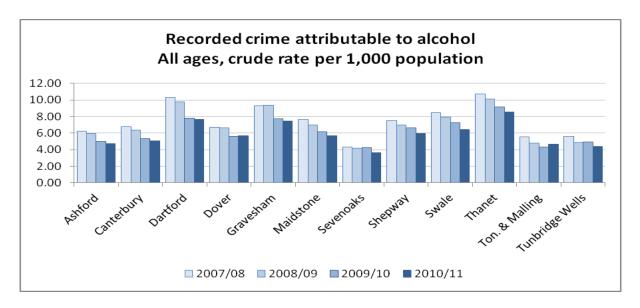
- 37. Incidents of domestic abuse continue to increase in Ashford.
- 38. Information provided by Kent and Medway Domestic Abuse Strategy Group shows that Ashford has seen an increase of 70 visitors accessing the services which is an increase of 41% on the previous year and an increase of 164 visitors since 2010/11. Ashford has the highest number of visitors recorded at a One Stop Shop in the county. The busiest months are November, January, June and May.
- 39. The breakdown of ethnic grouping that attended the One Stop Shop are 84% white British, 2% unknown and 14% variety of ethnic backgrounds.
- 40. On a county basis, the majority of visitors are aged between 26 39 years (43%). Only one visitor was aged under 18 (Canterbury).
- 41. Information provided by the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) and the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) Coordinator, for the period of April March advises that in 2012/13 95 cases were presented to MARAC which is an increase of 31 on the previous year. The number of repeat cases for 2012/13 was 27, an increase of 14 compared to the previous year.
- 42. Information provided in the Kent Police Partnership Pack illustrates that domestic abuse peaked during the months of July, August and December. There was no information provided to advise if repeat victim reporting had a peak period, but in previous years this was fairly even throughout the year.
- 43. Work undertaken by the CSP to reduce Domestic Abuse Lead agency: Domestic Abuse Forum
 - Enable 5 schools to have a domestic abuse input, such as "Love Shouldn't Hurt" to year 9 & 10 students.
 - ABC to provide housing and benefit advice at the One Stop Shop.
 - Training for Neighbourhood Police Officers on domestic abuse, delivered in response to feedback from victims.
 - Training for partners (KCC Wardens, Fire Officers, Housing Officers, etc) paying visits on domestic abuse.
 - Seek funding to support independent domestic violence advisors.
 - Improve awareness of One Stop Shop & domestic abuse website.
 - Partners to provide support and involvement in Domestic Abuse Forum.
- 44. Appendix B has the details about how the partners have progressed with each task.

Substance Misuse

Alcohol

45. Information provided by KCC Public Health for the period June 2012 to May 2013 indicates that Ashford has seen a reduction of hospital admissions where alcohol is evident from 57 admissions in 2011/12 to 49 admissions in

- 2012/13. It is reported that out of the 12 districts Ashford saw the largest decrease and fewest residents' admissions.
- 46. Recorded crime attributed to alcohol (all ages): Information supplied by the Public Health (Local Alcohol Profiles for England) for period of April to March illustrates that the Ashford has seen a decrease since 2007/08 year on year of crime attributed to alcohol and in 2010/11 532 crimes were recorded.

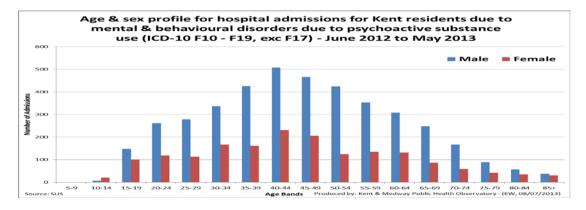


Drugs

47. Based on information provided by Kent Police for the period April 2012 to March 2013, Ashford has experienced an increase in drug offences from 187 to 225; an increase of 38 offences (20.3%). Victoria ward has the highest volume of drug offences with 64 recorded.

Psychoactive Substance Use

48. Ashford has seen an increase in admissions to hospital from 214 in 2011 to 250 in 2012/13 for mental and behavioural disorders related to psychoactive substance use. The age group with the highest recording for both male and female is 40 – 44 years.



49. Work undertaken by the CSP to reduce Substance Misuse - Lead agency: Kent Drug and Alcohol Action Team

- Multi-agency awareness day centred around the Stour Centre and Skatepark..
- Deliver drug awareness briefings to youth services, volunteers working in the community, professionals and parents.
- Develop the links between the Drugs Liaison Officer and ABC Housing as a standard to roll out to sheltered housing providers.
- Safety In Action fortnight briefing to 1000 Year 6 children about substance misuse.
- Use of drama to increase awareness; performed by secondary schools to primary school children.
- Involvement of specialist staff (e.g. KCA & Turning Point) in the Integrated Offender Management & Ashford Supporting Families programmes.
- Share drug paraphernalia information found with partner agencies
- Run a coordinated Kent Community Alcohol Partnership (KCAP) campaign.
- Improve the links between the substance misuse partners and the housing agencies.
- Run drug awareness events in schools.
- Run drug enforcement operations, including licensing controls and other enforcement measures to ensure that licensed premises do not encourage binge drinking, or sell to those underage or allow drug dealing.
- 50. Appendix B has the details about how the partners have progressed with each task.

Acquisitive Crime

- 51. Acquisitive crime is broken down into a number of groupings which are: fraud, metal theft, robbery, shoplifting, theft and handling stolen goods, theft from motor vehicle, theft of motor vehicle, theft of pedal cycle, and theft offences.
- 52. The following information is provided by Kent Police except for fraud which is provided by British Transport Police. All Police data is for the period April to March but British Transport Police is for July to June.

Crime Type	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	Apr 2013 – Nov 2013	No diff (comparison of shaded boxes)	Wards with highest volume per 1,000 pop.
Fraud	6	6	2	Info not available	-4	Station based dependent on where identified
Metal Theft	0	0	241	Info not available	241	Information not recorded until 2012/13
Robbery	61	59	42	38	4	Victoria &

						Bybrook
Shoplifting	749	698	752	442	-310	Norman & Victoria
Theft & Handling Stolen Goods	2059	2153	2008	1273	-735	Norman & Victoria
Theft from Motor Vehicle	457	428	504	298	-206	Downs West
Theft of Motor Vehicle	151	121	117	80	-37	Victoria, Saxon Shore & Stour
Theft of Pedal Cycle	108	174	143	108	-35	Victoria, Stour & Norman
Theft Offences	1202	1281	1113	723	-390	Norman & Victoria
Burglary Dwelling	243	300	402	244	-158	Stanhope
Burglary Other	436	479	519	328	-191	Weald North

- 53. Work undertaken by the CSP to reduce Acquisitive Crime Lead agency: Kent Police:
 - Develop "rapid response" road shows for areas experiencing high levels of acquisitive crime, to raise awareness & provide practical advice.
 - Prioritising recent burglary and shoplifting prison releases for the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) programme.
 - Probation to highlight releases of prolific offenders to IOM partners in order to manage their risk of re-offending within the community.
 - Use of multi-agency Cleansweeps in areas to raise awareness & to reduce acquisitive crimes in areas.
 - Smartwater and pedal cycle marking campaigns focusing on bicycles, skateboards & targeting crime hotspots.
 - Promote use of property marking website.
 - Develop top 3 rural areas and top 3 urban acquisitive crime locations and target partner activity in these areas.
 - Develop training brief (retail crime best practice guide) for retail staff targeting new staff - their responsibilities, assistance available and the law. Promote Operation Aladdin.
 - Expand & improve Ashford Partnership Against Crime (APAC) membership.
 - Improve retail imposed banning orders develop the "ban from one, banned from all" approach.
- 54. Appendix B has the details about how the partners have progressed with each task.

- 55. Violent Crime is broken down in to several categories, which are as follows: assaults, sexual offences, violence against the person, and violent crime.
- 56. The following is provided by Kent Police, Kent and Medway Public Health Observatory and Kent County Council.

Crime Type	2010 /11	2011 /12	2012 /13	Apr 2013 – Nov 2013	No diff (comparison of shaded boxes)	Wards with highest volume per 1,000 pop.
Assaults		40	38	Info not available	-2	No details provided
Assaults with a sharp object		7	7	Info not available	0	No details provided
Sexual Offences	95	107	110	86	-24	Stanhope, Aylesford Green
Violence Against the Person	989	992	1143	1071	-72	Victoria
Violent Crime	1145	1158	1295	1195	-100	Victoria

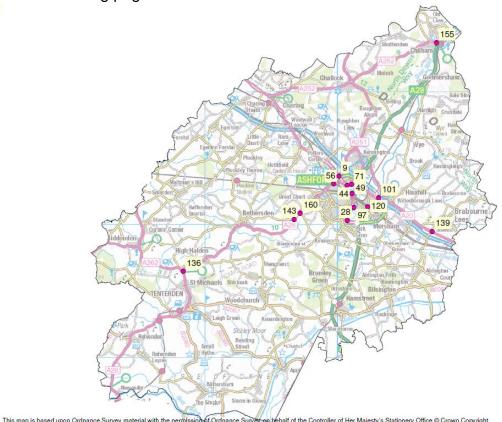
- 57. Also provided in the KCC information provided by Public Health are details on deliberate self-harm which showed a reduction of admissions in Ashford which was the lowest number of admissions in the county with only 178. The highest ranking age and sex profiles for being admitted to hospital for self-harming in males was 20-24 years and females 15-19 years.
- 58. Work undertaken by the CSP to reduce Violent Crime Lead agency: Kent Police
 - Target serial perpetrators of violence
 - Review and comment on the ABC's Licensing Act policy in light of government changes to legislation.
 - Support and enhance Ashford's PubWatch and develop PubWatch in Tenterden.
 - Improve reporting structure with Street Pastors.
 - Run Operation Caddy in 4 schools (drug dog days), providing educational information about drug searches, demonstrating skills of sniffer dogs.
 - Education in schools around consequential thinking for bullying / violence
 - Enforcement of Designated Public Places Order.
- 59. Appendix B has the details about how the partners have progressed with each task.

Road Safety

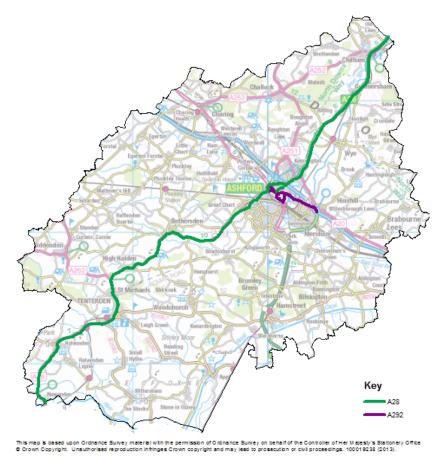
60. Information provided by KCC Transport Intelligence reports for the period of April to March that Ashford has seen an increase from 492 Road Traffic Collisions (RTC's) to 522 when compared to same period in 2011/12, with an

increase of 29 reports. Of these figures 32 were related to casualties under the age of 16 which was a reduction of 34 when compared to figures the previous year. It is also reported that Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI's) has increased by 37, the highest increase seen in Kent, Ashford is now ranked 12 (highest) in the county.

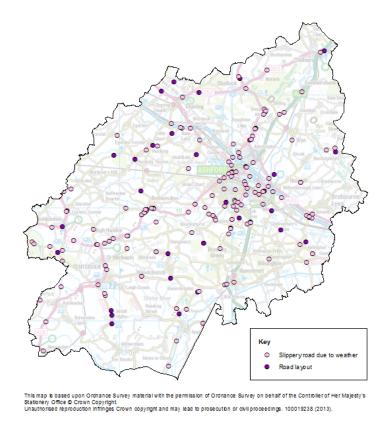
- 61. Figures reported via the Kent Crime Victim Survey showed that the public perception on speeding vehicles continues to remain the same in Ashford. However this is not the main cause of accidents according to the information below.
- 62. The document provided illustrates that during the period of July 2010 and June 2013, Ashford recorded 14 cluster sites; these are displayed on the map on the following page.



63. The map below shows routes with the highest total of collisions and highest collisions per kilometre rate in Ashford.



64. It was reported that "slippery road due to weather" was recorded in the highest number of collisions in Ashford (148), 39 more than the district average. "Road layout" also featured highly and was recorded in 48 collisions in the last 3 years. This is mapped out below:



65. It is also noted that Ashford's residents that have been involved in a collision in the Ashford borough is 72.3%, recording the highest proportions when compared against the rest of Kent.

- 66. The statistics indicate that the three main vehicle types involved in RTC's are cars, motorcycles and goods vehicles. The top three age groups involved in RTC's are 20 24 year olds, 40 44 year olds and 15 19 year olds closely followed by 45 49 year olds.
- 67. Work undertaken by the CSP to reduce Road Safety Lead agency: Kent Fire and Rescue Service:
 - Deliver two Youth Engagement Around Road Safety (YEARS) programmes aimed at 16-24 year olds.
 - Deliver one 5 week Pathway course.
 - Deliver one multi-agency programme to reduce casualty rates amongst 16-17 year old moped riders.
 - Run one Bike Down training event to target motorcyclists of all ages.
 - Deliver road safety advice to over 1000 Year 6 children as part of the Safety In Action fortnight.
 - Run 2 restorative justice events in partnership with the police, fire and ambulance services.
 - Deliver RUSH film programmes to secondary schools and stage at least one event at a rural fire station. Education on the potential risks of being involved in a car crash, either as a driver or passenger.
 - Encourage local car show rooms to run car confidence evenings.
 - Deliver "Licence to Kill" event to pupils attending academies, schools and sixth form colleges. Explore the circumstances and consequences of a road crash.
 - Run two speed events in partnership with the Kent Community Speed Watch in rural areas of the borough.
 - Deliver one Carrmageddon event as part of a multi-agency event.
- 68. Appendix B has the details about how the partners have progressed with each task.

Financial Performance

- 69. The Police and Crime Commissioner provided a grant of £33,000 for CSP work that aligns with the Kent Police and Crime Plan.
- 70. Grants are allocated for initiatives and projects aligned with the CSP priorities and details of the allocations made or about to be made in 2013/14 are summarised in Appendix C.

2014/15 Strategic Assessment

- 71. On Friday 31st January 2014 a working group of the CSP came together to consider the performance of the past year and to recommend to the CSP the following priorities for adoption at the March CSP meeting:
 - Domestic abuse
 - Substance abuse
 - Anti-social behaviour and environmental crime
 - Acquisitive crime

- Road safety
- Violent crime
- Rural crime
- 72. Over the last week and coming few weeks workshops are being held with partners to develop the tactical delivery plans for 2014/15.

Recommendations

73. This report is noted.

Portfolio Holder's Views

74. To be made at the meeting

Contact: James Hann

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Appendix A: Community Safety Partnership 2013/14 Strategic Assessment

Appendix B: Quarter 3 update on the tactical delivery plans

Appendix C: Summary of grant allocations

Appendix D: Glossary



Ashford Community Safety Partnership

Ashford Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is a joint partnership between Ashford Borough Council (ABC), Kent Police, Kent Fire and Rescue Service (KFRS), Kent Probation, Kent County Council (KCC) and the Ashford Clinical Commissioning Group. The agencies have a statutory duty to work together with the support of other groups, organisations and agencies to reduce and deter anti-social behaviour, crime and disorder, and the fear of crime. Other partners include KCA, Moat Housing, Pipeline, Turning Point, Immigration & Border Control, NHS, South East Coast Ambulance Service and Kent Drug and Alcohol Action Team.

Population profile

The latest population figures from the 2011 Census show there are 118,000 people living in Ashford. Around 62% of the borough's population lives in the Ashford urban area, with the remaining 38% living in the surrounding rural area. Over the last 10 years Ashford's population has grown by 14.9% (an additional 15,300 people) and it is set to continue, with current forecasts suggesting a further 40% rise over the next 15 years. This is the highest rate of growth expected for any Kent district and is three times higher than the county average.



Foreword

"Ashford's Community Safety Partnership brings together a variety of statutory, non-statutory and voluntary organisations with a shared commitment to reducing crime and disorder across the district. This strategic assessment gives an overview of what has happened over the past year, with an emphasis on looking forward and focusing on what the partnership intends to achieve over the next 12 months.

"Ashford is one of the safer places to live, visit and work in Kent and the partnership remains committed to keeping it that way. The appointment of Ann Barnes as the new Police & Crime Commissioner for Kent and the replacement of Primary Care Trusts with Clinical Commissioning Groups and development of the Ashford Health & Wellbeing Board, will support the partnership in that process.

"The last year has seen a relatively small increase in overall crime, equating to one extra crime every other day across the district and reflects the challenges presented by the current economic climate. Offences of burglary, vehicle crime and violence continue to cause greatest concern to the public and will remain a priority for the coming year, coupled with a commitment to reduce all crime across Ashford. Incidents of anti-social behaviour saw a reduction over the last year and this demonstrates the tireless work undertaken by Ashford's Safety Unit in supporting vulnerable and repeat victims. The recent introduction of the Designated Public Place Order in Ashford town centre, aimed at reducing alcohol related anti-social behaviour, is just one example of the work that continues to make our communities safer.

"The key to success for the next year is effective partnership working, not just amongst the agencies involved but also with all the communities across Ashford. It is incumbent upon all of us to strengthen these relationships and work towards a stronger community."

Chief Inspector Phil Hibben

Chair of Ashford's Community Safety Partnership

Sheila Davison

Health, Parking & Community Safety Services Manager, Vice-Chair of Ashford's Community Safety Partnership

Introduction

The community safety landscape has experienced a number of changes over the past year, the most significant of which was the election of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). Ashford's CSP aims to work closely with the PCC, the County Community Safety Partnership and neighbouring CSPs in terms of joint commissioning and activities. The partnership will maintain a resolutely local focus and ensure that any activity carried out as part of this plan directly benefits the community of the borough.

Over the last 12 months some key achievements of the partnership have been:

Cleansweep operation: this focused on Brookfield Court & the introduction of a dispersal zone to tackle problems of anti-social behaviour (ASB) and the sale of alcohol to underage people

Use of overt cameras in Stanhope, Park Farm and other areas to tackle antisocial behaviour hotspots

The introduction of a dispersal zone for an area in Park Farm experiencing high levels of ASB

A fortnight of Safety in Action, a multi-agency awareness event which reached more than 1,000 year 6 school children

Development of Task & Finish Groups from within the partnership to tackle issues in geographical areas: Dover Place, Stour Centre & Skatepark, Court Wurtin and Chilmington

Park Safe initiative targeting parents of school-aged pupils to encourage them to park safely, particularly in the roads close to schools. Parksafe highlighted the dangers of poor parking near congested school gates and how lives can be put at risk if emergency vehicles cannot get through.

Early adoption of the Troubled Families initiative to target the right resources towards the people who most need them

Multi-agency Cleansweep events in rural areas such as Smarden, Pluckley, Charing, Woodchurch, Shadoxhurst and Edgerton with Kent Police, Kent Fire & Rescue, KCC Wardens and ABC staff to raise awareness of thefts in the rural areas, to identify vulnerable people, offer advice and provide security measures

Smartwater initiatives by KCC Wardens in rural areas to mark personal property

Drug awareness session to over 60 local voluntary, public and private people in the Civic Centre

Development of intervention strategies with youth organisations such as House, Hang 10 and Sk8side to tackle drug abuse in various hotspots in the borough

Initiation of the Integrated Offender Management programme to reduce the reoffending rate of individuals released from prison

CASE STUDY: Integrated Offender Management Programme

Mr. X is 34 years-old and has spent 18 months in prison due to conviction for robbery. He has a long history of petty offending.

He joined the IOM scheme in June 2012 and since this time has engaged well with police, probation and job centres.

Since joining the scheme, Mr. X has shown determination and commitment and remains both crime and drug free.

The Home Office estimates that 0.5% of offenders commit 10% of offences. In addition 10% of offenders commit 50% of offences. The cost of imprisoning an offender for a year is estimated at £41,000 with each re-offender estimated to cost £200,000. To ensure a reduction in crime, prevent offenders reoffending, and see efficiency savings, the CSP needs to work fully with the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) programme. By offering individuals the opportunity to stop offending the CSP is in a position to improve the quality of living for both the offenders and the community at large.

Why have a Strategic Assessment?

Community Safety Partnerships have a statutory duty to produce strategic assessments and deliver plans. This document has been developed using evidence and information provided by partners and the community, bearing in mind the priorities of the borough of Ashford and Kent's Community Safety partnerships and aligned, where possible, with the Police and Crime Commissioner's plan for 2013-17.

The strategic assessment is part of an intelligence process used to tackle crime and disorder, and improve community safety. It is produced annually using detailed analysis from the partners and consultation with community groups to explore key and emerging problems. The CSP evaluates the information and determines what needs to be achieved to improve community safety, and how to communicate this information to the public so they feel assured and confident that their concerns are being addressed. This is detailed in the Tactical Delivery Plan.

The strategic assessment must also carry out a regular assessment of the agreed activity contained in the Tactical Delivery Plan and review the outcomes to ensure it is achieving the desired effect.

The Priorities

Statistical analysis of the information made available by Kent Police, Kent Fire & Rescue Service, KCC, Kent Probation and others was used to produce a scanning exercise of the data relevant to the borough of Ashford. This information (available on the community safety pages at www.ashford.gov. uk) was assessed at a strategic partnership workshop in February 2013 and led the CSP to identify the following issues as priorities for the partnership in 2013/14.

Priority	Lead Agency
Domestic abuse	Domestic Abuse Forum
Substance misuse	KDATT
Anti-social behaviour & environmental crime	Ashford Borough Council
Acquisitive crime	Kent Police
Road safety	Kent Fire & Rescue Service
Violent crime	Kent Police

Although the partnership does not propose localities as specific priorities, it is agreed that the CSP will support and have specific regard to crime and disorder reduction and community safety in the Victoria and Stanhope wards. The Tactical Delivery Plan stipulates some essential areas for action or consideration, and together with associated targets that the Ashford CSP must monitor.

Why is domestic abuse a priority?

National research indicates shows;

- One in three women experience abuse in their relationship
- On average there will have been 35 assaults before the victim contacts the police
- Every minute in the UK police receive a call for assistance concerning domestic abuse





- Domestic abuse claims the lives of two women every week
- 30% of domestic violence starts during pregnancy
- 70% of high risk victims have children

Recent research by the NSPCC discovered the following statistics:

- 25% of girls and 18% of boys reported some form of physical partner violence
- 72% of girls and 51% of boys reported some form of emotional partner violence
- 31% of girls and 16% of boys reported some form of sexual partner violence
- The majority of young people either told a friend or told no one about the violence; only a minority informed an adult

In the borough, approximately 50 victims of domestic violence (number of cases minus repeat cases) have been identified as high risk in the last 12 months. Incidents of domestic abuse continue to increase in the borough, although at a lower rate than the county average. Per 1,000 population Ashford Borough ranks 6th in the county for domestic abuse repeat victims and it has a repeat victims percentage of 24.6%.

The Domestic Abuse One Stop Shop, is held every Tuesday at the Willow Children's Centre and continues to be a weekly drop in service for people who are affected by issues of domestic abuse. Multiple agencies attend in order to offer free advice to both victims and other people affected by domestic abuse issues. The service continues to be supported by Family Law Solicitors, PCSO's, Health Agencies, Children's Centres, Floating Support, Victim Support, Children's Social Services as well as offering sign-posting services to housing agencies such as Shelter and the Ashford Gateway.

Why is substance misuse a priority?

Although England has comparatively high numbers of people experiencing drug problems in the western world, it also has one of the highest proportions of these people in treatment, suggesting this country is making a considerable impact on drug addiction. Drug misusers are at risk of death from an overdose, they may contract and spread blood-borne viruses, suffer poor physical and mental health, and commit offences, all of which impacts upon families, communities and wider society. Dealing with these harms costs the tax payer an estimated £15.4bn a year. In the borough, drug offences have increased slightly by 11 (5.9%), from 188 to 199. This increase is against a county wide fall of 10.7%. Left untreated, drug addiction causes serious health and crime harms for individuals, their families and the wider public.

Why is ASB a priority?

Anti-social behaviour has a huge impact on victims' quality of life. This is profoundly felt by repeat and vulnerable victims. In 2012 Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) conducted an ASB review in every police force in England and Wales. Kent & Medway's performance, as rated by HMIC, was positive. The Kent & Medway Community Safety Partnership has set out a strategy to reflect the recommendations in the HMIC report and to address the ASB concerns of our community.

In 2011/12 3,630 ASB incidents occurring in the borough were reported to the police. In 2012/13 the number of ASB incidents occurring the in the borough was 3,408 (as of 7th March), a reduction of 222 incidents (6.1%). The single police measure for ASB is the satisfaction of the public's response to the police's response. The force target for 2012/13 was 79.3%. Ashford police currently has a 83.3 % satisfaction rate.

Why is acquisitive crime a priority?

Shoplifting offences have increased by 92 (13.8%), from 668 to 760 (Oct – Sept 10/11 to 11/12). This rate of increase is counter to Kent's decrease of 3.2%. The borough has the highest volume increase and percentage increase in the county. Per 1,000 population, the borough has the second highest rate in the county. Theft and handling stolen goods (+5.2%), thefts from motor vehicle (+32.4%), theft of pedal cycles (+53.6%), burglaries from dwellings (+97.9%), other types of burglaries (+37.8%) provide an indication that acquisitive crime must be a priority for the coming year. During the same time period the thefts of motor vehicles has decreased by 8.5% and theft offences have decreased by 4.8%.

Why is road safety a priority?

Major growth in the area will lead to increased demand for travel and the safety of the population is a continuing priority for the council, both for the public they serve and those who live in the area. A safer road network and safe use of the network are key objectives in fulfilling that priority. Considerable casualty reductions have been gained in previous years, specifically in the areas of those killed or seriously injured (KSI). Certain road user groups and social groups in the borough are disproportionately represented in road traffic collisions.

Casualties from road traffic collisions have decreased in the borough by 60 (-11.5%), from 522 to 462, which is encouraging, but Ashford is ranked the second worst performing area in Kent for the crashes per head of population. The borough's priorities are reducing fatalities on rural roads, reducing the number of young adults involved in accidents and reducing the number of children involved in pedestrian and cycle accidents.

Why is violent crime a priority?

Violent crime has high physical, emotional and financial consequences for individuals, families and society. Serious violence is a significant influence on people's fear of crime. Violence against the person has increased by 102 (9.5%), from 1072 to 1174. Although all violent crime is of concern, it is worth noting that the vast majority of recorded violent offences in the borough were of a less serious nature.

Tactical Delivery Plans

Tactical Delivery Plans are a set of objectives that support the priorities of the CSP. The plans encourage regular review of the objectives and provide ownership of the goals and actions.

Other priorities also need to be considered with the election of the new Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC).

The PCC's priorities for 2013-17 are:

- Cutting crime and catching criminals
- Ensuring visible community policing is at the heart of Kent's policing model
- · Putting victims and witnesses first
- Protecting the public from serious harm
- · Meeting national commitments for policing
- Delivering value for money

The PCC is committed to working closely with community safety and criminal justice agencies and in particular will focus on:

- Tackling the root cause of crime and anti-social behaviour
- Reducing reoffending and repeat victimisation
- Improving joined-up working between agencies.

Ashford CSP believes the following tactical delivery plans promote the PCC's community priorities.







Glossary

KDAAT

Kent Drug and Alcohol Action Team

ABC	Ashford Borough Council	KFRS	Kent Fire & Rescue Service
ASB	Anti-social behaviour	KIASS	Kent Integrated Adolescent Support Services
ASBO	Anti-Social Behaviour Order	KSI	Killed or seriously injured
CSP	Community Safety Partnership	NEETS	Not in education, employment or training
DPPO	Designated Public Places Order	NHS	National Health Service
HMIC	Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary	NTE	Night time economy
IDVA	Independent domestic violence adviser	PCC	Police and Crime Commissioner
IOM	Integrated Offender Management	PCSO	Police Community Support Officer
KCA	An organisation delivering drug, alcohol and mental health services	SECAMB	South East Coast Ambulance Service
	and mental neathrise vices	TF	Troubled Families initiative
KCAP	Kent Community Alcohol Partnership	YEARS	Youth engagement around road safety
KCC	Kent County Council		. oa ogagoo a. oana road oaroty

Community Safety Partnership

Tactical Delivery Plans 2013/14

Priority: Domestic Abuse							
Action	Target	Evidence	Quarterly Reporting	Quarterly Reporting	Quarterly Reporting	Main	
Enable 5 schools to have a domestic abuse input, such as "Love Shouldn't Hurt" to year 9 & 10 students	500 students awareness levels raised	Audit of students reached, publication of statistics in press release to further raise awareness	Planning of events is progressing, but staff changes at Rising Sun have caused a short delay. DG is waiting for confirmation from RS that each school has a plan for delivery	Feedback is as follows from Rising Sun Project as at 04.09.13: Highworth School - Delivered 4 sessions of introduction to domestic violence. Sessions went well, students engaged; Had a meeting with Homewood School - will be re-contacting them about when sessions are to start; Norton Knatchbull was a whole day session but only with one class. Went well & students were engaged; John Wallis - have sent an email to Rev. Christine Millwood (Dept. Head Teacher); Towers School - have sent an email to Gemma Newton (PSHE co-ordinator) today & look forward to meeting her soon.	Towers School will be provided with a whole school assembly in December 2013 and a selected group of pupils will receive a series of 6 workshops during January 2014. Homewood School still to confirm dates.	Domestic Abuse Forum	
ABC to provide housing and benefit advice at the One Stop Shop	Regular attendance at One Stop Shop & evidence of providing value for money	Qualitative feedback research amongst One Stop Shop staff	Attendance by Area Manager at 24 Housing Surgery's	Attendance by Area managers at 16 Housing surgeries (reduction due to school holidays).	Attendance continuing at the One Stop Shop.	ABC Customer, Property & Homes	
Training for Neighbourhood Police Officers on domestic abuse, delivered in response to feedback from victims	All Neighbourhood Police Officers to receive bespoke training by 2014	Track number of officers trained. Increase in average monthly visit to One Stop Shop	Still at planning stage. How to resource/who to conduct training. Also considering Forum Pathway document to be formatted for easy carry and use	This has been extended somewhat to include other "professionals" as well as officers. A proposal has been drafted by the sub group to either run an open attendance event throughout a day or a focused presentation, run multiple times. The sub group is to report back at the next Forum meeting in November. It has been noted that ABC has offered a provisional venue.	Ashford Police officers have received and continue to receive appropriate training from within the CSU. However, they can be intivited to the event outlined below.	Domestic Abuse Forum	

Training for partners (KCC Wardens, Fire Officers, Housing Officers, etc) paying visits on domestic abuse	Run a series of training events to raise awareness to help signpost victims to One Stop Shop, etc	Audit of staff reached, publication of statistics in press release to further raise awareness. Increase in average monthly visits to One Stop Shop	This will be undertaken in Autumn 2013	Working Group has been set up, several meetings already held to disucss the delivery of the training. Date to be provided. Acccommodation being provided by ABC.	The concept for this event has now developed as per the following: An event to be held at an ABC venue. The event will be a 60 - 90 minute event/presentation in the the morning, followed by another (repeat) event of 60 - 90 minutes in the afternoon. Lunch being the focal/networking point for both morning and afternoon attendees. DA Forum members are willing to attend, but due to limited resources cannot take on the responsibility or arragning the event or managing the invitation/sign up process. It is therefore hoped that ABC can assist in publicising and coordinating attendance at the event. A date and venue needs to be agreed for the event so that DA Forum members can plan their diary.	ABC Community Safety Services
Seek funding to support independent domestic violence advisors	To obtain funding for IDVA post through external funding & partner agencies	Secure funding	Ongoing Have secured funding via the Troubled Families bid process	Working with the Domestic Abuse Forum to secure funding.	It is still to be clarified how to secure funding for 2014/15 and meetings held and work progressing.	ABC Community Safety Services
Improve awareness of One Stop Shop & domestic abuse website	Promotional material in all doctor's surgeries, partner agency buildings, hospitals	Increase in average monthly visits to One Stop Shop	Weekly Twitter by ABC being undertaken to promote the service	Continuing to publicise via ABC Twitter, also cards & posters being distributed, although to ensure stocks are kept ongoing need to secure funding.	Assessment of current stock levels of cards and posteres required. Posters now tanslated in to a number of languages. One Stop Shop feedback form enhanced to establish a precisely as possible "where perople hear about the One Stop Shop from" to enable targeted distribution of promotional material and identify gaps.	ABC Community Safety Services

Partners to provide support and involvement in Domestic Abuse Forum	Regular attendance by appropriate partner agencies at the Domestic Abuse Forum	Increase in average monthly visits to One Stop Shop	All Forum members encouraged to invite participants and guest speakers, who ultimately join the Forum. Regular attendance by ABC Housing and CSU officers. KCC Wardens awaiting authorisation from management to attend	More partners have joined the Forum &	Attendance remians excellent from supporting partners. In addition, the PCSO's are proactively intiving known victims to attend the One Stop Shop by contacting them on the day and encouraging them to visit.	All Partners
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Community Safety Partnership Tactical Delivery Plans 2013/14

Priority: Substance Misuse						
Action	Target	Evidence	Quarterly Reporting 1 Apr - 30 June 2013	Quarterly Reporting 1 Jul - 30 Sept 2013	Quarterly Reporting 1 Oct - 31 Dec 2013	Main Partner
Multi-agency awareness day centred around the Stour Centre & Skatepark, inlcluding Fire Fit to raise interest	Awareness about drug abuse & sources of advice & assistance raised amongst 500 youths	Audit of students reached, publication of statistics in press release to further raise awareness	Date set for August	Event held on 18th August 2013, no evaluation taken.	Action completed.	ABC Community Safety Services
Deliver drug awareness briefings to youth services, volunteers working in the community & professionals and parents through schools	Raise awareness about substance misuse raised amonst 60 people involved with the public	Qualitative feedback research amongst attendees	Training delivered to staff at K-College by DLO & Turning Point. Advise provided on substance misuse services & referral routes. Agreed to provide drop in services to students which will commence September 2013	Turning Point to deliver awareness & attended the recent Sk8side event. DUST training delivered to a range of Ashford based agencies within this quarter, inc. bespoke training for Sk8side staff, Jobcentre Plus, Volunteer Bureau, IYS & local churches. Workers	Drug Awareness Session held on the 9th December with delivery being provided by Kent Police, Turning Point, KCA and Kenward Trust. Presentation centred around local trends with a focus on synthetic cannabinoids, caffeine and energy drinks as well as MDMA and PMA. Approximately 90 practitioners attended. Feedback received was very positive. Further sessions to be planned.	Kent Police & Turning Point/KCA
Develop the links between the Drugs Liaison Oficer and Housing as a standard to roll out to sheltered housing providers	Issues involving substance misuse to be notified to poice in advance for coordinated response	Improve links between agencies to assist clients maintaining their tenancies	Joint visits with DLO as and when required & attendance at Drug Awareness Training	Continued joint visits & exchange of information with Kent Police, DUST Training for Team also arranged.	Links have been built and joint working being carried out as necessary.	ABC Customer, Homes & Property
Safety In Action fortnight briefing to 1000 year 6 children	Awareness about substance misuse raised amonst 1000 children	Audit of students reached, publication of statistics in press release to further raise awareness	Completed - approx 1200 year 6 pupils were engaged with about drugs and alcohol at a workshop delivered by Kenward Trust	Delivered in June 2013.	Completed Action.	ABC Community Safety Services
Use of drama to increase awareness; performed by secondary schools to primary school children	Awareness raising across 6 secondary schools & 2 or 3 primary schools	Audit of students reached, publication of statistics in press release to further raise awareness	Not started.	Contact details have been provided by KCA of Drugs advisor who has been involved with a similar project elsewhere.	Initial meeting held with Police School Liaison Officer. To be carried forward to 2014/15.	ABC Community Safety Services
Involvement of specialist staff (eg KCA & Turning Point) in the IOM & TF initiatives	Ensure specialist drug agencies are aware of individuals and families signed up to the two initiatives	Increase number of people entering treatment services	Joint working relationships established with LOM Officer and Turning Point	KCA YPS workers have met with TF leads & have liaised with KCA FIP workers where appropriate in relation to clients & their families. No direct involvement with IOM but workers are based within Youth Offending Teams.	Links have been built and joint working being carried out as necessary.	Turning Point/KCA
Share drug paraphernalia information found with partner agencies		Qualitative feedback from partners to CSP	introduction of the ASB reporting app it	Information continuing to be provided & joint visits undertaken where necessary. The ABC reporting app will support this once launched.	Testing underway of reporting app. Improving working links between Turning Point, KCA and Police.	ABC Community Safety Services

Run a coordinated Kent Community Alcohol Partnership (KCAP) campaign	Informing and advising young people on sensible drinking, support retailers to reduce sales of alcohol to underage drinkers, promote responsible socialising and empower local communities to tackle alcohol related issues	Quantative feedback on perceptions of ASB before & after campaign & reduction in criminal damage	Discussions held with KCAP Coordinator and several partners. Initial Partnership meeting to be arranged and actions plans developed.	No further progress made, plans to revisit in Autumn.	Revisit to this project has taken place. Discussions held with the KCAP Coodinator. Research has been attempted to try and establish if statistics can provide an insight into where there may be higher risk areas associated with alcohol misuse however no specific information has been sourced yet.	ABC Community Safety Services
Improve the links between the substance misuse partners and the housing agencies	Regular contact, resulting in a multi- agency approach to substance misuse related tenancy issues	Increase in number of people entering treatment services. Reduction in number of deaths through substance misuse	Attendance at monthly meetings with KCA, JFMP & Social Services including Troubled Families	Continued attendance at regular JFMP / KCA & Ashford Supporting Families Programme meetings.	Continued attendance at regular JFMP / KCA & Ashford Supporting Families Programme meetings.	ABC Customer, Homes & Property
Run drug awareness events in schools	Operation Caddy run in 4 secondary schools/higher education establishments	Audit of students reached, publication of statistics in press release to further raise awareness	Op Caddy carried out at Ashford Girls School, Homewood School & Towers School	No further Caddy events this quarter. There is now limited availability of drug dogs, but attempts will be made to carry further opperations out in the Autumn term.	Op Caddy carried out at K College and a further event at Towers School. Letters and information has been sent to all secondary schools and colleges in the Ashford district to raise awareness about legal highs. Task & Finish Group set up. Delivery being undertaken at all secondary schools and colleges by the DLO.	Kent Police
Run drug enforcement operations, including licensing controls and other enforcement measures to ensure that licensed premises do not encourage binge drinking, or sell to those underage or allow drug dealing	Risk assessed top 12 licensed premises are drug swabbed and action plans implemented as necessary	Report to CSP on quarterly basis	NTE Op held on 10 June. Kent Police and ABC involvement. Nightclub - 10 indications of drugs and 3 arrests for possession of Class A	Evening operation took place on Fri 16th July with Police, Council Licensing Officer & an Environmental Health Officer. Total of 70 drugs swabs taken on licensed premises and taxi drivers. This resulted in 18 positive results & searches, with 2 arrests and 2 people being reported for summons.	Evening Operation on 1st & 15th November 2013 involving Police and Council Licensing drug swabs at nightclub and several pubs, as well as at taxi rank. Further evening events planned in 2013 including one in December.	Kent Police & ABC Licensing

Priority: Anti-Social Behaviour	and Environmental Crime incl Fi	re				
Action	Target	Evidence	Quarterly Reporting 1 Apr - 30 June 2013	Quarterly Reporting 1 Jul - 30 Sept 2013	Quarterly Reporting 1 Oct - 31 Dec 2013	Main Partner
Ensure victims of ASB receive appropriate support, including early identification of vulnerable & repeat victims	Increase in satisfaction of those who report ASB with overall service provided by Kent Police	Increase in satisfaction with the way police deal with ASB	Attendance and follow up visits made. ASB car (Op Claxon commenced 10th June. Objectives: To run a ring-fenced dedicated ASB patrol 7 days per week covering the hours of 1500-2300; To respond quickly and effectively to reports of ASB in the Ashford District (implementing immediate/early resolution where possible and completing RAMs/5x5x5 and updating JPS where appropriate); To increase satisfaction and reduce incidents of reported ASB and complete follow up visits; To police pred pol areas; Visit and disrupt known/regular offenders and those with ABAs/ASBOs. The ASB car is initially being staffed by PCSOs, but we are hoping to involve KCC Wardens and ABC housing officers etc in the future to promote a holistic approach to problem solving.	July satisfaction rate was 100%, but August was 80% (this being due to one lady not appreciating being referred to the local authority when she reported some flytipping). OP Claxon, ASB Vehicle ensures all ASB victims are visited and the CSU manage all high risk cases.	Current satisfactin rate is 87%. Op Claxon continues and provides a means of early attendance and resolution which is undoubtedly having a positive impact on satisfaction rates. Work is also ongoing with Ashford Borough Council re dealing with environmental ASB such as flytipping and noise complaints.	Kent Police
Early identification & assessment of perpetrators to ensure appropriate actions are taken; including referral to multi-agency groups which manage perpetrators, use of appropriate sanctions such as ASBO's & closure orders	Reduction in the number of anti-social behaviour incidents (including arson) in Victoria & Stanhope wards and town centre	Reduction in ASB and Criminal damage	5 young persons currently subject of ABAs. One young person due in court 18th June re outcome of ASBO application and papers being prepared for ASBO application for a further young person. The latter 2 are both resident and causing issues on the Stanhope estate	ASBO applications being progressed for 2 prolific offenders. Mental health & housing also engaged in problem solving for a number of cases to ensure appropriate resources deal with individual offences.	ASBO obtained with 9 prohibitions. Further application still being progressed. In addition, a Drinks Banning Order (DBO) was obtained by the police licensing officer, which prohibits the recipient from entering all on licence premises in Ashford.	Kent Police

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Provision of Joint Family Management Programme to provide intensive support to parents, where anti-social behaviour & youth crimes are evident. Work closely with Children's Services & other partners to join up work around "Troubled Families"	To reduce ASB committed by young persons on the programme	Reduction in ASB and Criminal damage	Currently 14 cases being managed by JFMP officers and monthly multi agency meetings held. Regular police attendance at troubled families meetings and CAFs completed for those being worked with by police (both year 1 & 2)	JFMP are currently workinig with 13 families and many of these are also linked to the Ashford Supporting Families programme.	JFMP are currently working with 12 families and regularly linking in with the Ashford Supporting Families programme.	Kent Police
Introduction & adoption of Themis software system for partner recording of ASB. Fully developed case management to strengthen the approach to deal with high risk & vulnerable victims	Increase in satisfaction of those who report ASB with overall service provided by Kent Police	Increase in satisfaction with the way police deal with ASB	This project is ongoing at Kent Police HQ and we await implementation.	Themis is due to be implemented within Kent Police over the next quarter & training is now taking place. Partner agencies to be trained and given access to the system following this implementation - dates to be advised by Kent Police HQ.	Themis has now been implemented within the opolice and the next phase is rolling out training and access to other	Kent Police
KCC Wardens to engage with the local community at the earliest opportunity to assess & review impact of ASB upon a community	Reduction in total number of anti-social behaviour incidents	Reduction in ASB and Criminal damage	Number of community engagement activities undertaken which include: Op Cleansweeps in Town Centre & Stanhope/Singleton; Op Reflect in Tenterden, and the Community Engagement Day at Park Farm	The main emphasis by far has been on Stanhope, in particular during the school holidays. Moat's office & the Library has been the main focus for ASB which has ranged from verbal abuse to minor damage to property. Meeting with wardens, PCSO, Moat & KCC Libraries held to discuss measures to reduce incidents using a more joined up approach to combat the activies of the more disruptive youths. It is also hoped that the opening of the Community Centre in what was the old Police station will provide postive distraction to the more challenging youths that currently frequenting the library.	In Stanhope the Community Centre in the old police station, otherwise known as "The Hub" is now open for a 3 sessions per week. These sessions take part in the afternoon/early evening. It is anticipated that the centre will be open more in the New Year. Community Wardens have also taken part in numerous community engagement programmes including serial operation Cleansweep's, town centre roadshow events and winter fairs.	KCC Wardens
Pilot Community Resolution Panels in Stanhope & Victoria wards, using a restorative approach to tackling low level anti-social behaviour & neighbour disputes	Increase in satisfaction of those who report ASB with overall service provided by Kent Police	Increase in satisfaction with the way police deal with ASB	Not started	Not started.	Discussions underway with Police & Ashford Borough Council for local project in Stanhope. Multi-agency discussion planned for February.	ABC Community Safety Services
Attend all repeat victim ASB calls	To attend all repeat victim ASB calls	Reduction in ASB and Criminal damage	Attendance and follow up visits made by PCSOs. ASB car (OP Claxon) also used to ensure appropriate service/reassurance level to repeat victims	Op Claxon ASB car ensures all repeat ASB victims are visited.	Op Claxon ensures all repeat ASB victims are visited.	Kent Police

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Multi-agency operations targeting antisocial behaviour hotspots, including a robust enforcement of the DPPO and hotspots in the night time economy	Reduction in the number of anti-social behaviour incidents in target areas	Reduction in ASB and Criminal damage	Multi agency night-time economy op conducted 10th June. Park Farm	Mult agency NTE operation on 16th August to tackle food premises, licensed premises, drunkeness & taxi drivers. Multi-agency cleansweep planned for 8th September to tackle ASB of lorry drivers parking in the district.	Multi agency NTE op on the 15th November resulted in good public feedback and a positive media write up. Further op planned for December.	Kent Police
To hold school surgeries giving young people the opportunity to discuss crime concerns, including Firefit to raise interest if available	To raise awareness in at least 4 schools of ASB & its effects. To learn of emerging patterns affecting young people	Audit of students reached and qualitative feedback to CSP	Not started	Not started.	Discussion with Police Schools Liaison Officer on current plans. Proposals to be discussed with new KCC Warden Supervisor for roll out in Spring 2014.	ABC Community Safety Services
6 monthly EVA's in Stanhope & Victoria wards to determine multi-agency response to documented issues	Improvement in environment in Stanhope and Victoria Wards	Reduction in ASB and Criminal damage	Trial EVA in Little Burton on the 3 July 2013	EVA carried out in Little Burton in July. Dates being set for Stanhope & Victoria ward.	Planning on conducting EVA for Stanhope and Victoria in early 2014.	ABC Community Safety Services
Social housing providers to engage in noise related issues and to take enforcement action when appropriate	Reduction in noise hotspots associated with residents of social housing	Reduction in noise related ASB	with partner agencies, joint working	Continue to work closely with Kent Police regular joint visits being carried out, attendance with partners at the monthly CSU meeting.	Ongoing.	ABC Customer, Homes and Property
Provide graffiti cleaning kits to community groups and aim to increase the number of community groups accessing graffiti removal kits and the number of clean-ups	Increase local community's role in removing environmental crime	Quantitive feedback on number of kits & groups	recycling activity in the borough as been	Five kits loaned out to community groups.	None provided during this quarter.	ABC Green Team & Open Spaces

Priority: Acquisitive Crime						
Action	Target	Evidence	Quarterly Reporting 1 Apr - 30 June 2013	Quarterly Reporting 1 Jul - 30 Sept 2013	Quarterly Reporting 1 Oct - 31 Dec 2013	Main Partner
Develop "rapid response" roadshows for areas experiencing high levels of acquisitive crime, to raise awareness & provide practical advice	Roadshow to be visible within 7 days of area being identified. Reduction in acquisitive crimes in the area	Qualitive feedback & reduction in theft and handling offences in targeted areas	Roadshows delivered in County Square & Ashford Gateway; Doorstep Crime events in Hamstreet & Woodchurch.	Wardens have continued to respond to incidents involving residents who have been victims of acquisitive crime on an individual basis, providing reassurance, advice & prevention equipment (shed &window/door handle alarms). Crime prevention advice has also been given to groups/clubs where there has been a noted increase in criminal activity.	Induction meeting with new KCC Warden Supervisor to discuss progression has taken place. Plans underway to develop rapid roadshow	KCC Wardens
Prioritising recent burglary and shoplifting prison releases for IOM programme	Increase in offenders involved in IOM & subsequent reduction in reoffending rate	Reduction in reoffending rates	Ashford currently have 7 ofenders engaged in the IOM programme	Ashford have 9 offenders.	Ashford have now seen a reduction to 7 offenders on the IOM programme.	Kent Probation
Probation to highlight releases of prolific offenders to IOM partners in order to manage their risk of re-offending within the community	Reduction in reoffending rate in areas	Reduction in reoffending rates	Probation together with Ashford Police continually seek to identify prolific offenders pre release in order to engage them in IOM programme. Currently no Ashford IOM offenders are designated Prolific offenders	TO FOLLOW	Police are carrying out targetted work to identify those offenders that have a greater impact on reduction of burglary and vehicle crime and will continue to work with IOM partners to identify interventions to support those offenders from reoffending.	Kent Probation
Use of mulit-agency Cleansweeps in areas to raise awareness & to reduce acquisitive crimes in areas	Reduction in acquisitive crimes in the area. Riased awareness		Two multi-agency Cleansweeps delivered, one in Town Centre (30/04/2013) and the other in Stanhope & Singleton (07/06/2013)	Update on last quarter: Cleansweep operation carried out at the Orbital focusing on HGV drivers; Police and baliffs supported ABC & a number of unpaid fines were recovered. Further HGV Cleansweep was planned for this quarted but unfortunately had to be cancelled.	Cleansweep in the rural areas to west of Ashford have taking place in December targetting areas showing a higher level of acquisitive crime. Media involved.	ABC Community Safety Services

Smartwater & pedal cycle marking campaigns focusing on bicycles, skateboards & targeting crime hotspots,	Reduce thefts & increase % of items returned to owners. Increase in	increase in stolen property returned to 22		Some ad hoc cycle marking completed but no large scale initiatives for this period. Ashford Wardens are putting together a team project intended for launch in time for road safety week	The Ashford Community Wardens conducted a team project called "Lights for Bikes" for two weeks, from Monday 18 November to Friday 29 November 2013. This time period also coincided with Road Safety Week. During this project, talks were held concerning bike safety and resulted in between 500 - 600 bike lights and flashing arm bands	KCC
including Firefit to raise interest if available community groups running property marking events owners 19/06/2013. (No invege		(Nov) which, subject to funding, will involve cyclemarking & other related equipment (lights & reflective armbands).	being given to the public. Furthermore, as a result of the project more talks and requests for both arm bands and flashing bike lights have been received from different organisations and these will be seen by the wardens accordingly in the near future.	Wardens		
Promote use of property marking website	Increase in % of items returned to owners	Reduction in theft and handling & increase in stole property returned to owners	Property marking events carried out at Park Farm; Tenterden and Sk8side.	Various property marking events held, including event at Sk8side. Drive on property marking focussed on sports clubs across the district & sheds in areas affected by theft.	Various property marking and general crime prevention initiatives undertaken throughout the quarter. These have been targetted in the rural villages, the town centre and Kennington (based on current and historic crime patterns for the time of year).	Kent Police
Develop top 3 rural areas and top 3 urban acquisitive crime locations and target partner activity in these areas	To have reduced crime in these areas & to have raised awarenes of precautionary measures public and businesses can take	Reduction in theft and handling	Intel product requested to identfy top 3 rural and urban wards	Regular UMIC activity by PCSO Stevens. Leaflet drops & door-to-door advice givent to residents in highlighted areas. Crime prevention roadshow being developed for the rural area in November.	UMIC activity continues. The top 3 urban wards are Victoria, Norman and Stour. The top 3 rural wards are Weald Central, Wye and Weald South. Crime prevention activity has been targetting in these areas, including leaflet drops, high viz patrolling and properting marking events.	Kent Police
Develop training brief (retail crime best practice guide) for retail staff - targeting new staff - their responsibilities, assistance available and the law. Promote Operation Aladdin	To ensure all retail staff are aware of their responsibilities and the law. Prevent and deter shoplifting	Reduction in theft and handling	conjunction with APAC. In the meantime advice is given at APAC meetings in respect of deterring shoplifters.	Operation Aladdin working well. UMIC activity is limiting outlets available for theives to sell to. APAC briefing held for members on a monthly basis. APAC to progess training brief.	Op Aladdin continues, as does the UMIC activity. APAC are now under new chairmanship and will shortly be recruiting a new co-ordinator. Training brief to be progressed when he/she is in post.	

Against Crime (APAC) membership	Increase use of Town Net radios, improve exchange of information & images to prevent & deter crime by challenging potential offenders	Increase in exclusion notices and	This is a day to day issue of trying to increase membership, however the falling number of premises and the financial restraints on them has a direct impact on this. Intelligence meetings are continuing with members obtaining images of prolific and excluded persons. however, this has not been the case over the past months. It will now continue as previous meetings.	Following August Intel Meeting a further 3 persons have been excluded. This brings the total to 12 persons on the Retail Exclusion. Next Intell meeting 2/10/13 and to continue monthly there after. Regarding the Information sharing with Monitoring Centre, AMC have access to Partnership Web site. Discussions held with James Hann (CCTV) regarding further cementing of Information Sharing. Both parties to look at Kent & Medway Infomation Sharing agreement. Work in progress.	The APAC coordinator resigned in	APAC
	Top 10 shop lifting sites to work in partnership with each other with banning orders working across stores. Photos of banned individuals shared with monitoring centres	Number of banning orders in effect across top 10 and reduction in theft and handling decrease in shoplifting	(hanning order) for members stores	12 Excluded persons at present on Partnership list. Only members can share information due to Data Protection. Sites to be identified & measures put in place to share information.	Work in progress, update to follow in final quarter.	APAC

Priority: Road Safety						
Action	Target	Evidence	Quarterly Reporting 1 Apr - 30 June 2013	Quarterly Reporting 1 Jul - 30 Sept 2013	Quarterly Reporting 1 Oct - 31 Dec 2013	Main Partner
Deliver 2 Youth Engagement Around Road Safety (YEARS) programmes aimed at 16-24 year olds	Target young people with motoring offences, those with concern around motoring-related activity and those identified as risk takers	Numbers targeted and reached	YEARS event held on 26th April with approx 10 young people at Ashford Fire station	Noting to report	Event being held at Tenterden fire Station for Homewood School pupils on the 11th & 12th December - engaging with approximately 250 pupils plus approx 10 young offenders	KFRS
Deliver 1 x 5 week Pathway course	Provide work skills to 16-24 year old NEETS, such as team work, problem solving & communication, & health and safety qualification	Numbers targeted and reached. Reduction in KSI	Pathway Course commenced on the 6/6/13 with an initial very low turn out from JCP refferals of 4 from the 30 possibles. Course was going to be cancelled but I have supplemented the course with young people from the PRU so approx 12 attendees with the course running well	TO FOLLOW	Pathways Course being delivered for 9 days during November & December. 25 people registered and attending, with 5 already finding employment during the course period.	KFRS
Deliver one multi-agency programme to reduce casualty rates amongst 16-17 year old moped riders, including Firefit to raise interest if available	Use local, county and national partnres to increase the knowledge amongst young motorcyclists of which types of roads most fatal and serious crashes happen & what to do if a crash occurs	Attendance at event, awareness levels before & after event. Reduction in KSI	Not started	Working with KFRS & KCC Road Safety Teams on ideas.	Discussions on current delivery by KFRS and KCC Road Safety to see what can be added.	ABC Community Safety Services
Run 1 Bike Down training event to target motorcyclists of all ages	Teach practical skills to help avoid being involved in a crash & advise on what to do if first on the scene of a crash where someone is injured	Attendance at event. Awareness levels before & after event. Reduction in KSI	Biker down event held at Ashford fire station on 4th June with 30 bikers attending a really good session. KSI figures to be monitored.	TO FOLLOW	Events being regularly held at Ashford.	KFRS
Deliver road safety advice to over 1000 year 6 children as part of the Safety In Action fortnight	Raise awareness amongst year 6 pupils on road safety, including pedestrian and cycle safety	Numbers targeted & feedback after event	Completed - approx 1200 year 6 pupils were engaged with about road safety at a workshop delivered by KCC Road Safety Officer supported by Community Wardens	Action completed	Action completed.	KCC Road Safety
Run 2 restorative justice events in partnership with the police, fire and ambulance services	Provide safety advice to targeted drivers in partnership with police, fire and ambulance services	Numbers targeted & feedback after event	RJ training carried out jointly with Tunbridge Wells police on the Twells/Ashford border - a number of members of the public spoken to re lack of seatbelt. Ashford event to be organised with partner agencies	Awaiting some potential dates from Stuart Tickle to progress this.	Information provided from Richard Lawson re changes to the way fines are handed out which may be an opportunity to introduce additional restorative practices	Kent Police
Encourage local car show rooms to run car confidence evenings	Improve confidence and safety awareness amongst drivers	Numbers targeted & feedback after event	Not started	No action taken at present.	Programmed for 2014.	ABC Community Safety

Deliver RUSH film programmes to secondary schools & stage at least one event at a rural fire station. Education on the potential risks of being involved in a car crash, either as a driver or passenger	Provides safety advice & raises awareness at 15-16 year olds. Highlighting the vulnerability of their age group and provides strategies aimed at reducing risk and staying safe on the roads.	Numbers targeted & feedback after event	Awaiting names of schools attended in Ashford. Mick Pitney is organising an event in Tenterden fire station follwing the summer	TO FOLLOW	Event being held at Tenterden fire Station for Homewood School pupils on the 11th & 12th December - engaging with approximately 250 pupils plus approx 10 young offenders	KFRS
Deliver "Licence to Kill" event to pupils attending academies, schools and sixth form colleges. Explore the circumstances and consequences of a road crash	Provides safety advice & raises awareness of year 12 & 13	Numbers targeted and feedback after event	L2K is being held in Novemember in 3 locations. Thanet, Medway and Maidstone. All ashford schools will be invited and usually has attendance in excess of 2000 school pupils year 13	TO FOLLOW	John Wallis, Norton Knatchbull and Homewood attended with approx 750 year 12/13 young people at the "Licence to Kill" event in Margate.	KFRS
Run 2 speed events in partnership with the Kent Community Speed Watch in rural areas of the borough	Community engagement in targeting speeding issues in rural communities	Numbers targeted & feedback after event. Reduction in KSI	Event not yet delivered	Information has been recevied that the Speed Watch coordinators undertake regular speedwatch activities and information is passed to Police. Need to identify what happens to the information provided and where the activities are carried out and how this are identified as areas to benefit from such activity.	Further investigations taking place.	KCC Road Safety
Deliver 1 Carrmageddon event as part of a multi-agency event	Raise awareness amongst young drivers in a location where young drivers gather	_	Event at Stour centre to be confirmed and delivered by KFRS at pre plannned multi agency event.	TO FOLLOW	This event was delivered by Sk8side but KFRS was not invited to attend. KFRS are happy to be involved if the event is redone in 2014.	KFRS

Priority: Violent Crime						
Action	Target	Evidence	Quarterly Reporting 1 Apr - 30 June 2013	Quarterly Reporting 1 Jul - 30 Sept 2013	Quarterly Reporting 1 Oct - 31 Dec 2013	Main Partner
Target serial perpetrators of violence	Reduce repeat violent reoffending through PubWatch briefings, targeting & case management	Reduction in violent offences for top 10 nominals	Licensing officers (ABC & Police) to work with APAC to implement Tenterden Pubwatch and to reinvigorate Ashford Pubwatch	Pubwatch meetings held regularly & the scheme bans violent offenders from all pubwatch premises. Prison release visits carried out by police to violent offenders. Various police operations focussed on prioritising the apprehension of violent offenders (Op Narate, Leeward etc)	The APAC coordinator resigned in October. A new chair has been appointed for both APAC & Pubwatch who will also be the radio coordinator. In addition, Op Player has been running for several weeks in Victoria ward. This involves high viz patrolling to act as a deterrent and ensure the early apprehension of violent crime offenders.	Kent Police
Review and comment on the ABC's Licensing Act policy in light of government changes to legislation	Draft policy for consultation Nov 2013. All regulatory authorities respond to consultation	Summary of policy to CSP	Not started	Not yet started due to implemenmtation of SMDA	Preparation has commenced and it is hoped to be taken to Council by end of March 2014.	ABC Licensing
Support and enhance Ashford's PubWatch and develop PubWatch in Tenterden	Increase regular attendance to 12 per month in Ashford and establishment of PubWatch in Tenterden	Numbers attending. Reduction in violent crime associated with NTE	organised by the Co-ordinator had 12 members attend. There were no incidents that required an individual being put on Pubwatch Exclusion List. Tenterden is an ongoing project, and the Kent Link does not appear to be working and ABC's IT department are	Meeting held today 9/9/13 regarding Tenterden Radio system which is required to enhance any Pubwatch group in Tenterden. At present 22 persons excluded in the Ashford Pubwatch area. New Posters have been produced by the Partnership for issue to licensed premises to be displayed in premises. Licensing Officer has taken this on board.	The APAC coordinator resigned in October. A new chair has been appointed for both APAC & Pubwatch who will also be the radio coordinator with the intention to expand the radio network sign up and also to expand into the Tenterden area.	APAC
Improve reporting structure with Stree Pastors	Information from pastors is passed quickly and securely to identified partners	Audit of information sharing, effectiveness & feedback from pastors		Weekly reports are continuing to be provided on the new template, when recevied information is checked & anything relevent to partners is circulated.	Ongoing and reports with any information needing to be shared with partners are distributed as appropriate.	ABC Community Safety Services
Run Operation Caddy in 4 schools (drug dog days), providing educational information about drug searches, demonstrating skills of sniffer dogs	Increase in drug awareness. Pupils caught with drugs offered a place on a drug treatment programme	Target number of schools & number of pupils	Op Caddy carried out at Ashford Girls School, Homewood School and Towers School	No futher Caddy events this quarter. There is now limited availibility of drugs dogs, but attempts will be made to carry further operations in the autumn term.		Kent Police

Education in schools around consequential thinking for bullying / violence	Educational visits to 6 secondary schools	Reduction in youth on youth crime	13 urimary schools Toblics covered.	No progress over summer months due to holidays. This programme to be continued in the Autumn term.	5 x Secondary schools with various inputs on E-safety, drugs, public services, sexting and ASB. 3 x Primary schools on ASB and what the police do Wyvern School on what the police do 1 x Secondary school with Kent Police "Is It Worth It?" tour.	Kent Police
Enforcement of DPPO	All neighbourhood staff to be briefed	Reduction in alcohol related crimes	All NHT staff have been briefed and are fully aware of DPPO. A police led DPPO OP has been carried out and the power to move people on has been used on several occasions. Feedback from local residents and town centre drinkers shows that there is a high awareness of the Order and that it is having a positive effect.	DPPO regularly enforced & a number of S27 notices to leave the area given. Task & finish groups re: Memorial Gardens has resulted in a large amount of activity to target town drunks using various tactics - this has resulted in a reduction of complaints about their behaviour in the gardens & town centre.	DPPO regularly enforced and well known amongst town centre drinkers. Recent Drinks Banning Order obtained by police licensing officer is the first in Kent and prohibits the recipient from entering on licensed premises in Ashford.	Kent Police

Appendix C: Grant allocation 2013/14

Priority	Programme	Cost	Nominating Partner
	Love Shouldn't Hurt	£3,000	Domestic Abuse Forum
Domestic	IDVA contribution (Pending)	£4,000	Domestic Abuse Forum
Abuse	Catering for domestic abuse	£350	ABC
	awareness event (Pending)		
		£7,350	
	Delivery of substance misuse.	£1,500	ABC / CSU
	Sessions to 1000 Primary		
	School children as part of Safety		
Substance	in Action fortnight	£300	Kent Police / ABC
Misuse	Awareness campaign on cannabis; including an article in	£300	Kent Police / ABC
	Housing Services Newsletter		
	and production of leaflets for		
	door drops		
	Self Harm reduction initiative	£2,000	KIASS
		£3,800	
	DDDO fision of sings (500)	0000	ADO
	DPPO fixing of signs (50%)	£300	ABC
	St Michael's Recreation ground	£442	Tenterden Town
	fencing (50% contribution) to reduce ASB in area		Council
	Power to 4 CSP CCTV cameras	£300	ABC / CSU
	Annual maintenance of	£500	ABC / CSU
	Hawkeye CCTV cameras	2500	ABC / CSC
	30% Contribution to Break the	£900	KFRS
	Cycle/Pathway course	2000	
Anti-Social	Town net radio for Hawkeye	£365	ABC / CSU
Behaviour	Street Pastors (Pending)	£1,000	Street Pastors
	Gate opening staffing costs	£1,000	ABC
	(Pending)		
	CSP contribution to camera	£870	ABC
	movements (3 occasions)		170 (00)
	SIM cards for Hawkeye (£131	£1571	ABC / CSU
	p.m.)	0405	ADO
	A-boards for Churchyard gate	£195	ABC
	implantation Postage re: Operation Reflect	£150	ABC / CSU
	Fostage re. Operation Kenect	£7,593	ABC / C30
		£1,393	
	2 x property marking kits	£600	Kent Police / KCC
			Wardens
	Crime Prevention Initiative:	£500	Kent Police
Acquisitive	Safer Autumn and Winter		
Crime	campaign kits for December		
	Cleansweep	C4 000	ADAC
	50% Contribution to APAC radio	£1,000	APAC
	set up costs in Tenterden SAT NAV for Hawkeye	£300	Kent Police
	JOAT NAV 101 Hawkeye	£300	INGHLI UHUT
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	70% Contribution to Break the Cycle / Pathway Course	£2,100	KFRS
Road Safety	Contribution to seat belt sledge and delivery costs	£500	ABC / KFRS
	Tana delivery dedic	£2,600	
Violent Crimes	Festive season violent crime Police initiative	£2,000	Kent Police
	Hate Crime reporting line	£240	ABC
		£2,240	
Safety in	Radios	£160	ABC
Action	Catering for open day	£270	ABC
	Coaches	£5500	Coaches to transport children
		£5,930	
Training	2 staff on BTEC Level 3 Community Safety Practitioners Course (£500 each)	£1000	
		£1000	
	TOTAL	£32,913	

Appendix D: Glossary

ABC Ashford Borough Council

APAC Ashford Partnership Against Crime

ASB Anti-social behaviour

ASBO Anti-Social Behaviour Order

CCTV Close Circuit Television

CSP Community Safety Partnership

DPPO Designated Public Places Order

IDVA Independent domestic violence advisor

IOM Integrated Offender Management

KCA An organisation delivering drug, alcohol and mental health services

KCAP Kent Community Alcohol Partnership

KCC Kent County Council

KDATT Kent Drug and Alcohol Action Team

KFRS Kent Fire & Rescue Service

KIASS Kent Integrated Adolescent Support Services

KSI Killed or seriously injured

MAPPA Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements

MARAC Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences

PCSO Police Community Support Officer

RTC Road Traffic Collisions

YEARS Youth engagement around road safety

Agenda item 5

Ashford Borough Council's Performance – Quarter 3, 2013 - 14

The attached report was presented to the Cabinet on 13th February 2014 and O&S are invited to consider it.

Agenda Item No: 5

Report To Cabinet

Date: 13 February 2014

Report Title: Ashford Borough Council's Performance – Quarter 3

2013/14

Report Author: Policy and Performance Officer, Nicholas Clayton

Portfolio Holder: Portfolio Holder for Resource Management and Control, Neil

Shorter

This report seeks to report to members and the public on the Summary:

performance of the council during the quarter. This includes information on what the Cabinet has achieved through its decision-making, key performance data on our frontline services, and consideration of the wider borough picture

which impacts upon the councils work.

NO Key Decision:

Affected Wards: ALL

Recommendations: The Cabinet is asked to note performance for Quarter 3

of 2013/14.

Policy Overview: The council's strategic direction, which informs the report's

> content, is enshrined within "Focus 2013-15", the council's corporate plan. It is key that members are updated on progress against this, and that the public are updated on progress against plans which they have helped developed.

Financial Implications: None specifically arising from this report

Risk Assessment Not specifically applicable, but the report notes key frontline

service information which is an important indicator of

pressures (external and internal) on the council's resources.

Impact Assessment N/A

Other Material Implications:

N/A

Background Papers: None

Portfolio Holder's

Comments

It is pleasing to see that the combined efforts of our residents

will see Ashford improve its recycling rate greatly since the

new contract was introduced in July. Our proactive work is beginning to bear fruit in helping residents prepare for welfare reform changes and also keeping those needing bed and breakfast accommodation to a minimum. We continue to run a financially-prudent organisation, while there have been key developments which will boost the town and help achieve economic growth – from the opening of the new John Lewis at Home store to the exciting PopUp Ashford initiative.

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Ashford Borough Council

Our Performance

October to December 2013



Portfolio Holder Neil Shorter

comments on this quarter's report

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Jobs / Economic Growth

Received 240 applications from householders to develop their homes – we decided around 80% within eight weeks, and 87% of these applications were approved.

Received around 65 applications from small business and others to develop their properties, and decided around half within eight weeks while approving around 80%. This represents good performance compared to other councils.

289,000 people used our car parks. This is around 3,000 less than the previous three months, although Ashford town centre usage increased. It is also over 5,000 more than the same period during the last few years.

96% of local food premises comply with safety standards.

In December the Cabinet agreed to support the world-renowned Jasmin Vardimon dance company, already located at the Stour Centre, in its bid for lottery money to develop an International Dance Academy in Ashford. If successful, this would result in refurbishment of part of the Stour Centre to include a 300-seater performance space and further broaden the town's arts and culture offer.

In December the Cabinet also supported the development and implementation of a suitable scheme for tourist coast parking in Tenterden.

Responding to the pressures – Numbers of people in B&Bs

An average of 23 households were in B&B accommodation at the end of each month. This is over 10 less than in the previous quarter and reflects the proactive homelessness work we began with agreeing our new homelessness strategy agreed a few months ago.

What We've Done – Helped create the high street entrepreneurs of tomorrow

From October, an empty shop in the town has hosted a unique initiative to help create the high street entrepreneurs of the future.

PopUp Ashford, the first of its kind in Kent, has so far helped 12 start-up businesses – from personalised gift makers to home furnishings - to test their trade in a town centre location at minimal cost for two to four weeks.

Over the next three months, PopUp Ashford will host training sessions for local businesses on subjects ranging from how to use social media to effective visual merchandising.

Quality Homes and Places to Live

Over 99% of council tenants' rent was successfully collected.

In October the Cabinet agreed to release over £1.5million of funding for an extra 15 units of affordable housing, supported by additional funding from the Homes and Communities Agency. Ashford leads the way on providing affordable local housing, building around 40% of all of those in Kent.

Almost 100% of our homes have a gas safety certificate, with only two remaining without.

Following extensive community consultation, in November the Cabinet approved the allocation of community funding for the creation of a new local park – including a play space for children - at Brisley Farm. This is planned for delivery by autumn 2014.

As part of delivering the council's housing and homelessness strategies, in December the Cabinet approved the disposal of a small parcel of land at The Limes, Kingsnorth Road, to enable development of supported accommodation for eight young people at risk.

Where the pressures were – Recycling Service Roll-out

public enquiries relating to the recycling scheme roll out from July (we received over calls) the council employed

In response to substantial

double the normal amount of extra staff to help answer questions. These extra staff helped us to deal as quickly as possible with residents, and the numbers of enquiries have now returned to normal levels.

What We've All Done – Greatly Improved Ashford's Recycling Rates

8th July saw the introduction of a new recycling scheme. Although it took a little time for everyone to get used to the new service, residents have risen to the challenge with Ashford's unaudited domestic recycling rates increasing to around 50% within three months – with residents recycling nearly 5,000 tonnes of waste including -

- 2,800 tonnes of dry recyclables
- 1,300 tonnes of food waste
- 900 tonnes of green waste

Around 9,000 residents have already taken up the green waste service, with plans to expand it further.

Great Value Services

In December the Cabinet agreed our preliminary draft budget for next year. Although set against another challenging outlook for local government, the preliminary budget seeks to maintain council services without significant cuts next year through prudent financial management.

In the same month the council's external auditors concluded that the council maintains a sound financial position despite the difficult external environment.

Although not as high as in previous months, the numbers of customers currently using 'self help' services at the Gateway remains above our target of 10%, meaning that they get answers more quickly and our staff can work more efficiently.

We have, to date, collected just under 90% of council tax and business rates – slightly higher than the same time last year.

The benefits caseload continues to fall, and more quickly than in the previous quarter. From 10,300 in October, by the end of the year the number had fallen by around 100.

In response to the requirements for personal banking brought in by welfare reform, we now hold regular sessions at the Gateway+ (with the support of Barclays and Natwest) to help residents open a bank account. We are currently working with government to extend this to the Jobcentre.

Where the pressures are – The

Benefit Caseload

Although the total number of residents claiming benefits is beginning to fall, the council still regularly receives between 200 and 300 new cases each month. This in turn increases the length and complexity of the enquiries our Benefits Assistants deal with

What We've Done – We've made it easier for customers to help themselves

Due to the success of our self-help facility we have extended their use for another full year, freeing more of our staff to deal with more complicated enquiries.

In April we introduced a self-service facility for money matters such as for information or to pay a household council tax or business rate bill.

The Borough Picture

Average house selling prices (to October) are around 5% more than the same time last year.

Just under 1,500 residents were claiming Job-Seekers Allowance at the end of December. This is just over 22% less than at the same time last year and constitutes around 2% of Ashford's working age population. The Kent average is currently 2.4%.

John Lewis' new 'at home' store opened its doors to customers at 9am on Thursday 7th November. Located on a site close to junction 9 of the M20 in Kent, John Lewis at home Ashford will focus on furniture, furnishing accessories, electrical and home technology.

December saw the launch of a brand new tourism microsite for Ashford and Tenterden, http://www.visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk/, hosted on the award-winning Visit Kent site.

Future Reviews and Report Tracker

Forward plan

At the present time there are no reports coming forward for the March agenda.

Year Plan 2013/14

Month	items	Task Group
May	O&S annual report.ABC Business Plan quarterly performance report.	
June	 Sickness & Absenteeism annual report. Communication and Consultation Strategy re Planning Policy 	
July		
August	Review of Best Service Resources allow activityMembership of Budget Scrutiny Task Group	
September		
October		
November	 ABC Business Plan quarterly performance report Q1 & 2 Review of 'Invest to save' Civic Centre lighting project Update on Conningbrook project 	
December	Scrutiny of Council's draft 2014/15 budget	Budget Scrutiny TG meetings:- 9 th Dec, 16 th Dec, 17 th Dec 2013.
January	Report of Budget Scrutiny Task Group	Budget Scrutiny TG meetings:-8 th , 13 th Jan, 16 th Jan 2014
February	ABC Business Plan quarterly performance report.Annual review of Community Safety Partnership	
March		Budget Scrutiny TG meeting:- 13 th Mar 2014
April		

O&S Committee – Report Tracker – Current position

Minute No.	Report Title	Officer	Date due	Current position	Recommended action
299/10/06	Stour Centre	Head of Cultural & Project Services	TBC – after completion of claim work	Work ongoing	Await completion of claim work.
62/06/11	Housing Strategy Action Plan Monitoring Report	Head of Housing /Housing Strategy Officer	July 2014	Housing Framework 2013 -18 and Homelessness Strategy 2013 –18 adopted July 2013. Monitoring will recommence One year after adoption of new Strategy.	Timetable for one year after adoption of new Strategy.
432/03/11	Annual Review of Homelessness Strategy	Head of Housing	July 2014	The Homelessness Strategy to be included in the Housing Strategy in future.	As above
51/06/13	Sickness and Absenteeism – annual report	Head of Personnel & development	June 2014		Timetable for June each year.
13/05/13	Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report	Senior Scrutiny Officer	May/June 2014		Timetable for May/June each year
142/09/12	3 year review of Mayoralty		Sept 2015		
431/04/12	ABC Business Plan performance report – 2013/14	Policy & Performance Officer	May/Sept/ Nov/Feb		
62/06/12	Sports & Leisure		TBA		
398/03/13	Refurbishment of the	TBA	TBA	Final Report from Task Group	

	Stour Centre			to be presented to O&S
418/04/13	Community Safety Partnership – annual update	Community Safety Service Manager	February 2014	
216/11/13	Council play parks	TBA	TBA	
216/11/13	Update on progress of Focus 2013 - 15	TBA	Oct/Nov 2014	
215/11/13	Update on Conningbrook Project – especially safety aspects.	Nature Conservation & Tourism Officer and Sports Projects Manager & active Ashford co-ordinator	Summer 2014	
301/1/14	Fly tipping	TBA	TBA	

Low Priority & other proposed reports

	Report Title	Officer	Date due	Current position	Recommended
					action
57/06/08 199/10/11 115/08/13	Update on new waste and recycling scheme.	TBA	July/ August 2014	New contract commenced July 2013.	Report on new contract one year after commencement
291/12/08 216/11/13	The effectiveness of a single O&S committee			Reconsider having a report November 2014	