

1	Executive Summary	1.5	Conclusions
1.1	A task group of five members from the scrutiny committee were appointed to carry out the review.	1.5.1	Generally there is a good interchange of information within the partnership but there are areas where this could be improved. The CDRP is a forum for discussing policy and strategy. However, there does not appear to be a clearly defined contact to respond to members concerns and queries on community safety issues.
1.2	<p>Terms of Reference</p> <p>The effectiveness of the local crime and disorder reduction partnership.</p> <p>How the community safety officer team and the extended police family i.e. PCSO's, Kent Community Wardens and Gravesham wardens liaise and coordinate their activities to provide effective community policing in Gravesham.</p> <p>Communication, shared intelligence and joint action between Community safety and other service departments of Gravesham Borough Council.</p> <p>How matters raised by council Members are responded to and processed by the Community safety unit and the police.</p>	1.5.2	Despite the successes of the CDRP in addressing anti social behaviour there has been limited publicity of these achievements. This is due in no small part to their efforts being ignored by the local media. This results in members of the public not being as reassured as they might be. The task group recommends that the council examines other avenues to promote and publicise the excellent work of the partnership.
1.3	The context in which this review was undertaken was the perception of Gravesham residents that anti social behaviour was an on going problem.	1.5.3	Town centre, housing and parking wardens could be integrated into a co-ordinated group to enhance the gathering and dissemination of local knowledge.
1.4	Four evidence gathering sessions were held three with witnesses from Gravesham's community safety team and housing department which included their respective Lead Members, one with the chair of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership - Superintendent Hewitt and one with the Chair of the District Inclusion Forum. Written evidence was taken from the Kent Fire and Rescue Service. The Chair of the review task group reported on his day spent shadowing a Police Community Support Officer.	1.5.4	Where PCSOs and Wardens have been introduced they have made a very positive contribution to community safety. The Council should continue to push the police to deliver adequate community policing in the borough and provide the correct balance between community support and dealing with crime.
		1.5.5	The community safety team has strong officer leadership supported by the lead member for Community Wellbeing and the Cabinet. This and the transfer of community safety from the council's Legal department to Environmental Health has resulted in the residents of the borough beginning to reap the rewards that this increased co-operation between agencies has brought.

- 1.6 Recommendations to Cabinet **officers, throughout the borough, in relation to the current crime statistics**
- 1.6.1 **It is essential to maintain the exchange of information at all operational levels between agencies of the CDRP.**
- 1.6.2 **Investigate what if any benefits there are to be had from the linking of town centre, housing and parking wardens into a co-ordinated group to enhance the gathering and dissemination of local knowledge.**
- 1.6.3 **The council to continue to push the police to deliver adequate community policing in the borough with the correct balance between community support and dealing with crime.**
- 1.6.4 **The council to take every opportunity to promote the excellent work of the CDRP and encourage the other partners to do the same.**
- 1.6.5 **The task group supports and encourages Housing to fill the two anti social behaviour posts as soon as possible.**
- After the evidence gathering sessions had ended and the first draft report written the Kent Police Authority announced on February 15 2006 that they and the government were to jointly fund, during the next two years, an extra 474 new police community support officers to reduce crime and fear across Kent's neighbourhoods. In the light of this announcement the task group felt that an additional recommendation would be appropriate**
- 1.6.6 **The task group recommends that the Cabinet lobbies the appropriate authorities to ensure a proportionate deployment of these**