

Classification:

Public

Key Decision:

No

Gravesham Borough Council

Report to: Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee

Date: 10 October 2019

Reporting Officer: Strategic Manager, Community Safety Unit

Subject: Future Topics for Review

Purpose and summary of report:

To provide the Committee with details of potential future topics for review that have been proposed by the Committee's membership.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- a) Identify and prioritise future topics for review by the Committee from those proposed and from any other topics that may come to light during the course of the meeting or as a result of other items on the Agenda.

1. Background

- 1.1 Officers recently met with the Chair of the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee and it was agreed that members of the Committee would be asked to identify community safety topics that they felt should be reviewed at future meetings (there are meetings scheduled for 21 January and 17 March 2020).
- 1.2 A template/pro forma was circulated by the Community Safety Unit (CSU) in early August together with a copy of the Dartford and Gravesham CSP's Community Safety Strategy 'Plan on a Page' to provide a brief outline of the community safety matters on which Partnership activity is currently focused.
- 1.3 The following topics have been proposed by Members (where suggestions for format, consultation and resources have been put forward, these are also listed below):

1.	Town Centre Crime <u>Rationale and scope</u> – proposed as town centre Wards have the highest levels of recorded crime. The particular geographical area around the junction of King Street, Stone Street, High Street and Chase Square are specifically identified. <u>Outcome</u> – for consideration to be given to increasing Police presence and to the review of late night refreshment licences as appropriate.
2.	Illegal handling and use of drugs/alcohol in public places <u>Rationale and scope</u> – impact of substance misuse on health and levels of crime, burdens placed on services. Geographical area – to consider the issue across the Borough as a whole with a focus on reducing associated crime and ASB. <u>Outcome</u> – enforcement/other activity to achieve reductions in crime and ASB. <u>Format/Consultation</u> – regular patrols by PCSOs; consultation with Police and partner

	<p>agencies; engagement – through the use of discussion groups.</p> <p><u>Resources</u> – review to be completed as a multi-agency exercise (Police, Council and other agencies/groups as appropriate).</p>
3.	<p>Knife and violent youth crime</p> <p><u>Rationale and scope</u> – issue of national concern and the subject of work being carried out locally (e.g. KCC led Supporting Families Against Youth Crime Fund Initiative). Geographical area – Borough as a whole.</p> <p><u>Outcome</u> – understanding of what is being delivered, how agencies are working together and impact that it is having.</p>
4.	<p>Rural and semi-rural areas</p> <p><u>Rationale and scope</u> – rural/semi-rural areas residents’ have expressed concerns regarding certain crimes e.g. residential burglaries and ASB. Geographical area – rural/semi-rural areas and particularly Vigo and South Meopham.</p> <p>A review is proposed of efforts being made to tackle these issues through Partnership activity.</p>
5.	<p>Drug-related issues</p> <p><u>Rationale and scope</u> – need to review activity particularly in relation to youth/young people’s behaviour that is drug-related. Geographical area – Borough-wide.</p> <p><u>Outcome</u> – local campaign, particularly in conjunction with local schools.</p>

APPENDIX 1

IMPLICATIONS	
Legal	The Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee has a responsibility under s.19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 to review the work of partner agencies delivered through the Dartford and Gravesham Community Safety Partnership.
Finance and Value for Money	None.
Risk assessment	Failure to work effectively in partnership help tackle crime and ASB will reduce public confidence in the Local Authority's ability to support individuals and communities and allow negative perceptions of the Borough to develop.
Data Protection Impact Assessment	<p><i>A data protection impact assessment (OPIA) should be carried out at the start of any major project involving the use of personal data or if you are making a significant change to an existing process.</i></p> <p>a. Does the project/change being recommended through this paper involve the processing of <u>personal data</u> or <u>special category data</u> or <u>criminal offence data</u>? No.</p> <p>b. If yes to question a., have you completed and attached a DPIA including Data Protection Officer advice? N/a</p> <p>c. If no to question b., please seek advice from your nominated DPIA assessor or the Information Governance Team at gdpr@medway.gov.uk</p>
Equality Impact Assessment	<p>a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to cause adverse impact or discriminate against different groups in the community? No.</p> <p>b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper make a positive contribution to promoting equality? Yes – all communities will benefit from partnership activity to reduce crime and ASB.</p>
	<i>In submitting this report, the Chief Officer doing so is confirming that they have given due regard to the equality impacts of the decision being considered, as noted in the table above</i>
Corporate Business Plan	The Strategy makes a direct contribution to addressing a significant number of the commitments contained within the new Corporate Plan 2019-23.
Crime and Disorder	The Committee is able to identify those issues of crime and disorder that are being addressed through the CSP that it wishes to scrutinise/review.
Digital/website website implications	None.
Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults	The safeguarding of vulnerable young people and adults is a high priority for the Council and partner agencies and is reflected in the CSP's Community Safety Strategy.