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Foreword

Welcome to our **East Sussex Safer Communities Business Plan for 2015/16.**

“Successful and innovative partnership working to tackle crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse.”

Community Safety remains one of the top priorities for the people of East Sussex. The Safer Communities Partnership is the key strategic partnership in overseeing the plans to tackle crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour and reoffending. Our partnership involves a range of agencies that are committed to ensuring East Sussex remains a safe place for residents and visitors.

This business plan sets out how partners will work together to deliver our community safety priorities for 2015/16. It also highlights what we have achieved for 2014/15 and what we are planning to do to improve the services to support local people for the future.

I am looking forward to working with all our partners to deliver the community safety priorities. I welcome the new challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. This plan will inevitably develop further as we progress, but the overall aim will be to make East Sussex an even safer place to live, work and visit.

If you have any questions on the work of the Safer Communities Partnership, please get in touch with the Safer East Sussex Team by phoning 01323 466013, emailing safercommunities@eastsussex.gov.uk or by visiting our website www.safeineastsussex.org.uk



Councillor Bill Bentley

Lead Member for Adult Social Care and
Chair of the East Sussex Safer Communities Board

About this Plan

Every year the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership undertakes a strategic assessment of community safety in order to select priorities for joint work and plan activity for the forthcoming year. The priorities selected by the partnership are based on analysis of data and residents' perceptions of crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse.

When selecting their priorities the partnership also takes into account those of the Police and Crime Commissioner and District and Borough Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs). The assessment also assists the District and Borough CSPs in selecting their local priorities.

This plan describes the priorities for the partnership, achievements, what the community thinks and what needs to happen next. Following production of the plan, we will develop more detailed action plans, setting out how these priorities will be delivered with associated outcomes.

This plan also details both County and District and Borough level safer communities priorities. There are a number of shared local and county-wide priority areas, in addition to priorities which relate to specific District and Borough areas. The delivery mechanisms for this Business Plan will be designed to ensure both local and county-wide issues and objectives are being considered, therefore maximising the use of our collective resources.

Delivery of both local and county-wide safer communities plans constitutes the East Sussex offer to local residents. The East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership is therefore committed to ensuring its work connects both local and county-wide activities.

The plan also outlines how we will listen to and respond to community concerns.

The Resources and Performance group within the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership has responsibility for monitoring performance and delivery against this plan, and is accountable to the East Sussex Safer Communities Board.

The organisations that make up the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership are:



Executive Summary

The priorities selected by the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership for 2015/16 are:

Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) and Hate Crime: To support and protect vulnerable victims of ASB and hate crime by ensuring processes and initiatives are focused on the more vulnerable within our communities.

Why it is a priority: While considerable progress has been made over the last four years in reducing reported ASB, it continues to be a regularly identified issue and a priority amongst the residents of East Sussex.

ASB came out as one of the two top community safety priorities that residents thought were the most important for us to tackle.

Key Lead: Safer East Sussex Team

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Domestic Abuse: To ensure residents and communities are free from domestic abuse and are less socially tolerant of it. To increase people's ability to have healthy relationships, increase safety for people at risk of abuse and hold perpetrators to account, requiring them to change their behaviour.

Why it is a priority: Domestic abuse happens in all communities, regardless of deprivation, education, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity or ability. However, while men can and do experience domestic abuse, the majority of victims are women, while most of those who perpetrate abuse are men.

Key Leads: Jointly commissioned with East Sussex County Council and Brighton and Hove City Council

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Offending and Re-Offending: To work in partnership to identify offenders and re-offenders to address their needs, change their behaviours and reduce the likelihood of future offending and the number of victims.

Why it is a priority: Nationally, it is estimated that 50% of crime is committed by 10% of offenders; the most prolific (0.5%) commit 10% of crimes. Repeat offenders are often some of the most socially excluded in society. They will typically have chronic and complex health and social problems such as substance misuse, mental health needs, homelessness, unemployment and debt.

Key Leads: National Probation Service
Kent, Surrey and Sussex Criminal Rehabilitation Company

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Youth Offending: To continue to reduce first time entrants into the criminal justice system, reoffending in young people and the use of custody by tailoring effective interventions based on risk that where appropriate involve the whole family.

Why it is a priority: To ensure there are appropriate interventions available to meet the needs of girls and young women. There will also be a focus on reducing offending by children and young people in care as they can be over represented in the criminal justice system.

Key Leads: Youth Offending Team

Prevent - Preventing Violent Extremism: We will work in partnership to support Prevent and encourage professionals to be aware of the risks of terrorism and to be able to report them appropriately by developing professional curiosity as part of their regular responsibilities.

Why it is a priority: The Counter-Terrorism and Security Bill seeks to place a duty on specified authorities to 'have due regard, in the exercise of its functions, to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'.

Channel - the existing programme for people at risk of radicalisation will be put on a statutory basis to improve the consistency of its delivery and ensure the participation of all the appropriate organisations.

Key Lead: Safer East Sussex Team

Road Safety: To improve road safety across East Sussex by reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured, and reducing the incidents of anti-social driving by encouraging closer involvement of the community.

Why it is a priority: There are frequent concerns about the rising number of people who are killed or seriously injured on East Sussex's roads. Anti-social driving also continues to be a problem across the County with speeding as a common theme.

Key Lead: East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service

Sexual Violence: To increase the safety and wellbeing of people who experience rape or sexual violence & abuse including their confidence to report, improve people's understanding of consent, reduce the acceptance of sexual abuse or exploitation and hold perpetrators to account.

Why it is a priority: National data from the Crime Survey for England and Wales shows that women aged 16 to 19 were most likely to be victims of sexual assault. Offences largely go unreported due to shame, fear of being blamed, not believed or other factors. Recent reports such as the Jay report and Louse Casey's follow up report both concerning Rotherham and the Serious Case Review following Operation Bullfinch in Oxfordshire have highlighted the need to raise awareness and to strengthen the response to the sexual exploitation of children.

Key Leads: Jointly commissioned with East Sussex County Council and Brighton and Hove City Council

Street Communities: To increase partnership working to help bring together local services that are in place to meet the needs of the street community. This will help to identify and address the concerns associated with street communities, including crime, anti-social behaviour, homelessness and substance misuse.

Why it is a priority: An integrated response to the issues will encourage the street community to make meaningful changes to their lives whilst also helping to reduce the demand on resources including police, health services, local districts and borough council departments.

Key Lead: Safer East Sussex Team

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Substance Misuse: To reduce the crime, anti-social behaviour and social harms caused by substance misuse. This will include targeting those who commit offences to purchase drugs, supporting people in their recovery and expanding on the work that has already begun in relation to the issue of novel psychoactive substances.

Why it is a priority: The number of young people with heroin or cocaine as their main problem drug is in decline, however the use of novel psychoactive substances is increasing and the social and health harms are of growing concern.

Key Lead: Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT)
Safer East Sussex Team

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The threat from serious and organised crime is equally corrosive to local communities and national security (estimated to cost the UK more than £24 billion¹ a year). The East Sussex Community Safety Partnerships, will wherever possible look to ensure that in responding to the priorities they seek to prevent, disrupt and tackle those involved and associated with such crime and endeavour to support the most vulnerable.

The priorities selected by the District and Borough Community Safety Partnerships can be found in the overview section on **page 35**.

¹ Serious and organised crime strategy (October 2013)

Engagement and Communication

Central to planning community safety activity in East Sussex is how we engage and listen to the concerns of our communities.

It is also important that we can tell the community how we are tackling their concerns therefore we will continue to adopt and use creative and accessible ways to gather community concerns in order to feed this into our work.

There are three areas of engagement we use and have available to us:



We have produced an Engagement Plan which describes in further detail this work and more importantly how we use feedback and engagement activities to inform our work.

Communications play a crucial role in building public confidence in the work all partnership agencies carry out, and we use various avenues of communication to ensure community safety messages are widely received.

Focussed communication work will either:



A communication calendar is refreshed on an annual basis to include partnership campaigns, national and local campaigns relevant to community safety. The team also undertake specific campaigns in line with the annual priorities. We have produced a Communication Plan which outlines in further detail the work undertaken.

Anti Social Behaviour and Hate Crime

To support and protect vulnerable victims of Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) and hate crime by ensuring processes and initiatives are focused on the more vulnerable within our communities. We will do this by raising awareness of the impact of ASB and hate on those that suffer from mental health issues and disability, to work closer with partners in mental health and disability teams and through the effective use of the reformed ASB powers.

Why it is a priority

While considerable progress has been made over the last four years in reducing reported ASB, it continues to be a regularly identified issue and a priority amongst the residents of East Sussex. ASB came out as one of the two top community safety priorities that residents thought were the most important for us to tackle (*East Sussex County Council Reputation Survey 2014*).

- The Sussex Police ASB Repeat Victim Survey showed that one-third of respondents (31%) identified themselves as disabled. This distribution is significantly higher than the UK population. Of those respondents that reported a disability, around one third (36%) reported some form of mental health issue or learning difficulty.
- Alcohol was a contributory factor in 12.5% of reported ASB in the 12 months to July 2014. Eastbourne and Hastings saw the highest proportion of 'Alcohol Related' ASB in the 12 months to July 2014 with 17.4% and 15.1% respectively.
- The Safer East Sussex Team have undertaken engagement activities with equalities groups and many of these groups highlighted that recognising the impact on victims and knowing what support was available was a concern for many of them.
- The Office of the Sussex Police Crime Commissioner (PCC) has looked to increase the reporting of ASB as a measure of public confidence in the Police. Responding to and tackling anti-social behaviour is a top priority for the public and the Commissioner.
- Recent data seems to indicate that while reported ASB is falling in most parts of the county, the town centres of Eastbourne and Hastings are not following this trend and are seeing incidents increase.
- There were 264 Hate incidents reported in the county for the 12 months to July 2014, which is an increase of 7.8% (+19) on the same period in the previous year.



What the community thinks

“Anti Social behaviour we feel is the most important priority as it affects us mostly in our everyday lives”

Eastbourne Learning Disability Forum

“When it comes to gender equality, race and sexuality, the definition is more blurred when it comes to learning disabilities”

Prince’s Trust Team Leader Sussex Downs

“My husband and I were going through a very traumatic time and the women that visited us were understanding, kind and helpful. They helped us to feel less isolated and kept in contact until we felt calmer”

Safe from Harm Client

“Anti social behaviour happens everywhere”

Hastings Disability Forum

Achievements so far...

Safe from Harm Service

88%

of people reported an increase in how safe they felt from the beginning of the Safe from Harm intervention to the end.

E-CINS case management system is now being used collaboratively across East Sussex by partners to manage ASB cases.

The logo for E-CINS, featuring a stylized 'E' and 'C' icon followed by the text 'ECINS' in a colorful, multi-colored font.

There has been a rise in reported Hate Incidents which is believed to be a positive sign in confidence to report this type of incident and an increased awareness around the reporting of hate.

Over the next 12 months, we will...

- **ASB County Conference** – To deliver a practitioner conference to share good practice in the use of the new legislation, deliver workshops on keyworking, mental health, housing matters and hate crime in order to identify and establish partner responsibilities.
- **Ensure consistent and accountable processes are in place for the Anti Social Behaviour Risk Assessment Conference (ASBRAC)** – Setting the minimum requirements for an effective multi-agency ASBRAC process in order that there are consistent practices in place.
- **Clearer engagement from health providers, to help support vulnerable victims of ASB** – particularly those with mental health conditions, as well as for the partnership to have a better understanding of how health providers support vulnerable victims of ASB.
- **Best Practice Guide** – To gather evidence of good practice in the implementation and use of new ASB legislation at a local level as well as identifying cost effective benefits.
- **Restorative Justice Projects** – To support the delivery of the two restorative justice projects in partnership with the Youth Offending Team (YOT) which will increase awareness: making the public and practitioners aware of restorative justice as an option and to develop our understanding of the impact on younger victims, offenders and the community.
- **Develop third party hate crime reporting centres across East Sussex** which will enable people to report to people they may be familiar with



Case study

A referral was received in February 2014 from Homeworks and the Safe from Harm worker phoned Ms F to make contact and introduce himself. A meeting was arranged and it became clear that there had been ASB happening for the past 2 years. This consisted of noise, threats, loud music, banging on walls and harassment from her next door neighbour. Ms F was suffering from severe self-confidence issues and had no family or friends locally and wanted to make a significant geographical move to where her family live.

Due to her health issues, she was not strong enough to attend any courses and so our worker researched confidence building materials and also personal safety advice, met with her and supported her with this. She was very grateful and felt that this approach had had a positive effect on her.

At a further meeting with Ms F, she had received news from the local authority that whilst they had accepted her for re-housing, they had not given her any points as a result of the ASB. Our worker spoke with them and agreed to send them an email outlining the issues and this resulted in her doubling her points in order to speed up the bidding process. Ms F is now accommodated in a new area where she is starting to rebuild her support networks.

Domestic abuse

To ensure residents and communities are free from domestic abuse and are less socially tolerant of it. To increase people's ability to have healthy relationships, increase safety for people at risk of abuse and hold perpetrators to account, requiring them to change their behaviour.

Why it is a priority

Domestic abuse happens in all communities, regardless of deprivation, education, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity or ability. However, while men can and do experience domestic abuse, the majority of victims are women, while most of those who perpetrate abuse being men. The impact of this comes at a cost to society and affects the development of children who have the potential of becoming witnesses, victims or potential perpetrators of domestic abuse.

- The Crime Reduction Initiatives (CRI) Domestic Abuse Service provides support for victims / survivors at medium or high risk of domestic abuse while the two local Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs) have the responsibility for coordinating a multi-agency risk management plan to protect those at highest risk.
- In the 12 months to September 2014, 527 victims were assessed as being at high risk of serious harm or homicide (210 in Hastings and Rother and 317 in Eastbourne, Lewes and Wealden). An increase of **39 (+8%)** on the same period in the previous year.
- Just under half (43%) of the domestic-violence related assaults were committed by ex-partners, with a further 31% assailants reported to be current partners. Attacks perpetrated by family members accounted for 19% of the domestic violence related cases referred to Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) last year.
- Figures from the Saturn Centre (the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)) indicate that of the **505** cases referred into the SARC during March 2013 – April 2014, **294 (58%)** happened within the home, either being the victims, assailants or jointly owned property.
- Many perpetrators of domestic violence and abuse have parental responsibilities. In the 12 months to September 2014, there were a total of 591 children living in the households of the cases discussed at MARACs.
- Since November 2012, **stalking** has been a specific crime under the Protection from Harassment Act 1997. Stalking remains under-reported and will require awareness raising of these issues as well as how best to train and equip people to identify and manage incidents.
- The death of Mrs B, who had been a resident in East Sussex shortly before moving to Brighton & Hove where she was killed, was jointly reviewed by the Community Safety Partnership in that area (*the Safe in the City Partnership*). This review was published in 2014.



What the community thinks

"People should be made more aware of what could be considered abuse and how to spot it."

Sussex Youth Commission Report

"I found it helpful that you could talk and know that you are not on your own and don't need to be ashamed."

Domestic Abuse Strategy 2014-19

Engagement activities with the community highlighted that domestic abuse was an important area to focus on.

Safe in East Sussex Equalities Newsletter

"It is important to think that our employees could be potential victims and / or abusers - it is a real spur to action"

Feedback from the domestic abuse hurts everyone conference, 2014

Achievements so far...

East Sussex County Council, Eastbourne and Hastings Towns were awarded White Ribbon Status to demonstrate commitment to 'never commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women and girls'.



Supporting businesses with domestic abuse policies and white ribbon status

Effective changes have been implemented to the MARAC process for the benefit of high risk victims of domestic abuse.

East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership
Domestic Abuse Strategy

2014-2019



The Domestic Abuse Strategy 2014-19 was published in November. Outcomes of the strategy include:

- Increased social intolerance and reduced acceptance
- People have safe, equal and abuse free relationships
- Increased survivor safety and wellbeing
- Perpetrators are held to account and are required to change their behaviour

Over the next 12 months, we will...

- Commission a joint Domestic Violence & Abuse and Rape, Sexual Violence & Abuse Service with Brighton & Hove from October 2015 to 2018.
- Scope out ways in which to engage with communities who are less likely to report and / or at most risk of domestic abuse, including younger people, pregnant women, older people, lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans (LGBT) and people from black minority ethnic (BME) communities – including links to harmful practices like Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Forced Marriage and ‘Honour’ Based Violence.
- Develop ways to engage with young people who experience domestic violence & abuse, aligned to work of SWIFT, as part of the Pan Sussex funding secured for Child Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs).
- Further increase capacity within the MARAC process to identify victims with additional vulnerabilities, repeat victims and action plans that are not working well or are not sufficient
- Develop joint work with Brighton & Hove to increase resilience.
- Introduce IT solutions to support improve information sharing.

Case study

B was referred to the East Sussex Domestic Abuse service in the first instance by the police.

“The police told me they would refer me to Domestic Abuse Service, I was then contacted by the Domestic Abuse Service and they offered an appointment. The service supported me with everything really. They supported me while I gave the police a statement. This is something I would have struggled with without their support. The Domestic Abuse Service put in place safety measures at home and the whole court process was explained to me. The Domestic Abuse Service spoke to other agencies and updated me on the whole situation, I felt they were fighting my corner. I had emotional support throughout and afterwards, this was ongoing situation that got worse before it got better. I couldn’t have done it without the support from the Domestic Abuse Service. I would say to other people in a similar situation: Don’t hesitate to get support from the Domestic Abuse Service, they are on your side. I thought there was nowhere to go and that the situation would never change, I felt at times there was no way out, but there is.”

Offending and Re-Offending

To work in partnership to identify offenders and re-offenders to address their needs, change their behaviours and reduce the likelihood of future offending and the number of victims.

Why it is a priority

- Nationally, it is estimated that 50% of crime is committed by 10% of offenders; the most prolific (0.5%) commit 10% of crimes. Repeat offenders are often some of the most socially excluded in society. They will typically have chronic and complex health and social problems such as substance misuse, mental health needs, homelessness, unemployment and debt.
- Integrated Offender Management (IOM) is an approach to working with groups of offenders promoted by the Home Office and Ministry of Justice. Our IOM partnership makes a critical contribution to reducing the levels of offending and reoffending across East Sussex. by ensuring that our response to crime is coordinated and that the objectives of community safety partnerships, the Police and Crime plan ,local authorities, probation services and the Sussex Criminal Justice Board are shared.
- A critical part of the approach is to identify and address factors that are influencing or could influence the offenders criminal behaviour. These include dynamic factors such as access to accommodation, employment, finance benefit and debt, children families and support networks and drug misuse all of which are amenable to change. Restrictive measures may also be used to help reduce the likelihood of reoffending.
- From the 1 February 2015 offenders sentenced to under 12 months imprisonment will be managed in the community by probation services on their release. Reoffending rates amongst this group are high with 58% committing further crimes within a year of their release. We will be working together to develop a partnership strategy to meet this fresh challenge.
- It is important that we maintain a focus on proving suitable stable accommodation and housing support services when looking at reducing re-offending. Research suggests that stable accommodation can make a difference of over 20% in terms of reduction in reconviction, and ex-prisoners with an address on release are three times more likely to get a job. Getting offenders into settled and suitable accommodation and supporting them to maintain it can be the foundation of every other part of rehabilitation, resettlement and risk management.

Achievements so far...

Delivering Community based sports projects have reduced re-offending and assisted with integrating offenders back into the community

Greater emphasis on Restorative Justice at Integrated Offender Management (IOM) meetings and an increase in IOM team members trained to deliver post sentence Restorative Justice Conferences

Effective management of Prolific and Priority Offenders within East Sussex has seen their numbers reduced by

5%



As the result of reduced offending and suitable interventions having been put in place, the number of offenders within the cohort that require IOM management has been reduced by around

15%

Over the next 12 months, we will...

- Secure a commitment from all partners to sustain and develop our partnership approach to reducing offending and reoffending.
- Implement our partnership performance management framework
- Develop a partnership 'Through the Gate' strategy
- Further integrate and improve our links with Family Key Work provision in East Sussex for offenders and their families
- Review and improve the use of restorative justice approaches for victims and offenders across East Sussex
- Enable offenders to access and maintain suitable accommodation
- Strengthen links with the 'Liaison and Diversion' services operating in court and custody suites to improve offender access to programmes designed to address their substance misuse, mental health and/or learning disability needs

Case study

James lifestyle has been characterised by his homelessness, alcohol and drug misuse. He was recently diagnosed with depression and drug induced psychosis. At the age of forty three he has accrued 46 convictions for a total of 90 offences which date back to 1986. The majority of his offending has been acquisitive in nature to fund his substance misuse and day to day existence.

When James's was released on licence as a Priority Offender from prison in 2014 he had been engaged with a volunteer mentor from Sussex Pathways who worked with him and his offender manager within the Integrated Offender Management Team (IOM) in planning his release and supporting him through the process. With his Offender Manager James identified that his main priorities with the IOM team were to address his homelessness and substance misuse. Through the Local Housing Authority key worker he accessed the emergency fund for B&B and subsequently secured a tenancy of a one bed room flat. He reported for intensive supervision to his Offender Manager and was subject to regular police visits as he had expressed vulnerability from previous drug associates. James was also made subject to drug testing which was facilitated by the local drugs agency, and worked with this agency to address his substance misuse. As James developed a stable and pro social lifestyle he was also encouraged to attend his GP and mental health services to support his long term life plan.

Youth Offending

To continue to reduce first time entrants into the criminal justice system, reoffending in young people and the use of custody by tailoring effective interventions based on risk that where appropriate involve the whole family. A priority for 2015/16 will be to ensure there are appropriate interventions available to meet the needs of girls and young women. There will also be a focus on reducing offending by children and young people in care as they can be over represented in the criminal justice system.

Why it is a priority

The Youth Offending Team (YOT) in East Sussex continues to perform well with a reduction in first time entrants, low numbers of young people sentenced to custody. The reoffending rates compare favourably with those of local neighbours and similar. However, the young people remaining in the system are now more complex and high risk.

- The numbers of young people entering the criminal justice system are now very low. We need to ensure there are support and interventions in place to maintain this reduction.
- A large proportion of the young people sentenced to custody received this sentence as a result of non compliance with their community orders. Young people leaving custody are more likely to reoffend, with a national reoffending rate for this cohort of **36%**. A focus is therefore required to improve the compliance of this small cohort of young people in order to avoid custodial sentences and reduce their reoffending.
- There was a recent Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) Thematic inspection report on girls in the criminal justice system which highlighted to need for gender specific assessment and interventions. Approximately **25%** of the YOT caseload is female.
- We know that looked after young people are over represented in the criminal justice system nationally. Children in care and care leavers represent approximately **1%** of the population (Care Leavers Association, 2013), yet almost a third of children in prison have been looked after by a local authority at some point (HMIP 2012). Approximately **15%** of the East Sussex YOT caseload are LAC (looked after children), either looked after by East Sussex County Council or by another local authority.



East Sussex
Youth Offending Team



Achievements so far...

There was a further
29% reduction in first time
entrants when compared to 2013/14

Only nine young people were
sentenced to custody in 2014/15.
This is a slight increase on last year,
but still the second lowest in the
last **ten years**

67%

of young people who offended
between April 2012 and March 2013
have not gone on to offend in the
following 12 months

71%

of young people were in full time
education training or employment at
the end of their orders

The Pan Sussex Protocols to Reduce the Prosecution of Children in Care
were reviewed last year

What we need to do next

- Ensure the pathway in place are effective in diverting young people away from the criminal justice system
- Continue to develop the Pan Sussex youth element of the Police and Court Liaison and Diversion scheme.
- To ensure continuous improvement in the quality of Assessment, Planning, Intervention and Supervision (APIS) in order to reduce reoffending. This will include working towards a one plan model where possible.
- Work with partners across the South East, including the secure estate, to develop effective resettlement arrangements
- To develop the family interventions within the YOT to ensure all appropriate families getting the most suitable intervention to meet their needs
- To develop the practice around the delivery and interventions for working with girls and young women.
- To implement the Pan Sussex Protocols to reduce the criminalisation of children in care.

Case study

“Concerns were raised from the YOT, Police and Courts that there was a high level of calls and appearances in court relating to a small group of residents in a privately owned children’s home. These residents were all looked after by other authorities rather than by East Sussex County Council. Many of the incidents were of a minor nature including hitting a care worker with a pillow and setting of a fire alarm. It appeared that the home was using the police rather than managing the young people’s behaviour.

The Police and the YOT jointly visited the home to inform them of the recently reviewed pan Sussex protocols to Reduce the Prosecution of Children in Care and to offer support and advice. A single point of contact was established for the home from the Police and the YOT. This meant the home had a named person to seek advice from where necessary. The home agreed to pay for the YOT to train their front line staff in restorative justice practice. The magistrates have been kept informed of the developments. The concerns were also shared with the placing local authorities at a senior level.”

Prevent - Preventing Violent Extremism

We will work in partnership to support Prevent and encourage professionals to be aware of the risks of terrorism and to be able to report them appropriately by developing professional curiosity as part of their regular responsibilities.

Why it is a priority

The Prevent strategy, published by the government in 2011, is part of the overall counter-terrorism strategy, known as CONTEST.

The Prevent programme is an integral part of the wider counter terrorism strategy and aims to stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism by challenging extremist ideology, helping to protect institutions from extremists and tackling the radicalisation of vulnerable people.

- The threat level to the UK has increased to 'severe' and world events over recent months have increased the need for communities as well as professionals to be more aware and should understand what radicalisation means and why people may be vulnerable to it.
- The Counter - Terrorism and Security Bill seeks to place a duty on specified authorities to 'have due regard, in the exercise of its functions, to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'. 'Channel' the existing programme for people at risk of radicalisation will be put on a statutory basis to improve the consistency of its delivery and ensure the participation of all the appropriate organisations.
- Terrorism can emerge from many different communities and the UK faces a continuing threat from international and domestic terrorism.
- Sussex's location provides challenges for preventing the emergence of violent extremism and terrorism. The county has areas with diverse communities introducing vulnerabilities in terms of community tensions, racial tensions and grievances caused by local, national or international events.
- Communities defeat terrorism and it is not solely a police responsibility to identify and support vulnerable people. Responsibility for shaping environments and perceptions is shared across government departments. The aims of the 'Prevent' strategy will be delivered when conditions that contribute to radicalisation, and indicators of vulnerability, are recognised and considered within the 'daily business' of local authorities, the police, schools, universities and prisons; all working with local communities (*Prevent, progress and prospects report, HMIC, 2009*).

What the community thinks

"It can be anybody – personal views influence extremism"

Sixth form student Hastings

"Tackling the threat of extremism in England's schools is to be made a higher priority"

Education Secretary Nicky Morgan

"Bad stigma attached to certain ethnic minority groups which lead to people being unintentionally afraid of them"

Sixth form student Hastings

"Everybody, from law enforcement, to businesses, to the general public, has a role to play in keeping the UK safe from terrorism"

*Assistant Chief Constable Stuart Cundy,
Head of the Surrey and Sussex
Specialist Crime Command*

Achievements so far...



The production of *Prevent* guidance which provides a clear framework for professionals with which to respond to safeguarding concerns

Establishing the Channel Panel in East Sussex



Incorporating *Prevent* into Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) Child protection training, designated teacher training and into school e-safety and ICT support services

Over the next 12 months, we will...

- **Community Focus** - To develop wider awareness and knowledge of the *Prevent* agenda within communities. This will be done by working with specific community groups in order to develop sustainable initiatives and for communities to take more of an active role in the Prevent agenda.
- **Practitioner Training** - This will continue and will include what measures are available to prevent people from becoming drawn into terrorism and how to obtain support for people who may be being exploited by radicalising influences. Practitioners will be encouraged to consider the risks from terrorism and violent extremism as part of their regular responsibilities.
- **Review the Channel Panel Process** - We will be clarifying recording procedures, security and vetting levels for communications and staff attending and providing clarity on roles surrounding the coordination of future panels.
- **Communications** - We plan to inform and raise awareness with communities, residents and businesses on what they can do to help keep our county a safe place to live and work in. We will do this by using various communication methods to reassure and provide updates on county developments.



Road Safety

To improve road safety across East Sussex by reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured, and reducing the incidents of anti-social driving by encouraging closer involvement of the community.

Why it is a priority

- While the number of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) on East Sussex's roads fell between 2010 and 2012, in the last 12 months to August 2014, the number of KSI casualties in East Sussex have risen by 19% (+61).
- The groups considered to be the highest risk of being involved in KSI collisions are considered to be occupational drivers, non-motorised road users (pedestrians, pedal cycles and mobility scooters), powered two-wheelers and young people (16 to 24).
- Anti-social driving continues to be a problem across the County with speeding as a common theme; this includes driving in excess of the speed limit as well as inappropriate speed for the conditions. Many communities complain about inconsiderate parking and dangerous parking outside schools and careless driving including the use of mobile phones.
- Operation Crackdown is a Sussex based reporting system that allows members of the public to report anti-social driving to the Police. In 2014 there were 5,499 reports of antisocial driving in East Sussex to Operation Crackdown.

What the community thinks

Road safety was the top community safety priority that residents thought was the most important to tackle.

East Sussex Reputation Survey (2014)

"I have reported on Crackdown several times. It only takes a few minutes - if everyone did it, dangerous drivers would get the message that they can not just get away with it."

Operation Crackdown Report - Anti-social driving



Achievements so far...

Road Safety Leads established in each Community Safety Partnership.

Casualty data including causation factors provided down to ward level to allow Joint Action Groups to decide on appropriate preventative activity.

Road safety campaigns supported by the East Sussex Coordination Group providing communication messages to assist local delivery during national Road Safety Week



Over the next 12 months, we will...

The local delivery of road safety activities is undertaken at District and Borough level by Community Safety Partnerships. An example of these activities include:

- Wealden District Council completed a review in 2014 of road safety in the district following concerns by the elected members about the rising number of people who are KSI on the district's roads. The report makes 13 recommendations about the way forward which include education; enforcement and engineering.
- Hastings and Rother road safety group will undertake and support local education & enforcement programmes including experienced drivers, safer cycling and safer parking.
- Safer Rother Partnership is commissioning research into KSIs on Rother roads to identify target groups and behaviours to help focus future road safety activities.
- Tackling anti-social parking outside schools in Lewes District

Countywide activities will include:

- Continuing support from the Sussex Safer Roads Partnership to achieve local objectives
- Monitoring and reviewing data from the Sussex Safer Roads Partnership.

Sexual Violence

To increase the safety and wellbeing of people who experience rape or sexual violence & abuse including their confidence to report, improve people's understanding of consent, reduce the acceptance of sexual abuse or exploitation and hold perpetrators to account.

Why it is a priority

National data from the Crime Survey for England and Wales shows that women aged 16 to 19 were most likely to be victims of sexual assault, 19.6% of women and 2.7% of men report experiencing a sexual assault since the age of 16. Reported rape can be viewed as the visible tip of the iceberg when it comes to the scale of sexual violence in our society. Offences of this nature largely go un-reported due to shame, fear of being blamed, not believed or other factors.

- Learning from the wider national reports into the Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) has underlined the need to consider how local agencies in East Sussex can work together to both establish the prevalence of victims and to disrupt the activity of perpetrators.
- In East Sussex in the last 24 months to August 2014, Serious Sexual Offences have increased by 167 (+51%) and by 96 (+24.1%) in the 12 months to August 2014.
- Locally we have used the methodology advocated by the National Working Group on CSE to develop a strategy document that has been signed off by the LSCB and to establish the necessary strategic groups to deliver it effectively. This includes arriving at an agreed data set on prevalence.
- The Saturn Centre is a partnership service funded by Sussex Police, West Sussex County Council, East Sussex County Council and Brighton & Hove City Council and NHS England. In 2013/14, there were 133 referrals to the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) from East Sussex, which was an increase of 26 clients on the previous year (+24%).
- In 2012/13, The WISE Project (a specialist sexual exploitation service for 13-25 year olds managed by the Sussex Central YMCA) received 86 referrals including those believed to be at risk of and those experiencing CSE.
- Of the 86 referrals, 63 were provided one-to-one case work and 67% were looked after or had been in the care system at one time. 23 of the young people either did not engage or did not want the support of the service.
- The extent to which sexual exploitation, including commercially through prostitution and the sex industry and modern slavery is occurring is unknown and will require awareness raising of these issues as well as how best to train and equip people to identify and manage incidents.
- From October 2013 to March 14 – 69 victims (as a full year estimate 138) where referred to the specialist sexual violence service providers by Survivors' Network.



What the community thinks

"Having counselling when I was waiting for my trial was really important. I'm not sure I'd have stuck with it otherwise"

Sexual Violence Survivor

84% of young people had experienced some form of unwanted sexual incidents.

Consent Consultation - Sussex South Downs College, 2014

"Enable victims many forms of contact and reporting abuse and help people understand the process of reporting"

Sussex Youth Commission Report

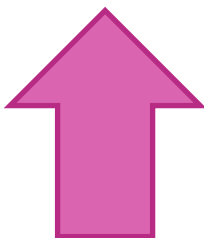
"We need to ensure that any door is the right door if you want to talk about sexual violence"

Provider Comment

Achievements so far...



The Independent Sexual Violence Adviser Service (ISVA) was jointly commissioned with Brighton & Hove



From October to December 2014 there were 55 referrals into the ISVA service for East Sussex, compared to 34 for the same period in 2013, an increase of 62%.

The Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) was re-commissioned in partnership with NHS England, the Police and other Upper Tier Local Authorities



What we need to do next

- Commission the Domestic Violence & Abuse and Rape, Sexual Violence & Abuse Service for October 2015 to 2018.
- Undertake a Consent campaign as a pilot and scoping exercise as to the actual gap around the knowledge of consent.
- Support the development of a Paediatric SARC to work with children under 14 and develop ways to engage with young people who experience sexual violence and abuse.
- Develop ways to engage with young people who experience domestic violence & abuse, aligned to work of SWIFT, as part of the Pan Sussex funding secured for Child Independent Sexual Violence Advisors.
- Review the provision of talking therapies available to people who have experienced sexual violence to better meet need.
- Ongoing work with police staff and partner agencies to improve recognition and understanding of CSE as part of Operation Kite.
- Implement the CSE action plan.

Case study

“A was abused by her father when she was a child. Although she had reported it at the time the police had not taken the case further. The recent extensive coverage in the news relating to Jimmy Saville and other high profile sexual assault cases had made her feel that she may now be believed and she went to the police again. This time the case was progressed. Talking about her experiences however led to significant emotional distress, she started to experience flashbacks and was struggling to leave the house. She was facing a disciplinary at work for her frequent absence. The local Rape Crisis Centre, Survivors' Network, helped her to liaise with her employer and to access counselling. She was able to attend court and her father was convicted and will serve a significant sentence.”

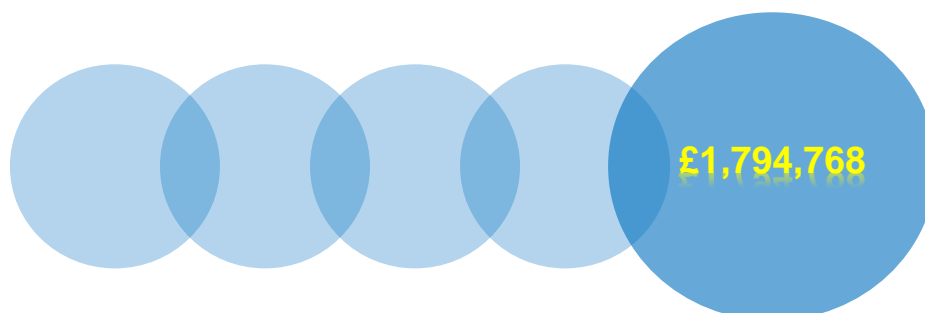
Street Communities

To increase partnership working to help bring together local services that are in place to meet the needs of the street community. This will help to identify and address the concerns associated with street communities, including crime, anti-social behaviour, homelessness and substance misuse.

Why it is a priority

A member of the street community is defined by Sussex Police as: 'A person who spends a significant amount of time on the streets or other public area and who may or may not have accommodation and will have a substance misuse issue and / or a mental health issue and / or have a chaotic history'. There are a number of associated concerns, and some of the reasons on why it is a priority include:

- The failure to prevent homelessness could lead to a number of issues which would have a negative impact upon individuals, local authorities and the public.
- Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) reports concerning rough sleepers over the last 12 months have included issues such as abusive or aggressive behaviour, assaults and discarded needles, amongst others.
- People with complex needs are at serious risk of falling through the cracks in service provision. There needs to be an integrated response across health, housing and social care.
- For the 12 months to July 2014, **88%** of all ASB reports of Street Drinkers came from Eastbourne and Hastings. This compares to **83%** for the same period in 2011/12 and **90%** in 2012/13.
- The number of incidents of reported street drinking has increased by an estimated **11%** this year compared to 2012/13.
- In Eastbourne, 33 of those who attended the Pop-Up Hub had been arrested for various offences during their time on the streets. These 33 individuals had been arrested 1,076 times at an estimated cost to the public purse of:



What the community thinks

Police Local Neighbourhood Survey data indicated ASB was a priority, and 'Drunk or Rowdy Behaviour in Public Places' was the highest within this category.

Some of the issues raised by Hastings town centre businesses include hiding cans / bottles when in view of Police officers, drug dealing by the public toilets, shoplifting and begging.

Achievements so far...

In East Sussex, all districts and boroughs have adopted the Government's 'No Second Night Out' standard which requires each area to ensure the right services are in place to assist homeless people.



Following the Eastbourne Hub the Police recorded a

24%



reduction in client arrests

A total of 23 clients attending the Eastbourne Hub were supported with temporary accommodation – 17 in Bed & Breakfast and 6 in the Night Shelter.

For clients who attended the Hastings Hub, there were 12 less arrests in the three months following in comparison to the three months before the hub.

Feedback in relation to the Hastings Hub showed improved engagement with services and access to accommodation has been achieved through enhanced multi-agency working.

Over the next 12 months, we will...

- There is a need to set up a strategic group to bring agencies together to ensure a coordinated approach is taken to identify the most vulnerable clients and address the issues identified.
- Develop an action plan that includes the mapping of local service provision and review the referral pathways that exist. This will also highlight any gaps in service provision and provide an evidence base for new initiatives to be implemented.
- Increased partnership working to help bring together the many charity and local authority run initiatives and services to meet the needs of those identified, to include improved access to drug and alcohol services and physical and mental health support.
- Further research to be carried out across the county to identify whether there are links with modern slavery and human trafficking and to what extent this is an issue.

Case study

“Client D1 was female aged 34 and Client D2 was male aged 27. Prior to be accommodated in B&B, both had been sleeping rough for in the region of 3 years.

Client D1 was assessed by St Mungo’s Broadway as suffering from depression, being suicidal and with aggressive behaviour. She had committed 11 offences including shoplifting, assault and drugs, which had involved 18 arrests and a prison sentence.

Client D2 was assessed by St Mungo’s Broadway was assessed as suffering from depression. He had committed 58 offences, which had involved 55 arrests and a prison sentence.

Both clients were in sporadic contact with CRI in relation to their drug use.

The couple were placed in B&B for a total of 85 nights pending helping them to secure private rented accommodation with a rent deposit.”

*Eastbourne Pop-Up Hub Pilot Evaluation, Graham Maunders Associates
(August 2014)*

Substance Misuse

To reduce the crime, anti-social behaviour and social harms caused by substance misuse. This will include targeting those who commit offences to purchase drugs, supporting people in their recovery and expanding on the work that has already begun in relation to the issue of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS).

Why it is a priority

Across East Sussex the Drugs and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) have responsibility for commissioning the local drug and alcohol support services informed by drug and alcohol needs assessments.



The East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership addresses the crime and antisocial behaviour caused by substance misuse.

Substance misuse can affect many aspects of an individual's life as well as impact on the wider society and this can be far reaching.



- In the 12 months to August 2014, there has been a 26.5% increase in drug trafficking and supply offences, and shoplifting has increased by 6%.
- When looking at burglary, thefts and robbery, test on arrest data shows that in the first two quarters of the year, 49% of the accused in Hastings tested positive for either heroin, cocaine or both and in Eastbourne this figure is 31%.
- There has been a shift in focus in the way drug treatment is delivered, with a renewed focus on 'recovery' and in particular the development of recovery communities to provide mutual aid support to help free people from the harmful impact that substances can have.
- There is little evidence into the understanding of the full impact of NPS use, however between 2012 to 2013, the number of young people with heroin or cocaine as their main problem drug declined, countered by increases in the figures for amphetamines (including 'legal highs' and club drugs).
- Nationally evidence suggests that young people drinking less alcohol, but those that are drinking do so more heavily and consequently are more susceptible to alcohol related harms; often alcohol is either provided by parents or at least with parents knowledge.

What the community thinks

Police Local Neighbourhood Survey data indicated Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) was a priority, and 'Drunk or Rowdy Behaviour in Public Places' was the highest within this category.

The reputation survey carried out in January 2014, identified 25% of residents felt ASB was important, with underage drinking being in the top three ASB concerns.

Across East Sussex, burglary was the third highest priority for community safety in the reputation tracker survey.

The Sussex Police Crime Commissioner (PCC) Youth Commission would like to see further preventative work done in schools to address the risks of drugs and alcohol and also highlighted the growing emergence of NPS use.

Achievements so far...

The Alcohol Diversion Scheme - people who are arrested for drunken behaviour can attend an alcohol awareness workshop run by STAR and pay a reduced fine.



Effective referral pathways continue to operate with young people receiving an assessment and intervention with the Under 19's Substance Misuse Service within 15 working days of referral.

In the 12 months to June 2014, **63.5%** of clients who had entered treatment through the criminal justice route left in a planned way.



East Sussex Recovery Alliance

There are 8 recovery groups being co-ordinated by East Sussex Recovery Alliance (ESRA) as well as a range of groups running at STAR covering a range of issues from carers' support to Cannabis use.

Two schemes have been introduced in order to reduce anti-social behaviour and crime associated with those who drink higher strength alcohol. In Hastings this is known as the 'Reduce the Strength' campaign and in Eastbourne the 'Sensible on Strength' campaign.



Over the next 12 months, we will...

- We will engage with young people to gain their insight into sexual consent, alcohol and the law. Work will continue to identify effective ways of engaging with those deemed as most vulnerable, and any subsequent work will hopefully help to reduce the number of serious sexual offences.
- The supply and use of NPS Products from identified premises will be addressed in a joint operation between the Safer East Sussex Team, Sussex Police and East Sussex Trading Standards.
- Consultation will take place with young people regarding the use of NPS, including their possible health impacts which will inform future work required to address the health and social problems identified.
- A new Recovery Café is being established with support from the Safer East Sussex Team, East Sussex DAAT Board and CRI as well as other partners. The aim is to encourage sustained recovery as well as being integral to the wider community as a viable social enterprise.
- Parental supply of alcohol is an issue that needs to be addressed effectively. There is further need to obtain research around best practice in relation to targeted campaigns at parents, and then look locally at what resources are available in order to have an impact. This will also tie in with the work done in schools.

Case study

“I moved to Hastings, from The Wirral, two and a half years ago after finishing treatment. I joined East Sussex Recovery Alliance (ESRA) as a volunteer because I knew that staying connected and active was vital to me maintaining my recovery. When I first joined, I had very little confidence in myself and didn't believe that I had anything to offer anyone. However, I got a lot of support and friendship from my peers in ESRA, as well as the opportunity to do various training courses and to take part in activities, and even have my voice heard as an 'expert by experience'. I was soon encouraged to become a facilitator for the Women's group and I also took on the role of secretary, taking minutes at the weekly forum meetings. I then went on to train as a Self Management and Recovery Training (SMART) facilitator and began to run SMART groups in the wider community. When the part time post of Admin Assistant came up, I was encouraged and supported to apply by my peers in ESRA, so I am now in a paid position, which is more than I believed I was capable of. ESRA has been a massive part of my sustaining my recovery and rebuilding my life.”

Police and Crime Priorities

The Police and Crime priorities for 2015/16 are:

- Crime and Community Safety
- Victim Focus
- Public Confidence
- Value for Money

Local objectives for each of these priorities have been set by the Police and Crime Commissioner. These are of course not an exhaustive list but do reflect the expectations of the public.

Crime and Community Safety

- Keeping Sussex a low crime area
- Commission new and lasting initiatives to reduce re-offending
- Take account of community priorities and their contributing factors (such as alcohol and drugs)

Measure: Reduce the recorded crimes per 1,000 population.

Victim Focus

- Improve the experience that victims and witnesses have of the criminal justice system
- Enhance, develop and commission initiatives to bring justice for victims
- Effective policing, responsive to the needs of victims and the vulnerable

Measure: Support improvements to victim satisfaction in their overall experience of the criminal justice system.

Public Confidence

- Build trust in the police and the criminal justice system
- Remove proceeds of crime from criminals and reinvest that money in our communities
- Encourage the development of volunteering to make us Safer in Sussex

Measure: Increase the reporting of domestic abuse and violence, serious sexual offences, anti-social behaviour and hate crimes.

Value for Money

- Improve efficiency across the criminal justice system
- Further collaboration & partnership working
- Effective and innovative commissioning of services and procurement of assets

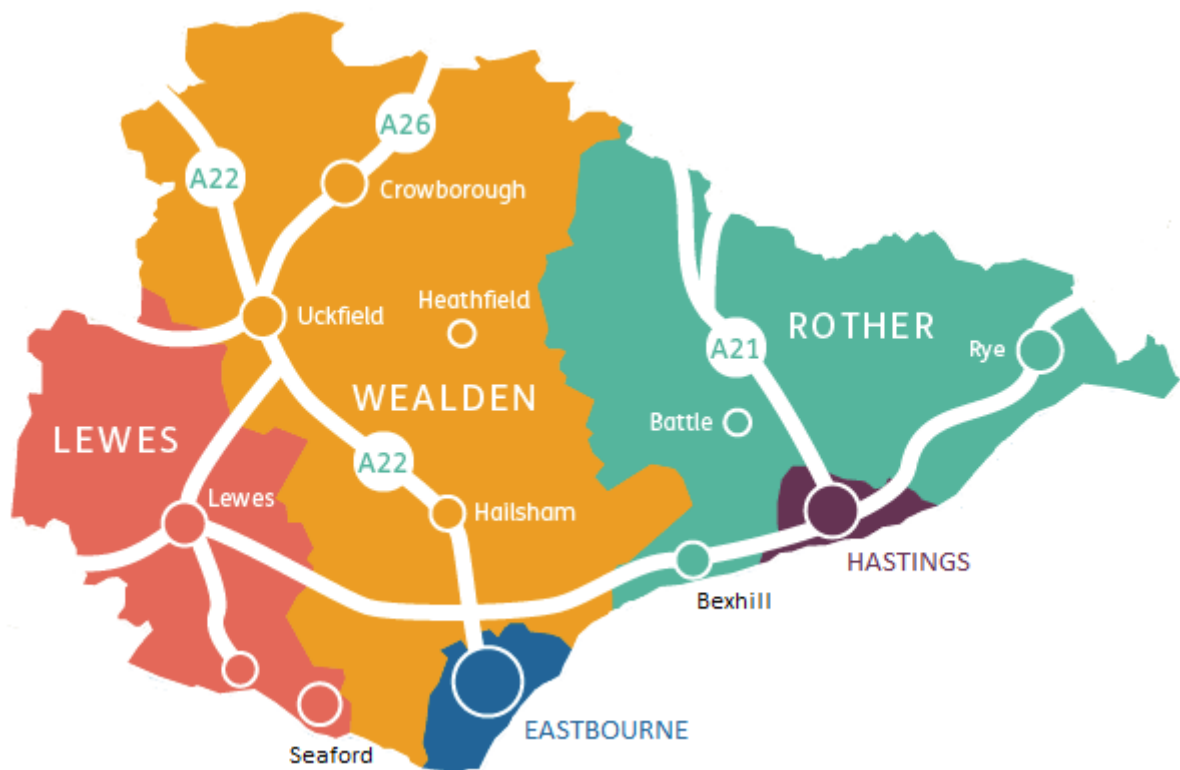
Measure: Working with Sussex Police and partners to meet the financial challenges ahead whilst delivering Crime & Community Safety, Victim Focus and Public Confidence objectives and identifying opportunities to improve.

District and Borough Overviews

There are five local Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) in East Sussex:

- Eastbourne Community Safety Partnership
- Safer Hastings Partnership
- Lewes Community Safety Partnership
- Safer Rother Partnership
- Safer Wealden Partnership.

The local partnership priorities follow, to deliver the priorities each partnership has a separate action plan.



Eastbourne Community Safety Partnership

“Our vision is to improve people’s lives in Eastbourne’s Communities by working in partnership to reduce the levels of crime and anti-social behaviour and to manage the fear of crime”.



What are the priorities and why?

- **Community Engagement and Public** – To continue to engage with the communities we serve and meet their needs in relation to community safety and public re-assurance.
- **Environmental and Anti-Social Behaviour** – Reducing graffiti, fly-tipping, litter and dog fouling contributes to an improvement in the quality of life for the residents of Eastbourne.
- **Road Safety** – Anti-social driving, including speeding, is a major concern of our communities.
- **Volume Crime** – The continued reduction of offences such as burglary, robbery and vehicle crime, makes Eastbourne a better place to live, work and visit.
- **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and Hate Crime** – It is essential to give effective support to vulnerable and high risk victims of hate crime and ASB, as well as bringing offenders to justice.
- **Alcohol Related Crime and Disorder** – To reduce the negative impacts of the night-time economy on the town centre.
- **Domestic Violence and Sexual Offences** – To increase the reporting of such offences, provide support to victims and bring offenders to justice.
- **Prevent Strategy** – To prevent the radicalisation of vulnerable members of our communities, thereby contributing to a reduction in extremism.
- **Street Communities** – Not only do street drinkers and rough sleepers cause a major nuisance to residents and visitors, they are amongst the highest levels of victims of crime and are amongst the most vulnerable in our community.
- **Substance Misuse and New Psychoactive Substances** – Causal links to crime, anti-social behaviour and health.

What the community thinks...

Environmental ASB is a major concern of residents in our communities.

Anti-social driving including speeding is regularly reported as a concern at our Neighbourhood Panels.

Dealing in illegal drugs is a big concern of residents who live in the town centre.

Street drinkers in the town centre and on the seafront result in a large number of complaints which highlights the concerns of businesses and residents.

Achievements so far...

Since 2005 crime has reduced in Eastbourne by over **40%**

Since 2009 the Eastbourne's 'Cumulative Impact Policy' to limit the growth of licensed premises in the town centre has positively impacted the level of public place violent crime and ASB.

Neighbourhood Management initiatives throughout the town have brought communities together to reduce crime and ASB and improve the quality of life of those communities.



The partnership is supporting long term initiatives to help members of the street community change their lifestyle and was the first in East Sussex to initiate a 'Street Pop Up Hub.'

Over the next 12 months, we will...

The Eastbourne Community Safety Partnership will continue to:

- Implement the Community Safety Partnership's 40 point action plan;
- Engage with our communities, including, Neighbourhood Panels, Neighbourhood Management, Neighbourhood Watch, 'Talk to Us' initiatives and the annual 999 event, to listen to the concerns of our communities and promote our partnership successes;
- Promote and develop our partnership case management and capabilities (ECINS) for all high risk victims, including domestic violence, hate crime, ASB, sexual offences and street community;
- Support and invest in the youth initiatives and projects to divert from crime and ASB;
- Support voluntary organisations which can have a major impact on improving community safety and public perception, including Neighbourhood Watch;
- Work smarter to overcome public sector financial constraints and develop new ways of working and seeking finance to support our initiatives / priorities.

Safer Hastings Partnership

“The Safer Hastings Partnership will continue to support the most vulnerable victims of crime & antisocial behaviour and work to reduce the levels of crime and the fear of crime”.



What are the priorities and why?

- **Alcohol Related Violent Crime and Disorder** – To better manage street drinkers and the evening economy.
- **Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence** – Hastings has high levels of reported cases.
- **Substance Misuse** – Alcohol and drugs are strongly linked to offending.
- **Reducing Re-Offending** – Managing prolific offenders is key to reducing crime.
- **Anti Social Behaviour and Hate Crime** – We must support high risk and vulnerable victims.
- **Environmental Crime** – Tackling issues like littering, dog fouling and graffiti is important to most people in Hastings.
- **Road Safety** – Crashes involving death and serious injury have increased.
- **Prevent Strategy** – To prevent the radicalisation of vulnerable members of our communities.

What the community thinks...

“It is most important for the Police & Council to tackle antisocial behaviour”

“Speeding vehicles is a big problem in their neighbourhood”

“Dog fouling is a particular problem in Hastings”

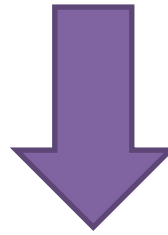
“Tackling drug misuse is very important to people in the town”

Achievements so far...

Since 2001 to 2002, crime in Hastings has reduced from over 14,000 to around

7,500

today



Partners achieved 'White Ribbon Accreditation' in 2014 recognising local work to support victims of domestic abuse

The Safer Hastings Partnership has received regional and national awards for their youth engagement work



The Safer Hastings Partnership has a good record in reducing violent crime and antisocial behaviour by funding projects like Hastings Bar Watch, Taxi Marshalls and positive activities for young people

Over the next 12 months, we will...

The Safer Hastings Partnership needs to:

- Support the implementation of changes in service delivery following the restructure of Sussex Police;
- Fully utilise the range of tools and powers introduced by the 'Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014';
- Fully support the new Hastings and Rother Road Safety Group;
- Continue to develop better partnership working with the Health Service;
- Continue to work in partnership to reduce the impact that the street community is having, particularly in areas such as central St Leonards.

Lewes Community Safety Partnership

“Our vision is to improve people’s lives in Lewes’s Communities by working in partnership to reduce the levels of crime and anti-social behaviour and to manage the fear of crime.”



What are the priorities and why?

- **Work in partnership to seek long lasting solutions to Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB):** ASB remains a priority to the community and the police and partner agencies continue to receive many calls. The effects of anti-social behaviour disproportionately affects the health and well being of residents and communities.
- **Reduce acquisitive crime:** This crime is a concern in the Lewes District due to the crime numbers and the area can be a prime target for this type of crime.
- **Encourage the reporting of Domestic Abuse incidents:** Lewes was at the forefront of the White Ribbon campaign and it continues to be a priority to encourage victims to report incidents to the police. Domestic violence is widely know to be a under reported crime and this priority aims to reverse this.
- **Reduce the number of Dwelling Fires:** We continue to work with partners to identify those most vulnerable from fire in our community, so that prevention support can be promptly delivered, such as Home Safety Visits, smoke alarm installations, well-being checks and further referral links to other agencies.
- **Reduce the number of Killed & Seriously Injured on Lewes District’s roads:** We continue to focus on making our roads safer for all road users across the district as the level remain unacceptably high.
- **Promote community safety initiatives to reduce crime and the fear of crime:** The actual crime in Lewes continues to be low but there is a disproportionate fear of crime that requires the partnership to reassure the public and promote the work that all partners undertake.

What the community thinks...

“Dog Fouling continues to be a problem for residents in the Lewes District with a small minority of dog walkers blighting the lives of others.”

“Residents continue to inform the Police that anti-social driving and speeding across the district are a big problem.”

“Great news that there is talk of Shopwatch - we really think it could be the best prevention. We only opened our Lewes business in October and we have been shocked to find that shoplifting is so rife here!”

(Lewes Town Centre Retailer)

“Anti-social driving and parking continues to be a problem for the community and something that is regularly reported.”

Achievements so far...

Lewes 'Electric Blanket Testing' proved successful again this year with a total of 168 blankets tested but only a **29%** failure rate. It included 1 blanket that was subject to a national recall in 2013. Previous failure rates are usually in the 45 - 50% range.



Working with the police & local businesses, the Community Safety Partnership has supported the establishment of a Shopwatch Scheme which will enable better communication and information flow between shops and the police, helping to reduce theft offences in Lewes town centre.

Working with the Police Community Speedwatch in the Lewes District continues to grow and is being rolled out to new towns and villages across the District.

Fire Service has undertaken 1,600 Home Safety visits over the last year, with over **90%** delivered to vulnerable households. This has helped reduce accidental fires in the home by a predicted **15%** by year end.

Over the next 12 months, we will...

- The Joint Action Group continues to meet monthly throughout the year. It acts as the delivery arm of the CSP to implement actions to resolve current and forthcoming issues that affect the community. It also receives bids from partner agencies and community groups to fund projects which meet the partnerships priorities. These well attended meetings are action focussed and co-ordinate activities to respond to emerging issues in the community.
- Agencies across the Lewes District have been trained in the use of E-CINS which provide a secure information sharing cloud based tool to allow more effective partnership working. The tool has already been used successfully in dealing with a number of cases where the joint working and sharing of information has led to successful interventions and improve the well being and quality of life of residents.
- The Lewes Community Safety Partnership are finalising their plans for the year ahead and allocating the necessary resources to the various aspects of the plan.
- Continue to work with partners to identify those most vulnerable from fire in our community, so that prevention supported can promptly undertaken, such as Home Safety Visits, smoke alarm installations, well being checks and further referral links to other agencies.
- Continue with our focus on making our roads safer for all users, cyclists, pedestrians and motorists. Target prevention work to drive down the KSI (Killed & Seriously Injured) figures across the Lewes District. Such as the SDSA (Safe Drive Stay Alive) campaign targeted at young drivers, who are an identified vulnerable group of motorists.
- Work closely with local partners and the business sector to reduce unwanted fire calls from automatic fire alarms, although we are currently showing a 24% reduction, we must continue to drive down these types of calls.

Safer Rother Partnership

“We aim to ensure that Rother remains a safe place to live, work and visit by working in partnership to reduce the levels of crime and anti-social behaviour and managing the fear of crime.”



What are the priorities and why?

- **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and Hate Crime** – To strengthen partnership interventions around ASB and Hate Crime which impact on the local community and victims and to carry out targeted work in problem areas.
- **Road Safety** – The Safer Rother Partnership has developed a range of interventions to address speeding, anti-social driving and road safety issues. However, additional work needs to be focused on the causes of more serious accidents on roads in Rother.
- **Reducing Offending and Re-offending** – A small number of people commit crime and anti-social behaviour, but they have a significant impact on Rother communities. We will be continuing work across partner agencies to reduce the impact of these offenders and support rehabilitation.
- **Violent Crime including violence within a domestic setting** – To respond to the move from public place violence to an increase in domestic setting violence, including intergenerational, young people and rural residents.
- **Historical and Emerging Crimes that impact on the community** – Historically, Rother has suffered from sudden increase in crime, often caused by criminals travelling across Districts, Boroughs, Counties and Police Forces. These crimes impact on Rother. The Partnership will also focus on emerging issues such as cyber-crime, scams, Child Sexual Exploitation and human trafficking, when they impact on Rother residents.

What the community thinks...

Anti-social driving and speeding are important issues, particularly in rural areas.

Agencies need to work together to stop Anti-Social Behaviour. **It doesn't matter which agency it belongs to.**

Young people need more to do, would prevent young people being involved in ASB.

Residents report concern about beggars and the street community.

Achievements so far...

Delivered effective Road Safety Education projects with partners, e.g. Community Speedwatch, Young Drivers event, Biker Down Training. The Safer Rother Roads Group is now working in partnership across Hastings.



Effective rehabilitation and offender management based interventions to reduce ASB and crime, including securing and maintaining tenancies.

Research into violent crime within Rother and the production of social media tool by and for young people.

Variable Messaging Machine used effectively across Rother for crime and community safety messages all year round e.g. road safety, Operation Radcott, White Ribbon, burglary alerts.

Over the next 12 months, we will...

- The Safer Rother Partnership works to reduce crime and the impact of crime committed by those already convicted of offences. The Partnership does this through participation in Offender Management and Public Protection schemes, youth programmes and community/neighbourhood based interventions, whilst providing support with housing and access to services to aid rehabilitation. Prevention and early intervention programmes will continue to be delivered.
- Anti-Social Behaviour and Hate Crime work in 2015-16 will focus on the effective implementation of the new tools and powers within the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 for example the Community Remedy and Community Protection Notices.
- Continue work on projects to understand the changes in violent crime in Rother and to deliver effective initiatives. In 2015-16 we will focus work on hotspots for domestic abuse, while maintaining our ongoing work on domestic based abuse.
- Research will be commissioned to fully understand the Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) incidents on Rother roads, including research into reasons, locations and solutions. This research will be used to target resources to reduce KSIs and educate drivers on Rother's roads to reduce the risks of KSIs.
- Police and Partnership interventions with neighbouring areas and shared information and operations will continue to be a priority when Rother experiences an increase in shoplifting, begging, and cross border crime such as burglary, thefts from rural and farm buildings, caravan break-in's, oil and fuel.
- The Partnership will continue its day to day work with all agencies to reduce the risk of crime, antisocial behaviour and prevent offending.

Safer Wealden Partnership

“Improving people’s lives in Wealden by working in partnership to reduce the levels of crime and anti-social behaviour and to manage the fear of crime.”



Safer Wealden Partnership

Working Together to Keep Wealden Safer

What are the priorities and why?

- **Reduce the amount of anti-social behaviour experienced by residents in Wealden** – dealing with anti-social behaviour remains a priority for the community and it gives rise to many calls to the Police and other partner agencies. The effects of anti-social behaviour can adversely affect the quality of life of individuals and communities.
- **Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on Wealden's Roads** - Wealden has the worst statistics for the number of people killed or seriously injured on its roads across the whole of East Sussex and the South East Region. According to one Research Company, Wealden’s roads are the 5th most risky for young drivers in Britain out of 379 other district and boroughs. Road Safety is also of key concern to many parishes and towns across the district.
- **Reduce the amount of household burglary and burglary from sheds, outbuildings and commercial premises** - This crime is of concern in Wealden due to the crime numbers and the area can be a prime target given the rural nature of many properties and communities.
- **Reduce the amount of environmental crime in Wealden, with a focus on fly-tipping, littering and dog fouling.** Levels of environmental crime remain stubbornly high and can have a real impact on the way people feel about the area in which they live. In addition the isolated nature of many of the district’s roads lend themselves to fly-tipping incidents.
- **Raise awareness and promote the help and support services available for victims of domestic abuse and increase enforcement.** It is known that the levels of domestic abuse are under-reported and that services to support people are not widely known about, especially in rural areas.
- **The Safer Wealden Partnership will be a proactive in response to emerging threats and priorities and will also deliver a number of projects to improve general community safety, including increased community engagement.** The partnership offers a number of projects such as ‘Safety in Action, aimed at primary school children, and electric blanket testing for the elderly. No-one knows what is around the corner and the Partnership is adaptable and flexible in their approach and ready to respond to whatever threat emerges.

What the community thinks...

According to the East Sussex County Council Reputation Survey, the public placed road safety and antisocial behaviour at the top of their list of community safety priorities.

According to the Sussex Police Local Neighbourhood Survey burglary and domestic abuse are the top crime priorities for the Wealden area

Visibility of the police should be key priority for Sussex Police according to the public in the Wealden area.

When asked which types of anti-social behaviour was most important to tackle in the Wealden area the public listed dog fouling, under-age drinking, littering, nuisance neighbours and careless and inconsiderate driving (ESCC).

Achievements so far...

Wealden District Council has recently completed a review of road safety in the area which will inform the work of the Safer Wealden Road Safety Action Group in the coming year.



Sussex Police and other members of the Safer Wealden Partnership have been working hard to reduce the number of burglaries from people's sheds, garages and outbuildings, a crime that matches the rural nature of Wealden.

The Wealden 'Electric Blanket Testing' project failed 35% of the 237 blankets tested during the three day event in October. The engineer who carried out the tests found one blanket that had scorch marks on where the element was broken!



The 'Safety in Action' project, now in its 23rd Year aims to teach children in a realistic and interactive manner about community and personal safety. This year in June over 1,100 children from 28 primary schools visited the project, which is held at Bowles Outdoor Centre in Eridge and at Herstmonceux Castle. Plans are already underway for 2015.

Over the next 12 months, we will...

- The Safer Wealden Partnership are finalising their plans for the year ahead and allocating the necessary resources to the various aspects of the plan.
- The Joint Action Group, which meets monthly throughout the year, reviews all the plans in place, work undertaken and what more needs to be done. It also receives bids from partner agencies and community groups to commit funds to projects which delivery criteria match the Partnerships priorities. These well attended meetings are action focussed and co-ordinate all relevant activity.
- Following the review of road safety undertaken by Wealden District Council, entitled: 'Driving the Message Home' the Wealden Road Safety Action Group, which reports to the Joint Action Group and the Safer Wealden Partnership are drawing up a detailed action plan in which there are four target groups / activities, which will be acted upon during the coming year.
- Partnership agencies of the Safer Wealden Partnership have now been trained on the use of E-CINS, which is a cloud based information sharing tool. Staff from the various agencies are now signing up as users, familiarising themselves with the tools capabilities and will soon be able to share information on various activities, projects and individuals to make the work we all do more effective.