

Thurrock Community Safety Partnership

Thurrock Community Safety Partnership Board meeting minutes 7 December 2023 2pm to 4:30pm

Chair: Michael Dineen (acting Vice Chair).

Objectives and decisions:

- to be updated on incidents of note and crime performance
- to receive an update on priority 6: tackling community-based anti-social behaviour and safeguarding victims
- to receive an update on priority 8: safer streets through increased visibility and community engagement
- to agree CSP Priorities for 24/25
- to be appraised of current risks to Community Safety in Thurrock and agree required actions to mitigate

Attendees and apologies

Statutory

Name	Organisation	Attendance
Jenny Barnett, Acting Chair	Chief Superintendent, Essex Police	Apologies
Michael Dineen, Acting Vice Chair	Acting Director, Counter Fraud, Community Safety and Resilience, Thurrock Council	Attended
Martin Lucas	The Probation Service	Apologies
Michelle Fraser	The Probation Service	Attended
Cllr G Collins	Councillor representative, Police Crime Panel	Apologies
Anthony Atkin (TA)	District Commander, Essex Police	Attended
Mark Eaglestone	Group Commander, Essex County Fire and Rescue Service	Apologies
Cheryl Wells	Head of Community Safety, Emergency Planning and Resilience, Thurrock Council	Attended
Romi Bose	Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board (ICB)	Attended
Margaret Allen	Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board (ICB)	Apologies

Name	Organisation	Attendance
Cllr Jefferies	Portfolio Holder, Thurrock Council	Apologies
Cllr Carter	Representing Cllr Jefferies, Thurrock Council	Attended
Russ Freeman	Essex County Fire and Rescue Service	Apologies

Non-statutory

Name	Organisation	Attendance
Howard Oldstein	Savills	Attended
Ewelina Sorbjan	Assistant Director – Housing Management, Thurrock Council	Attended
Clare Moore	Head of Youth Offending Service and Prevention, Thurrock Council	Attended
Joe Devlin	Operations Manager, Youth Offending Service, Thurrock Council	Attended
Helen Forster	Head of Public Health, Thurrock Council	Attended
Philip Gregory	Senior Public Health Programme Manager, Thurrock Council	Attended
Mark Tebbs	Thurrock CVS	
Shelia Coates	SERICC	Apologies
Tricia Okwuasaba	Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)	
Jane Namulindwa	Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)	
Malcom Taylor	Adults, Housing and Health, Thurrock Council	Attended
Simon Bell	Chair of Thurrock Association of Secondary Schools (TASS), education lead	Attended
Greg Myddelton	Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC)	Apologies
Jo Broadbent	Director of Public Health, Thurrock Council	Apologies

Ex-officio

Name	Organisation	Attendance
Michelle Cunningham	Community Safety Partnership Manager	Attended

Items discussed

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1	Introduction and apologies
1.1	Introductions were made, apologies noted as above and the confidentiality and disclosure agreement read out by the chair. No items were noted for urgent 'Any Other Business'.
2.	Minutes
2.1	Minutes from 28/09/2023 were approved with a correction to Operation Caesar data which had seen a 55% reduction, not 33%.
2.2	Outstanding Actions were updated as per Action Log. RB updated that all roles within ICB would be changing in January and that she was leaving. TA shared link to the latest policing news for Thurrock and Essex as a whole, and encouraged sign-up to their weekly e-newsletter, www.essex.police.uk/dispatch
2.3	Matters Arising. None noted.
3.	Performance and Incidents of Note
3.1	<p>Police Update – Tony Atkin.</p> <p>TA presented the slides which had previously been shared. Key points highlighted as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reductions seen overall of 3.2% crime, 2.2% hate crime, violence with injury by 1.8% and ASB by 30.9% • increases seen in dwelling burglary – 24.5% and vehicle crime – 13.7% theft of and 12.5% theft from – however both currently on a downward trajectory. Increases also seen in burglary. • TA explained Op Tank in place to target hot spot areas of vehicle crimes. 1 robbery at Lakeside had 6 victims so 1 incident recorded as 6. • TA talked through 3 incidents of note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ murder at George Tilbury House. ES said a lot of concerns raised by the community over this and over the scaffolding in place. Sessions have been held with residents, briefings provided to Cllrs and daily walks of sites have increased. ○ there is an ongoing investigation into a stabbing at the Civic Hall following a boxing event. ○ a young boy was injured in Hardie Park by an e-scooter, and they are looking to bring charges. • MC asked about supporting messages into schools regards dangers of e-scooters • SB for his school not a general issue, they already do a lot on this and only aware of 2 pupils with them. • TA updated on community concerns with Op Zap in place to address issues across Seabrooke Rise and Op Velour and Op Bike to address violence and ASB in Tilbury • Stop and Search data was presented – 1415 stops in 12 months ending Oct 23 of which 32.23% had positive outcomes, higher than force average, 8 were strip searches – all of whom were aged over 18. MT asked about the large number where ethnicity wasn't defined and could anything be done to improve this. TA there is ongoing work around this to increase and officers have been given cards to support in defining – it is a force issue.

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	<p>MT then asked about whether there was disproportionality between those stopped and community make up.</p> <p>TA data on this is available and reviewed at youth crime governance as well as across force and current data does not signify any disproportionality.</p> <p>JD confirmed this was an ongoing focus area for the youth crime governance board.</p> <p>RB offered to support if need engagement with GP practices and would be welcome to attend their forum.</p>
3.2	<p>ECFRS Performance report.</p> <p>Due to apologies received item deferred and chair requested report be circulated outside of the meeting</p>
4.	<p>Police, Fire Crime Commissioner Update</p>
4.1	<p>PFCC Update – Michelle Cunningham.</p> <p>On behalf of the office of the PFCC MC shared the Safer Essex briefing on the Government response to community safety partnerships review and consultation in ASB powers, noting the following points of relevance to Thurrock CSP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a strong relationship across Essex between CSPs and the PFCC already. • We already share our strategic assessment with the PFCC and publish. • They will create a power for PFCC's to make recommendations on the activity of CSPs- we already take PFCC priorities into account. • The PFCC will have a duty to promote awareness of ASB case reviews and provide root for victims to query the outcome - already currently share any appeals with the PFCC. • There will be a duty to share information in relation to ASB data, currently record on number of systems and potential for double counting – will be something we have to consider. • The power to implement dispersal orders will be extended to Local Authorities. • Drug testing on arrest powers will be extended outside of the custody suite, noted this may be an implication for public health team. • Powers extended to the police to implement a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO). • Noted for housing the age of Community Protection Notices (CPN) will be lowered from 16 to 10. • For environment opportunity to increase the upper limit for fixed penalty notice fines for breaches in relation to PSPO and CPN • Closure powers to be expanded to registered housing providers. • The power of arrest be extended to breaches of a Civil Injunction • Opportunity to extend powers available under Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS).
5.	<p>Priority 6: Tackling Community based Anti-social Behaviour and Safeguarding victims</p>
5.1	<p>Michelle Cunningham presented the above report noting the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASB continues to be managed in Thurrock by locality action groups bringing together multi agencies and there is a strong discussion bimonthly at the executive on areas of concern in relation to ASB between police, housing, and environment. • MC summarised where Thurrock sits in relation to instances across the force and highlighted the frequent callers for October in relation to Tilbury and Grays

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For housing the top wards in the last 12 months for reports of anti-social behaviour are Grays Riverside, Belhus, and Tilbury Riverside/ Thurrock Park with highest category of reports being neighbourhood nuisance. • MC talked through case successes in relation to eviction of a tenant, an obtaining of a closure order and the positive work to address ASB on Seabrook rise with “you said we did” report to be published for residents. • We have received 13 requests for an ASB case review in the last 12 months and requested board note that Thurrock receives the highest number across Essex. • The board noted a reduction in reports of off-road nuisance motorbikes and member enquiries in relation to this priority. • A detailed report was provided into Op Irish Lions and the PSPO in place to address the car cruising. • Grays PSPO was extended in April to include Grays Park and Seabrook Rise with 14 PSPO notices issued along with 6 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) but also a number of FPNs issued in relation to littering of beer cans and urinating. • MC advised of the following risks for consideration in planning for next year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ increase in scooters and motorbikes driven off road including pavements ○ cruisers continuing to breach the PSPO in West Thurrock ○ ongoing breaches of a Criminal Behaviour Order ○ ongoing need to continue to encourage residents to report through appropriate formal channels <p>ES thanked MC for her report.</p>
6.	<p>Priority 8: Safer streets through increased visibility and community engagement</p>
6.1	<p>Priority report – Michelle Cunningham. MC talked through key points of her report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key priorities from the recent community safety survey conducted highlighted residents' concerns in relation to hate crime; sexual harassment/assault; criminal damage to property, physical assault/ robbery, and domestic abuse. • In terms of ASB residents' concerns are groups hanging around, nuisance neighbours and vehicle nuisance- both car cruising and off-road motorbikes. • Threat noted in relation to funding for the environmental engagement officer currently to end of March 24 • Highlights in community engagement included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ visiting hate incident reporting centres and hosting pop up in Grays High Street for National Hate Crime Awareness Week ○ Op Sacred regularly visiting all faith groups ○ Op Brave - a walk and talk event held in Stanford and Corringham ○ monthly popups hosted in Grays ○ the launch of the digital newsletter ○ weekly articles being promoted in the CVS newsletter with a large reach ○ the report acknowledged the work of the Community Safety and Engagement Officer who has been looking at innovative ways to approaching engagement reaching out to community groups such as the Royal British Legion and Alzheimer's group, alongside his continued youth engagement <p>MD formally thanked PC Brand for his ongoing work.</p>
6.2	<p>Perception/Confidence Data – Tony Atkin. TA talked through the data which had been shared acknowledging 52% believed Essex Police understood the issues in their community and 42% thought police were dealing</p>

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	<p>with crime and ASB and explained was responding to improving this through open surgeries with Cllrs and Let's Talk events, as well as local officers attending community forums wherever possible. TA left the meeting.</p>
7.	Greater Essex Drug and Alcohol Partnership
7.1	<p>Helen Forster provided update in relation to drug and alcohol services in Thurrock: Re-commissioning process has been completed for an all-age single provider service. Bids have been evaluated by a review panel and a preferred provider identified. Contract award is expected to be completed by Friday 15 December – at which point it will be possible to make public details of the new provider.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current CYP performing well. The service is continuing to work closely with schools and local colleges for education and awareness events, assemblies, and undertake professional screening tool training. • Adult service facing some capacity pressures due to unexpected long term staff absences. Performance has dipped slightly for alcohol treatment completions; however, a remedial action plan is in place seeking to mitigate against this. • New transitional worker in place at the adult provider and now linking in with the CYP service. They are also networking with different agencies in Thurrock with a focus on youth organisations and services. Inclusion has been offered workspace days within the Thurrock community hubs and now has a permanent slot at Stifford Centre • New Dependency and Recovery worker in place at the adult provider. This post is funded by the Probation service and is designed to support offenders who are identified with substance use issues either by providing brief interventions or for those presenting with levels of dependency to engage/refer into specialist treatment. The post holder will provide a range of harm reduction advice, brief and specialist treatment interventions to offenders. <p>SETDAP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contextual Safeguarding meeting established in Thurrock to allow providers and other partners to input into SETDAP. ToR currently been finalised. • Partners across SETDAP continue to see recruitment challenges for treatment related posts. • Spend of Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Grant progressing well with a very small underspend forecast. Plans are in place to quickly address any additional underspends that may occur in Q3 or Q4 • Item on 'Reviewing and discussing gaps around prevention & harm reduction and future planning' was deferred to the January meeting. • Essex Police stated they'd seen no confirmed Nitazene deaths since previous board meeting. Additionally, focusing on Drug Test on Arrest where domestic abuse is involved. • Essex Recovery Foundation presented the Three Steps to Radical Change approach, which encompasses lived experience and co-production. Commissioners will link in with the ERF to develop future service provision. • The continued absence of representation from the ICB was noted.
8.	Delivering Safer Communities
8.1	<p>Draft Priorities Report – Michelle Cunningham. The report provided included the PFCC priorities, Essex Police Priorities, the priorities for Thurrock Health and Wellbeing Board and the current priorities for the CSP.</p>

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	<p>It highlighted the priorities of the community from the Safer Essex Community Safety Survey alongside the top ranked crimes within the risk matrix – also shared. MC proposed the following priorities for 24/25 for the board's consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Breaking the cycle of Domestic Abuse: in line with the Domestic Abuse Duty and needs assessment. 2. Reduce harm to and safeguard victims from Hate Crime. 3. Engaging with residents to Tackle Community based Anti-social Behaviour and Safeguard victims 4. Violence and Vulnerability: Tackling the causes of drug driven violent crime in our communities (including robbery) through driving down gang related activity including offensive weapons. 5. Tackling disproportionality in relation to Violence Against Women and Girls: including sexual offences, stalking and rape, whilst recognising that men and boys can also be victims. <p>In addition to the above priorities the CSP will ensure that plans and appropriate governance is in place to deliver our duties in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent Duty Revised 2023 • Reduce Reoffending <p>And that we will commit to deliver on year 3 of our action plan to address Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery.</p> <p>MD stressed important we weren't mimicking other organisations but focusing on Thurrock.</p> <p>ES agreed with the proposed priorities and added perception was important and welcomed the acknowledgement of the disproportionality in relation to VAWG and how we can influence priorities on top of the work Police do.</p> <p>MD noted that those present approved the proposal but requested Police and ECFRS confirm their agreement outside of the meeting.</p>
8.2	<p>PESTELO – Michelle Cunningham. Report on horizon scanning in relation to risks was shared. The report was agreed for inclusion in the strategic assessment with agreement that ICB to be added under organisational change.</p>
8.3	<p>Funding summary – Michelle Cunningham. MC provided updates in relation to funding across the following areas.</p>
8.3.1	<p>OP Dial – on track in relation to the funding for ASB hot spot area: West Thurrock – including cruisers, Lakeside, and the train station. Multi agency operations in place including licensing.</p>
8.3.2	<p>Transport Safety Officers (TSOs)– MD updated on the funding received for this across Essex which Thurrock was leading on, providing 6 TSOs across Essex. Focus in Thurrock on c2c stations of Ockendon, Chafford, Grays, and Tilbury and would start 30/01/2024.</p>
8.3.3	<p>Op Minerva – Funding now agreed for Corringham including additional patrols and CCTV.</p>
8.3.4	<p>Safer Streets – Tilbury work in progress to develop a bid.</p>
8.3.5	<p>VVU Funding – continue to receive funding from the Violence and Vulnerability Unit to work in schools and provide outreach and intervention from those at risk of exclusion and or exploitation.</p>

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8.3.6	CSP Funding – on track to spend the grant by end March 24 when full report will be shared.
9.	Agency Updates
9.1	Items by exception – none raised.
10.	Future Agenda Items – see below.
10.1	See below.
11.	Any other business
11.1	None raised.

Meeting closed at 4:14pm.

Future meetings

Meeting dates, 2pm to 4:30pm	Forward Plan / Priorities for Discussion
21 March 2024	<p>Strategic assessment – sign off.</p> <p>Delivery plan – sign off.</p> <p>Prevent Strategy – sign off.</p> <p>Serious Violence Duty:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essex wide strategy for information • Local delivery plan – sign off <p>End of year report to PFF – sign off.</p>
20 June 2024	<p>Information sharing Annual Review.</p> <p>Review of Terms of Reference.</p> <p>Priority reports.</p>
19 September 2023	Priority reports
12 December 2023	Priority reports
Standing agenda item	Community Drug Partnerships