

BOROUGH OF KETTERING

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Report Originator	Martin Hammond Deputy Chief Executive Kettering Borough Council	<i>Fwd Plan Ref No:</i> -	
Wards Affected	All	25 th April 2014	
Title	COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY 2014-17		

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To submit the Community Safety Strategy for the three year period starting 2014.

2. INFORMATION

2.1 The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) meets on 14th April to agree the new three year strategy, so the attached document is a draft. The CSP has a three year rolling strategy, refreshed every year in the light of the annual assessment of crime and disorder, and therefore changes to the strategy tend to be incremental.

2.2 The main themes of the strategy remain:-

- reducing violence both
 - o that associated with the night-time economy and
 - o domestic abuse
- reducing re-offending and tackling serious acquisitive crime
- reducing anti-social behaviour

2.3 Within the theme of re-offending and serious acquisitive crime, an additional aspect will be to focus on the area which is suffering most from crime and anti-social behaviour, which is an oval shaped area stretching from Rockingham Rd through to the Grange estate and taking in parts of William Knibb, All Saints, Pipers Hill and Avondale Grange wards. A particular focus this year will also be in tackling insecurities, which are a contributing factor in a third of burglary and car crime, and supporting the PCC's ambition to increase the numbers of police specials, street wardens and police cadets.

2.4 The crime strategy sits alongside the policing plan and the agreed county wide priorities for partner agencies. The partnership focus in 2014-15 is on alcohol harm, inter-personal violence and anti-social behaviour.

2.5 In addition, the strategy sits alongside Borough Council objectives for the town centre, including the Purple Flag initiative.

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- 2.6 Action plans in support of each of the aims are set out in the strategy; and will be delivered by multi-agency delivery groups reporting to the CSP.

3. FINANCES

- 3.1 The Borough Council now pays for the Community Safety Manager from its own resources, as the Police and Crime Commissioner has declined to directly contribute to this partnership post. Some of the costs of the post will be recovered through project budgets (see below).
- 3.2 The Borough Council is putting £25,000 into community safety projects directly and a further £37,000 through its service level agreements with voluntary sector bodies for neighbourhood watch, youth outreach and victim support. The Council also puts significant sums into CCTV and PCSOs.
- 3.3 The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner has allocated the Borough Council a sum of £59,000 from its new "Local Solutions Fund" for locally delivered community safety initiatives. This compares with an allocation in 2013-14 from the predecessor fund of about £34,000 for community safety projects. However the new fund will not be allocated until the OPCC has agreed the detail of the projects proposed by the Council, and will be paid on results, rather than in advance.
- 3.4 Although the money has been allocated to KBC, the local CSP will continue to act as the delivery mechanism for community safety projects for this and the KBC money, which is being pooled, along with other contributions, so as to maximise the impact of all the available money. The main uses to which the combined funds will be put are:-
- Town centre and related violence reduction £32,000
 - Domestic abuse victim support £27,000
 - Target hardening of residential properties £18,000
 - Insecurities and priority locations £ 5,000
 - Youth outreach and youth chaplaincy £14,000 (plus KBC Grant and SLA).

4. CRIME AND PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

- 4.1 Crime is down 16% over the last two years. Over that same period,
- violence against the person has reduced by 12%; in the town centre, there has been a reduction of 16%, whilst domestic violence is largely static
 - criminal damage has reduced by 10%
 - anti-social behaviour is largely static, although it is lower now than it was in early or mid 2013,
 - burglary dwelling has increased by 27% although it has reduced by about 15% from the peak in April 2013.

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- Vehicle crime has increased by 8%, with a sharp increase in the last six months, this is predominately theft from vehicles.

4.2 In terms of public perceptions, Kettering has fared slightly worse than other parts of the county over the last year in terms of trends:-

- Concern about anti-social behaviour amongst Kettering Borough residents is about 7%, which compares with about 10% a year ago.
- The “single confidence” measure shows a score of 61% in the Borough, compared to 64% a year ago.

5. **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board:-

- notes the key themes of the Community Safety Strategy