Crime and Disorder Committee

Grand Jury Room, Town Hall
24 August 2009 at 6.00pm

Information for Members of the Public

Access to information and meetings

You have the right to attend all meetings of the Council, its Committees and Cabinet. You also have the right to see the agenda, which is usually published 5 working days before the meeting, and minutes once they are published. Dates of the meetings are available at www.colchester.gov.uk or from Democratic Services.

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The Council values contributions from members of the public. Under the Council's Have Your Say! policy you can ask questions or express a view to meetings with the exception of Standards Committee meetings.. If you wish to speak at a meeting or wish to find out more, please pick up the leaflet called “Have Your Say” at Council offices or at www.colchester.gov.uk .

Private Sessions

Occasionally meetings will need to discuss issues in private. This can only happen on a limited range of issues, which are set by law. When a committee does so, you will be asked to leave the meeting.

Mobile phones, pagers, cameras, audio recorders

Please ensure that all mobile phones and pagers are turned off before the meeting begins and note that photography or audio recording is not permitted.

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There is wheelchair access to the Town Hall from West Stockwell Street. There is an induction loop in all the meeting rooms. If you need help with reading or understanding this document please take it to Angel Court Council offices, High Street, Colchester or telephone (01206) 282222 or textphone (01206) 18001 followed by the full telephone number you wish to call, and we will try to provide a reading service, translation or other formats you may need.

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Toilets are located on the second floor of the Town Hall, access via the lift. A vending machine selling hot and cold drinks is located on the ground floor.

Evacuation Procedures

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The role of the Crime and Disorder Committee

The Committee shall meet to review or scrutinise decisions or other actions taken in connection with the functions conferred to the Committee, these being, a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in the Borough and a strategy for combating the misuse of drugs in the borough.

The Committee has to meet at least once in every twelve month period.

The Committee may co-opt persons to serve on the Committee who are employees, officers or members of responsible authorities, for example, the Council, Essex County Council, Essex Police Authority, Essex Fire and Rescue Authority and the Essex Probation Service, though co-opted persons shall not be entitled to vote on any matter, unless the Committee so determines.

The work of the Crime and Disorder Committee

An annual review of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy will be the substantive report to be considered.

Any Member of Colchester Borough Council may give written notice to the Scrutiny Officer (on behalf of the Head of Corporate Services) that they wish an item to be included on the agenda of the Committee in relation to a local crime and disorder matter. If the matter is considered a local crime and disorder matter, the item will be included on the first available agenda of the Committee.

A crime and disorder matter is a matter involving anti-social behaviour or other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment, or the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances.

The Committee once it has considered a local crime and disorder matter shall consider whether or not to make a report to the Cabinet or Council, and if it decides not to, shall notify the Councillor concerned of its decision(s) and the reason(s) for it.

If the Committee decides to report to the Cabinet or Council, it will provide a copy of the report to the Councillor concerned and the responsible authorities and co-operating persons or bodies as appropriate.

COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL
CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE
24 August 2009 at 6:00pm

Members

Chairman	:	Councillor Christopher Arnold.
Deputy Chairman	:	Councillor Dennis Willetts.
		Councillors Kim Naish, Nick Barlow, Mark Cory, Mike Hogg, Jackie Maclean, Gaye Pyman, Laura Sykes, Nick Taylor and Julie Young.
Substitute Members	:	All members of the Council who are not Cabinet Members or members of the panel.

Agenda - Part A

(open to the public including the media)

Members of the public may wish to note that agenda items 1 - 5 are normally brief.

Pages

1. Welcome and Announcements

(a) The Chairman to welcome members of the public and Councillors and to remind all speakers of the requirement for microphones to be used at all times.

(b) At the Chairman's discretion, to announce information on:

- action in the event of an emergency;
- mobile phones switched off or to silent;
- location of toilets;
- introduction of members of the meeting.

2. Substitutions

Members may arrange for a substitute councillor to attend a meeting on their behalf, subject to prior notice being given. The attendance of substitute councillors must be recorded.

3. Urgent Items

To announce any items not on the agenda which the Chairman has agreed to consider because they are urgent and to give reasons for the urgency.

4. Declarations of Interest

The Chairman to invite Councillors to declare individually any personal

interests they may have in the items on the agenda.

If the personal interest arises because of a Councillor's membership of or position of control or management on:

- any body to which the Councillor has been appointed or nominated by the Council; or
- another public body

then the interest need only be declared if the Councillor intends to speak on that item.

If a Councillor declares a personal interest they must also consider whether they have a prejudicial interest. If they have a prejudicial interest they must leave the room for that item.

If a Councillor wishes to make representations on an item on which they have a prejudicial interest they may do so if members of the public are allowed to make representations. In such circumstances a Councillor must leave the room immediately once they have finished speaking.

An interest is considered to be prejudicial if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard it as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Councillor's judgement of the public interest.

Councillors should consult paragraph 7 of the Meetings General Procedure Rules for further guidance.

5. Minutes

No minute to confirm.

6. Have Your Say!

(a) The Chairman to invite members of the public to indicate if they wish to speak or present a petition at this meeting – either on an item on the agenda or on a general matter not on this agenda. You should indicate your wish to speak at this point if your name has not been noted by Council staff.

(b) The Chairman to invite contributions from members of the public who wish to Have Your Say! on a general matter not on this agenda.

7. Crime and Disorder **1 - 48**

Members are asked to note the Home Office guidance for the scrutiny of Crime and Disorder matters, enclosed as a background paper.

The role and work of the Crime and Disorder Committee is shown on the information page at the beginning of the Crime and Disorder

Committee Agenda.

Members should note that a Developing Overview and Scrutiny event will be held in the Town Hall on Tuesday 25 August 2009 (6.00 - 9.00 p.m.) and all members are welcome to attend. The event will include discussion on Councillor Calls for Action and issues in regards to crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour.

8. Review of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership **49 - 71**

See report from the Head of Life Opportunities.

9. Exclusion of the public

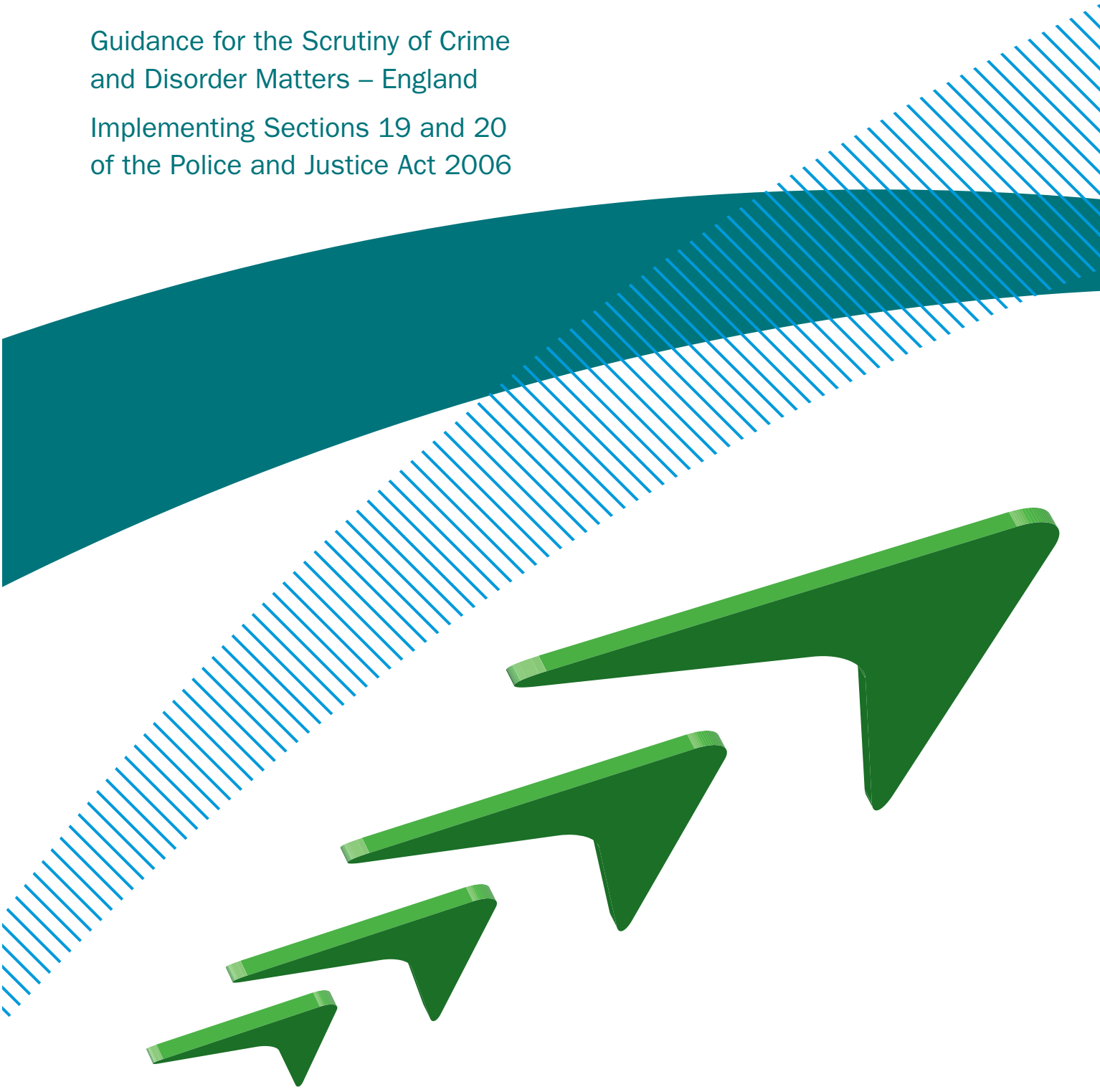
In accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 and in accordance with The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended) to exclude the public, including the press, from the meeting so that any items containing exempt information (for example confidential personal, financial or legal advice), in Part B of this agenda (printed on yellow paper) can be decided. (Exempt information is defined in Section 100I and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).

NATIONAL SUPPORT FRAMEWORK
DELIVERING SAFER AND CONFIDENT COMMUNITIES

Home Office

Guidance for the Scrutiny of Crime and Disorder Matters – England

Implementing Sections 19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act 2006



Contents

Introduction

Crime is consistently one of the top concerns for communities everywhere – and therefore working to keep the areas we live in safe and harmonious is an ongoing priority for politicians and public servants alike.

But, safety depends on far more than the action of the few professionals for whom it is their dedicated occupation. It needs a creative and cooperative approach that draws in other services – from licensing, to activities for teenagers, to planning – but also engages the community at large: businesses; faith groups; local charities; community groups; and individual members of the public.

Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) have made significant progress over the past ten years, but further evolution is always required. Throughout this document you will see references to changes made as the result of recent reforms – reductions in bureaucracy, devolving responsibilities to the local level, streamlining of processes. The powers now given to enable councillors to scrutinise CDRPs are integral to this new landscape.

At heart, scrutiny is about accountability. Councillors have a unique place in local decision making, providing a clear line of democratic accountability between decision-making and the people they serve. The new provisions will enable them to bring their unique perspective to bear on how CDRPs are tackling crime and disorder and potentially benefit communities everywhere..

These powers are given to local authorities' scrutiny functions by sections 19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 ('the Act') – as amended by section 126 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. There have also been regulations passed under section 20 of the Police and Justice Act. These provisions provide local authorities with a framework for the development of an ongoing relationship between CDRPs and scrutiny bodies.

This guidance has been written for a variety of people:

- For those working in community safety, it will introduce them to scrutiny in local government, to the principles that underpin it, and to the positive contribution it can make to their work: and
- For councillors, and officers working in local authorities, it will provide information on community safety issues (including the national policies and structures) and give them advice on how scrutiny can add value to the work they do with partnerships.

Key points which may be particularly useful to certain groups are contained in **coloured boxes** throughout the document: CDRPs may find the information in the orange boxes most useful; councillors and local authority officers, the purple boxes and the green boxes will be useful to all groups.

The guidance consists of the following sections:

- Section 1: an introduction to community safety, for members and officers who may be unfamiliar with some of the themes and the jargon.
- Section 2: an exploration, through some worked examples, of what good scrutiny of crime and disorder issues might look like.
- Section 3: a discussion of the practicalities, including the designation of crime and disorder committees and community safety partner responsibilities.

Notes on the wording and scope of the guidance

Where we have used the word “committee” in the guidance, in most instances we are referring to what the regulations call the “crime and disorder committee”. We have omitted the prefix to minimise unnecessary repetition of the phrase.

This guidance applies to England. Separate guidance covering Wales will be issued later in 2009 as the provisions will come into force in Wales on 1 October 2009.

Section 1 - An introduction to community safety

1.1 Brief history

You might find this most useful if you are a scrutiny member or officer.

All councillors are now aware of the partnership landscape that connects so much of the work of local public services. But the history of partnerships has been a story of evolution more than design. Partnerships on safety are one of the oldest and most prescribed parts of the local strategic partnership family.

Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) were created by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to develop and implement strategies to reduce crime and disorder (although they are not called CDRPs in the statute). They are known as Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) in Wales. They exist to ensure that a number of prescribed 'responsible authorities' work together to jointly agree and delivery community safety priorities. The responsible authorities are:

- The local authority
- The police force
- The police authority
- The fire and rescue authority
- The primary care trust

The responsible authorities have a duty to work in co-operation with the 'co-operating bodies' who are probation, parish councils, NHS Trusts, NHS Foundation Trusts, proprieters of independent schools and governing bodies of an institution within the further education sector. It is likely that from April 2010, probation authorities will become responsible authorities and the duties of CDRPs will be expanded to include reducing re-offending.[1]

Other partners can also sit on the CDRP, meaning that membership can vary widely across the country. However, the above core membership is the same for every partnership.

Since 1998, CDRPs have become an integral part of the work of police forces and local authorities in particular, though a wide range of partners may also be involved, tackling a range of local issues to do with safety.

Unlike most elements of local strategic partnerships, CDRPs have been subject in the past to a very significant amount of direction, legislation, and targets from the centre. A review of the Crime and Disorder Act concluded in 2006 and subsequent amendments to legislation were made through the Police and Justice

[1] Provisions included in the Policing and Crime Bill

Act 2006. This resulted in regulations[2] and guidance that further evolved the work of CDRPs.

What does this mean for me?
Councillors and scrutiny officers might reflect on the fact that these CDRPs have a relatively long history, which means relationships may be well established and partners cautious about how the dynamic may be affected by new scrutiny activity. They may also be used to working within a tightly defined framework, and may only recently have begun to adapt to an approach that is more flexible and allows more local discretion.

1.2 Community safety priorities

All CDRPs in England are now part of a new performance framework. What this means is that CDRPs should not be subject to any central targets or funding streams apart from what is negotiated through the Local Area Agreement. There are four main elements to the performance framework:

- National Public Service Agreements (PSAs) as measured through the National Indicator Set (NIS)
- the Local Area Agreement (LAA)
- Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA)
- The Place Based Survey

Government identifies its priorities for reducing crime through these PSAs, whereas LAAs reflect local priorities.

PSAs and LAAs change periodically; it is important to emphasise that these will reflect, at local level, changes in the community safety landscape in the area, and, at national level, changes in national priorities reflected in government policy.

In order to identify and deliver on the priorities that matter the most to local communities, CDRPs are required to carry out a number of main tasks. These include:

- preparing an annual strategic assessment. This is a document identifying the crime and community safety priorities in the area, through analysis of information provided by partner agencies and the community.
- producing a partnership plan, laying out the approach for addressing those priorities;
- undertaking community consultation and engagement on crime and disorder issues; and
- Sharing information among the responsible authorities within the CDRP.

[2] The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 and The Crime and Disorder (Prescribed Information) Regulations 2007

These key tasks have been affected by the changes put in place relating to the CDRP performance regime. More information can be found at Section 1.5.

What does this mean for me?
Targets in the LAA will be considered by scrutiny in any case – councils were given powers to scrutinise LAAs as part of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. It may not provide best use of scrutiny resources to focus too much time on performance information. But the strategic assessment provides a chance to get underneath high-level information and think about how well the partnership understands the area and its mapping need. Some areas have access to quite sophisticated crime and anti-social behaviour mapping technology, for example, that councillors may be unaware of and find insightful.

1.3 Who delivers on community safety?

The Independent Review of Policing carried out by Sir Ronnie Flanagan, and published in early 2008, stated that, "policing is far too important to be left to the police alone" (p 5). This is even more relevant when it comes to community safety and was behind the introduction of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. Community safety is not just about the police. Like every challenging outcome that local authorities and their partners deliver for their communities, community safety needs a wide range of people and organisations to be involved and contributing to address crime and its causes.

This theme was expanded upon by the Policing Green Paper, *From the Neighbourhood to the National: Policing our communities together*, published in July 2008, which emphasises the role both of CDRPs, other partnerships and of local communities in improving community safety.

The public policy imperative for close joint working, across a wide range of organisations and sectors, is consequently very clear.

Looking more widely at partnership
A good illustration of how effective community safety needs to be creative and draw in the widest group of agencies is provided in the practical guide called *Tackling Gangs.* While gangs and gang violence may seem like a serious problem for the police to deal with, the guidance shows how real impact can only be achieved with a much wider approach. The guidance recommends creating a multi-agency partnership to include:

- Police
- Local authority: community safety, anti-social behaviour team, children and young people's services, housing
- Crown Prosecution Service
- Further education colleges
- Prison Service

- Probation Service
- Youth Offending Team

Though these would provide leadership, there might be other organisations to involve to really make a difference:

- the business community – they have an interest in reducing crime and can provide job training, voluntary opportunities and sponsorship for projects;
- the voluntary and community sector – they can create vital links to hard to reach parts of the community, providing both trusted services and valuable information;
- Department for Work and Pensions and Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency – they can help crack down on gang members committing benefit fraud or licensing offences
- Revenue and Customs – they can help tackle illegal import of weapons and drugs
- Primary Care Trusts – gang members will often report to A&E when injured, but not report to the police
- TV licensing – can go into gang members homes and be part of a campaign to put pressure on gang members

1.4 The responsible authorities

In Section 1.1 we mentioned the statutory responsible authorities sitting on the CDRP. While the role of scrutiny is to **scrutinise the partnership as a whole**, good scrutiny is based on relationships and mutual understanding. This section explains the individual roles within the partnership in more detail.

Local authority

Most local authorities have staff dedicated to community safety, though resources in smaller districts may be limited. But community safety needs the support of a wide range of people throughout the council to be effective. The council has a legal duty under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to carry out all its various functions with due regard to the need to prevent crime and disorder in its area. This duty is likely to be extended to include reducing re-offending from April 2010[3].

Public policy makers in local authorities and other sectors have grappled for some time with issues relating to the links between crime and services provided by the council and its partners. The relationships between specific services such as child welfare, education and training, health (including mental health), and crime and disorder priorities are complex.

[3] Provisions included in the Policing and Crime Bill

A common priority is tackling anti-social behaviour. In order to successfully tackle anti-social behaviour you first need to understand it – therefore information exchange and analysis of the problem including those involved is the first stage. Co-ordinating services including youth support, drug and alcohol action, policing and park management will then be important given their links to those involved in anti-social behaviour. The solution to an anti-social behaviour problem does not lie with one service or partner agency alone.

The importance of giving people a good start in life is obvious – this is why local authority functions such as **Children's Trusts** and **Youth Offending Teams** are important contributors to community safety. Youth Offending teams sit within the local authority but bring together multi-agency partnerships around education, health and social services. They are overseen nationally by the **Youth Justice Board**.

If people have jobs, relationships, houses and good mental health they are far less likely to commit crime or re-commit crime even if they have been convicted in the past. Other important partners are **Drug and Alcohol Action Teams** – another local authority team that leads a multi-agency partnership and links into the community safety partnership. **Housing services**, either in-house, arms length or from social housing providers, are an important partner, both in getting people settled but also in tackling problems such as estates whose design encourages crime. Apart from the specialist teams named above, **adult social services** have a role to play in working with people with chaotic lives and mental health needs in particular.

Police

No one person is in overall control of policing in England and Wales. The current governance arrangement which involves chief officers of police, police authorities and the Home Secretary - what is known as the 'tripartite arrangement' - has evolved over time, based on the broad principles of political impartiality of the police, policing by consent of the public, the Government's overall responsibility for ensuring a safe society in which to live, and the need for the expenditure of public money to be properly accounted for.

There are 43 police forces in England and Wales, as against the 381 local authorities, which means that many police forces deal with several local authorities at once. For some areas this is more problematic than others. In London there is only one police force, the Metropolitan Police, for all 32 borough councils. However, London is divided into 34 **Basic Command Units** (BCUs) which are coterminous with each borough, with two separate BCUs for Heathrow and the Royal Parks.

Chief Constables have discretion to organise their force anyway they see fit, and may use a variety of different terms for the sub-units within the force, including BCU, Division, District or Borough. In Thames Valley Police there are only five BCUs, for example, but these are subdivided into "Local Policing Areas" that are coterminous with local authorities.

Below the BCU level there are **Safer Neighbourhood Teams**. These have been rolled out throughout England and Wales and are an important part of partnership working. The latest focus is on joining up Neighbourhood Policing with Neighbourhood Management.

Police authority

The role of the police authority is to secure an efficient and effective police force for the area. This is done by setting the strategic direction for the police in the area for which the authority is responsible, and by holding the Chief Constable to account. All police officers and staff are accountable to the Chief Constable, and the Chief Constable to the police authority.

In order to do this, police authorities have an officer structure that supports a committee made up of local councillors and independent members, with councillors holding a majority of one. Councillors are drawn from top-tier authorities using a formula to give political balance. At least one of the independent members must be a magistrate. Most police authorities have between 17 and 25 members, though 17 is typical.

The police authority sets the strategic direction for the force by, amongst other things, deciding how much council tax should be used for policing (allocated by the use of precepts) and putting in place local police priorities. In doing so, police authorities also have a statutory duty to consult communities.

In holding the Chief Constable to account, police authorities carry out functions similar to those which the scrutiny committee might seek to exercise. It is important to emphasise that scrutiny bodies and police authorities should work closely together to ensure that their activities are complementary.

Fire and rescue

Fire and rescue services have a relatively focused remit, but are often committed and enthusiastic members of community safety partnerships. Fire and rescue is structured into 50 services across England and Wales. Accountability is provided through the **fire authority**. The fire authority is a committee of councillors. How this committee is made up depends on the boundaries of the fire service. Where boundaries are co-terminous (which is the case for counties) the fire authority is a committee of the council. Where the fire service covers more than one authority, there is an external committee that is made up of councillors from each

of the local authorities in the area. The London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority is an exception. It oversees the London Fire Brigade, and is made up of eight members nominated from the London Assembly, seven from the London boroughs and two appointed by the Mayor.

The contributions of the fire and rescue service may make to community safety might include:

- fire safety education, focusing on children in schools and groups in the community who may be particularly vulnerable;
- road safety - reducing collisions and accidental deaths;
- planning for, and reacting to emergencies such as floods; and
- being a positive mentor and role model for young people.

Primary care trust

Health is a statutory partner in CDRPs through legislation. Its role is often problematic and they have been the most difficult partner to engage in CDRPs. Areas where health has a role in community safety include:

- tackling the misuse of alcohol, drugs and other substances, commissioning and providing appropriate drug and alcohol services;
- arranging for the provision of health advice or treatment for people who put themselves or others at risk through their use of drugs or alcohol;
- helping to support the victims of domestic violence; and
- working with other local partners to help prevent problems occurring in the first place, for example by alerting the police to licensed premises where a lot of alcohol-related injuries occur.

Probation

Each provider of probation services in an area is expected to become a responsible authority through legislative changes which are likely to take effect from April 2010. Probation authorities will then have an equal role in CDRPs alongside the other five responsible authorities. Some probation areas already have effective relationships and a clear role within local partnerships, although the duty placed on partnerships to address re-offending and on probation to be a full responsible authority will enhance this relationship in the future.

Probation is part of the **National Offender Management Service (NOMS)**, which also runs prisons and therefore has an important role in the criminal justice system. The changes planned through developments in NOMS will bring about **Probation Trusts** who will both commission and provide court and offender management services.

Some examples of probation's role include:

- preparing pre-sentence reports to help magistrates make sentencing decisions;
- supervising community orders, including **Community Payback;**
- helping offenders develop life skills so they can get back into education or employment;
- collaborating on programmes to tackle issues like drugs, drink driving and domestic violence; and
- supporting **Multi-Agency Public Protection Programmes (MAPPA)** which assess and control high risk offenders on release

1.5 The performance landscape for crime and policing

The performance landscape for community safety, and CDRPs, is changing.

Scrutiny should be aware that police and community safety partnerships are adjusting to significant changes in planning, monitoring and assessment. Although, the changes brought about in the Policing Green Paper should make it easier for the police to work even more collaboratively at the local level, but there may be a period of adjustment and learning, which could even create opportunities for scrutiny to contribute constructively through challenge and help with policy development.

Some of the changes are:

- introduction of the Policing Pledge;
- greater focus on rigorous scrutiny of performance of the police force by the police authority;
- external monitoring to move from the Home Office to Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC);
- crime maps and neighbourhood-level information now available for all 43 forces from December 2008;
- much more public information – surveys, website with quarterly information, public reporting of police authority inspections, letters from HMIC to chief constable and chair setting out performance issues and requiring an action plan; and
- greater focus on self improvement and peer support. Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnerships will have responsibility for supporting CDRPs.

Confidence
The most significant recent change for both the police and partnerships is in a new approach to dealing with community confidence. All other targets on crime have been abolished except for one, which is a public perception indicator measured through the British Crime Survey. The question they ask members of the public is whether they agree with this statement:

The police and local council are dealing with the anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter in this area.

Confidence presents a significant opportunity for scrutiny – the most significant factor in the Metropolitan Police Service's approach to confidence is community engagement. In representing the community, scrutiny has the potential to make a real contribution to understanding confidence and increasing it.

1.6 Scrutiny and community safety – working together

Community safety partners have a long history of working together and getting results. The introduction of crime and disorder scrutiny committees enhances existing partnership arrangements by developing a clear structure for overseeing and reviewing the delivery of joint responses on community safety and by creating a clearer link between partner agencies and the public on community safety.

Because the role of scrutiny should be focused on the partnership as a whole, if issues arise which relate specifically to a particular partner organisation, it may be appropriate to refer such issues to the governing bodies of that organisation for action.

Scrutiny, done well, can always add value. Public services can be improved by an independent eye providing balanced, researched and constructive ideas. Part of that success, however, depends on choosing the right topic and understanding the landscape. Here are some suggestions about how the scrutiny of crime and disorder matters could add value and focus on issues that matter to the public:

Neighbourhoods – Neighbourhoods are very important for both community safety and councillors, but understanding how to make the most of this connection may need some careful investigation – there is no national direction on what neighbourhoods should look like, so they are different everywhere. But every part of England and Wales has a neighbourhood policing team, and many local authorities have linked this with their own neighbourhood management and with ward councillors.

Confidence – The new confidence agenda for councils and the police presents real opportunities for scrutiny. As well as being a shared responsibility across the two organisations, it's also an area that councillors should have a unique perspective on. As the police and partners develop an increased focus on communicating and engaging with the public, scrutiny may be able to provide practical help and suggestions. This might draw on community knowledge, or help link the police with the experience of other services in the area that have been successful at building a connection with local people. Police authorities are tasked to hold the Chief Constable to account for performance against the

confidence measure, so this might also be a fruitful area for joint scrutiny with the police authority.

Criminal justice – The Policing and Crime Bill contains measures to add reducing re-offending to the core areas of focus for CDRPs, as well as increasing the responsibilities of probation. These changes, along with a clear focus on integrated offender management will mean that there will be a period of change. The Ministry of Justice is also encouraging magistrates to become more involved in engaging with the community. Partnerships might benefit from the support of scrutiny to help them manage these transitions successfully, and get the most from better engagement with the criminal justice community.

Territory and hierarchy – Partnership working is complex, particularly in areas with complex geography such as two-tier areas. There can be tensions between the county's LAA – which will have community safety targets - and district CDRPs – because in most cases CDRPs exist at district council boundaries although there is a requirement for county co-ordinating arrangements to add value and bring together district community safety activity. For scrutiny to be successful, councillors need to develop an understanding of what the local crime and disorder structures are, the dynamics that exist at different layers of partnership activity and of any tensions that might exist. Scrutiny provides an invaluable tool in offering an independent voice to challenge whilst still respecting local flexibilities and sensitivities.

Choosing a community safety topic…

Bedford Borough Council has an effective process for choosing topics which has helped them work in closer partnership with the police. When developing the scrutiny work programme, they carry out a formal consultation process which includes direct mail to partner organisations, advertisements in the local media and borough and parish council newsletters, and discussions with the directly elected mayor, councillors and the citizen's panel.

On one occasion, the police responded to this invitation and requested a review of local "cop shops" and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs). This created a context that was followed up by collaboration throughout the process. When a public forum was held in a local school to gather scrutiny evidence, it carried both the council and police logos and attracted a good audience. Members got 'their hands dirty' by spending half a day on the beat with PCSOs. PCSOs completed confidential questionnaires which also went to the council's own street and park rangers.

At the end of the process, the police and community safety teams remained involved, participating in both the review of the evidence and the informal meeting to consider what recommendations to include in the review final report.

As a result of this collaborative approach, the report was accepted and police implemented the majority of the recommendations, twice reporting back to the scrutiny committee on progress. More widely, the review developed and cemented relationships and demonstrated the value scrutiny can add to partners' own priorities.

Your contact for more information:
Hugh Bartos, Bedford Borough Council, hugh.bartos@bedford.gov.uk

Section 2 What good scrutiny of crime and disorder would look like – putting it into practice

Section 2.1 What scrutiny is, and why it is important

You might find it most useful to read this section if you are a community safety partner.

In 2000, the Government passed laws changing the way in which most councils conducted business and made decisions. Up until that point, decisions had been made in committees. All members of the council were on one of these committees and (theoretically) could play a part in the decision-making process.

Now, decision-making in all but a handful of small district councils (called "fourth option authorities") is carried out by an executive. This is either an elected mayor, or a cabinet of a number of councillors, each with responsibility for a specific policy area.

To balance this concentration of executive authority and to ensure that other members could contribute to the council's decision-making and policy development processes, the Government made provision for what was known as 'overview and scrutiny.'. Under section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000, local authorities altering their executive arrangements would have to set up a committee, or committees, of the council to carry out this overview and scrutiny work. The Government did not specify what the roles of these committees would be, but most authorities sought to establish a system whose responsibility would be both to hold the executive to account and to carry out policy development work. Common to all scrutiny functions is the fact that they can research issues and recommend actions to be taken, but their only powers are to advise and persuade, based on the evidence they gather and analyse.

Since 2000, the responsibilities and powers of scrutiny committees have expanded considerably.

- Firstly, the bulk of detailed scrutiny work is now carried out away from committees, in "task and finish" groups (some authorities call these by different names, but they are basically small, time-limited informal panels made up of councillors, and sometimes people co-opted from the local community because of their experience or knowledge).
- Secondly, scrutiny work now encompasses the work of partners, not just the local authority. These powers have been given by a succession of pieces of legislation including the Health and Social Care Act 2001 and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (more details on these provisions can be found below).

Principles of Scrutiny[4]

There are four fundamental roles that define good scrutiny and underpin scrutiny activity:

1. provides 'critical friend' challenge to executive policy-makers and decision-makers;
2. enables the voice and concerns of the public and its communities to be heard;
3. is carried out by 'independent minded governors' who lead and own the scrutiny process; and
4. drives improvement in public services

Scrutiny in action

The practice of scrutiny varies hugely around the country. It is impossible to adopt a nationwide approach or standard for scrutiny, which is why both the introduction of crime and disorder scrutiny arrangements under sections 19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act 2006, and the regulations that support them, are based on a flexible, enabling approach.

If you are a community safety partner, you will have to work closely with the relevant scrutiny bodies that cover your geographical area to see how the scrutiny of community safety matters will work best for you.

A 'one size fits all' approach is not appropriate and this guidance provides examples of high-quality scrutiny work to support local authorities in developing an approach to crime and disorder scrutiny that both fits in with other scrutiny policies, takes account of local partnership arrangements, and is proportionate and therefore adds value to local crime and disorder activity. See Section 2.2.

Politics

If engagement with scrutiny (the concept of it, and as it is practiced in local authorities) is a new thing for you, you may be concerned about politics. You may be especially concerned that, by attending committee or giving evidence in another way, you will be drawn unwillingly into political debate.

Scrutiny as practiced in most authorities is generally non-party political in its approach. Councillors have done a great deal to ensure that a culture of consensus operates on committees, and members of all political parties work well together on many councils. While disagreements may arise, all councillors have a commitment to ensuring that the work they do, and the work that the authority does, meets the needs of local residents.

[4] According to research carried out by the Centre for Public Scrutiny

Sometimes this commitment manifests itself in political discussion and debate. As partners and councillors alike, you should recognise that scrutiny often examines subjects that are highly political in nature.

This is not necessarily a negative thing. Some of the best examples of good scrutiny are instances where members, officers and partners have harnessed the power of political debate to carry out thorough analysis of a given issue. For example, there have been a number of highly successful reviews into local residents' fear of crime – an emotive and political issue which members, with their understanding both of local politics and the local community, are extremely well placed to investigate.

Section 2.2 – Structural issues

In English unitary areas

The boundaries of unitary areas in England (areas where a single local authority is responsible for a given geographical area), will only rarely match the boundaries of a police area, or the operational area of another partner (this is often called co-terminosity). Often, a single community safety partner might have to deal with a number of different authorities operating in neighbouring areas. This can have the effect of stretching resources, and duplicating scrutiny activity undertaken in different authorities. It may be a particular challenge for police authorities.

Because of the problem of co-terminosity, partners and those scrutinising their actions alike should be careful both to ensure that the demands that they make on each other are not unreasonable, and that neighbouring unitaries work closely with one another – aligning their work programmes to minimise duplication where possible.

London boroughs are also unitary authorities, but the governance position here is slightly different given the role played by London's Mayor. Community safety partnerships should still engage with London borough scrutiny as above, but there should be recognition that the Greater London Authority is likely to have an interest in some of the work of partnerships, where it has broader implications.

In two-tier areas

Two-tier areas present some complications. These are where (usually) a number of district councils, and a single county council, operate in a given geographical area. Responsibility for specific services are divided between districts and counties. The division of services is historic in nature and can often be difficult for those outside the local government sector (and, indeed, for many within it) to understand.

Some district councils are so-called “fourth option” authorities. This means that they have not adopted the new executive arrangements, and still operate under the old committee system. However, most of these authorities operate a scrutiny function of some kind, which will need to accord to the same principles and requirements set out in this guidance for other authorities.

If you are working with a district council or county council as a partner, you should consider the following:

- You should not assume that you will be able just to talk to the county (or conversely the districts) to the exclusion of others, simply because they cover the same geographical area (and even though some district councillors are also county councillors).
- You should not assume that talking to the districts and the county will involve duplication of work – as stated above, they have separate roles and functions.
- You should encourage the districts and the county to work together to deliver a scrutiny function that is able to add most value in the context of what are likely to be quite complex local governance arrangements.

If you are a councillor or officer in a district or county council, you should consider the following:

- You should work with the other councils in the county area to see if you can develop a joint approach to the scrutiny of community safety issues. A number of counties have already started developing joint scrutiny across the board in a county – **Cumbria** and **Cambridgeshire** are examples of areas where councils have come together to carry out scrutiny work which cuts a cross a number of different authorities in a two-tier area. This could take the form of a standing arrangement, or a more ad hoc approach, whereby you could consider whether other councils in your area are likely to have an interest in the topic you are considering for scrutiny, and, if so, seek ways of working collaboratively.
- You should also work with other councils in developing your work programme. By so doing, you can identify areas where more than one authority is planning to carry out a piece of work on a given subject over the course of a municipal year. The evidence-gathering process can be planned so as to ensure that multiple pieces of work complement each other. There may be a possibility for carrying out such work jointly, as described above. This will minimise the risk that partnerships will be expected to contribute to a large number of reviews on a similar subject at the same time.
- Community safety partners may not understand the distinction between work undertaken in district and county councils. When planning joint work,

you should consider how districts and the county will work together on community safety issues. You should not assume that the county will automatically "lead" on community safety issues for the area.

Section 2.3 – Key areas for scrutiny

Use of different techniques

Scrutiny can take a variety of different approaches to scrutinising community safety issues. While the focus of sections 19 and 20 and the regulations, is on committees, a lot of scrutiny work is likely to be undertaken in different ways.

- **Policy development** – scrutiny committees may carry out in-depth scrutiny reviews focused on a specific topic relevant locally. Often this is done by means of a task and finish group, which will examine evidence from a wide variety of sources before producing a report and recommendations, to which partners and/or the council's executive will have to respond. These pieces of work arguably have the most impact on local policy making, and we will provide you with some examples of them below.

- **Contribution to the development of strategies** – if the community safety partnership is putting together a strategy, plan, or policy, it may be useful to build in a process for scrutiny at draft stage. Councillors can provide valuable evidence to support the drafting process – especially intelligence from the local community.

- **Holding to account at formal hearings** – bringing in representatives of the partnership and questioning them about their roles, responsibilities, and activities. This is the simplest method for scrutiny to "hold the partnership to account", though this has limitations in terms of constructive outcomes and should be a small part of interaction between scrutiny and the partnership.

- **Performance management** – examination of the performance of the partnership, often using high-level scorecards or, where appropriate, more detailed data. The best scrutiny functions will use this as an opportunity to look at performance "by exception" (which will highlight both particularly good, and particularly poor, performance), as part of their existing processes for monitoring performance across the Local Area Agreement. This could involve the committee looking at particularly good performance, to see what lessons can be learned, thus sharing good practice across all public and third sector organisations operating in the local area.

Comprehensive area assessments and scrutiny

CAA is about providing for the public a rounded view of the performance of local public bodies and how they deliver in partnership. Judgements are based on the evidence that public bodies generate through their ordinary working, and therefore high-quality evidence from scrutiny will appropriately influence Audit Commission leads in making those judgements.

Generally speaking, scrutiny has two important roles to play within the assessment process:

1. Looking at the results of assessments, and using this data to decide which areas of crime and disorder/community safety activity should be the subject of scrutiny work.
2. Carrying out scrutiny investigations which feed into the assessment process. In particular, scrutiny may want to focus on identifying areas of exceptionally good performance that merit 'green flags.'

Particular strengths for scrutiny

Scrutiny can, by using the different techniques above, apply itself to a number of different policy areas. We have identified a number of particular strengths of scrutiny – engagement and involvement of local people, analysis of issues of local concern, and promotion of joint working – and provide a number of examples of successful reviews demonstrating these.

Engagement and involvement of local people

Detailed scrutiny work can help the community safety partners to involve local people more in the work they carry out. This can be difficult for partners to do on their own, and the experience and knowledge – and community intelligence – which councillors can bring to the process is invaluable.

Rugby was one of the first councils to pilot the operation of community safety scrutiny. To involve the community in the work they undertake, they have decided to co-opt a number of community representatives onto the committee that looks at community safety issues..

Of course, you may feel that a more flexible approach is required. Many authorities have involved local people closely in carrying out work by co-opting them onto informal "task and finish" groups instead of onto the formal committee.

Even traditional public meetings can be worthwhile in gathering valuable evidence which can be used to influence future policy-making. **Waltham Forest** held a public meeting about knife crime, focusing on children and young people, which heard emotive evidence from victims and relatives on the devastating

effect of such crime on the community, as well as positive and constructive ideas on how the problem could be solved.

Analysis of issues of local concern

The fear of crime is a significant issue for many people. This can cause problems for partners, who find it difficult to reconcile this perception with the reality, in many areas, of falling crime levels. This can be interpreted by local people as an unwillingness to respond to problems which they know exist in the local community, irrespective of the evidence which has been gathered by sources such as the council and the police. Scrutiny can play, and has played, a vital role in resolving this impasse and setting out a way forward for local people and professionals.

In **Harrow**, particular concerns arose when it became apparent that, although Harrow was London's safest borough in terms of violent crime, the fear of crime was rising almost exponentially, and was a key issue for residents as identified through the Quality of Life survey. Members decided to conduct a review on the subject which culminated in a conference bringing together local people and a wide range of community safety – and other – partners in the local community. This led to a more keener understanding amongst partners and the council of how the issues around perception of crime had arisen, and a commitment to tackling these issues. Recommendations were made which contributed to a significant reduction in the fear of crime the following year.

In **Middlesbrough,** members carried out work into the perceived problem of "teenagers hanging around". Again, this was an issue of perception. By taking evidence from young people and those who felt threatened by their behaviour, members were able to build an understanding between the different groups involved, and present a report on the matter which informed local partners' responses to the fear of crime (and encouraged joint working between community safety partners and others).

Anti-social behaviour is another issue which is often high on the local political agenda, connected to the more general fear of crime which we have covered above. Here, again, scrutiny can help to cut through perceptions and provide clear evidence to back up given policy recommendations.

For example, responding to concerns about the rise in violent alcohol-related crime in its city centre, **Stoke** carried out a review of the issue which involved community safety partners, and others more widely involved in business and regeneration. Recommendations included the need to highlight to the council and partners of the good work already being undertaken and joint working between transport providers, the licensing authority, businesses and community safety

partners improve the night-time environment.

General benefits of joint working

In **Redbridge**, the scrutiny function carried out an in-depth piece of work into CCTV. This resulted in the council and a number of partners – not just CDRP partners – putting together a strategy for the more effective deployment and use of CCTV cameras. This included the placement of relocatable cameras, and the requirement that the likely effectiveness of new installations would have to be demonstrated, with agreement being reached across the partnership.

As demonstrated by our case study example of **Haringey** – set out later in this document - scrutiny can also work well to improve relationships between partners.

Members in **Middlesbrough** have recently been carrying out work on the responses of the criminal justice system to the needs of victims of crime. This work involved a large number of local partners, including Youth Offending Teams and the Probation Service. It looked at the difficult issues around the differences between victims and perpetrators of crimes, and the chains of events that can lead one to the other. It evaluated the services provided to such people by a whole range of partners, identifying gaps and seeing where joint working needed to be improved. This kind of work is particularly valuable in creating more meaningful partnership working that can go beyond high-level agreement over strategy into sustained collaboration on operational issues.

In **Oxfordshire**, the county's Community Safety Scrutiny Committee carried out a review to answer the question, "How can Oxfordshire County Council and county councillors best engage with the county's Neighbourhood Action Groups?" These groups were set up to work with the police's small ward-level community policing teams. Recommendations were made which included the enhancement of information sharing between NAGs and other community safety partners – thus improving the extent to which community intelligence found its way into more strategic policy-making – and an increase in resources, both from the police and the council, to ensure that NAGs could be of maximum effectiveness.

In **Cardiff**, the scrutiny function carried out a review of the area's approach to community safety, with the intention of "mainstreaming" an understanding of community safety (mainly across the council), in response to the objectives of section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act (which we explained in section 1).

Many of these issues will be explored in more depth in Section 3, below.

2.4 More general issues around partnership working

The scrutiny of community safety issues is just one part of a wider agenda in local policy-making for partnership working. Scrutiny has a significant opportunity to contribute to this agenda, and will be doing so in a number of ways:

- through providing evidence to influence judgements as part of the Comprehensive Area Assessment;
- through monitoring the delivery of partnerships against the negotiated targets in the Local Area Agreement; and
- through an understanding of the wider implications of community safety issues, informed by section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act.

For this reason, it is important to emphasise that the scrutiny of community safety partners and community safety issues is not a stand-alone exercise. It should always be seen in this wider context. Scrutiny will have a role to play in linking up partners working across the spectrum of local policy-making – not just those working in community safety.

Councils should develop ways to integrate the scrutiny of community safety issues within a cohesive and coherent strategy for the scrutiny of other partners and the services they deliver.

Section 3 - Detailed guidance on sections 19 and 20 of the Act and the Regulations

3.1 Committee structures

Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 requires every local authority to have a crime and disorder committee with the power to review or scrutinise decisions made or other action taken in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions. The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 (the Regulations) complement the provisions under section 19.

All authorities – including fourth option authorities - will need to create, or designate, a crime and disorder committee to deal with crime and disorder scrutiny (see section 2, above, for more detail on executive arrangements).

The terms of reference of the committee are to scrutinise the work of the community safety partnership and the partners who comprise it, **insofar as their activities relate to the partnership itself**. These partners are listed in section 1, above.

It will be up to each authority – along with its partners - to decide on the best way to put procedures in place for these new scrutiny powers.

The Act and the Regulations do not require councils to alter existing committee structures. There, must, however, be a formal place where community safety matters can be discussed. The crime and disorder scrutiny role could be undertaken by:

- a dedicated crime and disorder overview and scrutiny committee (or Sub-Committee) This may be required where there is specific demand – for example, in the case of larger authorities or those councils with a well-developed system of subject-based sub-committees; or
- the main overview and scrutiny committee, in those authorities which only have one or two scrutiny committees. The committee could establish task and finish groups with the specific remit to deal with crime and disorder scrutiny matters, while retaining the ultimate responsibility to look at community safety issues. A small group of Members with a specific remit to scrutinise these crime and disorder issues would enable the Members to focus/specialise on those issues and provide effective scrutiny of crime and disorder matters. The use of small task and finish groups of this type could prove to be an effective technique where local authorities and their partners would rather not use a formal committee for the discussion of all community safety issues.

Section 3.2 Role of the committee

Whether you are a councillor or a partner, you will find that scrutiny work is more effective where it focuses on a policy issue, rather than on a single organisation.

This is why the legislation gives powers to scrutinise the CDRP, rather than the partners – this supports a focus based on policy and finding solutions. Focusing on policy :

- gives the partners the reassurance that the crime and disorder scrutiny committee is there to ensure that the community safety partnership is accountable and its performance is improved, rather than just 'having a go' at the partners;
- emphasises the fact that scrutiny is focused on improvement, on enhancing the performance of existing services, and on a constructive examination of the priorities of the partnership; and
- means that there is wider scope for the committee, or group of members, to cut across organisational boundaries over the course of their investigation.

The role of the committee in whichever form it is applied should be as a 'critical friend' of the community safety partnership, providing it with constructive challenge at a strategic level rather than adversarial fault-finding at an operational level.

At a basic level, the role of the committee is to do the following:

- to consider Councillor Calls for Action that arise through the council's existing CCfA process. Detailed guidance on CCfA has already been issued. Although the Police and Justice Act 2006 and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 put in place CCfA provisions for community safety and for other local government matters respectively, local authorities should ensure that their procedures for all CCfAs are the same, to minimise unnecessary bureaucracy.
- to consider actions undertaken by the responsible authorities on the community safety partnership; and
- make reports or recommendations to the local authority with regard to those functions. In practice, the nature of the committee and its work should mean that recommendations will be directly for responsible partners as well. We will discuss this issue later in this section.

The committee should include in its work programme a list of issues which it needs to cover during the year. This should be agreed in consultation with the relevant partners on the community safety partnership and reflect local community need.

Councillor Call for Action (CCfA) for both local government matters and for crime and disorder matters came into force in April 2009. CCfA gives councillors a new right to raise matters of local concern with their council's overview and scrutiny committee. Overview and scrutiny committees can then decide whether to use their powers to investigate the issue.

There are a range of options available to committees in considering how to respond. They could, for example, instigate a review of policy, call members and officers to attend a meeting, and answer questions or make recommendations to the executive. They can even require the executive to review a decision that it has made.

CCfA is therefore a valuable tool in equipping councillors to act as powerful advocates for the communities they serve and to strengthen still further their role as community champions. Councillors will of course continue to resolve issues informally, as they do now. But where they are not satisfied that real action has been taken to resolve the issue they have raised, they have the ability to ask the overview and scrutiny committee to take the matter further.

The crime and disorder CCfA will be an important tool for community safety partnerships to work together to resolve crime and disorder problems, in a forum which is open to the public. It should therefore boost public confidence that police and local authorities are acting on crime and anti-social behaviour issues.

More information on CCfA can be found in the IDeA and CfPS Best Practice Guide http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pageId=9410176

Protocols

Throughout this section we suggest that partners and the scrutiny function at the local authority (or local authorities) might want to consider developing a short, flexible and meaningful protocol which lays down the mutual expectations of scrutiny members and partners of the community safety scrutiny process. This could well enable you to embed the committee's work programme more effectively within its core purpose. Certainly, getting the work programme right will be crucial to the success of the scrutiny process for community safety.

If you are thinking of developing a protocol, do remember that it should be a means to an end – a method of improving the relationship between the scrutiny function and its partners. It is not a legal document setting down minimum standards or something which you are required to "comply" with. The example below, of Haringey, illustrates the point of meaningful joint working, and of the virtues of seeking to build real relationships.

Building relationships with community safety

The London Borough of Haringey has been doing in-depth reviews of community safety for many years, and has a strong relationship with community safety partners. Building that relationship for them was all about people. Firstly, the council community safety team sat across the corridor, and they built informal relationships as officers. Secondly, the cabinet member for community safety was once a scrutiny chair, and she acted as an advocate for scrutiny, suggesting ways that they could get involved and support what partners were doing. Thirdly, the police seconded an officer to work in the council for several years so the scrutiny function was able to build relationships with a familiar face. These opportunities enable the scrutiny function to build a reputation for being an independent voice. Partnerships can have their own tensions, and partners in Haringey learned that scrutiny could moderate between different views and carry out genuinely useful work that partners valued, supporting policy formulation and facilitating a community response. Their workstreams included:

- Anti-social behaviour – this was successful because it was deliberately timed to fit with a strategy the partnership was writing and could therefore feed into the strategy directly;
- CCTV – the partnership requested the scrutiny functions help as part of a wider review of CCTV, and even provided funding to engage Leicester University for expert advice; and
- street prostitution – this review also used a well-known criminologist, and it was so well regarded that Haringey's scrutiny function was later called as a witness by the London Assembly during their own review of the topic across London

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3.3 Frequency of meetings

The regulations leave the frequency of meetings to local discretion, subject to the minimum requirement of once a year.

If a local authority decides to undertake "set piece" community safety scrutiny only once a year, this annual meeting could be in the form of an event looking at crime and disorder matters and discussing which crime and disorder matters should be considered in the next municipal year as matters of local concern.

In addition, the scrutiny function should consider community safety issues more consistently throughout the year, just as it would with any other subject matter. Although it is difficult to suggest an arbitrary figure for an "ideal" number of meetings, scrutiny functions and partners should work together to come up with local solutions, which might form a combination of formal meetings, informal "task and finish" groups, or other methods of evidence gathering and public involvement.

As part of the accountability role of the committee, it might be useful to request the attendance of senior members of the partnership at key meetings through the year. This might include the chair of the partnership, the Cabinet member with community safety responsibilities, or senior members of partner organisations, such as the local police commander.

Two-tier scrutiny

We touched briefly on issues of two-tier scrutiny in Section 2, but this section goes into more detail on the practicalities.

The requirements under sections 19 of the Police and Justice Act and the Regulations will apply to both county and district local authorities.

Whilst it will be for each local authority to decide how it will implement crime and disorder scrutiny, it makes sense that both tiers work together as far as possible to avoid any duplication. As explained in Section 2, above, districts and counties should consider developing a joint approach for looking at community safety issues that cut across organisational boundaries.

Joint crime and disorder committees

Section 21 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 amends section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act to enable the Secretary of State to make an order requiring councils to appoint a joint committee to carry out crime and disorder scrutiny functions. This will be used **where CDRP mergers have taken place**, so that responsible authorities and co-operating bodies are not required to answer to two or more separate crime and disorder committees. Otherwise, committees may find it beneficial to work together informally..

A number of local authorities have already taken this joint approach and because of the link with the LAA and community safety, one possibility would be that community safety issues could form part of the work of a joint overview and scrutiny committee.

Councils in **Cumbria** have created a Joint Committee which aims to take a

strategic overview of the performance and delivery of the community strategy as co-ordinated through the Cumbria Strategic Partnership.

Staffordshire County Council have set up a Partnerships, Scrutiny and Performance Panel to examine the performance of the Local Area Agreement which includes the delivery of the community safety agenda.

A county-wide committee specifically for community safety might be made up of the chairs of the district council crime and disorder committees as well as some county councillors – it should be pointed out that councils will still need their own committees despite the existence of joint structures. This is as much for the sake of pragmatism as to meet the requirements of the Act – there will always be local community safety issues best dealt with by individual authorities.

While a joint approach to crime and disorder scrutiny is beneficial, it should not be undertaken instead of scrutiny by individual local authorities at a district or county level, but should be used to complement that form of scrutiny. It should also be emphasised that it is quite possible to take advantage of many of the benefits of joint working merely through enhanced communication between neighbouring authorities and their relevant partners. For many authorities and their partners, joint arrangements may not be appropriate or desirable at present.

Section 3.4 Co-option

The regulations allow crime and disorder committees to co-opt additional members to serve on the committee. These co-optees can be specialists in particular areas and can bring great value and expertise to the committee's work.

Members can be co-opted in accordance with the Regulations, which allow a committee to co-opt additional persons provided that they are an employee, officer or member of a responsible authority or of a co-operating person or body and are not a member of the executive of the local authority. The committee can decide whether they should have the right to vote. However, the decision to allow them to vote should be taken in accordance with any scheme in place under Schedule 1 to the Local Government Act 2000. Membership can be limited to membership in respect of certain issues only. The council should take care to clarify the role of such a co-optee, who may be expected, as part of the committee, to hold his or her own organisation to account.

There is also a general power to include additional non voting members under section 21(10) LGA and paragraph 5 of Schedule 8 to the Police Justice Act.

Co-option and Schedule 1 to the Local Government Act 2000

Under Schedule 1 of the Local Government Act 2000, councils can put in place a formal scheme (similar to the council's scheme of delegations) to allow a co-opted member to have full voting rights.

If you already have a scheme, your co-option plans for community safety must comply with it. Local authorities may prefer ask people [to contribute informally to small task and finish groups or to participate as non-voting members, rather than as full voting members of committees, to ensure that co-optees' work and contribution is focused on areas where they can add most value. So the council and its partners may agree that, although co-option to a committee might be appropriate, the co-optee should not have voting rights.

Co-option and police authorities

Police authorities occupy a unique position within the landscape of community safety partnerships. They have a clear, statutory role to hold to account the police.

In this context, it is vital that local authorities' community safety scrutiny complements this role. Local authorities should, in all instances, presume that the police authority should play an active part at committee when community safety matters are being discussed – and particularly when the police are to be present.

Local authorities should take the following steps to involve police authorities in work undertaken by their committees.

Option 1

One member of the crime and disorder committee should be a member of the police authority. We envisage this being the approach that will be adopted by most (but not necessarily all) counties and unitaries.

However, there are a number of circumstances where this will not be possible. In many authorities (unitaries, counties and districts alike) there may be no member appropriate to sit on the committee in this capacity. The principal reasons would be:

- If the relevant local authority representative on the police authority is a member of the executive; or
- If the local authority has no direct member representation on the police authority. There are many areas for which this will be the case, given

that most police authorities cover large areas but only have 9 local councillor members.

Option 2

The second option is for all other circumstances – covering most districts, and those counties and unitaries where having a police authority member on the committee will not be possible.

In these circumstances, a member of the police authority should be issued with a standing invitation to attend the committee as an “expert adviser”. Ideally this would be a police authority member, but subject to local agreement there may be some circumstances, and meetings, where a police authority officer would be more appropriate. For example, care will need to be taken when inviting police authority members to attend when they are also councillors.

Such an advisor would not be a formal member of the committee, but would be able to participate in committee discussion as an expert witness.

Steps should also be taken to ensure that, where appropriate, the police authority have a direct input into the delivery of task and finish reviews that involve the police. The level of involvement in such work that is appropriate can be decided between the police authority and the local authority, the authorities delivering the work.

Agreement over these issues should – as we suggested at the beginning of this section – form part of a protocol between the local authority and its partners. This will allow for local differences, and for agreement over further methods of engagement and involvement – the sharing of work programmes and delivery of joint work pertaining to the police, for example.

The vital thing to remember is that clear and sustained engagement between the police authority and the local authority, as equals, will be necessary to make sure that their roles complement each other. This goes beyond attendance at committee, which should be treated as only one element of this engagement.

These arrangements, and the unique relationship which is necessary between councils and police authorities, should not divert scrutiny bodies or their partners from the fact that the scrutiny of community safety is about much more than the police force and their activities, as we made clear in earlier sections.

Option 3

The third option would be for committees to consider co-opting a police authority member onto the committee when policing matters are being considered, and it would be for the police authority to decide the most appropriate member to

appoint – this can be an independent or councillor member. This would provide a more direct link between the police authority and overview and scrutiny committee and would be particularly relevant if the committee is considering matters directly relevant to policing.

To co-opt or not to co-opt…

Suffolk's Local Area Agreement Joint Scrutiny Panel has adopted co-option as a new way to invigorate scrutiny and involve the community. The panel has appointed six Independent Community Members as permanent co-opted scrutiny members with full voting rights. An advertising campaign was held and applicants were put through a rigorous recruitment process. The roles are well-defined with both job specifications and person profiles. Though the roles were advertised in the media, the most effective marketing was through established networks of people already involved actively in the community.

The Independent Community Members are paid expenses but no salary, and are committed to six meetings a year. In practice, however, they are very enthusiastic and engaged and take part in a great deal more, including task and finish groups. The added dividend of these new faces has been a renewed interest and energy for scrutiny from existing councillors. An Independent Community Member was elected as Chairman by panel members.

The LAA Joint Scrutiny Panel, as well as involving the community, also links together relationships in a two-tier area. The panel has members from the county and each district and borough council in Suffolk, and is a forum which is an effective example of cooperation across the tiers.

Cardiff City Council uses expert witnesses to improve its scrutiny reviews. In November 2007 the council did a theme review of the structure in the council for delivering crime and disorder reduction. Cardiff regularly looks to bring in the highest profile experts possible for its theme reviews, such as Professor Michael Parkinson on competitiveness and Ben Page from Ipsos Mori on consultation. For this review they invited South Wales Police, Cardiff Local Health Board, the National Probation Service, Welsh Assembly Government and the Home Office to bring high-level expertise and enhance their understanding of wider issues.

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Section 3.5 Responding to requests

Requests for information

As part of the crime and disorder scrutiny process, the relevant scrutiny committee will from time to time request for further information from the community safety partnership – performance information, for example.

When asked, the partnership will be under a duty to provide this information. There is no specific timescale for this, but the committee can expect a response to be provided as soon as reasonably possible.

Timescales

Community safety partnerships will be obliged to respond to requests from committees within a reasonable time. The committee and the partnership may want to agree a certain timescale locally.

Partnerships should bear in mind the need for the information to be relevant to the committee's purposes. There is obviously little purpose in burying councillors beneath a morass of reports filled with technical jargon. This may provide you with an opportunity to reappraise how internal reports could be drafted in a more accessible style and made more widely publicly available. You could assign a named link officer in your organisation to liaise with the scrutiny committee, to ensure that communication is swift and effective, and that requests for information can be dealt with smoothly.

If you are a councillor, or are an officer supporting councillors, you should ensure that requests for information are well focused and thought through. Requests should avoid duplication (with requests made quite recently, or requests being made by neighbouring councils which might impact on the same partner organisations).

Information requests and data protection

The information provided by responsible authorities and co-operating bodies must be depersonalised, unless the identification of an individual is necessary or appropriate in order for the committee to properly exercise its powers. The information should also not include information that would be reasonably likely to

prejudice legal proceedings or current or future operations of the responsible authority or co-operating body.. In practice, it is unlikely that the committee which will need to receive reports relating to specific individuals, or where specific individuals are mentioned in respect of crime and disorder matters.

Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 should not be used as a method to bypass the requirement to depersonalise information by placing reports which are not depersonalised onto Part II of a committee agenda, as an item to be heard without the press or public present.

Making and responding to recommendations

If a committee drafts a report or recommendations which have an impact on community safety issues, the following should occur:

- Copies of the reports and recommendations should be sent to the such responsible authorities or co-operating bodies as are affected by the report or recommendations, or as otherwise appropriate in accordance with section 19(8) of the Police and Justice Act 2006;
- The relevant partner (or partners) should submit a response within a period of 28 days from the date the report or recommendations are submitted (or if this is not possible as soon as reasonably possible thereafter); and
- Following the receipt of the response, the committee will need to agree with the relevant partner(s) how progress in implementing the recommendations will be monitored.

As we have already suggested, a protocol might be helpful to define how these arrangements will work in practice. Such a protocol could well make provision for the scrutiny function to consult the partnership informally on a report, or recommendations, before the report is formally submitted. This consultation will make it more likely that recommendations, when they are formally made, are relevant and realistic.

With this provision there is a clear link between the Police and Justice Act and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act, which also requires partners to respond to requests for information, and to respond to reports and recommendations made by an authority's scrutiny function. Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act complements these existing powers.

Section 3.6 Attending committee meetings

From time to time, the committee may request the attendance of a representative of the partnership.

It is common practice in local authority overview and scrutiny work for people to attend to give evidence to scrutiny enquiries. It is often good practice for those attending to receive details of why they are attending such meetings.

If you are a community safety partner, and you receive such a request, you are obliged to send a representative to attend unless reasonable notice has not been given to the person of the intended date for the meeting. What is meant by "reasonable notice" is not clarified in the regulations or legislation and is something which could be defined in a local protocol on crime and disorder scrutiny as agreed by the committee and local partners.

You should not consider such an invitation as a threat. Instead, it is an opportunity for crime and disorder partners and the committee to discuss issues of mutual concern or to highlight positive work to help reduce crime and disorder. The attendance of officers/employees can also help support local public scrutiny. It will generally be more appropriate for more senior employees/officers to attend, mainly because they are likely to have the general expertise to enable them to answer policy questions at the meeting itself.

Likewise, if you are a councillor, you should not consider the power to invite representatives of the partnership to attend to discuss community safety issues as a power that you can exercise without regard to the capacity constraints of the partners you are inviting, or the value they are likely to be able to add to a committee discussion.

Appendix A

Glossary

Here are some terms you may come across that have not been mentioned elsewhere in this document:

- **Activity Based Costing (ABC)** –an approach taken in the police which tries to measure how police time is spent, in order to improve efficiency. It is being scaled back for being too bureaucratic, but will still be used in a more limited way.

- **Assessment of Policing and Community Safety (APACs)** – is the assessment framework for the police and community safety, and has been designed to link with Comprehensive Area Assessment. It replaces the Policing Performance Assessment Framework (PPAF).

- **Justice Reinvestment** – is a concept from America that aims to reduce re-offending by moving resources down to the local level. There is a pilot currently being run to test this idea in London called "Diamond Districts".

- **Local Criminal Justice Board (LCJB)** – is the partnership board that oversees criminal justice. Though it is called "local" it usually operates at a higher level than the local authority.

- **National Intelligence Model (NIM)** – is a business model for policing that uses intelligence about crime patterns to inform how resources, including across partnerships, are deployed.

- **Prolific and other Priority Offender scheme (PPO)** – is a scheme run by all CDRPs to provide a focus on offenders who have been identified as posing the highest risk to communities.

- **Restorative Justice** – is an approach used alongside criminal justice to help victims gain a sense of closure, help offenders recognise the impact of their crime and reduce the chance they will re-offend.

- **Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA)** – is legislation that gives local bodies powers to use covert techniques such as surveillance.

- **Serious and Organised Crime Agency (SOCA)** – is the national agency with responsibility for tackling crimes such as drug trafficking, money laundering and major fraud.

- **National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA)** – is the policing equivalent of the Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA), producing guidance, learning and development, and providing some national infrastructure.

- **Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC)** – is the inspectorate for policing which works alongside the Audit Commission on Comprehensive Area Assessment, and delivers APACs (see above).

- **Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO)** – is the national body representing Chief Constables, but has a wider role in developing policy than most professional associations.

Appendix B

First Step Resources

Crime Reduction Website

www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk

This website is the Home Office's one stop shop for information on crime reduction. There are some interesting sources of information – for example, at www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/toolkits, topics cover a range of areas which might arise in a scrutiny review, such as Fear of Crime or Alcohol Related Crime. The toolkits include facts and figures and policy context for each topic, which could be a useful shortcut for desk based research. There is also a collection of research on a wide range of topics, from Neighbourhood Watch, to Street Sex Work to Taxi Robberies.

The research tab also has a page providing direction to all the latest sources of crime statistics.

Delivering Community Safety: A guide to effective partnership working (2007)

This is the official guidance for Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships. It sets out statutory requirements, suggested practice, potential barriers and possible solutions and implementation checklists. If scrutiny function is looking to test a partnership against the standard for good practice, this resource is the best place to start.

Flanagan Review Final Report (2008)

In 2007 the Home Office announced an independent review of policing by Sir Ronnie Flanagan to look at neighbourhood policing, bureaucracy, accountability and managing resources. Flanagan was then Chief Inspector of Constabulary and is well respected in the policing community. His review was widely welcomed though he explicitly refused to make any positive recommendations about changes to structural accountability in the police. This is a readable report and is a useful insight into concerns and priorities in the policing community.

Engaging Communities in Fighting Crime (2008)

This independent review was led by Louise Casey, the former 'Respect Tsar.' with a reputation for toughness and plain speaking. The review focuses on why communities have lost confidence in criminal justice, and why they don't take a

more active role in fighting crime. It is a useful read for those involved in scrutiny because it focuses on public perceptions, is written in a conversational style and makes practical and interesting recommendations, including for local authorities.

From the Neighbourhood to the National: policing our communities together (2008)

This is the latest Policing Green Paper, which paved the way for the Policing and Crime Bill. It provides the most recent expression of the current Government's perspective and intentions on policing and community safety. Readers should be aware, however, that the expressed intention to legislate for new Crime and Policing Representatives will not come to pass, as it was dropped from the Bill shortly before publication. Instead an internal Labour party review was set up under David Blunkett to look again at the difficult issue of local accountability of the police.

Integration Neighbourhood Policing and Management

There is no publication to support this, but information about the project is available on the IDeA website. The IDeA and National Policing Improvement Agency are co-ordinating a group of 'exemplar sites' to help progress the integration neighbourhood policing with neighbourhood management – one of the key recommendations of the Flanagan Review.

Tackling Anti-social Behaviour Website

www.respect.gov.uk

Anti-social behaviour is a key issue, and one that has particular importance for members of the public, and therefore for councillors. This website is a one-stop resource on everything to do with tackling anti-social behaviour. One resource that is particularly practical and interesting is the collection of step-by-step guides to tackling a ranges of very specific problems, from graffiti to mini-motos to fireworks. Scrutiny committees doing themed reviews may find resources here to help them assess performance and identify positive recommendations.

National Community Safety Plan 2008-11
Cutting Crime: A new partnership 2008-11

These two documents were published together – one is the overarching strategy on crime, the other is a more focused document on community safety which replaces an earlier plan. The Community Safety Plan reflects the general drive across government to reduce the central burdens on local delivery, though councillors will note there is still a significant focus on national priorities which partnerships will be reacting to. These documents may not be as user-friendly for councillors as some other resources.

Appendix C

S T A T U T O R Y I N S T R U M E N T S

2009 No. 942

CRIMINAL LAW, ENGLAND AND WALES

The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009

Made

6th April 2009

Laid before Parliament

8th April 2009

Coming into force in accordance with regulation 1(2)

The Secretary of State makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by section 20(3) and (4) of the Police and Justice Act 2006(1).

In accordance with section 20(4) of that Act, the Secretary of State has consulted with the Welsh Ministers(2) regarding the provisions in relation to local authorities in Wales.

Citation and commencement

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009.

(2) These Regulations shall come into force in respect of local authorities in England on 30th April 2009 and in respect of local authorities in Wales on 1st October 2009.

Interpretation

2. In these Regulations—

"2006 Act" means the Police and Justice Act 2006;

"depersonalised information" means information which does not constitute personal data within the meaning of the Data Protection Act 1998(3).

Co-opting of additional members

3.—(1) The crime and disorder committee of a local authority may co-opt additional members to serve on the committee subject to paragraphs (2), (3), (4) and (5).

(2) A person co-opted to serve on a crime and disorder committee shall not be entitled to vote on any particular matter, unless the committee so determines.

(3) A co-opted person's membership may be limited to the exercise of the committee's powers in relation to a particular matter or type of matter.

(4) A crime and disorder committee shall only co-opt a person to serve on the committee who—

(a) is an employee, officer or member of a responsible authority or of a co-operating person or body; and

(b) is not a member of the executive of the committee's local authority (or authorities).

(5) The membership of a person co-opted to serve on a crime and disorder committee may be withdrawn at any time by the committee.

Frequency of meetings

4. A crime and disorder committee shall meet to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions as the committee considers appropriate but no less than once in every twelve month period.

Information

5.—(1) Where a crime and disorder committee makes a request in writing for information, as defined in section 20(6A) of the 2006 Act(**4**), to the responsible authorities or the co-operating persons or bodies, the authorities, or persons or bodies (as applicable) must provide such information in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3).

(2) The information referred to in paragraph (1) must be provided no later than the date indicated in the request save that if some or all of the information cannot reasonably be provided on such date, that information must be provided as soon as reasonably possible.

(3) The information referred to in paragraph (1)—

(a) shall be depersonalised information, unless (subject to sub-paragraph (b)) the identification of an individual is necessary or appropriate in order to enable the crime and disorder committee to properly exercise its powers; and

(b) shall not include information that would be reasonably likely to prejudice legal proceedings or current or future operations of the responsible authorities, whether acting together or individually, or of the co-operating persons or bodies.

Attendance at committee meetings

6.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), a crime and disorder committee may require the attendance before it of an officer or employee of a responsible authority or of a co-operating person or body in order to answer questions.

(2) The crime and disorder committee may not require a person to attend in accordance with paragraph (1) unless reasonable notice of the intended date of attendance has been given to that person.

Reports and recommendations

7. Where a crime and disorder committee makes a report or recommendations to a responsible authority or to a co-operating person or body in accordance with section 19(8)(b) of the 2006 Act, the responses to such report or recommendations of each relevant authority, body or person shall be—

(a) in writing; and

(b) submitted to the crime and disorder committee within a period of 28 days from the date of the report or recommendations or, if this is not reasonably possible, as soon as reasonably possible thereafter.

Vernon Coaker
Minister of State

Home Office
6th April 2009

EXPLANATORY NOTE
(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations are made under section 20(3) (in respect of local authorities in England) and 20(4) (in respect of local authorities in Wales) of the Police and Justice Act 2006. The Regulations supplement the

provisions in section 19 of that Act by making provision for the exercise of powers by crime and disorder committees of local authorities.

Regulation 3 provides that crime and disorder committees may co-opt additional members from those persons and bodies who are responsible authorities within the meaning of section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, and from those persons and bodies with whom the responsible authorities have a duty to co-operate under section 5(2) of that Act (the "co-operating persons and bodies") subject to the provisions set out in that regulation.

Regulation 4 provides that a crime and disorder committee shall meet to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions, no less than once in every twelve month period.

Regulation 5 provides that responsible authorities or co-operating persons or bodies must provide such information as is requested of them by the crime and disorder committee, subject to the provisions in that regulation.

Regulation 6 provides that a crime and disorder committee may require the attendance before it of a representative of a responsible authority or of a co-operating person or body in order to answer questions, subject to the provisions in that regulation.

Regulation 7 provides that where a crime and disorder committee makes a report or recommendations to responsible authorities or co-operating persons or bodies in accordance with section 19(8)(b) of the Police and Justice Act 2006, the responses to such report or recommendations of each relevant authority, body or person shall be in writing and within 28 days of the date of the report or recommendations or, if this is not reasonably possible, as soon as reasonably possible thereafter.

(**1**)
2006, c. 48. Section 20 has been amended by section 121 and has been prospectively amended by sections 126 and 241, and part 6 of Schedule 18 to the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (c. 28). Back [1]

(**2**)
The functions of the National Assembly for Wales were transferred to the Welsh Ministers by virtue of paragraph 30 of Schedule 11 to the Government of Wales Act 2006 (c.32). Back [2]

(**3**)
2008 c.29. Back [3]

(**4**)
Section 20(6A) was inserted by section 121(2) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (c. 28). Back [4]

Appendix D

Local Government Involvement in Public Health Act 2007 - Extract

Section 126

126 Reference of local crime and disorder matters to crime and disorder committees etc

(1) The Police and Justice Act 2006 (c. 48) is amended as follows.

(2) In section 19 (local authority scrutiny of crime and disorder matters), for subsections (3) to (8) substitute—

"(3) A local authority must—

(a) ensure that its crime and disorder committee has power (whether by virtue of section 21(2) of the Local Government Act 2000 or regulations made under section 32(3) of that Act or otherwise) to make a report or recommendations to the local authority with respect to any matter which is a local crime and disorder matter in relation to a member of the authority, and

(b) make arrangements which enable any member of the authority who is not a member of the crime and disorder committee to refer any local crime and disorder matter to the committee.

(4) For the purposes of subsection (3)(b), arrangements enable a person to refer a matter to a committee if they enable him to ensure that the matter is included in the agenda for, and discussed at, a meeting of the committee.

(5) Subsections (6) and (7) apply where a local crime and disorder matter is referred to a crime and disorder committee by a member of a local authority in accordance with arrangements made under subsection (3)(b).

(6) In considering whether or not to make a report or recommendations to the local authority in relation to the matter, the committee may have regard to—

(a) any powers which the member may exercise in relation to the matter by virtue of section 236 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (exercise of functions by local councillors in England), and

(b) any representations made by the member as to why it would be appropriate for the committee to exercise any power which it has by virtue of subsection (3)(a) in relation to the matter.

(7) If the committee decides not to make a report or recommendations to the local authority in relation to the matter, it must notify the member of—

(a) its decision, and

(b) the reasons for it.

(8) Where a crime and disorder committee of a local authority makes a report or recommendations to the authority by virtue of subsection (3)(a), it must—

(a) provide a copy of the report or recommendations to any member of the authority who referred the local crime and disorder matter in question to the committee in accordance with arrangements made under subsection (3)(b), and

(b) provide a copy of the report or recommendations to such of—

(i) the responsible authorities, and

(ii) the co-operating persons and bodies,

as it thinks appropriate.

(8A) Subsection (8B) applies where the crime and disorder committee of a local authority—

(a) makes a report or recommendations to the authority by virtue of subsection (3)(a), or

(b) provides a copy of a report or recommendations under subsection (2) or (8)(b).

(8B) Where this subsection applies—

(a) the crime and disorder committee must notify the authority, body or person to whom it makes the report or recommendations or provides the copy that paragraph (b) applies, and

(b) the authority, body or person must—

(i) consider the report or recommendations;

(ii) respond to the committee indicating what (if any) action it proposes to take;

(iii) have regard to the report or recommendations in exercising its functions."

(3) In subsection (9)(b), for "subsection (1)(b) or (6)" substitute "this section".

(4) In subsection (11)—

(a) after the definition of "crime and disorder functions" insert—

"electoral area" has the meaning given by section 203(1) of the Representation of the People Act 1983;", and

(b) for the definition of "local crime and disorder matter" substitute—

"local crime and disorder matter", in relation to a member of a local authority, means a matter concerning—

(a) crime and disorder (including in particular forms of crime and disorder that involve anti-social behaviour or other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment), or

(b) the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances,

which affects all or part of the electoral area for which the member is elected or any person who lives or works in that area."

(5) Section 20 (guidance and regulations regarding crime and disorder matters) is amended as follows.

(6) In subsections (1) and (2), after "under" insert "or by virtue of".

(7) In subsection (5), omit—

(a) paragraph (f); and

(b) sub-paragraphs (i) to (iii) of paragraph (g).

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Crime and Disorder Committee

Item **8**

24 August 2009

Report of	**Executive Director Ian Vipond**	**Author**	**Peter Carrington Tel. 717816**
Title	**Colchester Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership**		
Wards affected	**All**		

This report considers the current contribution of the Colchester Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and the partnership's role in achieving effective crime reduction and increased community safety.

1. Decision required

1.1 To invite Colchester's Crime and Disorder Committee to consider the current work and progress of the Colchester Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership in developing a safer Colchester.

2. Reason for decision

2.1 Under the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 the panel is required to meet twice a year to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions as the committee considers appropriate.

2.2 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory duty on every local authority to work in partnership with statutory, community and voluntary agencies to develop and implement strategies for tackling crime and disorder. The Chief Officer Group responsible for meeting this statutory duty is known as the Colchester Responsible Authorities Group.

2.3 Under Section 17 of the above Act, Colchester Borough Council has a duty to 'exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it can to prevent crime and disorder'.

3. Background information

3.1 <u>The Role of the Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP)</u>
Increasingly, we are exploring new opportunities to work more closely with partner agencies to reduce crime more effectively than any one agency could do on their own. Colchester Borough Council and the police are key to this partnership working. The presence of a joint CBC and Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) Community Safety Team in Colchester Police Station promotes one of the strongest examples of joint working in Essex and the UK. However, and most importantly, delivering crime reduction requires an on-going and sustainable commitment from all agencies to work in partnership.

3.2 The Colchester CDRP structure chart is attached in Appendix **A.** As part of the government's recent review of CDRPs the former three year Crime Reduction Strategy has ceased and replaced with a more responsive, and performance driven, Annual Partnership Plan attached in Appendix **B**. This is developed

from an annual Strategic Assessment of Crime compiled by assessing crime data, community consultations, hot spot crime areas, Public Service Agreements 2008-2011, LAA 2 and other borough or government targets. It is intended that these documents will form part of the twice yearly review of the CCDRP to be held every February by this panel.

3.3 To manage, and deliver partnership working there are six posts within the combined CBC/CCDRP Community Safety Team, primarily based at Colchester Police Station or a satellite office at Rowan House. These posts are:

a) Two permanent council posts consisting of a Community Safety Co-ordinator who manages the team and a Senior Community Safety Officer.
b) Two CCDRP fixed term posts until March 2011, funded by the Home Office consisting of a Community Safety Officer and Administrative Assistant.
c) One CCDRP Anti-Social Behaviour Officer fixed term post until September 2011
d) One Business Against Crime Co-ordinator funded by business membership fees.

3.4 <u>Successes</u>

The CCDRP in Colchester have had a number of successes some of which are:

a) First borough in Essex to launch Neighbourhood Policing in Essex
b) First borough to launch 15 Neighbourhood Action Panels in Essex. The policies developed in Colchester are now being rolled out across Essex as an example of good practice.
c) The 'Keep Project' that targets 20 of the most prolific drug misusers which has resulted in a minimum 60% reduction in their re-offending. This project, the first in Essex, is now being rolled out across Essex based upon the Colchester model.
d) SOS and Community Bus that has treated 400 very vulnerable adults 280 of which would have normally been taken to A&E saving an estimated £19,000. The youngest person treated is 13 the oldest 69
e) Crime detection is currently exceeding 38.3% up from 27% the previous year which is the best in Essex.
f) Violent crime in the town centre has fallen from 978 incidents in 2008-2009 to 808 which is a fall of 17.3%
g) Reduced ASB in St Andrews during 08-09 by 32.8% and 27.8% in Harbour.
h) Acted as lead agency in developing the Colchester Against Business Crime (COLBAC) project which now has 81 members and again this was the first of its kind in Essex
i) Together with CBC developed the Designated Public Place Order that Police Officers report has made a significant impact upon their ability to remove alcohol from people acting in a disorderly manner. This has meant that Police Officers can spend more time on patrol rather than in Police Stations processing offenders they may have had to arrest before the introduction of the DPPO.
j) Working with the CCDRP and CBC to deliver a Domestic Violence Conference linked to the impact upon children and young people that resulted in 127 paid delegates attending.
k) Developed Beat surgeries in community centres, libraries and village halls.
l) First joint operational base with MOD Garrison police.

m) Development of Business Watch Specials recruited from local businesses and partner agencies.
n) Crime Reduction 'Toolkits' that are the first of their kind in the UK to identify exactly what tasks CCDRP partners agencies can do to help collectively reduce crime.
o) Contributed or raised £192,000 of funding for projects since 2001 to tackle business crime to help make Colchester a place to conduct a business.
p) Contributed or raised £79,000 of funding for projects since 2001 to tackle sexual assault and Domestic Abuse. This is in addition to the £7,000 contributed by CBC each year since 1999 for the Colchester and Tendring Womens' Refuge.

3.5 Colchester CDRP relies on a highly complex network of partner agencies and project delivery which is often viewed by other CDRP'S as setting the benchmark for innovation, positive partnership working and crime reduction. However, this level of success requires all participating agencies in the CCDRP to maintain their commitment and contribution to partnership working led by the CBC/CCDRP Community Safety Team.

4 Further sections

4.1 The Council/CCDRP Community Safety Team is responsible for administering and managing, on behalf of the CCDRP, all Home Office and partner agency funding targeted at crime reduction and community safety. Crime reduction targets are used to determine an annual spending plan. The CCDRP then monitors progress and evaluates projects individually to ensue effective service delivery, value for money and the achievement of performance management outcomes.

5 Strategic Plan references

5.1 This work directly contributes to the council's Strategic Plan for 2009-2012 objectives for community safety.

6 Consultation

6.1 Consultation is an ongoing process and will increase markedly linked to the importance of Neighbourhood Action Panels and the development of Annual Crime Reduction Plans.

7 Publicity Considerations

7.1 All publicity tries to achieve a positive reflection of the Colchester Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, police and council as partners working together rather than any one individual agency

8 Financial implications

8.1 The annual funding of the CCDRP for 2009-2010 derives from:
a) £149,830 - Home Office Area Based Grant administered by Essex County Council through the LAA 2 process.
b) £77,022 - Police Basic Command Unit Fund that Colchester police kindly use to support the work of the CCDRP. The police also provide in kind all office accommodation for the CBC/CCDRP Team.

c) £6,500 from Colchester Borough Council. The council also fund in kind 2 full time posts as per 3.8 (a) above.
d) £6,500 from Essex County Council plus a further £99,920 towards the Safer Colchester Project and £50,000 towards the SOS Bus.
e) £5,000 from Essex Police Community Grants – Eastern (Colchester & Tendring) Division
f) £5,000 from Essex Fire & Rescue Service
g) £27,328 from Essex Police Authority (second homes council tax)

8.2 The CCDRP partnership has successfully attracted inward investment of £1,038,000 since 2001 to fund crime reduction projects. Most recently £206,000 from the LAA1 reward grant monies for 09-11 projects allocated earlier this year and £348,000 for the SOS Bus.

9 Human Rights Implications

9.1 There are no specific human rights implications.

10. Equality and Diversity implications

10.1 The work of the CCDRP takes into account the diverse nature of the borough by developing an understanding of the needs of different communities. This is done through the Strategic Assessment of Crime, Neighbourhood Action Panels and the Hate Crimes Panel. The partnership's work to improve community safety is intended to promote equal access to a good quality of life for all residents.

11 Community Safety Implications

11.1 The Community Safety implications are the subject of this report.

12 Health and Safety Implications

12.1 There are no specific health and safety implications.

13 Other Standard References

13.1 None.

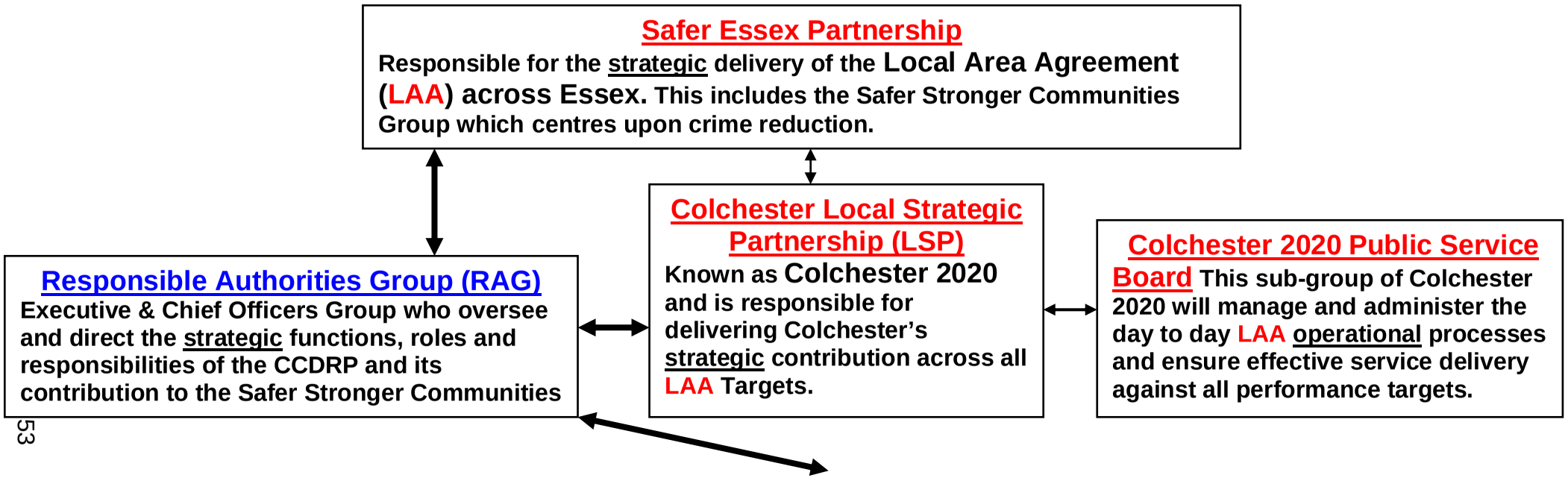
Background Papers

Appendix **A** - Structure chart for the CCDRP and CBC Community Safety Team.

Appendix **B** – Annual Partnership Plan

COLCHESTER CRIME & DISORDER REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP (CCDRP) – STRUCTURE CHART

(INCLUDES LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT (LAA) AND OTHER STRATEGIC COUNTY & LOCAL PARTNERSHIP LINKS)



CCDRP Responsible Authorities Group (RAG)

The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act places a duty on agencies to work together with other key partners to reduce crime and disorder to increase community safety for the residents, businesses, visitors and students of Colchester. To meet this duty the Chief Officers named below share the primary strategic lead, and ultimate responsibility, for delivering all of the Colchester Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership's (CCDRP) strategies, performance targets, policies and protocols to reduce crime in Colchester. This includes ensuring a **Strategic Assessment of Crime** and **Annual Partnership Plan** is produced each year reporting on our performance, progress against targets and crime reduction priorities. From these documents a range of crime reduction initiatives and projects are developed to meet stated objectives and outcomes in combination with those targets from the Local Area Agreement 2008 -2011. The current membership of RAG is:

Ian Vipond. **(Chairperson)** Executive Director - Colchester Borough Council. **Jane Gardner**. Area Co-ordinator Partnerships, Essex County Council. **Jason Gwillim**. Superintendent - Essex Police - Eastern Division. **Karen Loweman**. Director of Housing Management Colchester Borough Homes **Dr Mike Gogarty.** Director of Public Health & Health Policy - North East Essex Primary Care Trust. **Cllr Margaret Fisher.** Essex Police Authorities Group	**Cllr Tim Young.** Portfolio Holder for Community Safety. **Cllr Anne Turrell.** Essex Fire Authority **Andy Butcher**. Divisional Commander - Essex County Fire & Rescue Service. **Peter Woollard**. Manager - Partnerships. Essex Probation Service. **RAG Co-ordinator.** Peter Carrington Community Safety Co-ordinator - Colchester Borough Council & CDRP

CBC / CDRP Team based at Colchester Police Station (believed to be the only one of its kind in the UK that enhances partnership working) co-ordinates and delivers all services required of the Colchester CDRP

CCDRP Tasking and Co-ordinating Management Group (TCMG)

This group consists of partner agency managers who direct and manage the day to day operational functions, roles and responsibilities of the CDRP and report to RAG on progress, service delivery and performance. TCMG also liaise with the Colchester 2020 LSP to ensure joint working to achieve Pan Essex performance targets. TCMG is also responsible for CDRP polices, performance targets, strategies and various action plans to deliver and implement the **Annual Partnership Plan**. The Group also manages various government funding streams, projects, monitoring and evaluation, roles and functions of Action Groups (see next page), reporting on progress, engaging/supporting community and voluntary groups and partner agencies, commissioning services, 15 Neighbourhood Action Panels and delivering government legislation. The current membership of the TCMG is:

Adrian Coombs. (Chairperson) Chief Inspector - Essex Police Eastern Division (Colchester District). **Peter Carrington.** (**Deputy Chairperson)** Community Safety Co-ordinator - Colchester Borough Council & CCDRP. **Jane Gardner**. Area Co-ordinator Partnerships, Essex County Council. **Martin Avent.** Commander - Essex County Fire & Rescue Service **Emma Bishton.** Senior Health Improvement Practitioner Specialist - North East Essex Primary Care Trust	**Sue Nice.** Housing Manager - Colchester Borough Homes **Sgt Steve Scott-Haynes.** Lead for Neighbourhood Policing and Youth **Belinda Pearse.** ASB Manager Colchester Borough Council & CDRP ASB Team **Peter Woollard.** Partnerships Manager - Essex Probation Service **Martin Buddery.** Registered Social Landlords Representative **Cassandra Fallows.** Street & Leisure Services Colchester Borough Council

Crime & ASB Action Group.

Colchester Domestic Abuse Group

Priority & Prolific Offenders Action Group

Neighbourhood Action Panels (15 Groups with approx' 200 members)

NAP **Joint Action Group** (Strategic Management Group for all NAPs)

Drug & Alcohol Reference Group.

CCTV Strategy & Development Group.

ASB Team Named individuals or named families

CCDRP Partnership Assembly (PA)

This partnership meets to share information, good practice and to monitor, evaluate, assess and comment upon the progress, performance, partnership working, strategies and **Annual Partnership Plan** of the Colchester Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CCDRP). Current members come from: Connexions, Probation Service, MOD, Colchester Borough Neighbourhood Watch, Registered Social Landlords, Youth Services, Victim Support, Voluntary & Community Groups, Compact (which links to over 100 voluntary and community groups), Residents Association, Youth Offending Team, Drugs and Alcohol Services, Drug & Alcohol Action Team (Essex County), Town Centre Partnership, Faith, Race, Domestic Violence and many more.

GROUPS REPORTING DIRECT TO THE CDRP ALTHOUGH OTHER GROUPS MAY DEVELOP TO MEET CHANGING PRIORITIES

ACTION OR TASK & FINISH GROUPS/FORUMS	Chairperson	Co-chair (CC) or Link (L) person	Phone	Email
1. **Anti-Social Behaviour Team** Named individuals & families	Belinda Pearse or Sam Riley	N/A	01206 282593	beverley.pearse@colchester.gov.uk
2. **Colchester Business Against Crime** (COLBAC)	Michelle Reynolds	N/A	01206 366014	inprint@tiscali.co.uk
3. **Crime & ASB Action Group**	Superintendent Jason Gwillim	Chief Insp' Adrian Coombs	01206 762212 01206 762212	Jason.gwillim@essex.pnn.police.uk adrian.coombs@essex.pnn.police.uk
4. **Colchester Domestic Abuse Forum**	Angie O'Toole	Sonia Carr **(CC)**	01206 500585 01206 717818	a.otoole@colchester-refuge.org.uk sonia.carr@colchester.gov.uk
5. **Essex Drug & Alcohol Reference Group**	Emma Bishton	Sally Brown **(L)**	01206 288510 07827 976396	emma.bishton@neessexpct.nhs.uk Sally.Brown2@essex.gov.uk
6. **Priority & Prolific Offenders Group**	Detective Inspector John Ross	Peter Carrington **(L)**	01206 762212 01206 717816	john.ross@essex.pnn.police.uk peter.carrington@colchester.gov.uk
7. **Strategic CCTV & Development Group**	Peter Carrington	Cassandra Fallows **(L)**	01206 717816 01206 282918	peter.carrington@colchester.gov.uk cassandra.fallows@colchester.gov.uk
8. **Neighbourhood Action Panels x 15 & NAP Strategy Group**	Local community representative or Police	CDRP / CBC Community Safety Team	01206 717818 01206 717817 01206 717819	sonia.carr@colchester.gov.uk amy.hickey@colchester.gov.uk loanda.quested@colchester.gov.uk

OTHER PARTNER AGENCIES OR GROUPS LINKED TO, BUT NOT REPORTING TO, THE CCDRP

Action Groups or Forums	Main contact	Link person	Phone	Email
Colchester Borough Council Street Care Team (graffiti, flytipping, abandoned vehicles, litter etc).	Dave McManus	Shane Taylor	01206 282625 01206 282838	dave.mcmanus@colchester.gov.uk shane.taylor@colchester.gov.uk
Colchester Borough Neighbourhood Watch	Carole Dennis	Sgt Steve Scott-Haynes	01206 513333 0300 333 4444	colchesternw@hotmail.com
Colchester Business Against Crime (COLBAC)	Michelle Reynolds	Matt Sterling	01206 366014 01206 282577	inprint@tiscali.co.uk mattehw.sterling@colchester.gov.uk
Colchester Business & Retail Association (COBRA)	Michelle Reynolds	N/A	01206 366014	inprint@tiscali.co.uk
Colchester Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership	Maureen Hanley	Matthew Sterling	07786125339 01206 282577	maureen.hanley@essexcc.gov.uk mattehw.sterling@colchester.gov.uk
Colchester Community Voluntary Service	Samantha Drummond	N/A	01206 505250	information@ccvs.org
Colchester Federation of Residents' Associations	Jo Edwards	N/A	01206 868254	josiemedwards@hotmail.com
Community Street Wardens	Cassandra Fallows	N/A	01206 282119	cassandra.fallows @colchester.gov.uk
'Compact' Community & Voluntary Groups	Bridget Tighe	Samantha Drummond	01206 282104 01206 505250	bridget.tighe@colchester.gov.uk
Essex Chamber of Commerce	Bill Pirie	N/A	01206 765737	billpirie@essexchambers.co.uk
Essex Drug Action & Alcohol Team (EDAAT)	Ellen Collen	Awaiting appointment		Ellen.Collen@essex.gov.uk
Essex Police - Eastern Division - Tasking Group	Sector Commander for Colchester	Peter Carrington	0300 333 4444 01206 717816	peter.carrington@colchester.gov.uk
Federation of Small Businesses	Awaiting name of new chairperson			
Hate Crime Forum (ECC)	Matt Sterling		01206 282557	matthew.sterling@colchester.gov.uk
MOD – Colchester Garrison NAP	Major D E Casey MBE	Peter Carrington	01206 782020 01206 717816	david.casey829@land.mod.uk peter.carrington@colchester.gov.uk

Tendring and Colchester Minority & Ethnic Minority Group (TaCMEP)	Poobie Naidoo PC Jackie Long		01206 500217 or 01206 500203 01206 762212	jackie.long@essex.pnn.police.uk
Victim Support - Colchester & Tendering	Melissa Walters Sonia Carr		01255 424934 01206 717818	enquiriesclacton@vse.org.uk sonia.carr@colchester.gov.uk

Crime and Disorder Reduction In Colchester Borough

Annual Partnership Plan 2009 – 2010

COLCHESTER COMMUNITY SAFETY

Produced by the
COLCHESTER CRIME and DISORDER REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP (CCDRP)
www.colchester-community-safety.org.uk
www.colchester-drug-alcohol.org.uk

CCDRP ANNUAL PARTNERSHIP PLAN

1. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 09-10

This plan shows the priorities for Colchester Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) for 2009-2010.

The priorities have been identified through our Strategic Assessment of Crime which involved a detailed analysis of crime, intelligence and public consultations as well as a review of crime reduction issues facing our borough.

We have chosen 4 Key Priorities where this is a significant problem, and where the collaboration of CDRP partners, can make a difference.

2. FUNDING OUR PRIORITIES

The Annual Partnership Plan (APP) is supported by a range of national and local funding streams that are collectively pooled together to maximise their impact upon crime reduction.

3. REVIEWING THE ANNUAL PARTNERSHIP PLAN/STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

The Strategic Assessment and Annual Partnership Plan will be **renewed each year** until 2011 to reflect changing priorities, new key issues and emerging crime trends within our communities. This will help the Colchester Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (CCDRP) and its partner agencies achieve their objectives for a safer Colchester. The actions will be regularly reviewed by senior officers and managers of the CCDRP, and updated, as the three-year life of the Partnership Plan unfolds.

4. SMART TARGETS - Detailed Action Plan to achieve targets for top priorities

The following tables set out our Strategic Priorities for 09-10 as agreed by Colchester CDRP Chief Officers on the **12th March 2009**. The priorities below are operational from the 1st April 2009 and will remain active until **31st March 2010.** However, these may be subject to change if other more urgent crime reduction priorities are identified and need to be addressed or actioned by the Colchester CDRP partnership.

KEY PRIORITY 1 - CRIME								
Objective	**LAA 2. Local indicator. CDRP. Life Chances.**	**Performance Outcome**	**Target Area**	**Resources & Activities**	**Funding**	**Lead Agency or Person**	**By When**	**Data Source**
A. Reduce adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision.	**LAA2 N1 18.**	Preventing re-offending will have an impact on Quality of Life for both the general population and the families of the offenders themselves. **% of caseloads proven to have committed an offence based on 2006 baseline. Baseline as of 2006-07 is 721 – 7.9%. Target by 2009 is 7.9% 2010 is 7.7% 2011 is 7.4%.** **No recent data is currently available**	All Wards.	**See page 42 of LAA2 for county led actions.**	**Awaiting costings if applicable**	Essex Community Safety and Drug and Alcohol Strategic Partnership.	Ongoing	Data from NOMS will be available April 08.
	CDRP Indicator.	Develop Community Payback scheme. **This is progressing well with a number of projects being started in mid 2009.**	All Wards.	1. Identify offenders on scheme to work under supervision in the community making improvements to community facilities and public places. 2. Identify areas for improvement through NAPs, Cllrs and community leaders.	**Awaiting costings if applicable**	1. Essex Probation Service 2. CDRP	Ongoing	Essex Probation Service
B. Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of litter, detritus, graffiti and fly posting)	**LAA2 N1 195.**	Records the levels of litter, detritus, graffiti and fly-tipping in an area, incidences of which can seriously affect the liveability of the area and have a detrimental effect on fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. **Baseline (based on BVPI 199a) is 17.3% of records collected. This is a new indicator and it is not**	All Wards.	**See page 43 of LAA2 for county led actions.** 1. Implement second year improvement plan for 2 education / enforcement campaigns on defacement and flytipping. 2. Establish new enforcement investigation policy into the recycling of	**Awaiting costings if applicable**	Waste Management Advisory Board.	Ongoing	Dave McManus CBC Street & Leisure Services

		appropriate to set district level targets until June 2008. **No recent data is currently available.**		litter including installation of recycling litter bins and increasing the total number of litter bins. 3. Increase partnership and collaborative working with other agencies to improve effectiveness of enforcement activities.				
C. Reduce incidents of domestic violence.	**LAA2 Local Indicator 7.1.**	This type of crime impacts on the mental and physical health of victims and their families, and consequently has implications for a wide range of services. **Baseline as of 2006-07 is 721. Target by 2009 is 685 2010 is 663 2011 is 649.** **Outcome** for **2009** is **915** which is **230 over** target which may reflect better reporting by victims and the number of repeat victims who remain in abusive relationships	All Wards.	**See page 44 of LAA2 for county led actions.** 1. Support the delivery of activities led and delivered by the Essex County Council Domestic Violence Group & Co-ordinator. 2. Support the delivery of activities led by the Colchester Domestic Violence Forum and Colchester Police Domestic Violence Unit.	**Awaiting costings if applicable**	Essex Community Safety and Drug and Alcohol Strategic Partnership	Ongoing	Essex Police
	CDRP Indicator.	Provide for the continuation of the Integrated Domestic Abuse Programme. **This project is continuing with funding from the CDRP due its success in working with victims and offenders.**	All Wards.	1. Identify perpetrators through the Colchester Police Domestic Violence Unit 2. Ensure Essex Probation Service manage project effectively.	**£8,000** from CDRP	Essex Probation Service		Essex Probation Service
D. Reduce assaults causing injury.	**LAA2 NI 20.**	There are approximately 8,000 - 9,000 crimes of this type in Essex each year, and it has close links to the alcohol misuse/reduction/ASB agenda and could benefit greatly from a partnership problem solving approach. **Baseline as of 2007 is 1,338. Target by 2009 is 1,271 2010 is 1,231 2011 is 1,204.** **Outcome** for **2009** is **1050** which is **221** under target which is a **successful** outcome.	All Wards.	**See page 43 of LAA2 for county led actions.** 1. Develop Action Group to implement all elements of the Police/CBC/CDRP Town Centre Night Time Economy Strategy	**Awaiting costings if applicable**	Essex Community Safety and Drug and Alcohol Strategic Partnership	Ongoing	Essex Police

	CDRP Indicator.	Develop an SOS and Community Resource Bus for the town. 'The Colchester Safer Communities Bus', as it will be known, scheme is aimed at reducing ASB, violence at night and providing a community resource for other agencies and community groups during the day 7 days a week. **This has proved to be one of the most successful projects delivered by the CDRP which is now managed by Open Road a local charity on 766096. Core funding is a continuing CDRP priority for 09 & 10**	Town Centre at night and borough during the day.	1. First aid and emergency medical facility provided for the town centre at night between 8.00pm & 3.30am on a Thursday, Friday & Saturday night. 2. Safe haven for all vulnerable people and those in distress for any reason at night between 8.00pm & 3.30am. 3. Community resource during the day for all partner agencies and community or voluntary groups to promote their services, advice or information across the borough 4. To promote volunteering and recruit **90** volunteers for this project	**£348,000** in total. Essex Police: £20,000 √ CDRP: £26,000 √ CBC: £8,000 √ Home Office: £2,000 √ ECC: £20,000 √ NEEPCT: £10,000 √ High Sherriff: £2,000 √ Pub/Club Watch: £1,000 √	1. Essex Police 2. CBC 3. CDRP 4. Open Road	Start project from October 2007. Launch by October 2008.	1. Essex Police 2. CBC 3. CDRP 4. Open Road
	Life Chances Indicators	Ensure better partnership monitoring of CCTV particularly key days and times (Friday, Saturday & Sunday 2200-0300). **New rotas have been introduced and when possible additional help from a PCSO provided.**	Town Centre.	1. Improve intelligence gathering, prevention and detection of crime and disorder. 2. Provide PCSO/PC at peak times to identify offenders and liaise with police officers on duty.	Staff & officer time which is a hidden indirect cost	1. CBC CCTV centre 2. Col' Police		1. CBC CCTV 2. Col' Police
E. Feeling Safe.	**LAA 2 Local Indicator 7.2**	Essex residents display disproportionate levels of fear of crime compared to actual crime statistics. This indicator contributes significantly to the Quality of Life agenda and will benefit significantly from effective Essex partnerships. **Baseline as of 2006-07 is 35.8% of population. Target by 2009 is 37.9% 2010 is 40.1% 2011 is 42.2%.**	All Wards.	**See page 44 of LAA2 for county led actions.** 1. Develop a positive media and communications strategy through the CDRP/BCU media post holder. 2. Utilise the work and successes of NAPs to promote a greater sense of feeling safer and that community issues are being actioned and	**Awaiting costings if applicable**	Essex Community Safety and Drug and Alcohol Strategic Partnership.	Ongoing	Essex County Council Tracker survey No 5

		Outcome for **2009** is **50.8%** which is **12.9%** over target and reflects the **success** of our partnership working		resolved.				
	CDRP & Life Chances Indicator	Work with 15 NAPS to identify quality of life issues and to provide solutions that increase residents feelings of safety. **The 15 Neighbourhood Action Panels have proved immensely successful for engaging with local communities and identify their priorities for safer neighbourhoods**.	All Wards	1. Develop 'community profile(s)' of NAP area to inform groups of priority issues and wider community information about their neighbourhoods. 2. To identify quality of life, crime and ASB issues impacting upon communities and residents. 3. Develop workable solutions and appoint lead persons who will deliver those actions to address local problems. 4. To develop the involvement and leadership skills of local communities to decide, and develop actions, that resolves their priorities for quality of life issues, crime reduction and community safety.	**£11,500** from CDRP each year	1. Essex Police 2. CDRP 3. CBC 4. ECC	Ongoing	1. Essex Police 2. CDRP 3. CBC 4. ECC

	CDRP & Life Chances Indicator	Develop the Colchester Safer Communities and SOS Bus as a mobile resources to visit any area or community in Colchester to promote: 1. Safer Communities 2. Crime Reduction Projects 3. Successes in reducing and detecting crime 4. Youth Engagement 5. How to prevent bogus callers, scams and cons. 6. Becoming a member of Neighbourhood Watch. 7. Police call centre telephone number **This has proved to be one of the most successful projects delivered by the CDRP which is now managed by Open Road a local charity on 766096. Core funding is a continuing CDRP priority for 09 & 10**	Town Centre at night and borough during the day.	1. Bus refitted by late September 2008. 2. First aid and emergency medical facility provided for the town centre at night between 8.00pm & 3.30am on a Thursday, Friday & Saturday night. 3 Safe haven for all vulnerable people and those in distress for any reason at night between 8.00pm & 3.30am. 4. Community resource during the day for all partner agencies and community or voluntary groups to promote their services, advice or information across the borough 5. To promote volunteering and recruit **110** volunteers for this project	**£348,000** in total some examples are: Essex Police: £20,000 √ CDRP: £46,000 √ CBC: £38,000 √ Home Office: £2,000 √ ECC: £50,000 √ NEEPCT: £22,500 √ High Sherriff: £3,000 √ Pub/Club Watch: £13,600 √ Other: £88,000 √	1. Essex Police 2. CBC 3. CDRP 4. Open Road	Start project from October 2007. Launch by October 2008.	1. Essex Police 2. CBC 3. CDRP 4. Open Road
	CDRP & Life Chances Indicator	Implement Street Pastors Scheme. **This project has been fully implemented and operates every Friday and Saturday night. Street Pastors work closely with SOS Bus volunteers to ensure an even safer night time economy.**	Town Centre.	1. To provide pastoral, but strictly non religious, support and help to all vulnerable people and those in distress for any reason at night between 10.00pm & 3.30am on a Friday and then Saturday night 2. To recruit, train and equip **60** volunteers for this projects.	**£11,000** from: Col' Police: £3,000√ CBC: £3,000√ CDRP: £3,000√ Churches £2,000√	1. Baptist Church 2. Col' Police 3. CBC 4. CDRP	Ongoing	CDRP
F. Reduce first time entrants to the Youth	**LAA2 NI 111**	This indicator is a priority because to be successful it requires early intervention activities that are delivered	All Wards.	**See page 43 of LAA2 for county led actions.**	Tanya Gillet for County and Doug	Children and Young People's Strategic	Ongoing	Youth Offending Team

Justice System aged 10-17.		through a genuine partnership approach. It measures the effectiveness of these activities in stopping young people becoming the offenders of the future. **Baseline as of 2006-07 is 232 of first time entrants. Target by 2009 is 220 2010 is 209 2011 is 199.** **No recent data is currently available**			Rodway for Col' & Tendring	Board.		
G. Engage with Children and Young persons	**1. CYPSP.**	Engage with 100 children and young people to reduce the risk of becoming involved in ASB or criminal activity.	Targeted Wards.	**1.** Colchester Children & Young People's Partnership to engage with 100 children and young people in Harbour and St Andrews to establish what activities and services they would want provided to give them things to do. **Not Achieved.** **2.** Colchester Children & Young People's Partnership to identify what the crime and safety issues and priorities are for 100 children and young people to make communities safer for them. **Not Achieved.**	**Awaiting costings if applicable**	1. CBC 2. CBH 3. CDRP 4. Social Services 5. CYPSP 6. Col' Police 7. Schools EWO	March 08	CYPSP
	CDRP Indicator	Provide the Fire Break project for **24** young people most at risk of being expelled form school or becoming involved in criminal activity. **Achieved.**	Hot spot areas	Provide 2 courses of 12 young people a time that helps build confidence, learn how to work together and respect for each other.	**£10,400**	Essex Fire & Rescue Service	March 2009	Essex Fire & Rescue Service
	CDRP Indicator	Deliver the Crucial Crew event involving 7-10 crime reduction and community safety scenarios to **700+** year 6 school children from 16 primary schools in	All Wards	5 partner agencies delivering crime reduction and community safety scenarios over one week time frame 6 hours per day.	**£3,000** plus staff time which is a hidden	1. CBC 2. Essex Police 3. CDRP	Jan' 09	1. CBC 2. Essex Police 3. CDRP

		Colchester. **Achieved.**			indirect cost			

KEY PRIORITY 2 – ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR								
Objective	**LAA 2. Local indicator. CDRP. Life Chances.**	**Performance Outcome**	**Target Area**	**Resources & Activities**	**Funding**	**Lead Agency or Person**	**By When**	**Data Source**
A. Reduce perceptions of ASB.	**LAA2 NI 17.**	While levels of crime in Essex are relatively low, ASB is an issue that causes significant concern for communities and therefore actual levels and perceptions need to be addressed. **Baseline as of 2006/07 is 17.97% of the population. Target by 2009 is 17.7% 2010 is 16.9% 2011 is 15.9%.** **Outcome** for **2009** is **18.4%** which is **0.7% over** target.	All Wards.	**See page 42 of LAA2 for county led actions.** 1. The CBC/CDRP ASB Team to identify interventions and enforcement methods that helps the public understand that action is being taken to reduce ASB. 2. Utilise the work and successes of NAPs to promote a greater sense that ASB issues are being actioned and resolved. 3. Develop a positive media and communications strategy through the CDRP/BCU media post holder.	**Awaiting costings if applicable**	Essex Community Safety and Drug and Alcohol Strategic Partnership	Ongoing	Place survey
	CDRP Indicator.							
B. Reduce ASB in Colchester.	**Life Chances Indicator.**	Increase use of mobile CCTV to reduce incidents of crime & ASB. **95% complete and should start in September 09.**	Hot spot areas	1. Locate mobile CCTV system within the town or borough to tackle hot spot crime, ASB and disorder issues. 2. Gather local community intelligence that informs police operations and address crime priorities	**£17,750** from Col' CDRP with a further **£3,000** to cover relocation costs up	1. Col' Police 2. CBC 3. CDRP	June 2008	Essex Police

				for the CDRP. 3. Establish funding for relocation costs √	to 2011.			
	Life Chances Indicator.	Review police incident recording and closing of police case processes linked to ASB incidents to improve intelligence and subsequent targeting of agency resources. **Achieved.**	All Wards	1 Colchester Police Incident Management Unit. Ensure that the Essex Police Command and Control system provides improved appropriate options for finalising ASB incidents. 2. Ensure that the correct code for ASB is used which impacts on performance data. 3. Better able to identify ASB hot spot areas or trends requiring action by the Crime and ASB Action Group.	Nil – apart from police staff time which is a hidden indirect cost	Essex Police	Ongoing	Essex Police
	Life Chances Indicator.	Link work of ASB teams (CBC, CBH) with Neighbourhood Policing Teams. **Achieved.**		1. Ensure that intelligence and information is fully utilised to combat ASB throughout Colchester. 2. Develop a protocol to enshrine best practice and enhance joint working between designate agencies and NPT's. 3. Strategic planning meetings every three months with sector commander to monitor effectiveness.	Nil – apart form staff time which is a hidden indirect cost.	1. CBC 2. CBH 3. Col' Police	Ongoing	CBC CBH Col' Police
	Life Chances Indicator.	Maintain effective use of dispersal Orders. **Achieved.**	Hot spot Wards	1. Reduce the incidence of ASB, nuisance, crime and intimidation within a specified area of the community primarily caused by children and	Nil – apart form staff time which is a hidden	1. Essex 2. Police 3. CBC	Ongoing	Essex Police & CBC

				young people or late night revellers. 2. Inform actions that provides long term solutions for local communities. 3. Strategic planning meetings every three months to monitor effectiveness. 4. Link work of ASB teams (CBC, CBH) with Neighbourhood Policing Teams.	indirect cost			
C. Increase uniformed presence.	**CDRP Indicator.**	PCSO's Special Constables Community Street Wardens. **Achieved.**	All Wards.	Requires a partnership approach to deliver the broad range of interventions involved.	Nil	1. Essex Police 2. CDRP 3. CBC	Ongoing	Essex Police CBC

KEY PRIORITY 3 – DRUG MISUSE								
Objective	**LAA 2. Local indicator CDRP. Life Chances.**	**Performance Outcome**	**Target Area**	**Resources & Activities**	**Funding**	**Lead Agency or Person**	**By When**	**Data Source**
A. Reduce substance misuse by young people.	LAA2 NI 115.	Reducing substance misuse by young people continues to be an important target. Substance misuse can result in physical, psychological and social problems for young people and often results in deteriorating educational performance. **The NI Baseline data cannot be broken down to a district level. There is a possibility that the data will be capable of collection by district in the future.**	All Wards.	**See page 43 of LAA2 for county led actions.**	**Awaiting costings if applicable**	Essex Community Safety and Drug and Alcohol Strategic Partnership		

	CDRP indicator . CDRP Indicator	See priority **1 (d)** above.						
		Deliver 2 smart 4 drugs project to **3,000** year 7 & 8 pupils. **Achieved.**	All Wards	Provide information about the dangers and risks of drugs in a dynamic way that engages the attention of 2,000 year 7 & 8 pupils.	**£3,000**	Essex Police	June 2009	Essex Police
	NI 115 + NI 39	Plan for and recruit to schools liaison worker to work with pupils in yrs 5-8. **Staff recruitment now underway to achieve project due to funding from LSP PRG monies.**	all wards but priority to schools which do not have Healthy Schools status	a. prepare for and embed messages from ad hoc events including 2Smart and Crucial Crew b. provide consistent support to PHSE agenda c. assist schools in identification of vulnerability to substance use/actual substance use. d. (worker and schools engaged in): Signpost to outreach/appropriate MH support as required for those recognised as vulnerable	PCT, Will use PRG reward funding for 2 yr pilot	PCT	January 09	PCT, DAAT
B. Reduce crime & re-offending caused by drug misuse.	**CDRP Indicator**	Reduce re-offending in prolific and priority offenders by 60% who misuse drugs and alcohol. **Awaiting final evaluation.**	All Wards	Provide a dedicated team of officers to target, educate and support to alter their offending behaviour (Keep project).	**£35,000** from BCU & CDRP plus 2 police officers time which is a hidden indirect cost.	1. Essex Police 2. CDRP 3. Open Road	Ongoing	Essex Police

KEY PRIORITY 4 – ALCOHOL MISUSE								
Objective	**LAA 2. Local indicator.**	**Performance Outcome**	**Target Area**	**Resources & Activities**	**Funding**	**Lead Agency or Person**	**By When**	**Data Source**

	CDRP. Life Chances.							
Rate of hospital admissions per 100,000 population for alcohol related harm.	LAA2 NI 39.	Alcohol misuse is widely regarded as playing a significant part in fuelling criminal and disorderly behaviour, ill health and loss of productivity at work. Recent reports have provided evidence of the success of investing in alcohol treatment. **Baseline as of 2006 73. Target by 2009 is 83 2010 is 92 2011 is 102.** **No recent data is currently available.**	All Ward	**See page 43 of LAA2 for county led actions.**	**Awaiting costings if applicable**	Clare Butler Essex Community Safety and Drug and Alcohol Strategic Partnership		Primary Care Trust
	CDRP Indicator	Reduce incidents of underage sales to no more than 15% across Essex. **Baseline as of April 2008 is 21%. Target by 2009 is 19% 2010 is 17% 2011 is 15%.** **No recent data is currently available.**	All Wards	Target licensed premises to test whether they will sell to underage young people.	Nil – apart from staff time which is a hidden indirect cost.	Essex police licensing team and ETS	March 09	Essex Trading Standards
Reduce crime & offending caused by alcohol misuse.	**CBC Life Chances.**	Further improve the use of the Behave Or Be Banned (BOBB) scheme. **Achieved with 80 offenders currently on the scheme who are also referred to the ASB Team**	Town Centre	1. Identify those people committing acts of crime, violence and ASB in licensed premises. 2. Ban those offenders for a set period from all participating premises as per the requirements of the scheme. 3. Ensure that licencees take a more proactive approach to dealing with offenders.	Officer time which is a hidden indirect cost.	1. Col' Police 2. CDRP Crime & ASB Action Group 3. Strategic Licensing Group 4. Pub/Club Watch 5. Licensing Trade	Ongoing	Essex police
	CBC Life Chances.	Establish new Strategic Licensing Group with 12 CBC Licensees, Colchester Police & CBC Licensing.	Town Centre	1. Engage with those leading licensees who are best able to provide guidance and resources,	Nil – apart from staff time	Essex Police	Ongoing	Essex police

		Achieved.		in partnership with the police, to reduce alcohol related crime and ASB issues in Colchester. 2. Ensure a better partnership approach to making the town centre safer due to the risks caused by excessive alcohol consumption.	which is a hidden indirect cost.			
	CBC Life Chances.	Promote safe drinking advice via SOS Bus (To be renamed The Colchester Safer Communities Bus) scheme. **Achieved.**	Town Centre.	1. Provide educational advice and guidance on safe drinking linked to the night time economy. 2. For appropriate statutory, community and voluntary groups to visit schools, neighbourhoods, communities, and colleges etc during the day to provide advice and guidance on safe drinking.	Nil – apart from staff time which is a hidden indirect cost.	CDRP	Ongoing	CDRP
	CBC & Essex Police.	Ensure that the Designated Public Place Order for Colchester is enforced and proactively used by police officers. **Achieved.**	Town Centre.	1. To allow police officers to remove, and immediately dispose of, any form of alcohol from any person acting in a disorderly manner. 2. To reduce or prevent acts of crime, disorder, violence or ASB caused by alcohol.	Nil – apart from staff time which is a hidden indirect cost.	Essex Police & CBC	Ongoing	Essex Police & CBC