

<b>2 October 2012</b>		<b>ITEM 5</b>
<b>Cleaner, Greener, Safer Overview and Scrutiny</b>		
<b>COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP SELF ASSESSMENT – IMPROVING VALUE FOR MONEY</b>		
Report of: Councillor Wootton, Chair of Task and Finish Group		
<b>Wards and communities affected:</b> Borough Wide	<b>Key Decision:</b> To make recommendations	
<b>Accountable Head of Service:</b> Lucy Magill, Head of Service Public Protection		
<b>Accountable Director:</b> Jo Olsson, Director of People Services		
This report is public		
<b>Purpose of Report:</b> To provide the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an insight into the assessment on delivering value for money in the Thurrock Community Safety Partnership (TCSP) and to enable the committee to review and make recommendations to the TCSP on improving their value for money		

Comment [s]: Please provide a summary of the key points in your report

Comment [s]: The recommendations should be set out in bold in the form of the decision that the decision-maker is being asked to make - See para. 5.2 of the report writing guidelines

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report was commissioned by the Cleaner and Greener Overview and Scrutiny Committee.  
 The objective was to identify spend of the TCSP by area of priority within the community safety strategy.  
 Background research was conducted and as a result a number of conclusions and recommendations have been made.

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1.1 **With limited funding available to CSPs it is imperative that the priorities within the strategy are reviewed and that they are streamlined to ensure effective focus, resourcing and delivery.**
- 1.2 **The CSP needs to ensure that firstly funding is secured and that it is then focused and prioritised to deliver a high quality of service which will have maximum impact in terms of keeping our residents safe.**
- 1.3 **That this report is shared with the Police and Crime Commissioner to provide information to support our business case for continued funding for our successful projects from April 2013 onwards, including those where joint commissioning is advised.**

- 1.4 That action is taken against those projects rated as satisfactory to either improve value or discontinue the initiatives
- 1.5 That those projects rated as good or excellent and are therefore a strength in keeping Thurrock safe continue to be funded and delivered
- 1.6 That monitoring continues of those projects not yet embedded to ensure that they deliver value for money and stated outcomes
- 1.7 That we acknowledge the excellent work undertaken by the Thurrock Community Safety Partnership to keep Thurrock safe and that they share best practise.

**2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:**

- 2.1 The Thurrock Community Safety Partnership (TCSP) has completed a self-assessment with regards to delivering value for money and has requested that Members become involved to provide additional scrutiny.  
To support this, the Cleaner and Greener Overview and Scrutiny committee has set up a task and finish group to assist the CSP with improving value for money.  
The group has been requested to prepare a briefing note back to the Committee and TCSP board.
- 2.2 Terms of reference for task and finish:
  - 2.2.1 The aim of the task and finish group was to review the audit commission value for money criteria.
  - 2.2.2 In reviewing the above, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee requested further detailed analysis of the project spend, with evaluation of outcomes delivered against each of the partnerships priorities. This included project manager input, and third party scrutiny and validation.
- 2.3 Legal Obligations
  - 2.3.1 Statutory crime and disorder reduction partnerships followed the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. They became Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) in April 2010.
  - 2.3.2 The Crime and Disorder Regulations 2007 requires responsible authorities to show that their CSP offers Value For Money.
  - 2.3.3 The responsible authorities work with 'cooperating bodies' to achieve their objectives.
  - 2.3.4 At April 2010, responsible authorities are police authorities, police forces, councils, fire and rescue authorities, primary care trusts and probation trusts.

Comment [s]: You should briefly explain why the report is on the agenda - See para. 5.3 and 5.4 of the report writing guidelines.

**3. Funding**

**3.1 Process**

3.1.1 Funding applications are invited from a range of partners both statutory, voluntary and community. The caveat for applying for funding is that the funds must be used to deliver on the Partnerships five priorities, which for 2011/14 are:

- 1) Reduce Anti-social Behaviour
- 2) Improve Community Safety through Education, Engagement and Prevention
- 3) Reduce Re-offending
- 4) Reduce Crime and Domestic Abuse
- 5) Tackle Hate Crime (race, disability, sexual orientation and religion)

3.1.2 Bids should be approved by delivery groups to ensure that they will deliver on the annual action plans and are then scrutinised by the CSP Executive Group who will make a decision. Our processes are transparent and visible and available through our web site. [www.shapingthurrock.org.uk/safer](http://www.shapingthurrock.org.uk/safer)

**3.2 Receipts**

For the funding year 2011/12 the Partnership has received the following funding:

<b>INCOME STREAMS</b>	<b>Income £</b>
Safer Stronger Grant	£174,757
Partner contributions	£19,000
Basic Command Unit Police contribution	£16,000
Domestic abuse (includes some residual reward grant)	£46,083
Anti Social Behaviour Delivery Improvement Grant	£21,746
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£277,586</b>

**3.3 Expenditure by area**

The following seeks to identify spend by area; however there is some cross over where projects deliver on more than one priority area:

Comment [s]: Other headings may be appropriate. The report should outline the reasoning that leads to its recommendations and **must** include:

1. a brief summary of options considered;
2. consultation outcomes
3. a risk assessment.
4. Whether the responsible cabinet members have been consulted/contributed to the report (NB professional and political advice must be clearly distinguished)

- See para.5.5 of the report writing guidelines.

Priority area	Expenditure £
Drugs and alcohol	£89,000
Anti-social behaviour	£24,254
Young People	£15,600
Communication and engagement	£37,269
Violence Against Women	£75,945
Acquisitive and Violent Crime	£20,717
Hate crime	£9,759
Prevent agenda	£1,050
Support	£2,437
Savings committed	£30,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£276,031</b>

Comment [jj]: This should include any consultation with Ward Members and Shadow Portfolio Holders, as well as any public or statutory consultation

#### 3.4 Detailed spend

The table contained within Appendix 1 breaks down spend by project and outlines the anticipated outcomes, change in performance and challenges to the project.

#### 3.5 Out of scope

This review only covers funding held by the community safety partnership and therefore excludes Council funded PCSO's, teams within Public Protection who contribute to addressing the Partnership's priorities and the operational allocation of the Police Basic Command Unit which is held by the District Commander to resource operations designed to support community safety priorities.

It is funding and resources from these areas which address key priorities around volume crime, anti-social behaviour and re-offending and hence why expenditure by the partnership may appear low.

### 4. **CONSULTATION (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)**

4.1 Guidance and challenge to this report has been provided by members of the Task and Finish group

4.2 A questionnaire was developed by the task group and sent to all project managers who accessed CSP funding during 2011/12. A copy is attached at Appendix 2.

4.3 A rating system was assigned to each project as: 1- inadequate, 2 – satisfactory, 3 – good, 4- excellent to enable projects to be ranked.

- 4.4 Councillors assigned a rating to each project and validated the questionnaire responses
- 4.5 On agreement of this report the CSP executive will be requested to carry out further work on those projects scored as satisfactory. None were scored as inadequate.

**5. IMPACT ON CORPORATE POLICIES, PRIORITIES, PERFORMANCE AND COMMUNITY IMPACT**

- 5.1 Funding is only given to projects which deliver on the community safety strategy which contributes to Thurrock’s sustainable community strategy priorities of:
  - 3) Ensure a safe, clean and green environment
  - 5) Build pride, respect and responsibility in Thurrock’s communities and its residents
- 5.2 Implementation of these recommendations will improve performance and deliver value for money
- 5.3 Performance benefits are contained within Appendix 3 as an exempt item.

**6. IMPLICATIONS**

**6.1 Financial**

Implications verified by: **Mike Jones**  
 Telephone and email: **01375 652772**  
**mxjones@thurrock.gov.uk**

The bidding process undertaken to allocate funds ensures that value for money is considered at the initial stage of implementation of any project. The recommendations made within the report should help to deliver further financial benefits.

**6.2 Legal**

Implications verified by: **David Lawson**  
 Telephone and email: **01375 652087**  
**dlawson@thurrock.gov.uk**

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

**6.3 Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: **Samson DeAlyn**  
 Telephone and email: **01375652472**  
**sdealyn@thurrock.gov.uk**

**Comment [a]:** Please refer to Section 5.7 of the Report Writing Guidelines

**Comment [sj]:** This section should always be completed – if they are dealt with fully in another part of the report, they also need a brief cross reference here. The names and job titles of the officers providing the implications should be provided in full – see Guideline 6.1 and please note Democratic Services Deadlines and ensure that officers providing implications are given 5 clear working days to work on the report. Authors can write implications but they must be signed off by the appropriate officers

**Comment [sj]:** See Guideline 6.2

**Comment [sj]:** See Guideline 6.3

**Comment [sj]:** See Guideline 6.4

The Council is under a statutory duty to promote equality and tackle discrimination. A number of services set out in this report will have an impact on equality outcomes. These include for example domestic abuse and hate crime. If as a result of the challenges any services are amended they would be subject to a separate equality impact assessment. To ensure any adverse impact is mitigated

Comment [s]: This should inform the recommendations in the report

6.4 **Other implications (where significant) – i.e. Section 17, Risk Assessment, Health Impact Assessment, Sustainability, IT, Environmental**

None noted

7. **CONCLUSION**

7.1 the following projects were rated as **excellent**:

Project	Priority area
Victim support for victims of ASB	Anti-social behaviour
Drug and alcohol action team – drug intervention project	Drugs and Alcohol
Rape packs for SERICC	Violence against Women
Automatic Number Plate Recognition project	Acquisitive crime
Personal safety alarms	Violence against Women and Hate crime
Cycle marking to reduce theft of bikes	Acquisitive crime

7.2 The following projects were rated as **Good**:

Project	Priority area
MARAC risk assessment co-ordinator (3/4) to work with high risk victims of domestic abuse	Violence against Women
Community alcohol project – to tackle under age sales and reduce violent crime in Grays	Anti-social behaviour Violent crime
Section 59 nuisance motorbike signage in open areas	Anti-social behaviour
Leaflets informing residents of anyone given an ASBO	Anti-social behaviour
Positive activities programme for young	Anti-social behaviour

people	
PREVENT postcard on ACT NOW to encourage reporting	Prevent – counter terrorism
Stay safes for those with a learning disability	Hate crime Acquisitive crime
Domestic Homicide Review training	Violence against Women
No cold calling signs for sheltered housing and learning disability accommodation	Acquisitive crime
Trading standards cards promoting safe businesses	Acquisitive crime
Safer Thurrock newsletter	Communication & engagement
Be safe Be smart posters for sheltered housing	Acquisitive crime
Street drinking project – analysis report commissioned	Anti-social behaviour

7.3 The following projects scored as **satisfactory** and recommendations for actions are included:

Project	Priority area	Recommendation / Actions
Communications officer (2/3);	Communication & engagement	This post has now been mainstreamed.
Meet the People; this is a statutory requirement	Communication & engagement	Costs have been scaled back this year and location moved
Alcohol worker; taking referrals within custody	Drugs and alcohol Acquisitive and violent crime	The objectives of this project were met and it has been included as part of service delivery by OASIS at reduced costs and therefore is no longer funded
Don't smoke and croak beer mats to reduce alcohol related fires	Communication & engagement	Review with Essex Fire Service
Shed bars; to enhance security of garden	Acquisitive crime	Evaluation of project required, however non-

sheds and deter burglary		domestic burglaries are currently reduced compared to last year.
Loan shark beer mats; to raise awareness and encourage reporting	Communication & engagement	no further funding required. 2 referrals received since launch which coincides with other initiatives
Same sex domestic abuse project: survey with recommendations	Violence against women	Findings will be published in Nov so unable to evaluate fully
Partner walk about days: targeting areas for environmental crime	Communication & engagement	These events have now been cancelled as part of our efficiency savings
Prevent – community education event;	Prevent – counter terrorism	There is currently no further funding available for Prevent
CSP analyst; to provide detailed information to enable targeted interventions	All crime	Benefits not seen due to vacancy in post
Crew tube; this web site is still under construction,	Communication & engagement with young people	There is no project management in place and no benefits have been realised
Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy worker (IDVA): working with high risk victims of DV as referred by Essex Police	Violence against women	This is currently cost effective in Thurrock due to the way the posts are hosted and managed. We have requested that the PCC jointly commissions this across Essex which will give a scale of economy to continue to deliver what is a very worthwhile and important service

- 7.4 As a result of this review every opportunity needs to be taken to ensure that funding continues to deliver value for money with regular reviews.
- 7.5 To review Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) and Young Peoples Drug and Alcohol Action Team (YPDAAT) funding to ensure economies of scales are achieved.



- 7.6 To support the discontinuation of the following projects: partner walk about days, communications other than newsletters and free mediums, and to develop referral routes for victims of ASB rather than a dedicated worker.
- 7.7 That the partnership continues to work with the Council's communication team to maximise economies of scale on publications and events
- 7.8 That the Partnership empowers residents to protect themselves and their property

**BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT:**

- The audit commission report which can be found at: <http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/nationalstudies/communitysafety/policevfm/Pages/default.aspx>
- Thurrock Community Safety Partnership Crime and disorder Strategy 2011/14
- Cleaner, Greener and Safer Overview and Scrutiny minutes 10/10/11

**APPENDICES TO THIS REPORT:**

1. Tabled detailed report of spend
2. Example of questionnaire
3. Performance benefits

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**Comment [sj]:** See Guideline 8. If any Papers are to be placed in the Members room that relate to this report, you should also list them here

**Comment [sj]:** List the Appendices referred to in the Report

**Comment [sj]:** Insert the full contact details of the author of the report