

Thurrock Community Safety Partnership
Thurrock Community Safety Partnership Board meeting minutes
8 December 2022
2pm to 4:30pm
Chair: Jenny Barnett

1. Attendees and apologies

Statutory

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Julie Rogers (JRo) – Chair	Director of Public Realm	Apologies
Jenny Barnett – Vice chair	Essex Police CHSUPT	Attended
Cllr Q Abbas	Portfolio Holder	Apologies
Cllr G Collins	Member for Police Fire Crime Panel	Apologies
Cllr J Redsell (JRe)	Chair of Cleaner, Greener, Safer Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Apologies
Mark Barber	District Commander	Apologies
Terry Fisher, representing Mark Barber	Inspector Community Safety	Attended
Michael Dineen, representing Julie Rogers	Assistant Director – Counter Fraud, Enforcement and Community Safety	Attended
Russell Freeman	ECFRS	Apologies
Ian Adams	ECFRS	Apologies
Cheryl Wells	Emergency Planning, Resilience and Community Safety	Attended
Martin Lucas	The Probation Service	Attended
Matt Gillam	CCG	Attended

Non Statutory

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Jo Broadbent	Director Public Health	Attended
Ewelina Sorbjan	Interim Director – Housing	Attended
Bosa Osunde	Strategic Lead – Safeguarding Adults	Apologies
Malcolm Taylor	Strategic Lead – Children's Services	Attended
Clare Moore	Strategic Lead – Children's Social Care	Attended in part
Joe Devlin, for Clare Moore	YOS Operations Manager	Attended in part
Phil Gregory	Public Health / Thurrock DAAT	Apologies
Howard Oldstein	Centre Director, Lakeside shopping centre	Apologies
Sheila Coates	SERICC	Apologies
Greg Myddleton	OPFCC	Apologies
Sandra Valentine	DWP	Attended
Patricia Okwuasabai	DWP	Attended

Invited

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Nicholas Alston	High Sherriff of Essex	Attended
Neil Brand	CSEO Essex Police	Attended
Louise Burrows	CSEO Essex Police	Attended

Ex Officio

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Michelle Cunningham	Thurrock Community Safety Partnership	Apologies
Paige Simmonds (minutes)	Thurrock Community Safety Partnership	Attended

1.2 Items for urgent AOB

None noted

2. Minutes

2.1 Minutes from 15/9/22

The minutes of the meeting on 15/09/2022 were approved.

2.2 Outstanding Actions

The action log was reviewed, and updates were recorded.

2.3 Matters Arising

- Community Violence, summary report Terry Fisher – The areas of concern that we have been trying to combat and deal with are validated within this report as accurate. The plan is working through the recommendations on the report with myself, Michelle Cunningham, Mark Barber and Cheryl Wells
- Terms of Reference – The Board agreed the revisions

3.0 Performance and incidents of note

3.1 Essex Police Crime Performance Report

Terry Fisher

- ASB is down by 46%
- Violence against person is down by 5.4%
- Stalking offences are down by 19%
- Robbery down by 2%
- There is a slight increase in burglary by 0.2%
- Theft of motor vehicle is up by 5%
- Theft From motor vehicle is up 40.5% in comparison from last year. We have seen an increase across the area. We are putting into place an operation response for CPT which is called Op Sculptor. That is going to look at theft of vehicles all over the district. We are going to work with specialized departments to address the issue

- Domestic Abuse is down by 5%

3.2 Incidents of note Q3

Terry Fisher

There were protestors on the M25 in October, we were able to stop the protestors and managed to stop publicity. We did have some really good success with these protests in disrupting a number of them from taking place. There were a few occasions where we were able to stop the protestors before they began. There was an incident where protestors were locking onto gantries near the Dartford River Crossing that were dealt with by our officers and arrests made. Thurrock is currently not affected but protestors are currently continuing in London. We are looking to arrange a meeting with the directors of our vulnerable sites inside of Thurrock.

Our off-road team assisted with a missing child reported. The child was at risk of self-harm due to mental health issues. The child was last seen in a woodland area. The quad bike team searched the location by using the floodlights on the quad bikes. They managed to find the child and waited for medical professionals to assess his mental health.

There was a robbery that occurred at Lakeside at the Apple Store where a number of iPhones were taken by a gang of males. Four suspects entered the Apple store. Within 90 seconds they used an implement to lever an entire section of wood which the iPhones were attached to and then walked out of the store. No one was injured. Officers were called to the scene. We are working through a significant amount of CCTV footage.

In November there was a robbery reported in SLH which was reported to local news outlets where a child was approached by 3 suspects. One of the suspects was armed with a hammer. The young male was threatened and he sustained an injury as a result. The suspects were able to take the victims bag as well as a number of other items including his phone. Officers were already patrolling the area due to other community concerns. They were on the scene within two minutes. They quickly identified two suspects matching the description. Both of the suspects were detained and arrested. A further suspect was later arrested. The case is currently on going and is currently with CPS for a charging decision.

3.3 ECFRS Performance Report

Update not available due to other operational commitments.

4. **Police, Fire, Crime Commissioner Update**

4.1 PFCC Panel update

No update available.

4.2 PFCC update

The VVU Secondary Prevention Fund is now open. This is a new fund to support and provide interventions for children, young people and families who are at risk of being involved in criminality and exploitation. Round 1 (of 2) closes 8th Dec. More information on this fund can be found on the VVU website:
<https://www.essexvvu.co.uk/2022/11/24/new-yes-new-secondary-prevention-fund-open-now/>

Greg
Myddelton via
email

The PFCC's Community Safety Development Fund is also expected to open shortly – this is an annual small grants fund open to voluntary and community groups whose activities have a positive impact on the Police & Crime plan.

The PFCC is supporting the rollout of Minerva interactive maps showing hyper-local areas that may be vulnerable to violence against women and girl offences. Each CSP will receive a bespoke map of their area showing hotspots of vulnerability. Alongside this will be action learning sets to understand how to combat these vulnerabilities and a new “Minerva Fund” to access small grants to support activity in these zones.

The PFCC will shortly embark on its annual round of CSP meetings; these are a vital opportunity to check in with CSP Managers and Chairs to understand how the CSP is operating, note key successes, discuss challenges and emerging issues as well as take a health-check on strategic relationships.

The annual report on CS Hubs is expected to be presented to Safer Essex in Jan/Feb 2023 – the report is being drafted now using quantitative and qualitative data on the impact of hubs for local operational partners.

5. **High Sheriff Of Essex**

Introduction and how work with CSPs

Chair welcomed Nick Alston, High Sheriff of Essex who provided following briefing:

Since 1258 we have a new High Sheriff every year. We support criminal justice. I spend time with the judges in the magistrates. We have visited the magistrates in the North. We visit the courts to understand what is going on in the communities, share information around and to say thank you and to encourage the voluntary sector.

I have spent the last eight months attending meetings and learning about the work. I visited the fire service a couple of weeks ago to discuss the increase in fatalities. We fund organisations every year supported by Crime Act funding to community safety groups.

6. Priority 5: Reduce harm to and safeguard victims from Hate Crime Terry Fisher

Thurrock has a reduction in hate crime by 6.87%. There is a lack of engagement and confidence in reporting hate crime to the Police. To deal with this we have organised a number of engagement events over the past few months. We have hosted engagement events at some of our local traveller sites in Thurrock. We have reached out to local religious groups and leaders during the recent interfaith week event. We also hosted a pop-up event in Grays High Street and Chadwell St Mary.

There are no new issues currently regarding our Ukrainian refugees.

Our next steps are to continue to engage with our HIRCS (hate incident reporting centres), promote and encourage hate crime training and to update our printed resources.

We also need to promote and monitor reporting gender-based hate crime inside of Essex. From the Police side we are looking at how we can ensure we are providing the best service possible to our victims inside of our communities. We have rolled out across the West LPA a hate crime improvement plan which was previously trialled in Harlow.

Of 569 offences that were reported, 78% of those fitted into the category of race related hate crime. The highest amount of self-defined ethnicity is white British. 54.6% also describe themselves as male.

7. Priority 6: Tackling Community based Anti-social Behaviour and Safeguarding victims Terry Fisher

Our main two areas of concerns raised by the police and the CSP have been off-road vehicle nuisance which is covered under Op Caesar and car cruisers in West Thurrock which is covered by Op Irish Lions. Since the launch of the off-road team we have seen reported incidents are down significantly. We have been receiving feedback that we have been gaining from our local community forums, Coffee With Cops and local councillors. The issue is very much on the decline which is pleasing to see. November has seen to be our lowest reporting month for off-road vehicle nuisance since 2020. The team has reached their target of section 59 warnings. Their target was 30 and they are up to 68 for the year.

Op Irish Lions has been a priority for the team over the last 12 months. The issue still persists. We have seen some great success with the introduction of the PSPO. We were running the operation every weekend to try and combat the issue. We have residents reporting car racing in West Thurrock. We have seen increased foot traffic. We have had discussions with the CSP, we recognise the need to focus on this and we are looking at long term problem solving and new ways to address the issue. We have already looked at targeting the event

organisers before and after the events take place. This means we attend the key individual's home to issue them with a CPW (Community Protection Warning).

Operation Block in Corringham and Operation Uranium in Ockendon have responded to an increase in ASB. This is usually with youths committing offences. The CPT have set up very quick fire operations to address these concerns.

8. Priority 8: Tackling Community based Anti-social Behaviour and Safeguarding victims

PC Neil Brand
and PC Louise
Burrows

We attended Op Bumble (County lines) – pop up engagement events at Lakeside shopping centre twice (over 700 people attended).

We also attended the Thurrock Inter Faith week event at Thurrock Town Hall. We attended the Partnership Pop ups (VAWAG) – at the college & Grays Train/Bus stations. 3 evenings at FOELH Grays soup kitchen, ending with the introduction of uniformed TCT (Town Centre Team) officers.

Seeing more involvement from the Community Policing Team (CPT) & Town Centre Team at engagement events. Number of community forum meetings attended across the district by CPT, and they will be the main police attendees going forward.

Continue to hold and develop the drop in 'Coffee with Cops' across the district.

In relation to social media the team continue to ensure a varied and regular input, both original and shared posts from partners (such as Give a Gift 2022), as well as supporting HQ with their drive around seasonal crime prevention messages.

For those not on social media (normally our elderly residents) we have looked at increasing our in-person events linking in with community groups, such as: Corringham Ladies guild (reason for my late dial in) Thurrock Over Fifties Forum Breathe Together, Partnership working also goes from strength to strength, such as pop ups (some mentioned above) and attending today's cost of living crisis conference. The launch of EPs first quad bikes in relation to Op Caesar. Plus, through TCSP funding and EP matching hours we have been able to extend our cover to weekends (role is normally Mon-Fri office hours) with 310 hours (173 Essex Police hours & 137 from TCSP funding) spent on weekend cover, covering 31 weekends so far for 2022/23.

Going forward we will be looking to further increase and develop the above and introduce other new engagement tools etc.

9. Delivering Safer Communities

9.1 Strategic assessment and priorities 23/24

Cheryl Wells

We have only recently received the data and it's looking as though our priorities are likely to stay the same, but we may have to give some consideration to the cost-of-living crisis and how that may affect crime types and data. Michelle will circulate outside of the meeting.

9.2 Serious Violence Duty

Cheryl Wells

Serious violence has a devastating impact on lives of victims, families and instils fear within communities and is extremely costly to society.

The Duty is a key part of the Government's programme of work to prevent and reduce serious violence taking a multi-agency approach to understand the causes and consequences of serious violence, focusing on prevention and early intervention, and informed by evidence.

In addition to tough law enforcement, we need to understand and address the factors that cause someone to commit violent crime in the first place.

The Duty aims to ensure that agencies are focussed on their activity to reduce serious violence whilst also providing sufficient flexibility so that the relevant organisations will engage and work together in the most effective local partnership for any given area.

The Duty requires specified authorities to work together to prevent and reduce serious violence, including identifying the kinds of serious violence that occur in the area, the causes of that violence (so far as it is possible to do so), and to prepare and implement a strategy for preventing and reducing serious violence in the area.

The Duty also requires the specified authorities to consult educational, prison and youth custody authorities for the area in the preparation of their strategy.

The Duty does not require the creation of new multi-agency structures. Local senior leaders, as set out in this guidance, may use existing local structures where possible to comply with the requirements of the Duty to work together to prevent and reduce serious violence in their local areas and, ultimately, to improve community safety and safeguarding.

We will be feeding into the Strategic Needs Assessment and taking this forward early into the new year. The deadline for this is March 2023.

We are required to provide a named individual to be the Senior responsible officer for this duty and Mike Dineen has kindly offered to take that role.

- 9.3 Op Minerva Cheryl Wells
Mapping tool that will be available to us to identify locations where street-based violence against women and girls has occurred. This does not include domestic abuse in the home. Early indications are showing potential hotspots in Grays, and West Thurrock including Lakeside. Op Minerva Briefing Event will be held on 23 January. CSP Strategic Board have all been invited.
- 9.4 Prevent Strategy – proposal for sign off
We are awaiting an update on the national review of Prevent as well as an update in relation to CONTEST so we feel it would be sensible to remain with the current strategy until we have both updates and review the strategy, hopefully early 2023.
Cllr Collins – Chair of the Hidden and extreme Harms Committee has agreed to this.
10. **Agency updates** – items by exception
None raised.
11. **Future Agenda Items**
See below.
12. **Any other business** ALL
None raised.

Meeting Dates	Items for Discussion
2pm to 4:30pm	
23 January 2023	Special meeting to focus on Op Minerva
23 March 2023	1. Human Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery and Organised Immigration Crime 8. Tackling Offending VAWG / DA Strategy 2023/26 sign-off Prevent Strategy 2023/26 sign-off Priorities 23/24 agreement Strategic assessment – sign-off Delivery plan – sign-off
18 May 2023	Serious Violence Duty needs assessment
20 July 2023	
21 September 2023	