

**Thurrock Community Safety Partnership**  
Thurrock Community Safety Partnership Board meeting minutes  
23 March 2023  
4pm to 6pm  
**Chair: Jenny Barnett**

**1. Attendees and apologies**

**Statutory**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Chief Superintendent Jenny Barnett – Chair	Essex Police	Attended
Michelle Cunningham	Thurrock Community Safety Partnership	Attended
Cheryl Wells	Strategic Lead – Community Safety Emergency Planning and Resilience	Attended
Inspector Terry Fisher	Essex Police	Attended
Vanessa Bennett	Thurrock CVS	Attended
Ewelina Sorbjan	Assistant Director – Housing	Attended
Michael Dineen	Assistant Director – Counter Fraud, Community Safety, Emergency Planning and Resilience	Attended
Clare Moore	Strategic Lead – Children's Social Care	Attended
Russell Freeman	ECFRS	Attended
Cllr G Collins	Councillor	Attended
Margaret Allen	NHS Mid-South Essex	Attended
Phil Gregory	Public Health	Attended
Cllr J Redsell	Councillor	Attended
Martin Lucas	The Probation Service	Attended
Paige Simmonds (minutes)	Thurrock Community Safety Partnership	Attended
Rose Bomi	NHS Mid-South Essex	Attended
Cllr Q Abbas	Councillor – Portfolio Holder	Attended
Howard Oldstein	Savills	Attended
Julie Rogers	Director of Public Realm	Apologies
Malcolm Taylor	Strategic Lead – Education	Apologies
Tricia Okwuasabai	DWP	Apologies
Chief Inspector Anthony Atkins	Essex Police	Apologies
Matt Gillam	PFCC	Apologies
Mark Eaglestone	ECFRS	Apologies
Greg Myddleton	PFCC	Apologies

## 1.2 Items for urgent AOB

None raised.

## 2. Minutes

2.1 The minutes of the meeting on 08/12/2022 were approved.

2.2 The action log was reviewed, and updates were recorded.

2.3 Matters Arising – none were raised

## 3.0 Performance and incidents of note

3.1 Essex Police Crime Performance Report – Terry Fisher.

Terry Fisher summarised the performance report for 12 months to end of February:

- ASB is down by 37%
- Crime is up by 1.4%
- Violence against the person is down by 7.7%
- Stalking and harassment is down significantly by 21.6%
- Sexual offences down by 15.3%
- Robbery offences are down by 9.8%
- Burglaries are steady by 0.03%
- Residential burglaries are down by 9.8%
- Theft by motor vehicle is up by 24.7% and we continue to run Op Sculptor.
- Hate Crime and DA has a steady decrease, no major concerns.

We have been running an operation called Operation Step at Lakeside shopping centre since January. This is because we saw an increase in robberies taking place at the shopping centre. As a result, we have made 12 arrests. There have been 6 robberies that have occurred at Lakeside. 12 suspects have been arrested at the scene. The only robbery where suspects were not identified because the victim were unwilling to provide an accountable description of suspects. Although we have found some weapons on individuals, no weapons have been used. The main items that people are stealing is coats and designer bags. At this stage we do not believe the incidents are gang related.

MA asked about the rate of robberies before the operation.

TF very low with some peaks and troughs with appropriate responses

HO said that the support had been well received by team and retailers and that the support had been outstanding and was appreciated

3.2 Incidents of note Q4 – Terry Fisher.

1. We have arrested a male that had 40 retail related offences in Stanford Le Hope. Town Centre Team officers arrested him and dealt with him. He was charged with a number of offences. We have secured a Criminal Behaviour Order and he is currently at Chelmsford prison.

2. 2nd March a pupil at Gateway Academy, Tilbury felt unwell. Ambulances were called to the scene. Unfortunately, the pupil lost her life. A coroner will investigate in due course. There were concerns that the pupil was stabbed, we rectified that quite quickly with communication. There were widespread reports from the community via individuals via social media that the incident, involved an assault.
3. Stop oil protestors have appeared in court. 24 people have been convicted. 12 have been sentenced so far. They have been ordered to pay more than £7200 in fines. They also have to carry out 280 hours of unpaid work. There are still 4 people waiting to be sentenced.
4. CW wanted to formalise thanks for the support received on 1/3 for Full Council meeting where tensions were running high.

JRe thanks Insp Fisher for his work on tackling the motorbike issue on Blackshots – although appeared to have moved to Purfleet.

JB said it was important that we tackled perceptions and that people felt safe. She asked TF to think about how we could keep Cllrs briefed on the good work and potential to tap into estate agents to promote that Thurrock was a great place to live.

CM said she had met with Thurrock's youth council and they expressed a lot of concern regards safety from in particular large group of gangs and asked how we can allay their fear?

JB would encourage the children and young people officers to work with the youth cabinet and asked Terry to link in with CM and for officers to attend a cabinet.

MC said that a survey of young people with regards safety had been commissioned and when finalised she would share

JB we now have an officer looking at reviewing cadets across the west.

MD added it was important that young people were updated with good news stories.

### 3.3 ECFRS Performance Report – Russ Freeman

Incidents over the last quarter to date are down by 10%. Fires are down by 12%. 44% of fires are deliberate. We are working with partner agencies and local businesses to try and ensure housekeeping is kept tidy. We have seen a spike in deliberate fires around recreation areas and public use. We are going to arrange a meeting with TF to discuss a way forward.

West Thurrock continues to be the highest ward with 14.4%, Grays Riverside at 11.9%, Aveley has had an increase of 7.2%, CSM remains the same at 7.2% and Tilbury has had a reduction of 50%.

We have a target across Essex to complete 12,844 home fire safety checks which will be completed by the end of this year. 1,000 of those are due to go ahead in the Thurrock area.

There was one major incident of note where HGV were carrying LNG - liquid

natural gas, which crashed. Unfortunately, a driver suffered a medical emergency which turned out to be fatal.

JB asked with regards to the safety checks if we knew how many take up. RF said that, yes, this data was available.

ES what support could be provided for any issues identified as part of this within homes?

Agreed for fire, police and housing to discuss how could work together targeting broader engagement in W Thurrock.

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

##### **4.1 PFCC Panel update – Cllr G Collins.**

The last meeting that we had in January related to the increase in precepts. The meeting was straight forward. I was invited to a meeting regarding issues in relation to diversity and inclusion policy. The particular concerns were resolved.

##### **4.2 PFCC update – Greg Myddelton, via email.**

The PFCC and Essex Police launched the Essex Rural Crime strategy on Friday 10 March.

PFCC Safer Streets Round 2 will be opening in 2023 and welcomes bids for hyper-local areas (LSOAs) to receive funding aimed at improving the safety of public spaces. The PFCC has recently written to CSP Managers to inform them of the Fund, with the formal launch due to happen late May 2023.

Community Safety Hubs annual partnership event. The PFCC will be holding its 2nd annual Community Safety Hub event in July 2023. This will be an opportunity to showcase good practice and positive outcomes achieved by CS Hubs across the County.

Community Safety Development Fund. The PFCC's £300k small grants fund closed in February. The evaluation panel is meeting w/c 20th March with groups being notified shortly afterwards. The PFCC intends to re-open the 2023-4 fund later in 2023.

#### **5. Delivering Safer Communities**

##### **5.1 Strategic assessment 23/24 – Michelle Cunningham**

The strategic assessment is almost finished. It runs from October 2021 to September 2022. The key findings are continuing to try and maximise opportunities for all our partners to be out in the community, utilising events and to raise awareness to the public.

MC suggested that we take a one-page leaflet out regarding good news messages. In terms of crime for this period there has been an increase by 7.2%. Compared to the rest of Essex, which is 9.1%, we have a lower increase.

Hate Crime is the only key comparator crime which has seen an increase in Thurrock. Hate Crime remains one of our priorities.

The areas with the highest recorded crime are Tilbury, Belhus and CSM. Our vehicle and racial offences remain higher per 1000 population in

Thurrock than our comparator areas.

Massive decrease of ASB across those 12 months by 52.7%. We have the highest rankings in relation to environmental ASB.

We have seen a decrease in sexual offences and DA.

The highest wards for Hate crime are Grays Riverside, South Stifford and West Thurrock.

In terms of Prevent, we need to continue to focus on increasing our referrals through the channel panel.

We had 66 reports regarding MDS.

5.2 Priorities 23/24 and annual report – Michelle Cunningham

The Risk matrix is an appendix one which is where we score every type of crime. Violence against the person was the highest followed by DA, sexual abuse, possession of weapons, hate crime, then drugs and ASB. We reviewed our priorities. The executive is recommending that we keep the priorities as they were for last year. There are 9 priorities. The only change that exec are recommending is priority 5. Tackling community based ASB and safeguarding victims, in that change from prioritising off road motor bike nuisance to response to car cruising. MC has asked for partners to agree the priorities and if partners had any further data that they would like to include in the report.

JB said it was an opportunity to promote all the great work that has been delivered and asked for all to contribute to how we have made a difference.

5.3 Delivery plan 23/24

The executive is going to commit to input against each priority and what we will do next year. To be agreed at the next meeting.

JRe expressed how important it was that young people had a positive impression and asked if police got involved in career days?

JB said senior officers would be happy to attend and support. Suggested that TA discusses the ask and the offer further when he attends the Headteacher meeting.

5.4 Risks and Mitigation – discussion

CW discussed the implication of the section 114 notice but that the long term impact on Council and partners was as yet unknown.

JB said she was mindful of current position and that it is important that our plans focus on what is most important to the community and is unique to our environment.

5.5 Funding Report 22/23 and plans 23/24

Summary report was shared with partners.

5.6 Serious Violence Duty Briefing – Michael Dineen.

We have a means for developing the strategic needs assessment. That will be produced by the violence and vulnerability unit. Board needs to determine whether presented to the May or July Board? Agreed July.

The strategy will go to the health and wellbeing board in October.  
One of the things for discussion was if we need a separate board for serious and violence duty.

5.7 Situational Risk Assessment – Prevent – Cheryl Wells.

CW briefed board members on the latest assessment.

The national threat level remains substantial meaning an attack is likely.

5.8 Proposed extension to 2022 ISA – Michelle Cunningham

I have finished obtaining all partners signatories now. I revised it last year with 12 months before review. MC asked if partners were happy to agree to extend it for another 12 months? There have been no further changes.

ALL agreed to extend to March 2024.

**6. Agency updates**

6.1 Greater Essex Drug and Alcohol Partnership – Phil Gregory

We did have a local combat drug partnership which met in November. Since that time, we have decided to join forces with Essex and Southend to create a greater Essex drug and alcohol partnership. We wanted to make sure alcohol was included in the name. The first meeting will take place on April 27th. During that time, we will agree the terms of reference to governance structure. The CPD will be chaired by Lucy Wyman for the first year and will rotate across the 3 years between Essex, Southend and Thurrock.

**7. Future Agenda Items**

See below.

**8. Any other business**

JRe raised a local concern, which ES and MC agreed to look into.

<b>Meeting Dates 2pm to 4:30pm</b>	<b>Priorities for Discussion</b>
23 March 2023	Strategic assessment – sign off Delivery plan – sign off <b>C/F to May meeting</b>
18 May 2023	Presentation from ICB in relation to community safety links P1 & P2 VAWG / DA update and Strategy 2023/6 sign off P7. Human Trafficking and Modern-Day Slavery and Organised Immigration Crime update
20 July 2023	P9. Tackling Offending update P3. Serious Violence Duty Data presentation and strategy discussion Review CSP terms of reference
21 September 2023	P4 Update Prevent Strategy 2023/26 sign off TBC



# THURROCK

Community Safety Partnership

*Making Thurrock Safer*

7 December 2023

P5: Hate Crime

P6: ASB and update on Cruisers

P8: Safer Streets and community engagement

Review of Priorities for 2024/5