1.0 Introduction and Apologies
Introductions completed and apologies noted above.

1.1 Items for Urgent AOB:
No items of urgent AOB were raised.
2.0 Previous Minutes for sign off

2.1 Minutes from meeting on 28th March 2017:
Minutes were agreed for accuracy and content and signed off.

2.2 Outstanding Actions and Matters:
Action summary with an update on outstanding actions will be received under separate cover from Michelle Cunningham.

2.3 Sexual Offences Report:
Report was circulated prior to meeting.
The incidents of under 16 year old rape increased from 32 to 44 which is an increase of 3.8%. It is important to note this may link to an increase in reporting of incidents and investigators are dealing with all reported cases both current and historic incidents.

3.0 Performance Report:

3.1 Essex and Police Crime Performance Report: Sean O’Callaghan
The report was circulated prior to meeting.
Key points:
• Antisocial Behaviour continues on a downward trend with a 3.3% decline
• All crime continues to increase, in line with National trends and is up by 9%
• Violence against person with injury has continued to increase and is up by 14%
• There is a slight increase of 1.6% of dwelling burglary
• Vehicle Offences including Interference also saw a slight increase of 1.2% from last year

Antisocial Behaviour figures though continue on a downward trend which is positive it is still the focus on target areas including Stanford Le Hope and Grays Town Centre that continue to experience a range of antisocial behaviour issues and implementing solutions.

PSPO’s in place in Lakeside and Grays Town Centre are aiming to deal with antisocial behaviour and there has been guidance and training regarding the issuing of fixed penalty notices to ensure they are executed effectively. This included training regarding those that are homeless and have no home or income so to issue a Fixed Penalty notice is not appropriate and other actions are required.

There is also involvement with the Police Now scheme and this national scheme demonstrates a forward thinking approach and recruited students to the police force that are fast tracked and then employed on a two year contract dedicated to neighbourhood policing. This provides both resource and experience.

All crime is up in line with National and Essex trends. Thurrock is moving forward with a positive training programme on crime data integrity. This allows the reporting of crimes as incidents at the point of the report and not as historically it was first investigated before being recorded. This change in approach not only provides more accurate data capture but also inspires confidence in those reporting the incident.

Much of the Violence with injury is in relation to domestic abuse and male on male violence within working environment.
Dwelling Burglary has also had a change in reporting as historically only incidents of a break in at the home were recorded as dwelling burglary and all other buildings within the curtilage e.g. sheds or garages were recorded separately. The criteria then changed so all incidents of a break in within your boundaries including the home or storage and property within the boundary are now classed as a dwelling burglary. On average two houses are broken into in the borough per day which is a substantial figure and there is an ongoing focus on tackling the number of offences.

Vehicle Interference requires ongoing analysis and investigation. Currently there are no suspects or leads. Technical assets have been deployed but nothing to report at present.

The data in this report refers to offences in Thurrock only and JW raised that there is an ongoing issue that offences committed by Thurrock residents, particularly young people, elsewhere outside the borough and that these incidents are not recorded and it is a concern that must be considered. Police services don’t currently share the data relating to incidents undertaken by individuals residing in another location or borough.

Action – agreed that an action to explore opportunities to establish data relating to this issue of offences undertaken by Thurrock residences outside the borough.

4.0 Presentation of Priorities

4.1 Gang related Violence – Presentation and report by Jason Read
Gang Related Violence Group (GRVG) – two reports distributed during meeting.

GRVG is chaired by Ceryl Marsh and has been operating for over three years. The groups focus is to identify and receive referrals for young people and adults either affiliated or working in gangs. It identifies safeguarding issues, strategies and interventions to address a range of issues relating to gangs and gang violence. This group only addresses and deals with those referred to the service, it does not have any involvement with those outside the referral framework.

The model adopted has been advised by the home office. The group has managed 46 cases and focuses on key areas:

- **Prevention**: This addresses re-offending rates, offensive weapons and possession with the intent to supply, gang intervention / knife prevention programmes, education training and employment and has focused on getting individuals back into full time employment or education, and exiting gangs.

- **Disruption**: This includes curfews that have been as a result of community sentences, custodial licences or bail conditions. Raptor visits, Exclusions, Non-Contact, Mobile phone and social media, warning and disruption notices and housing risk assessments.

- **Enforcement**: This includes convictions, immigration which is a very positive piece of work in collaboration with contacts in the immigration service, breaches, Criminal behaviour orders, Transfers out of the area, gang injunctions and Housing Enforcement. It is important to note that better and more detailed planning regarding housing enforcement will be required going forward in the future following previous experiences and issues highlighted.
The second report focuses on the throughput through the group. There have been 46 nominals in total and although this is predominately black British there is evidence of involvement across all ethnic groups. There is evidence of gangs that are referenced to race and ethnicity and aligns with the individual’s ethnicity.

Figures reveal the age of those nominals identified increase from 14 to 16 year olds, peaking at 19/20 and then declining but shows that older adults are involved with gang activity. These individuals are often re-entering society after a long custodial sentence received due to gang related crime and are then referred to the group.

There are a significant amount of individuals that are gang members that are living in Thurrock that are members of London based gangs. Information from the MET police and the close partnership working with the MET indicates there is a significant number of Thurrock Residents offending in London and are classed as ‘Commuters’ as they travel back to London and the gang culture they are familiar with. There are also incidents in other areas including Yarmouth, Norwich and Ipswich where Thurrock residents are involved in the intent to supply. This is a focus and aim to work with the MET to tackle these issues. In addition, the PCC recognised that when tackling out of borough gang related crime that local knowledge is vital and must not get lost.

The group meets the last Friday of every month but membership is impacted upon by staffing and staff turnover and shortages. These demands do impact on attendance. The team receives the majority of referrals via YOS, CRC, NPS and Children’s services only one referral had been received via police services. Good partnership working and forming close links with the police services is going to be explored further by DCI Louise Metcalf in meeting over the forthcoming months.

MC updated on Gangsline which is focused on three key pieces of work providing training for professionals that has had a strong uptake and very positive response but two other elements including mentorship scheme and working in schools has had a poor response and uptake and all in meeting are urged to increase awareness of this service and opportunity.

YOS also offers a training option that is specific to the needs and issues in Thurrock and can provide this to professionals, schools and is more Thurrock specific rather than the generic approach offered by Gangsline.

If an individual is transferred out of the area restrictions can only be placed in the form of a licence and last for the period of that licence. In many cases the individual will move out of Thurrock but has built up local links through recruitment especially with more vulnerable individuals and they often go missing and are exploited and are working across county lines.

Re-offending is a way of alerting of an individual offending or is active in another borough; another route is monitoring social media and open sources such as Facebook or WhatsApp profiles. This is another method of gathering intelligence. However, the only way to effectively understand and tackle this problem is through close joint working.

There have been a total of 11 breaches of specific, court or communal behavioural orders or violation of disruption strategies. Disruption in the enforcement model is enforced.

JW identified two key issues that need to be considered in relation to gang related crime.
There was never a class A drug issue in young people in Thurrock but recently this has changed and there is developing trend in demand for Class A drugs such as crack cocaine. There are now increasing convictions in intent to supply crack cocaine and heroin. Gangs need a market and there is a significant danger that they will focus on creating new markets and targeting vulnerable people in Thurrock. Opiate and crack use has significantly increased in Essex but Thurrock trends do not reflect this trend but more in line with Harlow and Thurrock exports the issues out of the borough, the county lines are running out of Thurrock in the majority of cases.

Not all young people are criminals but some individuals are trafficked and coerced into crime by gangs and it is vital courts are educated on the issues of growing grooming, trafficking and coerced.

Relocation and placement of individuals from London to Thurrock is undertaken under Housing legislation and the Housing Act and though there is a duty to notify this does not always happen. There may be an option to explore the criteria when considering ‘safe and secure’ and the placement of individuals is not considered without consultation and consideration with a vital need for joint working with London Boroughs.

Action: for JRe to share data with housing to look into why memorandums of understanding are not being adhered to

5.0 Updates on Priorities

5.1 Priority 1: Re-offending
- Stephen Knight is now responsible for the Thurrock IOM cohort
- There are now 2 PC’s and a sergeant within establishment for IOM services
- Drop in service at Grays has now stopped due to a poor take up of service
- PCC review of IOM services is being undertaken
- Domestic Abuse perpetrator Programme will be commencing in January 2018
- Victim Awareness support groups, there will be four group sessions and this will then drive the restorative justice programmes
- Reoffending Data – first expected confirmed data is anticipated in October this year and should be available for our next meeting.

NPS – No data to provide to group at present as this is being reviewed on a National Level.

YOS – This service was recognised as the best performing YOS in the country with a 22% reoffending rate compared to the 37% national average for the last quarter. This continues and though it has increased to 27% the team is third best performing service out of 159 services in the country. Prevention and triage is 6% reoffending rate compared to 0% in the last two years. Detailed performance will be covered in the youth crime governance board following, agreed to share reports with this group.

5.2 Priority 2: Safeguarding Vulnerable from Hidden Harm
Violence Against Women and Girls – report of Jim Nicolson, presented by Michelle Cunningham Achievements:
- Local Action Plan supporting the Southend Essex and Thurrock Domestic Abuse Board and was refreshed in line with the National Statement of Expectations
- VAWAG Governance Group now more effective in driving activity in support of Action plan with wider more consistent attendance from key partners.
PROTECTED

- International Women’s Day celebrated in Thurrock with stands and information available.
- Sixteen day of action events planning for the annual end violence against women event in November with six presentations, stalls and lunch.
- J9 training will commencing in October skilling 100 staff from councils, police and other agencies as points of contact for victims of VAWAG for support in assessing services
- Actively engaged in countrywide project to ensure proportionate engagement of BME communities in VAWAG and related services.

Outcomes:
- Centralised support arrangements for domestic homicide Reviews (DHRs) successfully launched in July 2017, removing the administrative burden but not the statutory responsibilities of the TCSP for them
- Fully engaged with Essex wide press campaigns e.g. forthcoming two campaigns on elder abuse and perpetrators
- Greater focus on responding to perpetrators through successful countrywide bid to the national transformation fund. Awarded £465,000 over the next three years including early intervention and male mentoring for potential and actual perpetrators in 13 – 18 yr old age group.

Risks:
- Not consistent service available to all tenures of housing – currently joint funded by ASC
- Engagement across children’s services and health
- Data sharing still not consistent. Improvements from police but A&E still unresolved

Recommendations:
- The planned savings of £40,000 designed to support Thurrock DHRs now to be used to deliver local implementation of the recommendations of the Transformation Fund Supported Southend, Essex and Thurrock Perpetrator Delivery Programme.
- Also it is important to link in to brighter futures with a focus on more work with perpetrators at a local level and Jim will be taking this forward with Teresa going forward.

Recommendation of spend agreed

VAWG Strategy report: presented by Julie Rogers
The strategy report supports both men as well as women and the report ensures this is emphasised throughout the document. This policy document replaces the domestic policy which is a broad Essex based policy but this policy doesn’t go far enough and this new strategy document broadens opportunities.

This document is at consultation stage at present and all feedback is welcomed and will be fed back to JN.

Feedback:
- Detail of document is impressive but further detail relating to Enforcement and the explanation of domestic violence notices may prevent further questions and information can be supplied to be added into a footnote to provide greater explanation
- Concern the policy document title does not adequately express the inclusivity of men but to significantly change the title will move this away from the national initiative. The document is explicit in the inclusion of men and boys in these services and support.
Making Thurrock Safer

**Recommendation:** on the front page it was suggested a footnote or a statement of purpose be added that is a clear and direct statement that the protection applies to all in the community including both men and women.

All agreed this statement would bring the services together and demonstrate a clear message regarding the services in Thurrock. Inclusion is vital in establishing reporting mechanisms and overcome stigma and that services across the piece are clear on the expectations set out in this strategy document.

Modem Day Slavery: presented by Fran Leddra

Action plan was circulated prior to meeting.

The geography of Essex and Thurrock in particular poses risks in relation to Modern day slavery, the London Gateway Port, Tilbury Cruise Terminal and the Purfleet Terminal, the QE11 Bridge and moto services all pose risks and are key factors in the trafficking of individuals.

The four most prevalent types of Modern Day Slavery in Essex are labour exploitation, domestic servitude, sexual exploitation and forced criminality.

This plan has been developed with close consultation with Essex Police and mirrors the Essex plan but with 122% rise in referrals relating to modern day slavery, it was imperative to relate this plan to the specific needs and risks of Thurrock.

The Strategic aims focus on the four ‘P’s:

- Prepare
- Prevent
- Protect
- Pursue

It was raised that this document although comprehensive did not address an issue relating to Vietnamese and the issues around unaccompanied Vietnamese individuals placed outside the Borough that go missing and are then entering the borough, being vulnerable and at risk. This must be incorporated into the plan. **Action**

**Recommendation:** All agreed once this addition has been made this document is ready for sign off.

Hate Crime: Report presented by Michelle Cunningham

**Achievements:**

- There has been a new drive to reenergise the HCA and HIRC programmes which Thurrock has embraced
- 62 hate crime ambassadors trained since June 2017 of which 37 have passed the test following and are accredited
- 31 further ambassadors booked onto training in November
- HIRCs to be reassessed and site premise check made
- Positive engagement at Tilbury Family Festival
- Strong links to Victim Support hate crime project lead for Essex and with the Police Hate Crime liaison officers
Performance:
- No spikes relating to incidents in relation to the three recent terror attacks. There is a great deal of work from Hate Crime Officer and they executing a lot of training and education to tackle hate crimes.

Antisocial behaviour: report of John Knight
April to August there were 189 incidents compared to 135 last year so a 28% increase. There is a focus on dealing with the quality of life issues and the antisocial issues relating to these issues.

Antisocial behaviour surgeries are in place in Purfleet but this is an ongoing process as it is a challenge to gain confidence of individuals to approach and access these services.

Antisocial behaviour hotspots are Chadwell St Mary, Grays Town Centre, South Ockendon and Tilbury and the focus is tackling underage drinking, smoking and loitering. There is some low level noise and neighbour issues have significantly reduced. There is a 100% increase in prosecution rates with a strong council team working to continue to work together.

Anti-social behaviour – report of Sean O’Callaghan
Operation Apache is continuing in South Ockendon and Stanford Le Hope and work is continuing regarding developing bases at fire stations for police officers. The operation model we are aiming for is to ensure the maximum resources are on the streets of Thurrock tackling crime. It is not the base that is important but getting the resource to where they can tackle issues and keeping mobile technology and officers on the streets.

PSPO action days and Police Officers are working closely with Environmental services to tackle antisocial behaviour in Grays town centre, as well as enforcement of the PSPO to tackle car cruising

5.3 Priority 3: Prevent – Counter Terrorism
Document – Prevent Board Report was circulated for reference use only in the meeting and copies were not retained.
- Operation Dovetail – This is a pilot to centralise responsibility for Channel Panel and the Essex transition in 2018.
- The proposal to move toward Local Authorities responsibility has two key considerations that are around communication, volumes of referrals and funding. There are some concerns regarding meeting the expectations set out by Channel Panel and attendance at a range of meetings not specifically relating to Thurrock issues and needs was discussed. It was agreed meeting individuals must be Thurrock focused and ensure communities and professionals remain engaged in this commitment.
  JRe said that Cllr engagement is also key and needs further discussion.
- Fran is standing down from the board but will continue as chair of Channel meetings and proposed John Knight to take over as the chair of the board. All in support of this proposal and Fran will still be attending these meetings.

6.0 Financial Update:
The report on expenditure and outcomes was distributed prior to the meeting and MC discussed these figures. Please refer to the report for details; it is broken down into allocation of funding and relating to priority.
7.0 DAAT
No representation from Health to provide a full update.

MC covered some key points:
- This group is no longer part of Governance but still requires a report.
- There is a change in class A drug use within Thurrock and it is vital to link in with managing and understanding this emerging trend is vital
- Discussed use of the nitrogen oxide canisters and concerns within community

8.0 Strategic Partnership Updates:

9.1 Police and Crime Panel Cllr J Redsell
- Joint governance with ECFRS is still progressing and lots of work with transition coming into effect 1st October 2017
- Governance Board set up workshops and working on the constitution to bring Police and Fire services together and in line. Aim is building knowledge between organisations and how they can work together and foster closer collaboration within the emergency services.

9.2 Safer Essex Update Michelle Cunningham
- Ian Davidson is now chairing Safer Essex and a plan is soon to be distributed for comment.
- The aims include reducing community resolution, reducing offences of Looked After Children and increase RJ outcomes
- Presentation regarding tackling organised crime with a focus on partnership involvement
- Addressing issues relating to offending and parental imprisonment.

9.3 Police and Community Safety Update Sean O'Callaghan
- Annual reshuffle of Police officers has taken place, no change to Thurrock Chief Inspector
- The community safety Hubs are developing and options are being explored
- There is also a review of Thurrock Fire Station accommodation options
- Annual Effectiveness Review has taken place and receiving very positive feedback so far.

9.4 Fire Service Lee Lucas
- Annual reshuffle has taken place and Neil Fenwick has moved into a new divisional position and Lee Lucas is now in this role.
- There were 4,033 incidents, an increase of 25%
- The most common locations for the start of a fire is Kitchen, Bedroom and then living room and mainly focused around incidents relating to cooking. There is now a trend that is shifting focus not just to the elderly and vulnerable but also to the transient population and work is being undertaken to address this.
- Hoarding is also an emerging issue and a growing problem. There is a new Hoarding Panel being developed in response to this and this is going to be a long term piece of work to tackle this prevalent problem in Thurrock.
- Police and Fire commissioner will be focusing on community safety and working closely to share knowledge and enable effective services.

9.5 Adult safeguarding Fran Leddra
- Hoarding is an issue relating to self-neglecting and developing the new hoarding panel.
- Completing a number of out of hours visits to all residential establishments in Thurrock. This board has ownership of all the individuals residing in these homes. We have received a very
positive response with only some issues raised relating to quality of care that is not relevant to this board.

- Workshops will be undertaken for 2017 / 2018 and working on the priorities for this year and ways to tackle and address pathways of sexual exploitation.

9.6 Children’s Safeguarding and Prevention and support services James Waud

- Shift to a focus on early intervention and the prevention of individuals entering the services and providing support to trouble families, broadening the criteria and parameters to incorporate and address wider issues and needs. The impact of this new approach would not be evident at this stage and this is a long term strategy.

10. Any Other Business

10.1 Council Motion for ECFRS presented by Cllr Kent

There was a council motion to address the issues relating to the current provision of trained fire crews that can address and operate specialist equipment - ALP. There is a limited amount of fire crews and resources to be deployed in certain circumstances and there is a serious concern following incidents such as the Grenfell Tower fire.

It requires a strategic approach to accessing emergency services and the pooling and use of staffing. Suggestions made that it could relate to the current ambulance service model.

These concerns and the motion were discussed and it was agreed SH would raise the letter outlining the Council motion with Roger Hurst and Adam Eckley – Chief Fire Officer. Action: Susannah Hancock to follow up and respond to Thurrock Council.

15.45 Close of meeting