1. **Introduction and Apologies**

1.0 Introductions completed and apologies noted above.

1.1 Julie Rogers reminded all in the meeting the documentation distributed and information shared is confidential and not for disclosure outside this meeting.

1.2 **Items for Urgent AOB**: No urgent items.
2. **Forward Plan for TCSP Board, refresh and frequency**

The Community Safety Partnership Strategic Board is currently meeting on a six monthly basis and Julie Rogers outlined the ongoing positive work that is being completed across the borough and to raise the profile and ensure visibility across the whole of Thurrock Council, she is now committed to providing quarterly updates at Directors Board. There is a keen focus on moving forward and Julie Rogers proposed in order to produce the quarterly report and raise the profile of the Board, citing the important work completed, that meetings be scheduled on a quarterly basis. The meetings could be shorter in duration and focused on key objectives and issues that are identified as a priority.

All in attendance supported this proposal and it was agreed that dates would be distributed and if there are any key topics or issues that Board members feel they would like to be made as a priority these should be communicated to Michelle and Julie for inclusion on future agendas.

The increase in antisocial behaviour is a key priority and there is a considerable amount of discussion and work going on over a number of groups and forums and it is often being duplicated and repeated. The aim is for a more interactive, cohesive approach and discussion.

Julie Rogers focus is to address and develop a more co-ordinated, interactive approach and plans to review how some London Borough’s undertake their Community Safety Partnership boards and work to take any learning and bring back good practise to implement in the Thurrock model.

Julie Rogers will present her findings at the next quarterly meeting and put forward proposals to the board for consideration.

3. **Gang Workshop**

3.1 Verbal presentation setting the scene and sharing the headline framework data given by Jason Read.

3.2 Police Update – Verbal

Claire Talbot updated the group on actions and ongoing issues. Key information included:

- 5 Injunctions have been served and are ongoing in the community.
- C17 gang arrests discussed and the interventions with key individuals
- Discussed the continuing work on the Garrison estate and the P19 gang
- Briefed on the ongoing work linking and engaging with Thurrock Council and sharing of information and services is essential in addressing issues and referring to the appropriate agencies.
- There have been a number of PSPO requests via Cllr’s but these have not been progressed due to lack of evidence. The board discussed a borough wide PSPO and the possibility of this in Thurrock. Discussions around if this would be appropriate, displacement of problems when a PSPO is issued and if a borough wide PSPO would actually address this issue and if this was the right order to serve and apply. CT stated that a PSPO has to be fair and proportionate and it would require considerable investigation and consideration in relation to a borough wide PSPO and the overall aims and purpose for this. Claire Talbot agreed to review an example borough wide PSPO from another area and consider the suggestions made during the discussion.
3.3: Local Community Concerns:
Cllr Redsell discussed the need to review and consider measures to eliminate Antisocial Behaviour and criminality in large open spaces within Thurrock and also encouraging the increased involvement of all Cllrs in the community.

At present there is low reporting and promotion of the positive actions that are being taken by the various agencies within the community. The better promotion and increased public engagement is essential in dealing with public perceptions of a wide range of community issues including antisocial behaviour. The use of social media and the press were highlighted as methods of communicating to a wide range of individuals in the community.

All agreed that visibility is still an ongoing issue with the older generation and perception regarding the police services is often negative because they are not aware of actions that are being undertaken. Claire Talbot discussed the proactive actions currently being undertaken to engage with the community and the work to encourage visibility with the older generation and requested feedback on what they felt were useful tools and routes to get the messages out there. Suggestions included use of print media channels as well as those on line.

3.4: Essex – Violence and vulnerability framework. Safer Essex is bringing all the services and agencies together and has been developing a clear strategy on which an action plan can now be created. In line with Thurrock’s strategy it has been agreed that Violence and Vulnerability need to remain as two very separate issues to prevent dilution of resources, issues and concerns and also to ensure the recognition of criminal child exploitation. This will also be in line with Essex structure and approach regarding assessment and delivery of the service.

3.5: The Strategy had been circulated to the group prior to the meeting. MC outlined this refreshed strategy has picked up National changes and also included the changing local landscape and issues to produce a clear structure upon which the operational element can be developed which is the action plan. This document will be updated annually to ensure that it is meeting the dynamic changes within the community as Thurrock experiences a fast pace of change and developments.

The Board were asked for initial comments and feedback on the Strategy. ML noted one of the key points is that the document positively does not identify vulnerability by age. The other key point raised was based on the model of good practise and that HMO (Houses of Multiple Occupation) mandatory licensing comes into force 29th September 2018 and if Thurrock Council adopts these additional licensing powers this will be a useful tool that can be utilised. The implications for HMO properties are huge and this tool can be used to tackle a range of issues relating to vulnerability and deprivation within the community.

All agreed to the sign off of the strategy document.

3.6 – Gang workshop:
The action plan is the focus for this session of the meeting and the board worked on updating the draft action plan document.
4. Minutes:

4.1 Minutes from previous meeting held on 27th March 2018 reviewed and agreed for accuracy, content and signed off by all attendees with the caveat that text in red would not be published.

4.2 Outstanding Actions and Matters: Refer to action summary with all updates to be distributed under separate cover from Michelle Cunningham.

5. Police Update:

5.1 Essex Police Crime Performance. (Report distributed to attendees) Presented by Claire Talbot

The figures for Thurrock up to and including August show all crime over that year and show crime has an 8.7% increase but is lower than figures in Essex and is on a downward trajectory.

Antisocial behaviour is down for the third year in a row and though the reason for this underlying trend has not been identified it is consistently falling. The public perception survey completed reflects that though the figures show a consistent reduction public perception of Antisocial behaviour is still an issue within the community.

Violence without injury has increased but is in part in relation to the new recording methods adopted following Central Government and home office guidance. Multiple reporting of one incident - all individuals that are present at an incident, they are now recorded separately and this is impacting on volumes. This trend is in line with national and Essex wide figures. Stalking shows a huge increase but this is due to changes in recording practise and it will not be possible to ascertain if this is an increase due to recording or an issue that has arisen until a year’s worth of data is obtained. A trend cannot be identified at present due to the imbalance of the figures; the plan will be to break this down more locally to get a clearer picture to ascertain if stalking is a genuine problem.

The suggestion of linking in with Changing Pathways may be a good source of information and provide benchmark data as an interim measure was agreed.

Burglaries are down with a 14.9% reduction, and a decrease in theft from a vehicle. There is an increase in Vehicle theft. Thurrock has been taking a partnership working approach across the force and the figures are reflecting the positive partnership working that is taking place.

Residential burglaries - as yet the previous year’s figures have not been confirmed to provide comparisons. The process for dealing with residential burglaries is an assessment over the phone to ascertain the requirements and assess situation. In 9 out of 10 cases and a Crime Scene Investigation team will attend not an actual police officer. The group queried why this was and it was explained that in the majority of cases the situation does not actually require a police officer presence immediately but has a team go on site to gather essential evidence and then an officer will attend a couple of days later to take the statement. Public perception of responses to burglaries was discussed and that positive messages and updates are fed back via Essex Community messaging and Neighbourhood Watch.

5.2 Update on Critical Incidents:

Two high profile incidents involving knife crime and rape were updated to the group by CT.
5.3 ASB update and impact of TBC funding:

Antisocial behaviour continues to reduce and the spikes in reporting focused around an individual and unauthorised traveller encampments at Blackshots playing field. There are also preparations being made for Halloween as in previous years there has been an increase in ASB incidents around this time.

TBC funding for operations has enabled 350 hours of visible policing and patrolling. The increase in community policing from 4pm to 8pm in areas known for high levels of ASB including the railway stations is encouraging greater visibility and positive community perceptions of policing in the community and reassurance for the public.

Operation Caesar has also been successful with good results in addressing ASB by quad and motorbikes that continue to cause a nuisance. Arrests have been made and there is an ongoing operation to tackle these issues.

The use of ‘stingers’ was discussed and CT explained the use of this equipment is only used under specific circumstance and requires specialist training.

The Community Voluntary Services were also suggested as a resource to support the dissemination of information and communication of positive messages to the community of successes such as Operation Caesar.

5.4 Engagement Survey Results:

The survey results were distributed to the group and the findings show that public perception of the police force is now improving through considerable work to engage with the community and this endeavour is continuing. There has been a slight improvement in satisfaction of the police force and service and antisocial behaviour continues to be an ongoing issue.

The expectations by the public that they will receive a good service is fairly confident, there is a slight decrease in the expectation to see a regular police presence which is positive and there is a great deal of work ongoing to address this and develop the continued visibility of the force with a focus upon engagement. CT also outlined the pilot of a new operation – Op Rambler which will focus on each of the train stations across the month with high visibility patrols at stations and surrounding hot spot areas between 4pm and 8pm. This piece of work is ongoing and surveys are undertaken every quarter by an independent body.

6. Priority 1 – Re-offending

6.1 CRC Needs Assessment (Document distributed to all group members) Presented by Martin Lucas

Thurrock continues to manage the CRC data and the cohort is limited to adults subject to custodial or remedial service users that are low risk of harm. This is approximately 475 adults, a total of 300 adults being supervised in the community and that would be applicable for a needs assessment. Out of those 300 cases the most present needs identified relating to re-offending behaviour and likely to be present are:

- Alcohol misuse (109 cases)
- Domestic Abuse – Perpetrator
- Employment issues
- Drug misuse
These are the key factors linked to re-offending and this is in line with other districts. Other factors identified in the assessment included:
- Debt
- Mental Health Issues
- Family Struggles
- Accommodation
- Domestic Abuse – Victims

This assessment is a useful tool in enabling you to look at the right interventions appropriate for the specific needs and that will be the most effective.

Re-offending data is hard to track and the data currently is within a two year period. One clear trend is those that do re-offend are more challenging in trying to break the behaviours and create change.

The total number of re-offenders is going down however there is a clear pattern of ‘revolving door’ and this may require a more robust and tighter enforcement model to tackle this pattern. IOM works really well on burglary however has been less successful addressing low level theft.

Those that re-offend the highest offence type is shop theft and this is linked clearly to the factors identified and it is important to also consider shop theft is not a high profile crime so it is important to ensure ways to tackle and deal with this. Violence, criminal damage and public order offences are consistent across the county and country.

Women service users make up 13% of the profile with a further offending of 17% and are over represented. There were 27 theft offences and there are clear links between women and theft offences. Key factors include substance misuse and financial challenges as contributing factors. CRC are strengthening the community offer as there is a disproportionate poor response for women.

The group discussed how drugs and drug culture in prisons may then link to problems with release from custody and community based abuse of substances. It was established there are two very different markets with different types of drugs. There is an identifiable difficulty for individuals when transitioning back into the community and the impacts of austerity measures and deprivation in the community are having an impact on re-offending figures including shop theft. These factors are making it harder for that demographic and hits that cohort the hardest.

6.2 Re-offending / IOM Strategy

The IOM strategy is focusing on tackling burglary and is taking a multidisciplinary partnership approach including rehabilitation and enforcement elements as part of the package offered.

The strategy is a continuation of IOM work currently taking place with a clear request for partners to be actively involved.

This is a draft working document, KM has been actively involved in alcohol and substance misuse and actions on this supported by DAAT funding. The Homeless Manager is engaging with IOM officers and PASS team, addressing gaps in service provision so there is a multiagency approach and involvement.
6.3 NPS Update Nicola Martin

Unable to provide data at Thurrock level at today’s meeting.

7. Priority 2: Safeguarding Vulnerable from Hidden Harm

Antisocial Behaviour:

7.1 Housing: Richard Birchett

ASB is not significantly high and the trend reveals though there are lower incidents the cases are more complex and harder to resolve and help. The individuals don’t accept help and are more challenging. There is no data to present at this meeting but will be available at the next board meeting.

7.2 Environmental Enforcement: Phil Carver

Now recruited four Environmental Enforcement Officers who are fully operational dealing with fly tipping, unlicensed trading, littering, and abandoned vehicles.

They are managing over 300 service requests a year, and are carrying out operations with the police and PSCO’s on a regular basis. It has been noted there is an increase in street drinking and one of the officers is liaising and will provide Michelle with a list of known offenders. Five are drinking in Grays, three are returning to Grays intoxicated. All agreed that reconvening the street drinking meeting would be useful to tackle this increase before it escalates further. Keen to work with the police to continue and support patrols and be a presence in the community.

Four Environmental Enforcement Officers along with six Kingdom Agency Officers are patrolling every second week on mass and are dealing with a number of issues, including reporting criminal activities to the Police and being the ‘eyes and ears’ in the community.

The traveller injunction is progressing and a dedicated resource has been employed to progress this, timelines are still targeting an injunction, even if interim in place by end of the year. This will be a High Court order and if travellers come in and camp illegally in a location where this is in effect they will be deemed in contempt of court. This will require an order for contempt of court if they don’t move on. The injunction will be for named and un-named individuals on public land.

8. Financial Update

Members were briefed through report submitted by Michelle Cunningham

9. DAAT

All performance indicators for the young person’s service are green across the board and for the adults is the same. There is one exception which is non opiate clients in which three are amber and one green and this is due to an increase in number of non-opiate clients entering the service, so fewer successful completions from the cohort, which has impacted the figures and not necessarily a negative.
Inclusion has received some grant funding to launch Blue Light a project owned by Alcohol concern. They had a raising awareness session in the Council Chambers a few months ago, which led to training sessions for staff, they are now developing a referral pathway and framework.

10. Strategic Partnership Updates:

10.1 Police and Crime Panel – Verbal update Cllr Redsell

There has not been another panel meeting to report back and this is going to be discussed at Full Council.

10.2 ECFRS Lee Lucas

The number of incidents is down by 17% on last month which could be attributed to weather factors.

There were approximately 150 incidents attended by the Grays Station and 60 incidents by the Orsett Station. Average call time measure recommends 10 minutes and the Average call time for last month was 10.12 minutes, just 12 seconds over the recommended target time. The response time may have also been impacted during the August holiday period, providing cover Firefighters from other stations less familiar with the area or station were working, this may have slowed responses by only seconds but had an impact on response times.

Grays Station had only two calls over the ten minute target, 71 incidents just over 98% achieved the target.

Availability over the 24 hours was 96% for all stations in August and only 2% below the target of 98%. Additional shift working has tried to cover in the short term whilst recruitment is the focus to fill the long term needs of the service.

Fires are below the target for this month and there is a big push on community safety and this may be having an impact. A full breakdown of these figures will be provided at the next meeting.

10.3 Adult Safeguarding

No update provided

10.4 Children’s Safeguarding and Prevention and support services

No update provided

9. Any Other Urgent Business

No other business raised at the meeting.

15.46 Close of meeting

Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 12th December 2018  2 – 4
Thursday 28th March 2019   1 – 3.30