

# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA



THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND THIS MEETING

**Please note this meeting will be audio recorded.**

**Date:** Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015

**Time:** 7.15pm

**Venue:** Council Chamber, Braintree District Council, Causeway House, Braintree CM7 9HB

## **Membership:**

Councillor C Bailey	Councillor S Paul
Councillor K Bowers	Councillor R Ramage
Councillor J Goodman	Councillor F Ricci
Councillor P Horner	Councillor B Rose
Councillor D Hufton-Rees	Councillor P Schwier
Councillor D Mann (Vice Chairman)	Councillor C Siddall (Chairman)

**Members are requested to attend this meeting, to transact the following business:-**

## **PUBLIC SESSION**

**Page**

### **1. Apologies for Absence.**

### **2. Member Declarations.**

To declare the existence and nature of any interests relating to items on the agenda having regard to the Code of Conduct for Members and having taken appropriate advice (where necessary) before the meeting.

To declare the existence and nature of any instruction given by or on behalf of a political group to any Councillor who is a member of that group as to how that Councillor shall speak or vote on any matter before the Committee or the application or threat to apply any sanction by the group in respect of that Councillor should he/she speak or vote on any particular matter.

### **3. Public Question Time. (See paragraph below).**

4. **Minutes.** To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2015 (copy previously circulated).
5. **Annual Report of the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership for 2014/15.** 1  
To receive the report.
6. **Receive a verbal update on the work of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee for 2014/15.**
7. **Discussions in respect of training requirements for the Committee.**
8. **Decision Planner.** To consider the Decision Planner for the period 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015 to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2015 (previously circulated)
9. **Urgent Business.** To consider any matter which, in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered in public by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.
10. To agree the exclusion of the public and press for the consideration of any items for the reasons set out in Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Local Government Act 1972.

*At the time of compiling the agenda there were none.*

#### **PRIVATE SESSION**

10. **Urgent Business.** To consider any matter which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be considered in private by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

E WISBEY  
Governance and Member Manager

### **Contact Details**

If you require any further information please contact the Governance and Members Team on 01376 552525 or e-mail [demse@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:demse@braintree.gov.uk)

### **Question Time**

Immediately after the Minutes of the previous meeting have been approved there will be a period of up to 30 minutes when members of the public can speak.

Members of the public wishing to speak should contact the Council's Governance and Members Team on 01376 552525 or email [demse@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:demse@braintree.gov.uk) at least 2 working days prior to the meeting.

Members of the public can remain to observe the whole of the public part of the meeting.

### **Health and Safety**

Any persons attending meetings at Causeway House are requested to take a few moments to familiarise themselves with the nearest available fire exit, indicated by the fire evacuation signs. In the event of a continuous alarm sounding during the meeting, you must evacuate the building immediately and follow all instructions provided by a Council officer who will identify him/herself should the alarm sound. You will be assisted to the nearest designated assembly point until it is safe to return to the building.

### **Mobile Phones**

Please ensure that your mobile phone is either switched to silent or switched off during the meeting.

### **Comments**

Braintree District Council welcomes comments from members of the public in order to make its services as efficient and effective as possible. We would appreciate any suggestions regarding the usefulness of the paperwork for this meeting, or the conduct of the meeting you have attended.

Please let us have your comments setting out the following information

Meeting Attended ..... Date of Meeting.....

Comments.....

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Contact Details: .....

<b>Annual Report of the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership 2014/15 to the Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee.</b>		<b>Agenda No: 5</b>
<p><b>Corporate Priority:</b>      <b>Supporting vulnerable people in our community, Promoting safe and healthy living, Place</b></p> <p><b>Report presented by:</b>      Tracey Parry, Community Safety Manager  <b>Report prepared by:</b>      Tracey Parry, Community Safety Manager</p>		
<p><b>Background Papers:</b></p> <p>Braintree District Community Safety Partnership Annual Report 2014/15  Strategic Assessment 14/15  CSP Action Plan 14/15</p>		<b>Public Report</b>
<p><b>Options:</b>  <b>To provide the Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee with the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership Annual Report 2014/15.</b></p>		<p><b>Key Decision:</b>   <b>NO</b></p>
<p><b>Executive Summary:</b></p> <p>The Braintree District Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is made up of representatives from Braintree District Council, Essex Police, Essex Fire &amp; Rescue Service, Mid Essex CCG, Essex CRC, Education (primary and secondary), Braintree District Voluntary Support Agency and Family Solutions.</p> <p>The CSP work together to protect their local communities from crime and to help people feel safer.</p> <p>There is a statutory requirement for CSP's to carry out an annual strategic assessment. Statistical and contextual data is requested from partners; collated, analysed and used to inform key findings and recommendations for priorities moving forward.</p> <p>The priorities for 2014/15 were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Domestic Abuse</li> <li>• Sexual Offences</li> <li>• Acquisitive Crime</li> <li>• Drugs Offences</li> </ul>		

Task & Finish Groups, made up of a variety of statutory & voluntary partners were established against three of the priorities. The groups have overall responsibility for the development and delivery of an action plan setting out how local and county-wide agencies will work together to deliver against the actions and the financial resources required.

The CSP received £16k from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Essex through the Community Safety Grant for 2014/15.

The highlights for the year included:

- Match funding a Young Persons Independent Sexual Advisor (YPISVA) to work with individual young people who have been victims of sexual abuse or exploitation.
- 14 further hairdressing salons on board with the Cut It Out campaign
- 43 teachers receiving Domestic Abuse awareness training
- Legal High Training delivered to 23 professionals across the district.

Attached to this report is the CSP annual report, Strategic Assessment and Action Plan 2014/15.

The priorities for 2015/16 will be:

- Domestic Abuse
- Sexual Offences
- Violent Crime

### **Decision**

For Overview & Scrutiny to review the Annual Report and if necessary to make recommendations to Cabinet.

### **Purpose of Decision:**

To review the work of the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership and highlight any issues for the Cabinet to consider.

Any Corporate implications in relation to the following should be explained in detail	
<b>Financial:</b>	Future work of the CSP will be delivered within existing resources. The CSP has an allocated budget of £20k for 2015/16. If further funding is required there will be a requirement to apply via external funding streams.
<b>Legal:</b>	The CSP is a statutory partnership and must therefore adhere to legislation.
<b>Safeguarding</b>	Ensure that all CSP partners have Safeguarding policies and procedures in place.
<b>Equalities/Diversity</b>	Taken into account within the report.
<b>Customer Impact:</b>	Enhance the information available to the public.
<b>Environment and Climate Change:</b>	None
<b>Consultation/Community Engagement:</b>	Information and data for the strategic assessment was received from Essex Police, Family Solutions, Choices (Open Road & EYPDAS), First Stop, Safer Places, Victim Support and Greenfields Community Housing. Representatives from the CSP attend the annual public event held by the Office of the Police Commissioner for Essex and periodically attend Local Community Meetings led by Essex Police.
<b>Risks:</b>	Restructures within partner organisations may have an impact on the delivery of the action plan.
<b>Officer Contact:</b>	Tracey Parry
<b>Designation:</b>	Community Safety Manager
<b>Ext. No.</b>	2334
<b>E-mail:</b>	trapa@braintree.gov.uk



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2014/2015



## **Braintree District Community Safety Partnership Annual Report 2014 – 15**

### **Foreword**

The Braintree District Community Safety Partnership Annual Report outlines how local agencies have worked together to make the Braintree District a safer place and reduce the fear of crime.

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 placed a joint responsibility upon specific agencies and other partners within the community to develop and implement strategies to protect their communities from crime and help people feel safe.

Representation on the CSP continues to expand and we have been pleased to welcome and work with Children's Centres, Safer Places and Victim Support.

Throughout the year partners have worked together to deliver successful projects and initiatives against the identified priorities of Domestic Abuse, Sexual Offences and Drugs Offences. Many of these are aimed at raising awareness and education and prevention as we feel these add value to the work delivered by Local Agencies on a day to day basis.

We are proud of the achievements the partnership has made and look forward to another successful year.



**Andy Wright**

Chair of Braintree District Community  
Safety Partnership



**Tracey Parry**

Community Safety Manager



### **Responsible Authority Group**

The Responsible Authority Group is the strategic group of the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership and consists of strategic and operational officers who are collectively responsible for addressing Crime, Disorder and Community Safety across the Braintree District.

These organisations include Braintree District Council, Essex Police, Essex Fire & Rescue Service, Essex Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC), Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group, Greenfields Community Housing, Essex County Council Education, Family Solutions and BDVSA (Braintree District Voluntary Services Association).

The group have overall strategic responsibility for making sure that the priorities identified from the annual strategic assessment are outlined within the action plan and delivered.

### **Strategic Assessment**

The strategic assessment is a statutory requirement for Community Safety Partnerships to complete on an annual basis, as per legislation in the Crime and Disorder Act Revised 2006.

Statistical and contextual data is requested from partners, collated, analysed and used to inform key findings and recommendations for priorities moving forward.

Priorities for 2014/15

- Domestic Abuse
- Sexual Offences
- Acquisitive Crime
- Drugs Offences

### **Funding**

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Essex had an annual Community Safety Grant of £934,919 for 2014/15 for Community Safety Partnerships, Youth Offending Teams and DAAT's to submit proposals to. The 14 Community Safety Partnerships were allocated £309, 727 to deliver activity that meets local priorities and the Police and Crime Plan.

Braintree District Community Safety Partnership received an allocation of £16,000.

## **Action Plan 2014/15**

Braintree District Community Safety Partnership produces an annual action plan which underpins the priorities and sets out the allocation of budget and how local agencies will work together to meet the actions within the plan.

### **Task & Finish Groups**

Following a review of the CSP structure Task & Finish Groups were established against each of the priorities. These groups were Chaired by a representative from the wider Community Safety Partnership with support from the part time Community Safety Officer and Community Safety apprentice. The Task & Finish Groups had interested partners represented on them, an agreed terms of reference and their principle role was to deliver against the action plan and provide quarterly monitoring to the RAG.

### **Domestic Abuse**

The Domestic Abuse Group was Chaired by Safer Places and had representation from Essex Police, Braintree District Council, PROVIDE, Education, Greenfields Community Housing, 4 Children, Victim Support, Family Solutions and BDVSA. The key issues of the group were to raise awareness, provide training and how to access services and referral routes.

Domestic Abuse Awareness Training – 2 sessions were held in Halstead and Witham with 43 teachers, support staff and education welfare officers attended a half-day session delivered by Safer Places.

The Cut It Out campaign was started in 2013 with 9 hairdressing salons from Braintree, this has developed further to included 14 hairdressing salons from Coggeshall, Halstead and Witham. Two volunteers who themselves are survivors of Domestic Abuse have been supporting the partnership and Safer Places to deliver training and support to both the existing and newly on board salons. The training provides staff with the confidence and skills to both recognise potential signs of domestic abuse and feel comfortable broaching the subject with clients. The Feathers Hair Salon chain came on board with the project and training was delivered at their AGM, they also held Cut It Out anniversary events at some of their salons both within the Braintree District and other districts within mid Essex.

As part of National Domestic Abuse Awareness Week the Task & Finish Group organised and manned information stands in shopping centres across the Braintree District including Weavers Court, George Yard, Freeport and the Grove Centre with the aim of raising awareness of Domestic Abuse and the services available for victims and their families.

### **Sexual Offences**

Braintree District CSP in partnership with Epping Forest CSP and Victim Support have funded a YPISVA (Young Persons Independent Sexual Violence Advisor) for an initial 6 month period. The purpose of the post is to deliver targeted work with young people, deliver workshops in schools relating to consent, the law, on-line grooming and CSE and to develop a referral and support pathway for schools. As of the end of March 2015 the YPISVA was working with 7 young people from across the Braintree District and had delivered the awareness programme to 435 young people within schools.

There was not a need to have a specific Task & Finish group for this priority as all key issues were picked up within the YPISVA role.

### **Drugs Offences**

The Drugs Offences Task & Finish Group was Chaired by Open Road and had representation from EYPDAS, Essex Police, Braintree District Council, First Stop, Education, Greenfields Community Housing. The key issues were Education and Prevention, Legal Highs, Drug Supply & Cultivation and Raising Awareness of Services.

Legal High awareness training delivered by EYPDAS (Essex Young People's Drug & Alcohol Services) was provided to 23 professionals from a variety of agencies. Partners had identified that their knowledge of this subject was limited and the training would enable them to disseminate a consistent message throughout the organisations they worked in and to the wider community. The training covered the legal perspective, legal highs, drug paraphernalia, referral pathways and hidden harm. Essex Police have used this training to assist them when delivering substance misuse sessions in schools.

A new leaflet promoting the needle exchange service for the District has been designed, printed and distributed in conjunction with First Stop, the charity providing this service for the District. Existing information about this service was combined in an overall leaflet of the charities services and it was felt that separate material was required to encourage needle users to use safely. Analysis of data had also shown an increase in the number of people accessing the service for both heroin and steroid use. The leaflet was distributed across the partnership to ensure maximum coverage.

An awareness leaflet relating to drug cultivation called 'Keeping Commercial Cannabis out of your property' is being produced for Housing Associations, Private Landlords and Letting Agencies. The aim of this document is to provide guidance and information as to spotting the signs of drug cultivation, how to report concerns, how to protect yourself as a landlord and the damage cultivation can do to a property.

### **Acquisitive Crime**

This was a virtual group with representatives from Braintree District Council, Essex Police, Crimestoppers and Essex Offender Services. The key issues were to raise awareness of Crimestoppers, sharing of information and third party reporting and female offending.

A Female Mentoring Project was established following intelligence from a number of partners in relation to concerns around females and offending. The project in partnership with Essex Offender Services provides fully trained female volunteer mentors to work with females who have offended, are at risk of offending or are associating with known offenders.

A Crimestoppers Ambassador awareness event was held for partner organisations to become ambassadors within their individual organisations, the event was attended by 10 organisations with the aim of providing those representatives with the knowledge to promote within their organisations and to the community they work with. Raising awareness of Crimestoppers encourages those members of the public that do not have the confidence to report crimes or instances of anti-social behaviour to the Police to report anonymously.

Information about Crimestoppers was distributed to Town and Parish Councils, Children's Centres, Schools to promote within their communities.

## **Other Achievements**

Throughout the year the Community Safety Partnership also had the following achievements:

A Guide to Local Services has been produced for professionals to assist them with signposting and referring people to the relevant agency.

The Community Safety Manager became a member of the North Essex Behaviour & Attendance Partnership. This is a partnership between the Districts Secondary Schools and other education provision/support.

Employment of a Community Safety Officer on a 2 year fixed term contract to support the work of the partnership at all levels including the implementation of the annual action plan, co-ordination of the strategic assessment, carrying out research, developing and delivering projects, providing reports and preparing funding bids .

A world cup promotional campaign targeting licensed premises across the District highlighting links between football/alcohol/violence/domestic abuse.

Updated the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership webpages.

## **Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act**

This new legislation came into effect on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2014 with the overarching aim of providing effective powers to tackle anti-social behaviour, protect victims and communities and treat the underlying behaviours of perpetrators. A number of partners have attended training sessions to become familiar with changes to the act and review ways of working to enable a partnership approach/response when the new powers/measures need to be used.

## **Transforming Rehabilitation**

The Government split the Probation Service into two organisations on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2014; Essex Community Rehabilitation Company and the National Probation Service.

The Ministry of Justice awarded Sodexo a 7 year contract to become the new owners of the Essex CRC, in partnership with NACRO. The overall aim of the CRC is to reduce reoffending rates whilst maintaining public protection. The CRC will give statutory supervision and rehabilitation in the community to every offender released from custody, including 50,000 of the most prolific group of offenders (those sentenced to less than 12 months in custody).

The National Probation Service is now managed by the National Offender Management Service and will work with the most high risk offenders

## **Partnership Hubs**

There has been on-going dialogue with Essex Police to establish a partnership hub within the Community Safety Team at Braintree District Council. The hub will aim to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) working arrangements and to enable a more focused delivery of the annual action plan. The aim is to introduce the Hub in 2015/16.

### **Moving Forward**

During 2014/15 a revised strategic assessment was undertaken to inform the priorities for 2015/16. In addition to this the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership will be responding to the growing national agendas around Hidden Harm. We will look at Child Sexual Exploitation, Modern Day Slavery and Elderly Abuse.

Tracey Parry  
Community Safety Manager

# STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT 2014/15 BRAINTREE DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP



## **Demographic Profile**

Braintree is a large, mainly rural district that covers 612 square kilometres in north and mid Essex. The northern part of the district extending to the Suffolk border, the central and southern parts of the district lie in a key location between Stansted Airport, the east coast ports and key rail and road transport routes to London.

The largest town is Braintree, followed by Witham and Halstead.

Braintree District has been one of the fastest growing areas in the country over the past decade. The population of the district currently stands at approximately 149,000.

## **Introduction**

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 placed a joint responsibility upon specific agencies to work together to protect their local communities from crime and to help people feel safer.

Braintree District Community Safety Partnership is made up of representatives from:

- Braintree District Council
- Essex Police
- Essex Fire & Rescue Service
- Essex Community Rehabilitation Company
- Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group
- Greenfields Community Housing
- Family Solutions
- Education
- BDVSA (Braintree District Voluntary Services Association)

The purpose of this document is to inform partners about the scale and scope of crime, disorder and community safety within the Braintree District.

The document should assist the partnership to understand the patterns and trends relating to crime, disorder and community safety as well as setting clear priorities for the year and allocate resources accordingly.

## **Partnership Activity and Engagement 2014/15**

From the priorities identified for 2014/15 Task & Finish Groups were established for Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence and Drug Offences.

### **Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Task & Finish Group**

#### **Cut It Out Campaign**

Following the success of the pilot year we have expanded the campaign to include Coggeshall, Halstead and Witham. Training has been delivered to a further 14 salons, 71 staff. The Feathers chain of hair salons have also come on board and training has been delivered to all staff from across the county at their annual event. This has enabled the campaign to expand into Chelmsford and Maldon with the support of the CSP's. Feathers will also be hosting Cut It Out anniversary events at all their salons in February 2015.

### **Domestic Abuse Awareness Training**

Safer Places have delivered two Domestic Abuse Awareness training sessions to 38 education personnel working within either primary or secondary education. The training evaluated extremely well and raised both awareness of the subject and confidence in identifying signs and dealing with young people that may be living with domestic abuse or a victim themselves.

### **Young Persons Independent Sexual Violence Advisor**

Braintree CSP is working in partnership with Epping Forest CSP and Victim Support to fund a 6 month Young Persons Independent Sexual Violence Advisor. This post will carry out targeted work with young people who have been victims of sexual violence, deliver workshops in secondary schools and devise a referral pathway. The

### **Drugs Offences Task & Finish Group**

#### **Legal High Training**

EYPDAS provided training to 25 professionals from a variety of agencies to raise their awareness of Legal Highs and understand local issues.

### **Needle Syringe Provision Leaflets**

The leaflets advertising the service available across the district were updated to enable First Stop to widen the promotion of the service to ensure the safe use and disposal of needles to both heroin and steroid users.

### **Drugs Cultivation Information to Letting Agencies and Private Landlords**

Following some successful execution of drug warrants which resulted in the seizure of cannabis worth £27,000 the partnership have produced a 'Guide to Keeping Commercial Cannabis Out of Your Property' for Housing Associations, Private Landlords and Letting Agencies.

### **Acquisitive Crime**

#### **Crimestoppers**

A Crimestoppers Ambassadors event was held with 9 partner agencies in attendance, this led to the Crimestoppers co-ordinator attending team meetings, promotional material being placed in supermarkets, children's centres, libraries and housing offices. Adverts were also placed in the Witham Town Council quarterly newsletter and the Higgle, a Halstead Town publication.



## **Female Mentoring Programme**

This pilot project provides volunteer female mentors to work with vulnerable females aged 16 + who have offended or are at risk of offending. The project is delivered in partnership with Essex Offender Services who have recruited and trained three volunteer mentors. The aim of the project is to reduce levels of reoffending amongst females and to provide positive role models for females to encourage them away from an offending lifestyle.

## **Joint Licensing Group**

A World Cup promotional campaign was devised to raise awareness around the issues of domestic abuse and excessive alcohol consumption within a football environment. 15 licensed premises across the Braintree District came on board with the campaign by displaying promotional material and information and encouraging their staff to wear t-shirts highlighting the issues. The feedback was good with staff working within licensed premises stating that their overall awareness of Domestic Abuse had been heightened.

## **Reducing Reoffending**

### **Integrated Offender Management**

IOM (Integrated Offender Management) continues to have a good impact on reducing reoffending by addressing the underlying causes of offending. The size of the IOM cohort across the county has continued to fall with the North LPA having the least number of Priority Red Offenders, (those offenders that are designated as a spotlight nominal and discussed at Essex Police tasking meetings with a view to maximising police activity around an individual).

## **Community Engagement/Public Perception**

### **Community Insight Survey**

The Braintree District Community Safety Partnership undertook a Community Insight survey with 42 young people. As this is only a small percentage of the overall demographics, these figures should only be viewed as possible indicators of public perception.

Respondents identified the following as the top three issues where they lived:

- Anti-Social Behaviour 20%
- Drug Offences 18%
- Misuse of Alcohol 13%
  
- 59% of respondents or 24 people were not aware of issues with knife crime in their area
- 100% of respondents felt safe during the day
- 74% of respondents felt safe at night
- 100% of respondents felt safe during school

- 95% felt safe after school
- The majority of respondents did not know what support services were provided by their schools.

## **Essex County Council Tracker Survey**

In the Braintree District 473 residents completed the tracker survey where questions were asked relating to public perceptions of Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour. As this is only a small percentage of the overall demographics, these figures should only be viewed as possible indicators of public perception.

- 97% feel very safe/fairly safe outside of their local area during the day
- 65% feel very safe/fairly safe outside of their local area during the night
- 91% do not see noise nuisance as a problem in their area
- 79% do not see youth nuisance as a problem
- 82% do not see vandalism and criminal damage as a problem in the area
- 75% do not see drugs as an issue in their area
- 83% do not see drunken behaviour as a problem in their area

## **Links to the Essex Police and Crime Commissioner**

The Braintree District Community Safety Partnership continued to provide support to the Police & Crime Commissioner for Essex at his public engagement events. These events give local residents the opportunity to raise crime and disorder related issues with the PCC, local Police Officers and representatives of the CSP.

## **Strategic Assessment**

The Strategic Assessment is a statutory requirement for Community Safety Partnerships to complete on an annual basis, as per legislation in the Crime & Disorder Act Revised 2006.

The strategic assessment is the result of a comprehensive analysis of crime, disorder and community safety data for the Braintree District covering the period 1st October 2013 – 30th September, 2014.

The assessment has analysed data from a number of sources including IQuanta, Essex Police Performance Data and CSP partner internal data.

The assessment will identify the priorities and inform the partnerships 2015/16 action plan.

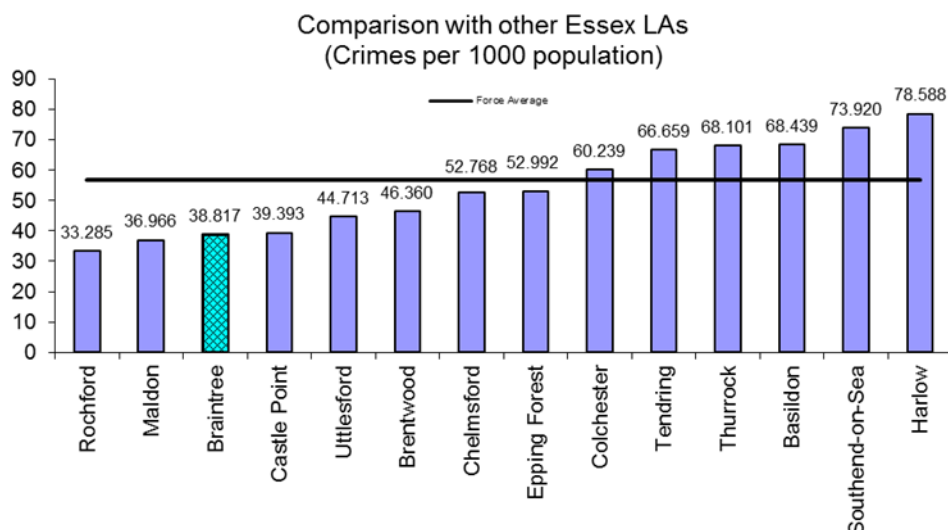
## **OVERALL CRIME**

### **NUMBER OF INCIDENTS**

According to Essex Police there were 5790 recorded crime incidents in the Braintree District from the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013 – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

Data from IQuanta has been used to compare levels of crime in the Braintree District with other District and Boroughs, including the two unitary authorities in Essex.

This data indicates that the Braintree District has an estimated 38.817 crimes per 1000 population. This is the third lowest compared to other Local Authorities in Essex.



Essex Police Performance Data breaks all crimes into 13 separate sub-categories (listed below), however due to the nature of some crimes, one incident may fall into more than one category.

Offences	Oct 2012 – Sept 2013	Oct 2013 – Sept 2014	Rolling 12M # Difference	Rolling 12M % Difference
All Crime	5725	5790	65	1.1
Domestic Burglary incl. Attempts	374	336	-38	-10.2
Other Burglary incl. Attempts	535	554	19	3.6
Vehicle Crime excl. Inter'ce	647	635	-12	-1.9
Theft from Vehicles	534	499	-35	-6.6
Other Theft & Handling	725	775	50	6.9
Shoplifting	447	435	-12	-2.7
Criminal Damage	894	900	6	0.7
Robbery	31	23	-8	-25.8
Serious Violent Crime	32	44	12	37.5
Serious Sexual Crime	81	91	10	12.3
Assault with Less Serious Injury	448	512	64	14.3
Other Violence Against the Person	1186	1342	156	13.2
Racially-Aggravated Crime	42	24	-18	-42.9

Source: Essex Police

Of the 13 categories above 7 categories have increased compared to the previous year, whilst 6 have decreased.

The top three categories which have seen increases include:







- Serious Violent Crime: +12 incidents, +37.5%
- Assault Less Serious Injury: +64 incidents, +14.3%







- Other Violence Against the Person: +156 incidents, +13.2%

The top three categories which have seen decreases include:

- Racially-Aggravated Crime: -18 incidents, -42.9%
- Robbery: -8 incidents, -25.8%
- Domestic Burglary incl. Attempts – 38%, - 10.2%

## SUMMARY OF DATA: OCTOBER 2013 –SEPTEMBER 2014

<p><b>OVERALL CRIME</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essex Police recorded 5790 crime incidents in the Braintree District</li> <li>• Essex Police estimates that there were 65 more incidents than the previous year. An increase of 1.1%</li> </ul>	 1.1%
<p><b>ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (ASB)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essex Police recorded 3579 incidents of ASB.</li> <li>• ASB reported to Essex Police fell by 420 incidents or 10.5% compared to the previous year.</li> <li>• Greenfields Community Housing recorded 273 incidents of ASB (not incl. Hate Crime and DA) an increase of 37 incidents or 15.7% on the previous year</li> </ul>	 10.5%
<p><b>ALCOHOL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No data is currently available from Essex Police or I-Quanta on Alcohol related crimes</li> <li>• Public Health England estimates that 20.3% of adults in the district binge drink. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> highest rate in Essex</li> <li>• Public Health England also estimates that the Hospital Standardised Admission Rates (SAR) for Alcohol Related Harm for the Braintree District is 27.7% below the average for England.</li> </ul>	 More Data Needed
<p><b>AQUISITIVE CRIME</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I-Quanta highlights 993 incidents of Serious Acquisitive Crime in the Braintree District</li> <li>• This is a reduction 60 incidents or -6% compared to the previous year.</li> </ul>	 6%
<p><b>CRIMINAL DAMAGE &amp; ARSON</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I-Quanta highlights that there were 898 incidents of Criminal Damage or Arson in the Braintree District.</li> <li>• This is an overall increase of 4 incidents equivalent to an increase of 0.4%</li> <li>• Criminal Damage makes up 867 of all crimes within this category, and is a decrease of 5 incidents or 1% on the previous year.</li> <li>• Arson makes up 31 crimes within this category and is an increase of 9 incidents or 41% compared to the previous year</li> </ul>	 0.4%
<p><b>DOMESTIC ABUSE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data from Essex Police shows 1114 reported DA incidents, an increase of 111 incidents or 1.01% on the previous year.</li> <li>• This is a rate of 9.71 incidents per 1000 residents (aged over 16) and is the 5th highest rate in Essex.</li> <li>• The Braintree District has the 3rd highest rate of repeat incidents in Essex at 49.95%.</li> <li>• 31.2% incidents were handled as crimes by Essex Police. This is an</li> </ul>	 1.01%

<p>increase of 7.95% on the previous year but the lowest rate in Essex Between 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013 and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 33 women were admitted to the Women's refuge</li> <li>• 146 additional individuals have had contact with Safer Places outreach workers</li> <li>• 142 Victims of Domestic Abuse contacted Victim Support</li> <li>• Greenfields Community Housing recorded 29 incidents, an increase of 7 incidents or 31.8% on the previous year</li> </ul>	
<p><b>DRUGS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I-quanta estimated that there were a total of 205 recorded drugs offences in 2013/14</li> <li>• This is a reduction of 71 incidents or 26% on the previous year.</li> <li>• Possession of Drugs makes up 189 crimes within this category. This is a decrease of 65 incidents or -26% on the previous year.</li> <li>• Data from both Open Road and First Stop indicates that Heroin is the most prevalent drug for which residents are seeking treatment for, followed by Alcohol and Cannabis (Open Road data only).</li> </ul>	 26%
<p><b>HATE CRIME</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to I-Quanta there were 23 Racially or Religiously Aggravated Offences.</li> <li>• This is a reduction of 18 incidents or 44% compared to the previous year.</li> <li>• No data is currently available on Homophobic or Transphobic Incidents</li> </ul>	 44%
<p><b>SEXUAL OFFENCES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I-Quanta data identifies a total of 116 Sexual Offences, an increase of 16 incidents or 16% on the previous year.</li> <li>• 42 incidents of Rape recorded, equivalent to 36.2% of all sexual offences. No change on the previous year.</li> <li>• Other Sexual Offences accounted for 74 incidents or 63.8% of all sexual offences. This is an increase of 16 incidents or 28% compared to the previous year.</li> </ul>	 +16%
<p><b>VEHICLE CRIME</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I-quanta data shows that overall there were 688 crimes within is category in the last year. A reduction of 4 incidents or -1%</li> <li>• Theft of a vehicle made up 50 crimes, an increase of 7 incidents or 16% compared to the previous year.</li> <li>• Vehicle Interference made up 19 crimes, an increase of 3 incidents or 19% compared to the previous year.</li> <li>• Theft from a Vehicle, and Vehicle Offences (excl. interference) saw reductions</li> </ul>	 1%
<p><b>VIOLENT CRIME</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I-Quanta data shows that Violence Against the person accounted for 1239 crimes, an increase of 195 incidents or 19% compared to the previous year.</li> <li>• Essex Police data shows that 23.18% of all crimes (1342 incidents) involved "Other Violence Against the Person", an increase of 156 incidents or 13.2% on the previous year.</li> <li>• The District had 1 homicide in the last year.</li> </ul>	 +19%
<p><b>YOUTH OFFENDING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 56 individual young people commenced a total of 75 YOT interventions. This is a reduction of one person on the previous year.</li> <li>• The estimated reoffending rate was 17.86% and reduction of 3.2% on the previous year.</li> </ul>	 3.2%

## **IOM (INTEGRATED OFFENDER MANAGEMENT)**

Performance of IOM is measured on the change in the number and value of offences before, during and after IOM. Due to the different timescales between IOM reporting and strategic assessment data collection periods it is not possible to provide a direct comparison.

The most recent IOM data showed that between December 2013 and May 2014 five offenders from the Braintree District were deselected (completed) the IOM programme.

Two offenders committed post IOM offences to the value of £16,452, which was a reduction in 41.09% compared to the value of offending before IOM.

### **2015/16 Priorities**

The strategic assessment process has identified three key priorities based upon consideration of current trends and projections, along with the volume of incidents and partner consultation. These priorities will provide the main focus for the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership over the next 12 months.

The priorities are: Violent Crime, Sexual Offences and Domestic Abuse

## **VIOLENT CRIME**

Data on Violent Crime is available from both Essex Police's Performance Monitoring Report (including Other violence against the person, Assault with less serious injury, and Serious violent crime) and from I-Quanta's Violence Against the Person category (including homicide, Violence with injury, and Violence without injury).

I-Quanta Data shows the following:

- Violence Against the Person accounted for 1239 crimes, this is an increase of **19%** or **195** incidents compared to the previous year

Essex Police Data shows the following:

- 342 crimes or 23.18% of crimes involved "Other Violence Against the Person", an increase of 156 incidents or 13.2% on the previous year.
- 512 crimes were classes as "Assault with Less Serious Injury", an increase of 64 incidents or 14.3%
- 44 crimes were classed as "Serious Violent Crime" and increase of 12 incidents or 27.5%

This is equivalent to a rate of 8.309 incidents per 1000 residents, which compared to other areas is 5th highest in both our CSP most similar group and other Local Authorities in Essex.

## **SEXUAL OFFENCES**

Data on Sexual Offences is taken from I-Quanta and is composed of incidents of Rape and incidents classed as Other Sexual Offences.

- The total number of incidents between October 2013 and September 2014 was **116**, an increase of 16 incidents or **16%** compared to the previous year.
- This is equivalent to a rate of 0.778 incidents per 1000 residents in the Braintree District.
- There were 42 incidents of Rape recorded, equivalent to 36.2% of all sexual offences. This is the same number as occurred in the previous year.
- Other Sexual Offences accounted for 74 incidents or 63.8% of all crimes within this category. This is an increase of 16 incidents or 28% compared to the previous year.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that the number of sexual offences is under reported particularly in the case of young people and for a variety of reasons.

There is a strong correlation to Child Sexual Exploitation and on-line grooming which will overlap the work of the Community Safety Partnership with the Safeguarding agenda.

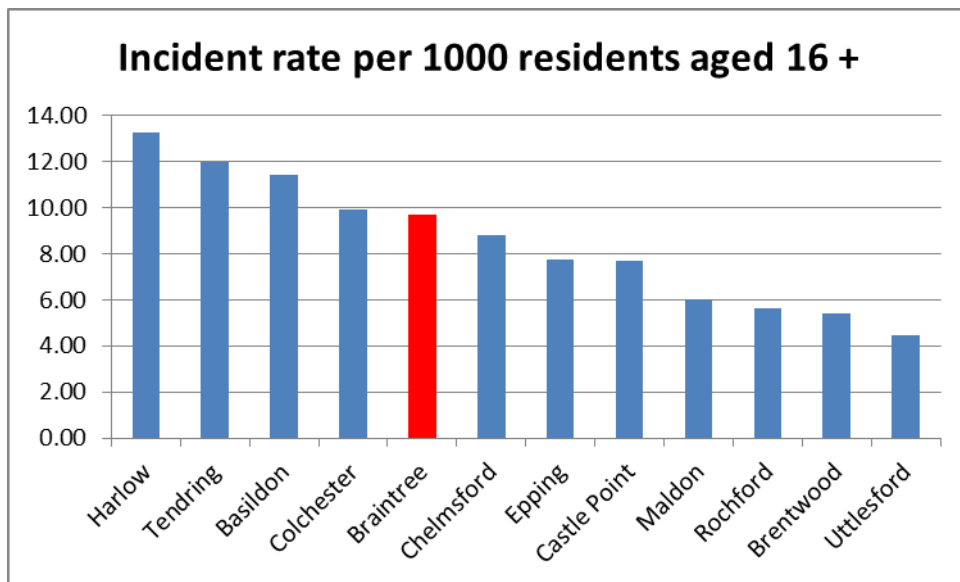
## **DOMESTIC ABUSE**

Data on Domestic Abuse has been taken from Essex Police's Domestic Abuse Performance Report as well as data from support providers such as Safer Places and Housing Associations.

- There has been a slight increase in the number of reported incidents of 1.01%, however there has been a significant increase in the number of incidents investigated as crimes of 7.95%.

### **Incident Rate**

Data from Essex Police shows that from the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013 to the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014 there were 1114 reported incidents of Domestic Abuse in the Braintree District during this time period. This is equivalent to a rate of 9.71 incidents per 1000 residents (aged over 16) and is the 5<sup>th</sup> highest rate in Essex. 49.95% of recorded incidents were repeat incidents, the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest rate in Essex.



Safer Places indicates that between 1st October 2013 and 30th September 2014:

- 33 women were admitted to the Women's refuge
- 146 additional individuals have had contact with Safer Places outreach workers

During the same period Victim Support received 142 enquiries relating to Domestic Abuse which were passed back to Essex Police for more specialist support.

Greenfields Community Housing recorded 29 incidents, an increase of 7 incidents or 31.8%.

## **Conclusion**

Whilst overall crime incidents in the Braintree District has seen a slight increase the district has the third lowest crime rate compared to other local authorities in Essex for the period of this strategic assessment. The Braintree District Community Safety Partnership will address these priorities through the identification of agencies and resources that are best placed to respond and deliver improvements.



## Braintree District Community Safety Partnership Action Plan 2014/15

PROJECT	ACTIONS	LEAD	TIMESCALE	FUNDING	OUTCOMES
<b>PRIORITY: Domestic Abuse</b>					
Outreach Worker for Safer Places	<p>Identify funding for a full time outreach worker specifically for the Braintree District who will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry out case work with individual victims of Domestic Abuse</li> <li>• Develop and expand the Cut It Out campaign across the district</li> <li>• Deliver awareness training to staff within educational establishments</li> </ul>	Safer Places/BDC/Judith Harvey		<p>Salary £25,153 including on-costs.</p> <p>£5k contribution from CSP External Funding to be sought to ensure sustainability</p>	<p>Increase the confidence levels of staff to identify where Domestic Abuse may be impacting on a young person's life.</p> <p>Number of training sessions Number of staff attending training Number of referrals made to specialist services from schools</p>
Local Services	Carry out a scoping exercise to understand the level and accessibility of services available to victims within the Braintree District, including the level of funding those organisations receive specifically for the district.	BDC - Community Safety Officer	May 2014	Within existing budgets	Increase awareness of services available and referral routes
Dwelling Surveys	<p>Develop a tool kit to assist partners in carrying out dwelling surveys for low and medium risk victims of DA.</p> <p>Deliver training to partners to assist them in carrying out dwelling surveys on low and medium risk victims of DA.</p> <p>Make the toolkit available to victims who own their own house or reside in</p>	BDC/Essex Police			

	privately rented accommodation.				
<b>PRIORITY: Drugs Offences</b>					
Education & Prevention Programme	Raise the awareness amongst parents and carers of drugs paraphernalia and legal highs.	BDC/Essex Police/ECC Education		£1500 CSP (awareness training, promotional material & scratch cards)	
Street Pastors	Provide awareness training for Street Pastors who operate in both the Braintree and Witham areas. Reprint information cards that are given out to vulnerable people they come into contact with.	Essex Police/Open Road/EYPDAS		£600 CSP (training and literature)	Increase awareness
Legal Highs	Research and identify the current problem with Legal Highs across the district. Identify commercial businesses who sell Legal Highs and work with them to provide the health warnings to purchasers.	BDC - CSP Apprentice		N/A  £100 CSP	Raise awareness of the impact Legal Highs can have on health
Drug Supply	Work with train operators to target the supply of drugs into the district.	Essex Police/BDC		£500 CSP (Promotional material, awareness training)	Reduce the supply of drugs into the district.
Drug Cultivation	Work with Letting Agencies to identify those landlords and premises that have previously been used for the cultivation of drugs.	Essex Police/BDC		£100 (printing & postage)	Reduce the number of residential premises being used to cultivate drugs
Needle Exchange	Raise awareness of the needle exchange service within the district	First Stop/BDC		£200 CSP (Promotional Material)	
Promotion of Services	Identify the services available across the district and ensure this information is available to partners.	CSP Apprentice		Within existing budgets	Ensure partners have current information about services and referral routes

<b>PRIORITY: Sexual Violence</b>					
Young Persons ISVA	Explore with partners (Victim Support and Harlow CSP) the possibility of funding YP ISVA to work with victims across Braintree & Harlow.	BDC		£5k CSP £? Harlow CSP External funding to be sought	Reduce the impact of sexual violence amongst young people Encourage young people to report instances of sexual violence
Education & Training	Raise awareness of support services available to both individuals and agencies to enable a joined up approach when working with Tier 2 families	BDC/Education		?	
Local Service	Carry out a mapping exercise to understand the services available across the District for victims of Sexual Violence.	Community Safety Officer - BDC		N/A	Identify gaps in service provision
<b>PRIORITY: Acquisitive Crime</b>					
Crime stoppers	Raise awareness of Crime stoppers through the Ambassador and Fearless programmes	Crime Stoppers/BDC		£500 (Awareness training and promotional material)	
Active Citizens/Neighbourhood Watch	Explore the possibilities of developing these schemes further across the district.	BDC/Essex Police			
Female Mentoring Scheme	Identify and train female mentors to work with the rise in young females involved in acquisitive crime.	Essex Police/IOM/Essex Offender Services		£1,500 (DBS Checks, Training and Volunteer Expenses)	
Education & Prevention	Identify across the County what packages are being delivered and resources involved. Discuss with secondary schools the need for an education and awareness package.	BDC/Education	May 2014	Within existing budgets	

<b>JOINT LICENSING GROUP</b>					
Operation Benison	Joint visits to licensed premises between BDC Licensing & Essex Police highlighting specific issues.	BDC/Essex Police		Within existing budgets	
World Cup	Promotional campaign targeting licensed premises across the District highlighting links between football/alcohol/violence/domestic abuse.	BDC/Essex Police	July 2014	£500 CSP	
<b>COMMUNICATIONS</b>					
Promotional Campaigns	Work with BDC Communications Team to ensure CSP work is promoted.	BDC		Within existing budgets	
Insight Survey	Research the value in carrying out surveys with the community in relation to Community Safety linking into the annual strategic assessment.	BDC		£500	
CSP Website	Review and refresh the CSP web pages and discuss links to partners websites.	BDC		Within existing budgets	