

**ACTION PLAN**

	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Director's response and action</b>
R1	All partners in the Safer Communities Steering Group should give priority to public reassurance and confidence building activities in future programmes from 2007 onwards. The steering group should ensure there is co-ordination and delivery of these activities across the county.	The Safer Communities Steering Group is being established to ensure a strategic approach to community safety issues in East Sussex. It will hold its first meeting in July when terms of reference and a workplan will need to be agreed. Its primary purpose will be in monitoring the delivery of the LAA targets. The Group will be informed of the Board's recommendations and will want to consider them in determining its future workplan.
R2	All partners should increase their activity in ensuring there are more positive stories being issued to the media. It is important to tackle local and national media on 'responsible reporting' of crime, seeking ways of countering overly negative reporting in local newspapers.	The Safer Communities Team (latterly community safety and DAAT teams) will have a key role in supporting the work of the Safer Communities Steering Group. It has already developed a Communication plan which will see the regular release of positive media stories and the team will also liaise with local CDRPs in the circulation of positive stories.
R3	CDRPs should implement the recommendations in the Crime and Disorder Review, Governance and Accountability section, which speak of community safety and fear of crime reduction strategies being tailored to the needs of local communities.	Recommendations 3 and 4 were for the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs). Each CDRP has received a copy of the review and has had the appropriate recommendations highlighted for response. The CDRPs generally meet quarterly and no responses have yet been received.
R4	Further emphasis should be given to co-ordination,	

	<p>monitoring and evaluation of what initiatives and schemes are effective in reducing crime and the fear of crime to ensure there is always targeting of resources to what works.</p>	
R5	<p>County Council departments should take action immediately to increase and embed their commitment and responsibilities to community safety and to Section 17 requirements and report these to the Community Services Scrutiny Committee in December 2006.</p>	<p>In the Crime and Disorder Act Review the definition of Section 17 is broadened to encompass anti-social behaviour, behaviour adversely affecting the environment and substance misuse. The Safer Communities team has already identified that within a new three year Safer Communities Plan that embedding in its Section 17 responsibilities within departments will be a key theme. It will be able to report its progress in December 2006.</p>
R6	<p>The Children's Services Authority and the Youth Development Service, should investigate the creation of more intergenerational projects between young and elderly people which break down the prejudices which frequently exist. The outcomes should be reported to the Community Services Scrutiny Committee in December 2006.</p>	<p>The Children's Service Authority which includes the Youth Development Service will investigate the opportunities for more intergenerational projects between young people and older people and will report back to the Community Services Scrutiny Committee in December 2006</p>
R7	<p>Consideration should be given to increasing the ability of Trading Standards to be involved in more joint activities with partners visiting licensed premises and undertaking test purchasing operations. Furthermore consideration might also be given as to how best to promote a 'Proof of Age' scheme to young people and businesses throughout East Sussex with the clear</p>	<p>To prevent the sale of age-restricted goods to minors which might be used for crime or for anti-social behaviour (namely, alcohol, fireworks, knives and spray paints) is difficult. There are a number of issues worth consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The majority of retailers wish to comply with the law but face the difficulty of determining the age of the</li> </ul>

message 'No ID - No Sale'.

prospective purchaser. The Trading Standards service promotes, as best it can, the message 'No ID, No Sale' in line with national best practice and advocates the use of 'PASS' approved proof-of-age cards;

- Trading Standards officers carry out test purchasing operations using minors (in accordance with a national code of practice) to ascertain whether retailers will sell to them. Any offences detected are dealt with in accordance with the service's enforcement policy. There are some irresponsible retailers who will sell to minors no matter what and who should be targeted and dealt with using powers delegated to the service;
- there is a desire amongst minors to obtain the restricted products and an educative process is required to attempt to convince them otherwise; and
- Officers engaged in out-of-hours operations have to be adequately remunerated otherwise time-off-in-lieu (TOIL) interrupts their usual work patterns causing knock-on problems for the service.

To do more of this work will require additional officer time requiring more overtime payments or perhaps a person or persons contracted on a part-time basis specifically to organise and carry out such work. The lack of a dedicated post to promote the 'No ID, No Sale' message to both minors (through schools and colleges) and the retail trade means our work in this area is sporadic, inconsistent and not particularly effective. Given additional funding resources Trading Standards would look towards increasing surveillance of under-age sales and promoting a proof-of-age scheme across the County. This will

		be considered through the Reconciling Policy and Resources process for 2007/08.
R8	A report, from the Director of Transport & Environment on the viability of reviewing and addressing street lighting issues which can reduce the public's fear of crime, should be made to the December meeting of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee.	The Director of Transport & Environment will report back to Committee in December on the current condition and responsibilities for street lighting in East Sussex and the additional investment required to bring all existing street lighting in the county up to modern standards. The report will also explain the indicative costs for introducing new lighting schemes, the conflicts that can arise especially in rural areas over the introduction of new or replacement schemes and a synopsis (of any available research) on the benefits of street lighting in reducing crime and disorder.
R9	When policy steers for community safety, under the reconciling policy and resources process, are presented to the full scrutiny committee in the autumn, members should be mindful of the conclusions of this report with regard to targeting of resources to effective initiatives which reduce crime and fear of crime.	This is a recommendation for the Scrutiny Committee to consider.