

ESCC Community Safety Steering Group progress December 2004

In addition to the projects outlined in the CDRP reports (Appendix 2) showing the County Council's involvement in locally based activities, the following initiatives on a countywide basis have also been undertaken in the current year.

Public Service Agreement targets

- The Community Safety team has ensured that each CDRP has an action group that has developed specific initiatives to reduce public place violent crime. The Anti-Bullying Co-ordinator referred to below (Education) has a role in tackling the bullying that features as a public place violent crime peak between 3.00pm and 4.00pm
- In addition to the project at the Conquest Hospital which encourages people attending Accident and Emergency to report incidences of Domestic Violence, a survey was undertaken with suspected perpetrators in custody at Hastings Police Station. This showed that substance misuse especially alcohol was a significant factor; a number of people are in mutually abusive relationships. This has led to the establishment of multi agency case conferencing of individuals and families with chaotic lifestyles.

Trading Standards

- Introduction of Buy with Confidence scheme which puts consumers in touch with approved traders who have agreed to provide high standards of customer service.
- Working with the Police in the joint Rapid Action Team to support elderly people who are subject to cold calling by bogus traders.

Transport and Environment

- Use of one off community safety funding of £350,000. £150,000 to provide speed reactive signs at 19 sites in the county; £170,000 for eleven new crossings; £30,000 has been allocated to support the Speed Indicator Device (SID) operation in villages funded from last year's community safety allocation.
- Four major traffic calming schemes and ten local safety schemes being implemented.
- Driver Improvement courses held each month of the year and ten additional schools involved child pedestrian training.

Education

- The appointment of a strategic lead officer for anti bullying initiatives, who has developed a draft anti bullying strategy; a successful stakeholder conference held in June 2004; a series of events held in a number of schools involving students, staff and parents during National Anti Bullying Week (22-28 November).
- The involvement of local schools (currently seven) in the Rock Challenge in March 2005. This is a performing arts competition aimed at encouraging young people to enjoy a drug and alcohol free lifestyle. They produce short performances and involvement can help to improve school attendance and discourage anti social behaviour.
- 'One of Us' video and training resource for schools produced outlining the experiences of young people from ethnic minorities in East Sussex.
- Deployed detached youth workers to tackle 'hot spot' areas for crime by young people and developed programmes with young people to raise awareness of the consequences of their behaviour.

Social Services

- 100% of Child Protection conferences to date have been held within the required timescales.
- As part of the Older Persons PSA target, the Fire and Rescue Service has been training home care staff to undertake risk assessments in peoples homes.

Chief Executives Department

- Part funded five Police Community Support Officers working across the County.
- The appointment of a part time Alcohol Strategy worker as part of the DAAT to undertake an audit of need and provision in East Sussex and to develop an alcohol strategy that develops measures for tackling alcohol related crime and the need for adequate treatment facilities.
- The appointment of a Traveller Liaison Officer in conjunction with the Districts and Boroughs and the Police to deal in a co-ordinated way with unauthorised encampments
- CADDIE has produced detailed audit data to aid each of the CDRPs identify priorities for the new three year strategies. GOSE have commended the level of detail available.
- An induction pack for officers and members involved in community safety has been developed.
- Funding protocols and project evaluation forms have been produced for use by CDRPs to ensure consistent monitoring and to assess value for money and effectiveness.

Priorities for 2005/8 emerging strategy

Following an awayday held by the Community Safety Steering Group with elected members on CDRPs the following priorities were recommended for inclusion within the East Sussex Community Safety Strategy, under the overall objective of 'reducing crime and the fear of crime':

- **Reduce Violent Crime**

This will include public place violent crime, with a particular focus on young people as victims and perpetrators, through the anti bullying project. It will also include domestic violence.

- **Reduce Anti-social Behaviour**

This will predominately focus on work with young people through the Youth Offending Team, Youth Development Service and Education Welfare service and in taking forward the new 'Prevent and Deter' strand of the Prolific and Persistent Offenders scheme.

- **Reduce Drug & Alcohol Misuse**

The multi-agency Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) will continue to develop a range of initiatives; the County Council's role is in co-ordinating the work of partners and in specific activity by Social Services and Education.

- **Combat Racism**

This will focus on work in schools and with the anti bullying project as well as supporting Sompriti in their work on Racist Incident recording and follow up.

- **Improve Road Safety**

This will continue to include casualty reductions as well as initiatives to educate and practical road safety improvements

- **Protect People**

This includes the protection of vulnerable adults and children as well as broader emergency planning requirements