

ESCC Report on Rother CDRP – December 2004

CDRP Member Representative: Cllr Jean Hopkinson / Cllr Brian Gadd

CDRP Officer Representative: Alison Horan (Chief Executives)

1. Performance against Crime Reduction targets

- Overall crime figures in Rother increased by 6.2% over the period of police data analysed. Despite this Rother had a low number of crimes compared to the national rate. There were significant increases in Criminal Damage and Violent Crime although Vehicle Crime went down by 12%

2. Progress towards Public Place Violent Crime PSA target

The headline figures show an overall increase in violent crime in a public place (PPV) of 23% from 2002/3 to 2003/4. This amounts to a rise of 108 incidents to 581 in total, less than 7 incidents for every 1000 Rother residents.

The three highest totals for PPV are Central, Rye and Sidley wards. Between them these three wards saw 43% of all Rother PPVC in 2003/4.

Bexhill is the hotspot for Violent Crime of all categories. In terms of PPVC Bexhill wards contributed about 56% despite only having 47% of the Rother population covering about 8% of the total size of the District.

Busiest days for PPV are Friday to Sunday. There are three time period peaks of activity in Rother: 3pm-4pm when school days are finishing, 7-8pm (highest peak) and 9-11pm.

3. Successful initiatives with a specific ESCC input

- Youth Development Worker – Bexhill
- ASBO Prevention and Support worker
- Detached Youth Workers deployed to 'hot spot' localities
- Racist incident case workers
- Distraction Burglary

Other partnership initiatives:

- Tenancy Support Substance Misuse Worker
- Alcohol Strategy Dev Worker
- ASBO coordinator
- Neighbourhood Watch
- Bar watch

Appendix 2

- Drug Treatment and Testing Orders
- Civilian Drug Investigation team
- CRI Domestic violence project
- Rother mediation service
- Crime and Disorder Data Information Exchange

4. Changes to membership/structure of CDRP

The Rother CDRP has been through an unsettled period, Cllr Eric Armstrong from Rother District Council has recently taken on the Chairmanship of the CDRP following a period with no consistent chairman. The Community Safety Co-ordinator left quickly in the summer with no opportunities for hand over of information to a replacement. A consultant has been brought in to develop the draft three year strategy. Rother District Council has appointed its own community safety officer and recruitment is underway for a replacement Co-ordinator for the CDRP. In common with other CDRPs the Partnership is looking at having a more user friendly title and will probably be called the Safer Rother Partnership.

Three action groups operate under the umbrella of the CDRP these are:

- property crime, including burglary, criminal damage and car crime;
- personal safety including violent crime, domestic violence and anti social behaviour; and

community reassurance, including fear of crime, publicity and safer roads.

5. Other issues

Rother CDRP engaged Priority Research to conduct a survey of residents during August 2004 on the subject of the crime and disorder. Results of the Perception of Crime Survey suggest the following priorities:

- More visible policing
- Somewhere for young people to meet and be themselves without bothering others
- More Community Support Officers to respond to smaller issues
- More things for young people to do

6. Priorities for 2005/8 emerging strategy

- Anti social behaviour including criminal damage
- Public place violent crime
- Combating the fear of crime
- Young people as victims and offenders
- Substance misuse especially alcohol
- Targeting Prolific and Priority Offenders using the prevent and deter, catch and convict and rehabilitate and resettle methods recommended by the Government.