

Partners that make up the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership



About our Plan - Every year the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership undertakes a strategic assessment of community safety in order to select priorities for joint work and plan activity for the forthcoming year. The priorities selected by the partnership are based on analysis of data and residents' perceptions of crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse.

When selecting their priorities the partnership also takes into account those of the Police and Crime Commissioner and District and Borough Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs). The assessment also assists the District and Borough CSPs in selecting their local priorities.

The plan describes the priorities for the partnership, achievements, what the community thinks and what needs to happen next.

Delivery of both local and county-wide safer communities plans constitutes the East Sussex offer to local residents. The East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership is therefore committed to ensuring its work connects both local and county-wide activities. The plan also outlines how we will listen to and respond to community concerns.

If you have any questions on the work of the Safer Communities Partnership, please get in touch with the Safer East Sussex Team by phoning 01323 466013, emailing safercommunities@eastsussex.gov.uk or by visiting our website www.safeineastsussex.org.uk

The East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership is supported by the Safer East Sussex Team, made up from Community Safety staff from Sussex Police, East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service, Sussex & Surrey Probation Trust and East Sussex County Council.

The priorities selected by the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership for 2015/16 are:

Social Behaviour (ASB) and Hate Crime: To support and protect vulnerable victims of ASB and hate crime by ensuring processes and initiatives are focused on the more vulnerable within our communities.

Why it is a priority: While considerable progress has been made over the last four years in reducing reported ASB, it continues to be a regularly identified issue and a priority amongst the residents of East Sussex.

ASB came out as one of the two top community safety priorities that residents thought were the most important for us to tackle.

Key Lead: Safer East Sussex Team

Offending and Re-Offending: To work in partnership to identify offenders and re-offenders to address their needs, change their behaviours and reduce the likelihood of future offending and the number of victims.

Why it is a priority: Nationally, it is estimated that 50% of crime is committed by 10% of offenders; the most prolific (0.5%) commit 10% of crimes. Repeat offenders are often some of the most socially excluded in society. They will typically have chronic and complex health and social problems such as substance misuse, mental health needs, homelessness, unemployment and debt.

Key Leads: National Probation Service

Kent, Surrey and Sussex Criminal Rehabilitation Company

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Domestic Abuse: To ensure residents and communities are free from domestic abuse and are less socially tolerant of it. To increase people's ability to have healthy relationships, increase safety for people at risk of abuse and hold perpetrators to account, requiring them to change their behaviour.

Why it is a priority: Domestic abuse happens in all communities, regardless of deprivation, education, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity or ability. However, while men can and do experience domestic abuse, the majority of victims are women, while most of those who perpetrate abuse are men.

Key Leads: Jointly commissioned with East Sussex County Council and Brighton and Hove City Council

Prevent - Preventing Violent Extremism: We will work in partnership to support Prevent and encourage professionals to be aware of the risks of terrorism and to be able to report them appropriately by developing professional curiosity as part of their regular responsibilities.

Why it is a priority: The Counter-Terrorism and Security Bill seeks to place a duty on specified authorities to 'have due regard, in the exercise of its functions, to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'.

Channel - the existing programme for people at risk of radicalisation will be put on a statutory basis to improve the consistency of its delivery and ensure the participation of all the appropriate organisations.

Key Lead: Safer East Sussex Team

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Road Safety: To improve road safety across East Sussex by reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured, and reducing the incidents of anti-social driving by encouraging closer involvement of the community.

Why it is a priority: There are frequent concerns about the rising number of people who are killed or seriously injured on East Sussex's roads. Anti-social driving also continues to be a problem across the County with speeding as a common theme.

Key Lead: East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service

Sexual Violence: To increase the safety and wellbeing of people who experience rape or sexual violence & abuse including their confidence to report, improve people's understanding of consent, reduce the acceptance of sexual abuse or exploitation and hold perpetrators to account.

Why it is a priority: National data from the Crime Survey for England and Wales shows that women aged 16 to 19 were most likely to be victims of sexual assault. Offences largely go un-reported due to shame, fear of being blamed, not believed or other factors.

Key Leads: Jointly commissioned with East Sussex County Council and Brighton and Hove City Council

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Street Communities: To increase partnership working to help bring together local services that are in place to meet the needs of the street community. This will help to identify and address the concerns associated with street communities, including crime, anti-social behaviour, homelessness and substance misuse.

Why it is a priority: An integrated response to the issues will encourage the street community to make meaningful changes to their lives whilst also helping to reduce the demand on resources including police, health services, local districts and borough council departments.

Key Lead: Safer East Sussex Team

Substance Misuse: To reduce the crime, anti-social behaviour and social harms caused by substance misuse. This will include targeting those who commit offences to purchase drugs, supporting people in their recovery and expanding on the work that has already begun in relation to the issue of novel psychoactive substances.

Why it is a priority: The number of young people with heroin or cocaine as their main problem drug is in decline, however the use of novel psychoactive substances is increasing and the social and health **harms are** of growing concern.

Key Lead: Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT)

Safer East Sussex Team

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Why do Community Safety Partnerships exist and what is their purpose?

Community Safety Partnership's (CSP) were set up under Sections 5-7 of the **Crime & Disorder Act 1998** and in total there are about 300 CSPs in England and 22 in Wales. Community safety partnerships (CSPs) are made up of representatives from the 'responsible authorities', which are the: **Police, Local Authorities, Fire and Rescue Authorities, National Probation Service, Community Rehabilitation Companies and Health.**



The responsible authorities work together to protect their local communities from crime and to help people feel safer. They work out how to deal with local issues like antisocial behaviour, drug or alcohol misuse and reoffending. They annually assess local crime priorities and consult partners and the local community about how to deal with them.



There are five CSPs within East Sussex. One CSP each covering the local authority areas of: Wealden, Eastbourne, Lewes, Rother and Hastings.

In addition, in the two tier local government area of East Sussex there is a county level strategy group, the Safer Communities Board (SCB). The role of the SCB is to provide strategic co-ordination and support to community safety and criminal justice activity taking account of national legislation and guidance.

Although Police Crime Commissioner's (PCC) are not 'responsible authorities' under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 the Police Reform and Social responsibility Act 2011 requires the responsible authorities to have regard to the Police and Crime Objectives set out in the elected local policing body's Police and Crime Plan.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/reducing-and-preventing-crime--2/supporting-pages/community-safety-partnerships>

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Sexual Violence and Prevent are both new priority areas of work for the East Sussex Safer Communities Board. Here we provide some information why they have been introduced to our business plan for the forthcoming year:

The threat level to the UK has increased to 'severe' and world events over recent months have increased the need for communities as well as professionals to be



more aware and should understand what radicalisation means and why people may be vulnerable to it. The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 requires specified authorities (local authorities, the police, prisons, providers of probation services, schools, colleges, universities and others) to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

Under the new Counter Terrorism and Security Act, the Channel "Duty" (assessment and support) comes into being on the 14th April 2015, while the general Prevent

"Duty" for statutory agencies starts on the 1st July 2015. For further information:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

National data from the Crime Survey for England and Wales shows that women aged 16 to 19 were most likely to be victims of sexual assault, 19.6% of women and 2.7% of men report experiencing a sexual assault since the age of 16. Reported rape can be viewed as the visible tip of the iceberg when it comes to the scale of sexual violence in our society

In East Sussex in the last 24 months to August 2014, Serious Sexual Offences have increased by 167 (+51%) and by 96 (+24.1%) in the 12 months to August 2014

84% of young people had experienced some form of unwanted sexual incidents.

Consent Consultation - Sussex South Downs College, 2014

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Red Nose Day 13th March 2015

In preparation for Red Nose Day our team got baking –



We all baked some rather nice goodies and sold everything within a couple of hours to all the hard working staff at Hammonds Drive Police base in Eastbourne. We raised a grant total of £101.36 so thank you to all those that bought cakes and helped us raise that great sum - We even made it onto BBC South East Today!



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East Sussex Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) wants to recruit a new Lay Member to its Board

Could you?

Act as an independent, informed observer; able to ask questions others might not think of asking?

Help the LSCB link with our local community and voluntary groups?

Encourage our community to become involved in child safety issues?

Provide constructive challenge to the LSCB on its work?

To request an application pack, or to ask any questions about the role, please email Victoria Jones, LSCB Business Manager on

victoria.jones@eastsussex.gov.uk or

lscbcontact@eastsussex.gov.uk or telephone 01273 481544.

Closing date for applications: 8 May 2015

Interview: 22 May 2015



Safer East Sussex Team is on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/SaferEastSussexTeam>



Follow us on Twitter @SaferEastSx

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