



Safe in East Sussex

In Focus – Offending

September 2016

In this edition:

Kent, Surrey and
Sussex CRC

Sussex Pathways

National Probation
Service

Integrated Offender
Management

Reformed
Eastbourne Services

Inspire – Brighton
Women's Centre

Women's Offending

Cuckooing

A Brief History of
Lewes Prison

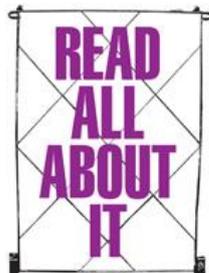
Keep Out Crime
Diversion
Programme

YotFit Programme

Interview with PC
Heath- IOM



“**It's difficult when you have to explain about your conviction. I'm not that person anymore.**”



If you would like to find out more about what the team have been doing, then why not sign up to the new fortnightly e-bulletin. To sign up please do so at: <http://eepurl.com/bfQM6H>

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 and East Sussex County Council



Kent, Surrey & Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company (KSSCRC) deliver a range of rehabilitation services to people who have been sentenced by a court to either custody or community supervision and who are classed as low to medium risk.

Their goal is to reduce reoffending and in so doing, improve people's lives - potential victims as well as the perpetrators of crime. We do this specifically by steering people away from offending.

They deliver rehabilitation services in the following ways:

In the community by helping those sentenced to a community order through supervision meetings, activities and accredited programmes, as well as supervising those ordered to do unpaid work, known as Community Payback

In custody or released on licence by helping those in prison prepare effectively for resettlement and ongoing rehabilitation in the community (our Through the Gate service) as well as supporting those released on licence to serve the rest of their sentence in the community.

KSSCRC's approach to rehabilitation puts the service user at the heart of their own journey to a crime-free life. They call it **My Solution Rehabilitation Programme**, or MSRP for short, and it permeates everything they do.

It works on the premise that to become crime-free, a person needs to take responsibility for their own actions. For this to happen, a person must first understand what it is that makes them offend and then start to change their thinking about that behaviour. This approach puts the onus on the fact it's 'my problem' and 'my solution' - which sets up the right conditions for rehabilitation to work.

Overleaf you can see the various themes of the programme.

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 and East Sussex County Council



OUTLOOK

Designed to help service users understand and create choices, drive consequential thinking and personal responsibility, build confidence and assist change.



HOME

Home is concerned with having settled permanent accommodation within the community.



MONEY

Money focuses on the issues of finance, benefit and debt. Modules are designed to help service users manage their money better.



FUTURE

Future is about the steps needed to locate and secure work, how this is linked to training and education and how the service user can take action themselves to improve their employment chances



SUPPORT

Support encourages the service user to think about their responsibilities and what their actions have meant for their families and loved ones.



HABIT

Whilst treatment of addiction is covered by other means, often the thinking associated substance misuse requires further challenge.



HEALTH

Health modules demonstrate ways in which health care can be accessed, looking at staying healthy, the importance of diet and weight management as well as sexual health issues.

Kent, Surrey & Sussex CRC Annual Service Plan 2017-2017

KSS CRC transferred ownership to Seetec on 1st February 2015, as part of the Government's Transforming Rehabilitation programme. The opportunities created by this sale permits KSS CRC to redesign criminal justice provision offering the communities of Kent, Surrey and Sussex a bespoke, innovative, effective and efficient public service delivered through a private company.

Further information on their service delivery plans, governance structures and performance summary 2015/16 can be found here:

<https://saturn.speedyservers.com/~qmlqvdcq/content/documents/2016-08-03-annual-service-plan-2016-2017.pdf>



Since 2008, Sussex Pathways has worked tirelessly to support people leaving prison to successfully resettle back into the community. They do this through the provision of their 'Connecting Pathways' volunteer based mentoring services for prison leavers, as well as rehabilitation support within prisons and a restorative justice service that works pre and post release with perpetrators and victims of crime.



Currently, they offer 'through the gate' mentoring scheme to work alongside individuals leading up to release from prison. Volunteer mentors will begin supporting people in prison approximately 6 weeks pre-release and will meet with them at the gate on the day of

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 and East Sussex County Council

release and continue to provide weekly support in the community for up to six months.

This service is strengthened by a community based 'resettlement hub' SPIN, offering a healthy outlook to life on 'the outside' including a relaxation & yoga group, a healthy lunch and a variety of support services in one place – and it's all free!

They train and support volunteers to achieve the effective resettlement into the community for people leaving prison and directly provide a range of services, as well as mobilising the support of partner organisations.

The mentoring programme promotes progression towards education, training and employment. It supports the development of life skills such as improving personal relationships, interpersonal and communication skills as well as helping to integrate into the community.

restorativepathways  The Restorative Pathways programme provides a volunteer based restorative

justice (RJ) service enabling victims to tell offenders about the real impact of their crime and to get answers to questions. RJ also offers the offender an opportunity to understand the impact and to say 'sorry', hoping to make amends with those who have been affected. This is an incredibly moving and empowering opportunity for all parties involved and is managed in a safe and structured environment..



The community based 'resettlement hub – SPIN' operates from the One Church in Brighton on Wednesdays and offers ex-

offenders a 'Safe Place to Invigorate & Nourish' through offering help and support in their journey towards rehabilitation, reintegration and resettlement.

Please see the video below to find out more about Sussex Pathways

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LinuoYKv5pE>

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 and East Sussex County Council

Established 1 June 2014, the National Probation Service is a governmental body which oversees high-risk criminal offenders as they are reintegrated within the community



The National Probation Service is a statutory criminal justice service that supervises high-risk offenders released into the community. The National Probation Service is responsible for dealing with the most dangerous and high-risk offenders. These are thought to represent approximately 30 per cent of the total criminal population as a whole. The remaining 70 per cent had been supervised by the aforementioned community rehabilitation companies.

Integrated Offender Management (IOM) brings a cross-agency response to the crime and reoffending threats faced by local communities. The most persistent and problematic offenders are identified and managed jointly by partner agencies working together.

IOM helps to improve the quality of life in communities by:

- reducing the negative impact of crime and reoffending
- reducing the number of people who become victims of crime
- helping to improve the public's confidence in the criminal justice system

Crime in Sussex significantly reduced by integrated offender management

Independent research, commissioned by the Sussex Criminal Justice Board (SCJB), demonstrates the benefits of integrating the work of agencies to provide a high level of monitoring, supervision and support to offenders.

Over a two year period, the proportion of offenders re-convicted was reduced by 57 per cent and the frequency reduced by 69 per cent. In consequence, this also reduces the number of people who are likely to be victims of crime.



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 and East Sussex County Council

Sussex Criminal Justice Board commissioned researchers at Sheffield Hallam University to assess the impact of Integrated Offender Management (IOM) on reconviction rates in Sussex over the first two years of its existence.

Led by Surrey & Sussex Probation Trust, Sussex Police, West Sussex County Council, East Sussex County Council and Brighton & Hove City Council, IOM brings together a number of agencies to target offender groups who commit the highest volume of crime.

IOM involves the colocation of police and probation staff who together provide an intense level of monitoring, supervision and support to offenders. A range of other professionals, including health staff specializing in drugs and alcohol, careers advisors, mentoring staff and women's services, provide advice to offenders on employment, education, health and housing.

The research also showed that over two years, for each £1 spent on IOM in Sussex; there is a saving for the Criminal Justice System of £1.78. Wider benefits to society include the positive impact on reducing the number of people affected by crime and people who were previously offenders changing their lifestyles and being gainfully engaged in society, through for example, employment.

<https://www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk/news/crime-in-sussex-significantly-reduced-by-integrated-offender-management/>

What's happening in East Sussex? Partners met in August to discuss the areas of work that would benefit from additional partnership activity in relation to offending and re-offending.

Current Offending Priorities within East Sussex are:

- **Women Offenders**
- **Education, Training and Employment.**
- **Accommodation.**
- **Serious and Organised Crime.**
- **Improving Processes.**



In order to develop the plan an Offending Operational Group is being set up and will include partners from the Kent Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company, National Probation Service, the Integrated Offender Management Team and the NHS. Other partners will be invited depending on the topic being discussed and as the work progresses.

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 and East Sussex County Council



Reformed Eastbourne CIC Services

Reformed Eastbourne Services are a CIC founded in 2014. The board of directors are made up of those who are experienced in working with offenders and those who have been marginalised in terms of employment due to their vulnerabilities.

Safer Eastbourne Project

Safer Eastbourne is a 6 month pilot project which began in July 2016 supporting Integrated Offender Management clients into employment and training where clients are supported to improve their employability or find employment.

The project offers a series of 1 to 1 meetings between clients and staff. Together they develop a client's CV, interview skills and other related issues such as their presentation.

Reformed also works to source opportunities for clients, particularly with offender friendly companies. They obtain DBS checks as well as disclosing the circumstance and nature of offences recorded on DBS checks to potential employers and volunteer placements. They manage client's and employer expectations to ensure that the placements are manageable and appropriate for all parties.



This service is provided on a mutual aid basis – by a worker who is empathetic to the challenges faced by those at risk of reoffending and those in recovery trying to re-enter or enter employment for the first time. This service will improve clients' self-worth and confidence and lessen the chances of relapse or reoffending.

Reformed Eastbourne Services are looking for volunteers.

Volunteers are needed to support clients with all aspects of job searches and applications, to promote recovery services and sign post to relevant agencies. It would be helpful if prospective volunteers have some knowledge of the criminal justice system and of support services in Eastbourne and East Sussex.

For more information on the service or information about becoming a volunteer please contact Charmaine Sewell on reformed.eastbourn@gmail.com or 075684054

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 and East Sussex County Council



“Coming to Inspire has turned my life around. I didn’t know how to overcome my problems before but now I can be positive about the future” (Inspire client)

The Inspire approach

- Inspire supports women with multiple vulnerabilities at all stages of involvement in the criminal justice system and exists to deliver positive alternatives to women, especially those who experience current and historic trauma and abuse, poor mental health, substance misuse, poverty, isolation and unemployment.
- Inspire recognises the challenges that multiple vulnerabilities can present for women and offers a flexible and responsive service where each woman is put at the centre of her recovery. Inspire offers women only spaces with co-located specialist staff enabling women to address multiple needs in one location.
- Inspire adopts an engagement support officer model where each woman is offered an individual engagement support manager who develops a trusting relationship with the woman which simultaneously challenges and supports. Each woman works closely with her engagement support officer to develop a support plan that includes practical and therapeutic interventions that reduce her risk of reoffending.

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 and East Sussex County Council

Inspire current priorities are to reducing offending and re-offending for women with multiple complex needs at all stages of involvement in the Criminal Justice System by supporting and empowering women meet their needs and to reduce intergenerational offending

- To improve accommodation outcomes for both of the above cohorts.
- 79% of Inspire clients have accommodation needs and Inspire has evidenced a 76% improvement in accommodation for women. Women in the Criminal Justice System have multiple needs beyond offending and accommodation including: mental health, finance benefit and debt, drugs and alcohol, domestic abuse and childhood trauma, Children and families.

Inspire has an East Sussex Engagement Support officer (ESO) who takes referrals from the Community Rehabilitation Company to offer intensive support for women with multiple needs.

Feedback from recent service users:

- 52% of women had 3 needs; 35% of women supported had between 3 and 6 needs and 13% had over 6 needs
- 100% of women identified improved psychological well-being following an Inspire intervention
- 98% said they felt listened to and understood
- 95% received the support they needed
- 98% understood and recognised the choices available to them. Inspire offered practical support in a number of areas evidenced to reduce offending
- 85% reduced their risk of domestic and sexual abuse
- 77% improved their ability to manage their finances
- 76% improved their accommodation

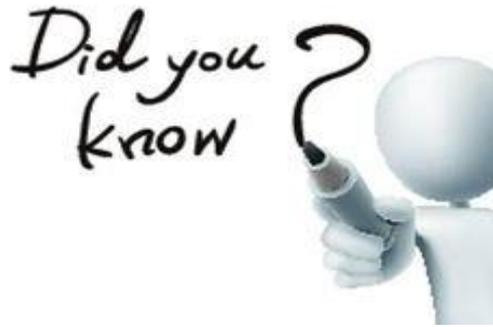
For further information please visit:

<http://www.womenscentre.org.uk/services/inspire/>



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 and East Sussex County Council

13,500 women are sent to prison each year – twice as many as 20 years ago



- Rates of clinically significant mental health conditions are higher amongst women in prison than men
- Many women in the criminal justice system are themselves victims of violence
- Women in prison exhibit worse physical health than women in the general population
- Drug and alcohol misuse and dependency are common and often integrally linked to offending
- Many women in the criminal justice system have been involved in prostitution
- Women in prison are thought to have higher rates of learning disability than men
- Women are more likely to be primary or sole carers of children
- Women's offending is frequently prompted by their relationships or financial concerns
- Some women end up in the criminal justice system or in custody as a result of having been trafficked or coerced

Source: Prison Reform Trust 2014 - Brighter Futures

QUICK FACTS

According to the Prisoner's Reform Trust, the female prison population in England and Wales more than doubled between 1995 and 2010, from 1,979 to 4,267.

More recently the numbers have declined by 10% – from 4,279 women in April 2012 to 3,841 in April 2015. Across the UK, more than 13,500 women are imprisoned each year, while the Howard League for Penal Reform estimated that 17,000 children are separated from their mothers by imprisonment.

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 and East Sussex County Council

In response to tackling the issues faced by female offenders, the Government has recently reinforced the importance of the Advisory Board on Female Offenders, which was established to deliver the Government's Strategic Objectives for Female Offenders in 2013.

In addition, the closure of Holloway Prison over the summer suggested that the Government was aware of the importance of rehabilitation of female offenders and the necessity of providing a suitable environment. This move was generally welcomed, although the Prisoner Governors Association raised concerns over capacity for women prisoners.

Given that women constitute a small minority in the criminal justice system, are often primary carers of children and principally commit non-violent offences (theft was the main indictable offence in 2013), most of the solutions to women's offending come in providing treatment for addictions and mental health problems, protection from domestic violence and coercive relationships, secure housing, debt management, education, skills development and employment.

Community sentences enable women to take control of their lives, care for their children and address the causes of their offending.



Transforming Lives: reducing women's imprisonment

Why women?

About 13,000 women are sent to prison in the UK every year, twice as many as twenty years ago, many on short-term sentences for non-violent crimes, often for a first offence. Although women are less than 5% of those in prison, they account for over 25% of self-harm incidents, an indicator of the harmful impact of imprisonment.

Women's offending is commonly linked to underlying mental health needs, drug and alcohol problems, unstable relationships, financial difficulties and debt. Over half the women in prison report having suffered domestic violence and one in three has experienced sexual abuse. Many of them have dependent children - an estimated 17,240 children are separated from their mothers by imprisonment every year.

I am aware's intensive work in women's offending journey to make sure that the right wraparound services are put in place to try and divert as many people as possible away from ending up in prison.

Caroline Duggan Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Women, Equality and Family Justice, January 2016

Scotland already has the second highest female prison population in Northern Europe, doubling between 2011 and 2013. This is completely unacceptable and doesn't fit with my vision of how a modern and progressive society should deal with female offenders.

Michael Matheson MSP, Scottish Justice Secretary, June 2013

For more information about our work to reduce women's imprisonment, and to access briefings and reports on women in the criminal justice system, visit their website:

www.prisonreformtrust.org.uk/women



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 and East Sussex County Council

Offenders or Victims?

Criminal gangs are targeting the homes of vulnerable people to be used for drug dealing – a process known as “cuckooing” (after the bird that invades nests) and victims are often left with little choice but to cooperate.

What is cuckooing?

Criminal gangs are targeting the homes of vulnerable people to be used for drug dealing – a process known as “cuckooing” (after the bird that invades nests) and victims are often left with little choice but to cooperate.

Dealers often approach the vulnerable person offering free drugs to use their home for dealing or in some instances after providing ‘free’ drugs, will then force the person to deal for them in order to ‘re-pay’ their drug debts.

These criminals are selective about who they target, a lot of the time victims are lonely, isolated, frequently drug users themselves and are already known to the police.

“Cuckooing” means the criminals can operate from a property rather than the street, which is out of sight from the police making it an attractive option. They can then use the premises to deal drugs from which is difficult for the police to monitor and they often will only stay for a short period of time.

Impact on the victim

Often the person being cuckooed will be reluctant to raise concerns as this would impact on their availability of free drugs, which is an attractive offer for those struggling with addiction and may prevent them from having to commit other crime in order to find the funds to maintain their habit.

People will also be fearful of going to the police for being suspected of involvement in drug dealing or being identified as a member of the group, which could result in being arrested themselves and this could lead to them losing their tenancy.

There is a real threat of violence/use of force from these criminal gangs in order to ensure the person remains quiet from the drug dealing gang in question and some instances, victims caught up with cuckooing can also be linked with sexual exploitation of victims.

Victims may require support for the abuse they have suffered and help with their drug addiction or support with managing a relapse. This could also be applicable to the mental health needs of the clients.

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 and East Sussex

County Council



Cuckooing itself is not a criminal offence but it is anti-social. Sussex Police are working with partners including the Safer East Sussex Team, District and Borough housing departments, the local drug and alcohol services, housing support services and local day centres to ensure that we take a sensitive approach to this activity, and acknowledge the impact this has on the person being cuckooed.

Victims can now report this activity to their housing provider/landlord/support worker. Sussex Police will treat any information provided confidentially and their identity will be protected.

What to do if you suspect a property is being cuckooed



For reports of cuckooing, partners are advised to use the following email which is manned 24/7: C22.EastDiv@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Alternatively:



You can contact Sussex Police on 101, by email 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk or online at www.sussex.police.uk

Sussex Police prioritise vulnerable victims and all calls regarding cuckooing will be taken seriously.

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 and East Sussex County Council

Lewes Prison – A brief history

Lewes is a Victorian prison, built in 1853. One of its first uses was to hold three hundred Finnish grenadiers as part of the Crimean War.

HMP Lewes was used as a young offenders' prison during the 1940s and '50s. It briefly became a borstal in 1963 before developing into an adult training prison with a lifer wing. In 1990 Lewes became a local prison housing remand and convicted prisoners.

Lewes is a local prison, holding convicted and remand adult males mainly from East Sussex and West Sussex courts.

The newly opened Sussex wing provides greater opportunities to retain sentenced Sussex prisoners with up to 12 months to serve before their release back into the local community and enable effective links with partner agencies to be developed and expanded further.

The majority of cells are shared, some single accommodation. New house block opened in April 2008 that comprises 174 single cells.

The prison has a First Night Centre for newly imprisoned inmates, and a Listener Scheme for those at risk of suicide and self-harm. The prison offers a range of full and part-time education including information technology, literacy, numeracy and life/social skills. Additional employment is offered in the prison workshops.

KeepOut programme at HMP Lewes

Since the scheme started in HMP Coldingley in 1996, in HMP Send in 2007 and HMP Lewes in 2011, some 15,000 young people have taken part in this unique crime diversion scheme – delivered by dedicated teams of serving prisoners inside UK prisons.

KeepOut sends a hugely powerful message to these young people. The prisoner teams set out the likely consequences if those attending the workshops continue to be involved in crime, or are thinking of becoming involved with criminal activity.

What better place to hear that message than in a prison – and to hear it from the people who have been deprived of their liberty? The prisoners speak with honesty and passion about the very negative consequences that their offending has had on their lives, their families and the victims of their crimes

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 and East Sussex

County Council



Training for the world of work

Prisoners who work hard and accept responsibility for achieving these goals find being part of the KeepOut team both challenging and rewarding. KeepOut has developed a planned systematic process for supporting the prisoners as part of their rehabilitation. It starts the moment they are appointed and continues during their resettlement.

Release and resettlement

The KeepOut management team makes available a number of opportunities that ex-prisoners can access after release. These include telephone and email helpline services, for them to maintain contact with KeepOut and provides feedback on their progress. This method of communication also enables the scheme to share any relevant new opportunities with ex-prisoners – including access to a developing database of workplace contacts and known community support.

Since leaving KeepOut, many graduates have used the skills and competencies learnt with our scheme to successfully gain employment in environments that provide services for young people and the community. They are proud to be able to say that the majority have not re-offended.

For further information on the scheme or to find out how to book a workshop please visit: <http://www.crimediversionscheme.org.uk/howwework/workingwithprisoners.html>



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 and East Sussex County Council

Freedom Leisure partners with the Youth Offending Team



The not-for-profit leisure trust, Freedom Leisure is working in partnership with East Sussex County Council's Youth Offending team to launch a programme specifically to reach out to young people at risk of offending within the local area.

The YotFit programme has been designed to help support young people within the East Sussex area who have committed a youth offence or are potentially at risk of doing so.

Freedom Leisure ran an eight-week pilot project earlier this year at Hailsham Leisure Centre, which is operated in partnership with Wealden District Council. During the sessions participants were able to try a variety of different exercise classes, all lead by fully qualified instructors, including Body Pump, circuits and boxercise as well as taking part in swimming sessions to help build a positive experience with exercise. At the end of the programme participants were given a free leisure pass so that they can continue to build on the progress they have made, with some participants stating they wouldn't have normally chosen to visit their local leisure centre if it weren't for the YotFit programme.

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 and East Sussex County Council

PC Alan Heath has been a serving officer for 15 years, the last two of which have been on the Integrated Offender Management Team. We asked Alan a few questions about his work.....

Q: “Tell me what your work entails?”

A “I work alongside dedicated Probation Officers in the same office managing a cohort of the most prolific and challenging offenders in East Sussex. Many of them have drug and alcohol issues or a mental health diagnosis, sometimes both. You’ve got to find out what makes them tick and provide them with opportunities to help themselves. If they can’t or won’t and continue offending then I assist Probation with swift enforcement action”.

Q: “What’s the best thing about your job?”

A: “No two days are the same. You literally never know what the day is going to bring. Also on a daily basis I have the opportunity to try and help people. If I can stop people offending it means that they can get back to a normal life.



Q: “What is the most difficult part?”

A: “The chaotic nature of the people I am trying to help. They can have several good weeks or even months then inexplicably relapse back into offending. It can be very disheartening but you’ve just got to keep being professional, do your job and hope that the service users can grasp an opportunity to change”.

Q: “How has your attitude to offenders changed in the last two years?”

A: “For 15 years I just thought “Lock them up” but you just see the same people time and time again. Now I have an awareness that you have to try and deal with the causes of the person’s behaviour not just the symptoms”

Q: “How do you do that?”

A: “It has to be a joined up approach. No single agency can solve the serviced user’s issues on its own. We have to work together with Probation, Community Safety Partnerships, Drug and Alcohol Treatment Agencies, Housing Providers, charities, recovery agencies and provide as many opportunities as possible for the service user to rehabilitate.”

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 and East Sussex County Council

This new website is for the public and professionals alike, with information on what safeguarding is, how people can raise a concern, latest safeguarding developments, and other information and resources. The website will be regularly updated.

<http://www.eastsussexsab.org.uk/about-us/our-partners/>

The work of safeguarding adults boards is now directed by legislation – the Care Act 2014 which became law on 1st April 2015.

The Act sets out the core purpose of the board as ensuring that local safeguarding arrangements are effective and take account of the views of the local community.

The definition of adults within the Care Act which the Board seeks to protect is any person aged 18 years or over who:

- has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) and;
- is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect; and
- as a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

**DON'T TURN YOUR
BACK ON ABUSE**



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 and East Sussex County Council