

East & Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership Plan 2008-11 Year 2

Vision

The Community Safety Partnership will work together to make East and Mid Devon a safe place to live and work.

Mission Statement

Agencies will work in partnership to reduce incidents of crime, disorder and anti social behaviour whilst improving public confidence and addressing the fear of crime locally.

Introduction

The structure of this Partnership is similar to that of most others and meets the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 *“to work together to reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime locally, in order to improve the quality of life and to create a safer living and working environment”*.

As well as the statutory and voluntary organisations which sit on the Partnership, there is also representation from the Business Sector. Members of the Partnership Steering Group include:

- Chief Executive of East Devon District Council
- Director of Corporate Services, Mid Devon District Council
- Police Commander for East and Mid Devon
- Devon County Council’s Community Safety Officer.
- Senior Officer from Primary Care Trust

The Steering Group meets every six weeks to monitor, oversee and support the work of the Action Groups.

Local & Thematic Action Groups

Each main town in East & Mid Devon has a geographically based Local Action Group (LAG). These were set up some years ago to tackle crime, disorder and anti social behaviour. The LAGs are also responsible for the rural areas surrounding each town. In addition there are thematic Action Groups tackling Domestic Violence, Drug & Alcohol issues and Diversity issues. All these groups, which are attended by a variety of agency representatives, have objectives and action plans. From 1st April 2008, the Local Action Groups will be concentrating on the three priority areas as mentioned above.

Plan, Performance and Funding

Since the introduction of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998, the East and Mid Devon Community Safety Partnerships, which informally merged two years ago, have produced three 3-year crime and disorder reduction strategies. These strategies endeavoured, by multi agency involvement, to tackle the greater proportion of crime, disorder and anti social behaviour issues across the two districts. This new Partnership Plan seeks to address similar issues but in a much more targeted and locally focused way. From 2008 all statutory agencies will be measured in terms of performance against National Indicators (NIs) linked to the Public Service Agreements (PSAs).

Funding for some of this work is now directed to Partnerships via the Safer Devon Partnership which is the county structure for New Devon in terms of delivering community safety. Its 6 main priorities are as follows:

- Drugs and alcohol
- Anti-social behaviour
- Prejudice and hate crime
- Domestic violence and abuse
- Prolific offenders
- Youth crime prevention

The Safer Devon Partnership receives funding, via Devon County Council, from Central Government as part of a Local Area Agreement.

A Local Area Agreement (LAA) is a three year agreement, based on local Sustainable Community Strategies, that sets out the priorities for a local area agreed between Central Government, represented by the Government Office (GO), and a local area, represented by the lead local authority, in this case Devon County Council, and other key partners.

The primary objective of an LAA is to deliver genuinely sustainable communities through better outcomes for local people. The secondary objectives are:

- Improving Central and Local Government relations
- Enhancing efficiency
- Strengthening partnership working
- Offering a framework within which local authorities can enhance their community leadership role.

This Partnership will concentrate on the three priorities shown below and the plan will explain how we will achieve this through positive action.

Equalities Statement

East & Mid Devon contains diverse communities and regular assessments of both offenders and victims of crime will take place to determine if any groups within the community are being discriminated against.

Identifying Priorities

The Police & Partnership Strategic Assessment (audit of crime and disorder issues across Devon) was used to identify 'hotspot' areas and crimes. In support of this work Mosaic (software that profiles socio-demographic information) was utilised to identify vulnerable groups in terms of victims and potential victims.

Added to these conclusions were the priorities identified by the public, drawn down from the PACT (Partners & Communities Together) process and community consultation programmes.

From this research the CSP has determined that it will concentrate on tackling 3 priorities across East and Mid Devon. The priorities are:

- violent crime
- acquisitive crime
- anti social behaviour

For Year 2 the Community Safety Partnership also wanted to improve Public Confidence. and this is now Priority Four.

All communities across the two districts will receive a high standard of support to reduce the effects of these crimes. Further to this, analysis of statistical data has shown Exmouth, Honiton and Tiverton suffer disproportionately against these priorities and will receive additional support.

To address these priorities the CSP performance will be measured in the following way.

Priorities and Targets

Priority One

Tackle violent crime by concentrating on two types of offences:

- a) **Reduce by 5% offences of violence in a public place.**
- b) **Reduce by 5% minor assault offences, namely common assault and assaults occasioning actual bodily harm.**

Results Year 1

Reduce by 5% offences of violence in a public place
Result: *Reduction of 16.9% from 1429 crimes to 1188*

Reduce by 5% minor assault offences, namely common assault and assaults occasioning actual bodily harm
Result: *Reduction of 6.9% from 1406 crimes to 1315*

Evidence

The evidence relating to this priority is from Police statistics which suggest that violence, particularly that relating to the late night economy across the two districts, is showing an increase. The Serious Violent Crime Profile in New Devon & Torbay, using data from April 04 to July 07 produced for the Safer Devon Partnership, also indicated a rise in this crime type. As a result of some local, but also much national publicity, there is a perception among the general public that violence is a major concern.

From 2009 it is a Government requirement that all Community Safety Partnerships have a violent crime action plan. The Safer Devon Partnership has produced a Violent Crime Strategy 2009-12 and there will be links made to this in our action plan. We will therefore be working with our partners across Devon to develop county initiatives and adopt best practice models locally where appropriate.

There is no direct National Indicator in relation to these targets and the measurement will be provided by Police Statistics. There is however an indirect link to National Indicator 20 - Assault with Injury Crime Rate.

This local priority is closely linked to LAA Priority 32, to Reduce Harm caused by alcohol and drugs, LAA Priority 36, regarding Domestic Violence, LAA Priority 37 regarding Harmful Offending Behaviour and LAA Priority 38 regarding Youth Offending.

By tackling these two types of offences, the Partnership will also have an impact on domestic violence which accounts for about 30% of all violent crime reported to the Police. It is believed that there is still much under reporting of this crime.

A joint Domestic Violence Forum now exists across East & Mid Devon where agencies work together in order to raise awareness of the issues, and to deal positively with offenders. Survivors of domestic violence are encouraged to seek help from the various agencies who can provide a great deal of advice and support.

The table below gives an outline of the key actions which will be taken to reduce violence and assault across the two Districts, but it is not an exhaustive list. While the Partnership still wishes to concentrate on the priorities shown above in respect of violent crime, it also recognises that in some areas more serious violent crime is an issue and this will be tackled. Therefore the measures to deal with this crime category have now been added to the action plan below.

Action Plan

Project title	Action (including geographic coverage)	Project lead	Resources	Delivery dates	Performance measures
CCTV across both East and Mid Devon	Exmouth Tiverton Cullompton CREDITON Honiton Seaton Sidmouth	Local leads in the towns in conjunction with Community Safety Officers	Funding secured locally and from SDP	On-going	1. Offenders dealt with for offences of violence
Use of metal detectors and head cams by Registered Door Staff in licensed premises	Tiverton	Police Licensing Officer in conjunction with Registered Door Staff	Funding from Community Safety Partnership	On-going	1. Number of Knives Recovered 2. Number of arrests for possession of offensive weapons 3. Reduction in alcohol related and violent offences 4. Public Reassurance
Use of Nitenet Radio systems by Registered Door Staff	Exmouth Seaton Tiverton Cullompton	Police Licensing Officers	Funding from Community Safety Partnership	On-going	Number of Offenders dealt with for offences of violence.
Night Shift Project – ‘Chill Out’ Exmouth	Exmouth	Open Door Centre & Exmouth	Community Safety Partnership &	On-going	1 Reduction in alcohol related and violent

Street Pastor Scheme Tiverton	Tiverton	Churches Together Tiverton Churches Together	Tiverton and Exmouth Churches		offences 2. Reduction in violent offences
Operations Optic, Safe Night Out, Street Safe	Across both Districts in main town areas	Police Licensing with Neighbourhood Teams	Police, Local Councils, & Trading Standards	On-going	1. Public Reassurance 2. Reduction in violent offences
Continued Engagement with Licensees	Across both Districts	Police & District Council Licensing Officers	Police & District Council	On-going	1. Public Reassurance 2. Reduction in violent offences
Action Plans through the CSP Local Action Groups	Across both Districts	Community Safety Officers & Chairs of the Local Action Groups	Multi-agency resources. LAG attendees and delivery of action plans	On-going	1. Public Reassurance 2. Reduction in violent offences
Support the Initiatives of the Domestic Violence Forums in tackling Domestic Violence Issues	Across both Districts	Community Safety Officers & Chairs of the Domestic Violence Forums	Multi Agency Resources with some funding from the Safer Devon Partnership	On Going	1.Reduction in incidents of Domestic Violence 2. Reduction in repeat offending 3. Increase the reporting of incidents of domestic violence
Use of Police Neighbourhood and PACT Team across both districts to target 'hot spot' areas	Across Both Districts	Police Neighbourhood and PACT Teams	Police	On Going	1. Public Reassurance 2. Reduction in violent offences
Use of additional dispersal powers (Section 27 and 30) given to Police.	Across both Districts	Police in conjunction with partners	Police	On Going	1. Public Reassurance 2. Reduction in alcohol related and violent offences

Police to target the 'Top 10' licensed premises across East and Mid Devon where it is suspected that violence occurs, or originates from, on a regular basis.	Across both Districts	Police in conjunction with partners such as district council licensing depts	Police and partner agencies	On Going	1. Public Reassurance 2. Reduction in alcohol related and violent offences
Police to gather intelligence from persons arrested for violent crime and, if alcohol related, ascertain where alcohol obtained.	Across both Districts	Police	Police	Ongoing	1. Public Reassurance 2. Reduction in alcohol related and violent offences

Priority Two

Tackle serious acquisitive crime by concentrating on two types of offences:

- a) Reduce by 3% offences of burglary dwelling
- b) Reduce by 5% offences of theft from motor vehicles

Results Year 1

Reduce by 3% offences of burglary dwelling

Result: Reduction of 15.5% from 484 crimes to 409

Reduce by 5% offences of theft from motor vehicle

Result: Reduction of 33.4% from 1016 crimes to 677

Evidence

The evidence relating to this priority has come from Police statistical data, and the Strategic Assessment produced for the Safer Devon Partnership in September 2007.

Whilst overall there has been a decrease in this crime type across the two districts, there has been a significant increase in acquisitive crime in the Tiverton and surrounding area during 2007/08. This was mainly due to an increase in drug related crime.

Whilst these crime types are reducing there is a public expectation that Partnerships will tackle these issues. There is also a popular misconception that there are more crimes of this type committed.

The Serious Acquisitive Crime Rate links with LAA priority 39 to reduce serious acquisitive crime and relates to National Indicator 16. Also links with PSA 23 – continue to make progress on serious acquisitive crime through a focus on issues of greatest priority in each locality and on the most harmful offenders – particularly drug-misusing offenders. Links with PSA 24 - The rate of drug-related offending.

The measure and baseline for this indicator is provided by Police statistics on a monthly basis. Also links with reducing re-offending through the improved management of offenders

The table below gives an outline of the key actions which will be taken to reduce acquisitive crime across the two Districts, but it is not an exhaustive list.

Action Plan

Project title	Action (including geographic coverage)	Project lead	Resources	Delivery dates	Performance measures
Multi-Agency Community Action Days	East & Mid Devon	Community Safety Officers	Staff from a variety of agencies	On-going	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduction in Fear of Crime (PACT) 2. Increased Public Awareness 3. Reduction in Distraction Burglaries & Bogus Caller Type offences.
Scams Events	Across both Districts	Community Safety Officers	Funding required for theatre group presentations plus other multi agency resources	Autumn 2008	Reduction in Burglary Dwellings & Theft from Motor Vehicles
Property Marking Events	Across both Districts	Crime Prevention Officer and Police Neighbourhood Teams	Police	On-going	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduction in Fear of Crime (PACT) 2. Increased Public Awareness 3. Reduction of Distraction Burglaries, Bogus Caller offences, & Theft from Vehicles.

Support of Neighbourhood Watch	Across both Districts	Police & Neighbourhood Watch Volunteers	Police & Voluntary Sector Funding from CSP for NHW initiatives	On-going	1. Increased Public Awareness 2. Reduction in Theft from Vehicles.
Letters to registered keepers regarding valuables left in cars	Across both Districts	Crime Prevention Officer and Police Neighbourhood Teams. Also in partnership with staff from Fire Service & MDDC staff in Mid Devon only	Police	On-going	1. Increased Public Awareness 2. Reduction in Theft from Vehicles
Community Messaging	Across both Districts	Police & Crime Prevention Officers	Police / Community Messaging Officer	On-going	1. Reduction in Theft from Vehicles
Use of Covert Capture Car	Across both Districts	Police & Crime Prevention Officers	Police & Crime Prevention Officer	On - going	1. Increased Public Awareness Reduction in Theft from Vehicles
Increased Use of Media	Across both Districts	Community Safety Officers, Local Action Groups & Police	Local staff	On-going	1. Reduction in Burglary Dwellings 2. Reduction in Theft from Vehicles
Police operations via use of the National Intelligence Model (NIM) to identify 'Hot Spots'	Across both Districts	Police	Police Researchers, Analysts and Neighbourhood Teams	On going	1. Reduction in Burglary Dwellings 2. Reduction in Theft from Vehicles

Priority Three

Reduce Anti Social Behaviour across the two Districts by concentrating on the following:

- a) **Reduce by 5% incidents of rowdy, inconsiderate or nuisance behaviour**
- b) **Reduce by 3% offences of criminal damage**
- c) **Perceptions of Anti-social Behaviour** (National Indicator 17)
- d) **Understanding of local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by local council and police** (National Indicator 27)

Results Year 1

Reduce by 5% incidents of rowdy, inconsiderate or nuisance behaviour

Result: Increase of 1% in reports from 5584 to 5620

Reduce by 3% offences of criminal damage

Result: Reduction of 11% from 2722 crimes to 2423

Evidence

Research has been carried out for Safer Devon Partnership and each CDRP has received an individual report on ASB issues within their locality. This has indicated a rise in this category of offending. In addition information gathered at public consultation meetings and the Local Action Groups (LAGs) have indicated that the communities within both districts consider the reduction in ASB a priority.

Links with PSA 23 – Tackle crime, disorder and anti social behaviour issues of greatest importance in each locality increasing public confidence in local agencies involved in dealing with these issues.

Links with PSA 24 – The percentage of public who perceive drug use or dealing, and/or drunk and rowdy behaviour to be a problem in their area.

Links to NI 24, NI 25, NI 41, NI 195 & NI 196.

LAA Priorities 38, Youth Offending, and 35, Prejudice and Hate Crime are encompassed within this priority but also are covered by the other local priorities.

The measure and benchmark for this is data provided by the Police for the first two priorities shown, but for the others by the British Crime Survey. Feeding into this will be the new 'Place Survey', a series of issues on which agencies such as district councils have to conduct a survey involving members of the public. This is similar to the Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPI).

The table below gives an outline of the key actions which will be taken to reduce anti social behaviour across the two Districts, but is not an exhaustive list.

Action Plan

Project title	Action (including geographic coverage)	Project lead	Resources	Delivery dates	Performance measures

Use of 'Escalation Process' to tackle ASB	East & Mid Devon	ASB Co-ordinators	Multi Agency including Police and District Councils	Ongoing	To reduce incidents of rowdy, inconsiderate or nuisance behaviour.
Autumnal Safety Strategy	East & Mid Devon	ASB Co-ordinators	Multi Agency including Police and Fire Service Etc.	Ongoing	To reduce incidents of rowdy, inconsiderate or nuisance behaviour.
Use of Sect 30 Dispersal Orders where appropriate	East & Mid Devon	Police & ASB Co-ordinators	Police	Ongoing	To reduce incidents of rowdy, inconsiderate or nuisance behaviour.
Use of Alcohol Test strips to deter under age drinking	East & Mid Devon	ASB Co-ordinators	Funding provided for strips by Community Safety Partnership for use by Police Neighbourhood Teams	Ongoing	To reduce incidents of rowdy, inconsiderate or nuisance behaviour.
Setting up of REACT (Respond, Enforce and Clean Team) by East Devon District Council)	East Devon	EDDC	Funded by EDDC	Ongoing	Satisfaction with the way ASB is dealt with by local councils NI 24
Use of Police Neighbourhood Teams with other agency support to deter under age drinking	East & Mid Devon	Police Addaction, EDP Drug & Alcohol Services Devon Youth Service	Existing Police resources	Ongoing	To reduce incidents of rowdy, inconsiderate or nuisance behaviour.
Use of Sect 59, Police Reform Act 2002 & other interventions to deal with vehicle related ASB	East & Mid Devon	Police and Community Safety Officers	Police with other agency support e.g. District Councils	Ongoing	To reduce incidents of rowdy, inconsiderate or nuisance behaviour.

Priority Four

(New from 2009)

Improving Public Confidence

Evidence

Members of the public have expressed a wish to kept regularly informed of both the progress and results of any crimes they have reported to the police or any complaints they have made to other agencies such as County and District Councils. It is therefore vital that such feedback is given.

Research has also shown that some members of the public are fearful of crimes being committed in their neighbourhood and this fear of crime arises from seeing news articles in both national newspapers and on television.

Forms of public consultation in East & Mid Devon such as PACT (Partners and Communities Together), which is Police led, and Neighbourhood Assessments, which are District Council led, are good ways of engaging with the public and identifying their concerns. This method of consultation can also be used to feedback positive stories to the public in terms of low crime rates, thereby reducing the fear of crime within the community.

Links with PSA 23 – Tackle crime, disorder and anti social behaviour issues of greatest importance in each locality increasing public confidence in local agencies involved in dealing with these issues.

Action Plan

Project title	Action (including geographic coverage)	Project lead	Resources	Delivery dates	Performance measures
Feedback to complainants by various agencies	East & Mid Devon	Steering Group members	Multi Agency including Police and District Councils	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Senior Officers to encourage staff to provide update to complainants
Ensure the public are regularly updated on positive news and what is being done to tackle the issues.	East & Mid Devon	Steering Group Members/ CSOs	Multi Agency including Police and District Councils	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Departmental NewslettersUpdate of websitesRegular updates to town and parish councilsPALMs and other community

					meetings etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive feedback from Place Survey
Ensure the local press are regularly supplied with good news items and link to local Police Neighbourhood website.	East & Mid Devon	Steering Group Members/ CSOs	Multi Agency including Police and District Councils	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of articles published in local newspapers • Number of articles in East and Mid Devon Talk magazines
Carry out community consultation in the form of PACT, Neighbourhood Assessments etc	East & Mid Devon	Police/ District Councils/ CSOs	Multi Agency including Police and District Councils	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of PACT surveys carried out • Number of N/A carried out
Partnership to produce an information guide to partners of the importance of highlighting positive news.	East & Mid Devon	Police/ District Councils/ CSOs	Multi Agency including Police and District Councils	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production and distribution of the guidance.
Promote the activities of the Local Action Groups	East & Mid Devon	Police/ District Councils/ CSOs	Multi Agency including Police and District Councils	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of articles published in local newspapers • Using meetings to promote good news. • Town & Parish Councillors regularly informed.

Community Engagement

All Partner Agencies will consult with communities across both districts using a variety of methods which will include Partners and Communities Together (PACT), Liaison Meetings hosted by both Police and District Councils, via Place Surveys, face to face consultation, Police Community Messaging Service, Neighbourhood Watch, Tenants & Residents Groups etc.

Other Examples of Positive Action we will be taking

- Public consultation processes to be implemented by Police and other agencies e.g. Partners & Communities Together (PACT)
- Targeting of offenders by Police & other agencies e.g. Prolific & Other Priority offenders Scheme (PPO)
- Media Campaigns by all agencies
- Engagement and development of Neighbourhood Watch, Residents Associations & tenants' forums etc.
- Use of other agency staff as additional eyes and ears in hotspot areas
- Encourage reporting of crimes and suspicious incidents by all agency staff and members of the Public
- Local Community Problem Solving for identified hotspot areas

Links to other strategies

- Safer Devon Partnership Plan
- East & Mid Devon District Council's Business / Corporate Plans
- Devon Probation Area Plan
- Devon Youth Service Plan
- Children and Young People's Plan
- Devon DAAT Strategies
- Police Strategies and Neighbourhood Policing Plans
- Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Community, Group & Station Plans
- Devon Primary Care Trust Plan
- Devon Young People's Alcohol Implementation Plan