





**Brighton & Hove  
City Council**

# Community Safety Forum

Title:	<b>Community Safety Forum</b>
Date:	<b>6 October 2014</b>
Time:	<b>4.00pm</b>
Venue	<b>Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall</b>
Members:	<b>Councillors:</b> J Kitcat (Chair), Simson (Opposition Spokesperson), Daniel (Opposition Spokesperson), Barnett, Carden, Deane, Mac Cafferty, Pidgeon, Robins and Wakefield, <b>Representatives from Communities of Interest</b>
Contact:	<b>Ross Keatley</b> Acting Democratic Services Manager 01273 291064 ross.keatley@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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## COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

The following are requested to attend the meeting:

### Representatives from Statutory Services:

Brighton & Hove Primary Care Trust	Surrey and Sussex Probation Trust
British Transport Police	Youth Offending Team
East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service	Partnership Community Safety Team

### Representatives of Local Action Teams

Bevendean	Moulsecoomb
Brighton Old Town	North Laine Community Association
Bristol Estate Community Association	Patcham
Brunswick & Adelaide	Portland Road & Clarendon
Brunswick & Regency Neighbourhood Action Group	Portslade
Central Hove	Preston Park & Fiveways
Clarendon	Queens Park
Clifton, Montpelier & Powis Community Alliance	Queens Park & Craven Vale
Coldean	Rottingdean
Coombe Road	Saunders Park Partnership
Craven Vale	Seafront
Craven Vale Community Association & LAT	St James's Street
Elm Grove	Stanmer
Goldsmid	Stanmer & Coldean
Hangleton & Knoll Community Action Forum	Tarner
Hanover & Elm Grove	West Hove Forum
Hollingbury	West Saltdean
Hollingdean	Whitehawk
Kemptown Action Group & Tarner	Whitehawk Crime Prevention Forum
London Road	Withdean
Marina	Woodingdean
Meadowview & Tenantry	

### Other Co-opted Members

Age Concern	LGBT Community Safety Forum
Area Housing Panels	Sussex Central YMCA
Brighton & Hove Community and Voluntary Sector Forum	Neighbourhood Watch
Brighton and Hove Federation of Disabled People	Older People's Council
Brighton and Hove Mediation Service	Racial Harassment Forum
Business Crime Reduction Partnership	RISE
Independent Advisory Group Sussex Police	Victim Support
Domestic Violence Forum	Young People's Centre

## AGENDA

### 15 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

- (a) **Declaration of Substitutes:** Where Councillors are unable to attend a meeting, a substitute Member from the same Political Group may attend, speak and vote in their place for that meeting.
- (b) **Declarations of Interest:**
- (a) Disclosable pecuniary interests not registered on the register of interests;
  - (b) Any other interests required to be registered under the local code;
  - (c) Any other general interest as a result of which a decision on the matter might reasonably be regarded as affecting you or a partner more than a majority of other people or businesses in the ward/s affected by the decision.

In each case, you need to declare

- (i) the item on the agenda the interest relates to;
- (ii) the nature of the interest; and
- (iii) whether it is a disclosable pecuniary interest or some other interest.

If unsure, Members should seek advice from the committee lawyer or administrator preferably before the meeting.

- (d) **Exclusion of Press and Public:** To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting when any of the following items are under consideration.

*NOTE: Any item appearing in Part 2 of the Agenda states in its heading either that it is confidential or the category under which the information disclosed in the report is exempt from disclosure and therefore not available to the public.*

*A list and description of the categories of exempt information is available for public inspection at Brighton and Hove Town Halls.*

### 16 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

1 - 8

Minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2014 (copy attached).

### 17 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

## COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

### 18 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

To consider the following matters raised by members of the public:

- (a) **Petitions:** to receive any petitions presented by members of the public to the full council or at the meeting itself;
- (b) **Written Questions:** to receive any questions submitted by the due date of 12 noon on the 29 September 2014;
- (c) **Deputations:** to receive any deputations submitted by the due date of 12 noon on the 29 September 2014.

### 19 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

To consider the following matters raised by councillors:

- (a) **Petitions:** to receive any petitions submitted to the full Council or at the meeting itself;
- (b) **Written Questions:** to consider any written questions;
- (c) **Letters:** to consider any letters;
- (d) **Notices of Motion:** to consider any Notices of Motion referred from Council or submitted directly to the Committee.

### 20 'YOU SAID, WE DID'

Update on matters arising from the previous meeting.

### 21 REPORT FROM THE POLICE & CRIME PANEL

9 - 20

Minutes from the meeting of the Sussex Police & Crime Panel held on 27 June 2014 (copy attached).

### 22 REPORT FROM EAST SUSSEX FIRE AUTHORITY

21 - 24

Minutes from the meeting of the East Sussex Fire Authority held on 2 June 2014 (copy attached).

### 23 CRIME TRENDS AND PERFORMANCE IN BRIGHTON & HOVE: POSITION UP TO AUGUST 2014

25 - 36

Report of the Head of Community Safety (copy attached).

### 24 ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014

37 - 42

Briefing from the Community Safety Manager – Peter Castleton (copy attached).

### 25 COMMUNITY SAFETY & COHESION

Presentation.

### 26 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The remaining dates for the 2014/15 municipal year:

- 2 March 2015

## COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

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The closing date for receipt of public questions and deputations for the next meeting is 12 noon on the fifth working day before the meeting.

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Meeting papers can be provided, on request, in large print, in Braille, on audio tape or on disc, or translated into any other language as requested.

For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Ross Keatley, (01273 291064, email [ross.keatley@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:ross.keatley@brighton-hove.gov.uk)) or email [democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

Date of Publication - Friday, 26 September 2014



**BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL****COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM****4.00pm 9 JUNE 2014****COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL****MINUTES**

**Present:** Councillor J Kitcat (Chair); Simson (Opposition Spokesperson), Daniel (Opposition Spokesperson), Barnett, Carden, Deane, Mac Cafferty, Robins and Wakefield

**Sussex Police:** Chief Superintendent: Nev Kemp, Inspector Gareth Davies, John Eagles (Office of the PCC)

**Statutory Services:** Mark Matthews (ESFRS)

**Communities of Interest:** Richard Barraball (London Road LAT); Ray Metcalfe (Moulsecoomb LAT); John Phillips (Tarnar LAT); Christine El-Shabba (Whitehawk Crime Prevention Forum); Mark Green (Brighton & Hove Mediation Service); Charlie Gibbs (Victim Support).

**Officers:** Linda Beanlands (Head of Community Safety); Peter Castleton (Community Safety Manager); Simon Court (Senior Lawyer); Anna Gianfrancesca (Services Manager: Youth Offending) and Ross Keatley (Acting Democratic Services Manager).

**PART ONE****1 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS****1a Declaration of Substitutes**

1.1 There were no declarations of substitutes.

**1b Declarations of Interest**

1.2 There were no declarations of the interest in matters listed on the agenda.

**1c Exclusion of the Press and Public**

1.3 In accordance with section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 ('the Act'), the Community Safety Forum considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during an item of business on the grounds that it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if

members of the press or public were present during that item, there would be disclosure to them of confidential information (as defined in section 100A(3) of the Act) or exempt information (as defined in section 100I of the Act).

- 1.4 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public are not excluded from the meeting.

## **2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

- 2.1 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the Community Safety Forum meeting held on 3 March 2014 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

## **3 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

- 3.1 The Chair stated it was recognised that there were concerns about the impact to businesses and residents of squatting in commercial premises. Peter Castleton, who led on dealing with anti-social behaviour and hate crime, was preparing protocols and putting in place new arrangements for all agencies to work together to deal effectively and quickly with commercial squats.
- 3.2 Following a review of Local Action Teams, the Council was planning to provide a higher level of support to LAT's; those arrangements were nearing completion and a LAT's meeting would be called shortly to share that information with everyone.
- 3.3 The Independent Drugs Commission had concluded its work on 19 recommendations for improved action, ranging from an increased focus on new psychoactive substances, joined up services for those with both mental health and substance misuse problems, quicker information sharing and intelligence arrangements within the criminal justice system and many other actions. The full report on progress was going to the Health & Wellbeing Board the following day and at the Safe In The City Partnership meeting the following week.
- 3.4 A compact version of the Community Safety & Crime Reduction Strategy was being prepared and will be circulated and made available on the Safe in the City website.

## **4 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

- 4.1 There were no petitions, deputations or public questions.

## **5 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT**

- 5.1 There were no petitions, written questions, letters or notices of motion from Members.

## **6 'YOU SAID, WE DID'**

- 6.1 The Forum noted the update that had been laid round for information. By way of clarification the Head of Community Safety explained to Councillor Simson that whilst 'the Bevandean' was not an alcohol free pub it had been her intention to profile it for its positive work and community use; she added that it was important the city continue to push for an alcohol free pub.



- 6.2 Councillor Daniel thanked Sussex Police for looking in her concerns in relation to Queen's Road; she noted she had undertaken a 'walkabout' and witnessed violent and threatening behaviour, but not felt reassured that Sussex Police had properly followed up her concerns.

## **7 REPORT FROM THE POLICE & CRIME PANEL**

- 7.1 It was noted there was no update for the Forum as the Panel had not met since the previous meeting.

## **8 CRIME TRENDS AND PERFORMANCE IN BRIGHTON & HOVE: POSITION UP TO MARCH 2014**

- 8.1 The Forum considered a report of the Head of Community Safety describing recent activities and progress relating to priority areas in the Brighton & Hove Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2011-14. Graphs showing monthly crime data from April 2013 to March 2014 were provided which set recent data in the context of both longer term trends and seasonal crime cycles.
- 8.2 In response to Councillor Daniel it was explained that an increase in domestic violence during the Football World Cup was statistically expected, and there was a plan in place which was similar to operation annually over the Christmas period.
- 8.3 **RESOLVED:** That the Forum note the information provided in the report.

## **9 UPDATE FROM THE BOROUGH COMMANDER ON CHANGES TO EAST SUSSEX FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES**

- 9.1 The Forum received an update from the Borough Commander, Mark Matthews, on changes to East Sussex Fire & Rescue Services. He explained that as part of savings to the service the Fire Authority had recently undertaken an integrated risk management plan. Fire coverage had been considered across East Sussex and Brighton & Hove and two key proposals had been agreed: firstly that the number of fire appliances for the city would be reduced to four from five, and secondly there would be reduction in staff at Roedean to provide a different shift pattern. These proposals had been accepted by the Fire Authority on 5 June 2014, and the reduction in appliances would commence for the 2016/17 financial year. It was noted that there were no proposals to close any fire stations.
- 9.2 In response to the Chair it was clarified that the preventative work each year amounted to over 3000 visits to vulnerable people in the community, and calls to the fire service had reduced by 50% in the last decade. It was noted that the number of Fire Safety Officers would be reduced from ten to six, but every firefighter would spend half of their shift undertaking preventative visits.
- 9.3 In response to Councillor Daniel it was explained that if all four appliances were in use in the city then the service would be able to draw on wider resources as appropriate or in the case of significant fires.

- 9.4 Councillor Simson asked how individuals were identified for the preventative homes visits, and Mr Matthews explained that there was sophisticated working with partners to identify vulnerable individuals; data on fires was also collected and fed into this activity.
- 9.5 In response to Councillor Deane it was explained that incidents where all five appliances had been needed were rare (such as large fires); however, there was resilience in the service for this type of eventuality.
- 9.6 In response to a query from one of the LAT representatives it was explained that the change in service would be kept under review; especially given the length of time before the changes were due to be implemented.
- 9.10 **RESOLVED:** That the Forum note the update from the Borough Commander.

## **10 THE NEW ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ACT**

- 10.1 The Forum received a presentation from the Community Safety Manager, Peter Castleton, in relation to the New Anti-Social Behaviour Act. It was added that, similar to previous changes, some short courses could be run for LAT members. It was also agreed that a short update could be circulated for all Councillors with the minutes.
- 10.2 Councillor Daniel noted that she welcomed the swiftness of the new measures, but she had concern in relation to misuse against vulnerable individuals. The Community Safety Manager explained that there was quite a broad interpretation and this would need to be applied effectively; there would be further detail in the guidance and this could be shared with the Forum.
- 10.3 In response to Councillor Robins the Community Safety Manager explained that anti-social behaviour complaints were often inter-household. The approach with the new legislation would focus on resolution before the point of taking legal action was reached – this was also the more cost effective approach.
- 10.4 **RESOLVED:** That the Forum note the update.

## **11 DEALING WITH BUSINESS CRIME**

- 11.1 The Forum received a presentation from Lisa Peretta from the Business Crime Partnership.
- 11.2 In response to Councillor Wakefield it was explained by Ms Peretta that there was a restorative programme, and the partnership would seek to gain appropriate information from young people committing crimes that could be passed on to case officers. It was added that taxi marshals and SIA staff were trained to assist in feeding back information appropriately.
- 11.3 In response to questions from Councillor Simson it was explained that: the majority of businesses in the partnership were smaller ones as many of the larger businesses had their own security arrangements. Smaller businesses were more likely to join for security reasons such as staff lone working. It was noted that many of the larger national stores

were part of the scheme and they would pass on incidents and help with imaging and profiling. In the city there were approximately 500 members.

- 11.4 In relation to marketing it was explained to Councillor Robins that the partnership was a not for profit organisation and therefore was limited on the amount of funds that could be used on marketing; however, much of this already came from work of mouth. There were currently some funds allocated to target growth in Hove where there were fewer members. The partnership was funded through the membership and would be able to take on more staff as the uptake demanded.
- 11.5 **RESOLVED** – That the Forum note the presentation and information provided through the questions.

## **12 SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE**

- 12.1 The Community received a report in relation to supporting young people from the Manager of the Youth Offending Service Anna Gianfrancesca.
- 12.2 In response to Councillor Carden the Service Manager explained that there were joint programmes with both East and West Sussex County Councils and ongoing liaison work.
- 12.3 In response to Councillor Daniel the Service Manager explained that the service had specialist workers from areas such as the Police, Probation Services and CAHMS; when young people came into the service with specialist requirements it was the intention that this would be dealt with in a timely manner as part of long-term planning.
- 12.4 In response to Councillor Simson it was explained that the transition during the period when an individual was no longer considered a young person was managed by the probation officer. The officer would undertake a probation assessment for the transition, and there also a planned timetable that should have been in place for this.
- 12.5 **RESOLVED:** That the Forum note the presentation and responses to questions.

## **13 MANAGEMENT OF UNAUTHORISED ENCAMPMENTS**

- 13.1 The Forum received a presentation from the Head of Tenancy Services, Rachel Chassaud in relation to the management of unauthorised encampments in the city.
- 13.2 In response to queries from Councillor Barnett the Head of Tenancy Services explained that since the partial closure of the Horsdean site it was much more difficult for the Council to use its Section 62 powers to direct to a transit site, and the groups were often larger than the available number of pitches. There were discussions with Sussex Police in relation to taking a piecemeal approach, but there were issues around splitting up family groups. In relation to anti-social behaviour it was explained that the Council were very aware of the sensitivity of this for the settled community, but it was important the Council achieve a balance and use enforcement powers proportionately – it was also added that there were contracted services that undertook clean-up work.

- 13.3 In response to Councillor Simson it was explained that there was an important distinction between ethnic travellers and van dwellers – which was considered a separate matter; there was legislation that defined which groups were legally protected. In relation to the drainage at Horsdean it was explained that the expected works were waiting on a decision from the Secretary of State before a decision could be taken in relation to the permanent works. The Chair noted that the Council had asked the Police & Crime Commissioner to lobby the Secretary of State on this matter.
- 13.4 In relation to the number of travellers that came to the city the Head of Tenancy Services explained that it was not clear why an increased number came to the city when compared with East and West Sussex County Council's; however, there was proactive work with the other local authorities and Sussex Police to look into this further.
- 13.5 In response to queries from the LAT representatives on the Forum it was explained that work was always undertaken to move groups on when they set up in community areas such as parks, and there was no easier solution to prevent travellers gaining access to parks such as Preston Park and Stanmer Park.
- 13.6 In response to further queries from the LAT representative it was explained that it was very difficult to balance the concerns of residents and the rights of the protected groups. The Chief Superintendent added that residents should be forthcoming in reporting any crimes that were committed by travellers and the decision about moving groups on would give consideration to incidents such as reported assaults. It was also added that plain clothes officers would assess sites for anti-social behaviour, but it was experienced that open dialogue was much more effective to prevent groups feeling excluded.
- 13.7 In response to Councillor Deane it was explained that the increase in the number of van dwellers could be partially attributed to the increasing number of people becoming homeless, and there was work underway to look at the housing needs of individuals who were in this situation. In relation to the promotion of communities and cultures there was close work being undertaken with 'Friends, Families and Travellers' and there was a key part of the relevant strategy to engage more with the settled community through the LATs.
- 13.8 Councillor Robins noted he had sat on the scrutiny panel looking at this area, and he felt the proactive meetings with some representatives from the local press had helped to remove some of the hysteria from the issue.
- 13.9 **RESOLVED:** That the forum note the update and the points arising from the questions.

#### **14 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

- 14.1 Forum noted the future meeting dates:
- 6 October 2014; and,
  - 2 March 2015

The meeting concluded at 6.16pm

Signed

Chairman

Dated this

day of



**Sussex Police and Crime Panel**

27 June 2014 – at a meeting of the Panel held at 10.00 a.m. at County Hall, Lewes.

Present:

Len Brown (1)	Arun DC
David Simmons	Adur DC
Liz Wakefield	Brighton and Hove CC
Geoffrey Theobald	Brighton and Hove CC
Eileen Lintill	Chichester DC
Chris Oxlade	Crawley BC
Bill Bentley	East Sussex CC
Rosalyn St Pierre	East Sussex CC
John Ungar	Eastbourne BC
Emily Westley	Hastings BC
Sue Rogers	Horsham DC
Sarah Osborne (2)	Lewes DC
Christopher Snowling	Mid Sussex DC
Robin Patten	Rother DC
Johanna Howell (3)	Wealden DC
Brad Watson	West Sussex CC
Paul Yallop (4)	Worthing BC
Graham Hill	Independent

- (1) Substitute for Paul Wotherspoon
- (2) Substitute for Andy Smith
- (3) Substitute for Claire Dowling
- (4) Substitute for Worthing vacancy

Apologies for absence were received from Paul Wotherspoon (Arun DC), Andy Smith (Lewes DC), Claire Dowling (Wealden DC) and Sandra Prail (Independent).

In attendance: Katy Bourne, Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner; Mark Streater, Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer of the Office of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner (OSPCC); John Eagles, Chief Finance Officer of the OSPCC and Ninesh Edwards and Matthew Evans (Host Authority - West Sussex CC).

**Election of Chairman**

1. The Panel proposed and seconded Brad Watson as Chairman of the Panel for the forthcoming year. The appointment was agreed by the Panel.

Resolved – that Brad Watson is elected Chairman of the Sussex Police and Crime Panel for the ensuing year.

**Election of Vice-Chairman**

2. The Panel proposed and seconded Bill Bentley as Vice-Chairman of the Panel for the forthcoming year. The appointment was agreed by the Panel.

Unconfirmed minutes – subject to amendment/confirmation at the next meeting of the Panel

Resolved – that Bill Bentley is elected Vice-Chairman of the Sussex Police and Crime Panel for the ensuing year.

### **Declarations of Interest**

3. In accordance with the code of conduct members of the Panel declared the personal interests contained in the table below. Paragraph 16 and 50 also contain declarations of interest.

<b>Panel Member</b>	<b>Personal Interest</b>
Sarah Osborne	Member of Lewes Community Safety Partnership
Brad Watson	Member of Horsham Safety Partnership
Robin Patten	Member of Rother Safety Partnership
Graham Hill	Member of Horsham Safety Partnership Senior Service Delivery Manager for Victim Support charity Member of Crawley Community Safety Partnership Board
Christopher Snowling	Member of Mid Sussex Safety Partnership
Sue Rogers	Chairman of Horsham Safety Partnership
Paul Wotherspoon	Member of Safer Arun Partnership
Eileen Lintill	Chairman of Chichester Safer Community Partnership
Chris Oxlade	Member of Crawley Community Safety Partnership
Bill Bentley	Member of East Sussex Safer Community Partnership
Dave Simmons	Chairman of Safer Communities Partnership, Adur and Worthing Chairman of Safer West Sussex Partnership
Len Brown	Member of Safer Arun Partnership
Emily Westley	Chairman of Hastings Safety Partnership
Liz Wakefield	Member of Brighton and Hove Community Safety Forum

### **Minutes**

4. The Panel noted an inaccuracy in the minutes of the last meeting; Liz Wakefield's apologies were not recorded.

5. Resolved – That subject to the correction above the minutes of the meeting of the Sussex Police and Crime Panel held on 24 January 2014 be confirmed as a correct record.

### **Review of Panel Membership and Proportionality**

6. The Panel considered a report by the Clerk to the Panel which set out the political makeup of the Panel's constituent authorities (copy appended to the signed version of the minutes). The Panel was asked to: consider the reappointment of the two independent co-opted members; consider whether the two County Councils should be invited to make one additional appointment each to address the political balance of the Panel; and agree the party political affiliation of the two additional members.

7. Resolved – that the Panel agrees:



Unconfirmed minutes – subject to amendment/confirmation at the next meeting of the Panel

- 1) To renew the appointment of the two independent co-opted members for a period of one year;
- 2) The review of proportionality and the requirement for a 20-member Panel including two additional local authority members from the County Councils for a period of a year; and
- 3) That the two additional County Council appointments should be made as follows: the additional member from West Sussex County Council should be drawn from the UKIP Group and the additional member from East Sussex County Council from the Liberal Democrat Group.

8. At 10.10 a.m. Rosalyn St Pierre took her seat on the Panel as the additional member from East Sussex County Council.

### **Public Question Time**

9. The Chairman introduced the public question time which was an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions of the Panel and the Commissioner. Eight questions had been received by the deadline (schedule of questions attached to the signed version of the minutes).

10. **Question 1** The first question received was for the Commissioner, the questioner was unable to attend the meeting and the Chairman posed the question which queried the Commissioner's expenditure on a cartoon depiction of the Police and Crime Plan and whether this represented value for money. *The Commissioner said that it did represent value for money and explained that a detailed response had been provided to the questioner in response to a freedom of information request received in May.* The Panel asked that when a question was received that the Commissioner had previously responded to, a copy of that response should be shared with the Panel.

11. **Question 2** The second question received was for the Commissioner and the questioner was in attendance to ask a question which asked what criteria the Commissioner used to grant personal meetings to residents who had written to her. *The Commissioner explained that she had no policy regarding appointments but had a comprehensive programme of community engagement to ensure that she was able to talk to residents of Sussex about the Police and Crime Plan and priorities for Sussex.* The questioner was advised to contact the Commissioner's Office if there was any further information to raise relating to earlier correspondence.

12. **Question 3** The third question received was for the Commissioner, the questioner was unable to attend. The Commissioner was asked about the enforcement of 20mph speed limits in Sussex. *The Commissioner responded to explain that the question related to operational policy of Sussex Police, acknowledged that the issue was significant to a number of residents and that she would facilitate a full response to the questioner from the Police.* The issue had been raised at a performance and accountability meeting and appropriate traffic calming was expected to be implemented in 20 mph zones to obviate the need for enforcement. The Panel explained that often the response of Sussex Police had been that a 20 mph limit was impossible to enforce and it therefore fell to the County Councils to address such issues. The Commissioner was asked for a clear policy on how speed limits would be monitored and problem areas addressed.

Unconfirmed minutes – subject to amendment/confirmation at the next meeting of the Panel

13. **Question 4** The fourth question received was for the Commissioner, the questioner was unable to attend. The Commissioner was asked about the role of Sussex Police during the anti-fracking protests at Balcombe in 2013 and the perception that it had acted in the interests of the site operator. *The Commissioner explained that the Police had to achieve a balance between allowing protest to take place whilst ensuring that the site operator was able to undertake their lawful and licensed activities. The Commissioner referred to the performance and accountability meeting in September 2013 which focused on the policing of the protests.* The Panel queried: the number of protesters charged with offences that had been acquitted; the public perception of undercover policing activities at the protests; and if any information derived from these activities had been shared with the site operator. *The Commissioner responded to explain that the arrests had been evaluated in the review conducted into the operation which was available on the Sussex Police website and that she was unable to provide detail of the sharing of information, obtained through undercover operations, with the site operator.* It was the contention of some members of the Panel that the claim in the question that fracking was unpopular with the majority of people across Sussex was not substantiated by strong evidence.

14. **Question 5** The fifth question received was for the Commissioner, the questioner was unable to attend. The Commissioner was asked for detail regarding prosecutions for speeding in 20 mph zones in Chichester and Bognor Regis. *The Commissioner confirmed that the question related to operational matters of Sussex Police but she would ensure a full response was provided to the questioner.* The Panel noted that the enforcement of 20 mph speed limits was an issue of interest to the public and clarity was required about the role of the Commissioner and how she was able to coordinate with local authorities and influence speeding issues. *The Commissioner referred to the Sussex Safer Roads Partnership and explained that she would work to ensure that the Partnership was performing effectively.*

15. **Question 6** The sixth question received was for the Commissioner, the questioner was unable to attend. The Commissioner was asked about the right to silence and self-incrimination. *The Commissioner confirmed that the question was operational and required a large amount of detail. Sussex Police would be asked to provide a response.* The Panel requested sight of the response that was sent to the questioner.

16. **Question 7** The seventh question was for the Commissioner and the questioner was in attendance to ask a question on the processing of crime statistics. *The Commissioner confirmed that the information requested was very detailed and that she would request a response from Sussex Police. A review of crime statistics and reporting was currently taking place and the results of this review would be available in October. The Commissioner had raised issues concerning crime reporting and statistics in performance and accountability meetings with the Chief Constable.* In a supplementary question the questioner asked the Commissioner to consider the introduction of a Red/Green/Amber system to report on the latest statistics relating to individual wards. *The Commissioner would pass the suggestion on.* The Panel raised concerns about the public perception of increases in crime statistics and the impact on community safety. It was felt that more information about the processing and compilation of crime figures would assist public understanding of any perceived increases. *The increase in the reporting of crime, particularly hate crime, was an objective of Sussex Police.*

Unconfirmed minutes – subject to amendment/confirmation at the next meeting of the Panel

17. **Question 8** The eighth question was for the Commissioner and the questioner was in attendance to ask a question on domestic violence strategies to support victims and witnesses. *The Commissioner confirmed that domestic violence was a key priority and that Sussex Police had achieved White Ribbon status. Work had been undertaken to seek to clarify pathways between all agencies with a responsibility in the field including the criminal justice system. Innovations in victim support included the establishment of a victim support partnership. As a supplementary question the questioner asked how strategies were raising awareness of domestic violence support and establishing access points for victims. It was acknowledged that this was a complicated area with a number of different organisations operating within domestic abuse. Victims did not necessarily have to go directly to the Police but could access support services including Worth in West Sussex, Rise in Brighton and Hove and the Refuge in East Sussex. It was recognised that these organisations were raising awareness of support available.*

### **Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual Report**

18. The Panel considered the Commissioner's Annual Report (copy appended to the signed version of the minutes) which provided details of the work of the Commissioner during 2013/14. The Commissioner introduced the report and highlighted: collaborative work with Surrey Police; the Estates Strategy; the Safer in Sussex Community Fund; the precept increase; the recruitment of additional officers; and the establishment of a Youth Commission.

19. The Panel raised the following issues with the Commissioner:

- The Commissioner was asked how she had publicised the Youth Commission in local authority areas. *The Commissioner reported that the Commission was producing very positive outcomes and that it had been publicised to schools and existing Youth Councils and Youth Cabinets in Sussex.*
- The Panel asked if serving PCSOs would be given the opportunity to apply for newly created positions produced as a result of the Commissioner's recruitment drive. *It was confirmed that PCSOs could apply for the roles and would need to pass through the selection process.*
- Details were requested of how the Safer in Sussex Community Fund was impacting on crime and disorder and methods to evaluate the effectiveness of the Fund. Street Games in Hastings was highlighted as a successful project that had produced a positive reduction in criminal activity in the area. Reassurance was requested that the funding would continue to be provided in future years. *Work was on-going with the allocation of funding and a measurement of the impact of funding initiatives would be undertaken. Assurance was sought from applicants that the projects accorded with the priorities contained in the Police and Crime Plan. The Commissioner confirmed that the funding would continue.*
- The Panel queried the collaboration that had been undertaken with Surrey Police. Residents in the North of the county close to the border with Kent often contacted Kent Police in preference to Sussex Police. It was felt that efforts to collaborate with the Kent force should be as proactive as collaboration activities with Surrey Police. *The Commissioner confirmed that operational collaboration occurred with all neighbouring forces. The five South East forces coordinated in the policing of borders to address organised crime. The work undertaken with Surrey Police was an operational and organisational collaboration.*

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- The Panel asked whether the framework to assess the success of CSPs had been effectively applied during the year. *The objective of the framework had been to ensure that partnerships were effective and that they worked collaboratively. The framework required CSPs to align with the priorities in the Police and Crime Plan and coordinate funding pots.*
- The examples of the Estates Strategy outlined in the Annual Plan referred to accommodation in West Sussex. The Commissioner was asked for examples from East Sussex. The co-location of Sussex Police in Hove Town Hall was welcomed and further information was sought on other large accommodation at Sussex House and Johns Street. *Examples in East Sussex included in Eastbourne, where the Police Station had been moved into council offices, and in Newhaven, where accommodation had been shared with the East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service. At Johns Street there was an investment programme to refurbish the building that was currently in progress; Sussex House was a leased property from Brighton and Hove City Council and discussions were on-going. Officers from Sussex House would be transferred to Johns Street and Sussex HQ.*
- Concern was expressed that a £400,000 underspend from the Sussex Safer Roads Partnership was reported in the outturn position from the last year but serious problems with speeding in rural areas of Sussex remained. The work of local Speed Watch organisations was highlighted; the reported underspend could be utilised by established and new groups. *The Commissioner was supportive of the Community Speed Watch groups and encouraged more communities to be involved in local campaigns. The Commissioner raised the performance of the Roads Policing Unit during regular meetings with the Chief Constable.*
- The recruitment exercise undertaken by the Commissioner to increase police visibility was queried particularly where vacancies on Neighbourhood Policing Teams existed. Such issues were present in Horsham and in Adur DC. Concern was expressed that neighbourhood policing teams were being involved in police response situations which detracted from the role of community policing. *The Commissioner reported that the recruitment exercise was making good progress and a response regarding the number of officers around Horsham would be requested from Sussex Police. The issue regarding neighbourhood policing teams and involvement in response situations would be raised with the Chief Constable.*

20. Eileen Lintill left the meeting at 11.19 a.m. and re-joined the meeting at 11.23 a.m.

- The Commissioner was asked about her commitment to victim support and building trust between victims and the criminal justice system. It was noted that a low level of reporting existed in rural areas. The Panel highlighted the significant work undertaken by voluntary organisations within victim support and the importance of their involvement in plans for the future provision of victim support. *The responsibility for victim services passed to the Commissioner next year. Work had been undertaken with other areas and PCCs to commission the best services. A number of local areas in the South East had collaborated to commission victim services and would be going out to tender shortly. Reporting in rural areas was a challenge particularly amongst young people.*
- The Panel also requested a rolling update on the allocation of funding under the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA). *The Commissioner confirmed that part of*

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*the Safer in Sussex Fund was provided through POCA and a breakdown was provided on the Commissioner's website.*

- The Panel queried the reported increase in Hate Crime and asked if this was the result of greater levels of reporting. A breakdown of the increase across the five strands of hate crime was requested. *The increase demonstrated an increase in the level of reporting which was welcomed. A breakdown would be provided.*
- Recent press reports of absconded prisoners from Ford Prison were raised and if any details or figures concerning the issue could be circulated to reassure residents that the issue was not as serious as portrayed in the media. Furthermore it was asked if the Chief Constable was consulted about the type of prisoner located within Sussex prisons. *The Assistant Chief Constable had met the Governor of Ford Prison along with a representative of the Ministry of Justice. There would be a response from the Chief Constable to the query concerning prisoners allocated to Sussex Prisons. The issues affecting Ford Prison would be raised at the Sussex Criminal Justice Board which contained representation from the Sussex Prisons.*
- The impact of Heritable Bank and the lack of returns on investments due to risk aversion following the 2008 financial crisis.

21. It was requested that rather than merely note the Commissioner's Annual Report the Panel should support or acknowledge and accept the report.

22. Resolved – that the Panel notes and accepts the Commissioner's Annual Report and agrees to write to the Commissioner to outline the comments made.

23. Sarah Osborne and Rosalyn St Pierre left the meeting at 11.47 a.m.

### **Sussex Police Contact Management Arrangements**

24. The Panel considered a report by the Police and Crime Commissioner which provided an update on the call handling rate on the 101 non-emergency phone line, an issue raised at the June 2013 annual meeting. Mr Streater introduced the report and explained that problems with the call-handling rates had arisen as a result of the introduction of the Niche system. The system would realise significant savings for Sussex Police and after the initial problems improvements to call-handling had been achieved.

25. Sarah Osborne and Rosalyn St Pierre re-joined the meeting at 11.51 a.m.

26. The Panel raised those points below in the discussion that followed:

- It was understood that the Commissioner had challenged the Chief Constable on the call-handling performance of the 101 phone line but there were still problems as experienced by members of the Panel. The Panel felt that problems had been on-going for a year and asked whether the system was fit for purpose. Rapid improvements to the service were required.
- Concerns were also raised regarding the call out response times to non-emergency calls. *Statistics relating to call out times received a high level of public satisfaction but the Commissioner would raise the issue with the Chief Constable.*

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27. Sue Rogers left the meeting at 11.56 a.m.

28. The Panel continued to consider issues relating to call-handling, below:

- A briefing note had been submitted by the member of the public who had originally raised the issue at the previous annual meeting. It was agreed that this should be circulated to the Panel and that a further report in October should provide an update on progress with the issue. *The Commissioner requested that she raise the issue with the Chief Constable. It was suggested that the Panel could undertake a visit of the call centre.*

29. Sue Rogers re-joined the meeting and Chris Oxlade left the meeting at 12.00noon. Liz Wakefield left the meeting at 12.05 p.m.

30. Resolved – the report was noted and it was agreed that the Panel would undertake a visit to the call centre.

31. Liz Wakefield re-joined the meeting at 12.10 p.m. and Joanna Howell and Graham Hill left the meeting.

### **Annual Report from the Host Authority**

32. The Panel considered the annual report from the Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel (copy appended to the signed copy of the minutes) which provided the annual budget report setting out the costs of the operation of the Panel over the course of the last year. In addition the report asked the Panel to agree the continuation of West Sussex County Council as the Host Authority and minor changes to its constitution. The report also asked the Panel to agree the work plan for 2014/15 and note the change to the mileage rate for expenses which had reduced to 46.9p per mile.

33. Johanna Howell and Graham Hill re-joined the meeting at 12.14 p.m.

34. Members of the Panel who did not wish to continue receiving paper copies of the agenda were asked to express their preference to the host authority.

35. Resolved – that the Panel:

1. Notes the budget outturn for costs relating to the administration of the Panel in 2013/14;
2. Agrees that West Sussex continues as the host authority;
3. Agrees the changes to the Panel's constitution as outlined in Section 5 of the report;
4. Agrees the work plan for 2014/15; and
5. Notes the new mileage rate of 46.9 p per mile.

### **Quarterly Report of Complaints**

36. The Panel received and noted a report from the Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel which provided an update on the complaints received by the Panel since the previous meeting (copy appended to the signed version of the minutes).

### **Commissioner's Question Time**

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37. The Commissioner was asked about officer vacancies, the perceived reduction in the number of PCSOs in Horsham and forms of transport available to Horsham officers. *It was confirmed that there had been no reduction in the number of PCSOs. Funding had been allocated for the recruitment of officers and no reduction in the number of PCSOs was planned. The Commissioner would ask Sussex Police to comment on the deployment of PCSOs in Horsham and transport available.*

38. The Panel raised the importance of community policing. Local policing knowledge and intelligence was of great importance particularly in terms of cross-border working and collaboration between local forces. Greater resource needed to be concentrated on the border between Sussex and Kent, in collaboration with Kent Police, which was a burglary escape route. *The Commissioner would raise the issue with the Chief Constable.*

39. The success of alcohol initiatives in Hastings as a Local Alcohol Action Area (LAAA) was raised by the Panel and reassurance was sought that funding would be on-going for the project. *The Commissioner supported the project which was one of 20 LAAAs and welcomed the close working relationship between police officers and officers from Hastings BC.*

40. Speeding on rural roads was a significant issue for residents in Sussex and in West Sussex there had been consideration of a 40 mph limit on all rural roads. *The Commissioner emphasised the role of CSPs to help define local priorities which could include rural speeding.*

### **Verbal report of visit to Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel**

41. The Panel received and noted a verbal update from Eileen Lintill on her visit to a meeting of the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel to witness arrangements and ways of working at other PCPs. The Panel was informed of the following issues relating to the meeting of the Thames Valley PCP:

- At the meeting attended only 7 members of the Thames Valley Panel were present out of a possible 20;
- The meeting was not webcast, no members of the public were in attendance. It was the intention of the Panel to encourage greater public attendance;
- The Panel had themed meetings which took place twice a year to scrutinise specific topics from the Police and Crime Plan;
- The Panel also considered the integrity of crime data compiled by the Thames Valley Police Force;
- There was a facility for questions to be submitted by Panel Members in advance of the meeting to be answered by the Commissioner;
- The work programme considered by the Panel included a Task and Finish Group which would focus on partnership arrangements between the Commissioner and other local agencies;
- There was a greater amount of data relating to performance measures from priorities contained in the Police and Crime Plan that was considered at meeting of the Panel;
- The Panel received presentations from members of local CSPs;
- The Panel was looking to introduce a facility for public questions;
- The venue for the meeting rotated around the area; and

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- The Panel has an informal pre-meeting before each formal meeting.

42. John Ungar left the meeting at 12.35 p.m.

### **Appointments to Working Groups**

43. The Panel considered appointments to the vacancies on the Police and Crime Plan working group and the Victims' Services working group following the changes to the membership of the Panel.

44. John Ungar returned to the meeting at 12.39 p.m.

45. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman were ex-officio members of the Police and Crime Plan working group and there was one remaining vacancy for a member from an East Sussex District or Borough Council. More information on the functions of the working group was sought by the Panel before a volunteer committed to the group's membership.

46. There were two vacancies on the Victims' Services Working Group and Liz Wakefield volunteered to fill one of the vacancies. A volunteer for the remaining vacancy would be sought after the meeting.

47. Resolved – That Liz Wakefield is appointed to the Victim Services Working Group.

48. The Panel agreed an adjournment at 12.45 p.m. Emily Westley, Graham Hill and Chris Oxlade left the meeting at 12.45 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 1.35 p.m.

### **Procedure to be followed at Confirmation Hearings**

49. The Panel received and noted the procedure to be followed at confirmation hearings of the Panel (copy appended to the signed version of the minutes).

### **Declarations of Interest**

50. Members of the Panel declared the following personal interests ahead of the confirmation hearing;

- Bill Bentley declared a personal interest in the confirmation hearing relating to the Chief Finance Officer. The candidate was known to Mr Bentley when he worked for East Sussex County Council; and
- Geoffrey Theobald declared a personal interest in the confirmation hearing for the Chief Constable. Mr Theobald had been a member of the Police Authority when the candidate, Giles York, had been appointed to Sussex Police.

### **Confirmation Hearing for Chief Constable**

51. The Panel considered a report by the Police and Crime Commissioner concerning the proposed appointment of the Chief Constable of Sussex Police. The Commissioner introduced the candidate, Giles York, and informed the Panel of the



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selection process to make the proposed appointment. The candidate answered questions on the following topics:

- Equalities and the involvement of minority groups in community policing;
- Improving service delivery in uncertain and austere times;
- Effective control of undercover officers;
- The use of Tasers and firearms;
- How to involve CSPs, local partners and the public in policing;
- How to ensure all staff are performing to the required standard;
- Funding cuts and impacts on policing;
- Working with forces from bordering areas; and
- Advising the Commissioner against an unwise act.

52. The Panel agreed an adjournment at 2.20 p.m. and Geoffrey Theobald left the meeting. The meeting reconvened at 2.24 p.m.

### **Confirmation Hearing for Chief Finance Officer**

53. The Panel considered a report by the Police and Crime Commissioner concerning the proposed appointment of the Chief Finance Officer of the Office of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner. The Chief Executive of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner introduced the candidate, Carl Rushbridge, and explained the selection process to make the proposed appointment. The candidate answered questions on the following topics:

- Building relationships with key external partners;
- Treasury management and acceptable investment risks;
- Areas of limited personal skills and experience;
- Examples of challenging the accepted wisdom of an organisation;
- Advising the Commissioner against an unwise act; and
- Coping with opposition to proposed changes.

54. The Panel thanked John Eagles, the departing Chief Finance Officer for his assistance and wished him well in the future.

### **Exclusion of Press and Public**

55. Resolved – That under Section 100(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I, of Schedule 12A, of the Act by virtue of the paragraph specified under the item and that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption of that information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information

### **Determination of recommendations to the Police and Crime Commissioner**

Exempt: paragraph 1, Information about individuals

56. The Panel considered the appointments of the proposed Chief Constable of Sussex Police and Chief Finance Officer of the Office of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner and agreed to recommend that the proposed candidates were

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appointed. The Panel was content that the professional competence and personal independence of the candidates had been established.

Chairman

**EAST SUSSEX FIRE AUTHORITY**

**Report of a meeting of the East Sussex Fire Authority held at Fire & Rescue Service Headquarters at 10.30 hours on Thursday 5 June 2014.**

**Present:** Councillors Barnes, Buchanan, Butler, Carden, Earl, Galley, Hawtree, Howson, Lambert, MacCafferty, Peltzer Dunn, Pragnell, Powell, Scott, Sheppard, Taylor, Theobald and Wincott.

**1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

1.1 The Fire Authority, having regard to the procedures governing the election of the Chairman, appointed Councillor Howson as its Chairman for the ensuing year.

**2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

2.1 The Fire Authority, having regard to the procedures governing the election of the Vice-Chair, appointed Councillor Lambert as its Vice-Chair for the ensuing year.

**3. POLITICAL REPRESENTATION ON THE PANELS OF THE FIRE AUTHORITY**

3.1 The Fire Authority has considered the political balance on Panels and Members have resolved that:

- i. the Panel arrangements and political representation, as set out below, be confirmed;
- ii. the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Panels be appointed by the Panels in accordance with Standing Order 41.14; and
- iii. it be noted that a report will be submitted to the Scrutiny & Audit Panel on 11 July 2014, following a request to each Political Group to make any changes to current nominations to these posts; and

**Based upon political proportions for 2014/15**

	<b>TOTAL</b>	
Appointments	6	2 Cons, 1 LDem, 1 Green, 1Lab, 1 UKIP
Scrutiny & Audit *	8	3 Cons, 1 LDem, 1 Green, 2 Lab, 1 UKIP
Policy & Resources	8	3 Cons, 1 LDem, 2 Green, 1 Lab, 1 UKIP
Human Resources	6	3 Cons, 1 Lab, 1 Green, 1 LDem
Urgency	6	3 Cons, 1 UKIP, 1 Green, 1Lab
* informal protocol – up to 3 P&R Members to serve on S&A Panel		

(The total number of seats = 34, divided 14:6:6:4:4 on the basis of the 2014/15 political balance).

4. **INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN (IRMP) REVIEW OF PREVENTION, PROTECTION AND RESPONSE – CONSULTATION OUTCOMES AND WAY FORWARD**

- 4.1 The Fire Authority considered a report of the Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive that informed the Fire Authority of the consultation responses to the proposals following the review of Prevention, Protection and Response and sought determination on the proposals.

Members were reminded of the approach they had approved for the 10 week public consultation which had been carried out by the Service's Communications Team and Opinion Research Services (ORS). The approach taken included:

- Publication of the review and all supporting documents on the Service web site.
- Online questionnaire
- Various Service Brief publications inviting staff to consult on the review
- Presentations to watches by the Corporate Management Team
- Emails/letters to over 500 local Councillors, businesses, stakeholders and community groups inviting them to view and consult on the review online and/or to attend the stakeholder forums, including a reminder one month before the end of the consultation
- A follow up e-mail/letter to parish and town councils reminding them of the stakeholder forum arrangements
- 2 staff forums conducted by ORS
- 3 Public forums conducted by ORS
- 2 stakeholder forums conducted by ORS
- 5 public roadshows conducted by the ESFRS Communications Team and supported by the Corporate Management Team.
- Extensive media campaign throughout the consultation period which included radio, TV and press coverage.
- Social media, e.g. Facebook and Twitter.

Phase 2 of the outcomes of the Review of Prevention, Protection and Response which were proposals developed in order to meet the funding gap and consequential savings target of £7.1m, as identified within the Medium Term Financial Plan for the period 2014/15 – 2018/19. Members had a full discussion regarding the proposals and the subsequent implications on service delivery should the proposals be adopted.

Members resolved that having fully considered the outcomes of the consultation and engagement process, including three petitions presented to the Fire Authority, which were noted and taken into consideration in determining proposals for future service provision within East Sussex and the City of Brighton & Hove, the following proposals be approved:

- i. the removal of one firefighting appliance from the City, leaving 4 wholetime pumps, crewed 24 hours a day and the provision of additional community safety officers in the City of Brighton & Hove to help offset the loss of the firefighting appliance;
- ii. the removal of the retained appliance at The Ridge and the associated

- establishment, the savings from which to be used to support the provision of sufficient crewing of the wholetime appliance at Battle on weekends utilising Retained Duty System staff;
- iii. the introduction of Day Crewed Plus at Roedean and The Ridge Fire Station.
  - iv. the Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive be authorised to take all steps necessary or incidental to the implementation of the proposals.

**COUNCILLOR PHILIP HOWSON**  
**CHAIRMAN OF EAST SUSSEX FIRE AUTHORITY**  
3 July 2014



**Report to Community Safety Forum – 6<sup>th</sup> October 2014****Subject: Crime trends and performance in  
Brighton & Hove: Position up to August 2014**

**Contact Officer:** Name: *Ruth Condon* Tel: **29-1103**  
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**Wards Affected:** All

**1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 This report describes recent activities and progress relating to priority areas in the Brighton & Hove Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy. It also provides statistical updates for key crime groups for 2014/15 to date, ie. the five months from April to August 2014.
- 1.2 Graphs showing monthly crime data from April 2010 to August 2014 are also provided. These set recent data in the context of both longer term trends and also seasonal crime cycles (where applicable).

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- (1) The Community Safety Forum notes the information provided in this report and is invited to:
  - i) Feedback on any developments from their community or organisation's experience which may help the understanding and interpretation of the data and trends contained in this report.
  - ii) Consider the potential for supporting crime reduction and community safety priorities within their own organisation or local community.

**3. INFORMATION:****Total police recorded crime**

- 3.1 Following an 8% decline in total crimes in 2013/14, the first five months have seen a further small decrease (down 1.1%) in police recorded total crimes compared with the same months in 2013/14.
- 3.2 There have been changes to police recording of violent crimes introduced in 2014/15 so that they are being recorded more extensively. This has had an effect on some of the types of crime reported here, including injury violence, domestic violence and hate crimes, as well contributing to the number of total crimes recorded. An explanatory note from Sussex Police is provided at the end of this report.

### **Neighbourhoods and quality of life**

- 3.3 There has been a long term decline in the number of criminal damage offences recorded by the police and numbers have continued to drop in the first five months of 2014/15, falling by a further 7%.
- 3.4 Following a 7% increase in non-accidental fires recorded by the fire service in 2013/14, the first five months of 2014/15 are showing a 17% decline compared with the same months in 2013/14.
- 3.5 Work has been undertaken at various locations across the city making improvements to neighbourhoods. The Community Safety Projects Team has worked extensively in the retail and residential areas around George Street & Haddington Street in conjunction with local businesses and the residential and faith communities in the area. Physical improvements, funding for resources and equipment and modernising projects have been features of the work in the area. Funding via the EU CAFTA (Communities and Families Tackling Addiction) project means that much of this work is being undertaken at little or no cost to local capital budgets. Shared learning with European partners has helped to involve many local stakeholders in progressing these improvements. Work to improve the physical areas around the recycling centre has already commenced and plans to convert this space into a seating area for local traders are being discussed. A large art mural project is at the design stage. Influenced by the London Road Portas Pilot, as well as by projects undertaken by international partners, this is designed to significantly improve a space long-associated with substance misuse and a lack of feeling safe reported by the community. Another part of this work involves partnership work between the council, the police, Equinox outreach service and the religious organisations in the area at tackling drinking in churchyards. New signage, again funded through the CAFTA project, was made available to assist the police and church staff to police the area authoritatively.

### **Drugs Misuse**

- 3.6 Interim local data on the number of drug-related deaths for 2014 shows that there were 16 deaths between January and July, comparing favourably with the number recorded during 2013.
- 3.7 Test purchasing undertaken across all of the city's 'headshops' did not find any controlled drugs from the 13 substances tested.
- 3.8 A multi-agency drug litter steering group is working on improving the monitoring of, and response to, litter associated with illicit drug use. Examples of initiatives include work with pharmacies on better needle packaging and with cleaners on safety awareness training. The Needle Exchange service at St George's Place has achieved on several occasions its target of receiving back, as used needles, at least 85% of the number of clean needles handed out.

### **Alcohol Misuse and Alcohol-related Disorder**

- 3.9 There has been a downward trend in alcohol-related hospital admissions since October 2011. Numbers recorded in 2013/14 were 8% lower than in 2012/13 and show a further decline of 8% in the first three months of 2014/15 compared with the same months in 2013/14.
- 3.10 Crimes of injury violence in 2013/14 were 8% fewer than in 2012/13. At the beginning of 2014/15 changes to police recording of violent crimes were introduced so that they are now being recorded more extensively (see note at the end of this report for more details). This has had an effect on some of the types of statistics in



this report including injury violence, domestic violence and hate incidents, as well as on total crime. As a consequence, the first five months of 2014/15 has seen a 52% increase in police recorded injury violence crimes compared with the same months of 2013/14.

- 3.11 The Community Safety Projects Teams is piloting a litter pick project aimed at reducing the impact of street drinking on the Pavilion Gardens. This involves outreach workers, council officers, PCSOs and members of the street community (involving those both prior to and already in treatment for substance misuse), providing a visible community service.
- 3.12 The report of the scrutiny panel on alcohol (2014) made a recommendation that events organised by the city council should not be automatically alcohol based and that there should be more consideration given to providing a wider range of non/ low-alcohol drinks to encourage people to explore alternatives to alcohol. This has been taken up by the head of sport and leisure and it has been agreed that this year's sport and physical activity awards will, for the first time, be alcohol-free. Representatives from the alcohol programme board will lead on this work and will identify other events which could follow suit in order to effect a positive culture change.
- 3.13 The University of Brighton have signed up to a new NUS behaviour change initiative aiming to promote a responsible drinking culture on campuses across the UK. They are one of only seven universities to be accepted and if good progress is made, this may lead to an accreditation mark to signal their commitment to responsible drinking.

#### **Anti-Social Behaviour and Hate Incidents**

- 3.14 In 2013/14 there were 11% fewer incidents of anti-social behaviour recorded by the police than in 2012/13 and the number has continued to drop in the first five months of 2014/15.
- 3.15 The dedicated duty line for reporting anti-social behaviour and hate incidents/crimes has been running since May 2012 (01273 292735 or [communitysafety.casework@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:communitysafety.casework@brighton-hove.gov.uk)). In 2013/14 there were 635 calls in total to the duty line. In the first three months of 2014/15 there were 147 contacts: 86 relating to ASB; 19 to race, 4 to disability, 5 to sexual orientation, 0 to religion, 1 to gender identity and 32 others. Over this same period there were 35 new cases for the Casework Team.
- 3.16 Managers responsible for reducing ASB have developed local guidance for the New ASB Act. This is being disseminated and briefed to officers. Briefing is also now available to communities, LATs and interested third parties.
- 3.17 As mentioned earlier and evidenced by the graphs and data table at the back of this report, because a significant proportion of hate incidents and crimes come under the police recording category of violence, the changes to police recording is having the effect of raising the numbers recorded. In the first five months of 2014/15 there were 139 racist, 29 religiously motivated, 59 homophobic, 9 transphobic, and 14 disability-motivated incidents or crimes recorded by the police.
- 3.18 A successful engagement model to manage the March for England event has been built and implemented over the last two years to minimise the impact of the march in the city. This included briefing meetings, information sharing (web and soft copies), messaging, updates on the day of the march and debrief. For the first time three community members attended the police Silver Command Control Room as real time

observers and provided positive feedback on the police operation. This model has been positively evaluated by the communities and partners.

- 3.19 In August the Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre raised the national threat level in the UK to 'severe' (meaning that an attack is likely and ranking 4 on a scale of 5), the level having been 'substantial' (3) since July 2011. The change is mainly due to developments in Syria and Iraq and possible risks posed by UK nationals and European returnees from conflict zones. We are working closely with police Prevent colleagues and the community to reduce risks to individuals and to the city.
- 3.20 Increased concerns around hate incidents (both anti-Muslim and anti-Semitic) and a recurrence of anti-Islamic graffiti have been seen, thought to be a reflection of international conflicts in Syria and now between Israel/Palestine.
- 3.21 The second Trans Pride took place without concern, with the LGBT Officer and ASB Team present and engaging with the large Trans turnout. Increased awareness within the Trans community is leading to higher reporting of transphobic incidents and crimes. The Community Trigger in the new ASB Act is extended to cover Hate Incidents, and this will allow communities to address persistent perpetrator behaviour.
- 3.22 Following the recommendations from the scrutiny on bullying in schools, the anti-bullying and Equality Steering Group has developed an information leaflet for parent and carers that is being launched in the new academic year.

#### **Children, Young People and Families**

- 3.23 There were 84 young people aged 10-17 entering the criminal justice system for the first time in 2013/14. There have been 12 first time entrants in first three months of 2014/15, which represents a good start to the year. Improved links between the police and the youth offending service will enable targeted and diversionary interventions at an earlier stage to prevent the escalation of offending and entering the criminal justice service. Young people who become entrenched offenders tend to start offending at a young age and present with multiple, long standing risk factors. Earlier identification and focusing resources on these young people may improve outcomes for them in the longer term.
- 3.24 The Public Health Schools Programme has begun issuing schools-based health data profiles and seeks to provide interventions via a whole school community approach to health and wellbeing. There are plans for better use to be made of social media.
- 3.25 42.2% of the young people who offended in the 12 months up to Sep 2012 went on to reoffend in the following 12 months, compared with 35.5% nationally. The number of re-offences was also higher. The 'Reaching Your Potential' YMCA project works with young offenders prior to and after their release from secure institutions to address the barriers they face when leaving institutions. The project creates bespoke plans for the individual young people ready for their release in a way that most supports them to get back on their feet. The project has new criteria so that 13-14 year olds can now also be worked with.

### **Reducing Offending**

- 3.26 The 4.5% decrease in acquisitive crimes (incl. theft/handling, burglary and robbery) achieved in 2013/14 has continued into 2014/15 with the first five months of 2014/15 down 17% compared with the same months of 2013/14. The number of domestic burglaries in the first five months of 2014/15 is 19% lower than the number recorded in the same months of 2013/14 and vehicle crimes are 26% lower.
- 3.27 There are significant ongoing changes to the way in which offender services are being managed within Brighton & Hove, as nationally, in response to the government's Transforming Rehabilitation programme. Surrey and Sussex Probation Trust closed on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2014 and from the 1<sup>st</sup> June was replaced by two organisations – the National Probation Service, and the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC). Both will remain in public ownership until the KSSCRC is subject to share sale later in the year. The CRC will manage the bulk of offender services including those in the Integrated Offender Management scheme.
- 3.28 An IOM Strategic Plan and an IOM Practitioners Handbook have been signed off by the Sussex Criminal Justice Board and these lay out the structure of the new working arrangements. Governance arrangements for Sussex will sit with the Sussex Criminal Justice Board (Chair: Katy Bourne, Police and Crime Commissioner) and locally with the Brighton and Hove Reducing Offending Board (Chair: Supt Steve Whitton) who will oversee partnership work, manage strategic plans and commissioning, and monitor performance.

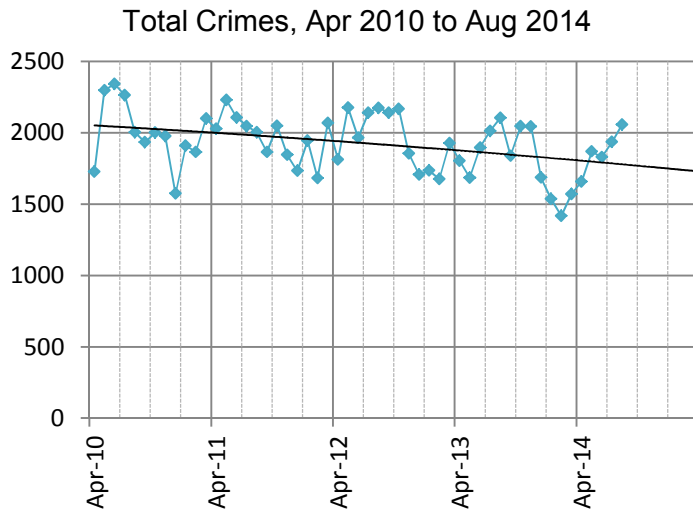
### **Violence against Women & Girls, Exploitation and Modern Slavery**

- 3.29 In 2013/14 there were 3,668 domestic violence crimes and incidents (1,075 of which were crimes and 2,593 were incidents) recorded on the police crime database. Steps to ensure police recording of violent crimes is being done more extensively (referred to earlier in this report) means that numbers recorded in 2014/15 have increased by 23% in the first five months of 2013/14 compared with the same months in 2013/14. In common with the recording of domestic and other violent offences, sexual offences have also increased in the first five months of 2014/15 – up by 25%.
- 3.30 The numbers of finalised prosecutions for domestic violence, as well as those resulting in a conviction, increased in 2013/14 compared with 2012/13 and the success rate of 73% is slightly below the national average. In the first three months of 2014/15 a 72% successful prosecution rate was achieved.
- 3.31 East Sussex and Brighton & Hove have agreed in principle to develop joint commissioning for Violence against Women & Girls specialist services. This would mean that Independent Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence Adviser functions will operate across the two local authority areas. A specification for these services is being developed and it is expected that the newly commissioned services will be in place from October 2015.
- 3.32 Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), as well as other harmful traditional practices, is high on the national agenda. A Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust-led FGM group is leading on updating clinical guidance, which has enabled the identification of a number of immediate issues. This complements the Local Safeguarding Children Board and Violence against Women & Girls Programme Board resource pack developed earlier this year.
- 3.33 There are good partnership systems in place to identify children and young people at risk of child sexual exploitation, share information, and carry out risk assessment. The risks are managed by the Vulnerable Children Liaison Group and social work

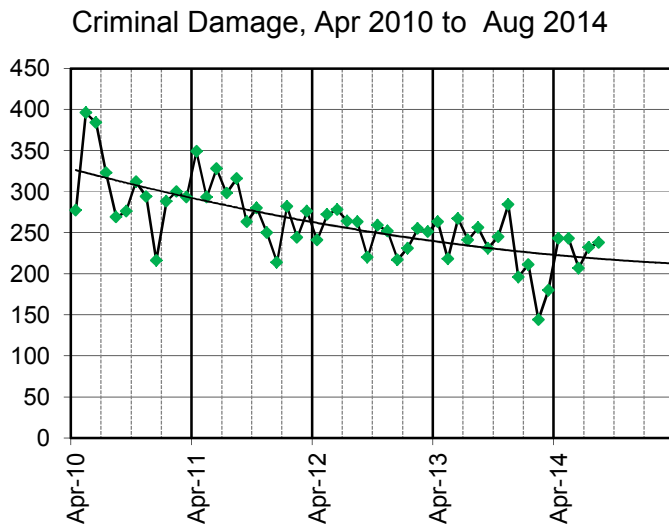
care plans. A further review of these arrangements is being carried out and a full report will be submitted to a future meeting of the Community Safety Forum.

- 3.34 The draft Modern Slavery Bill will be making its way through parliament over the coming months. There will be a renewed focus on victim care. A local partnership of key agencies and council departments is ensuring that our victim care arrangements are improved and that the reporting of the signs of modern slavery is increased.

### Crime trends up to August 2014 (monthly data)<sup>1</sup>



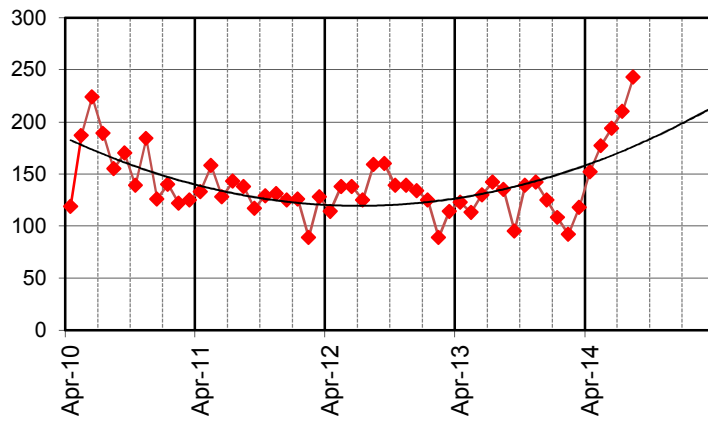
3.34 The number of crimes recorded by the police continues to demonstrate a seasonal pattern with higher numbers the summer than the winter months. Following an exceptionally low number at the end of 2013/14, there has been a steady rise since Apr 2014, although changes to police recording (see below) may be contributing to the extent of the rise.



3.35 The long term downward trend in criminal damage continues. Feb and Mar 2014 experienced particularly low numbers, but since Apr numbers have resumed a more typical level.

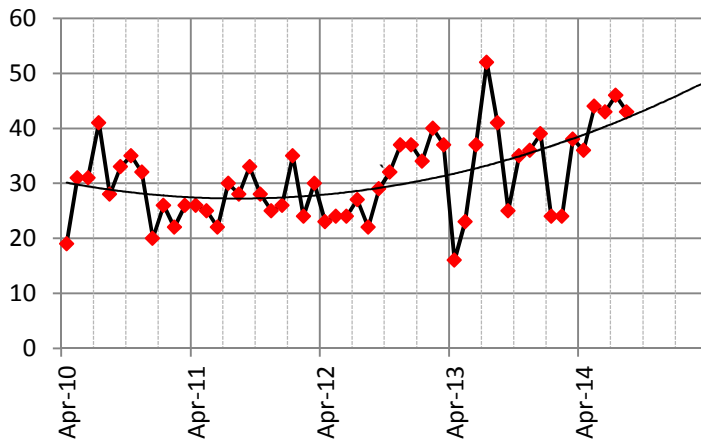
<sup>1</sup> Trend lines are based on the best fitting 2<sup>nd</sup> order polynomial curve

All Injury Violence  
Apr 2010 to Aug 2014



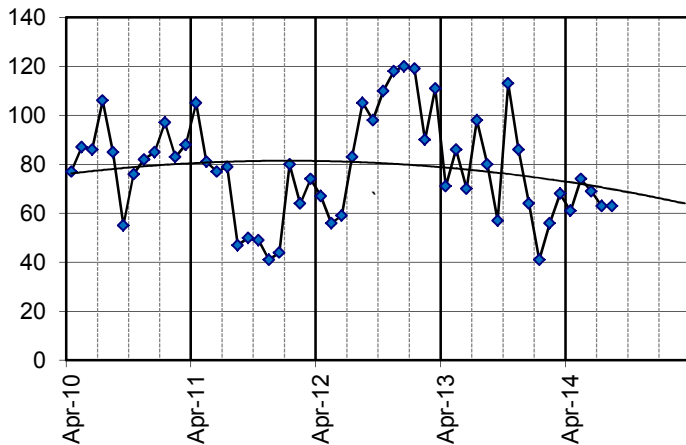
3.36 The long term trend up to the end of Mar 2014 was downwards. Although a seasonal increase would be anticipated in the summer months, there have been changes to police recording since Apr which is resulting in a steep increase in numbers (further information provided at the end of this report).

Sexual Offences,  
Apr 2010 to Aug 2014



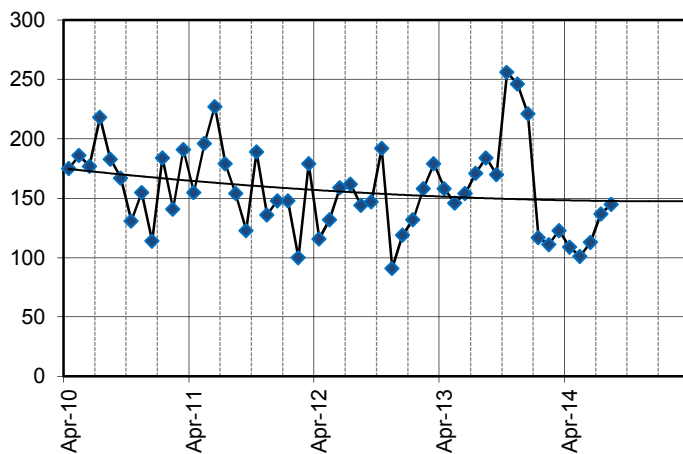
3.37 Delayed data entry at the beginning of 2013/14 and changes in police recording at the beginning of 2014/15 (as for violent crimes above) have meant that trends in the graph do not necessarily reflect the actual occurrence of crimes.

Domestic Burglary, Apr 2010 to Aug 2014



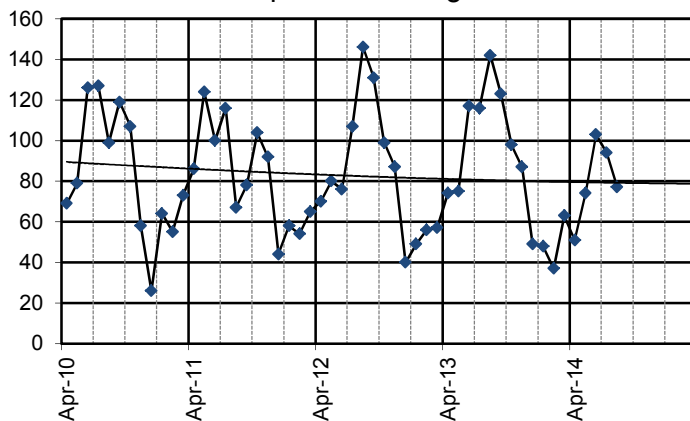
3.38 The number of domestic burglaries has broadly been declining since a peak in the winter of 2012/13 and numbers have been relatively stable since Apr 2014 at between 60 and 80.

Vehicle Crime, Apr 2010 to Aug 2014



3.39 The number of vehicle crimes have generally been on a long term decline. A spike between Oct and Dec 2013 was observed, reflecting a sharp rise in thefts from motor vehicles, but numbers since then have resumed a relatively low level.

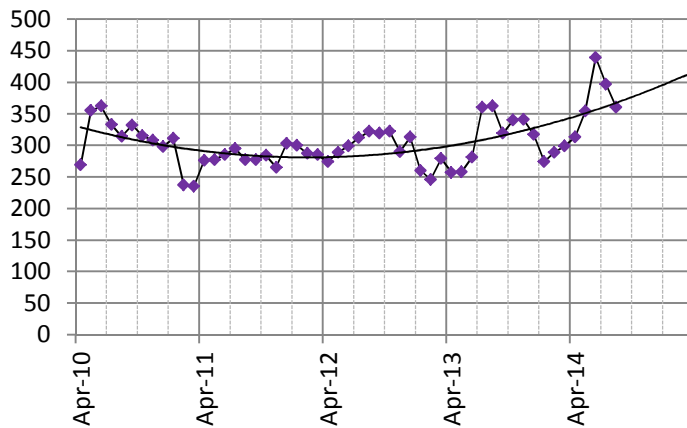
Theft of a Pedal Cycle, Apr 2010 to Aug 2014



3.40 A strong seasonal pattern in cycle thefts continues and is linked to those months when more people tend to cycle. The rise during the summer of 2014 has been less than in previous years.

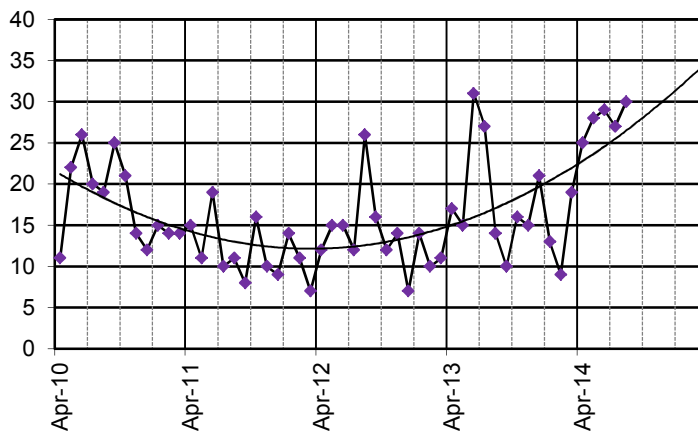
Police crime data presented in this report only reflect those crimes which are reported and recorded. There is likely to be a level of underreporting in many crime types. However, domestic violence and the hate crimes on this page may be particularly liable to underreporting.

Domestic Violence Crimes & Incidents,  
Apr 2010 - Aug 2014



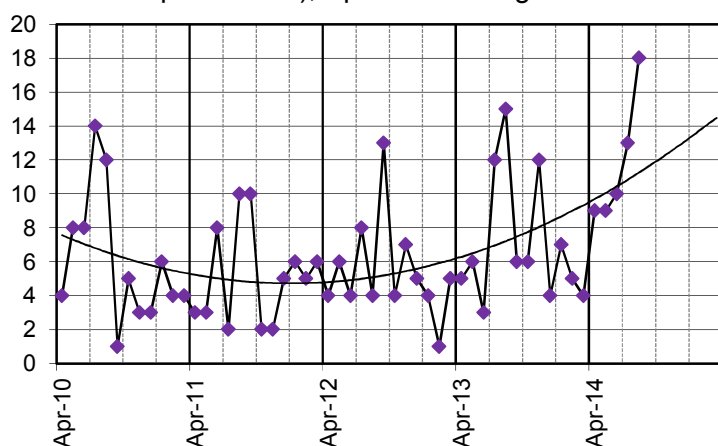
3.41 As mentioned earlier in the report, police recorded violent crimes since Apr have been subject to more robust recording processes and this has affected the recording of domestic violence and hate crimes which are all showing a notable increase in recent months.

Racist Crimes and Incidents  
(police data), Apr 2010 to Aug 2014



See above

Homophobic Crimes & Incidents  
 police data), Apr 2010 to Aug 2014



See above

### Crime statistics 2014/15: position at end August 2014

	number of crimes Apr-Aug 2013	number of crimes Apr-Aug 2014	rank within 15 benchmarked CSPs <sup>2</sup>
<b>Police recorded crimes</b>			
<b>Total Crimes</b>	<b>9501</b>	<b>9349</b>	<b>10</b>
Criminal Damage	1245	1163	12
Injury Violence	643	976	10
Sexual Offences	169	212	n/a <sup>3</sup>
Domestic Burglary	405	330	4
Theft from/of a Motor Vehicle	813	605	4
Theft and handling (excl. motor vehicle theft)	4854	4131	13
Pedal Cycle Theft	524	399	7

<sup>2</sup> Brighton & Hove is matched for comparative purposes with 14 other Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) according to a range of socio-demographic and geographic variables. A rank of 1 is the best; 15 is the worst; 8 is the middle position. Data reflect the ranking for the most recent three month period.

<sup>3</sup> Because sexual offences, DV and hate crimes are subject to underreporting and local work is being undertaken to increase reporting of these crimes, it is not appropriate to judge performance in comparison with other Community Safety Partnerships based on the number of police recorded crimes.



<b>Police recorded crimes and crime-related incidents</b>			
Domestic Violence Crimes and Incidents <sup>4</sup>	1518	1863	n/a
Racist Crimes and Incidents	104	139	n/a
Religiously-motivated Crimes & Incidents	14	29	
Homophobic Crimes and Incidents	41	59	n/a
Transphobic Crimes and Incidents	8	9	n/a
Disability Hate Crimes and Incidents	11	14	n/a

### **Note from Sussex Police on violent crime data in 2014/15**

Overall we've seen a reduction in the number of violent incidents in the City. However the number of recorded crimes has shown an increase. This is because of work which has been done across Sussex and for all forces nationally to ensure that all crimes are accurately and correctly recorded and that incidents are correctly classified. This is a statistical trend replicated across Sussex and the country.

The City is not becoming a more dangerous place. Compared with the same period last year, we have solved more violent crime within the City – this means we've caught and brought more people to justice. However, percentages show a reduction in our solved rate due to this increased recording of violent crime.

The highest increases in recording have been of minor injury assaults, many of which occur during the night time economy where victims are sometimes reluctant to provide details to the police. These types of incidents are now being accurately recorded.

In addition, the number of calls which we've received in relation to violent crime has shown a significant drop (of approximately 17%). This is a strong indication that the rise is due to better recording and more offenders being brought to justice.

Sussex Police is doing all it can to protect vulnerable victims, bring offenders to justice and keep the public safe. The increase in recorded crimes means that we are able to give victims the support they need, and have trust and confidence in our service when they report a crime to us.

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<sup>4</sup> This includes incidents where the victim is of any age, not just 16 and over as in the national definition, so will be a slight overestimate.



<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>6 October 2014</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Linda Beanlands</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Peter Castleton</b>	<b>Tel: 01273 292607</b>
	<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:peter.castleton@brighton-hove.gov.uk">peter.castleton@brighton-hove.gov.uk</a>	
<b>Ward(s) affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		

**FOR GENERAL RELEASE****1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to outline new powers contained in the Anti-social Behaviour Policing and Crime Act 2014 and local arrangements to ensure effective implementation

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 That the contents of this report are understood and the local arrangements acknowledged.

**3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 The new Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act comes in to force on the 20th of October 2014 following a number of amendments to the draft Bill first published in 2012. The Act repeals 19 existing powers in relation to ASB and reduces them to seven broad ranging powers. The Act and the accompanying guidance firmly put the victim at the heart of responses to ASB and aim to give professionals the flexibility they need to deal with varying situations.

- 3.2 Part six of the Act and Part one of the Guidance focus on putting victims first giving victims a say through the Community Trigger and Community Remedy. Brighton and Hove trialled the Community Trigger on behalf of the Home Office. This has proved to be advantageous for a number of reasons:

- providing an opportunity to shape primary legislation and guidance around the Trigger and other parts of the Act
- enabling officers locally to consider implications early regarding implementation
- enabling officers to lead countywide and ensure common practices

Outlined here are the relevant sections of the Act and how they may be used locally.

### **3.3 Community Trigger**

The Community Trigger enables victims who feel they have not received an adequate response to ASB to call for a review of their case. The Community Trigger can also be activated by a third party with the victims consent. To activate the Trigger victims will need to evidence that they have reported three separate incidents in the last six months and no action has been taken. Within three working days an officer will confirm whether the threshold is met and within ten working days from confirmation a case review will be conducted and recommendations made as necessary to progress the case in consultation with the victim. A flier informing victims how they can use the Community Trigger is appended.

### **3.4 Community Remedy**

The Community Remedy gives victims a say in the resolution of ASB incidents that are below the criminal threshold. They will be able to choose from a range of remedies. The Police and Crime Commissioner is currently reviewing options following consultation on a range of punitive, reparative or rehabilitative actions that would be considered appropriate. Interesting suggestions so far have included perpetrators apologising for their behaviour via social media.

### **3.5 Civil Injunctions**

These replace the anti-social behaviour order and reduce the burden of proof from a criminal to a civil standard that is 'on the balance of probabilities'. Injunctions are intended to stop a person's ASB escalating and set a clear standard of behaviour. They can include prohibitions and positive requirements and apply to perpetrators aged 10 or over.

When positive requirements are made and perpetrators are required to engage with services capacity needs to be ensured. Evidence will be gathered using existing processes for consideration of enforcement and will be overseen by the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Meeting (MARAT).

### **3.6 Criminal behaviour order**

Replace and are very similar to crime related anti-social behaviour orders. They enable a court to tackle ASB and are applied following a conviction for a criminal offence they can include prohibitions and positive requirements. Our existing processes will be reinforced with closer liaison with the Crown Prosecution Service. When positive requirements are made and perpetrators are required to engage with services capacity needs to be ensured.

### **3.7 Dispersal power**

This enables the police to remove a person from a specific locality for up to 48 hours if authorised by an inspector or above where there is ASB or the likelihood of ASB. Locally authorisation may be escalated to a superintendent.

### **3.8 Community protection notice**

A notice to stop persistent ASB by an individual, organisation or business. It can include requirements to stop or do things or to take steps to avoid further ASB. This could be used for noise disturbance that can't be dealt with under the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Following a warning notice perpetrators will be summonsed, the process will be overseen by MARAT to ensure a sound rational.

### **3.9 Public spaces protection order**

This is an order designed to protect public spaces from persistently anti-social individuals or groups and can include reasonable restrictions and requirements. For example this will eventually replace the existing Designated Public Protection Order which enables alcohol to be confiscated from those behaving or likely to behave in an anti-social manner where refusal can result in arrest.

Following a warning notice perpetrators will be summonsed, the process will be overseen by MARAT to ensure a sound rational.

### **3.10 Closure powers**

Makes provision for premises to be closed for up to 48 hours out of court via a notice or up to 6 months via the court. This can be used in relation to licensed premises or residential premises and is similar to the previously existing closure powers. Locally this is likely to require authorisation from a superintendent for licensed premises and a superintendent and a senior council officer for residential premises. This is to ensure the power is used proportionately.

### **3.11 Absolute ground for possession**

A power which offers protection and faster relief for victims by quickly evicting the most anti-social tenants where the tenant, a household member, or a person visiting has been convicted of a serious offence or has breached certain ASB interventions. This is most likely to be used to regain possession of premises that have been used for drug dealing.



# The Community Trigger – when and how to use it

**The Brighton & Hove Community Safety Partnership, which includes the police, the council and registered housing providers, works together to tackle anti-social behaviour and hate incidents.**

This leaflet explains what you can do if you believe that action has not been taken to tackle anti-social behaviour or hate incidents you have reported.

The Community Trigger is a process you can use to ask agencies to review their response to anti-social behaviour or hate incidents you have reported.

You can use the Community Trigger if you have reported three separate incidents within the past six months to the police, the council or your housing provider. You can activate the Community Trigger on behalf of someone else if you have their written consent.

You will need to fill out a form detailing the case – please go to **[www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/communitiytrigger](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/communitiytrigger)**. You can also request a paper version of the form to be sent you by calling **01273 292735**.

The Community Trigger is designed to ensure that there is a review where cases have been reported and no action has been taken. It is not a complaints procedure.

If your case meets these criteria you will be notified within three working days. Your case will be reviewed and recommendations may be made as to how the case can progress. This will be reported to you within ten working days.

**Safe in the city**

Brighton & Hove Community Safety Partnership



**Brighton & Hove  
City Council**

