

West Kent Partnership Meeting
10am, Friday 14 July 2006, Kings Hill Conference Centre

AGENDA

1. Minutes/Matters Arising
 - AIF
 - Bid appraisal – Ssky Project
 - Consultation response – Kent Prospects
2. Presentation – ‘Towards 2010’ – Nick Chard (Paper A)
3. Co-ordinator's report (Paper B)
 - Financial Report
 - Conference
 - Bid Appraisal
4. Annual Community plan and CDRP updates
 - Tunbridge Wells Borough Council CDRP(Paper C)
 - Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council CDRP(Paper D)
 - Sevenoaks District Council Community Plan and CDRP (Papers E &F)
5. Presentation – Kent Agreement and new structures Kent wide – Richard Spoerry
6. Sub group updates
 - Business Development (Paper G)
 - Learning and Skills (Paper H to follow)
 - Adult
 - 14-19
 - Housing (Paper I)
 - Transport (Paper J)
 - Health (Paper K – separate Choosing Health attachment)
7. Any other business
8. Dates of next meetings
 - 27 September – 9.30 start, The River Centre, Tonbridge - conference
 - Friday 20 October 2005 – 10am Kings Hill Conference Centre
 - Thursday 18 January 2007
 - Thursday 26 April 2007
 - Thursday 19 July 2007
 - Thursday 25 October 2007 (note this replaces 18 Oct)

Paper A

Kent County Council's Leader, Paul Carter, has launched KCC's new strategic statement, entitled "Towards 2010". The Strategy is now out for consultation with partners and stakeholders.

All the current information about "Towards 2010" is now on KCC's web site at:

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/priorities-policies-and-plans/priorities-and-plans/targets.htm>

From there, you can download a copy of the "Towards 2010" statement of priorities, and can make comments directly to Paul Carter.

"Towards 2010" is the successor to the KCC Administration's "The Next 4 Years" strategy, launched in 2002.

Following the consultation process, some detailed statements of targets will be published in the autumn, setting out plans to achieve the "Towards 2010" targets.

Paper B – Co-ordinator’s Report

WKP Financial Report - July 06

	2003/4 Actual	2004/5 Actual	2005/6 Actual	2006/7 Projected	TOTAL
Income	50000	55000	55000	55000	215000
b/f previous year		36211	40806	41671	
Resource available	50000	91211	95806	96671	
Expenditure					
overhead (co-ordinator + marketing)	2429	22955	30456	30700	86540
Projects	11360	27450	23679	65971	128460
Total spend	13789	50405	54135	96671	215000
Net income carried forward	36211	40806	41671	0	
Analysis of Projects					
Key Worker	11360				11360
WKCVS post		6250	18750		25000
Priority Communities		7000			7000
Safety in Action		4600			4600
Volunteering England		9600			9600
AIF review			4929		4929
Ssky Project				10000	10000
TOTAL allocated	11360	27450	23679	10000	72489
2006/7 project funding available				55971	
External Funding (SEEDA)					
Home based businesses Project		25000			
Destination Management System		25000			

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN WEST KENT AND PUBLIC SECTOR 'MARKETPLACE'

**Morning Conference and Meet the Buyers Event, The River Centre, Tonbridge,
Wednesday 27 September 2006**

8.00	Market Place Opens	
9.30	Conference Starts/Introduction	Mark Worrall
9.40	Business and the Community	Volunteer Centres (Mandy Wynne) and AXA-PPP
10.05	West Kent For New Business	Locate in Kent
10.30	Youth and Enterprise	Roger House
10.55	Coffee	
11.10	Making the most of Kent's Growth Areas	Paul Carter
11.35	2012 Opportunities	Stephanie Holt, Kent 2012 Manager
12.00	Winning Public Sector Contracts	DTI – Ian Williams, Head of Procurement Policy, Small Business Service
12.25	Leisure and Tourism – The Business Benefits	The Hop Farm – Brent Pollard
12.50	Close, Buffet lunch, networking and Market Place	Mark Worrall

Market Place - Meet Your Public Sector Buyers

Each key public sector organisation to attend and each provide a 'market place' stand and buying officer. Two sessions to be held. Early start session at 8am to 9.30am and 1pm to 3pm. Businesses have the opportunity to meet buyers from public sector organisations and learn about contracts, and goods and services required. Should include KCC, Districts, PCT and other local Health Trusts, Kent Police, Kent Fire and Rescue, Housing Associations, Utility Companies, Business Link, LSE, University of Greenwich, West Kent College, Mid Kent College

Delegates

- WKP partners
- Businesses
- Business Support organisations (BLK, FSB and Chambers will advertise on websites and send out invitations)
- Public sector – including GOSE, SEEDA, SEERA, Environment agency, DTI,
- Other – including Deputy Lieutenants, Tourism organisations

Estimated Cost - £7,500

- | | |
|--------------------------|------|
| • Venue and AV equipment | 2500 |
| • Catering 200 people | 3000 |
| • Marketing materials | 2000 |

Role of WKP Partners

- all are hosts
- all bring at least 2 business guests and aim for 5, will be given 20 invitations

TUNBRIDGE WELLS COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Paper C

ANNUAL REPORT (2005 – 2006)

This report outlines the work of Tunbridge Wells Community Safety Partnership during 2005 – 2006. It is based on the year 1 action plans linked to the 2005 – 2008 Tunbridge Wells Community Safety Audit and Strategy and reflects the work and achievements of the eight sub-groups of the partnership.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Progress

Over 80% of those on the ASB list have shown an improvement in behaviour within 6 months. An ASB database has been developed in order to facilitate and enhance the work of the ASB sub-group and ASB co-ordinator. A multi-agency group has been formed to support work with Identified Prolific and other Priority Offenders, i.e. those who commit a significant proportion of the crime which blights the lives of communities.

Plans

There will be increased work with communities in order to engage with them in reducing the impact of ASB and hence improve quality of life for residents.

ASB is a key focus for the partnership and a number of other initiatives support this work:

- In addition to a Racial Incident Reporting Line (*new number awaited*), there is also a Homophobic Incident Reporting Line (0800 328 9167) operating free, 24 hours a day.
- The partnership has produced an Anti-social Behaviour information leaflet and a leaflet on Mini-motos.
- The approach to ASB is strengthened by the deployment of 7 KCC Community Wardens, 2 KCC Rural Police Community Support Officers, 3 Safety Partnership/ TWBC Police Community Support Officers, 3 TWBC Street Scene Enforcement Officers and a TWBC Graffiti Hit Squad.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Progress

Transition work in targeted schools has led to improved school attendance and a reduction in the risk of young people being excluded from schools. The launch of the Power Project, a multi-agency initiative engaging with young people at risk of offending, has also contributed to a reduction in the likelihood of young people entering the Criminal Justice System.

Plans

The group is working to increase the availability of activities and services for young people. The aim is to support vulnerable young people and divert at risk youngsters from crime and anti-social behaviour.

DOMESTIC ABUSE

Progress

3 Freedom programmes supporting victims of Domestic Abuse have run in Tunbridge Wells. We have achieved our target of having under 33% repeat victimisation.

Year 2

We intend to appoint a DA Co-ordinator to support victims and potential victims, including children. Additional funding will increase the availability of Tiers 1 and 2 mental health services.

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

Progress

There have been 30 police operations in West Kent linked to drugs and alcohol, involving 217 searches and 59 arrests. These operations have focused on housing estates, railways, licensed premises and schools. The Wealden Centre opened and has dealt with 35 clients from Tunbridge Wells. 9 people have already completed the programme successfully, with others still in treatment.

Plans

An outreach worker is now in place to work in Tunbridge Wells town centre. The partnership is also funding an Alcohol Intervention Support Programme and peer counselling in secondary schools via the Cascade programme. An Alcohol Control Zone will be in place in the town centre by June 2006.

PRIORITY NEIGHBOURHOODS

Progress

Operation Cubit Plus was undertaken in the Summervale Road area of Ramslye and has resulted in a significant reduction in fly tipping on and around the railway embankment. High Weald Housing's Neighbourhood Day in October provided an excellent opportunity for residents to make their views known on what should be done to improve their neighbourhood. Primary schools in Ramslye and Broadwater Down are running successful Breakfast Clubs. A pre-school nursery has started in the Number One Centre.

Plans

Work has commenced to enhance the environment around the Number One Community Centre. The work will respond to the results of the health Needs Assessment in the area. The sub-group intends to consider other neighbourhoods which might require a more focused approach to community safety issues.

RURAL

Progress

The partnership has undertaken a range of projects to support older and vulnerable residents and reduce the likelihood of them becoming victims of distraction burglars and rogue traders. A No Cold Calling Zone has been set up in Cranbrook and a Nominated Neighbour scheme is in operation in a number of areas. ‘Trickster – The Musical’ was performed in Pembury and Cranbrook in March. A Gardening scheme is being piloted in Cranbrook, involving Social Services Learning Disability group in helping older residents signalling their vulnerability to criminals and commens.

Year 2

The group now incorporates the work of the Rural sub-group of the Children’s Consortium and is focusing on the provision of activities and services for young people and families. Work will continue to set up a Rural Safe Town Partnership.

SHERWOOD

Progress

The development of the “Children’s Centre” linked to Sherwood Park Primary School is well underway and there has already been a range of work with targeted children and families. The bike track on the Doorstep Green in Oak Road has opened and is being well used.

Plans

Agreement has now been reached on plans for the new Community Centre in Greggswood Road and work will continue, through the Community Trust, to ensure services and activities meet the needs of residents.

TOWN CENTRE AND PUBWATCH

Progress

Membership of the Safe Town Partnership now stands at 110 and 30 licensed premises are now involved in Pubwatch. The partnership has achieved the Safer Socialising Award and has appointed a night-time co-ordinator.

Plan

Safe Town will work to meet the standard for the Safer Business Award which is due for renewal in May 2006. Safer Socialising Awards will be rolled out in town centre licensed premises.

CRIME FIGURES

The work of Tunbridge Wells Community Safety Partnership and its sub-groups has contributed to the fact that, whilst many parts of the county are experiencing difficulties in keeping crime and disorder figures down, British Crime Survey comparator crimes in Tunbridge Wells rose by only 0.3% between February 2005 and February 2006. BCS comparator crimes include Theft of a Motor vehicle (up by 0.3%); Criminal Damage (down by 4.1%); Common Assault (down by 6.7%), and Robbery (no change). Distraction Burglary was down from 78 reported crimes to 32, a fall of 59%. Whilst Theft from a Motor Vehicle (up 5.4%) and Domestic Burglary (up 5.9%) cause the partnership concern, it should be noted that the figures for these are low (588 and 378 respectively) when compared to other parts of the county.

The partnership's website is in the process of being updated and can be found at www.twells.communitysafety.org.uk

PAPER D + ANNEXES 1 & 2 AS SEPARATE EMAIL ATTACHMENTS

TONBRIDGE & MALLING CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP

26 June 2006

END OF YEAR REPORT 2005/6

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 The year 2005/6 represented, for the CDRP, the first year of a new three year strategy aimed at tackling and reducing crime and disorder and its affects in the Borough. The Partnership also faced the demands of new Government initiatives such as the Identified Priority and Prolific Offenders (IPPO) scheme and the introduction of the Local Area Agreement (Kent Agreement).
- 1.1.2 The lengthy process in undertaking an audit, consulting, preparing and adopting the new strategy was concluded early in 2005/6 and it was officially launched at an event at the Angel Centre in July 2005. The basis of the Local Area Agreement for Kent was in place for the beginning of 2005/6, but the detailed arrangements relating to the allocation of funding to CDRPs, the agreement of outcomes for each Block, the setting of targets and arrangements for performance monitoring took several months to finalise. The result was the Kent Agreement, which was implemented in 2006. CDRPs therefore are required to have regard to the targets and outcomes contained in the Kent Agreement as well as local issues when determining their priorities, targets and outcomes.
- 1.1.3 The adoption of the Government's IPPO scheme, the establishment of interventions and targets as well as the demanding monitoring regime placed significant burdens on the CDRP. Significant progress was, however, made during the year and the CDRP has now established the Power Project approach, which was first established in Sevenoaks, to provide a means of taking measures to divert potential offenders away from crime. Indeed a joint management board to administer the project has been created involving the Sevenoaks, Tunbridge Wells and Tonbridge and Malling CDRPs. Tasking Groups involving the Police, the Youth Offending Service, Probation Service, Social Services, the Borough Council and others meet regularly to discuss and agree action relating to IPPOs.

1.2 Crime Levels

- 1.2.1 The statistics relating to recorded crime in the Borough by ward for the year 2005/6 are detailed in Annex 1. For comparison purposes the figures for 2003/4 and 2004/5 are also shown. The statistics for all the Kent CDRP areas for 2005/6 are detailed in Annex 2 from which it will be noted that in terms of overall crime levels the Borough is placed 11th out of 13 i.e. the third lowest. In terms of crimes per head of population the Borough has the lowest in the county i.e. 70 per 1000 population, which is a half of the highest.
- 1.2.2 In analysing the figures for the Borough it can be seen that the principal growth in terms of type of crime relate to criminal damage, vehicle crime and violence against the person. Criminal damage and violent crime show an increase across the whole county and Kent Police directly and through partnership work with CDRPs are bringing forward measures to tackle these two categories of crime in particular.
- 1.2.3 There are several reasons for the increases in criminal damage and violent crime, which have been identified through studies undertaken in the county and in recent workshop sessions attended by representatives of all CDRPs in the county. These include an upsurge in the reporting of incidents by the public, the increase in neighbourhood policing and an increase in the types of incidents now recorded, but previously unrecorded. Recent figures published by the Police would also suggest that violent crime has increased since the introduction of the new licensing laws. Kent Police are particularly devoting resources to addressing violent crime and criminal damage, together with CDRPs in the county.
- 1.2.4 Vehicle crime has also increased and is a concern, particularly theft from vehicles. A principal reason for the increase in theft from vehicles across the country is the increase in satellite navigation systems now installed in vehicles, which are targets for thieves.
- 1.2.5 It should, however, be noted that the number of burglaries of dwellings reduced in 2005/6 to 356, which represents less than one a day and the number of burglaries other than dwellings reduced to 607, which were reductions of 22 and 67, respectively.

1.3 CDRP Initiatives Delivered in 2005/6

- 1.3.1 The CDRP's Action Plan for 2005/6 contained 83 actions/projects in support of its Strategy for 2005/8. I have therefore selected some of the more significant ones to mention in this report, which aimed at addressing the strategic priorities identified within the Strategy.
- 1.3.2 (a) Criminal Damage

The Police undertook a problem profile of criminal damage, which identified that a high percentage of incidents of criminal damage related to damage to vehicles. This fact together with the increase in vehicle crime led Maidstone and Malling Police to launch a Vehicle Watch initiative, which offers advice to vehicle owners about precautions to be taken to protect their vehicles and their contents. Owners participating in the scheme register their vehicles with the Police and they are stopped by the Police if seen on the road during certain hours. The initiative is proving popular with vehicle owners, therefore it is intended to extend it to the whole borough.

(b) Offences Against the Person

One of the main offences in the violent crime category was domestic violence and the number of reported cases increased again in 2005/6. This was partly due to the encouragement by a number of agencies for victims to report incidents and the establishment of support services offered to victims and their families. The number of victims using the Women's Support Service in the borough increased also. The increased reporting contributed to the overall increase in violent crime.

Distraction burglary and the extortion of vulnerable elderly people is an offence, which although not particularly prevalent in the borough, is distasteful when it does occur, therefore the CDRP supported the delivery of presentations of a musical called 'Trickster' to over 500 elderly people in the borough. The production warned of the dangers and advised on precautionary measures to be taken to avoid being a victim.

(c) Substance Misuse

The educational initiatives to warn young people of the dangers of substance misuse continued to be delivered during the year. These included Theatre ADAD presentations to primary school children, SNAP music events at Larkfield Leisure Centre (4 events each attended by 850 young people were held). Training has also been delivered to a number of school staff to enable them to identify, deal with issues and where appropriate involve relevant agencies. The Drug Intensive Support Programme (DISP), which accepts referrals of young people who are becoming involved in drug abuse, operated successfully in the borough.

The Police undertook a variety of high profile and successful operations aimed at disrupting drug dealers and their networks in through the borough and in adjoining areas. The use of the Ion Track detection

equipment, mobile CCTV and ANPR equipment purchased by the CDRP proved invaluable to the success of these operations. Operations were intelligence led and often focussed on known locations and premises for drug dealing. A number of arrests for possession and dealing in drugs were made during these operations. The Pubwatch scheme was extended across the borough and a number of individuals were banned from entry to pubs.

The first Alcohol Control Area in the borough was established in September 2005 in the centre of Snodland. Reports suggest that it has proved a success as on-street drinking in the town centre and resultant anti-social behaviour has ceased. A full report on the outcome of the initiative will be submitted to the Board at its next meeting.

The Wealden Centre in Tonbridge, which houses support and rehabilitation services is operated by Kenward Trust, KCA and South West Kent PCT, opened during the year and is running day recovery programmes, which are already operating at near full capacity.

(d) Environmental Crime

The Police, Fire Service and Borough Council, together with other agencies have undertaken operations aimed at catching fly-tippers. These operations have been linked to the Cubit and Cubit Plus initiatives, which have also been run in the borough, targeting abandoned and unlicensed vehicles, as well as the removal and prevention of dumped rubbish.

A multi-agency action plan containing measures to holistically tackle graffiti has been developed and the Council has adopted a draft graffiti removal policy for piloting during 2006/7.

(e) Anti-Social Behaviour

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) continued to require attention from a number of the partner agencies in the CDRP. The work to investigate cases and resolve them was co-ordinated by the Anti-Social Behaviour Officer located within the Borough Council's Crime Reduction Unit. The liaison between the agencies required to successfully address the problems strengthened even further during the year. Warnings were issued to individuals about their behaviour and 8 Acceptable Behaviour Agreements were issued. None progressed to the stage of applying for Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs).

Much of the work undertaken aims to cease the behaviour of individuals and this involves actions being undertaken by the Police, housing associations, social services, education and other agencies.

The mediation service was also used on occasions to assist when dealing with offenders and victims. Russet Homes appointed its own Anti-Social Behaviour Officer for the first time and this officer works very closely with the Council's officer.

The Police made ASB Dispersal Orders to increase their powers to act to control ASB in specific locations. The most impactful of these was in Borough Green and Wrotham, which together with other measures brought about an improvement of the situation. The deployment of mobile CCTV cameras purchased and controlled by the Council has helped deter, prevent and detect ASB in a number of instances. The ASB Officer also established links into the IPPO scheme and latterly the Power Project. Many of the individuals within the IPPO scheme are perpetrators of ASB.

The growth in neighbourhood policing involving neighbourhood policing officers, PCSOs and Community Wardens had a significant impact in tackling ASB and other crimes. The networks involving these officers and officers from the various agencies were consolidated during the year. The local knowledge of these neighbourhood officers is proving invaluable in tackling ASB. PCSOs and Wardens took an active part in assisting agencies tackle a number of issues and engaging with local communities.

The new licensing arrangements came into effect during the year and the agencies are aware of the potential of using the new legislation to control activities and nuisance caused at and in the vicinity of licensed premises. Working relationships have been established between police officers and the Council's licensing officers so that any problems experienced are considered when considering licence applications or at other times.

Russet Homes developed a more proactive approach to addressing ASB on their estates in the borough, including measures to introduce greater security for local communities, they entered into a partnership with the Tonbridge Citizens Advice Bureau to provide financial advice to its tenants and West Kent Mediation Service to provide mediation in neighbour disputes.

(f) Young People

The provision of activities, advice and guidance for young people involving virtually every agency in the CDRP continued. These were delivered through initiatives such as the Council's Activate programme, the Y2 Crew Summer Scheme, educational programmes in schools delivered by the Police and Fire Service, Youth & Community's work in

clubs and detached work across the borough and many other church and voluntary organisations.

Young People's achievements and community service were rewarded through the annual Try Angle awards organised by KCC Youth & Community Service and supported by the Borough Council. The presentation evening for Tonbridge and Malling and Maidstone was held at Ditton Community Centre.

(g) East Malling Focus Area

Work in the focus area of East Malling continued through the year with the newly appointed community development worker making great strides in engaging with the community and acting as a link between the various agencies and the community. She also delivered or enabled the delivery of many services to all ages of the community. The deployment of a Community Warden also assisted with this process and a good working relationship was established between these two officers, local youth workers, educational welfare officers and neighbourhood police officers.

1.4 Conclusions

- 1.4.1 The CDRP commenced the process of implementing the aims and objectives of the new three year Strategy for addressing crime and disorder in the borough in 2005/6. It also successfully implemented new challenges imposed by central government in relation to the IPPO scheme and the Local Area Agreement. It therefore proved to be a year of change and transition. It did not, however, become distracted from delivering many initiatives aimed at tackling a range of issues. The recorded crime statistics are disappointing in some respects, although good in others, but the categories where increases have occurred are not unique to this borough.
- 1.4.2 2006/7 will also be a year of change and challenges for the CDRP and it is re-structuring to put itself into the best position to meet the challenges. It is developing a more focussed and target driven Action Plan for the year, which will be monitored more closely than before.

Paper E Sevenoaks District Community Plan (separate email attachment)

Paper F

SEVENOAKS DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

2005-2006 PROGRESS

- 1 There are 75 projects in the 2005-08 Community Safety Strategy & Action Plan and Partners provide detailed monitoring information to the SDCSP at the end of each quarter. A summary end of year monitoring report is available on the SDC website www.sevenoaks.gov.uk. 93% of the projects were on target at the end of 2005/6, the first year of the three year Action Plan.
- 2 Additionally, the SDCSP monitors a number of high level success measures which also contribute to Community Plan objectives and Local Area Agreement targets. 84% of these are green..

Progress against Crime Targets

- 3 During 2005/06, Sevenoaks District had the second lowest number of crimes per head of population in the County with 0.072 crimes per head of population. This compares with the highest rate in the County of 0.13 crimes per head of population and the lowest rate at 0.070. However, in common with other districts in Kent, Sevenoaks District experienced an overall increase in crime during the year.
- 4 Despite an overall increase, the District had the fewest crimes in the County in the categories of criminal damage, drug offences, robbery, sexual offences and violence against the person.
- 5 Increases in burglary and vehicle crime have centred around high value property where vehicles, plasma screens, GPS systems and jewellery have been taken. Following significant police activity and a number of arrests, it is anticipated that burglary and vehicle crime will now be on a downward trend and are being closely monitored.
- 6 Increases in violent crime are below county increases. This category includes domestic violence where an increase in reporting has been encouraged. It also includes activity around the night time economy which is a priority for the Partnership and where the Partnership's new drugs and alcohol strategy is intended to have a positive effect.
- 7 Criminal damage continues to be a problem across the County. This is a sporadic crime, often without any discernible trend and one of the most difficult to prevent. Sevenoaks District had the lowest number of crimes in this category in the County and this may reflect work that has been done to address anti-social behaviour which is often associated with criminal damage.

8 The above crime types are priorities for both the police and the Community Safety Partnership and an improvement plan concentrating on these crime types has been put in place.

9. Successes for the Sevenoaks District Community Safety Partnership

- Lynden Way in Swanley, had an area of land which had been used for fly tipping and riding of mini moto's, causing ASB to residents in the area. Working with partner agencies including NKP and KF&RS a gate has now been ordered and an agreement has been signed by the land owner.
- 6 residents of Sevenoaks Districts were nominated by the Partnership for the Taking A Stand Awards against Anti-Social Behaviour. 5 of these nominations were successful resulting in winning £1000 each for community projects.
- Successful Launch week in June with all multi-agency partners taking part including an opening day at Boon Park, Drug Rehabilitation Centre, Bike Marking Open Day at Riverhead, Graffiti Clean ups in Swanley & Sevenoaks. Media invited to meet and greet Partners and CCTV Control Room. This launch week ended up covering over 20 newspaper articles and radio interviews District wide.
- Alcohol & Drug Strategy has been completed.
- 16 wardens and PCSOs on patrol in the District.
- Achieved the Safer Socialising Award in November 2005.
- Probation Service have cleaned over 150 areas affected by Graffiti.
- Referred 85 older people to the Handy Van scheme so they can benefit from security improvements to their home.
- Over 200 young people have received Fire Awareness Training.
- Published clear information on Mini Moto's, Anti-Social Behaviour and work of the Community Safety Partnership.
- There have been 412 young people engaged through the Young Person Development Worker, managed by South West Kent PCT and externally funded by the Community Safety Partnership. There have also been 10 sessions at Bradbourne School discussing topics such as stopping smoking.
- Meridian (ITV) interviewing Cllr Fleming and filming Grimebuster about reducing fear of crime in Sevenoaks.

- Shed alarms, timer switches, safe cans and personal alarms were sent to all PCSO's & KCC Community Wardens to deliver to vulnerable people in the District.
- The use of external funding from the Home Office has enabled the Partnership to employ dedicated workers on drugs enforcement and support to young people, the Power Project, anti-social behaviour and small environmental improvements aimed at reducing crime. It has also enabled the District Council to co-ordinate many one off crime reduction projects and the 8 Task Groups through which the Partnership tackles particular types of crime and its focus areas.
- The Anti-Social Behaviour Task Group, which brings together workers from many agencies are able to have an impact on individual cases of anti-social behaviour through the use of warning letters, acceptable behaviour agreements, other positive interventions and Anti-Social Behaviour Orders.
- The use of CCTV linking to schemes such as the Safer Shopping Initiative, Pubwatch and Shopsafe.
- Operation Cubit which has helped to deal with the problem of abandoned and untaxed vehicles which, at the beginning of the three year period, were presenting a real problem. Cubit has encouraged responsible car ownership and, by involving all of the agencies with powers in this area, eased the regulatory framework within which agencies have to operate.
- Work with voluntary agencies, for example voluntary youth groups, organisations working with young parents and families, e.g. Spring House and Space, the West Kent Independent Mediation Service, Age Concern, the Crime Prevention Panel and Neighbourhood Watch.
- Work through Task Groups which actively involves local key workers, local people, youth workers, health visitors and many others to work on particular problems in focus areas.
- The 8-12s project in Swanley.
- The Power Project, an innovative Sevenoaks District Community Safety Partnership initiative responding to the Sevenoaks PSA which aims to reduce the number of young people entering the Youth Justice System. The project is already being rolled out to other community safety partnership areas.
- Various press release to keep residents informed, and reduce the fear of crime with positive stories.

Paper G

Business Development sub group

At a meeting on 5 July the group discussed its future remit.

- Responsible for Strategic Objective 3 in AIF – *Sustain and Strengthen the local Economy* in the revised West Kent AIF
- Identify other projects which impact with the business community and promote sustainable growth for the West Kent economy
- Link as appropriate to the work of other sub groups of the WKP – for example good transport links vital to economic vibrancy
- Lobby as appropriate on economic issues for West Kent

West Kent AIF – Action plan

- Important to support small and homebased businesses which is major element of WK economy.
- Support development of home working policies with employers outside of West Kent
- Explore potential for supporting economically inactive with disabilities into employment possibly through social enterprises. Invite Steve Ralf of East Kent to talk to group. Could link to employee volunteering
- Link to possible Kent Prospects audit on available premises
- Vital to support hi tec entrepreneurs – peer support very beneficial
- Homeworker project has potential to be extended to those working 'beneath the radar'. Countryside Agency report to be circulated.
- planning policies and approach important issue for homebased businesses
- expertise on sub group in support of 3.6 – ie Swanley redevelopment
- maintain close links to SEEDA small rural towns programme – list of WK towns
- Strong case for virtual Enterprise Gateway to be developed and put to SEEDA
- Dearth of meeting space available to businesses both large and small. Possible project identified starting with a mapping exercise on what is available. Opportunities for business networking. Opportunity to engage with all WK businesses on an issue which is common to them all. Possible pilot in Swanley. This links to the problems schools now have with their insurance in exploiting commercial lettings opportunities

Business Engagement

- Private sector group to be established
- Identify projects on which local business might wish to engage
- Opportunities linked to WKP conference 27 September
- Marketing group to explore
 - Emphasise work/life balance
 - Encouraging WK and other companies to promote home working
 - What attracts employers and will keep them here
 - How to retain young people in WK economy or draw them back in

- Potential to promote WK based careers outside of WK
- Make links to affordable housing, transport and planning issues

Next Steps - Next meeting to focus on

- Building up projects from AIF priorities for action
- Identifying potential funding streams and pursuing
- Identifying means to constructively engage with businesses

Paper I

West Kent Partnership Housing Sub Group

A meeting was held on 28 June 2006 of the WKP housing sub-group.

- **The West Kent Area Investment Framework** was discussed and a number of amendments were made to this document – Strategic Objective 4.3 and Strategic Objective 5.
- **The sub-regional housing strategy** – The position statement and Maidstone options papers were circulated. The three LA's have met to identify tasks and responsibilities. The strategy needs to be completed ready for Cabinet and Council early in 2007, to start in April ready for the September 2007 bid round. The three portfolio holders also regularly meet. Progress is being made.
- **Balanced communities** – PS discussed how balanced communities forms part of SDC's vision. This vision comprises community plans; LDF, balanced communities and value for money.
- **The Sevenoaks District housing register** – BT and PS explained the proposed changes to the SDHR following the Vanguard review. There are currently 4,000 applicants on this register and it is planned to reduce this by two thirds. The process re-engineering project was commissioned to reduce the turnaround times on voids. To ensure that the right allocation is made first time, more detailed information on applicants is needed. Equally, applicants themselves must be given a more realistic view on their chances of housing. Changes include awarding points for a local connection. The changes are about managing expectations and housing those with the greatest need rather than want.
- **Choice based lettings** – the group discussed the Kent-wide project. Additional funding will not be available for the west Kent side of the project. Contributions are likely to be more than £15k. A project manager has been appointed and there is a meeting on 20 July 2006. It was felt that the project is up to six months behind schedule.
- **Supporting people – the impact of changes on the west Kent sub-region** – the imminent withdrawal of SP funding was discussed and the possible impact this will have on the west Kent area. There will be a significant number of people who will still need support, but for whom there will be no funding. Decisions need to be made as to whether to continue to provide that support and absorb costs or to look elsewhere. The view is that this will create more homelessness.

WEST KENT PARTNERSHIP

14 JULY 2006

TRANSPORT SUB-GROUP UPDATE

The Transport Sub-Group last met on Friday 23rd June at Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council Offices. This was the first meeting chaired by Kent County Council which has assumed responsibility for co-ordinating the sub group.

1. Representation

The following organisations are represented on the Transport Sub-Group with the following nominees:

KCC Transport Policy	Tim Read (Chairman), James Lewis
KCC Public Transport	Steve Pay/ James Cook
Kent Highways (West)	Anne Marie Hannam
Kent Highways (Mid)	Andy Smart
Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council	Mike McCulloch
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	Daryl Jones
Sevenoaks District Council	Derek McKenzie
Arriva Southern Counties	Malcolm Spalding
South Eastern Trains	To be arranged

2. Aims of the Transport Sub-Group

At the recent meeting, the aims of the Transport Sub-Group were discussed in the context of the wider vision and role of the West Kent Partnership. The Sub-Group will continue existing areas of work and it is proposed that future activities will be grouped under the following headings:

Improved liaison between the County Council and other attendees on transport issues in West Kent including:

- Regional Transport Strategy development
- Development of major scheme proposals
- Development of Integrated Transport scheme programmes
- Local issues including car parking policies

Development of joint initiatives around key issues including accessibility planning and congestion.

Promotion of partnership working between organisations including the development of Quality Bus Partnerships

Lobbying activities for motorway, trunk road and rail improvements.

3. Current transport issues arising

Initial discussions through the sub-group have focussed upon a range of specific transport issues including:

- **Local Transport Plan for Kent (LTP) 2006-2011**

The second LTP for Kent sets out the County Council's policies and programme for transport and was submitted to Government in March 2006. The sub-group can inform and influence the implementation of the plan over the five year period including the development of major schemes and expenditure on smaller measures

- **Motorway and trunk road schemes**

Several motorway and trunk road schemes are planned in the West Kent area. The sub-group will assist in the exchange of information between member organisations and also promote co-ordinated lobbying for the early implementation of improvements.

- **Rail improvements**

The rail network in Kent will be subject to change over future years due to revisions arising from the introduction of domestic services on the Channel Tunnel Rail Link. The introduction of Thameslink services will also result in changes to service patterns but will improve connectivity to, and beyond, central London. The sub-group will improve the exchange of information between member organisations, promote joint working in respect to future service patterns and enable co-ordinated representations to be made to Government and the rail industry.

- **Quality Bus Partnerships (QBPs)**

QBPs have been developed in several areas of Kent and have provided an effective means of combining public and private sector investment to improve the quality and coverage of local bus services. Potential opportunities exist to develop new QBPs within the West Kent area and it is anticipated that the sub-group would be closely involved in determining objectives and principal activities.

- **District issues**

As a result of changes to planning legislation, district planning authorities are producing Local Development Documents to replace Local Plans. Notwithstanding the formal consultation processes in existence, the sub-group provides an opportunity for specific transport related issues to be explored.

- **Other issues**

Emerging issues over future years include the 2012 Olympics which has implications on the region's transport infrastructure in terms of demand levels and potential investment. Through the sub-group, it is anticipated that partners can be appraised of specific issues arising and key developments discussed.

4. Future direction

From discussions at the initial meeting, it was apparent that links with the wider West Kent LSP need to be strengthened to ensure that the approach of the Transport Sub-Group aligns with wider objectives. The input of West Kent LSP members is therefore sought to guide the future direction of the Transport Sub-Group.

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3rd July 2006