



# **Safer Thurrock Partnership**

## **Crime and Disorder Reduction, and Drugs Strategy**

### **2005 to 2008**

**This strategy has been produced by:**

**THE SAFER THURROCK PARTNERSHIP**

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## INTRODUCTION

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### **The Safer Thurrock Partnership**

The Safer Thurrock Partnership has been established as a requirement of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and as amended by the Police Reform Act 2002.

There are 5 statutory Authorities and a number of other agencies and representatives that make up the Partnership.

The statutory Authorities are: -

- Thurrock Police
- Thurrock Council
- Essex Fire and Rescue Service
- Thurrock Primary Care Trust
- Essex Police Authority

The Partnership has a legal responsibility to ensure that a crime and disorder reduction strategy is produced and implemented with strategic objectives monitored and evaluated. The Partnerships are supported regionally by the decentralised Government Offices. The Government Office for Thurrock is the GO East Team based at Cambridge.

## **Structure of the Partnership**

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### **Leadership Group:**

#### **Thurrock Council:**

*Managing Director; Director Children's Services; Director Community Well-Being*

#### **Essex Police:**

*Divisional Commander Thurrock*

#### **Thurrock Primary Care Trust:**

*Chief Executive*

#### **Essex Fire and Rescue:**

*Community Commander – Thurrock and Brentwood Community Command*

#### **Essex Probation Service:**

*Chief Probation Officer*

#### **Thurrock Council Elected Member:**

*Cabinet Member for Crime and Disorder*

### **Responsible Officers Group:**

#### **Thurrock Council:**

*Heads of Service for Community Well Being and Children's Services*

**Essex Police:**

*Head of Operations*

**Thurrock Primary Care Trust:**

*Head of Service*

**Essex Fire and Rescue:**

*Community Safety Manager*

**Drug & Alcohol Action Team:**

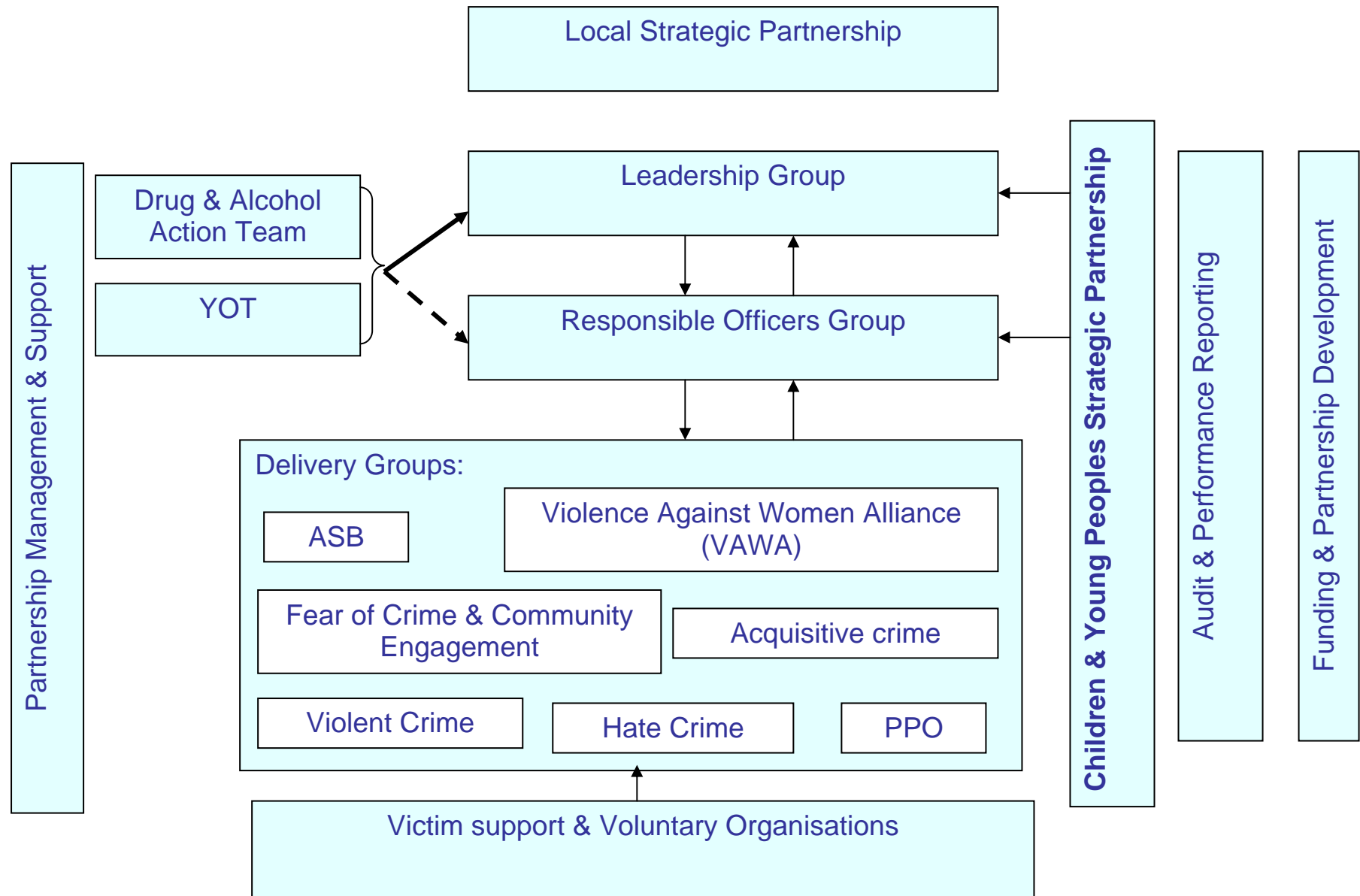
*DAAT co-ordinator*

**Probation Services; Youth Offending Team; Voluntary Sector; Business Representatives; Head Teacher Representatives**

**Delivery Groups**

Delivery groups with responsibility for delivering the strategy objectives are shown below. Some will be permanent groups i.e. meeting regularly for the foreseeable future, others will be time limited i.e. once the problems have reduced then they will no longer be required. The Leadership Group will nominate relevant members for each of the groups. These people will have the ability to influence and direct action to reduce crime and disorder, making Thurrock safer. Audit and performance reporting will underpin them:

- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Hate Crime
- Acquisitive Crime
- Violent Crime
- Violence Against Women Alliance
- Prolific & Other Priority Offenders (PPOs)
- Fear of Crime and Community Engagement



## National Context

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### National Priorities:

The Home Office has set out a number of targets in its Strategic Plan for 2004-2008. Crime & Disorder Partnerships nationally will be working to actively support the following targets: -

- People are, and feel more secure in their homes and daily lives
- More offenders are caught, punished and stop offending, and victims are better supported
- Fewer people's lives are affected by drugs and alcohol
- Citizens, communities and the voluntary sector are more fully engaged in tackling social problems, and there is more equality of opportunity and respect for people of all races and religions.

These four key objectives will assist in providing the framework for Crime & Disorder Partnerships, including Thurrock, to implement local objectives, whilst at the same time complementing national targets.

## **The Prolific and Other Priority Offenders Strategy (PPO)**

The Government, during 2004, introduced a Strategy to address prolific and other priority offenders after acknowledging that 100,000 offenders nationally have 3 or more convictions, and are responsible for half of all crime. The Strategy is set out in three strands: Prevent & Deter; Catch and Convict; and Rehabilitate and Resettle.

The Prevent & Deter strand of the Strategy requires each Crime & Disorder Partnership in the country to identify a number of prolific offenders in their areas and implement programmes of work with young people who are already offending or who are at serious risk of offending, as well as other priority offenders of the future.

The Catch & Convict and Rehabilitate and Resettle strands are based on a multi-agency approach working at partnership level and focused on an identified group of offenders. Each scheme is based on intelligence, and selecting the individuals who are causing the most harm to communities.

## **National Drug Strategy**

In 1998 the Government launched a ten-year national drug strategy entitled "Tackling Drugs to Build a Better Britain". This was updated in 2002. The updated strategy sets out interventions which will concentrate treatment for the addiction of class A drugs, focus on the most damaged communities, and address individuals whose addictions and lifestyles are most harmful to themselves and others.

In addition the Government also published in 2005 Every Child Matters, Change for Children: Young People & Drugs, which gave clear emphasis on an holistic, multi-agency outcome focused approach to substance misuse for young people.

**Drug & Alcohol Action Teams (DAATs)** are partnership bodies with responsibility for the delivery of the Government's drug strategy at a local level. Key partners within the DAAT include the Primary Care Trust, Police, Probation and the Local Authority.

## **Youth Offending Teams**

Under the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) were required to be set up within local Crime & Disorder Partnerships. Youth Offending Teams are to ensure the effective delivery of services in a local authority area, and to deal with offending behaviour by young people through early interventions. Aims of Youth Offending Teams include those set out in the National Objectives of the Youth Justice System:

- The swift administration of justice
- To confront young people with the consequences of their offending
- To provide interventions that tackle the factors that put young people at risk of offending
- To administer punishment proportionate to the seriousness and persistence of the offending and which strengthens protective factors
- To encourage reparation to victims by young offenders
- To reinforce the responsibility of parents

## Local Context

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Thurrock is a Unitary Local Authority in Essex. The current population is 145,274 (mid year estimate 2003) and this is set to increase significantly over the next 10 to 20 years as a result of planned regeneration for the area. The ethnic diversity of the area is also increasing with the population describing itself as non White British rising from 3.56% in 1991 to 7.19% in the 2001 census.

Thurrock is located in the South West corner of Essex adjoining the Greater London area and is strategically located within the Thames Gateway. Whilst bringing opportunities for the Borough, the proximity to London also brings specific crime related problems. This is exacerbated by the location of the Lakeside Regional Shopping centre, our larger industrial estates and also the M25 road network. Crime issues relating to vehicle crime and shoplifting are particularly exacerbated by our location.

There is no natural large-scale town centre within Thurrock and 70% of the Borough is green belt. This brings particular police cover issues that have to be taken into account when devolving resources to cover the area. This is further exacerbated when examining the geographical pattern of crime, which, with the exception of vehicle crime, tends to be spread across the area.

Overall Thurrock does not feature in the top quarter of “most deprived” Boroughs in England and Wales but this does mask the fact that within the Borough there are 11 areas (known as Super Output Areas) that are in the most deprived 20% including 5 in the most deprived 10%. These 95 national Super Output Areas have also been analysed against the measurement of recorded crime (April 2002 to March 2003) for 4 major crime themes, which are, Burglary; Theft; Criminal Damage and Violence. This analysis shows that 37 are in the lower quartile (bottom 25%) of Local Authority areas including 12, which are in the worst 10%.

In terms of crime numbers, Thurrock has a higher level of recorded offences, per 1000 population, than the average for other local authorities in England and Wales. It is number 75 in the listing of the 376 Crime and Disorder partnerships; this is within the high crime quartile. Within these figures there are some offences such as vehicle crime and criminal damage that are significantly higher than the average elsewhere in England and Wales. This masks the below average rates for burglary of people’s homes. This strategy will take account of these high volume crime activities.

The National priorities for the Prolific and Other Priority Offenders, Drug and Alcohol, and Youth Offending Teams will be mirrored by Thurrock within a local context.

**How has the Strategy been formulated?**

The Safer Thurrock Partnership produced this strategy taking account of both the national and local priorities, and the results of a Crime, Disorder and Drugs Audit undertaken during 2004.

Conclusions from the Audit are set out below.

The full Audit report can be accessed through the Thurrock Council Website *www.thurrock.gov.uk*

## **Summary of the Crime, Drugs and Disorder Audit 2004**

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Clear priorities for action have emerged from the Audit, which are reflected in this strategy. These are: -

### **Violent Crime:**

This is rising significantly in Thurrock reflecting the national trend. Thurrock however recorded 21 violent crimes per 1,000 population in 2003/04. This is increasing at a faster rate than other parts of Essex and other similar areas.

During 2003/04 there were significant increases in public order and robbery offences. Overall an 11.4% increase in Violence Against the Person offences was recorded in the year. In 55% of the cases the victim and offender knew each other. The pattern of offending has been spread across the Borough over the past 3 years although Grays, Tilbury and West Thurrock have featured significantly in all 3 years. This spread of offending presents particular challenges in developing strategies to address the rising problem. The victims and offenders are predominantly male and there are a disproportionate number of young offenders compared to the proportion of population.

- The increase in violent crime has occurred without the presence of a recognised night time economy in Thurrock
- Robbery and theft increased by 38.5% between 2002/03 and 2003/04. The reason for this increase requires further investigation
- The ongoing targeting of domestic violence is indicated as a priority with over 20% of offences falling in this category
- The Fear of Crime Survey in 2003 found that 31% of residents felt that assaults were common across the Thurrock area

### **Current Position**

- There has been an 11.4% increase in Violence Against the Person offences between the year October 2002 to September 2003 and October 2003 to September 2004

### **Audit conclusion and implications for this strategy**

- Violent crime features as a priority in this strategy given its rising prevalence in Thurrock

### **Hate Crimes:**

Given the changing diversity of Thurrock it is considered important that attention to Hate Crime generally remains a priority. Hate Crime covers racially motivated crime, homophobic crime and crime targeted against people with disabilities. It can encompass a range of behaviours from verbal abuse to serious assault.

The Safer Thurrock Partnership is keen to encourage reporting of all such incidents and over the past 2 years the level of reporting has increased. Significantly schools have now implemented new recording and monitoring systems that will provide more information on what is generally regarded as an underreported area of crime.

- During 2003/04, 184 Hate Crime incidents were reported to the police. In addition a further 10 racially motivated incidents were reported in schools
- For 54% of these crimes and incidents an offender was identified
- For the first 6 months of 2004/05 100 incidents have been reported to the police and as a result of the new recording systems in place 126 incidents have been recorded in schools
- In the Quality of Life Survey carried out in January 2004, 59% of residents either agreed or strongly agreed that their area “is a place where people from different backgrounds and communities can live together harmoniously”. This survey question will be repeated in 2005. This particular indicator is important in developing an understanding of Community Cohesion in the Borough and should be set against the changing population profile and increase in population generally since 2002

The Partnership has recently agreed to fund an independent reporting service that will be available 24/7 and this has been operational from January 2005.

It is intended that the Partnership, as a priority, continues to look to other areas where successful initiatives and policies have had a positive impact on Community Cohesion.

### **Audit conclusion and implications for this strategy**

- Attention is being focused on schools where more rigorous reporting has been instituted and the results of this process should be continually reviewed and acted upon by the Partnership where required
- There has also been an increase in homophobic and disability related offences and plans should be developed to address this problem

### **Anti-Social Behaviour:**

There is no one accepted definition of Anti-social behaviour that can be used to provide a consistent comparison within Thurrock or between different parts of the country. This is further complicated because much of what will be regarded as anti-social behaviour, such as groups hanging around on street corners has not been recorded as a crime. However, information is available on criminal damage including graffiti and fly-tipping for example. Recent trends are showing improvements for this range of offences.

- In 2003/04 there were 6666 crimes of Anti-social Behaviour recorded
- Geographically the pattern of offences has remained fairly consistent with most incidents, over 30%, being recorded in the Tilbury, Chadwell, West Thurrock and Ockendon areas over the past three years
- 86% of the offenders have been identified as male and 50 % of offenders have been in the age range 10 to 19 years; 15% aged 20 to 24 and 30% aged 25 to 44 years
- The Fear of Crime Survey reported that 59% of respondents from the sample considered youths causing a problem is there most significant fear

### **Current Position**

- Anti-social Behaviour continues to be a concern to the residents of Thurrock

### **Audit conclusion and implications for this strategy**

- Anti-social behaviour must continue to be targeted but particularly taking into account the times when most incidents are witnessed
- Anti-social behaviour is not only related to nuisance youths, however, as it also includes noise nuisance and fly-tipping. There have been significant rises in reported cases of domestic noise nuisance and entertainment noise complaints through the Local Authority Environmental Health Teams. Overall the total of complaints covering these and other problems have risen by 11.8% over the past three years. In consequence these activities will continue to be targeted. Environmental Action Days are prioritised within this strategy to help address these problems

### **Criminal Damage:**

- This is a high volume crime (20% of total crime in 2003/04) and although in line with the CDRP family average is higher than other parts of Essex. Although Chadwell St Mary, Tilbury and West Thurrock experience higher levels of criminal damage, this offence remains an issue across the borough. It is clear that focus on young people should be prioritised as they represent 50% of the perpetrators of criminal damage
- In 2003/04 there were 3953 crimes of criminal damage recorded. This represents 20% of all recorded crime for the year
- Although criminal damage is a “high volume” crime for Thurrock with a rate of 28 crimes per 1000 population, Data comparing 2002/03 and 2003/04 indicates that this has not increased
- The Fear of Crime Survey reported that 64% of respondents from the sample considered that vandalism was a problem

### **Current position**

- There has been a 26% reduction in reported criminal damage offences during the first 6 months of 2004/05. This still represents a high volume of crime

### **Audit conclusion and implications for this strategy**

- Criminal damage continues to be a priority

### **Burglary:**

This offence is recorded in two sections, the first being “burglary dwelling” (burglary of people’s homes), including unsuccessful attempted break-ins and secondly all other burglary (“burglary other”) including commercial premises, sheds and garages etc. Thurrock has not seen the high instances of such offences associated with many areas in the country. However when it occurs it can have very serious effects on the victims. In 2003/04 there was an increase in burglary compared with the previous year but trends now indicate that this has been reversed for the current year.

- In 2003/04 there were 839 recorded crimes of “burglary dwelling” (14.1 crimes per 1000 households) an increase of 45% over the previous year. However this rate still compares favourably with other similar areas
- In 2003/04-burglary dwelling accounted for 4% of all recorded crime in Thurrock
- Geographically the pattern of burglary has remained fairly consistent over the past 3 years with Tilbury and the Grays areas tending to be the higher crime locations

- In 2003/04 39% of offenders were aged 25 to 44 years and of all offenders for this offence 92% were identified as male
- In 2003/04 there were 1239 “burglary other” crimes recorded which equates to 8.5 crimes per 1000 population. This represented an increase of 10% over the previous year
- The Fear of Crime Survey found that 46% of respondents thought that dwelling burglary was common whilst 49% of respondents felt that burglary from shops, offices, garages and sheds was common

#### **Current Position:**

- Statistics for 2004/05 indicate a reduction in the number of burglaries reversing the upward trend experienced during 2003/04

#### **Audit conclusion and implications for this strategy**

- Burglary Dwelling will remain a high priority for the partnership because of its current level and notably because of the impact that such crimes have on victims
- Burglary other remains a priority for the partnership to take account of the projected growth of businesses in the Borough

#### **Vehicle Crime:**

Vehicle crime includes theft of vehicles and theft from vehicles. It also includes theft from Heavy Goods vehicles. Significantly Thurrock has very high levels of vehicle crime compared to similar other authorities and the rest of Essex. Over the past 3 years there has been a decrease in crimes recorded but significantly between 2002/03 and 2003 /04 the situation has deteriorated.

- In 2003/04, 4085 vehicle crimes were recorded in Thurrock and this accounted for 20% of all recorded crime. Of these crimes 1718 (9%) were thefts of vehicles and 2367 (11%) were thefts from vehicles
- Vehicle crime increased by 13% between 2002/03 and 2003/04
- Geographically there is a significant impact caused by Lakeside and the location of particular industries in the West Thurrock area of the Borough. Tilbury is also identified as a high crime area for vehicle crime. This pattern of crime has been consistent over the past 3 years
- In 2003/04, 62% of those reporting “theft from vehicles” were male
- In the same period 95% of offenders were identified as male with 29% aged between 15 to 24 and 24% aged 25 to 44 years
- The Fear of Crime Survey reported that 63% of respondents felt that theft of motor vehicles was common while 64% felt that theft from vehicles was common

### **Current position**

- Vehicle crime continues to be a problem but the projected end of year total for 2004/05 is 3747, which is less than 2003/04

### **Audit conclusion and implications for this strategy**

- Given the high volume nature of these crimes vehicle crime remains a high priority for this strategy

### **Drugs and Alcohol:**

Drug and alcohol use can be a key determinant in crime patterns. Thefts, burglary and robbery to “feed” drug habits have a direct impact on crime statistics. Similarly abuse of alcohol can be a significant factor for much disorder and violent crime.

Thurrock has not been identified as one of the 37 “High Crack areas” as set out in the National Crack Plan although Grays has been identified as one of the top five locations in Essex for drug related arrests and seizures. No Essex town is identified as a “High Crack area” and although crack cocaine and heroin appear to be readily available in the majority of Essex Policing Divisions, overall the scale of the problem is not as great as in other Force areas.

The local view has also been that Thurrock has not had a significant problem with supply of drugs, but anecdotal evidence now supported by firm Data suggests that this situation is changing.

The Drug Treatment Demand Model estimates that there are between 700 and 1000 problematic drug users in Thurrock. This is not reflected in the numbers of those actually receiving treatment, which indicates a shortfall against this estimate of up to 70%.

Thurrock does not have a recognised “night-time economy” in respect of nightclubs or other entertainment establishments and therefore offences relating to licensed premises have not been identified as a priority in the past. Incidents of violent crime committed in licensed premises are increasing as are the number of offences committed whilst under the “influence”.

- Drug related offences (possession and supply) increased by 8% between 2001/02 and 2003/04
- 52% of those offenders referred to local drug agencies after arrest, described their main income as coming from shoplifting
- Theft committed in shops has increased by 26% since April 2001 although it is slightly down by 3% between 2002/03 and 2003/04

- In 2003/04 there were 159 Problematic Drug Users in treatment in Thurrock
- In terms of Youth Offending only 3% of the 678 offences handled by the Youth Offending Team in 2003, which led to reprimand, final warning or conviction were for drug offences, generally in respect of possession
- Research of users of Drug Services in Thurrock has shown that their predominant drug of choice is heroin. However, Crack use is on the increase and National trends suggest that it might become even more prevalent. More research is required to establish the extent of drug use by non-problematic drug users
- It is projected for 2004/05 that in both the case of violent crime committed in licensed premises, and violent offences committed whilst “under the influence” the number of incidents per 1000 population will have doubled compared to 2003/04. (around 450 offences for the year)
- Fear of Crime Survey indicated that
  - 15% of those who responded thought that drug dealing and abuse were a problem
  - 35% thought that drug/alcohol related crime was a problem
  - 38% thought that drug dealing was common.

#### **Audit conclusion and implications for this strategy**

- Thurrock will deliver a strategy in line with the national strategy to address these issues
- The effect of drugs and alcohol on young people will be of key focus for each delivery group

#### **Young people and Crime**

- In Thurrock 12.7% of all crime in 2003/04 involved young people between the age of 10 and 19 years old either as victims or offenders. The work of the Youth Offending Team has been successful in reducing the rates of re-offending for young people but it is clear that the Partnership still has to prioritise working with young people to try and reduce the number of crimes and incidents in which they become involved

#### **Audit conclusion and implications for this strategy**

- Diversionary schemes should continue to be included within partnership plans, targeted at the specific vulnerable age band
- YOT to be given ongoing support to develop the Prevent and Deter strand of the Prolific and Other Priority Offenders scheme
- To support the mental well being of young people, through assessment and referral as required

## **Partnership Working**

The Safer Thurrock Partnership has carried out an evaluation of its effectiveness and it is considered by Partnership members that more emphasis is required in the following areas :-

- Greater integration between partners using problem solving techniques
- Improved performance management
- The establishment of an ongoing audit and analysis system
- Raising the profile of the Partnership

## **Consultation and Links to other Strategies and Plans**

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### **Consultation:**

The Partnership consulted with a wide range of local organisations both statutory and voluntary. Questionnaires were sent out in paper format as well as being posted on Thurrock Council's (also Thurrock Police, Probation, Essex Fire & Rescue Service, PCT) website(s) and intranet(s).

### **Links with other Strategies and Plans:**

This strategy has been developed in conjunction with a range of other key strategic plans and policies both national and local.

These include the following:

- Confident Communities in a Secure Britain (The Home Office Strategic Plan 2004-08)
- Essex Annual Policing Plan
- ASPIRE (The Community Plan for Thurrock)
- Thurrock Youth Justice plan
- Thurrock Drug and Alcohol Action Team Plans
- Thurrock Council Corporate Objectives
- Essex Fire & Rescue Service – Integrated Risk Management Plan

## **Key Strategic Aims**

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This strategy sets out four key themes. The themes reflect both the national and local priorities in Thurrock. The four themes are: -

- **Reducing Crime**
- **Anti-Social Behaviour**
- **Drug and Alcohol Abuse**
- **Public Reassurance by reducing the Fear of Crime**

In addition to these key strategic aims the Partnership will be working to develop a more effective multi-agency approach and an improved accountability to the wider community.

The Partnership intends to deliver against these themes through a variety of approaches including the Prolific and Other Priority Offenders Scheme. The key objectives, targets and approaches are set out below:

## **The Strategy: Reducing Crime**

Public Service Agreement targets (PSAs) have been set nationally. The PSA 1 targets for CDRPs relate to a basket of recorded crime and feed into the national target of reducing overall crime by 15% by 2007/08. CDRPs' targets are based on the 2003/04 levels of recorded crime and have to be achieved by 2007/08. The basket of crime against which CDRPs are delivering is called the British Crime Survey Comparator, used as a proxy to the BCS, which is available to measure partnerships' performance<sup>1</sup>. The BCS comparator includes the following crime categories: theft of and theft from a vehicle, vehicle interference and tampering, domestic burglary, theft or unauthorised taking of a pedal cycle, theft from a person, criminal damage, common assault, wounding and robbery.

Thurrock has negotiated a challenging 19.5% reduction target between 2003/04 and 2007/08. The high volume crimes such as vehicle crime and criminal damage are important to address within this strategy to achieve the overall reduction required. Violent crime is also a significant element to address. The agreed targets for each of the crime types within the BCS comparator for Thurrock are set out in *appendix 1*.

### **Key Objectives**

- To reduce the number of dwelling burglaries
- To reduce the number of vehicle crimes
- To reduce the number of violent crimes in particular domestic incidents and those in public places
- To reduce the incidence of criminal damage

### **Targets**

- To reduce the number of dwelling burglaries from 839 in 2003/04 to 500 by 2008
- To reduce the number of vehicle crimes from 4085 in 2003/04 to 3330 by 2008
- To reduce violent crimes from 2611 in 2003/4 to 2093 by 2008
- To reduce incidence of criminal damage from 3953 in 2003/04 to 2965 by 2008

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<sup>1</sup> Should you wish to find out more about the British Crime Survey, please refer to <http://www.homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk>

## **Approaches to be taken to achieve objectives and targets**

Various problem-solving approaches will be adopted throughout the life of the strategy. They include:

- To target prolific and other priority offenders
- To establish multi-agency problem solving groups
- To develop awareness campaigns
- To support communities to develop their own solutions
- To increase visibility of mobile patrols
- To target hot spot areas
- To improve crime reduction measures to deter vehicle crime
- To provide advice in respect of planning developments
- To improve information sharing between partner agencies
- To involve the license trade
- To encourage the increased reporting of crimes against minority groups and improve confidence
- To develop the Drug Intervention Programme
- To support and work with the Violence Against Women Alliance whose focus should be on developing key objectives around domestic violence, however should continue to address other aspects outside of the partnership.

## **The Strategy: Anti-social Behaviour :**

Anti-social behaviour is identified within the Public Service Agreement 2. PSA2 is defined as “reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour and building confidence in the criminal justice system without compromising fairness” and will be measured with the British Crime Survey and the Home Office Citizenship survey.

With anti-social behaviour there is a difficulty in measurement that is clear to the general public. This is because the community are likely to view criminal damage as an anti-social act but it is measured, of course, within the PSA1 targets already identified. However anti-social behaviour covers a much broader set of activities such as noise nuisance, fly-tipping, neighbour disputes, bad behaviour in public places such as hospitals and clinics etc, hoax 999 telephone calls, vandalism and arson/nuisance fires. Many of these issues are tackled and recorded by other partners' agencies in the course of their day-to-day business.

The agreed targets to tackle Anti-social behaviour in Thurrock are set out in *appendix 2*.

### **Key Objectives**

- To reduce the impact that anti-social behaviour has on the lives and well being of the residents of Thurrock

### **Targets**

- To reduce the number of incidences of criminal damage including vandalism and arson from 3953 2003/04 to 2965 by 2007/08
- To reduce the number of reports of anti-social behaviour from 6666 2003/04 to 6000 by 2007/08
- To increase the percentage of people who feel safe out alone in the Borough by day from 95% in Jan 2005 to 98% by 2007/08
- To increase the percentage of people who feel safe out alone in the Borough by night from 56% in Jan 2005 to 60% by 2007/08
- To reduce the overall public perception that anti-social behaviour is a problem from 59% in Jan 2005 to 49% by 2007/08

### **Approaches to be taken to achieve objectives and targets**

- To work towards a common measurement for anti-social behaviour that takes account of individual partner actions such as:
  - Number of Anti-social Behaviour Orders
  - Number of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts
  - Dispersal notices
  - Numbers of Environmental Health complaints
- To increase the High Visibility mobile patrols
- To set up problem solving groups such as the Anti-Social Behaviour Management Group
- To introduce and support diversionary schemes
- To work with Fire and Rescue Services to reduce incidences of arson and hoax 999 calls
- To engage with communities and partners to identify potential hotspots for Anti-social Behaviour
- Through the Prolific and Other Priority Offenders scheme to target those most at risk of offending and those who have offended. A key aim is to prevent and deter potential offenders behaving in an anti-social manner
- To increase liaison with schools
- To work effectively within the new licensing regime

- To continue activity with Environmental Action Days
- To continue working with Planning to design out crime

### **The Strategy: Drugs and Alcohol:**

Nationally, substance misuse is tackled under Public Service Agreement 4. PSA4 is defined as “reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs including substantially increasing the number of drug misusing offenders entering treatment through the criminal justice system.”

Thurrock has been identified as a High focus Area for 2005 for young peoples substance misuse. A locally commissioned needs assessment for young people, conducted in 2005, indicated that the “substances of choice for young people” were cannabis and alcohol. National indicators would indicate that there is little crack/heroin use in this age group. These findings will be used to develop this strategy.

The agreed targets to tackle Drugs and Alcohol in Thurrock are set out in *appendix 3*.

#### **Key Objective**

- To reduce the harm caused by the abuse of Drugs and Alcohol
- To develop the effective contribution that the new Drug Intervention Programme can make to the reduction of crime
- To develop a strategy focusing on Young people’s substance misuse

#### **Targets**

- To reduce the incidence of alcohol related disorder from 3457 (2004/05) to 2783 by 2007/08
- To increase the number of problem drug users in treatment by 73 % from 260 to 450
- To increase year on year the proportion of problem drug users sustaining / successfully completing their treatment programme from 49% (2004/05) to 58% by 2005/06

#### **Approaches to be taken to achieve objectives and targets**

- To continue drug and alcohol education programmes
- To target offenders through Prolific and Other Priority Offenders scheme
- To implement and develop the Drug Interventions Programme

- To target drug dealers
- To establish alcohol support services and identify possible service developments
- To work with the licensed trade industry including test purchase operations

## **The Strategy: Improving Public Reassurance and Reducing the Fear of Crime**

### **Key Objective**

- To make people feel safer living, working and visiting Thurrock

### **Targets**

- To reduce fear of crime in Thurrock against three specific measures using the Fear of Crime survey. The baseline figures are May 2003, this will be remeasured in Dec 2005 and Dec 2007
  - To increase the percentage of people who feel safe to go out alone at night from 56% to 60% by March 08
  - To increase the percentage of people who feel safe or fairly safe to go out alone during the day from 95% to 98% by March 08
  - To reduce the percentage of residents who think youths causing a problem is their most significant fear from 59% to 49% by March 08

### **Approaches to be taken to achieve objectives and targets**

- To work towards problem solving approaches in partnership with the local communities
- To continue to promote crime reduction initiatives and successes
- To work with partners to reduce the signals that increase crime and the fear of crime (environmental crime)
- To improve visibility of mobile patrols
- To conduct fear of crime surveys in Dec 2005 and 2007 to establish progress against these targets

## **Developing the Partnership**

Following the 2004 review of the partnership the partnership will continue to develop to become outcome focused in order to deliver the challenging targets set down within the strategy.

### **Key Objective**

- To improve the effectiveness of the Safer Thurrock Partnership

### **Target**

- To deliver the Crime, Disorder and Drugs Strategy between April 2005 and March 2008

### **Approaches to be taken to achieve objectives and targets**

- To implement the restructuring of the partnership
- To increase active partner support
- To improve the performance reporting mechanisms
- To raise the profile and awareness of the partnership within the community
- To improve partnership involvement in problem solving

## **Review and Monitoring Arrangements**

The Safer Thurrock Partnership will receive reports on progress against targets, which will be set throughout the life of this strategy.

The Responsible Officers Group have taken responsibility for the Performance Management of the partnership. They will ensure that co-ordination and proper reporting mechanisms are in place to support the structure overall, in particular the delivery groups.

Action plans will be developed through the life of the strategy in accordance with the problem solving approach that the partnership is adopting.

## Appendix 1 – Crime Reduction Targets for 2005 - 2008

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Offence	NUMBER OF OFFENCES					
	Reduction Target	Baseline 2003/ 04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Theft or unauthorised taking of vehicle (incl. Attempts)	22.6%	<b>1718</b>	1392	1389	1359	<b>1330</b>
Theft from a vehicle (incl. Attempts)	15.5%	<b>2367</b>	2127	2109	2049	<b>2000</b>
Vehicle interference	8.6%	<b>406</b>	332	371	371	<b>371</b>
Domestic burglary (incl. Attempts)	40.4%	<b>839</b>	496	500	500	<b>500</b>
Theft or unauthorised taking of a cycle	0%	<b>224</b>	274	224	224	<b>224</b>
Theft from person	24.7%	<b>174</b>	145	140	135	<b>131</b>
Criminal damage	25%	<b>3953</b>	3487	3136	3050	<b>2965</b>
Common assault	28%	<b>583</b>	505	477	448	<b>420</b>
Woundings	3.6%	<b>1556</b>	1560	1537	1518	<b>1500</b>
Robbery of personal property	+29% <sup>1</sup>	<b>134</b>	178	176	175	<b>173</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>19.6%</b>	<b>11954</b>	<b>10496</b>	<b>10148</b>	<b>9878</b>	<b>9614</b>

<sup>1</sup> Based on 2004/05 current trends an increase is anticipated on 2003/04 data. This will be reduced from 2004/05 by 15% by 2007/08

## Appendix 2 – Anti-Social Behaviour Targets for 2005 - 2008

Activity	% Reduction	Baseline 2003/04	2005/06 Target	2006/07 Target	2007/08 Target
Overall no of reports of Anti-social behaviour to the police	10%	<b>6666</b>	6444	6222	<b>6000</b>
Criminal damage	25%	<b>3953</b>	3136	3050	<b>2965</b>
Graffiti reports to Thurrock Borough Council	-26% <sup>1</sup>	<b>796</b>	864	932	<b>1000</b>
No of abandoned vehicles	47%	<b>2074</b>	1749	1424	<b>1100</b>
Number of nuisance reports to Environmental Health	11%	<b>1227</b>	1182	1137	<b>1092</b>
<b>Thurrock Community Command Fire service</b>		<b>Baseline 2004/05</b>			
Hoax Calls	15%	<b>184</b>	175	166	<b>156</b>
Nuisance Behaviour	10%	<b>212</b>	205	198	<b>191</b>
Vehicle Related Nuisance	10%	<b>249</b>	241	233	<b>224</b>
<b>Quality of Life Survey 2005</b>		<b>% Improvement</b>	<b>Base line January 2005</b>		
• % of people who feel safe or fairly safe alone outside during the day	3%	<b>95</b>			<b>98</b>
• % of people who feel safe or fairly safe to go out alone after dark	4%	<b>56</b>			<b>60</b>
• % of residents who think youths causing a problem is their most significant fear	10%	<b>59</b>			<b>49</b>

<sup>1</sup> New way of working using Street Officers to remove graffiti means that in 2005/06 there is a projected increase in reports

## Appendix 3 – Drug and Alcohol Targets for 2005 - 2008

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### Adult Drug and Alcohol Targets for 2005-2008

Activity	% Improvement / Reduction	Baseline 2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Reduce Incidence of Alcohol related disorder	-19%	<b>3457</b>	3232	3007	<b>2783</b>
Increase number of problem drug users in treatment	73%	<b>260</b>	290	400	<b>450</b>
Increase year on year proportion problem drug users successfully completing 12 week programme of treatment	9%	<b>49%</b>	58%	To be set annually	

**Young Persons Drug and Alcohol Targets for 2005-2008**

Activity	% Improvement / Reduction	Baseline 2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
% of schools achieving Healthy Schools standard and delivering quality drug educations to be 100% by 2009	50% of ALL schools to achieve the new standard by 2006.	<b>2</b>	20	29	
	All schools working towards new standard by 2009	<b>2</b>	20	29	<b>44</b>
Ensure that all young people missing from the school roll are identified for potential substance misuse issues	Awaiting further information from DfES	<b>n/a</b>	/	/	/
Ensure that all looked after children and young people are identified for potential substance misuse issues	Awaiting further information from DfES	<b>n/a</b>	/	/	/
Ensure that all young people involved with the Youth Offending Services are identified for substance misuse issues	YO identified with substance misuse problem assessed within 5 working days	<b>100%</b>	95%	95%	<b>100%</b>
	YO referred for appropriate intervention within 10 working days	<b>95%</b>	95%	95%	<b>100%</b>
Increase the number of young people accessing & completing specialist treatment by 50%	50% increase by 07/08 compared to 03/04	To confirm			<b>50%</b>



