

APPENDIX A

Community Safety Action Plan March 2004 Update

Best Value Review – Community Safety

Action Plan

Action	Timescale	Resources	March 2004 Update
Addressing fear of crime			
Challenge media sensationalism of crime by promoting the relatively low levels experienced in the district <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through provision of information to residents in Neighbourhood Watch (NW) newsletters Provide advice and information sessions to community groups, particularly those vulnerable to crime, including young people 	<p>Quarterly Newsletter</p> <p>As required. 15-20 Sessions per year</p>	<p>Successful bid for £1000 2003/04 Home Office Funding.</p> <p>Community Safety Team Information Packs</p>	<p><i>Three produced since April 2003. Another £1000 bid submitted to the Home Office for 2004/05. Neighbourhood Watch conference took place in March 2004. Training and briefing undertaken.</i></p> <p><i>Since December 2003 the Community Safety (CS) team has been out on 2 general public sessions. This will increase in the Spring and Summer months that are typically busier.</i></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the potential to provide information and advice to young people through 57 South Street 	September 2003	Community Safety Team Information Packs	<i>The Youth Service evaluation report was published on 23 March 2004. This will be considered by Members of this Committee as part of its work on the youth agenda.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By promoting positive images of young people in the community 	2003/04	Community Safety Team Communications Officer	<i>This is ongoing work and will be considered by both this Committee and the Partnership</i>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being proactive with local media in promoting good news stories relating to community safety, including use of Rochford District Matters (RDM) 	Ongoing	Community Safety Team Communications Officer	<p><i>Bid for Home Office funding of £1600 towards RDM 2004/05</i></p> <p><i>More focus will be placed on promoting good news stories using local newspapers and radio. These will include success stories from implemented initiatives and details of Home Office approval to planned projects</i></p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage zero tolerance to 'Hate Crime' and encourage people to report it to the Police by delivery of the Hate Crime Initiatives. 	2003/04	Home Office funding bid £2000 pa 2004/06	<p><i>The Community Safety Team is directed by the Police on this. However, The Partnership is seeking clearer direction on this initiative from the Police for 2004/05.</i></p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide information and advice such as leaflets and website updates on how people can reduce their vulnerability to crime such as graffiti, vandalism, litter, dog fouling, abandoned vehicles, decriminalisation of car parking 	Ongoing	Rochford District Council To be funded from Crime and Disorder Reserve. Estimate of £500 pa.	<i>Since December, a bid has been made for Home Office funding for 2004/05 to support the implementation of the graffiti protocol. In February 2004 the '2 Fast, 2 Furious, 2 Dead campaign was launched', aimed at fast and dangerous driving.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record incidents of Crime and Disorder nuisance problems as reported to Rochford District Council to help identify trends and to be used to support Partnership initiatives when required. 	Completed and ongoing	Officer time	<i>Reports of actual crime and perceived crime are not always reported to the Police. The information received by the Council has helped the Police identify trends of anti-social behaviour. This information is used by the Police to assist with targeting hotspots.</i>

Support for victims of crime by supporting intermediaries			
<p>Provide support for intermediaries by providing information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Providing information to intermediaries on areas of neighbourhood dispute to provide mediation and advice (CAB mediation funded via Rochford District Council) - Providing information on where to gain advice and who does what – a Directory of Community Safety Information, Advice and Contacts. Make available via Rochford District Council website. 	<p>Establish by July 2003</p> <p>March 2004</p>	<p>Successful bid for Home Office funding of £1000 to CAB for debt management for youths in schools 2003/04</p> <p>Rochford District Council. To be funded from Crime and Disorder Reserve for 2003/04. Estimate of £2500</p>	<p><i>There is still no locally based mediation service. The Council can help facilitate by the use of a service that is based in Braintree</i></p> <p><i>Information for a draft directory has not been fully compiled. When completed, it will be cross referenced with the new Strategy being drafted this year. Target date for both draft, October 2004.</i></p>

<p>Provide financial support to intermediaries from the crime and disorder reserve where there are opportunities to extend the support given to victims of crime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide funding to Victim Support to provide additional support • Secure funding to provide a women's second stage accommodation refuge in the district (providing five move on places) • Provide funding towards a domestic violence outreach advice service in the district 	2003/04	Successful bid for Home Office Funding £1500 in 2003/04	<i>This is ongoing. Another funding bid has been made to the Home Office for 2004/05 for £1,500</i>
	2004/05	Housing Corporation has now provided Swan Housing Group with a £310,000 social housing grant. Joint Rochford District Council and Castle Point Borough Council project	<i>The public consultation meeting took place on 17 February 2004 and it was decided to proceed. Revenue funding was approved by the ODPM in early March 2004</i>
	2003/04	£9500 from Rochford District Council Homelessness Service Expenditure, Housing Services was provided	<i>Since the service began, nine women have used the drop in service at 57 South Street service and are receiving ongoing support</i>

Partnership			
<p>To continue to work with partners to address crime and disorder issues as identified in the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy, and maximise the potential of Home Office Funding in the District.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quantify and cost the resources provided by Rochford District Council to the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy to enable the Community Safety Team to target their work for the partnership and for the Council - Continue to work closely with Castle Point Borough Council and the Castle Point Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership to jointly implement the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy, sharing costs and resources as appropriate 	<p>September 2003</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Community Safety Team</p> <p>Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership</p>	<p><i>The audit process identified ongoing and new needs and the Home Office self assessment of the Rochford Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership was completed in March 2004. This will contribute to the draw down of the existing strategy and feed into the review process for the new strategy throughout 2004</i></p> <p><i>Eight out of fifteen major initiatives, that required Home Office funding within the current strategy, were shared with the Castle Point Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership</i></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to engage other partners, including new partners, in the leadership and implementation of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy 	Ongoing	Community Safety Team Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership	<p><i>Attendance to Partnership meetings to date averages 20 representatives from partner organisations.</i></p> <p><i>Another successful Parish Conference took place on 11 February 2004</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - With business representative organisations, develop initiatives to reduce business crime in the district 	March 2004	Community Safety Team Economic Development Officer.	<p><i>This remains ongoing. The Federation of Small Businesses attends Partnership meetings. The Community Safety Officer also attends the Business Crime meetings and, at this stage, businesses are being encouraged to report crime, and advice is given on designing out crime. A quick reference information leaflet is currently being produced to assist in designing out crime. Using funding secured from the Home Office, a business crime survey is now underway. The findings of the survey will then be evaluated.</i></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consolidate relationships with Parishes to address local crime and disorder issues, Parish Conference, Parish crime and disorder reduction bids. 	<p>Annual January - March 2003</p>	<p>Home Office funding of £1500 2003/04 to fund a conference. Parish funding of £9,600 from the Home Office for security improvements in Stambridge and Hullbridge. 2003/04.</p>	<p><i>Specific geographical areas have since been noted and consideration is now being given to anti-social behaviour areas, where the police can exercise their new powers to disperse groups of people.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work with Essex County Council Youth Service and the Crime and Disorder Partnership to provide diversionary projects to address youth nuisance in the area 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Community Safety Team, Leisure Services, Youth Services.</p>	<p><i>On 10 March a risk project was launched, designed to educate young people in what constitutes a risk, and the dangers involved.</i></p>

<p>- With Partners, introduce greater project evaluation to Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and Rochford District Council schemes</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Officer time</p>	<p><i>Although evaluation is available for certain projects, there remains a need to increase this. It is now incorporated into the audit process and production of the new strategy throughout 2004.</i></p> <p><i>As previously stated, The audit process identified ongoing and new needs and the Home Office self assessment of the Rochford Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership was completed in March 2004. This will contribute to the draw down of the existing strategy and feed into the review process for the new strategy throughout 2004</i></p>
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<p>To work with partner community safety teams and Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships in the County to address community safety issues as identified in County Community Safety Review - Drugs and Alcohol.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - With partners in the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership identify actions from the Best Value Process, which are relevant for Rochford and to be actioned 	<p>2004/05</p>	<p>To be identified from successful Home Office funding bids in 2003/04 & new bids for 2004/05</p>	<p><i>Bids for drug and alcohol initiatives in 2004/05 were made as part of the overall Home Office bidding process</i></p>
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<p>- With partners in the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership identify resources required to implement the actions from the Best Value Process</p>	<p>June 2003 Completed for 2003/04</p>	<p>To be identified from successful Home Office funding bids in 2003/04 & new bids for 2004/05</p>	<p><i>New bids for 2004/05 were submitted to the Home Office on 1 April 2004 and are awaiting approval. There are 27 bids. The initiatives cover a wide area of combating crime and disorder. They include:</i></p> <p><i>Enhanced recreational facilities.</i> <i>Enhanced graffiti removal service.</i> <i>Road safety initiatives.</i> <i>Risk awareness to children.</i> <i>Home safety video and leaflet.</i> <i>Various drug education projects.</i> <i>Domestic Violence awareness in schools.</i> <i>Anger management for young people.</i> <i>Parenting programme.</i> <i>Engagement with business community.</i></p>
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<p>- Continue to work closely with Essex County Council and Castle Point Borough Council and the Drug Reference <i>and alcohol</i> Group to jointly implement the Drug and Alcohol related Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy, sharing costs and resources as appropriate</p>	<p>Ongoing <i>Waiting for Home Office approval of bids</i></p>	<p><i>Home Office bids for funding for 2004/05</i></p>	<p><i>The Drug and Alcohol Reference Group (DARG) represents both Rochford and Castle Point. Funding for joint initiatives is shared proportionately by the two authorities. Bids for funding from the Home Office for 2004/05 have been influenced by the Countywide 'Community Safety in Essex improvement schedule' that was produced in November 2003. This is the implementation document of the County Best Value Review on drugs and alcohol produced by the Best Value Implementation Support Group. A separate strategy for combating drugs will need to be produced for 2005-08 and published with the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy</i></p>
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Rochford District Council working together to improve community safety			
<p>Continue to mainstream community safety in all aspects of the Councils work, to ensure activity is 'joined up' and consistent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Corporate induction to Community Safety - Establish quarterly internal meetings of staff dealing with community safety issues to ensure that cross cutting issues are addressed, e.g. staff from housing, leisure, community planning, refuse collection, maintenance, economic development and environmental health and legal - Ensure all relevant staff are made aware of updates of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy and associated actions 	<p>Establish by December 2003</p> <p>June/Sept/Dec/April</p> <p>Bi-annual</p>	<p>Human Resources / Community Safety Team</p> <p>Officer time</p> <p>Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership</p>	<p><i>These three areas, focusing on information and communication are all linked.</i></p> <p><i>Community Safety will be integrated into the revised Council staff induction procedure being introduced by Human Resources this Spring.</i></p> <p><i>A draft Community Safety induction programme is prepared for consultation by OMT, for implementation in June 04.</i></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use the Community Safety Service Action Plan, linked to other Departmental Service Action Plans and the Corporate Plan, to focus the work of the team, to ensure that RDC priorities are addressed in a timely way 	Annual	Community Safety Team	Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agree the aim of the Council's community safety service and agree a range of performance measures to be reviewed annually 	September 2003	Community Safety Team	<p><i>It was agreed that this would be addressed in drawing up Terms of Reference for the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.</i></p> <p><i>The Terms of Reference have now been agreed and a Mission Statement is to follow prior to the next Partnership meeting in May. Performance measures have also recently been addressed in the Government's Self Assessment of Crime and Disorder Partnerships and the consequential Improvement Plan. Both have been completed and returned to the Home Office in April.</i></p>