

Newsletter

April/May 2014



Welcome

Welcome to this edition of the Tonbridge and Malling Community Safety Partnership (CSP) newsletter. The aim of the newsletter is to provide regular updates on some of the work of the Community Safety Partnership.

For further details about any of these items please contact Alison Finch, Safer and Stronger Communities Manager (Alison.finch@tmbc.gov.uk) or Anthony Garnett, Licensing and Community Safety Manager (anthony.garnett@tmbc.gov.uk)

What is the Community Safety Partnership?

The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is a body of organisations who work together to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour within the Borough. There is a CSP for each borough/district in the country. Organisations involved in our CSP include Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Kent Police, Kent Fire & Rescue Service, Kent County Council, the Clinical Commissioning Group and the Probation Service. Other members include Circle Russet (and other housing associations), Victim Support, Neighbourhood Watch and support services (such as Kenward Trust).

The CSP sets itself annual priorities and this year we have agreed to focus on tackling anti-social behaviour, substance misuse (drugs and alcohol) and domestic abuse. We will develop an action plan for each of these priorities stating how we will tackle these issues throughout the year. This does not mean that we will not tackle other crime types (such as burglaries) but that our primary focus will be on the three main priorities.

The Community Safety Unit (CSU) is the operational arm of the CSP and is based at the Borough Council offices in Kings Hill. The Borough Council members of staff who are employed to work in Community Safety are based there (Alison Finch, Safer & Stronger Communities Manager, Sarah Taylor, Anti-social Behaviour officer, Natasha Knibbs, Community Safety Assistant and Mandy Smith, Safer Towns Co-ordinator). There are also six police officers and two Community Wardens based there. The CSU deals mainly with reports of anti-social behaviour and we liaise closely with other agencies to ensure that victims receive the best possible service.



Members of the CSU

Further details about the CSP can be found at www.tmmcommunitysafety.org.uk

One Stop Shop opens



A 'One Stop Shop' for victims of Domestic Abuse has now opened in Tonbridge. This will be held every Wednesday from 9.30am until 11.30am at 4 New Wharf Road, Tonbridge and will allow anyone affected by domestic abuse to 'drop in' and get support and advice from a number of agencies. Agencies involved include DAVSS (Domestic Abuse Volunteer Support Services), North Kent Women's Aid, Circle Russet and TMBC Housing. A firm of solicitors will be available over the telephone. The One Stop Shop has been funded through the Community Safety Partnership.

Safer Towns Partnership

Businesses in Tonbridge and Malling are able to sign up to the Tonbridge and Malling Safer Towns scheme which is designed to strengthen the local business community, in turn making the borough safer.

The aim of the Safer Town Partnership is to reduce crime and the fear of crime; to prevent retail crime by reducing the risks for opportunist criminals and to prevent anti-social behaviour associated with a night time economy. Businesses signed up to the scheme can benefit from intelligence and information on active criminals and those who have been served with exclusion notices. Members can also find out about crime trends, view incident reports and access up to date photos, all via a networked database.

Members can also hire radios to communicate with other members of the scheme. Radio traffic is then monitored by the local CCTV centre, local police, the Safer Town's Co-ordinator (Mandy Smith) and other businesses.

Mandy also liaises closely with the Police and works with them to prevent shoplifting, criminal damage and other offences. In 2013 Mandy won an award at the Safer Business Awards and received a distinction from the Business Crime Reduction Partnership.

For more information on the Safer Towns scheme contact Mandy Smith, Safer Town's Co-ordinator at Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council on 01732 876024 or email mandy.smith@tmbc.gov.uk



Re-opening of AMP (formerly SOS) in Tonbridge

The AMP nightclub in Tonbridge (formerly known as SOS) will re-open on Saturday 19 April. Tonbridge & Malling Licencing and Kent Police Licencing have been working with the owners on their licence. Kent Police will be patrolling the area on the opening night to prevent any anti-social behaviour associated with the patrons of the Club.

Tackling nuisance motorbikes



The CSU is receiving regular reports of nuisance motorcyclists meeting near the Oakdene Café in Wrotham Heath. In order to tackle this we arranged a multi-agency meeting involving Kent Police, TMBC, KCC Road Safety and Kent Fire & Rescue Service to look at actions that we could take to prevent the nuisance behaviour. From this meeting we agreed that each agency would attend the events every Wednesday during May and would speak to the motorcyclists about dangerous driving. We will also look at possible enforcement powers and will be exploring whether there is any possibility of changing the road layout to make it more difficult to drive dangerously. We hope that these actions will prevent the small minority of motorcyclists from carrying out their dangerous behaviour and that those who are meeting with no problems can continue to do this.

We will provide further updates in the next newsletter.

Launch of Community Safety Partnership Twitter and Facebook sites

The Community Safety Partnership is launching a twitter feed and Facebook site to enable us to send out messages about events, crime prevention and support available. This will be available from the beginning of May 2014.



Find us on Twitter at TM_CSP and search for us on Facebook (Tonbridge and Malling Community Safety Partnership).

New Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) Act 2014

The new ASB, Crime and Policing Act received its Royal Assent on 13 March 2014. This Act contains a variety of measures to protect the public including anti-social behaviour, dangerous dogs, forced marriage, sexual harm and illegal firearms used by gangs and in organised crime.

The ASB part of the Act replaces the existing 19 powers to deal with anti-social behaviour with six. For example, Anti-social Behaviour Orders will be replaced by an Injunction to prevent nuisance and annoyance and Designated Public Places Orders will be replaced by Public Spaces Protection Notices. The Act also gives victims more powers to ensure that actions are taken. These tools will be the Community Trigger and the Community Remedy.

We are expecting that the Act will be enacted in the autumn 2014. Before this time we hope to arrange some training for both Members and front line staff. We will provide details of this training in due course.

Glossary of Community Safety Terms

There are a lot of acronyms used within the Community Safety 'world' and we felt it might be useful to list some of the most common ones below.

Acronym	Meaning
ASB	Anti-social behaviour
CCG	Clinical Commissioning Group
CDAP	Community Domestic Abuse Perpetrators programme – a self-referral programme for domestic abuse offenders who want to change
CRC	Community Rehabilitation Company (new company which will work with low to medium risk offenders)
CRI	Acronym doesn't stand for anything but CRI is a drug and alcohol treatment support agency.
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
CSU	Community Safety Unit
DA	Domestic Abuse
DAVSS	Domestic Abuse Volunteer Support Service
IDVA	Independent Domestic Violence Advisor
IBA	Identification and Brief Advice (for alcohol use)
ISVA	Independent Sexual Violence Advisor
KCAP	Kent Community Alcohol Partnership
KDAAT	Kent Drug and Alcohol Action Team
KFRS	Kent Fire & Rescue Service
MARAC	Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference (for high risk victims of domestic abuse)
NKWA	North Kent Women's Aid
PCC	Police and Crime Commissioner
YISP	Youth Intervention Support Programme – support for young people at risk of entering the criminal justice system

Useful contact details

Community Safety Unit	Csp@tmbc.gov.uk	01732 876132
Sarah Taylor	Anti-Social Behaviour Officer, csp@tmbc.gov.uk	01732 876149
Kent Police	To report a non 999 call	101
Kent Crimestoppers	Calls are free and anonymous	0800 555 111
KCC Community Wardens	Contact Martin Smith, Community Warden Supervisor	07969 584173
DAVSS	Offer support for victims of Domestic Abuse	01892 570538
North Kent Women's Aid	Offer support for victims of Domestic Abuse	0800 9179948

Newsletter produced by Tonbridge and Malling CSP

Enquires to Alison Finch, Safer and Stronger Communities Manager, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19 4LZ, Tel: 01732 876132 Email: csp@tmbc.gov.uk