

TO: Community Safety Partnership Executive
DATE: Friday 17th October 2025
SUBJECT: Quarter 2 - Strategic Leads Update Report

1. Introduction

This report provides a summary of the key action and performance updates for discussion in the 2025/26 Swale Community Safety Plan.

Priority 1	Domestic Abuse		
Lead	SATEDA – Carey Philpott		
Performance Stats	Previous Rolling Year (September 2023-end August 2024)	Current Rolling Year (September 2024-end August 2025)	Change
No. of Domestic Abuse incidents across the Borough of Swale (Kent Police).	4635	4683	+48 incidents +1%
Actions	Status	Update	
1.1 Promotion of services available to both professionals and the community	In progress	DA professionals event scheduled for 16 days of action. Ongoing information sharing from KCC.	
1.2 Enhanced training focusing on specialist areas such as suicide awareness, dual allegations, alongside ensuring all partners have access to basic domestic abuse awareness training	In progress	Information on Prevent training shared VRU Resources: Support for Youth Safety and Wellbeing	
1.3 Support delivery of County Domestic Abuse Delivery Plan	In progress	DA Forum meet regularly. There are no further updates on the renewal of the KCC commission. There is likely to be a further/reviewed consultation as considerable time has passed since the original one was completed.	
1.4 Delivery of key actions to tackle VAWG	In progress	HR cards arranged to be distributed in November. Kent Police are hosting VAWG events but not always linking in to specialist services	
1.5 SATEDA Prevent Pilot	In progress	Due to change of direction from the home	

Project		office this has been paused. The trial period identified several perpetrators who met the study threshold, these were referred on to the relevant team but no further action taken.	
Key Issues/Emerging Trends			
News: The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) confirmed that, from 15 September 2025, whenever a non-molestation order is made in any family court in England and Wales, details of that order will be automatically notified to the police. There is an automated process for the courts to pass information about the non-molestation orders to ACRO Criminal Record Office. ACRO staff will update the Police National Computer (PNC). Forces are then automatically notified so further analysis can take place locally and additional safeguarding measures can be implemented where necessary. This can include, for example, conducting checks against information they already hold on their systems, identifying high risk cases and considering whether any action is appropriate, such as safety plans for victims. There is sector wide concern over the increasing anti-immigration narrative that cites immigration as widely inked to VAWG. Sector specialists wrote to the KCC leader to highlight their concerns. The Violence Against Women and Girls strategy has was due to be released by the government in September. This is still to happen. Single sex ruling – the sector are working to understand the implications for their delivery.			
DA Sub Group – Key Updates			
Nothing of note to discuss			
Cross Cutting Themes (Comments/Impact on priority/specific actions undertaken)			
Reducing Reoffending Funding Risk Communication Young people			
Nothing of note to discuss			
Priority 2	Crime and Serious Violence		
Lead	Kent Police – Vanessa Foster		
Performance Stats	Previous Rolling Year (September	Current Rolling Year (September	Change

	2023-end August 2024)	2024-end August 2025)	
Violence Against the Person (VATP)	6155	6324	+169 incidents +2.7%
Burglary (Business and Community)	154	156	+2 incidents +1.3%
Criminal Damage	1593	1583	-10 incidents -0.6%
Shoplifting	1412	1405	-7 incidents -0.5%
Actions	Status	Update	
2.1 Work with Kent-wide partners to continue response to Serious Violence	In progress	Grip hotspots have been granted further funding until April and regularly have officers in the dedicated zones where violence is anticipated. There have been two incidents of note in Sittingbourne over the summer involving knives. Both have been arrested and remanded. Our new Town Centre team are aware of those that are likely to be involved in harm and utilising stop search powers more often to negate any further knife incidents. Working with rough sleepers team to ensure the safety of those sleeping in public areas. Joint working with The Quays and identifying issues likely to come from here and monitoring certain individuals.	
2.2 Continue to monitor and respond to localised crime trends and support response as needed	In progress	Crime had a noticeable increase when the traveller encampments were at Milton in the summer. This was a reoccurring theme. Open spaces have now secured the park with fencing which should negate further incidents and next summer should naturally see a reduction in the ASB, thefts and violence that stemmed from the influx of people. Nuisance vehicles in Faversham have been repeatedly brought to Kent polices attention. This has been an ongoing work stream. Vehicles have been identified and joint working with housing meant 11 CPWS have been issued and tickets for driving offences. Working with SBC and the land over to secure bollards to negate the vehicles utilising the field has led to a reduction in calls.	

Key Issues/Emerging Trends

Our VAWG strategy continues to be a priority and we ensure all neighbourhood officers have an event a month in their local wards, this takes the form of Walk and Talk events as well as beat officers attending regular community events and surgeries within their beat and ensuring that VAWG literature is provided and a safe space for people who may wish to report. This is monitored through the CSU Inspector for Swale. We are committed to arresting offenders for violence against women and girls at the earliest opportunity. Our local policing team is relentless in looking for Swale outstanding domestic abuse suspects ensuring the safety of the victim is at the forefront. Arrests of Domestic Abuse Suspects are also identified and tasked via our tasking system, to ensure prompt attendance to locate and arrest.

District Contextual Safeguarding Meeting – Key Updates

Nothing of note to discuss

Cross Cutting Themes (Comments/Impact on priority/specific actions undertaken)

Reducing Reoffending
Funding Risk
Communication
Young People

Nothing of note to discuss

Priority 3	ASB		
Lead	Southern Housing – Alanna Gallacher		
Performance Stats	Previous Rolling Year (September 2023-end August 2024)	Current Rolling Year (September 2024-end August 2025)	Change
ASB Incidents reported to Kent Police	2769	3140	+371 incidents +13.4%
Actions	Status	Update	
3.1 Continue joint response to tackle ASB through the Community Safety Unit	In progress	Southern Housing remains committed to tackling anti-social behaviour through a strong and proactive partnership with Kent Police and the Community Safety Unit. In June, we took part in Swale Police's Community Safety Day, which was well received by the community, our residents and partners. We've also visited the Kent Police control room to strengthen our	

		understanding and collaboration. Our ASB Officers maintain regular contact with all of Kent Police's CSU teams, and each officer has an assigned Area of Influence, providing Kent Police with a clear single point of contact for ASB matters. These efforts are part of our ongoing work to rebuild and enhance the relationship between Southern Housing and Kent Police, ensuring a more coordinated and effective response to community safety.
3.2 Explore funding opportunities for street marshals	Complete	Funding secured through Swale Crime Reduction Grant from PCC which enabled x2 street marshals to cover Sheerness and Sittingbourne TCs for 5 weeks over the Summer holidays – w/c 28/07-25/08. There was one marshal per town covering x3 6 hour shifts each week. Marshals worked closely with Police/Swale CCTV.
3.3 Delivery of dedicated operations and campaigns, tackling location based problems as required	In progress	We remain ready to support Kent Police with dedicated operations and campaigns whenever needed, particularly in response to location-based issues. Our partnership has grown stronger through increased joint working with the Child-Centred Policing Team, ensuring a more holistic approach to community safety.
Key Issues/Emerging Trends		
Discussed above		
Weekly Tasking and Coordination Group – Key Updates		
Weekly group continues to meet with good representation from partners to discuss current ASB incidents, emerging issues and multi-agency action.		
Cross Cutting Themes (Comments/Impact on priority/specific actions undertaken)		
Reducing Reoffending Communication Funding Risk Young People		
Nothing of note to discuss		

Priority 4	Supporting Vulnerable People		
Lead	SBC – Steph Curtis		
Performance Stats	Previous Rolling Year (September 2023-end August 2024)	Current Rolling Year (September 2024-end August 2025)	Change
Vulnerable/repeatedly targeted callers (Kent Police)	Data no longer provided		
No. referrals to Swale Vulnerability Panel	30	42	+12 referrals
Actions	Status	Update	
4.1 Continuation of complex needs pilot	In progress	Complex needs project continues to be delivered and is funded until March 26 currently.	
4.2 Prevent Training and Awareness	In progress	Prevent training has been organised specifically for Swale partners, with ongoing access to wider training through KCMSP website. Considering whether community tension specific inputs may be of use.	
4.3 Continuation of Cost of Living work through the Community and Partnerships Team, ensuring linkage with to impacts on Community Safety and young people	In progress	Cost of living work continues with good engagement with the VCSE.	
4.4 Explore options around potential implementation of Making Every Adult Matter Project in Swale	Not yet started	Awaiting an update from health partners.	
4.5 Engagement with Medway and Swale Health and Care Partnership Projects	In progress	Ongoing – good relationships and project delivery with Swale HCP. Need to consider any changes to joint working following their restructure. Jointly delivered Baton of Hope Swale event and delivering secondary school roadshows for young people currently.	
4.6 Support the reintroduction of Street Pastors in Sittingbourne	In progress	Ongoing – Street Pastors have increased their numbers and are looking to increase patrols to fortnightly. Performance report is shared after each session.	
4.7 Review of suicide/self harm data in Swale	In progress	Awaiting report to be finalised to share	
4.8 Launch of Loneliness Project in Swale	In progress	Project has begun although there have been resourcing difficulties.	
Key Issues/Emerging Trends			

There has been an increase in community tensions across the borough, as has been seen nationally, specifically linked to concerns around immigration. There have been a number of protests and counter protests within the Faversham area, with concerns principally focused around the UASC centre. SBC are undertaking work with staff to review the reporting of CT related concerns and will be providing a briefing note for staff of concerns to look out for. Also linking in with KCC/MHCLG for any suggestions of wider community based work.

Vulnerability Panel – Key Updates

Good attendance continues with a good level of referrals. Have identified that limited to referrals received from Kent Police so will work with local teams to determine if awareness raising of the panel needs to take place.

Cross Cutting Themes (Comments/Impact on priority/specific actions undertaken)

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Young people – the youth impact group had continue to run following being set-up last year as a result of cuts in funding to youth services in particular. Despite a review of attendees to this group, it has not been action focused and it has been difficult to demonstrate its impact. The group has been set-up to monitor the impact of this funding loss and although there has been ASB through the summer it is not believed to have been as significant as the year before – albeit this may have been due to police presence and activity. A next meeting of this group is not currently scheduled and it is requested that the executive group determine next steps for this work if any.