



Central  
Bedfordshire  
**Together**

# Community Safety Partnership Plan 2009 - 2012

*Refreshed for 2011*

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## Glossary of Terms

Acronym	Description
ABG	Area Based Grant
ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour
BDAT	Bedfordshire Drugs & Alcohol Action Team
CAA	Comprehensive Area Assessment
CSE	Community Safety Executive
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
GP	General Practitioner
GO	Government Office
IDEA	Improvement & Development Agency
IOM	Integrated Offender Management
LAA	Local Area Agreement
LCJB	Local Criminal Justice Board
LSP	Local Strategic Partnership
MARAC	Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference
NHS	National Health Service
NI	National Indicator
ODG	Operational Delivery Group
PCT	Primary Care Trust
TOR	Terms of Reference

## Introduction

### Community Safety

Community safety is an area of concern for all communities. It is consistently a high public priority, and one that can affect the quality of life for individuals and entire communities. In recent years it has been acknowledged that tackling community safety issues cannot be done by the police alone, but is dependent on a number of organisations, and services, working together to find solutions to community problems.

This coordinated approach was encapsulated in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, which made it a statutory duty for each local authority area to have a Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in place, made up of representatives from six statutory partners. In Central Bedfordshire the CSP is:

#### Statutory Partners

Central Bedfordshire Council
Bedfordshire Police Authority
Bedfordshire Police
Bedfordshire & Luton Combined Fire Authority and Bedfordshire & Luton Fire & Rescue Service
NHS Bedfordshire
Bedfordshire Probation Trust

Community safety covers a broad area of policy including, but not limited to:

- \* Policing
- \* Reduce Re-offending
- \* Fire
- \* Domestic Abuse
- \* Crime & Disorder
- \* Substance Misuse
- \* Anti-Social Behaviour
- \* Safeguarding Adults & Children

### Community Safety Aims

Community safety aims to reduce crime and disorder, antisocial behaviour and other behaviour affecting the local environment, as well as reducing the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances, reduce the fear of crime and increase public confidence in our service.

As one of the five thematic partnerships of the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)<sup>1</sup>, community safety has an integral role in achieving the LSP Vision of *'Globally connected, delivering sustainable growth to ensure green, prosperous and ambitious place for the benefit of all'*. Delivering to the three priorities will have a positive effect on greater economic and community prosperity, sustainable growth and raising standards.

<sup>1</sup> See page 15 for further details on the LSP

## Central Bedfordshire Community Safety Partnership Plan

This Community Safety Plan is a statutory document, and sets out the priorities for action within Central Bedfordshire. Each year the community safety priorities are refreshed through a partnership strategic assessment process<sup>2</sup>. These priorities will inform not only the work of the Community Safety Team but also the statutory partners.

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<sup>2</sup> A Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment is an annual statutory requirement for every CSP. Using partnership data, information and intelligence, areas of risk and vulnerability are highlighted, priority areas are identified and recommendations are made. These priority areas identify what the CSP should collectively work towards over the following 12 months.

## Partnership Changes & Challenges

Since the last Community Safety Partnership Plan (2010 – 2011), there have been significant changes within the partnership due to the new coalition government coming to power in May 2010.

*The reduction of funding to public sector organisations has been a key issue during 2010. Area Based Grant (ABG) which had been ring fenced for CSPs was reduced by 25% in 2010, but from April 2011 we are waiting to hear if there will be any element of grant allocated. This impacts on the commissioning process of the CSP and also the ABG funded staff within the team.*

It is anticipated that Bedfordshire Police Authority will be replaced by a new 'Police & Crime Commissioner' elected by the public in May 2012. The Commissioner will be directly accountable to voters every four years and will be supported by a panel made up of other elected and independent members. That person will continue to have statutory powers for holding the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of efficient and effective service through setting the strategic direction, and will oversee value for money and performance. The Commissioner will have the power to request CSPs work together on county wide initiatives, where there is more than one CSP operating

In July 2010, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Police Authorities considered a merger between the two forces. Both parties needed agreement to take merger to the first stage of public consultation. Hertfordshire Police Authority did not agree to continue with the merger and merger plans were stopped. Both forces were asked to consider further collaboration of resources as a way forward.

The Health service is changing its structures. Approximately 80% of the Health budget is held by local managers working for Primary Care Trusts (PCTs), who are effectively in charge of commissioning local services, such as hospitals, GPs, mental health units and community clinics. Ministers intend to transfer much of that responsibility to GPs working in consortiums across the country. Both PCT's and regional bodies known as Strategic Health Authorities are likely to be phased out over the next three years. Timescales could see GPs starting to pilot the plans from 2010, before full roll out is completed by April 2013.

Central Bedfordshire Council is implementing a number of measures to address the significant public sector budget cuts and the need to identify substantial savings over the next three years. It is inevitable that some services will cease or be reduced, structures will change and there will be greater collaboration with other service areas. Within the Community Safety Department, we need to ensure a level of service to our communities, as well as making the most efficient use of available resources. Cross departmental, joint partnership working and linking of projects is essential.

Chief Officers of organisations across Bedfordshire meet on a regular basis to discuss ways forward with collaboration of resources, possible co-location of resources and joint working. This is an area which Bedfordshire will continue to progress, looking to achieve effective efficiency savings.

Regional Government Offices (GOs), including GO East (Central Bedfordshire's GO) are being closed over the next few months across England & Wales. Currently we do not know the full impact this will have on the partnership, but there will be no regional support or monitoring for the CSP.

The national indicators (NIs) and performance targets, which CSPs and statutory partners worked towards, have been revised. There are now a reduced suite of indicators that authorities need to supply performance data for, but the overall onus is on the CSP to identify local outcomes and measures which really impact in their communities for both safety and quality of life issues. Central Government have indicated they will no longer manage performance; it is now to be dealt with at a local level.

### **Responses to change**

In response to this changing partnership it is essential that the CSP pools its resources and combine efforts to support realistic outcomes and goals<sup>3</sup>. To ensure this happens we need to review the work that we do and the outcomes of that work to ensure resources are directed towards the CSP priorities. Governance and leadership within the CSP needs to be strong and robust to challenge where this is not happening, and make recommendations to partners to ensure work takes place.

During 2010 the CSP Partnership Analyst was recruited. The analyst provides support to the CSP in terms of data sharing, monitoring performance, looking at areas of risk and most recently supporting the strategic assessment process. The Performance Officer monitors changes across the CSP landscape so we are able to respond to alterations in policy, practice and legislation.

As performance measures have now been localised, it allows the CSP to utilise information, intelligence and results from consultations. NI's that require performance data will be managed as performance matters and not included as strategic work of the CSP just because we need to report the statistics.

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<sup>3</sup> A CSP Executive away day is planned for March 2011. At this event partners will be asked to identify resources available towards achieving our priorities, and what collaboration can take place

In early 2010 the three CSP's for Bedfordshire came together to look at issues surrounding Sexual Violence and Abuse. Prior to this there was no involvement in this agenda, or collaboration across the area. The Sexual Abuse group meets on a monthly basis and joins agencies such as Health, Police, Children's Services, and Domestic Abuse in the sexual abuse agenda. A county workshop was held in the summer 2010 to draw together good practice, ideas towards a Sexual Abuse Action Plan, scanning of what partners were doing on this agenda, and to look at gaps and risks. From this event a Sexual Abuse Action Plan has been drawn up and agreed, and will be developed moving forward. Each of the CSP representatives on this group provide an update to their respective CSP Executives to ensure there is a clear governance structure in place.



## Reviewing the CSP

Ensuring that the CSP is robust and working towards the right priority areas has been essential in the past year. With considerable change around the CSP it is important to look at what we have done and our outcomes. As part of this process there have been two assessments of the CSP and its work during 2010 – 2011.

### 1. *Improvement and Development Agency Peer Review (IDEA)*

The IDEA offered CSPs across the country the opportunity for a ‘health check’ of their work and partnerships. Central Bedfordshire CSP invited the review team, to look at how we were performing against the Hallmarks of Effective Partnership Working<sup>4</sup>, areas of good practice, areas for improvement and potential areas of growth. The process was that of a critical friend rather than a review or an audit.

In July 2010 the review team spent time with each of the statutory CSP Partners and wider partner agencies, carrying out one to one and team interviews. Following the review a report of findings was generated and sent to the CSP, which noted five key strategic priority areas (appendix A).

This findings report will be taken to the CSP Executive, for an action plan to be agreed and owners to be identified.

### 2. *Community Safety Partnership ‘Looking Ahead’*

This internal report drew attention to areas the CSP needs to be aware of over the next 12 months. It reviewed areas of risk to the partnership, together with possible recommendations and owners.

The report was used as a discussion tool at the Partnership Away Day in June 2010<sup>5</sup>. Areas where further in-depth work is needed were identified, given a risk factor together with an appropriate owner.

This work was taken into consideration with the findings report for the IDEA to ensure they were linked and duplication of actions and resources did not take place.

Two of the main recommendations from both of the reviews were:

- Alignment of the Bedfordshire Drugs & Alcohol Action Team (BDAT) into the governance of the CSP

<sup>4</sup> See page 10 for further details on the Hallmarks for Effective Partnership Working

<sup>5</sup> Partnership Away Day took place on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2010. Statutory partners and wider partner agencies attended in the afternoon to review the work that needed to take place over the next 12 months and areas of risk to the partnership.

- Communication & Understanding – improvements with our partners

The BDAT currently have a governance structure that sits outside of the CSP, and as such it has been highlighted that structures should be reviewed to ensure that we are working effectively with all of our various parts. This will provide a focus on the relationship between the BDAT and the CSP. Within Luton the BDAT links to the CSP Executive, so from this, it is clear that re-aligning the governance arrangements is achievable.

To address the issue of communication and understanding, a CSP Executive Partnership away day is planned in March 2011, which will concentrate on joint work towards the priority areas and collaboration of our resources. This should strengthen the understanding between partners of what is required within the CSP and what individual / organisation roles are within that.

### Hallmarks

As part of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships reform Programme, the Home Office developed the ‘Hallmarks of Effective Partnership Working’<sup>6</sup>. These statutory requirements represent the key aspects of partnership working that underpin effective delivery through partnerships.

Partnerships can use them to check their own effectiveness and to identify areas for improvement. The six elements are:

Hallmark
Empowerment and Effective Leadership
Visible and Constructive Accountability
Intelligence-Led Business Process
Effective and Responsive Delivery Structures
Engaged Communities
Appropriate Skills and Knowledge

Each hallmark comprises of two elements which are:

1. New statutory elements for partnership working
2. Suggested practice to achieve increased effective partnership, using the statutory requirements as a foundation

In June 2010 the CSP reviewed its progress towards these six hallmarks to ensure it was on track. The hallmarks were also used as the base for the IDEA Peer Review, and the outcomes were incorporated within their review report.

<sup>6</sup> The new coalition government are retaining the Hallmarks of Effective Partnership Working, but our work towards them is not monitored or audited centrally

## Results against our priorities in 2010 – 2011

Performance against the six CSP priorities for 2010 – 2011 has been noted below:

Priority	Result
<p>Reduce re-offending</p> <p>We plan to work with re-offenders and pool our resources, to help re-offenders turn away from crime, using punishment and reform</p>	<p>Central Bedfordshire completed 2009/10 with a reduction in Prolific and Persistent Offender (PPO) reoffending. Although the 9% reduction did not meet the 16% target set, year end cumulative performance was better than expected and improved within the last quarter of the year. The predicted outturn for 2010/11 is for performance to have improved and is rated as a likely green result.</p>
<p>Reduce Substance Misuse – Drugs &amp; Alcohol</p> <p>We aim to set up more intervention and treatment programs to help those adults and young people who are addicted to drugs and alcohol</p>	<p>Performance is on track against our target for Numbers in Effective Treatment for 2010/11 with 947 people already being in treatment in Quarter 1 against an end of year target of 843. In comparison to the same time last year there were 819 people in treatment.</p> <p>Work within the Drugs and Alcohol Team is focused on improving planned exits from drug treatment as the agenda moves towards outcomes performance monitoring.</p>
<p>Reduce Serious Acquisitive Crime</p> <p>We aim to reduce crime and the fear of crime, especially targeting burglary, vehicle offences and robberies</p>	<p>Performance for Quarter 2 2010/11 has been graded Amber due to continued poor performance in two of the four SAC offence areas. Forecasting end of year performance shows us to be significantly over target for both the number of recorded Robberies and House Burglaries. However, over all areas of SAC we are forecasted to perform slightly better than our target. This is due to a significant reduction in vehicle crime.</p>
<p>Reduce Anti Social Behaviour</p> <p>To help combat anti-social behaviour, we will pull our resources together and use prevention, intelligence and enforcement</p>	<p>ASB is currently forecast to have reduced by 5% compared to 2009/10. There have been reductions across all three Inspector Lead Neighbourhood Areas (ILNA) with a significant reduction seen in Ampthill and Biggleswade. However, it is noted that not all ASB is reported or recorded accurately at the moment</p>
<p>Reduce Domestic Abuse</p> <p>We aim to provide more professional support to those at risk of domestic abuse, working closely with those involved in</p>	<p>Within Central Bedfordshire MARAC during Quarter 2 2010/11 there has been a slight increase in the numbers of cases being heard. There has been a positive development with the number of referrals from non-police agencies increasing to 37%. This is close to Co-ordinated Action Against Domestic</p>

Priority	Result
repeat incidents of domestic abuse, with clear routes into safeguarding adults and children	Violence (CAADA's) guidelines of 40%.
<p data-bbox="236 479 587 546"><b>Casualty Reduction (Road Safety)</b></p> <p data-bbox="236 577 624 853">We aim to reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured on our roads using a multi-agency approach looking at how to make our roads safer through engineering, raising safety awareness through education and where necessary the use of enforcement</p>	<p data-bbox="649 398 1345 936">From January to September 2010, Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) casualties in Central Bedfordshire were up 5% compared to the same period in 2009, increasing from 110 to 116. It should be noted that 2010 is the final year of a ten year national and five year local strategy to reduce the number of KSI casualties by 40% compared to 1994-98 annual average. For Central Bedfordshire, this means a reduction from 191 (94-98 annual average) to no more than 115 in 2010. It is considered best practice to view a minimum of three years casualty data to smooth annual variances. From 2007 to 2009, there was an annual average of 132 KSI casualties per year in Central Bedfordshire. This equates to 30% reduction from the baseline of 191 (94 to 98 annual averages)</p>

In 2010 - 2011 we highlighted the areas below as issues we would be addressing. The results for these have now been added:

What we said we would do:	Outcomes:
Establish a Radio link scheme in the north of Central Bedfordshire	<p><b>Completed</b> Biggleswade Town Centre is now part of Radio Link. Talks with Ampthill are underway to establish a scheme there</p>
Implement and review multi-agency licensed premise visits across Central Bedfordshire	<p><b>Completed</b> Multi-Agency Licensed premises visits are now under way each quarter in the both the North and South of the area. Trading Standards, Police &amp; Fire all combine resources to visit premises and carry out inspections</p>
Work towards the NHS Bedfordshire Strategy 'Healthier Bedfordshire', around the key priorities including Alcohol & Offenders	<p><b>Completed</b> The IOM programme is fully supported within Central Beds, and as part of this, services for alcohol misuse are supplied for offenders. BDAT are also aware of the additional support that alcohol services require across Central Beds</p>
Work to Implement the Central Bedfordshire approach to No Cold Calling Zones	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p>
Recruit a Partnership Analyst to the Community Safety Partnership Team	<p><b>Completed</b> Analyst recruited and is in place as of August 2010</p>
Develop key analytical products to inform an intelligence led approach to our community safety priorities	<p><b>Ongoing</b> Strategic Assessment has been created for 2011 – 2012 which has identified the CSP Priorities. These will be subject to further analysis in 2011-2012</p>
Review the Domestic Abuse Strategy and Domestic Abuse Action Plan and include links with safeguarding adults and children	<p><b>Completed</b> Review has taken place and work around Sexual Violence has started across the county. A linked CSP group has established a Countywide Action Plan and governance under each CSP</p>
Review case management procedures for Anti-Social Behaviour	<p><b>Ongoing</b> A pilot witness risk assessment process is being trialed for cases being co-ordinated by the CBC anti-social behaviour team from Nov 2010. The council is also in the early stages of procuring a new case management system that will have the potential for</p>

What we said we would do:	Outcomes:
	partner data access.
Agree and implement a Community Safety Communications Plan (internal and external) which will encompass all of the Statutory Partners	<p><b>Completed</b> Communications Protocol is in place across all of the statutory partners. Regular messages from the CSP are communicated</p>
In the last two quarters of the year undertake scoping work around the current public engagement mechanisms within Safer Neighbourhood Policing Teams and the links/impact on Community Safety Forums & Community Safety Groups.	<p><b>Completed</b> The Community Engagement review has taken place and the new Lets Talk Together Meetings will begin in Jan 2011. These build on the previous Community Safety Forums expanding the information and membership to them</p>
Review the proposals for Area Based Grant funding, and ensure they are robust going forward to the next year	<p><b>Ongoing</b> Due to significant changes regarding funding from the new coalition government, this has changed significantly. See previous section for details</p>
Implement the Integrated Offender Management Programme which informs NI 30 – Reduce Reoffending	<p><b>Ongoing</b> IOM has been rolled out in early 2011. The CSP has been a standing member on The Implementation &amp; Steering Groups, ensuring it is linked into this work and joining up partners activities</p>
Support the publicity campaign being run by the Safeguarding Adults Safeguarding Board	<p><b>Completed</b> Adult Services and Children’s Services are both now attendees at the ODG for the partnership. Communication campaigns are shared and taken on board by partners who are present</p>

## Central Bedfordshire Framework

The Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) is a non-statutory, multi-agency partnership, which match local authority boundaries. The LSP brings together the different parts of the public, private, voluntary and community sector; allowing different initiatives and services to support one another so they can work together more effectively.

The LSP has five Thematic Groups<sup>7</sup> that bring together key service providers and service users for a particular subject. The primary function of each group is to develop and implement action plans for their thematic priority area. The CSP is one of these thematic groups.

The CSP has a formal governance and structure which ensures the right people are meeting and participating at the right level that specialists are available in the right arenas; work is focussed and targeted.

### *The Community Safety Executive Group*

- Attendees are senior officers from the statutory partners, together with senior membership from our wider partners and linked agencies
- Quarterly meeting
- The group considers the Strategic Assessment, Partnership Plan, Funding, Performance, Operational Delivery Group (ODG) (in full if not used previously) Updates, Partnership updates, Best Practice and Compliance with National Standards
- Sign off and authorise recommendations made by the ODG

### *The Operational Delivery Group (ODG)*

- The aim of the group is to take a co-ordinated, problem solving approach to identifying, planning & implementing approved outcomes to support the priorities in the Partnership Plan
- Monthly meeting
- Recommend the best way forward on high risk areas and priorities, and offer recommendations to the Executive Group to authorise and agree
- Review performance and outcomes against our priority areas
- Partners will inform the group of progress in their areas, their action plans and from their Delivery groups

Underpinning this further are Delivery groups, based on our priority areas. In 2010 – 2011 there were seven groups, who were working with a Delivery Plan / Action Plan (appendix B). These plans outlined what priority areas the

<sup>7</sup> The five Thematic Groups are Community Safety, Stronger Communities, Children's Trust, Healthier Communities & Older People Partnership, Environment & Economy Thematic Partnership

delivery groups were working on, which agency was leading on the issue, the progress made to date and any performance measures.

As the CSP has refreshed its priorities for 2011 – 2012<sup>8</sup> we need to ensure that our Delivery groups are also in line with our priorities. We therefore suggest that the groups are re-aligned (appendix C) to:

Delivery Group	Purpose
Integrated Offender Management Commissioning Group	Group oversees the IOM initiative in Bedfordshire & Tactical Delivery
Integrated Offender Manager Implementation Group	
Domestic Abuse Steering Group	To set out a co-ordinated approach to domestic abuse in Bedfordshire (ex Luton), that will be agreed & implemented by all partners & agencies, with clear links to safeguarding adults and children
Anti-Social Behaviour Group	Group reviews ASB partnership activity, produces an ASB Action Plan and ensures consistency across the agencies that combat ASB. Safeguarding vulnerable members of the community are key.
Partnership Tasking Group	This group is the practical arm of the ODG, dealing with live time issues that need to be addressed
Intelligence Group	Partners will be tasked with data requirements for the Strategic Assessment. Environmental scanning and data sharing takes place

Delivery plans have to be outcome focused, and ensure that they reflect true partnership activity rather than every day business.

The high level details from the plans are fed back through the ODG and the Community Safety Executive, ensuring our priorities are on track, we have the right resources across the partnership working towards the same goals and we can monitor progress on recommended initiatives and operations.

It is noted that within each organisation there are other groups that meet, and other agencies that feed into this process. High level issues are presented by the relevant representative at the ODG. If there is a requirement, they may be taken further by the partnership.

<sup>8</sup> See page 17 for the CSP Priorities in 2011 - 2012



## Our Priorities 2011 - 2012

A Partnership Strategic Assessment is completed on an annual basis and identifies the high risk areas to the CSP. It analyses priority areas that need to be tackled and provides recommendations for the way forward.

This year each partner was asked to provide their areas of risk and priorities, which were scored against set criteria. Using this process ensured that we were able to compare partnership risks against each other in an intelligent and structured way. Only the high risk issues identified in the matrix were developed and analysed in the strategic assessment. The end result ensures that we are working on the most important issues for the CSP (a copy of the risk matrix is shown as appendix D).

The CSP priorities for 2011 - 2012 have been identified as:

Priority	Description	Outcome
Anti-Social Behaviour	To help combat repeat victimisation of anti-social behaviour we will pull our resources together to support victims and their families, support vulnerable members of the community, and tackle those who commit anti-social behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Reduction in repeat victims</li> <li>* Better co-ordinated working between partners and agencies</li> <li>* Better support to repeat victims</li> <li>* Increased awareness of services in the community</li> <li>* An analysis of key ASB issues in Central Bedfordshire</li> </ul>
Re-Offending	We aim to reduce the high number of offences that are committed by the small % of offenders who regularly commit them. We aim to support and engage with IOM <sup>9</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Reduction in serious acquisitive crime offences</li> <li>* Reduction in re-offending</li> <li>* Implementation of the IOM Programme</li> <li>* Partnership activity in the 7 pathways<sup>10</sup></li> </ul>
Domestic Abuse	<p>We aim to increase the reporting of Domestic Abuse so that we can fully understand the scale of the issue and offer victims more support</p> <p>We aim to increase the number of repeat incidents being referred to the MARAC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Increased number of victims being supported</li> <li>* Increase awareness of services within the community</li> <li>* Increase the right cases going to the MARAC and victims receiving the right level of support</li> </ul>

<sup>9</sup> As a co-ordinated multi-agency partnership IOM will work with offenders most as risk of re-offending and causing harm.

<sup>10</sup> The 7 offender pathways of IOM are Accommodation, Attitudes & Behaviours, Children & Families, Drugs & Alcohol, Education & Training & Employment, Finance & Debt, Physical & Mental Health

The Partnership Strategic Assessment has identified several strategic recommendations that will be progressed by the Partnership Analyst during the next year. These areas identify gaps in current knowledge where a full picture of the risk needs to be determined, in order that resources and support can be given effectively (appendix E).

Over the past year the Police Authority have conducted surveys with residents in Central Bedfordshire. Some questions were targeted around confidence in partnership working and others around priority areas. 507 people have been asked what their top priority is:

- Violent Crime           49%
- ASB                       32%
- Burglary                 18%
- Vehicle Crime          2%

*N.B. The recent increase in Violence Against the Person has been highlighted as a strategic recommendation. Work will commence to review why there has been an increase, what the issue actually is, and what could be done if there is a specific problem.*

This feedback supports the priority areas identified in the Strategic Assessment, and strategic recommendations, and supports the CSP adopting them for 2011 – 2012.

### **Local Area Agreement & Targets**

Local Area Agreements (LAAs) were priorities for a local area, agreed between Central Government the local authority, LSP and other key partners.

As identified on page 6 of this plan, it has been made clear from the Home Office that the requirements around NI's have been changed and there is a more local focus. This has led to the CSP addressing what concerns our local communities have, what the partnership can achieve as a whole, and what high risks we have within the area. Localism is key to the way in which we will deal with priorities this year, and how we will communicate and consult with members of our communities.

### **Public Confidence**

When the new coalition government came into power in 2010, they removed the Single Confidence target. In July 2010 the Public Confidence subgroup of the CSP was disbanded and a formal link was made to the work that Bedfordshire Police were undertaking through Operation Vision<sup>11</sup>. This has ensured consistency of work and also collaboration of resources.

<sup>11</sup> Op Vision is an initiative across Bedfordshire whereby Police officers and Police staff work within the community on High Impact Days. This initiative focuses on increasing confidence, reducing crime and carrying out community work. Op Vision will be linked to the three CSP's whereby partners will also form part of the resources for the high impact days.

Bedfordshire Police and Police Authority undertook Public Confidence surveys during the winter of 2009 - 2010 to identify the factors that affect levels of confidence in local partners to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour. Residents are selected at random and interviewed by telephone allowing us to be confident that samples reflect the views of all Central Bedfordshire residents within 5%.

The survey showed us that less than a quarter find crime and ASB to be a big problem in their area, comparing favourably to the countywide average. The survey identified that our residents had more confidence in us to understand local issues, but were less sure that partners were visible and communicated effectively. The most significant driver of a resident's likelihood of being confident was their perception of how well informed they felt. However, other research indicates that a quarter of residents are less interested in being informed.

Smaller numbers of confidence surveys have taken place over the course of 2010 so that partners can be aware of any change. These indicate that those confident that partners are dealing with crime and ASB has fallen between February and October by between 5 – 25%. The exact nature and causes of this change are not known. To date partners have suggested the impact of greater public awareness of the national financial deficit, seasonal variation, different perceptions of the police / local authority role verses that of the wider community and a change in rural confidence. Surveys will continue until March 2011 when 1,200 surveys will have taken place in Central Bedfordshire and will allow more geographic analysis to be conducted.

### **Comprehensive Area Assessment**

In the early term of the coalition government, it was confirmed that the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA)<sup>12</sup> would cease.

It is noted that Central Bedfordshire went through a CAA inspection in 2009. This inspection did not identify any areas of concern, or of improved action for community safety in Central Bedfordshire.

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<sup>12</sup> CAA was a framework for independent assessment of public services in the country. It was area-based and focused on outcomes and how well public bodies worked with each other, the private & third sectors, other organisations and local communities. It was forward looking, assessing the prospects for future improvement.

## Community Safety Partnership - What we will do

As we have seen in earlier parts of this document, considerable work has taken place across the partnership and within the community safety arena in the past year. As a CSP we need to ensure that this momentum is maintained, and that work towards the new priorities is done so in a collective and collaborative manor.

In 2011 – 2012 the Community Safety Team and statutory partners will work towards:

### What we will do

We will improve and enhance the community safety pages on the Central Bedfordshire council internet site. We will ensure that partners are linked, information is succinct and communities can gain advice and support from it

Work with the findings of the Total Place survey in terms of any identified service improvements (between central and local government agencies) and a better fit between any identified community needs and the total resources available

Report on the findings of the scoping work for Community Engagement (Community Safety Forums and Community Safety Groups) and make recommendations in line with the Let's Talk Together meeting structure

Engage with CSPs at a regional and national level to identify further best practice for adoption in Central Bedfordshire

Examine partnership funding opportunities available i.e. Being a Training Provider, Resource re-imburement, collaboration

Ensure that delivery & action plans for the partnership are outcome focused and provide an element of cost benefits

Work with the recommendations from the CSP Executive Away day in March 2011, and the areas of risk from the IDEA Peer Review Report

## Reviewing Our Results

The partnership will review its outcomes within Central Bedfordshire, via a series of reporting and engagement mechanisms:

Mechanism	Expected Engagement
Confidence & Consultation Surveys	Information from targeted members of the community, about how they feel, their vulnerabilities and their priorities
Let's Talk Together	Identified local priorities, problem solving initiatives, partnership working, good news accounts (these meetings have built on the original Community Safety Forums)
Youth Engagement Events	Young people identifying areas of concern, areas where joint agency working can take place and the effects of targeted problem solving work
Partnership Engagement Events (i.e. Fire Service Road Crash Events)	Members of the public give first hand information and take away targeted messages from partners
Increased reporting/referrals (i.e. Domestic Abuse, Race Hate)	Increased reporting, in certain areas, is a sign of good communication, involvement and support. We need more members of the community to come forward so the correct level of support can be offered and provided
Action Plans	Ensuring a robust approach is taken when reviewing our actions plans. Updates are timely, concise and accurate. A Red, Amber and Green traffic light reporting system is maintained, to highlight areas of achievement and improvement. Actions have specific owners and work is carried out in partnership
Performance to CSP Priorities	At each CSE and ODG we will report back on our performance against our priorities, to ensure we are able to address any areas of concern and task any remedial action to be taken
Sharing of Resources via ODG & CSE	Partners share & pool resources that are available, to ensure there is value for money for our communities, and we are not all targeting the same areas / problems without joining services
Review of Total Place	As one of the 13 Total Place sites across the country at the moment, we will work towards any identified service improvements (between central and local government agencies) and a better fit between any identified community needs and the total resources available
Review of the partnership	Building on the IDEA peer review that took place in 2010, the Hallmarks of Effective Partnership Working and the 'Looking Ahead' document.

Mechanism	Expected Engagement
Social Media	There are a growing number of people who use social media sites to communicate. Various partners now use sites such as Facebook, Twitter, and Flickr etc to communicate with a wide number of people. We are able to communicate and consult, & gain an understanding of common issues, problems, concerns with our communities. Conversely we can review good practice, ideas and support for our work/projects.

It is the role of the ODG and Community Safety Executive to ensure that exception reporting takes place, clear ownership of actions is given and robust reporting takes place. As a partnership we must pool our resources to ensure we can recommend a way forward and the outcomes can be measured.

## Equality Impact Assessment

The CSP must ensure that it provides services which address the needs of all members of the community. As such the council conducts Equality Impact Assessments as strategies, policies and services are developed to:

- Consider issues relating to age, disability, gender, gender reassignment, race, religion & belief and sexual orientation
- Obtain a clearer understanding of how different groups may be affected
- Identify changes which may need to be built into an initiative as it is developed
- Comply with legislative requirements & identify good practice

The CSP has carried out an Equality Impact Assessment which has taken into account:

Groups	Highlighted areas
Disabled People	Greater risk of experiencing violence than non-disabled people 1 in 4 have experience hate crime Disabled women are found to be twice as likely to experience domestic violence as non-disabled people
Women	45% of women in England & Wales experience domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking during their lifetime It is estimated that 75% - 95% of rape cases are not reported to the police
Transgender	Transgender persons experience high levels of hate crime and hate incidents
Race, Religion, Belief	The Police estimate that most racial/religious hate crime is not reported because victims are too frightened or embarrassed
Sexual Orientation	The Police estimate that 90% of homophobic crime goes unreported because victims are too frightened or embarrassed 1 in 6 experiencing homophobic hate incidents in the last 3 years experienced a physical assault

*(N.B. Issues shown in the 'Highlighted Areas' section are not exhaustive)*

In June 2010 the Equality Impact Assessment was taken to the Central Bedfordshire Equality Forum for approval of the three recommendations that it made. Anti-Social Behaviour, Domestic Abuse and Serious Acquisitive Crime leads were tasked to carry out appropriate research to highlight information surrounding vulnerable communities, and their experiences of crime and incidents with regards to these three areas. This information will then provide the CSP with local research into areas where action needs to take place.

As the Equality Impact Assessment was agreed in June 2010, it has been refreshed, rather than a new assessment being drawn up. The next assessment for 2012 – 2013 will include the findings from research conducted by the CSP in the coming year.

There has been connected work with the Equality Assessment, by way of the link with the Hate Crime Partnership. Central Bedfordshire CSP are represented within the Bedfordshire Hate Crime Partnership, which allows us to progress any issues within this field, collaborate resources and ensure that communities receive a consistent level of service when they report any hate incident.

The Sexual Abuse group has been working around the sexual abuse agenda, with a view to developing an action plan, and determining the links from sexual abuse to domestic abuse, and protecting vulnerable individuals (this work is developing at the moment).<sup>13</sup>

### **Linked Strategies**

During 2010 the Sustainable Communities Strategy for Central Bedfordshire Council was agreed. This strategy is a prospectus for the area and sets out what sort of place residents want it to be. The strategy looks at a number of key issues which Central Bedfordshire Council, Bedfordshire Police, Fire, Health, business and the voluntary and community sector wanted to address in the years to come. The strategy will be reviewed every year and refreshed every three years to make sure that it continues to reflect the priorities for Central Bedfordshire.

The community safety section of the strategy outlines the priorities which we have agreed, and the steps that we aim to take to address them. These are in line with this Community Safety Partnership Plan and also the strategic assessment.

In 2010 the Central Bedfordshire Community Engagement Strategy also came into effect. The strategy outlines what community activity will take place across Central Bedfordshire. This develops the Community Safety Forums<sup>14</sup> from the five that were in place, and enhances these to seven across the area (in line with the Police safer neighbourhood boundaries). Partners will be an integral part of these 'Let's Talk Together Meetings', ensuring that communities can ask advice, obtain information, receive details of services and challenge any areas of concern they have.

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<sup>13</sup> See page 8 for details of the Sexual Abuse work within the CSP

<sup>14</sup> Community Safety Forums bring together the Community Safety Partnership into one arena, where members of the public can access advice and information. Partners such as Police, Fire, Trading Standards and Alcohol Services attend to provide information and support. They meet every quarter in Flitwick, Ampthill, Sandy, Biggleswade & Downside.



## Communication

The CSP is committed to communicate its successes, outcomes and results to residents and communities of Central Bedfordshire. There are several routes that we use, and will increase use of, such as:

- Community Forums & Community Safety Awareness Events
- Articles within newsletters such as the Central Bedfordshire Newsletter and LCJB Newsletter
- Internet sites (all partners)
- Central Bedfordshire Together E-Zine<sup>15</sup>
- Developing social media sites (Facebook, Twitter)

There is a CSP Communication protocol in place whereby any message released by a statutory partner on behalf of the CSP, is branded with the CSP logo and includes the partnership emphasis rather than just that of the issuing organisation.

The annual requirement to hold a public meeting to consult and brief our communities has been revised. All CSPs are reviewing how productive public meetings have been, which will determine whether a public meeting is the most suitable mechanism for community engagement. Following a review of the last public meeting in January 2010, Central Bedfordshire CSP has agreed to use the quarterly Lets Talk Together Meetings as our mechanism for engaging with members of the community during 2011 - 2012. This will ensure we do not just communicate publically on a yearly basis, but carry out engagement at regular intervals, ensuring messages are being fed back and community priorities and concerns are being addressed.

### Joining up Delivery

Over the past year extensive work has taken place across internal departments and with wider partners, to link cross cutting elements of children & young people, health & wellbeing and economic growth & the environment.

New members have been co-opted onto the ODG and Executive Boards, together with various Delivery groups. Adult Services, Children's Services and Housing are examples of services that the CSP now link and work with, who are integral to the successful outcome of our joint priorities.

Developing local actions for Delivery groups that take into account community concerns will be a key part of the work undertaken by the partnership over the next year. This will be done using results from consultation, continued development of local action plans and delivery of agreed outcomes which address the priorities of the CSP.

<sup>15</sup> E-Zine is an internet based communication tool. It is used to engage with stakeholders to keep them informed & to enable increased understanding of partnership activities.

## Conclusions

- Considerable change has taken place over the past 12 months in and around the CSP. There have been funding and structure changes with various organisations. However even with these challenges the CSP has achieved a great deal and met three of the four national indicator targets
- The CSP has a clear steer in terms of self improvement and work that needs to be undertaken in 2011 – 2012 to strengthen partnership working
- The three CSP priorities for 2011 – 2012 have been identified using a robust mechanism and review what our local communities feel are their high risk areas
- The strategic recommendations from the Partnership Strategic Assessment will ensure the right analysis is carried out over the next year. This will provide a clearer picture into areas that currently are not fully understood, and that impact upon community safety and the wider partnership
- Continuing the extended partnership working with Safeguarding and Equality issues, will ensure the CSP take into account all members of our local communities and their diverse needs

## **Appendix A**

### **IDEA Peer Review Strategic Recommendations**

Based on the findings from the review team, the following recommendations are made which we believe will help the CSP in Central Bedfordshire to address the main areas for improvement. There are a number of areas of strength and areas for consideration listed against all seven elements of the benchmark. However it is list of key recommendations that will collectively have the greatest positive impact on the CSP or potentially have the highest risk if not addressed. In order to improve the effectiveness of the partnership the following actions are recommended:

1. There needs to be a review of the working relationships between the LSP and the CSP in order to strengthen how the two work together more cohesively and communicate more effectively.
2. The CSP should review its membership to ensure that all relevant partners are involved and are clear on what is expected from them in delivering the partnership's priorities
3. The CSP as a whole should work together to achieve a greater alignment between the priorities of their individual organisations and those of the partnership as a whole. Once agreed the partners need to commit to these priorities and agree how each will contribute to them being delivered.
4. The CSP needs to review its current structure to ensure that it is working effectively with all of its various parts with a particular focus on the relationship between the CSP and the BDAT
5. The CSP needs to review its current arrangements in relation to what data it uses and how partners share this in order to achieve a commonly agreed approach to intelligence and performance management

## Appendix B Subgroups in 2010 - 2011

### Central Bedfordshire Together (CBT) (Formally Local Strategic Partnership LSP)

\* **Chaired by Cllr Tricia Turner**

\* Quarterly meeting

\* Provide vision and strategic leadership, to improve the quality of life for existing and future residents of Central Bedfordshire. Bringing together & encouraging greater partnership working at a local level & with the different parts of the public, private, community & voluntary sectors; allowing different initiatives & services to support one another so that they can work together more effectively. To ensure that Sustainable Community Strategy is delivered & that each partner makes an effective contribution to that delivery

### Community Safety Executive Group (CSE)

\* **Chaired by Gary Alderson**

\* Made up of senior officers from the statutory authorities identified in the Crime & Disorder Act 1998\*  
Quarterly meeting

\* Considers Performance, Funding, Strategic Assessment, Partnership Plans, ODG Update, Legislation updates, Best Practice, Compliance with National Standards, sign off of recommendations from ODG

### Operational Delivery Group (ODG)

\* **Chaired by Ch Insp Neill Waring**

\* Monthly meeting

\* The aim of the group is to take a co-ordinated, problem solving approach to identifying, planning & implementing approved outcomes to support the priorities in the Partnership Plan

### Serious Acquisitive Crime (SAC) Group

\* **Chaired by Ch Insp  
John Harwood**

\* Monthly meeting

\* Looks at NI 16

\* Includes crimes of  
Robbery, Burglary, Theft  
of MV, Theft from MV

\* Partnership working to  
lower crime & fear of  
crime, increase  
detections and support  
vulnerable communities

\* Delivery Plan in place

### Alcohol Tasking Group

\* **Chaired by Insp Bill  
Abram**

\* Monthly meeting

\* The Group act as a  
reference group for the  
partners & agencies  
involved in delivering the  
Alcohol Strategy.  
Purpose is to reduce the  
harmful effects of alcohol.

\* We will address the  
reduction of alcohol  
related harm via 3 blocks.  
*Children & Young People  
Health  
Community Safety*

\* Delivery Plan in place

### Domestic Abuse Steering Group

\* **Chaired by Jeanette  
Keyte**

\* Bi-Monthly meeting

\* Looks at NI 32

\* To set out a co-  
ordinated approach to  
domestic abuse in  
Bedfordshire (ex Luton),  
that will be agreed &  
implemented by all  
partners & agencies

\* To identify key actions  
required to tackle  
domestic abuse in  
Bedfordshire (ex Luton)

\* TOR in place

### Integrated Offender Management Commissioning Group

\* **Chaired by Linda  
Hennigan**

\* Looks at NI 30

\* Set up to oversee the  
IOM initiative in  
Bedfordshire

There is also an  
**Integrated Offender  
Management  
Implementation Group**,  
\* **Chaired by Katie  
Morgan**

\* meets bi-monthly. This  
group deals with tactical  
issues, resource  
decisions and feeds up to  
the Commissioning  
Group.

### Partnership Tasking Group

\* **Chaired by Jeanette  
Keyte**

\* The practical arm of the  
ODG, dealing with live  
time issues that need to  
be addressed. Reviews  
where resources need to  
be placed, & which areas  
are in need of additional  
support

\* TOR as per the  
Partnership TOR

### Intelligence Group

\* **Chaired by Laurence  
Abbott (Beds CSP)**

\* Monthly meeting

\* Reviews the  
requirements of the  
Strategic Assessment

\* Partners will be tasked  
with data requirements for  
the Strategic Assessment

\* In April 2010 the CBC  
and the Beds Borough  
Intel Groups were merged  
to share resources and  
work in partnership

\* TOR in place

### Casualty Reduction Group

\* **Chaired by Basil  
Jackson**

\* Partnership meeting  
to reduce Killed and  
Serious Injured on the  
roads of Bedfordshire

\* Agreed in Autumn of  
2009 to bring the group  
under the CSE for  
reporting purposes.

## Appendix C Proposed Subgroups in 2011 - 2012

### Central Bedfordshire Together (CBT) (Formally Local Strategic Partnership LSP)

- \* **Chaired by Cllr Tricia Turner**
- \* Quarterly meeting
- \* Provide vision and strategic leadership, to improve the quality of life for existing and future residents of Central Bedfordshire. Bringing together & encouraging greater partnership working at a local level & with the different parts of the public, private, community & voluntary sectors; allowing different initiatives & services to support one another so that they can work together more effectively. To ensure that Sustainable Community Strategy is delivered & that each partner makes an effective contribution to that delivery

### Community Safety Executive Group (CSE)

- \* **Chaired by Gary Alderson**
- \* Quarterly meeting
- \* Made up of senior officers from the statutory authorities identified in the Crime & Disorder Act 1998
- \* Considers Performance, Funding, Strategic Assessment, Partnership Plans, ODG Update, Legislation updates, Best Practice, Compliance with National Standards, sign off of recommendations from ODG

### Operational Delivery Group (ODG)

- \* **Chaired by Ch Insp Neill Waring**
- \* Monthly meeting
- \* The aim of the group is to take a co-ordinated, problem solving approach to identifying, planning & implementing approved outcomes to support the priorities in the Partnership Plan

### Bedfordshire Drugs & Alcohol Action Team (BDAT)

- \* **Chaired by Hilary Laughton**
- \* Monthly meeting
- \* The aim of the group is to take a co-ordinated, problem solving approach to identifying, planning & implementing approved outcomes to support the priorities in the Partnership Plan

### Domestic Abuse Steering Group

\* **Chaired by Jeanette Keyte**

- \* Bi-Monthly meeting
- \* Looks at NI 32
- \* To set out a co-ordinated approach to domestic abuse in Bedfordshire (ex Luton), that will be agreed & implemented by all partners & agencies
- \* To identify key actions required to tackle domestic abuse in Bedfordshire (ex Luton)
- \* TOR in place

### Integrated Offender Management Commissioning Group

\* **Chaired by Linda Hennigan**

- \* Quarterly meeting
- \* Looks at NI 30
- \* Set up to oversee the IOM initiative in Bedfordshire
- There is also an **Integrated Offender Management Implementation Group**,
- \* **Chaired by Katie Morgan**
- \* meets bi-monthly
- \* This group deals with tactical issues, resource decisions and feeds up to the Commissioning Group.

### Partnership Tasking Group

\* **Chaired by Jeanette Keyte**

- \* Monthly meeting
- \* The practical arm of the ODG, dealing with live time issues that need to be addressed. Reviews where resources need to be placed, & which areas are in need of additional support
- \* TOR as per the Partnership TOR

### Intelligence Group

\* **Chaired by Laurence Abbott (Beds CSP)**

- \* Monthly meeting
- \* Reviews the requirements of the Strategic Assessment
- \* Partners will be tasked with data requirements for the Strategic Assessment
- \* In April 2010 the CBC and the Beds Borough Intel Groups were merged to share resources and work in partnership
- \* TOR in place

### ASB Partnership Group

\* **Chaired by**

- \* NEW GROUP TO THE CSP
- \* Monthly meeting
- \* Reviews partnership working around ASB
- \* Information gathering and retention
- \* Collaboration of resources
- \* Produce a Strategic Action Plan

## Appendix D Risk Matrix

	Gap in current Picture	Contribution to GSP outcomes	Current GSP priority	Performance issue - deteriorating	National priority	Local Priority	Community concerns / Public perception	Harm / impact to property/environment	Harm / impact to people / victims	Proportion of total demand (volume)	Generator of fear / worry / confidence	Cross-cutting / impact on other issues	Media attention	Social and economic cost	Risk of increase / budget cuts	Likelihood of achievability	TOTAL
Reducing re-offending	3	5	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	3	5	3	4	3	4	
Alcohol misuse & related crime & disorder	3	4	5	3	5	3	4	3	5	2	4	5	4	4	4	4	
Drug misuse & related crime and disorder	3	4	5	4	4	2	4	3	5	3	3	5	3	3	5	3	
Anti-social behaviour – people and places	5	5	5	2	5	5	4	3	4	3	4	4	4	2	3	4	

Please note that any figure in the chart is shown as an example and not the full risk matrix scoring – see the Partnership Strategic Assessment for the full matrix used.

## Appendix E

### Strategic Assessment Recommendations

Number	Recommendations
1	A clear ASB definition is agreed across Bedfordshire and all partners
2	Standard inputting of ASB incidents to assist with data comparison and analysis.
3	Further analysis to be undertaken around predictive seasonality and the specific impact of such events.
4	Partnership calendar of tactical activity around peak seasons, times and locations should be drawn up for 2011-12.
5	Analysis should be conducted to review the VLI locations with an aim to addressing long term solutions to ASB in those areas.
6	Unfortunately due to time restrictions there was not an opportunity to fully gain an understanding as to why there are temporal differences in Houghton Regis compared to the rest of the district, therefore, additional information and analysis would be advantageous.
7	The CSP must ensure that there are systems in place to identify repeat and vulnerable victims of ASB and that data is shared across the Partnership.
8	Partnership communication should be used to address perception inconsistencies in vulnerable areas.
9	CSP partners must ensure that there is consistency in recording of ASB data.
10	Full data audit needs to be carried out to fully understand what ASB related data is available across the CSP.
11	The CSP analyst to investigate the reasons for the recent increase in Violence Against the Person.
12	The CSP analyst investigates the potential for gathering further intelligence on domestic abuse from colleagues in other areas of the Partnership – in particular A&E, health visitors and midwives.
13	Investigate the reason why MARAC referrals in Central Bedfordshire are lower compared to Bedford and Luton.
14	Investigate if the correct level of repeat victims is being referred and supported.
15	Further analysis is required to fully understand how alcohol affects domestic violence incidents and if there are any links to the night time economy, and the increase in alcohol related incidents.

Number	Recommendations
16	Investigation takes place as to why the hot spot areas see a higher proportion of Domestic Abuse incidents.
17	The CSP prepare and distribute communication and awareness material to hotspot areas.
18	Improvement of data inputting and quality of data by each relevant CSP Partner.
19	The Domestic Abuse Partnership to work closely with colleagues in Children's Services, to investigate the impact and support that needs to be given to under 18 year olds.
20	It is recommended that the Local Criminal Justice Board investigate providing the partnership with court data specific to their geographical offenders.
21	The Partnership Analyst to study the end to end process following an offender being charged through to the court case, to see why cases fall down.
22	Analysis is required to identify our current top serial offenders, and what partnership work can be done to address serial behaviour.
23	Investigation into what Central Bedfordshire offers to young people aged 14-17 years by way of education, training and activities.
24	Identification exercise to determine what drugs awareness is given to education establishments and consideration as to whether this needs to be enhanced.
25	Interventions to address drug, alcohol and risky behaviour issues to be delivered to young people.
26	Ensure multi agency approach is adopted by the CSP to plan the delivery of support around drug and alcohol treatment, access to appropriate housing, training and employment opportunities and support that will ensure wrap around services are provided to offenders to break the cycle of offending.
27	The Partnership Analyst to contact partners and collate details of current data which is recorded regarding alcohol.
28	Refer to the Community Safety Plan with regards to aligning B:DAT with the CSP. B:DAT to report to the CSP and to the IOM board to ensure integration of drug and alcohol issues are aligned to the IOM.
29	To work with the CSP executive regarding the agreed level of IOM Programme following the submission of the IOM Business Case in November 2010.