

MINUTES of the MEETING of the COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE held at THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THE GROVE, SWANSCOMBE on WEDNESDAY 2 OCTOBER 2019 at 7.00 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor Peter Harris - Chairman
Councillor Peter Harman -Vice-Chairman
Councillor Anita Barham
Councillor Emma Ben-Moussa
Councillor Sue Butterfill
Councillor Lorna Cross
Councillor Lesley Howes
Councillor Maurice Weet (substituting for Councillor Jay Shah)

ALSO PRESENT:

Martin Harding – Assistant Town Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer
Chief Inspector Neil Loudon – Kent Police
PC Tony Quilter – Kent Police
PCSO Mark Cripps – Kent Police
Sarah Rawlinson (Youth & Community Engagement Officer, Diocese of Rochester)
x11 members of the public

ABSENT:

There were none

239/19-20. ARRANGEMENTS AND CONSTRAINTS REGARDING FILMING OR RECORDING THE MEETING.

The Chairman explained the arrangements and constraints relating to the filming or recording of the meeting.

240/19-20. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Jay Shah.

Apologies were also received from Zoe Harris (Kent County Council), Martin Smith (Dartford Borough Council Parking Enforcement), Billy Unsworth (KCC Community Warden) and PCSO Rob Young (Kent Police).

241/19-20. SUBSTITUTES.

Councillor Maurice Weet substituted for Councillor Jay Shah.

242/19-20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

There were none.

243/19-20. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN / MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES AND THEIR POSITION ON THE AGENDA.

There were none.

244/19-20. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 JULY 2019.

Recommended: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 July 2019 be confirmed and signed as a true record.

The Chairman gave the opportunity for the meeting to be adjourned at this point to accept questions from the public.

Questions were raised from the public to Chief Inspector Loudon on the following subjects:

Drug dealing;
Anti-social motorbikes;
Visible police officers;
Recruitment levels;
Community policing engagement at local events;
CCTV and mobile police stations.

245/19-20. CHIEF INSPECTOR NEIL LOUDON.

Chief Inspector Loudon gave a summary of his career within the police along with his service in the North Kent area. Chief Inspector Loudon explained the challenges that had faced Kent Police over recent times with resources and priorities.

An overview was given of current police levels along with the planned increases in line with the recruitment drives for all positions from volunteers to officers.

Chief Inspector Loudon was pleased to be able to inform the committee that a 37% reduction in recorded crime had occurred in the area of Swanscombe and Greenhithe in the last 12 months. He did note that an increase had occurred in lower level crime such as anti-social behaviour and nuisance motorbikes which Kent Police were taking very seriously. He explained the new technology available to officers enabling them to spend more time on the streets and reduce paperwork.

Chief Inspector Loudon set out the three priorities that he sets for all officers under his command: to put victims first; always provide a gold level of service and to do the right thing.

Members discussed the challenges faced with promoting reporting, the various methods that could be used and the challenges with social media.

Members also expressed that residents were stating to them that they had lost faith in Kent Police and that a lack of feedback may have contributed in part to this.

Chief Inspector Loudon stated that he understood these feelings and that more work could be done to communicate with the community. He was pleased with the results of recent satisfaction surveys undertaken by people who had engaged with the police service.

Members thanked Chief Inspector Loudon for his attendance but wished him to note that police presence at these meetings had not always been satisfactory.

Recommended: That the information be noted and Chief Inspector Loudon be thanked for his attendance

246/19-20. **POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS (PCSO) REPORT.**

PC Tony Quilter gave an update on recent cases of interest within the area including an overview of specific operations that aimed at targeting robberies both specifically in Greenhithe and the wider borough of Dartford.

PCSO Mark Cripps introduced himself as the new PCSO for Greenhithe. PCSO Cripps explained that he was looking to meet as many local groups and organisations as possible to integrate within the community.

Members thanked both PC Quilter and PCSO Cripps for their attendance.

Recommended: That the report be noted and both PC Quilter PCSO Cripps be thanked for their attendance

247/19-20. **KCC COMMUNITY WARDENS REPORT.**

As KCC Warden Unsworth had submitted his apologies for the meeting the ATC/RFO read out a brief report submitted prior to the meeting. This included work conducted on overgrown gardens, suspicious vehicles, concerns for children and vulnerable people.

Recommended: That the report be noted.

248//19-20. **ANTI-SOCIAL PARKING – SWANSCOMBE HIGH STREET.**

Members discussed enforcement of the zig-zag lines with Chief Inspector Loudon. He confirmed that this was a serious safety concern and that he would ensure his officers were aware and take measures when possible. He stated that he would ensure this information was also passed to the Special Constables who were part of the Kent Police Team as they had the same powers to ticket as other officers.

Councillors' Peter Harris and Peter Harman gave an overview of a meeting they had attended with Kent Highways. At that meeting the option of installing barriers along the length of the zig-zag lines had been discussed further.

Members were in agreement that the installation of barriers would be a good preventative measure to stop parking along the zig-zag lines.

Recommended: That the information be noted.

249/19-20. **COMMUNITY SAFETY LIAISON.**

Youth services / officers – Sarah Rawlinson gave an update on her continued work with school engagement. She had been meeting with the Focus Project who are targeting work on different criminality issues and discussions held with an organisation looking to set up a Safer Community Alliance.

Sarah explained that following the redeployment of Reverend Andrew Avery from St Marys Church, Greenhithe, line management of her role would revert to the Youth and Communities Lead at the Diocese of Rochester. It was explained by Sarah that this was always the original intention, but that the project board, on setting up the role, had initially allocated this to Reverend Avery at St Marys Church.

Members of the Community Safety Meeting expressed concern that this decision had been taken without consideration for the line management to pass to the Reverend of St Peter & St Pauls Church, Swanscombe, as this was the other local church within the Town. The Community Safety Committee recommended that an item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Town Council to consider whether a letter should be sent to the Diocese of Rochester expressing these concerns and asking for the rationale behind the decision.

Community Speed Watch – Councillor Peter Harris explained that Kent Messenger were expected to attend the next Speed Watch session in Greenhithe. Councillor Emma Ben-Moussa confirmed that she had names of volunteers and was setting up a Speed Watch group for Swanscombe and was currently awaiting the appropriate training from Kent Police.

Recommended: That an item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Town Council to consider whether a letter should be sent to the Diocese of Rochester expressing the concerns as detailed and asking for the rationale behind the decision.

250/19-20. DETAILED ANALYSIS OF CRIME STATISTICS FOR SWANSCOMBE AND GREENHITHE.

Members were provided with the up to date detailed analysis of crime figures for Swanscombe and Greenhithe.

Recommended: That the item be noted.

251/19-20. THE SCHOOL RUN INITIATIVE.

The Chairman confirmed that he had written to each local school to ensure their continued engagement in the initiative. He confirmed that he would update members further once he had received replies

Recommended: That the information be noted.

252/19-20. KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (KCC) – 20MPH ZONE TRIAL.

Further to minute 136/19-20 members discussed areas within the Town that would be appropriate for a 20mph zone trial.

It was agreed that more information was required and that officers contact KCC to obtain details of the process and timescales for setting up a trial and also to provide an overview of which roads within the Town already had 20mph restrictions.

Recommended: That officers contact KCC to obtain details of the process and timescales for setting up a trial and provide an overview of which roads within the Town already had 20mph restrictions.

253/19-20. KENT POLICE – CITIZENS ACADEMY

The Chairman explained that the Citizens Academy was aimed at giving members of Neighbourhood Watch a better understanding of what the Kent Police role was and what they undertook. The next module would involve a trip to the control room at Maidstone.

Recommended: That the information be noted.

There were no confidential items for discussion.

There being no further business to transact, the Meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

Signed _____
Chairman Date

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AGENDA ITEM 6

CSC 4/12/19

From: Elliott Fitzsimmons 46060101 [mailto:████████████████████]
Sent: 28 October 2019 15:08
To: Graham Blew
Subject: RE: Reply: Check : 19 Nov 2019 : Thank you.: Invitation
OPCC/MS/IOR/128/19

Hello Graham,

Thank you for your patience in this matter. After speaking to Chief Inspector Neil Louden about the community safety meeting he attended; the PCC does not feel that we need a follow up meeting because the PCSO/PC or Sgt will be attending meetings going forward. Neil stated it was a positive meeting and Kent Police are doing everything possible to deal with issues raised, so the PCC is happy to leave it with the force going forward.

If for any reason the expectation they attend meetings is not met then please contact us in the new year.

I know this will be disappointing to hear but the PCC does have to cover the whole county, so we have to balance out where we go rather than revisiting the same places.

Kind regards,

Elliott

From: Graham Blew
Sent: 07 October 2019 09:35
To: Elliott Fitzsimmons 46060101 [mailto:████████████████████]
Subject: Reply: Check : 19 Nov 2019 : Thank you.: Invitation OPCC/MS/IOR/128/19
Importance: High

Elliot

It would still be good if the PCC were able to have an evening meeting which would hopefully get the attendance of those that were unable to get to the last Coffee Morning.

Yours sincerely,

Graham Blew
Town Clerk

Swanscombe & Greenhithe Town Council | Council Offices |

From: Elliott Fitzsimmons 46060101 [mailto:Elliott.Fitzsimmons@kent.police.uk]
Sent: 04 October 2019 12:19
To: Graham Blew
Subject: RE: Check : 19 Nov 2019 : Thank you.: Invitation OPCC/MS/IOR/128/19

Good morning Graham,

Thank you for your patience with this; I have been wading through emails and deeply involved in events and projects.

I am really pleased to see that Neil Loudon came to your community safety meeting recently, which has hopefully alleviated any concerns/answered any questions?

That being said, is there now any need for this meeting to go ahead? Or can Kent Police follow up on any of the actions that were raised before?

Kind regards,

Elliott

Parish Council monthly update

From October 1st
to October 31st
2019

Swanscombe

Information provided by: PCSO Robert Young 60354, Dartford Community Policing Team

Crimes of note:

- Burglary Gunn Road – Under investigation
- Criminal damage 28/10/19 – Milton Road – Attended by patrols immediately

Anti-social behaviour and other incidents of note:

- Nuisance youths on Gunn road, this continues to be monitored
- Nuisance youths park road
- Nuisance vehicles continue to be in and around the Swanscombe area.
- The area of castle hill has suffered from suspicious activity and postal thefts which is being monitored closely.
- Halloween saw a spike in anti-social behaviour calls, this was expected and was dealt with pro-actively by a large number of officers who were on duty.

Items of good work:

- Nuisance youths continue to be dealt with via warning letters and Acceptable behaviour agreements (ABA's)
- Stolen vehicle recovered, London Road, near to the George and Dragon pub.
- A pro-active, multi-agency operation was undertaken in Manor Way Business Park led by the environmental health agency, including the police, which ended with a variety of positive outcomes for all of the agencies.



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To report a non-urgent crime online, visit
www.kent.police.uk/contactus

Parish Council monthly update

Parish name Greenhithe (including Bluewater)

Dates 06-10-2019 to 06-11-2019

Information provided by: PCSO CRIPPS Community Safety Unit

Crimes of note:

Attempt Burglary – 26/10/19 Hasted Close Greenhithe. No lines of enquiry or named suspect. Case filed

2x Attempted Aggravated burglary – 20/10/2019 The Crescent. Under investigation. 20/10/19 The Crescent, Suspect identified but evidential difficulties prevent further action, Case filed

Theft of motorvehicle – 02/11/2019 Cliff Reach, Greenhithe. Under investigation.

Anti-social behaviour and other incidents of note:

Nuisance Vehicles;

Prioress Cr, 09/10/2019 – black bmw convertible driving at speed, mounting kerbs and doing doughnuts on green – passing attention was paid

Ingress Park Ave, 13/10/2019 – 3 vehicles seen racing around continuously. White audi, white range rover and black bmw

Tiltman Ave 14/10/2019 – 3 cars all dark with flame stickers driving around dangerously through residential area.

Talbot Ln 20/10/2019 – 3 motorbikes and 1 quadbike riding across grass.

Weldon Rd 20/10/2019 - 3 motorbikes and 1 quadbike riding across grass.

Knockhall Rd 21/10/2019 – yellow off road bike riding up and down road with no lights or number plate – PCSO attended – Area search no trace

Knockhall Rd 22/10/2019 – 2 off road bikes driving up and down road at speed

Knockhall Rd 01/11/2019 – motorbike riding up road pulling wheelies and rider wearing no protective equipment. PCSO attended – Area search no trace

Knockhall Rd 01/11/2019 – 6 persons on road revving bikes, riding on pavement and skidding into residents grass gardens.

Ingress Park Ave 04/11/2019 – informant reporting black bmw convertible in area.

Knockhall Rd 05/11/2019 – reporting dirt bike being driven up and down the road.



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Parish Council monthly update

Nuisance youths;

Station Rd 14/10/2019 – youths kicking wing mirrors off cars and causing general damage – Patrol attended – Area search no trace

Knockhall Rd 04/11/2019 – youths climbed into informant's garden and have thrown his garden furniture around, no damage had been caused. Local PCSOs made aware.

Items of good work:

Nuisance Youth – Reduction in calls regarding nuisance youths helped by high visibility foot patrolling of known areas.

No Nuisance Youth Calls for the whole of Greenhithe on Halloween Night

Updates of previous reported issues:

Active patrolling hotspot areas to deter ASB youths on mopeds, shoplifting and known drug supply areas.



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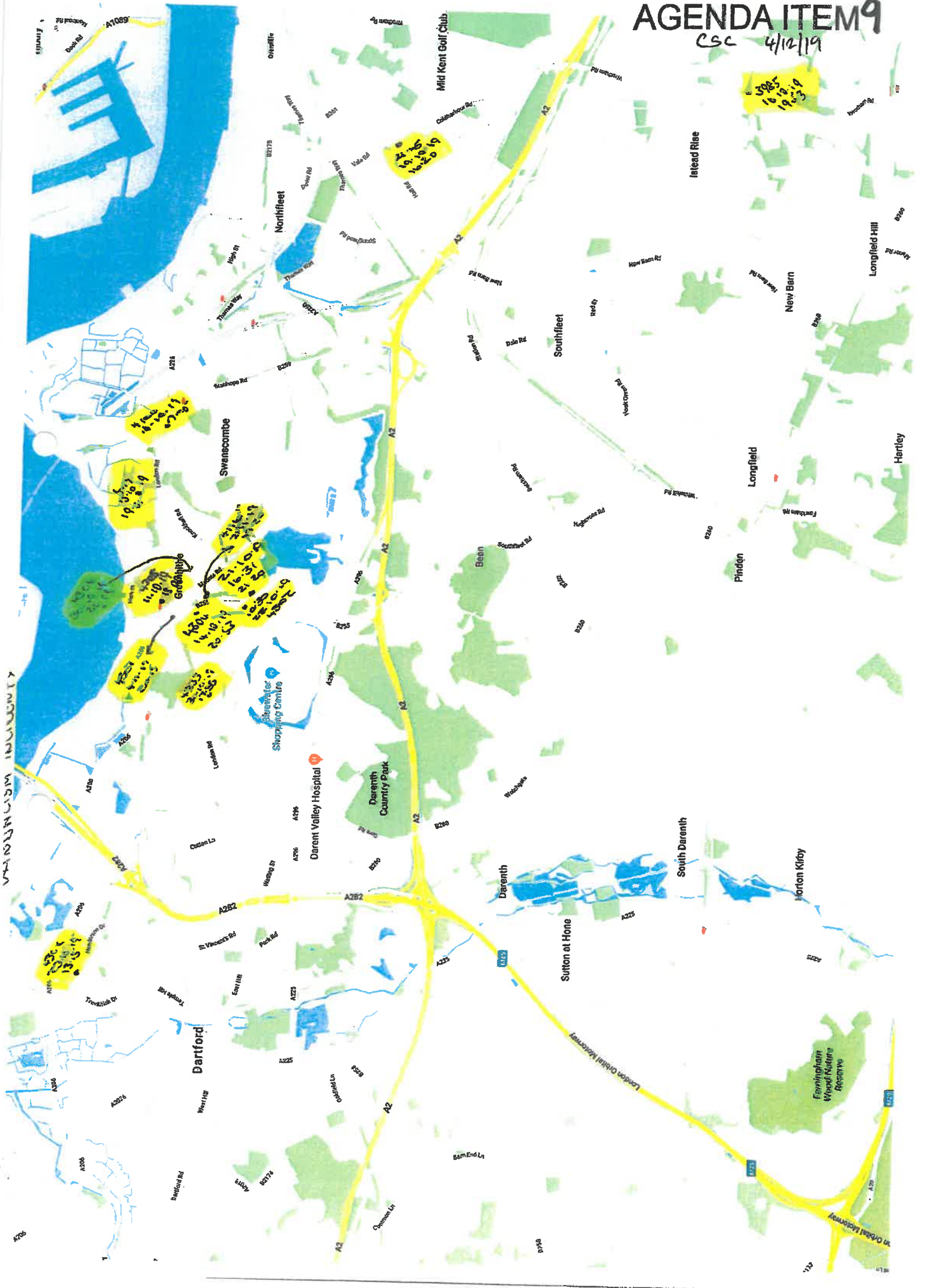
AGENDA ITEM 9

CSC 4/12/19

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Detailed statistics for Dartford - Swanscombe



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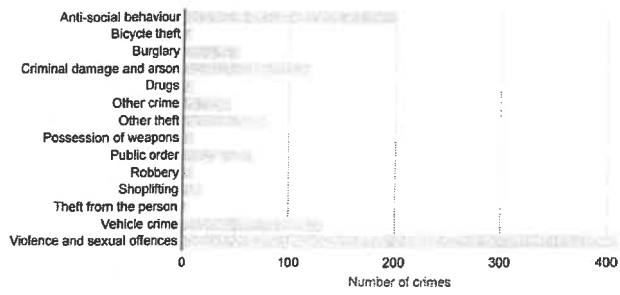
[Comparison of crime types in this area between November 2018 and October 2019](#)

[Comparison of outcomes in this area between November 2018 and October 2019](#)

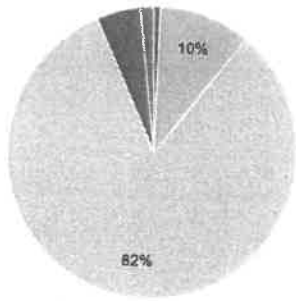
[Crime levels in this area between November 2018 and October 2019](#)

[Download crime data for this area as a CSV file](#)

AGENDA ITEM 11
CSC 4/12/19



Crime type	Total	Percentage
Anti-social behaviour	202	17.13%
Bicycle theft	7	0.59%
Burglary	55	4.66%
Criminal damage and arson	121	10.26%
Drugs	9	0.76%
Other crime	46	3.90%
Other theft	81	6.87%
Possession of weapons	10	0.85%
Public order	68	5.77%
Robbery	10	0.85%
Shoplifting	19	1.61%
Theft from the person	4	0.34%
Vehicle crime	134	11.37%
Violence and sexual offences	413	35.03%



- Under investigation
- No further action
- Offender dealt with by police
- Offender sent to court
- Offender dealt with at court

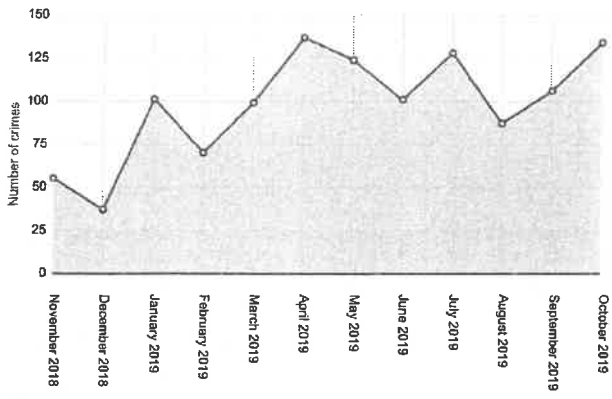
Outcome type

	Total	Percentage
Under investigation		
Under investigation	102	10.44%
Status update unavailable	52	5.32%
No further action	50	5.12%
Formal action is not in the public interest	806	82.50%
Further action is not in the public interest	0	0.00%
Further investigation is not in the public interest	0	0.00%
Investigation complete; no suspect identified	18	1.84%
Unable to prosecute suspect	360	36.85%
Offender dealt with by police	428	43.81%
Action to be taken by another organisation	47	4.81%
Offender given a drugs possession warning	33	3.38%
Offender given penalty notice	2	0.20%
Offender given a caution	0	0.00%
Local resolution	9	0.92%
Offender sent to court	3	0.31%
Suspect charged	15	1.54%
Suspect charged as part of another case	15	1.54%
Offender dealt with at court	0	0.00%
Court case unable to proceed	7	0.72%
Defendant sent to Crown Court	0	0.00%
Defendant found not guilty	0	0.00%
Offender given absolute discharge	0	0.00%
Offender given conditional discharge	0	0.00%
Offender ordered to pay compensation	1	0.10%
Offender fined	0	0.00%
Offender deprived of property	0	0.00%
Offender given community sentence	0	0.00%
Offender given suspended prison sentence	0	0.00%
Offender sent to prison	0	0.00%
Offender otherwise dealt with	0	0.00%
Court result unavailable	0	0.00%
	6	0.61%

Showing:

All crime

Update




Month	Total
October 2019	134
September 2019	106
August 2019	87
July 2019	128
June 2019	101
May 2019	124
April 2019	137
March 2019	99
February 2019	70
January 2019	101
December 2018	37
November 2018	55

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Detailed statistics for Dartford - Greenhithe



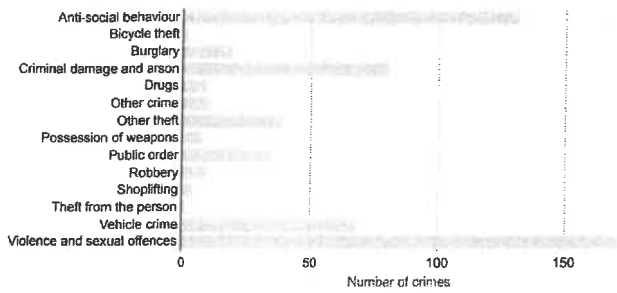
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[Comparison of crime types in this area between November 2018 and October 2019](#)

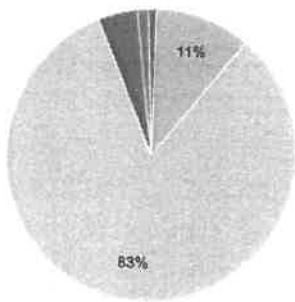
[Comparison of outcomes in this area between November 2018 and October 2019](#)

[Crime levels in this area between November 2018 and October 2019](#)

[Download crime data for this area as a CSV file](#)



Crime type	Total	Percentage
Anti-social behaviour	132	22.18%
Bicycle theft	2	0.34%
Burglary	20	3.36%
Criminal damage and arson	81	13.61%
Drugs	10	1.68%
Other crime	11	1.85%
Other theft	39	6.55%
Possession of weapons	8	1.34%
Public order	35	5.88%
Robbery	10	1.68%
Shoplifting	5	0.84%
Theft from the person	2	0.34%
Vehicle crime	69	11.60%
Violence and sexual offences	171	28.74%

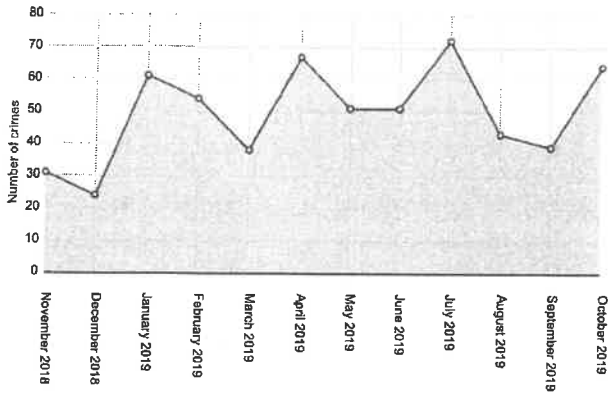


- Under investigation
- No further action
- Offender dealt with by police
- Offender sent to court
- Offender dealt with at court

Outcome type	Total	Percentage
Under investigation	50	10.80%
Under investigation	24	5.18%
Status update unavailable	26	5.62%
No further action	383	82.72%
Formal action is not in the public interest	0	0.00%
Further action is not in the public interest	0	0.00%
Further investigation is not in the public interest	6	1.30%
Investigation complete; no suspect identified	210	45.36%
Unable to prosecute suspect	167	36.07%
Offender dealt with by police	20	4.32%
Action to be taken by another organisation	11	2.38%
Offender given a drugs possession warning	2	0.43%
Offender given penalty notice	0	0.00%
Offender given a caution	6	1.30%
Local resolution	1	0.22%
Offender sent to court	6	1.30%
Suspect charged	6	1.30%
Suspect charged as part of another case	0	0.00%
Offender dealt with at court	4	0.86%
Court case unable to proceed	0	0.00%
Defendant sent to Crown Court	0	0.00%
Defendant found not guilty	0	0.00%
Offender given absolute discharge	0	0.00%
Offender given conditional discharge	0	0.00%
Offender ordered to pay compensation	0	0.00%
Offender fined	0	0.00%
Offender deprived of property	0	0.00%
Offender given community sentence	0	0.00%
Offender given suspended prison sentence	0	0.00%
Offender sent to prison	0	0.00%
Offender otherwise dealt with	0	0.00%
Court result unavailable	4	0.86%

Showing: All crime

Update



Month	Total
October 2019	64
September 2019	39
August 2019	43
July 2019	72
June 2019	51
May 2019	51
April 2019	67
March 2019	38
February 2019	54
January 2019	61
December 2018	24
November 2018	31

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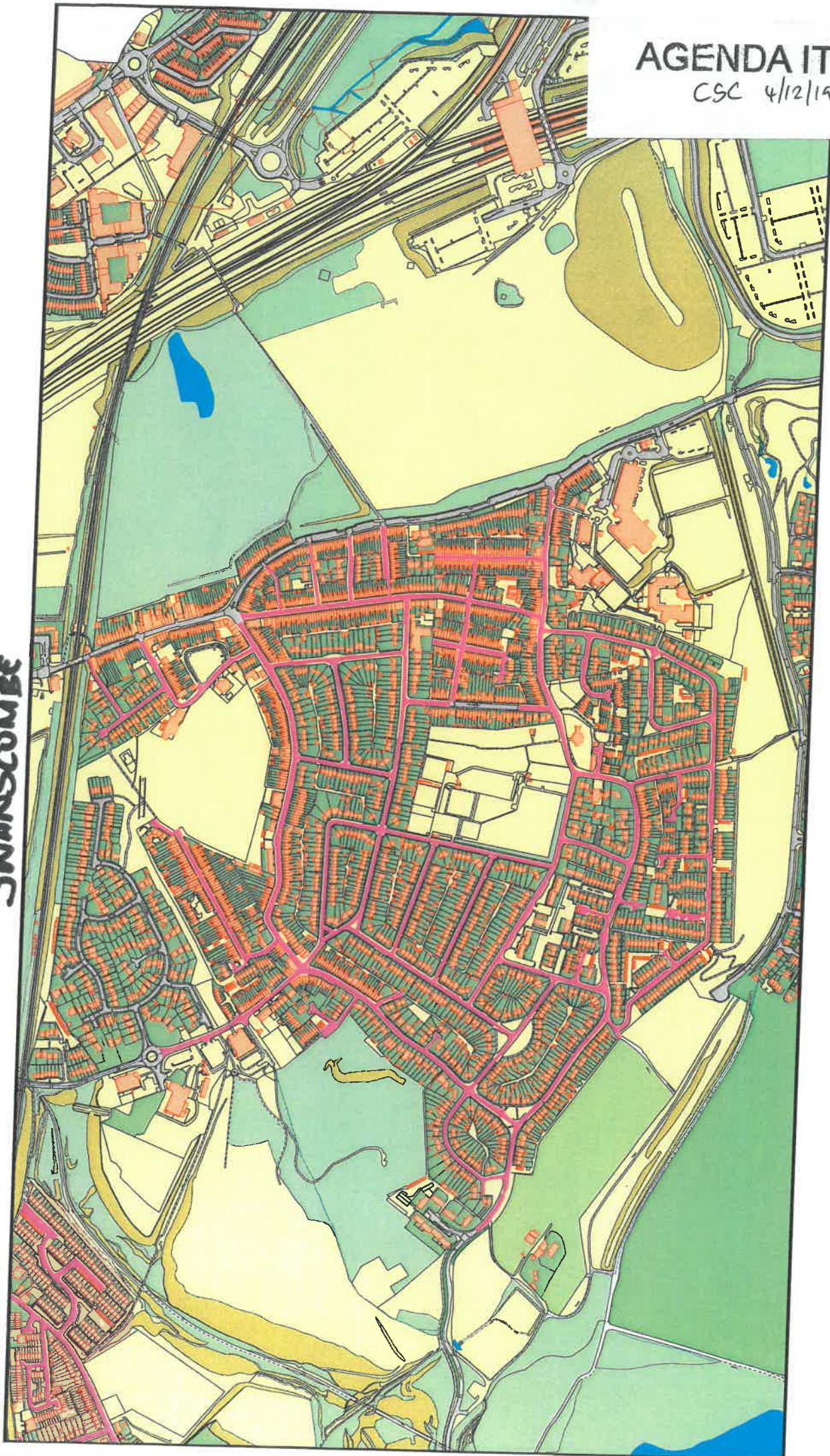
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AGENDA ITEM 12

CSC 4/12/19

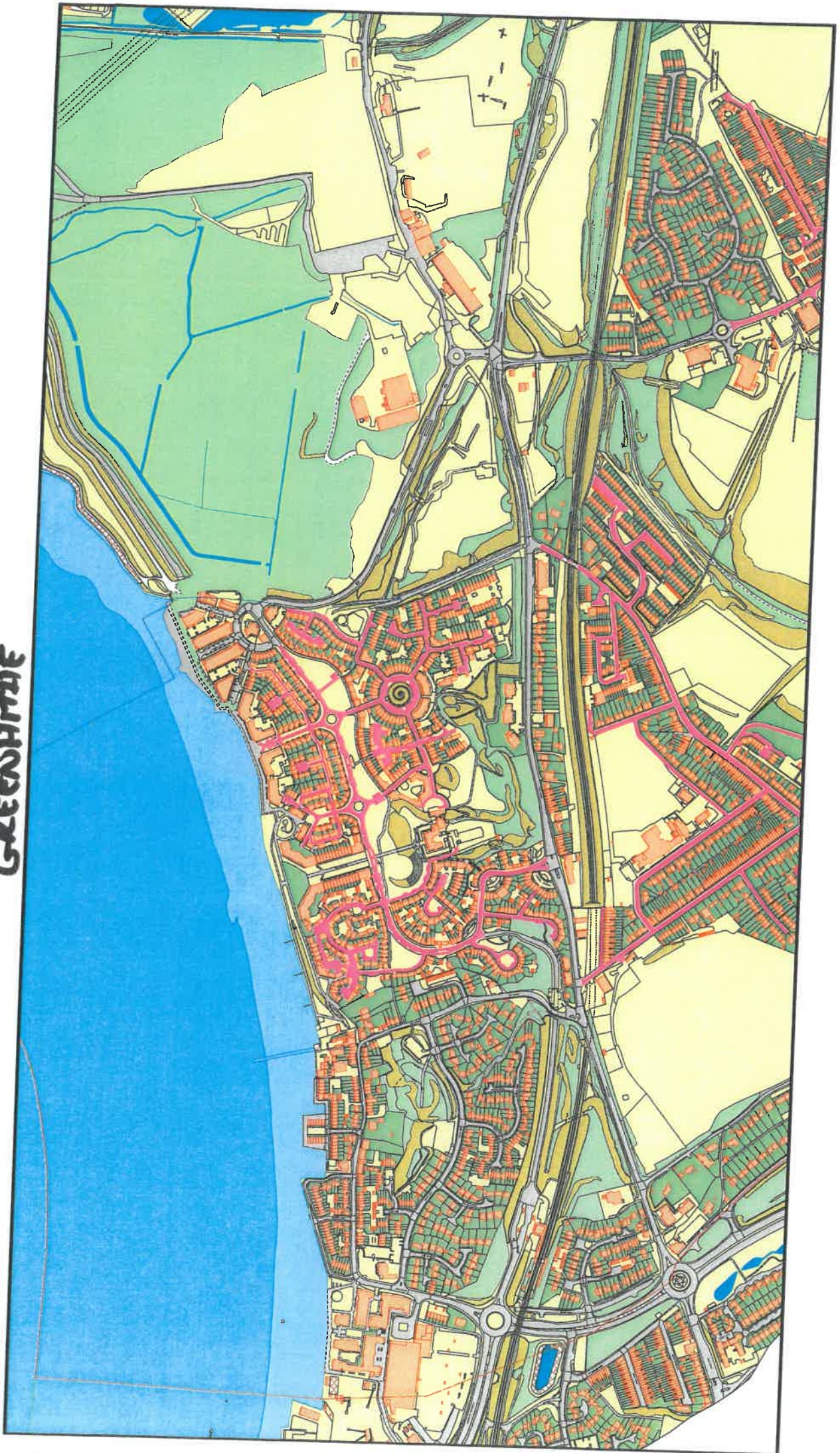
SWANSCOMBE



KNOXCHALL



GREENHILL



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