



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE ELMBRIDGE

ELMBRIDGE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

7 DECEMBER 2009

KEY ISSUE

To receive an update from the Elmbridge Community Safety Partnership (statutorily known as the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership) on its work, which is partly funded by Surrey County Council contributions.

SUMMARY

This report seeks to inform the Committee of the activities of the Partnership since its previous report. It covers the period from July - October 2009.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Elmbridge) is asked to:

- (i) Note the activities of the Elmbridge Community Safety Partnership between July 2009 – October 2009.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The partners consisting of Surrey Police, Elmbridge Housing Trust, Surrey County Council, Surrey Police Authority, Surrey Fire & Rescue Service and Elmbridge Borough Council have been delivering against a 46 point Community Safety Action Plan, which supports the Elmbridge Community Safety Partnership Plan which was approved by the Partnership Executive Board last year.
- 1.2 The Community Safety Partnership Executive Board reported on the highlights of the 2008/9 Action Plan at their public meeting on the 17 June 2009, and launched the Partnership plan for 2009/10.

2 Update on the work of Elmbridge Community Safety Partnership since the last report to the local Area Committee in July 2009.

- 2.1 The work of the Partnership Action Plan covers a number of activities to
 - Reduce crime
 - Reduce the fear of crime
 - Reduce Anti social behaviour
 - Provide positive youth activities
 - Reduce substance misuse
 - Reduce violent crime, including domestic abuse

The overarching priorities for 2009/10 are similar to the previous year albeit that anti social driving and parking has a higher emphasis of public concern and will be the focus of Partnership activity during 2009/10

The last four months (July -October 2009) has been extraordinarily busy, as staffing availability has decreased across all of the Partner agencies with both short and longer-term absences. This situation is likely to continue into 2010 and I am very grateful for the support of Katie Mills, Surrey County Council's Local Committee & Partnership Officer for Elmbridge who has added to her already busy workload by contributing to many and leading on some of the projects being undertaken.

- Community Action Day's held at Carlton Road, Walton on 29 July and Thames View, Walton on the 28 October. Roadshows conducted at Surrey Fire & Rescue station open days, Esher 20 August, Cobham 22 August and Walton 29 August 2009.
- Off watch promotion saw membership increase from 7 to 50.
- Launch of the Claygate, Hersham & Cobham No Cold Calling Zones during August and September.

- Distraction Burglary Awareness Week w/c 28 September. Nichols Owen launched the event followed by Trickster performances at Weybridge & Claygate centre's for retired people.
- DOOR UK – interactive presentations on crime and consequences delivered by an ex offender have continued through this period. There have been a total of six presentations since April at Esher High, Hinchley Wood and Brooklands College with a total of 539 young people taking part. Feedback from teachers has been positive.
- 10 reparation projects completed to date making use of offenders carrying out community service under the 'payback' scheme.
- Tackling Drugs Week w/c 8 June was supported with public notice board, press and web page publicity and a foyer display in the Borough Council reception. A Partnership Action Day (PAD) was held on 10 June 2009, at Cobham with an engagement stand, clean up activities, execution of search warrants and high visibility police patrols.
- Our first drugs education this year, delivered by DRED UK took place at Hinchley Wood school between 12 – 15 October.
- October saw over 70 police, Elmbridge Borough Council and Elmbridge Housing Trust staff carry out a high impact operation at Thames View House resulting in a number of arrests, prosecutions, notices seeking eviction and a Crack House Closure – feedback from the community was hugely positive.
- Domestic Abuse Awareness w/c 19 October 2009 was supported with public notice board, press and web page publicity, a foyer display in the Borough Council reception and a successful women's day 'TREAT' was held at Esher rugby club on the 22 October as part of this work. In addition to this approximately 300 letters were sent to the Elmbridge Business Network promoting the week and the responsibility of employers.
- Alcohol Awareness w/c 19 October 2009, was supported, due to having the two national promotions during the same week a foyer display at the borough Council was arranged for the week prior. This was reinforced with press and web page publicity and off licence support for handing out drinks dairies and pub watch support for know your limits quiz questions.
- Promotion of Neighbourhood watch (NHW) – Over the last four months membership has grown to 22,405 households (+700) in 510 schemes (+10) covering 682 roads (+10). Since April 2009, 30 new watches have been launched and work is now

concentrating on trying to obtain deputy street coordinators for each. Email communications are continuing to build with 528 of the coordinators / deputy coordinators being on line.

- Through the face to face public engagement events since April and the introduction of an on line version of the Community Safety 2009 survey form at the end of June a total of 215 Community Safety survey's have been completed. The results mirror the demographics of the annual residents panel and the bi annual Place Survey. Whilst there is a slightly increased, fear of crime, had been a victim of crime and victim of anti social behaviour in the last 12 months the responses showing increased confidence in the way police and other agencies were dealing with these problems has increased.

	Place Survey 1232 responses	Residents Panel 771 responses	Community Safety 215 responses
Fear of Crime	Not asked	34%	39%
Victim of crime in last year	Not asked	13%	19%
Victim of ASB in last year	Not asked	31%	44%
Police & local public services successfully dealing with issues	32%	50%	56%

- The survey also showed that 55% of respondents had previously been aware of the Community Safety Partnership and its work. This is an area where further work to raise awareness may be beneficial.
- The 2009 Community Safety Survey is available on the Elmbridge Borough Council web site:

<http://www.elmbridge.gov.uk/snap/ccs2009.htm>

3 OPTIONS

3.1 Not applicable.

4 CONSULTATIONS

4.1 Not applicable

5 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Surrey County Council contributed £24,000 towards the work of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership in 2008/09 of which £12,000 was subject to the provision of a domestic abuse outreach service. In addition to which the County Councillors have also funded several community safety initiatives through their Member Allocation funds.
- 5.2 In 2009/10 Surrey County Council has devolved a budget of £14,500 to each of the eleven district/borough areas in Surrey. Of this sum £12,000 remains subject to the provision of a domestic abuse outreach service.
- 5.3 The Local Committee has a devolved responsibility for this sum of funding and at its last meeting agreed that this budget be delegated to the Area Director, who has transferred it to the Elmbridge Crime and Disorder Partnership (CDRP). The Area Director is a board member of the Elmbridge CDRP and monitors the budget accordingly.
- 5.4 The budget devolved to the Local Committee has been reduced as a result of the reduced funding from Surrey Police to the Surrey Community Safety Unit (SCSU). To ensure the continuation of the SCSU the budget devolved to individual CDRP's has been reduced and redirected.

6 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Equalities and Diversity is a cross cutting theme of the Elmbridge Sustainable Community Strategy of which Building Safer Communities is a theme.

7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 As outlined above.

8 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 Whilst the work of the Partnership is undertaken in an effort to reduce crime and disorder it is rarely possible to measure the effectiveness of a particular piece of work on recoded crime during the same period. The reported crime for Elmbridge during the first seven months of this financial year compared with the previous year is:

CRIME TYPE	1.4.09 – 31.10.09	1.4.08- 31.10.08	% increase/decrease	number of crimes
Robbery	32	41	- 22%	- 9
Criminal Damage	857	1060	- 19.2%	- 203
Domestic Burglary	270	243	+11.1%	+27
Non Domestic Burglary	366	298	+ 22.8%	+ 68
Most Serious Violence	13	13	0 %	0
Other Violence	864	813	+ 6.3%	+ 51
Vehicle Crime	514	500	+ 2.8%	+ 14
Vehicle Interference	78	86	- 9.3%	- 8
Serious Acquisitive Crime	816	784	+ 4.1%	+32
Total Notifiable Offences	4335	4307	+0.7%	+ 28

- 8.2 It should be noted that Total Notifiable Offences (TNO's) include other categories of crime other than those shown above such as shoplifting, drugs, theft of pedal cycle etc.
- 8.3 The steep increases in burglary offences during June – August have now fallen back and whilst we are above last year's figures they remain at recoverable levels with five months left. The forced entries to sheds and garages are the most significant trends with significant numbers of pedal cycles being taken.
- 8.4 Vehicle crime has shown good reductions over the last two months reducing by 20 reports per month.
- 8.5 Criminal Damage offences remain at significantly lower levels than last year and looking at the numbers of graffiti removals being undertaken which is significantly down on a year ago it is clear that it is not simply a case of offences not being reported.
- 8.6 Violence offences have increased but these are all domestic related and violence offences connected to licensed premises or stranger violence is lower than in the same period last year.

9 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 The Local Committee is asked to note the work of the Partnership to ensure it is aware of its work and to offer any contributions as to its future work and offer advice on any area it has influence over.
- 9.2 The Local Committee will also wish to be satisfied that the financial contribution it makes toward the work of the Partnership is being used as intended.

10 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 10.1 The Elmbridge Local Committee is invited to receive further updates as desired.

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