



**SAFER GUILDFORD PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT TO
GUILDFORD LOCAL COMMITTEE**

22 SEPTEMBER 2011

KEY ISSUE

To provide an update on the activity and impact of the Safer Guildford Partnership.

SUMMARY

The report describes the progress of the Partnership during the year, sets out and comments on its achievements and outlines future priorities. It details how the resources allocated to it in 2010/11 have been spent. The report also asks the Committee to decide which Member should represent it on the Safer Guildford Partnership Executive.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to:

- i. note the contents of the report and the activities of the Partnership in the year 2010-2011.
- ii. offer comments on the work of the Partnership and on priorities for the future.
- iii. decide which Member should represent the Committee on the Safer Guildford Partnership Executive.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1. The Crime and Disorder Act (1998) established the principle that community safety should not just be the duty of the Police, but that local authorities and other agencies should share the responsibility. The Act established Community Safety Partnerships to reduce crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour.
- 1.2. The Safer Guildford Partnership brings together, as required, the County and Borough Councils, Surrey Police, Surrey Police Authority, Surrey Primary Care Trust (PCT), Surrey Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) and Surrey Probation.
- 1.3. The Surrey County Council representatives on the Safer Guildford Partnership Executive are the Surrey Fire & Rescue Service Group Manager for the West Area and Councillor Fiona White is the current representative of the Local Committee. The Committee needs to determine who will represent it during 2011/12.
- 1.4. The Partnership is one of five delivery groups for the Local Strategic Partnership. It is responsible for delivering two key objectives of the Guildford Borough Sustainable Community Strategy:
 - a) Low levels of crime will have been maintained and the perception of crime improved.
 - b) More people will feel part of their communities, believe that they can influence local decisions and participate in positive activities, such as volunteering, sports and the arts.

2. ANALYSIS

- 2.1 The Safer Guildford Partnership adopted a three-year action plan in October 2008 that contained three overarching priorities of promoting confidence, reducing and preventing crime and reducing re-offending.

Key progress against these priorities is set out below.

- a) Funding the Integrated Offender Management Team who proactively target prolific offenders.
- b) Crime reduction advice including:
- c) Borough Crime Reduction days where advice and security items such as light timers and UV pens are given out, for example at Surrey University
- d) Media appeals and advice to safeguard homes and property
- e) Use of Joint Action and Community Incident Action partnership groups to solve local problems and work to reduce the offending of specific individuals, for example joint work with housing officers at Bushy Hill, Merrow.
- f) Junior Citizen Scheme attended by over 1000 year six students to learn life skills including stranger danger, road safety, fire safety and good citizenship.
- g) Working with young people and their parents to divert the young person away from crime.

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- h) Expansion of the Designated Public Places Order in Guildford Town Centre to reduce antisocial alcohol drinking.
- i) Use of Antisocial Behaviour Orders for those causing regular problems in town banning them from the town centre.
- j) Taxi Marshals employed at peak times to enhance safety of drivers and public.
- k) Use of Section 27 'Directions to Leave' powers to minimise the likelihood of alcohol related crime
- l) "Safe plates" initiative drawing attention to and distributing tamper-proof screws for number plates
- m) Use of automatic number plate readers to target the vehicles used by offenders
- n) Crime Prevention specialist advice to neighbourhoods and locations suffering from repeat crime.
- o) Drive Smart multi agency initiative to target anti social driving.
- p) Holding 'School Speedwatch' days to encourage safer driving around schools and funded the purchase of Genesis speed guns.
- q) Targeted education and enforcement campaign to reduce the impact of the Guildford car cruise.
- r) Funding of an enhanced service of daily monitoring of those causing alarm, harassment and distress to communities. Providing interventions or enforcement on a case by case basis depending on impact and need.
- s) Use of CIAG to use expertise from all agencies to target prolific offenders and reduce offending.
- t) Specific operations to target Class A drug suppliers.
- u) Funding a Domestic Abuse Outreach Service that offers confidential and practical support to individuals who are victims of domestic abuse.
- v) Supported Domestic Abuse awareness week; including through radio interviews, articles in school newsletters and posters displayed by borough and parish councils.
- w) Promotion and organisational support of the domestic abuse survivors art exhibition. A powerful display of poetry, paintings and drawing from children and adult survivors of domestic abuse with support of the outreach service.

2.2 The latest partnership strategic assessment published in March 2011 provides evidence of the key crime and disorder issues facing the area. The main conclusion is that Guildford remains a very safe borough in a very safe county. It shows that the partnership has made a significant impact in addressing local concerns in recent years, including:

- a) people feeling safer after dark
- b) people feeling that local policing is effective
- c) a focus being placed on town centre issues
- d) reduced vehicle crime
- e) reduced non-domestic burglaries
- f) reduced road accident casualties
- g) comprehensive approach to persistent offenders
- h) structures and processes for dealing with victims of domestic abuse.

- 2.3 However, the assessment highlights that the partnership needs to continue to focus its resources on interventions to address:
- a) increased violence against the person
 - b) increased alcohol related crime, much of it town centre based violence
 - c) increased dwelling burglaries
 - d) increased incidents of anti-social behaviour and perceptions about the effectiveness of dealing with it
 - e) concern regarding speeding and “anti-social” driving
- 2.4 On this basis, the strategic assessment supported the retention of the Safer Guildford Partnership’s existing overarching priorities, as set out below:
- a) Promoting confidence
 - b) Reducing and preventing crime
 - c) Reducing re-offending
- 2.5 Within these broad strategic priorities, the partnership will focus on the areas of concern identified by the strategic assessment, whilst retaining existing successful initiatives and interventions. Flexibility will be maintained to change emphasis in the light of local and national conditions.

3. IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, EQUALITIES, ENVIRONMENTAL & COMMUNITY SAFETY)

- 3.1 The County Council’s contribution of £14,500 in 2010/11 for use in conjunction with each district Community Safety Partnerships is formally delegated by the Cabinet to the Local Committee. £12,000 was ring-fenced for outreach with those affected by domestic abuse.
- 3.2 The Committee is reminded that members of the Community Partnerships Team provide significant support to the management, co-ordination and delivery of the Partnerships objectives.
- 3.3 The use of the Partnership’s budgets in 2010/11 is summarised at **Annexe 1**.
- 3.4 There are very real financial challenges anticipated for the Safer Guildford Partnership. In 2011/12, the £12,000 domestic abuse allocation will be paid into the central Community Safety Fund administered by the Surrey Community Safety Unit. This is a result of the recommendations made in the community safety review undertaken on behalf of the Safer & Stronger Communities Partnership Board. The remaining £2,500 will be paid direct to the Community Safety Partnership as a general contribution

4. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

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- 4.1 Members are invited to comment on the achievements and activities of the Safer Guildford Partnership.
- 4.2 The Committee are requested to nominate a Surrey County Council Member to be its representative on the Safer Guildford Executive

5. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 5.1 The Community Partnership and Committee Officer and the nominated member representative of the Local Committee will report the views of the Committee to the next meeting of the Safer Guildford Executive on 12 October 2011.

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BACKGROUND

PAPERS:

Version No. 1 Date: 8/9/11 Time: 11:05 Initials: CA/MC No. of annexes: 1