



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (RUNNYMEDE)

COMMUNITY SAFETY

5th OCTOBER 2007

KEY ISSUE

The report provides an update on the work of the Safer Runnymede Partnership. It incorporates local and comparative crime data and information on recent initiatives. Borough and police partners have also contributed to this report and will attend the meeting to answer questions.

SUMMARY

The county of Surrey has the lowest recorded crime figures in England, and Runnymede has a very low incidence of crime, including the lowest figure for violent crime in the county at present.

The Safer Runnymede partnership continues to work together effectively on the 2005-8 Strategy to promote community safety and reduce levels of crime and fear of crime in the area.

Funding for the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) in 2006-7 included:

Government Office South East	£170,579
Surrey County Council	£24,000
Surrey Police/Police Authority	£14,000
Runnymede Borough Council	£19,000
Surrey Primary Care Trust	£ 2,000

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Runnymede) is asked to agree to:

- (i) note the progress made in promoting community safety in Runnymede, and latest crime data;

- (ii) delegate responsibility for expenditure of the County Council's local crime & disorder funding in Runnymede to the Area Director;
- (iii) endorse the importance of the contribution of all services towards community safety in the borough;
- (iv) comment on any issues of concern arising from the report or the information presented.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Safer Runnymede partnership is comprised of representatives from six agencies: Surrey Police, Surrey County Council, Runnymede Borough Council, the Primary Care Trust, Surrey Fire & Rescue Service and the Police Authority. Under the Crime & Disorder Act 1998, a local crime and disorder reduction partnership (CDRP) is a statutory requirement with the function of auditing and monitoring local incidences of crime, and working together to devise and deliver an effective strategy to address it.
- 1.2 All services contribute to the crime and disorder agenda, in line with Section 17 of the 1998 Act, which requires local authorities to mainstream crime and disorder by ensuring all services have regard to community safety implications of their activities.
- 1.3 From April 2006 the Local Area Agreement between Surrey County Council and the Government was put in place, to distribute funding through the county-wide Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership Board (SSCPB) to each CDRP. The overall target for CDRPs is to deliver an overall reduction in crime county-wide of 13.2% by March 2008. The target for Runnymede is to reduce total reported crimes by ?? by March 2008.
- 1.4 The current community safety strategy for Runnymede covers the period 2005-8 and targets agreed with the Government Office for the South East (GOSE) are detailed in **Annex 3**. The partners are undertaking a strategic assessment of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the borough at present and will publish a new strategy in 2008.
- 1.5 The CDRP is assisted in delivering its targets by work undertaken through two important multi-agency meetings:
- the Joint Action Group (JAG), which meets monthly to review local hotspots for anti-social behaviour and to agree actions to tackle the behaviour;
 - the Community Incidents Action Group (CIAG) which meets monthly to monitor individuals having an impact on the community through their behaviour, and to agree interventions to bring about improvements in their behaviour (including Anti-Social Behaviour Orders).

2 ANALYSIS

- 2.1 Recorded crime figures for 2006-7 indicate that Surrey is the safest county in England.
- 2.2 Overall, crime in Runnymede is falling when compared to the previous year, and in particular there has been a significant reduction in thefts from motor vehicles, in part as a result of sustained efforts to raise awareness that the public should take care to remove Satellite Navigation Systems

and other valuable items from their vehicles when leaving them unattended. Burglaries from business premises have also fallen.

- 2.3 There has been a significant increase in reports to the police of suspicious callers, and this will be a matter for investigation by the Partnership, although distraction burglaries have not increased. **Annex 1** shows recorded crime figures for the year to date, indicating an overall reduction in reported crimes of 5.7%, but an increase in domestic burglaries.
- 2.4 **Annex 2** shows the latest summary crime data (monthly) for Runnymede for the summer period 2007, in comparison with the previous summer 2006. Whilst there are small increases in the number of offences classified as violent crime (218 over three months, up from 180 in the same period of 2006), and reported incidents of criminal damage (226 up from 195), the overall trend remains one of falling crime. This information is taken from the Surrey Police website, and is available for ward level as well as borough level: the data is updated regularly.

Progress towards the 2005-8 Strategy

- 2.5 The 2005/8 Safer Runnymede Strategy priorities and targets are listed in **Annex 3**. Since the strategy was put in place, there have been a number of new developments and projects which are expected to contribute to achievement of the targets by Spring 2008. The projects funded by the Partnership in 2006-7 are listed in **Annex 4**.
- 2.6 One of the tools available to the Partnership in responding to anti-social behaviour incidences is to seek an Anti-Social Behaviour Order (ASBO) against an individual. At present, there are 16 individuals with such an Order locally. The ASBO is considered by the agencies involved as a last resort when other forms of intervention have been exhausted, and it is often the case that an Acceptable Behaviour Contract signed by an individual and their parents is sufficient to manage the behaviour.
- 2.7 It is estimated that, of a million active offenders in the UK, 100,000 offenders have three or more convictions and are responsible for half of all crime. In 2004, the Government announced a strategy to address this group of offenders, and in North West Surrey there is a team which tackles Persistent and Prolific Offenders (PPOs), and leads on case building to achieve ASBOs as required.

Neighbourhoods Pathfinder

- 2.8 North West Surrey is a pathfinder area for the Home Office's neighbourhood policing initiative, which is due for national roll-out in April 2008. The stated aim is "to create confident, safe and secure neighbourhoods where people know that the police and partners understand the issues that matter most to them and are able to tackle them together". A dedicated team has been put in place, consisting of uniformed police officers and community support officers in every neighbourhood. Their focus is on low-level crime and anti-social behaviour.

- 2.9** The North West Surrey Basic Command Unit (BCU) of Surrey Police monitors and develops neighbourhood policing in its area. In Runnymede, there are 9 neighbourhood clusters, each with named officers, co-ordinated and tasked by Runnymede Neighbourhood Inspector Roger Nield. Residents are encouraged to contact their local officers to let them know about local problems or suspicious activities in their area. This may be done by telephone or email, or at surgeries and panel meetings held in local venues. Residents may view their latest neighbourhood information and how to contact local officers by viewing www.surrey.police.uk. Forthcoming neighbourhood panel meetings are listed in **Annex 5**.
- 2.10** Surrey Police is working with its partners to organise “Tune In” meetings in neighbourhoods, designed to encourage members of the community to talk through the issues affecting them and work together to find solutions. These sessions have been piloted in Woking and Surrey Heath, and it is anticipated that such a meeting will be held in the North of Runnymede before the end of the year. The relevant county councillors for the area will be invited to attend on behalf of the county council.
- 2.11** Residents can report crime by calling 999 (if the matter is serious and urgent), or by calling Surrey Police on 0845 125 222 for non-emergency reports. If they wish to report anti-social behaviour, residents can call their neighbourhood police officer or use Runnymede borough council’s reporting forms which are to be found on their website: www.runnymede.gov.uk.

Future Working

- 2.12** In future, Crime and Disorder strategies will be regularly refreshed through a rolling three year programme, rather than forming a single three year document as in the past. Annual strategic assessments will review all the factors expected to impact on community safety in the locality. The first annual strategic assessment in Runnymede will be completed in November 2007, and the ensuing strategy is due for publication by April 2008.
- 2.13** The work on community safety now forms part of the safer and stronger strand of the countywide Local Area Agreement with government. The Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership Board was established in 2005-6 and has an overview of progress, including on funding and performance monitoring.
- 2.14** Community Access Points (CAPS) are internet terminals which are located in places such as entrance foyers of public buildings, so that local people can access information from the various partners’ websites more easily. CAPS are being piloted already in Woking, and it is planned to install one in the new civic offices in Addlestone from February 2008. This new building will house borough council and police staff.

3 OPTIONS

3.1 The Committee has two options: to delegate representation including finance decisions to the Area Director who will attend meetings of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, or to require that all proposals for CDRP expenditure are brought before the Local Committee. The latter option would be impracticable, given the timescales for such decisions and the relatively modest amount of expenditure involved.

4 CONSULTATIONS

4.1 Surrey Police conduct regular consultative meetings at local level with members of the public, as part of the neighbourhoods agenda. The Safer Runnymede Partnership will be undertaking consultation in the New Year on a draft community safety strategy for 2008-9.

5 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None.

6 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Incidents of hate crime are monitored carefully and are relatively rare in the borough; incidents have halved in 2007 compared to 2006. The CDRP funding contributes to a domestic abuse outreach service provided under contract by Surrey Women's Aid. Support is provided to people, referred largely by the police, who have experienced various types of domestic abuse. Local data for the quarter April – June 2007 indicates that 46 were assisted by the service, of which 4 were male and 42 female.

7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The Crime and Disorder implications are implicit in the report.

8 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 Members are asked to agree to delegate responsibility for expenditure of the County Council's local crime and disorder funding in Runnymede to the Area Director.

9 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 The delegation is recommended to facilitate timely decision making in response to fast moving trends in patterns of crime and disorder locally.

LEAD OFFICER: Carolyn Rowe, Area Director
TELEPHONE NUMBER: 01483 518093
E-MAIL: carolyn.rowe@surreycc.gov.uk

www.surreycc.gov.uk/runnymede

**LEAD CONTACT
OFFICERS:**

Sylvia Carter, Local Committee & Partnerships officer, (01932 794081), David Dodd, Safer Runnymede (01932 838383),
Neighbourhood Inspector Roger Nield (0845 125 2222)

E-MAIL:

sylvia.carter@surreycc.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Safer Runnymede Strategy 2005-8.

Version No. 2 Date: 26/9/07

ANNEX 1: RUNNYMEDE RECORDED CRIME, JULY 2007

Category of offences	Number of reported crimes (year to date)	% change on previous year (to date)	Reduction/increase number of cases
Total notifiable crimes	1706	-5.7%	-104
Violent crime	304	-1%	-4
Robbery	8	-57%	-8
Racially motivated	18	-44%	-14
Domestic violence	76	+69%	+31
Theft of motor vehicle	57	-32%	-27
Theft from motor vehicle	210	-38%	-126
Theft of and from motor vehicle	267	-36%	-153
Burglary dwelling	95	+16%	+13
Burglary non-dwelling	131	-13%	-19
Criminal damage	320	-5%	-16
Drugs	58	+87%	+27

In the financial year to date Runnymede has seen a decrease in total crime of -5.7%, a continuing trend of falling overall crime. Violence has fallen against the previous year with -1 offences being recorded. **Burglary Dwelling offences have risen in number by thirteen and this is an area of concern for the borough.** Burglary non-dwelling and robbery are reducing. The best results are the reductions across the board in auto crime with 153 fewer offences or a 36% drop in auto-crime. Racially motivated and domestic violence offences now show (-) 14 and (+) 36 offences against the previous FYtD total and drugs offences show an increases of (+) 25 against the previous FYtD totals. In BCS comparator crime we are showing 987 offences, a fall of 130 crimes or -11.6%.

Data supplied by Neighbourhood Inspector Roger Nield, September 2007.

ANNEX 2: MONTHLY RECORDED CRIME IN RUNNYMEDE

Recorded – Monthly

Crime	Latest 3 months	Previous 3 months	Equivalent 3 months 2005-06
	Jun 07 - Aug 07	Mar 07 - May 07	Jun 06 – Aug 06
Violent Crime	218	181	180
Burglary Dwelling	73	83	83
Burglary Non-Dwelling	79	103	93
Theft From Motor Vehicle (TFMV)	128	178	240
Theft Of Motor Vehicle (TOMV)	30	46	46
TOMV & TFMV	158	224	286
Criminal Damage	226	271	195
Total Robbery	4	-3	9
0	0	0	0

Detections	Latest 3 months	Previous 3 months	Equivalent 3 months 2005-06
	Jun 07 - Aug 07	Mar 07 - May 07	Jun 06 – Aug 06
Violent Crime	130	131	140
Burglary Dwelling	3	6	19
Burglary Non-Dwelling	8	2	13
Theft From Motor Vehicle (TFMV)	0	6	7
Theft Of Motor Vehicle (TOMV)	5	7	3
TOMV & TFMV	5	13	10
Criminal Damage	23	29	31
Total Robbery	1	2	2
0	0	0	0

*All date ranges cover the period 'week ending' to 'week ending' - this means that each 28 day period starts from 7 days before the first 'week ending' date.

ANNEX 3:**Safer Runnymede Crime, Disorder and Drug Reduction Strategy 2005-8**
(extract)**MAIN AIMS AND TARGETS****Aim**

1. To reassure people who reside, visit or work in the Borough by addressing those issues which adversely impact on their quality of life and heighten their fear of crime and disorder.

Target

1. To address concerns on traffic issues by working towards the killed and seriously injured reduction targets contained within the Road Safety Strategy. To reduce fear of crime, as shown by independent public survey, from 22% to below 20%.

Aim

2. To shift the culture from one where people tolerate anti-social behaviour to one where communities are helped and supported in upholding standards. To deal with anti-social behaviour across the Borough – ensuring all agencies respond effectively in a co-ordinated manner, working with local people, putting the needs of local communities first and the voice of victims and witnesses at the heart of the response.

Target

2. To increase interventions to tackle anti-social behaviour by 4% per year.

Aim

3. To reduce burglaries in people's homes by at least the agreed local contribution of 12.6% reduction towards government targets as measured by British Crime Survey and Home Office recorded crime statistics.

Targets

3. To reduce dwelling burglaries recorded by police by 4% per year. To reduce the total offences in the Borough from 357 to 312 by 2007-2008.

Aim

4. To reduce vehicle crime by at least the agreed local contribution of 11.5% reduction towards government targets as measured by British Crime Survey and Home Office recorded statistics.

Targets

4. To reduce theft of and from vehicle crimes recorded by police by 4% per year. To reduce the total offences in the Borough from 975 to 861 by 2007-8.

Aims

5. To reduce violent crime by at least the agreed local contribution of 11% reduction toward the government target as measured by British Crime Survey

and Home Office recorded crime statistics. Violent crime includes all assaults, threatening behaviour, alcohol-related violence and domestic violence.

Targets

5. To reduce violent crimes recorded by the police by 4% per year.
To reduce the total offences in the Borough from 508 to 454 by 2007-8.

Aims

6. To reduce the incidence of crimes of domestic abuse in Runnymede. Whilst a reduction in violent crime is being sought and must remain the long-term objective, this category of crime has been traditionally under-reported, so an increase in reporting would be seen as a positive outcome.

Targets

6. To reduce the number of repeat offences.
To achieve an increase in the number of local people reporting such crimes.
To work towards compliance with the Best Value Performance Indicator 225.

Aims

7. To contribute to achieving targets of the Surrey Drug and Alcohol Action Team.

Targets

7. To reduce drug-related crime by 6% by 2007-8.
To reduce alcohol-related crime by 6% by 2007-8.
To establish a recording system for discarded drug paraphernalia.
To work together with Surrey DAAT to address local substance misuse issues and achieve the targets published in the Surrey DAAT strategy.

ANNEX 4 PROJECTS FUNDED IN RUNNYMEDE 2006-7

**Runnymede Expenditure
2006-07**

	SSCF Revenue	SSCF Capital	ASB Revenue
Police Drug Focus Team	16500	500	
Mobile Construction Classroom	3000		
Community Access Point		4800	
CCTV replacement/extension		23,200	
Neighbourhood Intervention fund	15200	8900	
Junior Citizen scheme	7800		
Fete attendance	2320		
Arson task force	2000		
Neighbourhood Communications	8400		
Neighbourhood CIAG support	5000		
Neighbourhood JAG Support	5000		
Neighbourhood Intervention fund	9800		
Case Manager			10000
Case works support			3257
ASB intervention fund			11743
	<u>75020</u>	<u>37,400</u>	<u>25000</u>

TOTAL SPEND137420*Source: David Dodd, Runnymede Borough Council*

ANNEX 5

Dates of Police Neighbourhood Panel meetings, Autumn 2007

Area	Date and Time	Venue
Englefield Green	Wednesday 10/10/07 at 19:00 hours	Queen Elizabeth Day Centre, Bond Street.
Egham Town	Tuesday 9/10/07 at 19:00 hours	Literary Institute, High Street.
Thorpe and Hythe	Monday 1/10/07 and 10/12/07 at 19:00 hours	The Hythe Centre, Thorpe Road
Virginia Water	Tuesday 6/11/07 at 19:00 hours	Christ Church in Christchurch Road
Rowtown & Ottershaw	Tuesday 6/11/07 at 19:00 hours	Brook Hall, Brox Road Ottershaw
Lyne & Longcross	Wednesday 7/11/07 at 19:00 hours	Lyne Village Hall, Lyne Lane
Addlestone Town, North & Bourneside	Wednesday 10/10/07 at 18:30 hours	Addlestone Community Centre, Garfield Road
New Haw & Woodham	Wednesday 7/11/07 at 19:00 hours	New Haw Community Centre, Woodham Lane.

Dates of future Panel meetings will be posted on the Surrey Police website:

www.surrey.police.uk and follow the link to your neighbourhood.