



**OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE  
(RUNNYMEDE)**

**COMMUNITY SAFETY IN RUNNYMEDE  
JUNE 27 2011**

**KEY ISSUE**

The report updates members on the work of the Safer Runnymede Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in 2010-11 and its priorities for the coming year. Borough and police partners have contributed to this report and will attend the Local Committee.

**SUMMARY**

Surrey is one of the safest counties in England. The total number of reported crimes in the borough in that year April 2010-2011 was 448, and public confidence was rated as 85% in April 2011.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

- (i) Agree that the community safety funding [£2500] delegated to the Local Committee be transferred to the Community Safety Partnership;
- (ii) Agree that the Community Partnership Manager manages and authorises expenditure from the budget delegated to the Local Committee in accordance with the Local Committee's decision;
- (iii) Note that the funding of £12,000 which is ring fenced for the use of the community safety partnerships subject to domestic abuse outreach being provided, will be paid to the Surrey Community Safety Unit who are now managing and administering the funding to the Domestic Abuse Outreach providers in Runnymede borough.

## 1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Safer Runnymede Partnership comprises statutory representatives from seven agencies: Surrey Police, Surrey County Council, Runnymede Borough Council, the Primary Care Trust, Surrey Fire & Rescue Service, Surrey Police Authority and Surrey Probation. In the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 a local crime and disorder reduction partnership, (now known as a Community Safety Partnership), 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 such incidences.
- 1.2 The Community Safety Partnership reports to the Local Strategic Partnership and there is an opportunity for input from other partners. In order to fulfil scrutiny requirements, Runnymede Borough Council set up a Crime and Disorder Committee in 2010.
- 1.3 The Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership Board takes a strategic overview of Surrey's community safety strategy and is chaired by the Chief Constable. The Safer and Stronger Communities select committee undertakes annual scrutiny of community safety for Surrey County Council.
- 1.4 The annual strategic assessment of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the borough was undertaken in early 2011, and the draft Partnership Plan 2011-12 reflects current priorities (see **Annex 4**).
- 1.5 Runnymede Community Safety Partnership budget for 2011-12 comprises Area Based Grant (ABG) element and partner contributions. The ABG element is £30,537 revenue, but there is no capital this financial year, and this budget is projected to shrink further in 2012-13. Runnymede BC will make a contribution to the CSP although the formula used to determine the amount in previous years has to be reviewed. There is no contribution planned in this financial year from Surrey Police. Surrey PCT have allocated £1092 to the CSP. Surrey County Council's contribution comprises £2,500, plus £12,000 for a domestic abuse outreach service which is commissioned by the Surrey CSU this financial year. Drug and alcohol services will also be commissioned centrally. Members are asked to agree to delegate the £2,500 available for Runnymede CSP to the Community Partnership manager to oversee expenditure.

## 2 ANALYSIS OF CRIME AND PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

- 2.1 The chart at **Annex 1** is a snapshot of total crimes reported across Surrey at the end of April 2011. This is not adjusted for population size but gives some comparison between the number of reported crimes in this borough as compared with other Surrey areas. Looking at total crimes reported for the period puts the borough mid-table, with a relatively low

level of thefts and violence without injury, but a comparatively higher rate of reported burglaries both domestic and non-domestic. It should be noted that certain crime types can fluctuate over the year, particularly when serial offenders are released and it can take some time before they are apprehended for repeat offences.

- 2.2 The chart at **Annex 2** indicates crime trends over the year from April 2010 to April 2011. There is a clear peak in total offences reported during the autumn period, as the nights drawn in before Christmas and there are greater opportunities for theft of items purchased as gifts, followed by a quieter period during the winter months when the weather is poor. This period also coincided with a peak in scrap metal prices leading to a general increase in copper and lead thefts.
- 2.3 The Partnership has funded the domestic abuse outreach service provided by Your Sanctuary (formerly Women's Aid), along with Surrey Heath and Woking councils, and encouraged reporting of domestic abuse crimes by promoting helpline numbers and information about services. Data outlining the help received by the 236 individuals from Runnymede who contacted Your Sanctuary outreach service is included at **Annex 3**.
- 2.4 The Surrey Police website, [www.surrey.police.uk](http://www.surrey.police.uk), under the Runnymede neighbourhood pages, gives details of the local neighbourhood policing team and how to contact them, together with information about current priorities and concerns and local Panel meetings.
- 2.5 Public confidence in Surrey Police locally has continued to rise (85% by the final quarter of 2010-11). The three-yearly Community Safety Survey 2010 found that fear of crime affected only one in five of the local population, compared to one in four at the time of the last survey in 2007.
- 2.6 The Community Safety Partnership has two working groups which address behaviour with a detrimental impact on the community: the first is the Joint Action Group (JAG) which examines reports of anti-social behaviour on a geographic or crime type basis and identifies partnership actions to address problems. The Community Incident Action Group (CIAG) focuses on individuals whose behaviour is having a negative impact on the community and agrees approaches to tackling this behaviour between partners.
- 2.7 Residents can report criminal behaviour to Surrey Police on 999 or 0845 125 2222, and may report anti-social incidents electronically using forms on the website [www.saferrunnymede.org.uk](http://www.saferrunnymede.org.uk) or by telephone, letter or in person at the Runnymede Civic Centre.

### **Partnership successes in 2010-11**

- 2.8 The Partnership has continued to monitor incidents affecting the community as part of the CIAG across the borough. In May 2011 there were only four Anti-Social Behaviour Orders in place against

Runnymede residents, reflecting the extensive work undertaken by partners with individuals to reduce their anti-social impact on the community and prevent the need to take legal steps against them.

- 2.9 Surrey Police has selected Runnymede as its pilot for use of electronic media to communicate with and engage the public in addressing crime and anti-social behaviour. Police officers are using Facebook and Twitter, and the website [www.runnymede-residents.co.uk](http://www.runnymede-residents.co.uk) to advise and reassure the public.
- 2.10 The Partnership gave financial support to the following in 2010-11:
- Your Sanctuary domestic abuse outreach service;
  - the posts of part-time support assistants to the JAG and CIAG;
  - the Youth Engagement Scheme (YES) run by Surrey Fire & Rescue Service;
  - the Junior Citizen Programme in local primary schools (autumn term)
  - sponsorship of various young people taking part in diversionary activities at the BIZ, Fitness Centre, East to West;
  - a contribution to the Community Safety Survey of 2010 (costs spread over two financial years).
- 2.11 The county-wide Drive Smart campaign was initiated by Surrey County Council in 2009 in partnership with Surrey Police. Activities in Runnymede this year have included:
- a Road Education and Enforcement Day (REED) in August 2010 in Thorpe/Ottershaw/Thorpe Park when a total of 70 vehicles were stopped and 67 speeding fines issued;
  - a Park SMART day in September 2010 when schoolchildren and Police raised awareness of anti-social parking at St Jude's school, Englefield Green;
  - a REED event on 25 May 2011 in Church Road Addlestone, when 15 fixed penalty notices were issued for a range of offences.

For more information, see [www.drivesmartsurrey.org.uk](http://www.drivesmartsurrey.org.uk) or the Surrey Police neighbourhood news pages.

### **Partnership Plan 2011-12**

- 2.10 The strategic assessment undertaken to review needs identified from data for 2010 resulted in the Partnership agreeing these recommendations:
- To remain focused on antisocial driving issues.
  - To remain focused on alcohol misuse.
  - to promote good citizenship.

- to review provision for victims of crime
- to support inclusion activities where possible.

The Partnership Plan (**Annex 4**) outlines how arising themes are being addressed in 2011-12 through a combination of information campaigns, monitoring and analysis, direct service provision and enforcement activity, training and outreach to targeted areas.

### **3 CONSULTATIONS**

3.1 Surrey Police conduct regular neighbourhood panel meetings at local level with members of the public, as part of the neighbourhoods agenda. Details of forthcoming Panel meetings and neighbourhood officers can be found under Surrey Police neighbourhood webpages.

### **4 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The County Council's budget for Runnymede area includes £12,000 which will be used to commission centrally a domestic abuse outreach service in 2011-12, and members are asked to delegate £2,500 to the CPT to contribute to the CSP for initiatives in the partnership plan, to achieve best value for money.

### **5 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Community safety funding contributes to a domestic abuse outreach service provided under contract by Surrey Women's Aid in North West Surrey. Practical and emotional support is provided to people referred by the police, other local agencies and by individuals who have experienced physical and/or emotional domestic abuse.

### **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 contribution to community safety funding in Runnymede to the Community Partnership Team manager.

### **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:** James Painter, Community Partnerships  
Manager  
**TELEPHONE** 08456 009009  
**NUMBER:**

**E-MAIL:** [james.painter@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:james.painter@surreycc.gov.uk)

**LEAD CONTACT OFFICERS:** Sylvia Carter, Local Committee & Partnerships officer, (01932 794081), Wendy Roberts, (01932 838383), Neighbourhood Inspector Roger Nield (0845 125 2222)

**E-MAIL:** [sylvia.carter@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:sylvia.carter@surreycc.gov.uk)