



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (Surrey Heath)

Drive Smart Update

18 February 2010

KEY ISSUE

This year has seen an increase in the profile of Road Safety as a public concern. The launch of the DRIVE SMART Campaign in September has focused resources into the problems that the community have with the hazards created by road users.

SUMMARY

Anti social driving includes speeding, bad parking, use of mobile phones, not wearing the appropriate seat belt and other road traffic offences as well as other issues such as the state of the roads and road signs and the need for police activity or engineering remedies to reduce the fears and concerns of the general public and increase the safety for all road users.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Local Committee (Surrey Heath) notes the content of this report

ANALYSIS AND COMMENTARY

1. As part of the DRIVE SMART, larger scale Roadside Education and Enforcement Days (REED's) are taking place in each Borough, with Police and Council Road Safety Officers as well as other agencies all aiming to change motorist's behaviour for the long term. Surrey Heath had its REED day booked in for January 11th, 2010. Unfortunately, due to inclement weather, this had to be cancelled and will be re scheduled for later in the year.
2. In the meantime all Surrey Police activities that take place in each area relating to Drive Smart are being monitored results can be seen in the table below.

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>INTERVENTIONS</u>	Comments
Casualty Reduction routes	143.75	424	RPU/CRO carried out standard patrol hours on the roads
Laser by CRO	54	414	Includes speed checks
Promoting Drive Smart	104	N/A	Includes driver education and advice
School Speedwatch	Over 1 week period		4 planned from March
Dealing with ICAD's	27.5	82	Re Anti Social Driving
Community Speed Watch	47	834 Yellow card letters 48 Red card letters	
Driver Alert	7	24	Mainly RPU and RPCSO's
Standard Patrol Operation	51.25	77	All traffic checks and patrols
Others (including ZJ's, Meetings, Action and PAD days)	55.25	19	
Panel Priority	45.5	238	Includes speed checks
<u>TOTALS</u>	535.25 hours	2160	

Roads Police Units in Surrey Heath

3. This year Surrey Heath Teams have had the added support of two new Roads Police Community Support Officers (RPCSO's) working with us on directed road traffic issues. They are trained to carry out speed checks and can issue certain fixed penalty tickets regarding obstruction offences.
4. The Roads Police Units are also aligned closer to the areas and throughout the year a number of joint road checks have been planned covering all aspects of vehicles and their activities.

Drink Drive Campaign

5. The Surrey Heath campaign coincided with and supported the national campaign and is linked to the Surrey County Council and Surrey Police year long Drive SMART campaign to tackle anti-social driving.
6. Campaign objectives
 - To change attitudes and behaviours towards drink driving, predominantly amongst the target group – white European/British males aged 19-30
 - Raise awareness amongst Surrey road users that drink driving will be targeted throughout the festive period
 - Position drink driving as unacceptable
 - Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on Surrey roads.

7. Key audiences
 - Men aged 19 – 30
 - Motorists who use their cars for work
 - Surrey road users, as potential victims and offenders.
8. Key messages
 - Don't drink and drive – you could lose your licence, job, family and friends
 - Plan your journey before you go out
 - Drinking and driving shatters lives – consider the impact that drink driving has on loved ones left behind

Surrey Heath Drink Drive Activities

9. The Surrey Heath Police team along with the Roads Policing Unit (RPU) had a full calendar of Drink Drive checks over the Christmas and New Year period which incorporated the Drive Smart ethos. The first week was been about launching the campaign, media releases and distribution of leaflets and posters around the community, particularly to our pubs, clubs, off licences and supermarkets.
10. A large scale check was carried out on the 11th December in the Camberley, Frimley, Frimley Green and Mytchett areas, with drivers being stopped for a number of offences including speeding, fail to wear seat belt, using mobile phone whilst driving, defective lights, manner of driving. All drivers stopped were routinely breath tested. This was run between RPU and the Neighbourhood Team and further checks took place around the Surrey Heath area over that month at various times of day and night. All drivers involved in RTC (Road Traffic collisions) were also routinely breath tested.
11. A joint Fire Brigade and Police Drink Drive Display took place on 16th December in the old Holland and Barret Health food shop in Main Square. It included a brake tester and beer goggles, and this year's posters and information. Also, a selection of Road Safety DVD's were shown throughout the day. A Drive SMART and Drink Drive campaign display was set up within the Atrium on the weekends of 5th, 12th and 19th December where educational leaflets and a practical test using 'Beer Goggles' was carried out with members of the public over a four hour period on each occasion, which was well received by all.

Two main Casualty Reduction Routes identified for Surrey Heath

12. This was a list of routes compiled by the Roads Policing Unit with agreement of the Casualty Reduction Officers for each area. The EuroRap list of worst sites was used as a first point of reference. However this list is compiled from three year data to the end of June 2006 so in an effort to ensure that our activity is focused on areas that have current problems the most recent 12 months data on Accsmaps, the Surrey Police system, which is to the end of July 2008, was used.
13. The two sites agreed for Surrey Heath in 2009 were;
 - The A235 Portsmouth Road, from its junction with Frimley Park Hospital, to the American Golf Roundabout. Numerous injury collisions over the previous twelve months.
 - The B3411 Frimley Green Road from its junction with Church Road, Frimley to Sturt Road, Mytchett. This road has suffered numerous injury RTC (Road Traffic Collisions) during the period 2008 to 2009.

14. CRO (Casualty Reduction Officer), RPU and RPCSO's have carried out monitoring of speeds and patrols along these roads throughout the year but the speeds have been generally within the new limits. A number of enforcement days for Mobile Phone and Seat Belt offences have been carried out in both locations by the CRO, with assistance from CRO's at Woking, Spelthorne, Runneymede and Elmbridge, and local NSO's (Neighbourhood Specialist Officers) and PCSO's, resulting in many motorists being dealt with by way of warning or prosecution, and a heightened awareness of these offences by the road users in the area. The targeting of these roads has resulted in a reduction of RTC in both locations.
15. These have now been re assessed, resulting in the following:
- The A235 Portsmouth Road, from its junction with Frimley Park Hospital, to the American Golf Roundabout has had such a reduction in RTC, it will now be replaced by the B3411 Frimley Road from its junction with A30 London Road Camberley to the Toshiba Roundabout, Frimley. There have been 8 injury collisions over the study period.
 - B3411 Frimley Green Road- although this has seen a significant drop in the number of RTC, it is still problematic and has been extended to include Sturt Road and Mytchett Road up to the junction with Mytchett Lake Road. This route has had 13 injury collisions over the most recent 12 month study period.

NEW Vehicle Activated Signs

16. The Surrey Heath CRO currently has four portable, flashing speed warning signs which are currently sited in Whitmoor Road, Bagshot, and Park Street, Camberley. Two others are broken and awaiting return to the manufacturer for repair. These were purchased through SCC and Drive SMART funding. These signs are very effective over the short term, and the CRO list of sites agreed with the Local Transportation Manager to rotate them throughout the year.

Speed Detection Radar (SDR's)

17. The CRO has three SDR's which are used to carry out covert speed surveys at complaint sites, Community Speed Watch sites and sites where there are high RTC's. Each survey takes a week and records the speed of each vehicle travelling in each direction, 24/7 for the entire survey. This gives the CRO an accurate picture of speed issues at a site to assist to make an informed decision as to how best to approach the problem. Options such as enforcement if speeds are high, or by engineering (refreshing road markings, new signs etc, or by suggesting a Community Speedwatch for the area are some of the options available to us. These SDR's have been purchased both by SCC and Surrey Police.

Community Speed Watch – Surrey Heath

18. Local Parish Councils and volunteer residents from Surrey Heath currently work together with Surrey Police running Community Speed Watch Schemes. They are;
1. Crawley Hill, Camberley
 2. Church Hill, Camberley
 3. Parkway, Camberley
 4. Ambleside Road, Lightwater
 5. Coleford Bridge Road, Mytchett
 6. Church Lane, Bisley
 7. Sheridan Road, Frimley

19. Volunteers need to be at least 18 years of age, have reasonable eyesight and health and be willing to give a few hours of their time to carry out the checks. They are trained by Surrey Police in the use of the equipment, health and safety, at the roadside and then carry out monitoring of vehicle speed in specific areas of concern. They can monitor in areas with 30 or 40 mph speed limits.
20. Details of offending driver's vehicles are passed to Surrey Police, who identify the drivers and registered keepers and they are sent a warning letter. For drivers who fail to take notice of this warning they will be targeted for enforcement using relevant road traffic legislation where appropriate.
21. It has been seen that these community based project do reduce vehicle speeds at specific locations and increase reassurance within the Surrey Heath Borough due to the presence of highly visible Community Speed Watch monitors at the roadside and with legislative influences and site support being applied by the Police.
22. The introduction of this initiative enables the local policing team to use education and information as an alternative means to influence driver behaviour rather than solely relying on enforcement. These sites are chosen by the local residents as sites of concern to them and are supported by regular Police speed checks.
23. The schemes at the top of the list are highly active and the ones at the lower end are short on volunteers and/or co-ordinators have moved away and the schemes are in need of new members. All schemes would benefit from increased volunteers as the checks can be spread between them and potentially more sites covered. In the winter the schemes are limited as to when they can be out due to the weather and shorter days.
24. Training is carried out locally by Surrey Police and takes about 2 hours. Volunteers are insured by Surrey Police whilst carrying out checks and full admin support is provided to send out warning letters to drivers for speeding, use of mobile phones and wearing seat belts were offences are observed.
25. NEW SCHEMES 2010 – There are currently no new schemes in Surrey Heath for 2010. However, Surrey Police are keen to set up as many schemes as possible as part of Drive SMART, and are actively trying to encourage local residents to start schemes in Cumberland Road, Heatherside, Prior Road, Parkside and Benner Lane, west End, all of which have been the subject of many complaints, but speed surveys have shown there to be a minor speeding problem and so would be ideal sites for Community Speed Watch Schemes.
26. SCHOOL SPEED WATCH – As part of Drive Smart, we are assessing all the school sites in the Surrey Heath area. We currently have firm dates for School Speed Watches at Ravenscote School, Watchetts School and St Augustines School, and the CRO is working hard with the Safer Travel advisor to establish more of these schemes. Theses will commence in the Spring term.

CONSULTATION

27. A list of Problem Profile Roads has been drawn up after consultation with SCC Local Highways Office (Ian Haller and Martin Leppard) These will be reviewed at Casualty Reduction Working Group meetings held six monthly at AO3, Guildford to identify further sites and agree action plans between concerned parties (Surrey Police, Local Highways Dept, Surrey Safer Travel, Surrey Fire & Rescue etc) All new roads that come to our attention as a result of KSI's or complaints will be included in this list.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

28. The scope of work is limited by the funding available.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

29. None

CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

30. Tackling anti social driving will have obvious crime and disorder implications and the high profile interventions should impact positively on the fear of crime.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

31. None

CONCLUSION

32. Members are asked to note the wide range of interventions being carried out in Surrey Heath.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS:	None