



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

**ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SAFER WAVERLEY  
PARTNERSHIP**

**18 JUNE 2010**

**KEY ISSUE**

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

**SUMMARY**

The report describes the recent progress of the Partnership during the year, sets out and comments on achievements and outlines future priorities.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS**

**The Local Committee (Waverley) is asked to agree to:**

- (i) Note the contents of the report and the activities of the Partnership in the year 2009-2010.
- (ii) Offer comments on the work of the Partnership and on priorities for the future.
- (iii) Decide which member of the Committee should represent the Committee at the Executive Board meetings of the Waverley Strategic Partnership.

## 1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Committee will be aware that the existing arrangements for tackling crime and disorder and promoting community safety on a local basis date back to the Crime and Disorder Act of 1998. The Act established the principle that this activity should not be solely the preserve of the Police, but that local authorities and other statutory agencies operating locally should share the responsibility.
- 1.2 The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) for Waverley –the Safer Waverley Partnership (SWP) – brings together, as required, the County and Borough Councils, Surrey Police, Surrey Police Authority, Surrey Primary Care Trust (PCT), the Surrey Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) and, in its own right, Surrey Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS); Surrey Probation Area has been a recent addition to the list of statutory partners, although the nature of its representation remains to be confirmed. SWP is subsumed within the Waverley Strategic Partnership (WaSP) whose Board takes strategic responsibility for the delivery of the statutory functions of a CSP. Formal voting on budgetary responsibility, however, lies with the specified senior officers representing each of the statutory partners. In this respect the County Council is represented by Dave Johnson as Area Director (South West Surrey) and, on behalf of SFRS, by Alan Clark the relevant Area Manager. The Local Committee has been represented on the WaSP Board by the Chairman of the Local Committee.
- 1.3 Both WaSP and the SWP have recently reviewed their operating arrangements with the intention of clarifying accountability, ensuring that strategic and tactical decisions are made in the most appropriate place and streamlining the structure of meetings. A final decision on the outcome of these reviews are expected to be made by the WaSP Executive Board on 30 July 2010.
- 1.4 The work of the SWP directly supports the community safety priorities of Surrey County Council and also the Safer and Stronger Communities targets of the Local Area Agreement. The Partnership is required to undertake an annual Strategic Assessment and the results of this are reported to the Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership Board of the Surrey Strategic Partnership. The Strategic Assessment for 2009-2010 appears as **Annex 1** (circulated in hard copy to members of the Committee and available on-line at:  
<http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/legcom/CouncilP.nsf/Meetings?OpenView&Sort=59&Count=30&Collapse=70.1#70.1>
- 1.5 The Local Partnerships Team continues to lead for the County Council in co-ordinating the work of the SWP, contributing to the strategic management of the Partnership and ensuring that relevant services are involved.

## 2 REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

- 2.1 The Safer Waverley Partnership adopted an action plan in April 2009 which contained five objectives. Progress against each of these is set out below.

### Reducing crime

- 2.2 The following statistics relating to key crime types have been provided by Surrey Police and compare the data for the year April 2009 – March 2010 with the preceding year.

| Crime Type                                           | Apr.2008-<br>Mar.2009 | Apr.2009-<br>Mar.2010 | Change | %<br>Change |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------|-------------|
| Criminal damage                                      | 1253                  | 998                   | -255   | -20.40%     |
| Domestic burglary                                    | 192                   | 301                   | 109    | 56.80%      |
| Drug offences                                        | 88                    | 108                   | 20     | 22.70%      |
| Fraud and forgery                                    | 181                   | 196                   | 15     | 8.30%       |
| Non-domestic burglary                                | 556                   | 615                   | 59     | 10.6%       |
| Other criminal offences                              | 76                    | 63                    | -13    | -17.10%     |
| Other sexual offences                                | 18                    | 16                    | -2     | -11.10%     |
| Robbery                                              | 24                    | 35                    | 11     | 45.80%      |
| Serious sexual offences                              | 37                    | 56                    | 19     | 51.40%      |
| Theft (other than vehicle) and handling stolen goods | 1405                  | 1236                  | -169   | -12.00%     |
| Vehicle crime (excluding interference)               | 572                   | 492                   | -80    | -14.00%     |
| Vehicle interference and tampering                   | 54                    | 87                    | 33     | 61.10%      |
| Violence with injury                                 | 310                   | 333                   | 23     | 7.40%       |
| Violence without injury                              | 478                   | 581                   | 103    | 21.50%      |

Changes in a number of low-incidence crime types can result in large fluctuations when presented as percentages. Although anticipated as a possible consequence of the recent recession, burglary remains a priority for attention and patterns of offending have often been disrupted by the detention of individuals whose criminal activities have been prolific. Increases in certain crime types may also be due to increased reporting by victims which, particularly in relation to domestic abuse, is encouraged by the Partnership. The decrease in criminal damage – for long a particular problem in Waverley – is particularly welcome.

2.3 Joint activity and preventative interventions have supported the enforcement activity of Surrey Police and the Partnership has well-developed officer-level structures for achieving this:

- The Community Incident Action Group (CIAG) continues to focus on interventions to reduce the impact of individuals (both juveniles and adults) whose behaviour has a disproportionate impact on the well-being of their community. From the County Council, the Children, Schools and Families, Youth Development and Youth Justice Services contribute to the effectiveness of this group and its value has been enhanced this year through increased attendance by mental health specialists. The Group is able to call on the work of specialist interventions, e.g. on parenting and substance misuse, and to employ methods such as Acceptable Behaviour Contracts to encourage changes in behaviour and has been successful in substantially reducing both the number of individuals requiring intensive intervention and the impact of their activities. The Youth Engagement Scheme (YES) operated by Surrey Fire and Rescue Service continues to provide an opportunity for intensive work with young people with particularly challenging behaviour.
- The Joint Action Group (JAG) focuses on significant crime patterns, locations which are causing concern, patterns of anti-social behaviour in a particular location and concerns related to licensed premises. The Group's activities are informed by intelligence and current data and seek to involve relevant partners in achieving successful outcomes. For the County Council, Trading Standards, the Youth Development and Youth Justice Services and Highways have been involved in JAG business. Recent activities have included various preventative actions in Farncombe to reduce anti-social behaviour and address the problem of under-age sales of alcohol. The Partnership has responded to patterns of recurrent crimes during the year, notably theft of metals and York stone, and has made available to owners advice and materials which aid detection.
- The Group has kept an overview of emerging patterns of crime, e.g. rural crime, domestic and non-domestic burglary and vehicle crime and supported Surrey Police in providing preventative information and in targeting the activities of repeat offenders. In general, the partnership seeks to use intelligence to anticipate emerging trends and reduce their impact, e.g. recent changes in the prevalence of metal theft.

#### Feeling Safe and Being Safe

2.4 Despite relatively low levels of crime there has historically been a relatively high "fear of crime" in Waverley. It is therefore encouraging that the most recent results from the periodic survey of confidence within Surrey shows that, when compared with the other 10 boroughs/districts, respondents in Waverley report the greatest satisfaction with partners' performance.

**Question: Please say how much you agree or disagree with the following statement ... “the police and the local council are dealing with the anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter in this area”**

| <b>Responses</b>           | <b>Waverley</b> | <b>Surrey</b> |
|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Agree                      | 59.9%           | 57.6%         |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 14.7%           | 14.3%         |
| Disagree                   | 10.1%           | 11.7%         |
| Don't know                 | 15.2%           | 16.5%         |
| Number in Sample           | 631             | 6993          |
| (Sept.2009-Mar.2010)       |                 |               |

2.5 The Partnership has continued to focus on communities of place and interest which are most vulnerable. This theme is closely allied with that of promoting stronger communities and close links are maintained with the activities of WaSP's Communities, Health and Social Inclusion Group. Activities have included:

- Continuing to support the joint outreach service in Guildford and Waverley to support those experiencing domestic abuse and to raise awareness of the problem.
- Continuing to stage the Junior Citizen event for Year 6 children to raise their awareness of risk and to provide them with the tools to manage this and play their part as responsible members of the community. The event in 2009 succeeded in attracting high attendance from the relevant maintained and independent schools and an evaluation with teachers revealed a very high level of satisfaction. A web-site has been developed to enable schools to access safety-related resources as a follow-up to the event and throughout the year. The Junior Citizen programme will be staged again in September 2010 at Farnham Fire Station.
- A Neighbourhood Agreement with residents of The Chantry, Farnham has been completed and published and sets out the mutual responsibilities of residents and services.
- A “No Cold Caller Zone” was launched in the Farncombe area in September aimed at discouraging unscrupulous door-to-door trading and deception burglaries and providing residents with information to protect themselves. The initiative has been well received and the status of the area is well-publicised by residents themselves and by signage. The Partnership will now focus on ensuring that vulnerable residents in smaller neighbourhoods elsewhere in Waverley have access to similar advice.
- A successful community safety event, including the offer of Home Fire Risk Assessments by Surrey Fire and Rescue Service personnel, was held at Ockford Ridge, Godalming in October 2009. In the light of residents' concerns about inappropriate speeds, SWP has supported the provision of “Twenty's Plenty” signs to encourage more thoughtful driving.

- CDRPs are required to take part in “Meet the People” events to better understand the needs of their community. Senior officers of the Safer Waverley Partnership will be present at Cranleigh Carnival on 26 June 2010 to discuss community safety matters with interested residents.

### Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour

- 2.6 The Partnership targets anti-social behaviour through the activities of its CIAG and JAG and routine policing activity. Positive activities with young people have also been promoted and supported, e.g. through a contribution to the recently enhanced skate-park in Cranleigh.
- 2.7 Residents’ perceptions of anti-social behaviour are encouraging: the results of the “Place Survey” (undertaken in 2008, but published during 2009-2010) reveal that 10.1% of respondents consider anti-social behaviour to be a problem locally (third lowest in Surrey).
- 2.8 Road safety and casualty reduction remains a priority for the Partnership and its Casualty Reduction Action Group, formed by representatives from all relevant partners, promotes improved driver behaviour. This group provided a firm basis for the development of the Drive Smart initiative launched by the County Council and Surrey Police in 2009 (and reported to this Committee at its 12 March 2010 meeting) and the enhanced range of activities funded through this route were readily embedded in the existing programme of School Speed Watch sessions in primary schools and Road User Awareness days in secondary schools.
- 2.9 CSPs are now required to publish a set of standards which describe the response residents can expect from partners in relation to concerns about anti-social behaviour and the SWP’s commitments are set out at **Annex 2**.

### Addressing Substance Misuse

- 2.10 The Partnership has continued to respond to concerns related to substance misuse, including under-age consumption of alcohol, across its range of activities. As described above, JAG keeps an overview of concerns relating to licensed premises (including off-licenses). SWP was recently able to respond very rapidly to concerns expressed by some schools in Waverley about the availability and effects of Mephedrone and secured the services of a specialist organisation to advise staff and students. The partnership will continue to monitor the impact of similar substances locally and respond in a similar fashion if required.

Improving partnership performance

2.11 The Partnership recognises the need to continually improve its communication with the community and for all partners to give and reinforce consistent messages. Events such as the launch of the Farncombe No Cold Caller Zone and the workshop for councillors in November 2009 have raised the profile of the Partnership and its activities. SWP is this year also joining with its equivalents in Guildford, Surrey Heath and Woking to secure air-time from Eagle Radio to promote key community safety messages across West Surrey.

2.12 The Strategic Assessment concluded that:

“ . . . there has been much progress towards addressing the priority areas in 2008/09 and 2009/10. These original priorities are still clearly relevant and the excellent progress made to date needs to be maintained.”

**3 ACTION PLAN**

3.1 Following consideration of the Strategic Assessment, the SWP will recommend to the WaSP Executive Board that the existing themes remain relevant and should therefore be maintained in 2010-2011. Detailed actions and measures are in development but, owing to extended staff-sickness, these have not yet been completed and it is anticipated that they will be presented to the Board for approval at its July meeting.

**4. CONSULTATIONS**

4.1 The Local Committee is invited to comment on the contents of the report and the progress and future direction of the Partnership. In 2009-2010 the Local Committee appointed two members to represent the County Council on the WaSP Board -- Mrs P Frost and Mr D Harmer (as Vice-Chairman, but also sitting principally as Police Authority representative). In the light of the anticipated restructuring of WaSP, the Local Committee is now invited to decide which member it would wish to nominate to the WaSP Executive Board.

**5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The County Council has made available £14,500 per borough/district for use in conjunction with the Community Safety Partnerships in 2010-2011. This budget is formally delegated by the Cabinet to the Local Committee. £12,000 of the total is ring-fenced for outreach with those affected by domestic abuse and is needed to enable the Partnership to fulfil its contractual commitment to the provider of this service in

Guildford and Waverley, whose current contract ends in March 2011. The Local Committee has in the past opted to transfer the remainder of its delegated budget (£2500) to the Safer Waverley Partnership as its contribution towards the projects and activities referred to above (see also 5.3 below). A final budget for 2010-2011 has yet to be agreed by the WaSP Executive Board, but it is anticipated that the County Council's allocation of £2500 would contribute to a total budget of some £140,000.

- 5.2 The Area Director, as its representative on the Safer Waverley Partnership, ensures that the County Council influences the objectives of the partnership and that the funding is spent in line with these objectives. In previous years the Committee formally delegated authority to the Area Director to spend the funding in this way and it recommended that this delegation should again take place during the year 2009-2010. Accountability for, and opportunities to influence, the deployment of County Council funding, is secured through the periodic reports submitted by the Area Director to members on the strategy and progress made on its implementation (see Item 18 on this agenda where a formal decision on funding is sought).
- 5.3 The use of the Partnership's budgets in 2009-2010 is summarised at **Annex 3**. During the year the Local Committee contributed the sum of £12,100 (from members' revenue and capital allocations) for community safety projects, supporting and complementing the work of the SWP. The Committee is also reminded that members of the Local Partnerships Team provide significant support to the management, co-ordination and delivery of SWP's objectives and that, as reported above, relevant County Council services contribute to the operations of the Partnership from within the mainstream resources.
- 5.4 The Committee is advised that, on current projections, the SWP will face substantial budgetary challenges in 2011-2012. To date the Partnership has been able to take a long-term view of its capacity to fund activities, anticipating funding pressures where possible by carrying forward funds into subsequent years. Decreasing contributions from the Area Based Grant and from partners now mean that there will be insufficient resources at the end of the current financial year to maintain this approach and it will be necessary for the Partnership to undertake a review of priorities and capacity to deliver before the beginning of the 2011-2012 financial year.

## 6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The SWP gives specific attention to the needs of residents who are vulnerable or likely to be disadvantaged for whatever reason. Any patterns of incidents recorded as "hate crimes" and of community tensions which might be related to, for example, ethnicity or sexual orientation would be considered by the JAG.



**7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The report is exclusively concerned with community safety in its widest sense.

**8 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1 The Committee is invited to note the SWP's ongoing work and its achievements over the year 2009-2010. Members also have this opportunity to comment on future plans and suggest any further topics for attention.
- 8.2 The County Council is a statutory partner in CSPs and its services are involved in the promotion of safer and stronger communities in Waverley. In this respect the Committee is invited to decide how it should be represented on the WaSP Board.

**9 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 The Local Committee wishes to receive periodic reports on the work of the Safer Waverley Partnership, its achievements and priorities and to consider its contribution to these.

**10 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT**

- 10.1 The Area Director will arrange for any comments and suggestions to be reported to the SWP.

|                           |                                                                                |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
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| <b>BACKGROUND PAPERS:</b> | None                                                                           |