



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

**ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SAFER WAVERLEY
PARTNERSHIP**

22 JUNE 2012

KEY ISSUE

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

SUMMARY

The report describes the 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 2011-12.
- (ii) Offer comments on the work of the Partnership and its priorities.

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 the Police, local authorities and other statutory agencies operating locally should share this responsibility.
- 1.2 The Safer Waverley Partnership (SWP) is the statutory Community Safety Partnership (CSP) for Waverley. Of the statutory partners, representation from Waverley Borough Council, Surrey Police, Surrey Police Authority and

Probation remains unchanged; recent reforms have brought within the County Council partners formerly represented separately: the public health functions of NHS Surrey and the Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT). Formal voting on budgetary responsibility lies with the specified officers representing each of the statutory partners. In this respect the County Council is represented by David North (Community Partnership and Committee Officer) in conjunction with the Community Partnership Team Leader for West Surrey. Surrey Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) is represented separately by Alan Clark, the relevant Area Manager, and Public Health by Michael Baker (Public Health Principal). Surrey Police Authority is represented by Mr David Harmer.

- 1.3 The work of the SWP directly supports the community safety priorities of Surrey County Council and the countywide priorities co-ordinated by the recently established Community and Public Safety Board. The Partnership is required to undertake an annual Strategic Assessment and the document for 2011-12 is available on-line at (Item 13):

<http://online.surreycc.gov.uk/legcom/CouncilP.nsf/Meetings?OpenView&Start=59&Count=30&Expand=78.1.1.1#78.1.1.1>

For the first time an overarching Surrey-wide assessment has also been produced.

- 1.4 The Community Partnership 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 2011 which contained four priority themes:

- Building confidence in our communities
- Reducing anti-social behaviour and promoting acceptable behaviour
- Responding to change
- Tackling crime

Progress against each of these is set out below.

Building confidence in our communities

- 2.2 The partnership has throughout its existence invested significantly in addressing historically high “fear of crime” levels and promoting resilience in the borough’s most vulnerable communities. The results of the residents’ survey which gauges community concerns for the year to September 2011 (as covered by the Strategic Assessment) are set out in 2.3 (% of respondents reporting each topic to be a very or fairly big problem).
- 2.3 Waverley scores below the countywide average for all areas of concern, although by varying amounts. The proportion of residents who are concerned about particular issues has risen in 10 of the 14 categories and fallen in four, but the changes are relatively small in most cases and tend to fluctuate year-

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on-year around a similar score. Traffic-related concerns remain the most significant feature of this survey.

Issue	Waverley %			County %	Waverley rank
	Sept 2009	Sept 2010	Sept 2011	Sept 2011	
Speeding motorists and anti-social driving	40.6	42.8	40.2	41	8 th
Traffic congestion	38.1	41.0	37.8	40	8 th
Teenagers hanging around on the streets	17.2	19.3	21.4	27	8 th
Graffiti and litter	20.0	17.4	20.3	21	6 th
Parents not taking responsibility for behaviour of children	18.7	17.5	18.6	22	9 th
Drunk or rowdy behaviour in public places	15.5	12.2	16.1	17	7 th
Burglary	12.8	13.6	14.5	16	9 th
Vandalism / Damage	10.6	10.5	11.2	15	10 th
Vehicle crime (theft of / from / damage to)	12.6	9.6	10.9	17	10 th
People not treating others with respect and dignity	9.1	10.3	9.7	15	11 th
Problem or noisy neighbours	8.2	5.2	8.8	10	5 th
People cycling / skateboarding on pavements	7.5	5.7	8.5	12	8 th
Presence of drug users / dealers	7.7	8.0	7.4	10	9 th
Physical attack	3.2	2.9	3.0	4	10 th

Issues are listed in order of concern for Waverley residents (rank: good to be low)

91.6% of local residents said they felt very or fairly safe in their local area after dark, a very slight increase of the previous year's figure of 91.2%. The percentage of the population tending to agree or strongly agree that the Police and local council are dealing with the anti-social behaviour and crime problems that matter in their area increased by 8% in the year to 62.9%, the highest figure for Surrey to date. This has fallen back slightly to 60.3% in the full year ending in March 2012. Although relatively high on a Surrey scale, it remains a challenge for the Partnership to seek to improve on this.

- 2.4 The Partnership has continued to support multi-agency activity in priority neighbourhoods, involving residents in building resilience. Support for work associated with the Neighbourhood Agreement in The Chantrys, Farnham has led to continued reductions in anti-social behaviour and perceived improvements in quality of life. Likewise projects in Farncombe and Ockford Ridge/Aarons Hill have been supported. More generally, packs providing advice to residents in resisting cold-calling have been made widely available in the borough. Partners have also been made aware of the "Prevent" strategy and measures being taken to prevent and resist terrorism and extremism and briefed on the implications of the London 2012 events locally.

- 2.5 While the resources available to the partnership have reduced significantly in recent years, partners are themselves developing joint initiatives which are likely to impact on community confidence and community safety more widely. The Local Prevention Framework – under which the Committee approved a contract to Catch 22 in February – is now operational and will focus on ensuring that vulnerable young people are supported into employment and training and away from criminal and anti-social activity. The Waverley Family Support Project – Surrey’s pilot response to the government’s “Troubled Families” initiative – has been launched with seconded officers from both councils, Surrey Police and other partners: the team will offer intensive and co-ordinated support to those families who have come to the attention of a number of agencies and are in some cases having an impact on their communities.
- 2.6 The Partnership’s Junior Citizen programme for Year 6 children was successfully delivered in September 2011. However, the Partnership reviewed the event and its resource implications carefully and in depth and decided that it can no longer dedicate to it the considerable staff time required to deliver it to the high standard achieved in recent years. Instead, it will be assessing those activities already delivered by partners in schools and considering whether any more effective co-ordination or enhancement is necessary to achieve the objectives of keeping Waverley young people safe and able to respond to the risks they may face.

Reducing anti-social behaviour and promoting acceptable behaviour

- 2.7 Most neighbourhoods in Waverley, during the period covered by the Strategic Assessment, experienced a decrease in reported anti-social behaviour:

Police Neighbourhood	April - October 2010	April - October 2011	% change
Bramley, Shamley Green, Blackheath, Wonersh, Hascombe and Winterfold	99	102	3.0
Cranleigh, Ewhurst and Rowly	269	187	-30.5
Dunsfold, Alfold and Ellens Green	58	56	-3.4
Ockford Ridge, Aarons Hill, Busbridge and Godalming Town Centre	328	293	-10.7
Farncombe, Binscombe and Charterhouse	355	327	-7.9
Farnham Town Centre	334	290	-13.2
Haslemere, Grayswood and Chiddingfold	178	138	-22.5
Milford, Witley, Hambledon and Brook	195	177	-9.2
Shottermill, Critchmere, Hindhead, Beacon Hill, Churt and Weyhill	255	218	-14.5
Sandy Hill, Upper Hale, Dippenhall and Folly Hill	219	181	-17.4
Tilford, Elstead, Thursley, Frensham, Peper Harow and Dockenfield	118	147	24.6
Weybourne, Badshot Lea and Moor Park	152	157	3.3
Wrecclesham, Rowledge and The Bourne	364	256	-29.7

The Partnership targets anti-social behaviour through its Community Incident Action Group (CIAG – focusing on individuals) and Joint Action Group (JAG –

focusing on locations) and routine policing activity. Preventative activities through positive activities with young people have also been promoted and supported, e.g. through grants to the Community Street Team in Farncombe and Binscombe and to leisure activities for young people at Ockford Ridge/Aarons Hill and in Haslemere.

- 2.8 Reducing anti-social driving, road safety and casualty reduction remain priorities for the Partnership and its Casualty Reduction Action Group (CRAG), formed by representatives from all relevant partners (including SFRS), promotes improved driver behaviour and, through Road User Awareness Days, promotes good practice with prospective young drivers. This group continues to provide a firm basis for the delivery of the Drive Smart initiative (see Item 10 on this agenda).

Responding to change

- 2.9 The Partnership seeks to be alert and respond not only to emerging concerns and patterns of crime and disorder in Waverley but also to the implications of shifts in the wider landscapes of community safety and local governance. It is anticipated that the transfer of public health specialists into the County Council will improve joint working in a number of areas, including community safety, e.g. in relation to drug and alcohol misuse, domestic abuse, mental health and road safety. The opportunities presented by the launch of the Family Support Service and recent changes to youth provision have been noted above.
- 2.10 Most significantly the election of a Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Surrey in November 2012, and the associated changes to funding and governance arrangements, will have major implications for the operation of the Partnership.
- 2.11 The existing Police Authority of 17 members will be abolished as a result and the PCC will have the following broad roles and responsibilities:
- Four year term (future elections in May)
 - Secure an efficient and effective police force for their area
 - Appoint the Chief Constable, hold him/her to account for the running of the force and if necessary dismiss him/her
 - Set the police and crime objectives for Surrey by producing a five year Police and Crime Plan
 - Set the annual force budget and police precept and produce an annual report
 - Contribute to the national and international policing capabilities set out by the Home Secretary in the Strategic Policing Requirement
 - Co-operate with the criminal justice system in the area
 - Work with partners and fund community safety activity to tackle crime and disorder
- 2.12 The legislation allows for a new 'check and balance' in the system in the form of a Police and Crime Panel (PCP). This panel, which for the first time gives a role to District and Borough Councils will be made up of 12 local elected councillors (one from each local authority: Mrs Pat Frost has been appointed by Waverley Borough Council) and two co-opted individuals. The PCP's powers and responsibilities will be broadly to scrutinise the PCC's exercise of

his/her statutory functions and support the effective exercise of the functions of the PCC.

- 2.13 The introduction of a PCC will also mean fundamental changes for the way Community Safety Partnerships work. The PCCs will have overall responsibility for reducing crime and disorder and the intention is that they will work with CSPs and criminal justice partners to achieve their objectives. The PCC will be able to call CSP chairmen to meetings, request reports and commission services. From April 2013 the Community Safety Fund will be transferred to the PCC to support this change of arrangements.
- 2.14 Members should be aware that the way the CSP operates could alter depending on the elected PCC, their strategic objectives and how he/she discharges the functions of the office. Members might also wish to consider the relationship between the PCC, the Local Committee, the PCP and the local authority crime and disorder scrutiny arrangements.

For further information please visit Surrey Police Authority's website:
www.surreypa.gov.uk/pcc

- 2.15 SWP is determined to ensure that the incoming Commissioner is aware of the profile and character of Waverley in relation to community safety and of the strong history and capacity for collaborative working in the borough. In view of the fact that the Community Safety Fund will be under the control of the PCC to support his/her commissioning priorities, SWP will need to make sure that it is well positioned and equipped to bid for funding for appropriate local projects.

Tackling crime

- 2.16 The following statistics relating to key crime types have been provided by Surrey Police and compare the data for the year April 2011 – March 2012 with the preceding year.

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Crime Type	Apr.2010- Mar.2011	Apr.2011- Mar.2012	Change	% Change
Criminal damage	1074	906	-168	-15.6%
Domestic burglary	333	193	-140	-42%
Drug offences	144	163	19	13.2%
Fraud and forgery	225	195	-30	-13.3%
Non-domestic burglary	510	558	48	9.4%
Other criminal offences	83	67	-16	-19.3%
Other sexual offences	16	11	-5	-31.3%
Robbery	18	15	-3	-16.7%
Serious sexual offences	54	37	-17	-31.5%
Theft (other than vehicle) and handling stolen goods	1280	1233	-47	-3.7%
Vehicle crime (excluding interference)	506	434	-72	-14.2%
Vehicle interference and tampering	56	38	-18	-32.1%
Violence with injury	305	201	-104	-34.1%
Violence without injury	551	490	-61	-11.1%
Overall Crime	5155	4541	-614	-11.9%

The almost uniform reduction in reported crimes – especially in those categories of greatest concern to residents, e.g. domestic burglary and vehicle crime – is encouraging. Non-domestic burglary, i.e. from out-buildings, garages, garden sheds, etc., remains a concern and the partnership continues to ensure that appropriate advice is made available to residents and to make available equipment which offers some protection, e.g. padlock alarms and property-marking kits.

2.17 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 or whose vulnerability is causing concern. From the County Council, the Children, Schools and Families and Youth Support Services have, along with school representatives and mental health specialists, continued to contribute to the effectiveness of this. Although the business of the CIAG has to be confidential, the opportunity for all relevant partners to come together to ensure that interventions are cohesive has been instrumental in supporting a number of younger people in particular in moving away from anti-social behaviour. The availability of the Family Support Project will offer an additional resource to help the Partnership work with particular families whose behaviour is causing concern in their communities.
- 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, SFRS and the Youth Support Service have been involved in JAG business. Over the year the Group has given its attention to a number of local concerns, e.g. anti-social behaviour at locations in Elstead and Witley, fly-tipping and concerns relating to particular licensed premises. In order to keep the JAG process fresh and relevant and make best use of officer resources, it has been decided to move JAG from a standing group to one in which a small core group will assess intelligence and referrals and commission "task and finish" working groups to respond to specific concerns. It is hoped that elected members may, as appropriate, wish to be involved with this process.

3. DOMESTIC ABUSE OUTREACH

- 3.1 The provision of outreach services to survivors of domestic abuse is now funded and co-ordinated on a countywide basis. A commissioning group has developed a single Service Level Agreement to underpin all four contracts across Surrey and Chapter One continues to provide outreach services in Guildford and Waverley. It is expected that the current contractors will by the autumn of 2012 have aligned their working practices and identified a single point of contact. Within Waverley SWP has supported the establishment of a Survivors' Group as a standalone voluntary organisation.

4. ACTION PLAN AND CONSULTATIONS

- 4.1 Following consideration of the Strategic Assessment, the SWP has opted to retain its four strategic objectives set out in 2.1 above. In view of the changes to the funding regime it is felt to be even more important to ensure that all services collaborate effectively in their mainstream work in identifying opportunities and partners to deliver the objectives of SWP and to promote community safety in their activities.
- 4.2 To this end the Partnership held a well-attended workshop event on 17 May 2012 to update colleagues on recent developments and to work on some detailed shared actions to populate the action plan for 2012-13, which will be reported to the SWP for approval on 18 July 2012. In terms of County Council services SFRS, Schools and Learning, Children and Safeguarding, Adult Social Care, Highways and the Youth Support Service were involved in the workshop and, along with Trading Standards, are engaged with the community safety agenda locally.
- 4.3 Members will be aware that the Partnership has held two events for councillors in the past year: a briefing event for all members, and a training session for Borough Councillors. The Local Committee is invited to comment on the work of SWP and its priorities. As is required by the relevant legislation, the Partnership also staged a public "Face The People" event on 14 June 2012.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The County Council makes available to Local Committees a budget for use in conjunction with the Community Safety Partnerships. In addition the sum of £12,000 per borough/district is ring-fenced for outreach with those affected

by domestic abuse and allocated centrally. The Local Committee's delegated budget for general community safety purposes, which it has traditionally agreed to allocate to SWP as its contribution towards the projects and activities referred to above (see also 5.3 below), has in 2012-13 been increased to £3160.

- 5.2 The Community Partnership and Committee Officer, as its representative on the Partnership, ensures that the County Council influences the objectives of the partnership and that the funding is spent in line with these objectives. It is recommended that, as in previous years, the responsibility to allocate the Committee's budget of £3160 in line with the objectives of the SWP should be formally delegated to the County Council's Community Partnership Manager. Accountability for, and opportunities to influence, the deployment of County Council funding, is secured through the periodic reports submitted to members on the strategy and the progress made on its implementation (see Item 15 on this agenda where a formal decision on funding is sought).
- 5.3 The use of the Partnership's budgets in 2011-2012 is summarised at **Annex 1**. The Committee is reminded that, from 1 April 2012, SWP no longer receives the Home Office Area Based Grant (Community Safety Fund) – as explained above, the fund will in future be transferred to the PCC. Members may wish to note in particular the projects supported by the Responsive Fund of £10,000 which exists to allow flexibility throughout the year to react to emerging concerns and opportunities: during 2011-12 there was a particular focus on reassurance, strengthening communities and contributing to positive diversionary activities for young people:

Developing the Community Street Team (Farncombe & Binscombe)	£ 3,639
Publicity, prevention initiatives & campaigns	£ 561
Eagle Radio Campaign	£ 1,300
Hérons Skate Park	£ 2,500
Aarons Hill Skate Park (Godalming)	£ 2,000
Total	£10,000

- 5.4 As in previous years the Local Committee has additionally contributed (from members' revenue and capital allocations) to projects which promote community safety, supporting and complementing the work of the SWP especially in relation to road safety and activities for young people: in 2011-12 this amounted to £41786. The Committee is also reminded that the Community Partnership and Committee Officer provides 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 their mainstream resources.

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. The Partnership seeks to disseminate information in appropriate media.

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 2011-2012. Members also have this opportunity to comment on future priorities 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.

8.3 The election of a PCC and introduction of the associated new arrangements for funding and governance during 2012-13 will present CSPs with significant challenges

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 Community Partnership and Committee Officer will arrange for any comments and suggestions to be reported to the SWP.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: None