



Policing in Woking Borough

Local Committee for Woking 19 January 2005

KEY ISSUE:

To report on the crime figures for Woking Borough from April- Sept 2004 (compared to April-Sept 2003) using Police statistics supplied by Mount Browne, Surrey Police Headquarters.

SUMMARY:

This report sets out the crime figures for April – Sept 2004 with associated, relevant comments.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

None – this report is for information

Introduction and Background

1. Woking is policed by the North West Surrey Division of Surrey Police, which also covers the boroughs of Surrey Heath and Runnymede. The policing boundaries of the boroughs are coterminous with those of the local authority. This paper, alongside the presentation at the Committee, sets out recent crime figures for Woking Borough.

Analysis and Commentary

2. The table below sets out the crime figures for Woking Borough for the period April – Sept 2004, compared to the same period last year. Annex 1 shows crime figures at a ward level.
3. Key issues that will be highlighted in the presentation to the Committee

| Offence | Change | Numerical difference |
|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Total crime | -8% | -307 |
| Burglary dwelling | + 20% | +41 |
| Violent crime | -4 % | -23 |
| Robbery | - 40% | -17 |
| Theft of motor vehicle | - 5% | -5 |
| Theft from motor vehicle | - 22% | -68 |

include:

- a. Woking is performing exceedingly Countywise and also at CDRP level where we are now compared at SWPG meetings.
- b. Only real area of concern is burglary dwelling. This was recognised earlier in the year with some ongoing work on a preventative/ investigative process. The 'blip' has now ceased and the increase is reducing. No current trends/series that require immediate action.
- c. Violent crime figure is particularly impressive as it bucks the regional trend. Particular emphasis has been placed on the town centre. A reduction of 15% in the last 3 months has been achieved through high visibility policing and positive intervention. However, this is not sustainable in the long term. A small project group working under the auspices of the LSP is reviewing town centre issues.

- d. Successful objection to a proposed nightclub in the town using s.17 Crime & Disorder Act 1998 was upheld at appeal.
- e. Joint patrols by police/Environmental Health Officers/Surrey Fire and Rescue ongoing.
- f. Strong JAG meeting with 2 agreed s.30 dispersal orders granted to combat local problems. Multi funded CCTV deployed via this meeting process.
- g. CIAG continues to flourish with 5 ASBO's in place . YOT and Police doing joint visits to nominated young people aiming to prevent offending behaviour prior to becoming part of judicial process.
- h. Police developing 'Reassurance project' across borough with associated strong working practices between borough/Police. Many local concerns are either speeding or environmental issues (e. graffiti, lighting etc.)

Crime and Disorder Implications

- 4. As described in the analysis section above, the use of the Crime & Disorder Act can be useful with strategic issues as portrayed in the section on town centre issues and violent crime. This process must develop and continue especially with the onset of the new Licensing Act which is a general deregulation process.

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