



Community Safety Strategy 2005-08

**Local Committee for Woking
18 July 2005**

KEY ISSUE:

The Safer Woking Partnership has produced a new Crime and Disorder Strategy for 2005 –2008. This is available in hard copy and on the web site. Each year Surrey County Council allocates funding to Community Safety locally, and the County Council is part of Safer Woking Partnership. Members are asked for any comments on their priorities this year within the Crime and Disorder Strategy.

SUMMARY:

The Crime and Disorder Act, 1998 requires Community Safety Partnerships to prepare a Community Safety Strategy every three years. In addition to funds from GOSE, partners - including Surrey County Council - contribute to the pooled budget for crime and disorder reduction activities..

For the current year, Surrey County Council has allocated an amount of £24,000 for Community Safety. This contribution to the CDRP is subject to the partnership funding a domestic abuse outreach service for which the County has included a contribution of £12,000. The Partnership when it meets, agrees how these pooled funds and contributions should be spent to achieve the Strategy, and the local committee is asked to give comments on any particular priorities to inform this.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee is recommended:

1. to note the Community Safety Strategy for Woking for 2005 – 2008 and the priorities in the current annual action plan;

and

2. in delegating the funding of £24,000 to the Area Director, comment on their priorities within the Strategy;

3. in their engagement with services, to endorse each services contribution and role on the wider community safety agenda.

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 The Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) includes the Borough Chief Executive, Police Divisional Commander, Surrey County Council Area Director, and also representatives from the Fire Service, the Primary Care Trust and the Police Authority. The six members of the partnership meet regularly to steer and support the delivery of the priorities in the Community Safety Strategy.
- 1.2 The two key priorities for the CDRP (Safer Woking Partnership) have been the reduction of crime and increasing reassurance. To deliver these, Joint Action Groups (for places or areas) and Community Incident Action Groups (for individual people) have been effectively developed to resolve issues where a number of partners have a role to play.
- 1.3 The County remains one of the lowest recorded crime rates in England. However, there is a fear of crime that is greater than the actual levels of crime.
- 1.4 In view of the success of the previous strategy in containing recorded crime rates and the continuing levels of fear of crime, the Safer Woking Partnership has agreed to keep the same two overarching aims of reducing crime and reassurance. These aims will be pursued through four more specific priority activities:
- Reducing Crime
 - Feeling Safe and Being Safe
 - Anti-Social behaviour
 - Addressing Substance Misuse
- 1.5 Action plans for addressing these priorities will be prepared annually, informed by the performance achieved in addressing these priorities. There is a requirement to tackle prolific and persistent offenders. Partners have complementary roles in addressing this issue in order to: Prevent and Deter; Catch and Convict, and Rehabilitate and Resettle.
- 1.6 The Community Safety Strategy is required to address the Government's crime reduction target. For Woking, the target set by Government is to reduce crime by 12% from the baseline year of 2003/04. The Partnership has identified the target reductions in each of the following crime types:
- Theft of vehicles 6%
 - Theft from a vehicle 12%
 - Domestic burglary 18%
 - Criminal damage 15%
 - Common assault 12%
 - Wounding 12%
 - Robbery of personal property 8%

2. Analysis and commentary

2.1 All services provided by the County Council, including the Youth Development Service, the Transportation Service, Children's Services, Fire and Rescue Services, and Trading Standards contribute to improving Community Safety.

2.2 Surrey remains a very low crime area when compared with other areas of England, and the Community Safety Strategy aims to continue to reduce crime and reassure the public types. The top five community concerns of

- Speeding Traffic
- Rubbish and litter lying around
- Inconsiderate parking
- 'Traders' cold calls
- Loud and fast cars and motor bikes

show that anti-social behaviour features significantly.

3. Community safety funds

3.1 In addition to the significant contribution from all county council services to the community safety agenda, which is mainly in the role of prevent and deter, the County contributes an amount to the pooled budgets. For the year 2005/06 it is £24,000, and is conditional on the CDRP funding a domestic abuse outreach worker. Members locally are asked to comment on other priorities for CDRP expenditure for the year.

4. Reasons for recommendations

4.1 The County Council has two opportunities to support the Community Safety Strategy for Woking – firstly through specific actions using funds identified for community safety activities and secondly through the work of other services. Both of these routes are essential to maintain and reduce the low level of recorded crime and also to prevent involvement in criminal activity and anti social behaviour.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: Community Safety Strategy 2005-08