

# **Community Safety Annual Report**

# Local Committee (Woking) 2 November 2006

# **KEY ISSUE:**

The report provides an update on the work of the Safer Woking Partnership. It incorporates local and comparative crime data and information on recent initiatives including neighbourhood policing. Borough Council and police partners have also contributed to the report and will attend the meeting.

# **SUMMARY:**

Surrey is again the county with the lowest recorded crime figures in England, and Woking remains one of the safest places to live in the country. Although the period to June 2006 showed a small increase in total crime, latest figures just published to September 2006 indicate a reduction in total crimes reported, compared to the same period in 2005.

The Safer Woking Partnership continues to reduce crime and increase reassurance across Woking. It is now one year into its 2005-8 Strategy, and the Partnership continues to work together and initiate improved measures to tackle crime.

Last year the Safer Woking Partnership funded many initiatives, some of which are noted in this report.

# **OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Local Committee is asked to:

- a) Note the progress made in promoting community safety in Woking, and latest crime statistics:
- b) Delegate responsibility for expenditure of the County Council's local crime and disorder funding in Woking to the Area Director;
- c) Endorse the importance of the contribution of all services to community safety in Woking;
- d) Comment on any issues of concern arising from the report or information presented.

# 1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 The Safer Woking Partnership is comprised of representatives of six agencies: Surrey Police, Surrey County Council, Woking Borough Council, the Health Authority, the Fire and Rescue Service and the Police Authority. This crime and disorder reduction partnership (CDRP) is statutory under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, and was established to tackle crime and disorder by auditing and monitoring local incidences of crime, and working together to devise and deliver an effective strategy to deal with it, including tackling the fear of crime.
- 1.2 All services contribute to the crime and disorder agenda, in line with Section 17 of the 1998 Act, which requires local authorities to mainstream crime and disorder by ensuring that all services have regard to the community safety implications of their activities.
- 1.3 In April 2006 the Local Area Agreement between Surrey County Council and the Government took effect. This distributes funding via the county to partnerships to deliver a number of priorities set by GOSE, most notably an overall reduction in crime county-wide of 13.2% by March 2008. The Safer & Stronger Communities Board, chaired by the Chief Constable, oversees delivery of the key outcomes in the Agreement and receives progress reports on local CDRP activity.
- 1.4 In 2005 the Safer Woking Partnership devised and agreed a new Community Safety Strategy for the period 2005-8 focussing on the aims of reducing crimes and increasing reassurance. These aims are being pursued through the following four specific areas:
  - Reducing crime
  - Feeling safe and being safe
  - Anti-social behaviour
  - Addressing substance misuse
- 1.5 These priorities form the focus for actions throughout the period of the strategy. 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 (as set out in 1.3). Each CDRP has particular targets negotiated with GOSE and the target for Woking is to reduce total crimes reported by 10.5% to 12% over three years, on a baseline year of 2003/04 by March 2008. The Partnership has identified the following 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%
- 1.7 The borough level CDRP is assisted in delivering its targets by the work of two important multi-agency meetings: the Joint Action Group (JAG), which meets monthly to review local hotspots for crime and anti-social behaviour and to agree actions to tackle the problem; the Community Incident Action Group (CIAG), which meets monthly to monitor individuals who have come to the notice of agencies because of the impact of their behaviour on the community, and to agree service interventions to bring about improvements in their behaviour.
- 1.8 The Community Safety Survey carried out in 2004 showed that people's idea of crime and their fear of crime was not in line with the actual levels of crime. The top five issues that people in Woking considered to be a problem were:
  - Speeding traffic
  - Rubbish and litter lying around
  - Inconsiderate parking
  - 'Traders' cold calls
  - Loud fast cars or motor bikes

# 2. Analysis and commentary

- 2.1 Annex 1 graphically shows BCS comparator crime statistics for Woking Borough and NW Surrey Police Division. As can be seen, both the borough and the division are performing well against their most similar CDRPs and divisions. The crime figures for Woking are set against those for Surrey as a whole, and it should be borne in mind that Surrey has the lowest crime rate in the country.
- 2.2 The table below indicates total crimes in each borough.

Borough	Total crimes FYTD	Percentage change over	
	(to end of September	year	
	2006)		
Elmbridge	3936	+1.6%	
Epsom & Ewell	2403	+6.9%	
Spelthorne	4118	-1.8%	
Mole Valley	2173	+0.5%	
Reigate & Banstead	4474	+6.5%	
Tandridge	2471	-3.4%	
Guildford	6704	+36.5%	
Waverley	2939	+1.7%	
Runnymede	2617	-7.9%	
Surrey Heath	2095	-9.9%	
Woking	3262	-12.8%	

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2.3 As can be seen, while Woking Borough experiences the 5<sup>th</sup> highest level of crime of the 11 boroughs, it has shown the greatest reduction (12.8%) on the last financial year. This is a significant achievement for the borough, and a sign of excellent partnership working.

## 2.4 Vehicle crime:

Following a short but sharp increase in autocrime in April, September has continued the marked reduction in thefts from motor vehicle (-7.5%), and the level of thefts of motor vehicle continue to close the gap with the levels of last year (from 400% increase in April to only 56% above target now). If these decreases continue as at present, then it is anticipated that over the financial year the borough will achieve its target.

# 2.5 Common assault/wounding/personal robbery

Violence this month shows a 7.7% decrease on the same time last year. Two-thirds of violence continues to be in a public place, and approximately 40% is recorded as being intoxicant-related.

Work continues around disorder in public places, with the weekend NSO and PCSO CCTV van patrols. A great deal of work is being conducted around licensed premises both in and outside of the town centre. The new Designated Public Places Order (DPPO) for Woking Town Centre has been implemented.

Robbery has seen a further decrease in the last month, and actual numbers remain small.

# 2.6 Criminal damage

Criminal damage has continued its downward trend from April (30% increase) and June (16% increase) to now sit 7.7% below the level of last year. We have seen a marked decrease in areas previously experiencing high levels of criminal damage, including Maybury, De Lara Way in Mount Hermon, and Woking Golf Club in St Johns, all of which have been heavily targeted by the local officers, and reviewed via the JAG process and other work with partner agencies. Areas still at risk from anti-social youth behaviour now centre around Barnsbury and Redding Way, which are subject to section 30 orders and are being targeted by the local officers for enforcement.

#### 2.7 Domestic burglaries

Burglary of both dwellings and non-dwellings continues to follow the very low trend of recent months to currently show a 23% and 8% reduction respectively. This is an excellent result, given that the rates of offending in 2005/6 were also below those of the previous year.

# 2.8 Local crime statistics

At the Local Committee meeting on 1 February 2006 a request was made for Inspector Mason to examine the possibility of providing local, ward-level crime statistics to the committee. While such statistics are available, the extremely low numbers involved when breaking down statistics to this level render any comparisons misleading. For such figures to be useful, it would be necessary to take into account the size, population and demographics of each ward. A crude measurement might be crime rates per 1,000 population, but at this time the statistics are not available in this form at a local level. Insp Mason is continuing to pursue this with the

Corporate Development Department of Surrey Police, and at this time it is hoped that the following summary under 2.7 is of interest to members.

2.9 Levels of violence associated with drunken behaviour on Friday and Saturday evenings in the town centre continue to draw heavily on Police resources, although this is currently decreasing. This is tackled by dedicated patrols of officers, intensive work with licensees, and partnership work with other agencies, and has recently seen a decrease in offending.

Knaphill (primarily around the Redding Way area) and the Barnsbury Estate have both experienced relatively high levels of anti-social behaviour, which have been tackled by the use of the Surrey Together Team, partnership work with other agencies, increased patrolling, and the introduction of Section 30 orders. Both areas have now seen a decrease in incidents although we continue to monitor the situation.

The Neighbourhood Team (Annex 2) has recently suffered from sickness of staff in key positions, notably Sheerwater, Goldsworth Park and Horsell. These staff are due to return to work soon, and a new officer has been identified for Goldsworth Park, due to begin work in mid November. The areas have been covered by other officers from neighbouring areas, and the team has worked hard to ensure that there has been no reduction in the level of service provided.

# 3. Progress towards The 2005-8 Strategy

3.1 The Local Committee received details of the Safer Woking Partnership's Community Safety Strategy 2005-8 at their meeting in July 2005. Since this time there have been a number of new developments outlined below, which are expected to contribute to achievement of the targets by the end of the three year period.

#### **Current Initiatives**

- 3.2 The Surrey Together initiative came into being last autumn, and is a partnership between Surrey County Council, the Surrey Police Authority and Surrey Police. Teams comprising Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), a sergeant, a youth development adviser and a trading standards officer, are deployed in areas where there have been persistent reports of disruptive or nuisance behaviour by young people. Their role is to form relationships with young people to find out what lies behind their behaviour and to offer positive referrals to employment and training advice or to drugs counselling services. The North West Surrey Together team has been deployed in Knaphill, Goldsworth Park and the Barnsbury Estate as well as areas of Surrey Heath and Runnymede. The Joint Action Group advises on where the team should be deployed.
- 3.3 In the past year a number of key initiatives have been progressed through the Safer Woking Partnership to work towards achieving the targets. Some of these are set out below:

- 3.4 Two recent articles were produced and featured in the Woking Magazine in line with the Safer Woking Partnerships' key objectives to reduce crime and provide reassurance to local residents. One article highlighted successful joint working in local neighbourhoods. The other article showed local beat officers and their specific areas of responsibility within the Borough. Other aspects of the articles were advising local people of issues of safety, such as tackling car crime and beating bogus callers.
- 3.5 The Domestic Abuse Awareness Week which is held annually in November, provides the Safer Woking Partnership with the opportunity to raise awareness and reach those affected by domestic abuse. A week long multi-agency stand is located in Woking, which distributes leaflets as well as being able to offer on hand advice. As part of raising awareness, the SWP also funded advertising on the back of car parking tickets within the borough for six months, which promoted the local outreach number.
- 3.6 A successful Safer Woking event took place over three days in August to raise awareness of the joint working, and specific partners, of the Safer Woking Partnership. A Safer Woking Communications Officer has been employed who led on this and media coverage of the day was very positive and raised the profile of the partnership.
- 3.7 Along with the event, was the launch of the Distraction Burglary campaign which primarily included production of the 'Beat the Bogus Caller' leaflet which was aimed mostly at the borough's vulnerable and elderly population.
- 3.8 Initial feedback from the event, and the distraction burglary campaign, is very positive even seeing the re-print of further leaflets after initial distribution was successful.
- 3.9 2006 and a final report with recommendations has been The "Aware Project" was a community led substance misuse needs assessment in the South Asian population of Woking. Six people were recruited from the community and trained to carry out research, including the design and use of questionnaires. This research was carried out in summer submitted to the University of Central Lancashire, the commissioning body on behalf of the Department of Health. The report will be published and implementation of the recommendations is being considered by the Safer Woking Partnership, including Surrey DAAT. A group will be meeting regularly to monitor progress, that will initially comprise of SWP members and Aware project researchers.
- 3.10 The Safer Woking partnership, along with the Safer Guildford Partnership, is piloting the Child Shopwatch campaign. This campaign works directly with local business and schools for each area, helping them to be able to detect pupils who are truanting from school. The pack which was distributed by each Partnership, gives advice, guidelines and procedures for reporting a student who is absent from school.

- 3.11 The Safer Woking Partnership part funded the Police Drugs Focus Team which carries out enforcement action against suppliers of Class A drugs, carries out Chemist checks, as well as raising awareness with local community groups.
- 3.12 Through the JAG and CIAG meetings a range of intervention work regarding anti-social behaviour is undertaken. This includes early interventions such as negotiating Anti-Social Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) hrough to legal enforcement such as Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs). The Anti Social Behaviour Case Worker and the Anti-Social Behaviour Manager lead on this area of work.
- 3.13 In line with the Prolific and other Priority Offenders Strategy, there are now monthly management panel meetings where actions are agreed and cases monitored and reviewed to reduce re-offending by prolific offenders.

# 4. Neighbourhoods pathfinder

- 4.1 North West Surrey is a pathfinder area for the Home Office's neighbourhood policing initiative, which is due to be rolled out nationally by April 2008. The pathfinder began in autumn 2005. Its aim is to "create confident, safe and secure neighbourhoods where people know that the police and partners understand the issues that matter most to them and are able to tackle them together" (Surrey's Neighbourhood Policing Programme implementation plan, draft April 2006). This is to be achieved by putting in place a dedicated team of uniformed police officers and community support officers in every neighbourhood, to focus on low-level crime and anti-social behaviour.
- 4.2 The NW Surrey Basic Command Unit of Surrey Police (BCU) monitors and develops neighbourhood policing in its area. In Woking there are nine neighbourhood clusters each of which has named officers, co-ordinated and tasked by Woking Neighbourhood Inspector, Dave Mason. Residents are encouraged to contact their local officers by telephone or email, or in person at surgeries and panel meetings held in local venues, to let them know about problems or activities in their street or park. Attached as Annex 2 is a list of all neighbourhood officers in Woking. Annex 3 sets further information on Panel Meetings. Alternatively residents can find out the most up to date information by going to <a href="www.surrey.police.uk">www.surrey.police.uk</a> and clicking inside the inter-active map for their area.
- 4.3 As well as speaking directly to their neighbourhood policing team, residents can highlight local concerns to the Surrey Police Authority at the Police and Community Participation Group (PCPG) meetings. The next meeting in Woking is at 7.30pm on Monday 4 December at Byfleet Village Hall.

# 5. Future working

5.1 The NW Basic Command Unit area, led by Chief Superintendent Sue Warren, has worked together across the division in recent months, for example to monitor and tackle Prolific and other Priority Offenders (PPOs), and it is expected that divisional level working to share best practice and undertake joint work will continue to develop. Prolific and other Priority

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Offenders are an identified minority of offenders who are responsible for a disproportionate level of crime and disorder.

- 5.2 The Home Office are introducing the number 101 as a single nonemergency number, particularly for calls to report anti-social behaviour. A project team from Surrey Police, Surrey County Council, and all Districts and Boroughs are working on the implementation. It is being implemented across the Country in phases, with phase 2 due for June 2007. Timing for Surrey is to be confirmed.
- 5.3 The neighbourhood policing approach will continue to develop, and to inform how partners work together with police to share expertise and ideas.
- 5.4 The Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership Board, established to monitor progress on the Local Area Agreement, will continue to be a significant player in working with the CDRPs to channel funding towards practical measures which lead to real improvements.

# 6.0 Reporting and contact

- 6.1 Residents with a serious crime to report should always contact 999, the emergency number, and ask for police.
- 6.2 Residents who wish to report a less serious but significant crime or act of anti-social behaviour may contact their neighbourhood police officer by telephone or email (see police website or Annex 2 for details). Surrey Police's single non-emergency contact number, if residents are unsure who to contact in the first instance is 0845 125 2222.
- 6.3 A further option to report anti-social or nuisance behaviour is by using the government website: <a href="www.direct.gov.uk/mycouncil">www.direct.gov.uk/mycouncil</a>. This allows the user to identify the problem they wish to report and to connect via a link directly to the relevant borough or county service.
- 6.4 As detailed in 5.2, from 2007 there will be a national telephone number for reporting anti-social behaviour.

Accountable: Carolyn Rowe, Area Director

Responsible (lead contact):Sarah Goodman, Local Committee and Partnership Officer, Surrey County Council, Insp Dave Mason, Surrey Police and Camilla Edmiston, Community Safety Officer, Woking Borough Council

**Telephone number: 01483 518095** 

Background papers: Community Safety Strategy for Woking Borough 2005-

2008

#### **ANNEXES:**

- Home Office BCS comparator crime data
   Contacts for Woking Neighbourhood Police Officers
   Forthcoming Police Panel Meetings

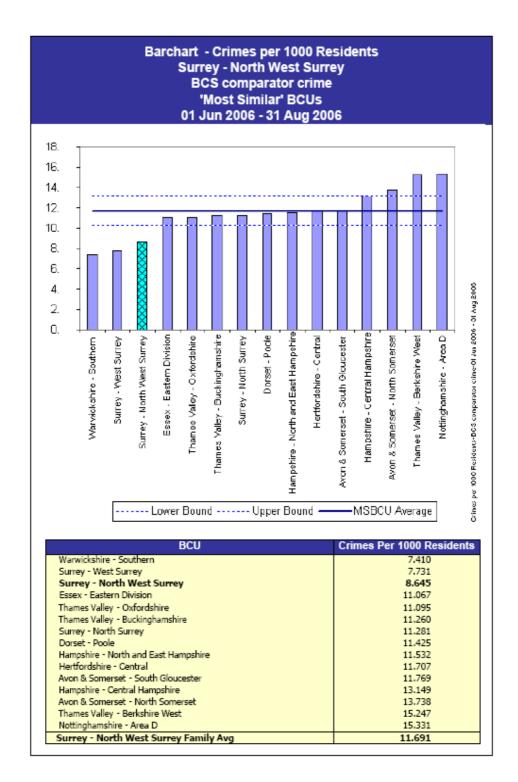
# Annex 1

Force Overview Report - Surrey and CDRPs Crimes Data To The End Aug 06							
Force/CDRP	All Crime	BCS Comparator	Domestic Burglary	Vehide Crime (exc Veh Interference)	Robbery	Violent Crime	
Surrey		<b>◊</b>	<b>♦</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>◊</b>	▽ -	
Elmbridge	<b>◊</b>	<b>◊</b>	<b>♦</b>	<b>♦</b>	<b>◊</b>	<b>◊</b>	
Epsom & Ewell	<b>♦</b>	<b>♦</b>		<b>\rightarrow</b>	<b>◊</b>	$\nabla$	
Guildford	<b>V</b>	<b>◊</b>	◇	<b>♦</b>	<b>♦</b>	◇	
Mole Valley	<b>◊</b>	<b>◊</b>	<b>◊</b>	<b>♦</b>		<u> </u>	
Reigate and Banstead	$\nabla$	<b>V</b>	<b>♦</b>	<b>♦</b>	$\nabla$	$\nabla$	
Runnymede	<b>◊</b>	<b>◊</b>	<b>♦</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>♦</b>	<u> </u>	
Spelthorne	<b>♦</b>	$\nabla$	<b>♦</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>♦</b>	◇	
Key to Performance Comparisons   Across Time - Shape   Against Peers - Ladder							

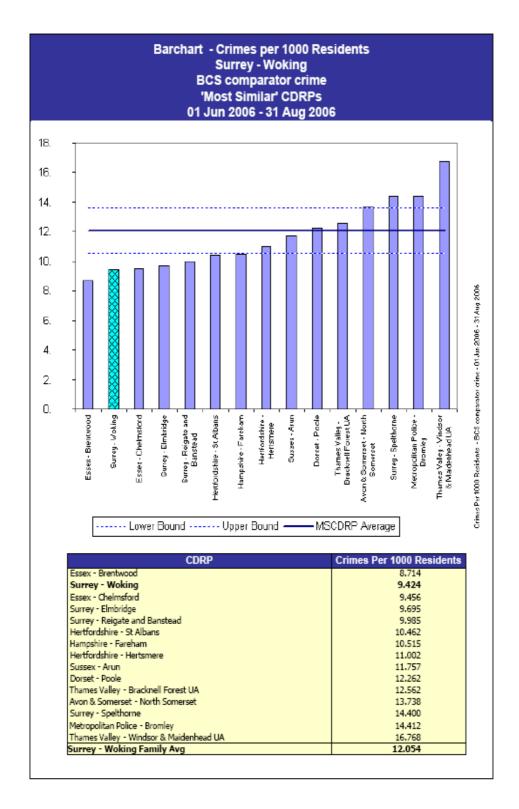
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Force Overview Report - Surrey and CDRPs Crimes Data To The End Aug 06								
Force/CDRP	All Crime	BCS Comparator	Domestic Burglary	Vehide Crime ( exc Veh Interference)	Robbery	Violent Crime		
Surrey Heath	◇	<b>◊</b>	<b>♦</b>	<b>♦</b>	$\nabla$	$\nabla$		
Tandridge	<b>♦</b>	<b>♦</b>		<b>♦</b>	<b>♦</b>	◇		
Waverley	$\nabla$	<b>◊</b>	<b>◊</b>	<b>◊</b>	<b>◊</b>	<b>◊</b>		
Woking		<u> </u>	<b>◊</b>	<b>♦</b>	<b>♦</b>			
Key to Performance Comparisons   Across Time - Shape   Against Peers - Ladder								
Based on Significant Change Based on last 3 months  Click on the ladder to view corresponding charts								

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#### Annex 2

# **Contacts for Woking Neighbourhood Police Officers**

# Insp Dave Mason - Direct dial 01483 655180/Mobile 07967 988971

Helen Kirkby Ext 5723

# Central Team - Sgt 2003 Chris Smith 07967 988496/Ext5068

#### Town - Ext 5126

PC 1884 Clare Leggat 07967 987679 Draul May 07967 988384
PCSO 11997 Russ Burton 07967 986100
PCSO 10548 Naz Raja 07967 986438

07967 986438 (Maternity Leave)

# St. John's/Hook Heath/Mount Hermon/Mayford – Ext 5126

PC 3702 Simon Praine 07967 986468 PCSO 11451 Ciaran Croker 07967 986339

# Old Woking/Kingfield/Westfield - Ext 5126

PC 2057 Art Lok 07967 986976 PCSO 12001 David Udal 07967 986101

## Western Team - Sgt 2484 Ali Dunlop 07967 988487/5068

## Knaphill/Brookwood - Ext 5065

PC 2768 Tina Spencer 07967 988350 PCSO 10509 Gareth Morgan 07967 986830 PCSO 12107 Sarah Honeyball 07967 986711

#### Goldsworth Park - Ext 5065

07967 988437 (Currently off sick)

PCSO 10422 Marie Mason PCSO 10518 Mital Patel PCSO 12381 Neil Wilkinson 07967 986829 To be confirmed

Horsell - Ext 5065

07967 988251 (Currently on light duties)

PC 2895 Josh Parish PCSO 11770 Dean Sturt 07967 986831

# Eastern Team - Sgt 3109 Corinne Scott 07967 988503/Ext 5186

PC 430 Martin Weare – Enq Officer 07967 987987

Sheerwater – Ext 5134

PC 3744 Tracy Spencer 07967 986332 (Currently off sick)

Maybury – Ext 5134

PC 2120 Scott Kemp 07967 988311 PCSO 10545 Sultan Khan 07967 986738

# West Byfleet/Byfleet/Pyrford - Ext 5065

PC 393 Nick Griggs 07967 988383 PCSO 8254 Linda Warland 07967 986826

PCSO 11841 Kirsty Hobbs 07967 988438

# Community Safety Team - PS 366 Chris Morris 07967 986869/Ext 5186 (Currently off sick)

 PC 52 Craig Matthews
 07967 988369 Youth Affairs Off – Ext 5144

 PC 277 Alex Kinnear
 07967 988418 Cas Reduction Off – Ext 5012

 PC 686 Kevin O'Grady
 07967 988387 Crime Red. Adviser – Ext 5154

YPCSO 11446 Suzanne Durrell 07967 986342 Youth PCSO - Ext 5144

Mr. Jamie Goldrick Licensing Officer – Ext 5723

Updated 9<sup>th</sup> October 2006

#### Annex 3

# **Forthcoming Police Panel Meetings**

- Old Woking/Kingfield/Westfield Have one at Woking College approximately every 3 months and usually within the first week of the month.
- Knaphill/Brookwood The last Friday every other month, the last one was on 29th Sept 2006. These are held at The Vyne.
- Maybury Next one is at Broadschool Road, Maybury on the 1st November at 7.30pm.
- Byfleet/West Byfleet/Pyrford These are held roughly every 6 weeks. They
  are held at the following locations:- West Byfleet Junior School, Pyrford Village Hall, Byfleet St. Mary's Church, St. Mary's Day Centre of Byfleet
  Village Hall. They are usually held on a Monday or Tuesday at 7.30pm.
- Horsell Every other month at Horsell Village Hall next one possibly November.
- St. John's/Hook Heath/Mayford/Mt Hermon held one on the 27th Sept, next one due in December.
- Goldsworth Park and Sheerwater don't have any planned at present. We have a vacancy on the Goldsworth area and the NSO for Sheerwater has been off sick for the last three months.
- Panel meetings are not held in the Town Centre

An up to date list can be found on the Police Website at <a href="https://www.surrey.police.uk">www.surrey.police.uk</a> or alternatively you could call the local PC, whose details are set out in Annex 2.