

## SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

## LOCAL COMMITTEE (REIGATE &amp; BANSTEAD)

**DATE:** 9 JUNE 2014

**LEAD OFFICER:** GORDON FALCONER, COMMUNITY SAFETY MANAGER AND SARAH QUINN, COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AND COMMITTEE OFFICER

**SUBJECT:** COMMUNITY SAFETY IN REIGATE AND BANSTEAD 2014-15

**DIVISION:** ALL REIGATE & BANSTEAD DIVISIONS

**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

Surrey County Council is a statutory partner on Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) at a borough/district level.

The Local Committee (Reigate & Banstead) has been delegated £3,294 to support community safety work in the borough, this money requires Local Committee agreement to be delegated for use by the local Community Safety officers.

In East Surrey (Reigate & Banstead, Mole Valley and Tandridge), there is a long history of working together, including jointly-funded posts and co-ordinated delivery of campaigns. The conclusion of a recent review conducted by partner agencies on the CSP is an agreement to formally merge the three CSPs into a single East Surrey CSP.

A County Councillor from each District or Borough area will represent the Local Committees on the new East CSP.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:****The Local Committee (Reigate & Banstead) is asked to:**

- (i) Agree that the community safety budget of £3,294 that has been delegated to the Local Committee be transferred to the Reigate and Banstead Community Safety Manager for the purposes of addressing community safety priorities, authorising the Community Partnerships Manager to carry out this transfer on the Committees behalf.
- (ii) Note the formation of a new East CSP, which includes Reigate and Banstead, and the new way of working across the East.
- (iii) Nominate a County Councillor to represent the Reigate and Banstead Local Committee on the East Surrey CSP in 2014-15 and a named substitute if so wished.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Surrey County Council is a Responsible Authority on Community Safety Partnerships and has a responsibility to be represented at their meetings. Contributing delegated funding will help to ensure that there is a sufficient budget to fund projects aimed at reducing crime and anti-social behaviour within the borough.

## **1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:**

- 1.1 The Local Committee has delegated authority over a small budget of £3,294 of Surrey County Council funding. The purpose of this funding is to address local areas of concern in relation to community safety.
- 1.2 The Reigate and Banstead Community Safety Partnership (CSP) consists of a number of Responsible Authorities (including Surrey County Council, Surrey Police and Reigate and Banstead Borough Council) together with representatives from key co-operating bodies such as Surrey Fire and Rescue Service and Raven Housing Trust.
- 1.3 Following a review, a decision has been made to formally merge the three CSPs in Reigate and Banstead, Mole Valley and Tandridge into a single CSP for East Surrey (see paragraphs 2.1 – 2.10 below).
- 1.4 Commonly held priorities for the East CSP for the coming year are set out in Section 2 below along with the specific local priorities for Reigate and Banstead. The full plan is attached as **Annex 1**.
- 1.5 Three Surrey County Council Members will represent the Local Committees of the 3 constituent District and Boroughs for the East CSP. Their role will be to contribute to the debates and influence decisions which will affect local residents in Reigate and Banstead, monitor success of the new arrangements and to report back to the Local Committee at regular intervals to keep committee Members fully informed of progress. A named substitute can be appointed in the event that the representative is unable to attend a meeting.
- 1.6 The first meeting of the East CSP will agree the Terms of Reference going forward.
- 1.7 Decisions on Community Safety funding are an Executive Function of the Local Committee as set out in Paragraph 7.2(b) (ii) of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution.

## **2. ANALYSIS:**

### **2.1 Background**

The Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) in East Surrey have historically worked closely through joint-funding of shared specialist posts and co-ordinated delivery of campaigns. In 2013 a task and finish group was established to explore a more formal approach to merging. The group was commissioned in response to a number of factors impacting on the community safety landscape, including reducing budgets and changing government priorities, all placing severe pressure on public resources. .

- 2.2 Both the recent LGA peer review of Community Safety in Surrey carried out in 2013 and the Community Safety Joint Scrutiny held by Surrey County Councils Communities Select Committee in October 2013 made recommendations around reviewing existing structures and developing closer collaborative working.

2.3 As part of the East CSP review, discussions were held with responsible authorities, co-operating partners and key stakeholders for each CSP to establish views on the current and potential future working arrangements of the three statutory CSPs.

2.4 The outcome of the review is an agreement to a formal merger of the three CSPs; Mole Valley, Reigate and Banstead and Tandridge and the creation of an East Surrey CSP.

## 2.5 Membership

East Surrey CSP membership will be formed from the following representatives:

- District / Borough Councils – one elected member and senior officer per authority and a Community Safety Manager on a rotating basis
- Surrey County Council – one elected member per district / borough and one senior officer
- Surrey Police – Senior Police Representative(s)
- Clinical Commissioning Groups (Surrey Downs and East Surrey)
- Surrey & Sussex Probation Trust
- Surrey Fire & Rescue Service
- Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC)
- Surrey County Council Public Health
- Circle Housing and Registered Social Landlords
- Voluntary sector representative

## 2.6 Benefits / added value

- Encouraging even closer collaborative working on shared concerns.
- Promoting the integration of community safety priorities across mainstream policies and services.
- Streamlining the resource required of county wide agencies to attend multiple CSPs to allow time to be spent on local delivery.
- Increasing community reassurance through co-ordinated awareness-raising campaigns.
- Stronger influence on decision-making at the Surrey Community Safety Board.
- Improved identification of funding opportunities and combined funding submissions, based on robust collaborative bids.
- Contributing to and supporting the delivery of relevant County-wide strategies.
- Ensuring the strategic vision is translated into real change across East Surrey

## 2.7 Purpose, Strategic Vision and Priorities

The purpose of the new merged community safety partnership will be ‘to provide strategic leadership to reduce crime and disorder through effective partnership working and to deliver measurable results across the area’.

The strategic vision of the new CSP is “Working together to keep East Surrey safe”

The priorities across the three merging CSPs were identified through the recent strategic assessment process and are broadly similar. The shared priorities of the East CSP will be:

- Substance misuse (with a key focus on alcohol)
- Domestic Abuse
- Acquisitive crime (Domestic and non-Domestic burglary, including rural and vehicle crime)
- Anti-social Behaviour (with a focus on Neighbour disputes)

Importantly, local delivery of location specific issues will continue through the current structures of borough based Community Incident Action Groups (CIAGs) and Joint Action Groups (JAGs).

## 2.8 Community Safety Plan and Priorities for Reigate & Banstead

The Reigate and Banstead CSP is required under the Police and Justice Act 2006 to produce an annual Community Safety Plan (attached as **Annex 1**) demonstrating how its members will work together to tackle key crime and disorder priorities for the year ahead. These priorities have been identified by analysing data provided by partner organisations and feedback from local residents.

2.9 The following local priorities have been agreed for 2014-15:

- Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour (with an increased focus on victims and the resolution of neighbour disputes)
- Tackling Substance Misuse (alcohol and drugs)
- Reducing Domestic Burglary
- Tackling Domestic Abuse
- Enhancing Joint Delivery (Reigate and Banstead is piloting a joint enforcement approach)

2.10 Partner agencies contribute ring-fenced funds aimed at addressing the annual targets. Surrey County Council contributes to the provision of Domestic Abuse outreach work via a budget held by the central Community Safety Team, as well as the delegated funding which the Local Committee is being asked to agree. In addition, Surrey County Council services such as Services for Young People and Public Health contribute to community safety work in the borough, for example, via the Local Prevention Framework for young people at risk of becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training)/entering the criminal justice system.

2.11 In the past CSP monies have been used to fund a number of specially trained staff and a range of initiatives to tackle anti-social behaviour and low level crime. Examples from the past year include:

- Purchase of Body Worn CCTV Cameras for the Reigate and Banstead Police Safer Neighbourhoods Team
- Contribution to the running of the voluntary-sector run Redhill Youth Club

See Annex 1 for further information.

**3. OPTIONS:**

- 3.1 By delegating its Community Safety budget to the Reigate and Banstead Community Safety Manager, the Local Committee can contribute to the reduction of crime and anti-social behaviour in Reigate and Banstead by funding activity aimed at delivering against the locally identified community safety priorities.
- 3.2 The Local Committee has had an influencing and monitoring role on the work of the Reigate and Banstead CSP, and has the opportunity to do so in relation to the East Surrey CSP. Members can further the work of the East Surrey CSP by nominating a County Councillor (and named substitute) who will effectively represent the best interest of the County and of the local residents of Reigate and Banstead.

**4. CONSULTATIONS:**

- 4.1 The Reigate and Banstead CSP includes representatives of local partner organisations working in Reigate and Banstead, and has been consulted on and agreed the local priorities for 2014-15.
- 4.2 On 26 March 2014, Reigate and Banstead Borough Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee scrutinised the CSP Plan. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Local Committee attended this meeting.
- 4.3 Senior representatives from the key partner agencies involved in Reigate and Banstead, Mole Valley and Tandridge CSPs were consulted on the proposal to form an East Surrey CSP. The Executive of each borough/district has formally agreed the proposals (in Reigate and Banstead, this took place on 16 April 2014).

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

- 5.1 The amount of delegated funding is £3,294. This funding is ring-fenced for use within Reigate and Banstead, and expenditure from this fund will be agreed by the members of the CIAG. All bidders must provide detailed information about the purpose and aims of the proposed project and timescales. Decisions are taken with particular attention to value for money, and bids may be refused or further information sought if this is not evident.

**6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:**

- 6.1 This report does not have any direct equalities and diversity implications, but any future consultation with local communities will consider how to engage with hard to reach and minority groups within the community.
- 6.2 Successfully tackling crime and anti-social behaviour is of benefit to the entire community.

**7. LOCALISM:**

- 7.1 If agreed, the recommendations will benefit all residents and businesses in Reigate and Banstead by helping to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in the borough.

**8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

| Area assessed:   | Direct Implications:                                  |
|--|---|
| Crime and Disorder   | Set out below.  |
| Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)   | No significant implications arising from this report. |
| Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children                        | No significant implications arising from this report. |
| Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults | No significant implications arising from this report. |
| Public Health  | No significant implications arising from this report. |

**8.1 Crime and Disorder implications**

By contributing delegated funding and ensuring that the Local Committee is represented on the partnership, the Local Committee will contribute to the success of the East Surrey CSP in addressing the local priorities for the reduction of crime and disorder in the borough of Reigate and Banstead during 2014-15.

**9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

9.1 Surrey County Council is a 'Responsible Authority' on the CSP and has a responsibility to be represented at its meetings.

9.2 Contributing delegated funding will help to ensure that there is a sufficient budget to fund projects aimed at reducing crime and anti-social behaviour within Reigate and Banstead.

9.3 The Local Committee (Reigate and Banstead) is asked to:

- (i) Agree that the community safety budget of £3,294 that has been delegated to the Local Committee be transferred to the Reigate and Banstead Community Safety Manager for the purposes of addressing community safety priorities, authorising the Community Partnerships Manager to carry out this transfer on the Committees behalf
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**10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:**

10.1 The Surrey County Council Member representative will attend the East Surrey CSP meetings, support and enable County involvement on the CSP's priorities and targets, and provide feedback to the Local Committee on a regular basis.

**Contact Officer:**

Sarah Quinn, Community Partnership and Committee Officer, 01737 737695

**Consulted:**

See Section 4 above.

**Annexes:**

Annex 1 – Reigate and Banstead Community Safety Plan 2014-15.

**Sources/background papers:**

- Reigate & Banstead CSP Constitution
  - Report to Reigate and Banstead Borough Council Executive, 16 April 2014
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