

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

**SAFER GUILDFORD PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT TO  
GUILDFORD LOCAL COMMITTEE**

**28 NOVEMBER 2012**

**KEY ISSUE**

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

**SUMMARY**

The report describes the progress of the Partnership during the year, sets out and comments on its achievements and outlines future priorities. It details how the resources allocated to it have been spent.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee is asked to:

- i. note the contents of the report and the activities of the Partnership in the year 2011-2012.
- ii. offer comments on the work of the Partnership and on priorities for the future.

## 1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Crime and Disorder Act (1998) established the principle that community safety should not just be the duty of the Police, but that local authorities and other agencies should share the responsibility. The Act established Community Safety Partnerships to reduce crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour.
- 1.2 The Safer Guildford Partnership brings together, as required, the County and Borough Councils, Surrey Police, Surrey Youth Justice Service, Surrey Police Authority, NHS Surrey, Surrey Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) and Surrey Probation Service.
- 1.3 The Partnership is one of five delivery groups for the Local Strategic Partnership. It is responsible for delivering two key objectives of the Guildford Borough Sustainable Community Strategy:
  - a) Low levels of crime will have been maintained and the perception of crime improved.
  - b) More people will feel part of their communities, believe that they can influence local decisions and participate in positive activities, such as volunteering, sports and the arts.
- 1.4 This annual report is submitted to the Committee for the scrutiny of the transferred community safety budget agreed by the Local Committee in June and also to monitor the key activities of the Safer Guildford Partnership.

## 2. ANALYSIS

### **Safer Guildford Partnership Plan**

- 2.1 The Safer Guildford Partnership is required to produce a three year rolling community safety plan setting out how partners will work together to tackle community safety issues and offer reassurance to residents. The plan is based on an annual strategic assessment of key community safety matters, which provides reliable evidence to ensure that the needs of the community are identified and resources deployed effectively.
- 2.2 The current Safer Guildford Partnership Plan, found at **Annexe 1** covers the period 2011 – 2014 and sets out the following three overarching priorities for the Borough based upon the issues identified in the 2011 strategic assessment:
  - promoting confidence;
  - reducing and preventing crime; and
  - reducing re-offending.
- 2.3 Within those overall priorities, the plan sets out a number of objectives for the Partnership, which cover the following matters:

- (a) focusing on reducing the anti-social behaviour of greatest concern to residents and targeting particular problem locations;
- (b) taking measures to reduce and prevent crime, focusing on burglaries from dwellings, violence against the person, alcohol related violence and vehicle related crime, including by targeting repeat offenders; and
- (c) working with young people to prevent them becoming perpetrators of crime, including by promoting diversionary projects and activities for young people.

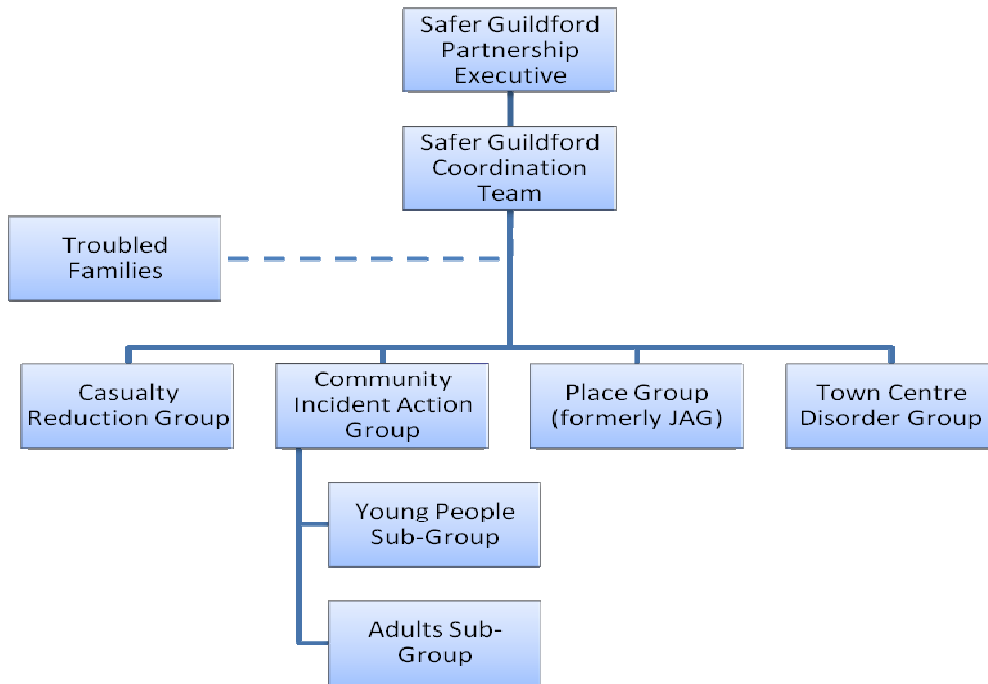
2.4 The results of the latest strategic assessment were presented to the Safer Guildford Executive in March 2012. The findings reinforced the need to maintain a particular focus on the following issues:

- dwelling burglaries;
- vehicle related crime;
- metal thefts;
- violence against the person, particularly town centre alcohol related violence;
- anti-social behaviour, including by young people;
- repeat offenders; and
- speeding motorists and anti-social driving.

2.5 The above issues were already largely reflected in the existing priorities and objectives of the Partnership Plan. However, minor amendments to the plan were agreed by the Safer Guildford Executive in July 2012 to incorporate the emphasis given to vehicle-related crime and metal thefts in the latest strategic assessment.

### **Delivery of Partnership Priorities**

2.6 Delivering the priorities of the Partnership Plan cannot be achieved by one organisation alone. Partners all have a role in dealing with problems and, where possible, preventing them from occurring in the first place. A joined up approach will ensure more effective and robust methods are adopted to deal with the Partnership's priorities. In order to achieve and following a review during the year, the following structure has been adopted to deliver against the identified priorities:



(As agreed by the Safer Guildford Executive in July 2012)

#### Place Group (formally Joint Action Group)

- 2.7 This group provides a forum for joint problem solving that addresses a wide range of issues affecting particular locations. Intelligence is used to anticipate emerging trends and to reduce their impact. The group also monitors monthly crime figures and trends to maintain an overview of emerging patterns of crime.
- 2.8 Several projects were removed from the group's agenda during the course of the year following successful resolution of the problems. These included the longstanding Guildford Car Cruise and persistent problems at Stoughton Recreation Ground.
- 2.9 At present, there are four issues on the JAG agenda, with groups working to improve area-specific problems. These are:
- anti-social behaviour in Bushy Hill;
  - victim specific targeted anti-social behaviour in Bellfields;
  - environmental improvements and community cohesion initiatives to tackle anti-social behaviour in part of Ash; and
  - the formation of a graffiti group to tackle ongoing graffiti-related criminal damage.

### Community Incident Action Group

- 2.10 This is a multi-agency problem solving group that focuses on interventions to reduce the impact of individuals (both juveniles and adults). Whilst it would not be appropriate to comment on specific cases, it would be fair to say that the effective operation of CIAG has been affected by changes to the operation of Integrated Offender Management Units in the county.
- 2.11 Integrated offender management is a multi-agency approach to dealing with repeat offenders in the community who are causing harm or nuisance to local people with their re-offending. These units include many of the partner agency staff that would normally have attended CIAG meetings and are independently implementing many of the interventions that would traditionally have been addressed through the group.
- 2.12 The Partnership is currently reviewing the format and remit of CIAG to ensure that it maximises its value, whilst avoiding duplication. The recent change to sub-group structure is starting to feed into the process of CIAG, which is developing a smaller cohort, with a focus on the social and in many cases psychological need of those subject to CIAG intervention.

### Town Centre Disorder Group

- 2.13 This group was established in May 2012. The purpose is to enable partners to work collaboratively to reduce town centre disorder and to address the priority issue of reducing violence against the person, including alcohol related violence.
- 2.14 This group offers support to the Local Licensing Committee in providing evidence in relation to matters of disorder, people coming to harm and other risks associated with the night-time economy.

### Casualty Reduction Group

- 2.15 The focus of the group is to address anti-social driving and change road user behaviour therefore reducing the number of casualties and collisions on the roads of Guilford. In 2010 the number of collisions and casualties continued to fall, however for a number of factors the number of both minor and killed or seriously injured casualties has risen significantly in 2011. Early indications show a county wide increase with initial analysis indicating a rise in the number of cyclists being injured. A number of key objectives are being developed to address this trend.

	2008	2009	2010	2011
1. Killed or seriously injured	83	81	76	101
2. Slightly injured	882	839	674	781

## Performance and Monitoring

- 2.16 Delivering the priorities of the Partnership Plan is the key focus of all partners and the new sub-group structure is intended to deliver clear results against the identified priorities.
- 2.17 Overview of performance (Key crime types) April 2011 to March 12 in comparison to previous year.

Crime Types	2010/11	2011/12
Violence against the person	2069	1676 (-19%)
Alcohol related violence (All of Guildford Borough)	907	675 (-25.9%)
Vehicle related crime	893	798 (-10.6%)
Dwelling burglaries	545	402 (-26.2%)
Metal thefts	212	133 (-37.3%)
Domestic violence	511	481 (-5.9%)
Anti-social behaviour	7280	7256 (-0.33%)
Graffiti and Criminal Damage	1617	1544 (-0.5%)
Total Offences (All crime types)	9687	9036 (-6.7%)
Dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour issues that matter (The percentage of people who agree that the police and local council are dealing with the anti-social behaviour and crime that matter in their areas).	56.4%	57.2%

- 2.18 With the changes supporting sub-groups and a shift in the reporting structure nationally, the Safer Guildford Partnership are currently looking to develop a set of key and relevant indicators to monitor performance against the priorities in the Safer Guildford Partnership Plan focusing on the new financial year 2012/13.
- 2.19 Indicators are likely to be a combination of crime figures, survey data and a number of existing data sources such as collision and A&E assault/alcohol admission data.

## **Future Issues**

- 2.24 In December 2011, the Prime Minister announced that £448 million (on a payment by results basis) will be made available over three years to turn around the lives of 120,000 troubled families who experience multiple problems and are a high cost to public finances. Surrey County Council is responsible for coordinating the local arrangements and ensuring that agencies work together on these families. Clearly, any proposals relating to work with troubled families will be of relevance to the Safer Guildford Partnership and further consideration will be given to links and reporting lines once firm proposals have been agreed.
- 2.25 The Partnership will also be working to ensure that local priorities are reflected in the plans and budgets of the new Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey following the election in November 2012.

## **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 Contributions to the Safer Guildford Partnership and expenditure for 2011/12 can be viewed on the budget sheet at **Annexe 2**. Funding for the Partnership overall has reduced significantly since 2010/11 with the loss of police basic command unit funding and the government's area based grant.
- 6.2 The current financial climate places an ever-increasing emphasis on partnership working and, with it, an incentive to improve operational effectiveness. An example was the move of the local neighbourhood policing teams to the Borough Council's offices in Guildford, which has led to a more joined-up approach to dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour. Partners will need to continue to develop new and innovative approaches to the delivery of services.

## **4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 Local Authorities have a statutory duty to work in partnership to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour under the Crime and Disorder Act (1998).

## **5. CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 Councillors are invited to comment on the achievements and activities of the Safer Guildford Partnership.

## **6 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT**

- 6.1 The Community Partnership and Committee Officer and the nominated member representative of the Local Committee will report the views of the Local Committee to the next meeting of the Safer Guildford Executive on 30 January 2013.

**CONTACT OFFICER:**

**LEAD OFFICER:** David Hill (SGE Chairman), Chief Executive, Guildford Borough Council

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 01483 505050

**E-MAIL:** david.hill@guildford.gov.uk

**CONTACT OFFICER:** Carolyn Anderson, Community Partnership & Committee Officer

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 01483 517336

**E-MAIL:** carolyn.anderson@surreycc.gov.uk

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

Safer Guildford Partnership Plan 2011-2014

Reports to Safer Guildford Partnership from Sub-Groups

Guildford Borough Sustainable Community Strategy

Version No. 1    Date: 30 October 2012    Time: 11:05    Initials: CA/MA    No. of annexes: 2