

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (SPELTHORNE)

DATE: 29 September 2014



LEAD OFFICER: Keith McGroary, Community Safety Manager, Spelthorne Borough Council

SUBJECT: Community Safety Partnership Update

DIVISION: Spelthorne

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

Section 17 of The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a requirement on Surrey County Council (SCC) to consider crime and disorder in all the services it provides:

This report updates the Local Committee on the joint work carried out by the Spelthorne Safer Stronger Partnership - SSSP (statutorily known as the Community Safety Partnership), which is partly funded by SCC contributions.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Local Committee (Spelthorne) is asked to note:

- (i) The details of the Performance Overview and Performance Data 2013 – 2014 (Annexes A and B).
- (ii) The 2014 – 2017 Partnership Plan (Annex C);

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

This report presents the Partnership Plan for 2014 - 2017 and the latest Performance Report of the SSSP 2013 - 2014. This item is for information only.

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| 1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND: |
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- 1.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and subsequent legislation place a requirement on Surrey County Council to consider crime and disorder in all the services it provides.
- 1.2 Surrey County Council is one of the statutory “responsible authorities” of the local Community Safety Partnership (or CSP, known locally as the Spelthorne Safer and Stronger Partnership), and is required to work with partners to improve community safety and reduce crime and disorder.
- 1.3 The Partnership uses a wide range of methods to engage with the local community. These include meetings such as Face the People, PCC Crime Summit and written forms of engagement such as surveys, newsletters and websites.

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- 1.4 The Partnership has produced a Performance Update for 2013 – 2014 and a 2014 – 2017 Partnership Plan and which are attached as Annexes ‘A’, ‘B’ and ‘C’ to this report.

2. ANALYSIS:

- 2.1 In the last two reports there have been reductions in all reported crime from 1,181 in 2012, then 497 in 2013; this year there has been a continued reduction of 485 less offences over the same period of time between July 2013 and June 2014.

| Prev Year Ending Selected Month | | Year Ending Selected Month | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| <u>01 Jul 12 - 30 Jun 13</u> | | <u>01 Jul 13</u> | - |
| | | <u>- 30 Jun</u> | - |
| | | <u>14</u> | |
| 5,370 | Down 485 (9%) | | 4,885 |

- 2.2 The trend in crime is largely downwards with the exception of violent crime with injury which has seen a rise. Although in percentage terms it is high, Spelthorne is below the average of its most similar family of local authority areas and just above the Surrey average.
- 2.3 There is an additional information page which breaks down the overall performance around key crime areas attached (Annex ‘B’). The 2014 – 17 strategy is set out in Annex ‘C’.
- 2.4 As police resources are depleted due to cuts in funding, particularly around the number of PCSO’s, there is a growing expectation that the Local Authority and other Partners take even more involvement with low-level ASB issues. Spelthorne, together with Reigate & Banstead are piloting the Surrey Enforcement Pilot where a Local Authority uniformed presence of officers accredited by the Chief Constable with similar powers to a PCSO will patrol the streets and deal with low level offending behaviour with the ability to issue fixed penalty notices. Community Safety Teams are also becoming increasingly engaged with the police to support appropriate responses and interventions, something that the police seek to encourage and value in the fight to reduce ASB and help our communities feel safe.
- 2.5 Anti-social behaviour also continues on a downward trend as it has for the last few years. Between July last year and June this year there has been 285 fewer reported incidents than the same period last year.
- 2.6 Junior Citizen continues to be rolled out with over 1,000 young people aged 10 years attending the event.
- 2.7 Spelthorne introduced a Senior Citizen scheme this year, held at the same venue as Junior Citizen but with a focus on bogus officials, computer fraud, personal health and well-being and so forth. Again Jeff Harris attended and was extremely impressed by the initiative. A further event is planned for later this year.
- 2.8 Neighbourhood Watch; a part time NHW coordinator is no longer provided for this group as a decision was made by the NHW Committee to decline funding for the post as from 1st April 2014. NHW continues to be active and has a number of volunteers to help support the scheme.

3. OPTIONS:

- 3.1 The Committee is asked to note the information provided within the report.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

- 4.1 Due to budget constraints consultation is limited. The public were invited to the Spelthorne Crime Summit on 4 September 2014.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 Resources for the Spelthorne Safer Stronger Partnership are prioritised as part of this action planning process. The Partnership is determined to make best use of its available resources.
- 5.2 There are no government grants or allocated funding from the PCC to support CSP's with revenue funding to support posts, this is a challenge experienced across most of England and Wales. Research with Surrey CSP's show that there has been a loss of some posts across the county coupled with other posts becoming mainstreamed council positions.
- 5.3 In the case of Spelthorne the Anti-social Behaviour officer is now working for 4 days a week instead of 5; however, his post has now been made mainstream and no longer reliant upon external funding. This means that all 3 posts within the CSP are funded by the Council.
- 5.4 With budgets to CSP's from Government sources cut, and the financial burden often falling to local authorities who themselves are facing significant financial cuts, Spelthorne Community Safety Partnership (CSP) has been pro-active in seeking financial support from businesses within the Borough to deliver Partnership activities and community safety work. For the previous 3 years the CSP has received funding of £14k a year from A2 Dominion Housing (A2D) and £3,300 a year from BP. This funding ended on 31.3.13 and negotiations took place to consider the next 3 years. This resulted in A2D increasing contributions to £22k a year for 3 years and BP increased to £5.2k, also for the next 3 years.
- 5.5 The projection for 2014 / 15 now shows a credit of £22k, although projects have yet to be identified using this funding. This will now allow for additional activities and resources that for the last few years have been put on hold. At present, enquiries are being made with regards to the acquisition of a truly portable CCTV camera that can be transported around the Borough to target hot spot locations of ASB / crime / fly tipping etcetera.
- 5.6 Surrey County Council contributed £3,226 towards the work of the Community Safety Partnership in 2013/14. The SCC contribution to the Spelthorne Safer Stronger Partnership goes into a pooled income pot along with contributions from other organisations. Spelthorne Council contribute £27,000 as well as costs of the posts.
- 5.7 In 2013/14, the pooled monies were used to support the Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator post, Spelthorne Neighbourhood Watch and to support interventions taken by the local Community Incident Action Group (CIAG) and Joint Action Group (JAG). We have also delivered the Junior

Citizen Programme to over 1,000 of our year 6, 11 year old pupils; delivered a Senior Citizen project with subjects including doorstep fraud, personal safety, internet fraud, health advice and much more. This is held at the same location as Junior Citizen which was attended by Jeff Harris the Deputy Police & Crime Commissioner who was greatly impressed.

- 5.8 Local businesses Wood Group Kenny have contributed £5,000 for the last 2 years to support Junior Citizen and also provide people to help deliver the programme itself; British Airways also provide the location and people to help with the programme; this is additional to the CSP Partners who also promote and help deliver the events.
- 5.9 As set out in the Scheme of Delegation for Local Committees, the Local Committee has a devolved responsibility for £3,226 of funding toward community Safety for 2014/15. This funding needs to be spent in accordance with the local community safety strategy in agreement with other partners.

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

- 6.1 The partnership aims to engage with hard to reach and minority groups within the community.

7. LOCALISM:

- 7.1 The Community Safety Partnership takes into account local crime statistics and prioritises its expenditure according to local priorities.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

| Area assessed: | Direct Implications: |
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| 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

The Spelthorne Safer Stronger Partnership has been established to improve community safety in Spelthorne by prioritising the key issues within the Borough.

8.2 Sustainability implications

No significant implications arising from this report

8.3 Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children implications

No significant implications arising from this report

8.4 Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults implications

No significant implications arising from this report

8.5 Public Health implications

No significant implications arising from this report

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

9.1 Surrey County Council is required by legislation to consider crime and disorder in all the services it provides. In Spelthorne, the County Council is a 'responsible authority' of the Community Safety Partnership.

9.2 Together with key local partners, the LSP/CSP has been working to tackle crime and disorder in the Borough, focusing on key priorities within the Partnership Plan.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

10.1 The Local Committee (Spelthorne) is invited to receive further updates, as desired.

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Consulted: Not for the purpose of this report

Annexes:

- A Performance
- B iQuanta Data
- C 2014 – 2017 Partnership Plan

Sources/background papers:

None

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