

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (RUNNYMEDE)

DATE: 29 SEPTEMBER 2014

LEAD OFFICER: SYLVIA CARTER, COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS OFFICER

SUBJECT: ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SAFER RUNNYMEDE PARTNERSHIP

DIVISION: RUNNYMEDE



<p><u>SUMMARY OF ISSUE:</u></p> <p>To provide an update on the activity and impact of the Safer Runnymede community safety partnership in the year 2013/14.</p>
<p><u>RECOMMENDATIONS:</u></p> <p>The Local Committee (Runnymede) is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Note the contents of the report and the progress made in 2013/14. ii) Agree that the community safety budget of £3,294 delegated to the Local Committee be transferred to the Community Partnership Manager to authorise expenditure, in line with the proposals set out in paragraph 5.3 of this report. iii) agree that a report will be brought to the Local Committee at its June 2015 meeting confirming which projects were funded.
<p><u>REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:</u></p> <p>The delegation of the community safety funding is recommended to facilitate timely decision making when allocating funding to addressing crime and disorder in Runnymede. Details of suggested projects for expenditure are laid out in the report (5.3).</p>

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

1.1 The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act gave local agencies shared responsibility for developing and introducing strategies to reduce crime and disorder in their area. The agencies come together as the Community Safety Partnership (CSP), known as the Safer Runnymede Partnership. Statutory members include:

- a. Surrey Police
- b. Runnymede Borough Council
- c. Surrey County Council
- d. Surrey Fire and Rescue Service
- e. Surrey and Sussex Probation Trust
- f. Partners from Health.

1.2 A Surrey County Councillor sits on the Community Safety Partnership alongside an officer from the Community Partnerships Team. They contribute to the debates and influence decisions which will affect local residents in Runnymede and report back to the Local Committee, as appropriate.

Police and Crime Commissioner

1.3 Kevin Hurley, the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Surrey, was elected on 15 November 2012. He is responsible for overseeing the work of Surrey Police, holding the Chief Constable to account and helping to tackle the crime issues.

1.4 The PCC has overall responsibility for reducing crime and disorder, working with CSPs and criminal justice partners to achieve their objectives. The PCC is able to call CSP chairmen to meetings, request reports and commission services. From April 2013 the Community Safety Fund was transferred to the PCC to support this change of arrangements, and several Runnymede projects have bid successfully for PCC funding over the last year.

1.5 The first local Police and Crime Summit was held in Runnymede in February 2014 and was attended by a large number of partner agencies and residents, with total attendance around 100. The principal issues of concern, as voted on by those present, were in line with other local survey results:

1. Anti-social, inconsiderate and dangerous driving
2. Dog fouling
3. Anti-social and inconsiderate parking
4. Cycling and skate-boarding on pavements

However, the issue of fraud was also raised as a concern, including bank fraud and identity theft. These crimes are now dealt with by a central agency funded by the Home Office, as many cases of fraud are perpetrated online or beyond local boundaries. For more information and data for Surrey, see www.actionfraud.police.uk

1.6 Further information on the PCC is available via <http://www.surrey-pcc.gov.uk>

2. ANALYSIS:

2.1 The Safer Runnymede Partnership undertook its annual strategic assessment of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the borough in 2013. This informed an update to the Safer Runnymede Partnership Plan which identifies the key community safety priorities for 2013/14, set out in **Annex 2**.

2.2 Crime trends

2.3 Reducing crime (total notifiable offences), increasing the detection rate and building public confidence were the focus for Surrey Police over the past year. The most recent available crime data, produced monthly, is included at **Annex 1** (borough totals by category, August 2014 release) and compares reports for 2013/14 with the year 2014/15 to date. (The crime categories included in Serious Acquisitive Crime include dwelling burglaries, theft of and from motor vehicles, robbery and aggravated vehicle taking). Serious violent crime includes murder, attempted murder and grievous bodily harm (GBH).

- a. The overall number of offences reported in the borough has remained largely static over the preceding two years.
- b. Serious acquisitive crime has fallen slightly again, with the greatest reduction in domestic burglaries which have reduced by one third;
- c. Vehicle crime has risen (in line with an improved economic climate) with 27 more offences compared to this time last year.
- d. There has been an increase in violence with injury reports (43 more than last year), whilst the number of violence without injury incidents has remained similar to the previous year. Many of these reports relate to domestic abuse in the home, where people are actively encouraged to report incidents, in order to get help and advice.

2.4 Overall, crime figures in Runnymede are broadly similar to the previous year, and remain at a historic low. The detection rate for crimes reported in Runnymede is one of the highest in the county, with around 1 in 3 crimes having been detected and resolved over the last year. Surrey is still one of the safest counties in England.

2.5 Residents can report criminal behaviour or incidents to the Surrey Police Safer Neighbourhood Team on 101, or if it is a genuine emergency call 999. Details of the local team are included in full via www.surrey.police.uk

Partnership success in 2013/14

2.6 The Joint Action Group (JAG) examines reports of anti social behaviour on a geographic or crime type basis and identifies partnership actions to address problems. Over the year in question the group have looked at a number of locations including Addlestone Town, Row Town, Chertsey, Coopers Hill (Englefield Green) and Egham. Despite the flooding in February which displaced households, there was no discernible increase in thefts but police patrols in Egham Hythe were increased.

- 2.7 A range of interventions have been put in place including the Designated Public Places Order (to restrict alcohol consumption in public in Addlestone) and “crack house closure” orders. However, in the majority of incidences anti-social behaviour has been nipped in the bud through a co-ordinated partnership approach including issuing warning letters and cautions.

The Community Incident Action Group (CIAG), which focuses on individuals whose behaviour is having a negative impact on the community, continued to monitor incidents. At March 2013 there were a total of seven ASBO's in place. ASBO recipients are reviewed quarterly to assess progress or developments and adjustments to the ASBO's are made accordingly. The CIAG reports quarterly to the Community Safety Partnership and at the end of the year there were five individuals on CIAG.

Interventions used included warning letters, Acceptable Behaviour Contracts, housing related enforcement, referrals to support agencies, diversionary activities, informal mentoring, rewards and incentives.

- 2.8 There was a range of activities to deal with speeding, anti-social driving and road casualty reductions during the year. These include: Drive Smart events, REEDs days and School Speedwatch. These events are undertaken once a month. Community Speedwatch is supported plus local officers undertake speed enforcement where community concerns are recorded. These are managed on a rolling programme of work. Over-arching this local work is the Roads Policing Unit's work, the ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) team and Safer Runnymede.

- 2.10 In October 2013 another successful Junior Citizen programme was delivered to young people aged 10-11 in Year 6 from all primary schools across the borough. This was hosted by Chertsey Fire Station and supported by Runnymede Borough Council, Surrey Police, Surrey Fire and Rescue. The Junior Citizen scheme provides a series of safety awareness sessions over a morning or afternoon. Each session is divided into a range of interactive scenarios experienced in small group, covering roads, on-line, home, first-aid, water, fire, and railway safety and includes instructions on how to make a 999 call. This helps them to develop their skills in managing risk and making decisions about important day-to-day situations.

- 2.11 Domestic Abuse outreach continued to be provided by yourSanctuary, which is contracted by Surrey County Council and partners to provide this service, as part of a county-wide consortium, in three boroughs in North West Surrey. The majority of those seeking help were female (88-89%) and in 49% of cases the abuse was perpetrated by an ex-partner. Individuals can contact this service for advice on 01483 776822, or see www.surreyagainstda.info

- 2.12 In December 2013 the Community Safety Manager for Runnymede BC retired from the post and following an interim period, a new officer was appointed and took up the role in June 2014.

- 2.13 The Family Support Programme was launched in summer 2013 in Runnymede and Surrey Heath, and the number of cases nominated has been higher than originally anticipated, such that the team will shortly have a base in the Civic Centre rather than being situated at Surrey Heath Borough Council and visiting from there. Surrey's approach to Family Support (known nationally as the Troubled Families initiative) has won praise from the national lead, Louise Casey.

3. OPTIONS:

The report sets out a number of actions and initiatives which have taken place over the past year to address priorities identified within the Safer Runnymede Partnership Plan. As well as mainstreamed resources, Surrey County Council has made available £3,294 to the Local Committee for addressing Community Safety issues through designated projects.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

- 4.1 Surrey Police conduct regular neighbourhood panel meetings at local level with members of the public, as part of the neighbourhoods' agenda. The Safer Runnymede Partnership Plan is reviewed at each community safety partnership meeting (held quarterly).
- 4.2 It is intended that there will be an annual Police Crime Summit within the Borough to give residents an opportunity to feed back to a range of agencies, to take place in Spring 2015.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 In 2013/14 **£3,226** was received by the community safety partnership from the Local Committee for community safety work in the borough. This was allocated to the costs of signage for the no public drinking zones, advertising notices to residents, and contributing to the cost of the three-yearly Community Safety Survey. Additional funding to the Partnership from other sources for one off projects included £1,100 for the QR code project, and £2,550 from the Police and Crime Commissioners Office for SCAM leaflets and the Junior Citizen event. Other crime and disorder funding was secured via 106 developer monies for specific projects such as new CCTV cameras.
- 5.2 In addition to the above funding, the domestic abuse outreach service provided locally by yourSanctuary was and is funded by Surrey Police, the Police and Crime Commissioner, and Surrey County Council.
- 5.3 In 2014/15, **£3 294** is available from Surrey County Council for community safety work in Runnymede. It is proposed that this should be allocated to:
- * Community Safety Plan 2014-17 printed booklets for the public;
 - * Publications to highlight how the new Community Trigger will work;
 - * Prevent (counter-terrorism) awareness day planned for school and other professionals to advise them on what to look out for.

Members are invited to comment on this proposed expenditure.

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

- 6.1 Funding is provided countywide for a domestic abuse outreach service which is provided and managed county-wide by Surrey’s Community Safety Unit.
- 6.2 Steps are taken to ensure that the Neighbourhood Panel meetings are accessible for all and hard to reach groups are targeted. Surrey Police has a minicom number - 01483 53 99 99.
- 6.3 Incidents of hate crime are monitored carefully by Surrey Police.

7. LOCALISM:

- 7.1 The Safer Runnymede Partnership aims to make all communities in the borough a safe and pleasant place to live. Where issues arise, the partners work together, with residents as appropriate, to address them.

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

The production of the strategic assessment and the publication of the Partnership Plan fulfil some of the statutory requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 9.1 There has been continued positive work by the Safer Runnymede Partnership to address community safety issues within the borough over the past year.
- 9.2 Members are asked to
 - a. note the contents of the report,
 - b. agree that the community safety budget of £3,294 delegated to the Local Committee be transferred to the Partnership and the Community Partnership Manager, to authorise its expenditure in accordance with the Local Committee’s decision.

www.surreycc.gov.uk/runnymede

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

Partners have reassessed the priorities for the Safer Runnymede Partnership and will work to continue to address these during the coming year.

The Community Partnership Team will transfer the Community Safety funding in accordance with the decision of the Local Committee.

Contact Officer:

Sylvia Carter, Community Partnership and Committee Officer, Surrey County Council
Shazia Salwar, Community Safety Officer, Runnymede BC;
Neighbourhood Inspector Roger Nield, Surrey Police.

Annexes:

Annex 1 – Crime data for year to date
Annex 2 - Partnership Plan 2014

Sources/background papers:

- Safer Runnymede Annual Report 2013-14
 - Quarterly Community Safety reports to the Partnership
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ANNEX 1 – CRIME DATA

**Notifiable offences for Runnymede Borough
Financial Year to Date: July 2013 to July 2014**

CRIME for Runnymede fytd (July-2014)			
Category	FYTD 2014-15	FYTD 2013-14	%
Criminal damage	144	195	- 26.2%
Domestic burglary	46	68	-32.4%
Drug offences	131	110	19.1%
Fraud and forgery	2	3	-33%
Violence with injury	121	78	55.1%
Non-domestic burglary	76	78	-2.6%
Other criminal offences	54	32	68%
Other violence against the person (without injury)	202	203	0.5%
Robbery	8	8	0%
Serious Sexual offences	26	9	188.9%
Theft (other than vehicle) & handling stolen goods	332	361	-8%
Vehicle crime (excluding interference)	102	83	22.9%
Vehicle interference and tampering	11	9	22.2%
Serious Acquisitive	156	159	-1.9%
Serious Violence and acquisitive	277	237	16.9%
TNO (total notifiable offences)	1262	1242	1.6%