

**MINUTES** of the meeting of the **COMMUNITIES SELECT COMMITTEE** held at 9.30 am on 20 October 2014 at Ashcombe Suite, County Hall, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 2DN.

These minutes are subject to confirmation by the Committee at its meeting on Wednesday, 29 October 2014.

**Elected Members:**

- \* Mrs Denise Saliagopoulos (Chairman)
- \* Mr Chris Norman (Vice-Chairman)
- \* Mr Mike Bennison
- \* Mrs Yvonna Lay
- \* Mrs Jan Mason
- \* Mr John Orrick
- \* Mr Saj Hussain
- \* Mrs Mary Lewis
- \* Mr Chris Pitt
- \* Ms Barbara Thomson
- \* Mr Alan Young
- \* Mr Robert Evans

**Ex officio Members:**

Mrs Sally Ann B Marks, Vice Chairman of the County Council  
Mr David Munro, Chairman of the County Council

**Co-opted Members:**

**Substitute Members:**

**In attendance**

**13/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS [Item 1]**

Apologies were received from Alan Young, Helen Clack, Richard Billington, Yvonne Rees and Jane Last.

**14/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [Item 2]**

No Declarations of Interest were received.

**15/14 COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIPS IN SURREY [Item 3]****Witnesses:**

Matt Twist, Temporary Assistant Chief Constable, Surrey Police  
 Simon Moore, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Surrey County Council  
 Louise Gibbins, Community Safety Officer, Surrey County Council  
 Keith Mcgroary, Community Safety Manager, Spelthorne Borough Council  
 Phelim Brady, Governing Body Lay Member, Guildford and Waverley CCG  
 Helen Atkinson, Director of Public Health, Surrey County Council  
 Christine Cross, Borough Councillor, Elmbridge Borough Council  
 Sarah Haywood, Senior Partnerships Policy Officer  
 Kay Hammond, Cabinet Associate for Fire and Police Services

**Key points raised during the discussion:**

1. The Community Safety Partnership Officer introduced the report and informed the Committee that Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) delivery structures would be tested, with the introduction of new tools and powers introduced by the Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Crime and Policing Act 2014. It was added that under this, victims of ASB have been given the right to demand a review of their ASB case if they are unhappy with the response by agencies. The Committee was informed that a Crime Summit had been held the previous week and data showed that all crime has reduced, excluding violent crime.
2. The Committee raised the concern of under-age drinking and ASB on weekend nights in Redhill Town Centre; officers were asked what action was being undertaken to tackle this. Officers informed the Committee that a pilot Joint Enforcement Team had been set up by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). Partners across Reigate and Banstead work together to deliver community benefits by dealing with community issues particularly environmental ASB. It was added that the problem in Redhill Town Centre on weekend nights would be discussed with the Joint Enforcement Team and East Surrey Community Safety Partnership. After results of Joint Enforcement Team pilots in Reigate and Banstead, and the planned pilot in Spelthorne, are identified, aspects of this programme may be rolled out to other areas. Runnymede and Woking are currently considering similar aspects of this programme.
3. The Committee was informed that the figures for violent crime are increasing while other crime is decreasing. It was noted that Surrey remains

one of the best performing areas for low crime in England. Increasing figures for violent crime were in part due to the way it is recorded and also more people are reporting incidences of domestic violence, probably due to improved confidence in the police to deal with it and confidence in the police and partners.

4. Officers informed the Committee that the Community Trigger had gone live on 20 October; each area has a single point of contact for Community Trigger. This information would be made available through the Surrey Police and District and Borough website. A Community Safety Forum and County ASB Strategy Group had been working together to produce a county wide ASB strategy. The Community Trigger framework gives victims the right to request a review of their ASB complaints. It was added that domestic abuse was still high on the agenda and the CSP's were working with Domestic Abuse Services across Surrey to support victims. The PCC made funding available for community and voluntary groups to bid for and £100,000 of this was allocated to domestic abuse outreach services. It was expressed that strategic direction and local delivery were important to ensure CSP work was successful and that each aspect of community safety sat across different areas. For example Substance Misuse abuse reports to the Surrey CSB while mental health and well-being sat under the Surrey Health and Wellbeing Board.
5. It was expressed that a common approach across Districts and Boroughs was being shared and a number of allocated priorities were being worked on. It was noted in order to deliver priorities locally, partnerships with local organisations like Housing Associations were necessary. Officers informed the Committee that all Districts and Boroughs are invited to regular meetings for sharing information and consulting on new legislation. The Committee was notified that information on the Community Trigger would be put in Members' pigeon holes.
6. There was a discussion around health and safety within Surrey Police and if there were restrictions when dealing with an incident due to this. Officers expressed that if it is safe then Police would always take action in a domestic abuse incident and if a reasonable chance of success is identified they would always be expected to take action. It was added that the approach in specific events was not able to be commented on, however partnerships tackle these issues and different agencies are involved at different times in a case.
7. The Committee was informed that over 2 years bids to the value of £12,101.36 had been submitted by CSPs to the PCCs Community Safety Fund. The Committee expressed that local partnerships should be encouraged to bid for grants. It was noted that a difficulty with applying for funding is being able to plan ahead. Spelthorne CSP was not in a deficit anymore due to working with local businesses. This means the ability to financially plan ahead is increased. The Committee were informed that the

Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) are working on reducing alcohol consumption.

8. The Committee was informed that the PCC is now responsible for commissioning Victim Support services. Funding from the Ministry of Justice had been received to address this and to deliver this new service. It was noted that a Strategic Assessment each year is developed to identify which areas should be focused on. Concern was raised regarding the pathways of support for domestic abuse victims, officers stated that there is provision in place to support victims of domestic abuse such as outreach services and refuge provision and resources are allocated for this.

Robert Evans left the meeting at 10.45am

9. The Committee was informed that the current three main priorities of Surrey Police were domestic abuse, violence and domestic burglary. The Committee requested figures on domestic abuse homicide to be made available after the meeting. Officers noted that five domestic homicide reviews had taken place in the last two years but that they would circulate up to date figures. Regarding Surrey Police's performance, it was noted that burglary detection rates at the start of last year were below 10%. The rate was currently 27% due to the prioritisation of detection and identification of multiple offences.

Chris Townsend left the meeting at 11am

10. The Committee returned to how funding was awarded to CSP's from the PCCs Community Safety Fund. The Vice-Chairman congratulated the Spelthorne Community Safety Manager on work completed with local businesses to secure funding. It was discussed that further funding was available from the PCC but this needed to be applied for in order to monitor performance and is not directly allocated to CSPs. Unlike previous years the funding does not come from the Home Office but is taken out of the Police Budget, therefore the PCC needs to show value for money. Funding is open to all community groups and a list of successful bids were available on the PCC's website.
11. The Assistant Chief Fire Officer informed the Committee that the Fire Service is a statutory partner of CSPs which was an outcome of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. Previously the Crime and Disorder Partnerships were focused on arson, which was well addressed within Surrey. Road traffic collisions were also a priority within Surrey and from this the profile and understanding had been improved. The Fire Service has been successful in a number of bids to the PCC including the 'Safe Drive Stay Alive' campaign which was delivered in part with CSPs. It was added that the Fire Service is working on a preventative agenda in the community with the elderly and carers. The Cabinet Member for Fire and Police Services commended the Fire Service for outstanding community and partnership work.

12. There was a discussion around the intergenerational work at the Greeno Centre in Spelthorne where frequent reports of ASB were received. An intergenerational project was set up to bring younger and older people together with activities. This was completely successful, as around one year after the project was set up there were no reports of ASB outside the centre. It was expressed that Parish Councils should be engaged and communicated to regarding community activities in order to circulate information such as a newsletter. The Committee was informed that a Senior Citizen Programme was recently run to support elderly people in Spelthorne with avoiding falls, general safety, crime prevention and health and well-being. The next event is taking place on 29 October and members would receive information on this.
13. The Chairman stated that the latest Public Health England Health Profile showed Surrey to fall above the national average for the rate of people killed or seriously injured on roads, rate of new cases of malignant melanoma, excess winter deaths and hip fractures on people over 65. It was asked how the CSPs were linking in with these priorities. Officers stated that per head Surrey had a higher car ownership and the type of Surrey roads meant higher road traffic collisions. The high rate of skin cancer within Surrey relates to the higher of affluence of residents and increased travel abroad. Surrey also has a higher rate of older people and life expectancy had increased, however residents are living longer with a higher rate of long term conditions and falls. It was noted that work with Adult Social Care and the CCG's on the Better Care Fund addresses falls prevention and staying physically active and independent. The Assistant Chief Fire Officer commented on the high road traffic collisions data and it was noted that the number of minor roads and cyclists within Surrey increases the risk of road traffic collisions. These figures however have decreased and the Drive Smart project is recognition of this, but it was added there was still room for improvement.

### **Recommendations**

- That the Cabinet Associate for Fire and Police Services provide an update in six months as to the success of East Surrey CSP, specifically including the success in attracting the same officer attendees at each meeting.
- Members are asked to
  - Discuss with witnesses the value of CSPs, their delivery and governance arrangements, and their role in maintaining low levels of crime and high public confidence.
  - Comment on progress made since last year, particularly against a setting of continuing reductions in resources available to undertake CSP work.

- Explore with witnesses their preparedness for the new tools and powers introduced by the ASB Crime and Policing Act 2014 and in particular the challenge of managing and resourcing the Community Trigger process.

**Actions/Further information to be provided**

- Information on victims' services contracts and funding bids and CSP project funding from OPCC
- Information on funding of CSPs
- Figures on domestic abuse homicide
- Details of Domestic Abuse Outreach Service across Surrey
- A more detailed update on the Domestic Abuse Strategy
- Details of the Community Trigger process
- Public Health annual report
- Information on the Spelthorne Senior Citizens' advice day

**16/14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING [Item 4]**

The date of the next Communities Select Committee will be held at 10.00am on Wednesday 14 January 2015.

Meeting ended at: 11.55 am

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**Chairman**