

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL****LOCAL COMMITTEE (RUNNYMEDE)**

**DATE:** 6 JULY 2015  
**LEAD OFFICER:** SYLVIA CARTER



**SUBJECT:** COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE AND BUDGET 2015-16

**DIVISION:** ALL DIVISIONS

**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

The Local Committee has a delegated budget of **£3,337** for community safety projects. Traditionally the Committee has agreed to delegate this funding to the community safety partnership in Runnymede (the Safer Runnymede Partnership). The Committee is being asked to delegate its 2015/16 funding to the Partnership. The report also gives key information on activities by the Partnership in 2014-15.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:****The Local Committee (Runnymede) is asked to:**

- (i) Agree that the community safety budget of £3,337 that has been delegated to the Local Committee be transferred to the Safer Runnymede Partnership for the purpose of addressing the criteria and monitoring requirements detailed in paragraph 1.3 of this report.
- (ii) Agree that the Community Partnership Manager authorises this expenditure in accordance with the Local Committee's decision.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The County Council is a statutory member of the community safety partnership, known as the Safer Runnymede Partnership. The Council values partnership working that will make a positive contribution to local projects and activities that will create a safer community for Runnymede residents.

1.1 The Safer Runnymede Partnership is the community safety partnership (CSP) in Runnymede. CSPs were established under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 which established the principle that tackling crime should be a partnership matter and not solely the responsibility of the Police. The agencies represented on the CSP are required to work in partnership with a range of other local public, private, community and voluntary groups, and with the community itself. This approach recognises that opportunities to address the causes of crime and disorder and pursue the interventions required to deliver safe and secure communities lie with a range of organisations, groups and individuals working in partnership.

1.2 In the past the County Council's contribution to the CSP contained a proportion ring-fenced to deliver domestic abuse support services across the borough. The remainder of the funding supported local community safety activities and projects delivered by the Safer Runnymede Partnership. To achieve better value for money, the ring-fenced portion of the funding dedicated to domestic abuse outreach work has been centralised across the county. However, the remainder of the budget was delegated to the Local Committee, this year amounting to £3,337.

1.3 The Local Committee Community Safety Fund is designed to support projects and initiatives in Surrey that:

- Are evidence based
- State aims and objectives clearly and concisely
- Clarify project outputs and outcomes
- Demonstrate wider benefits to the community
- Demonstrate how they support the delivery of local Community Safety Partnership plans
- Document proposed evaluation mechanisms
- Demonstrate value for money

Community Safety Partnerships will be asked to report back to the Local Committee on how the funding was used.

1.4 The Local Committee is asked to agree £3,337 be transferred to the Safer Runnymede Partnership to support local activities and projects which achieve the Partnership's aims and objectives.

## **2. ANALYSIS:**

2.1 Surrey County Council is a statutory member of the Safer Runnymede Partnership and supports the strategic aims and objectives of the Partnership, within the Partnership Plan and the annual Strategic Assessment.

2.2 In 2014-15, the Safer Runnymede Partnership continued to focus on: addressing problems caused by identifiable individuals; addressing problems which occurred at identified locations, support for ongoing projects and diversionary activities, and support for new projects considered likely to benefit community cohesion.

### 2.3 Regular partnership activities:

The Joint Action Group (which addresses locations in the borough where crime or anti-social behaviour is clustered) met monthly, and by the end of the year there were only three locations being actively monitored. The Community Incident Action Group (which considers individuals who are having an impact on the community) had a low number of referrals in 2014/15 and by year end there were four individuals on the agenda, the partnership having obtained one Criminal Behaviour Order.

Junior Citizen was held in October 2014 at the Runnymede Centre. Over 600 students from Year 6 attended the scheme engaging in simulated real life situations, learnt essential life skills about health and safety along with keeping safe online and offline. The scheme is directly supported by Runnymede BC, Surrey Police, St Johns Ambulance, Surrey Fire and Rescue, Royal National Lifeboat Institution and South West Trains. Brooklands College provides volunteers. Upon completion of the workshops, each child is given a handbook which contains a certificate for attending, more information on topics, puzzles and quizzes that can be used at home or in school. Junior Citizen will run at Thorpe Park conference centre in the autumn of 2015.

Domestic Abuse Awareness Week in October 2014 included outreach work in Addlestone, and a workshop for professionals delivered by Your Sanctuary (which provides emotional and practical support to people experiencing domestic abuse).

### 2.4 **Crime trends in 2014-15:**

Overall crime in Runnymede dropped by 45 crimes in the financial year 2014-2015 with total notifiable offences [TNO] falling for the tenth consecutive year. Significant reductions were made in all types of burglary and there were also falls in vehicle crime and criminal damage. Runnymede is only one of three boroughs in the county to see falling crime in this period.

Areas of concern are the continuing rise of violence with and without injury. However the rate of increase has fallen significantly and detections have increased. This indicates the greater emphasis police have placed on addressing all crimes of violence in the past year. There has also been a shift of emphasis across policing towards the identification and reduction of child sexual exploitation, although no borough level statistics have been published to date.

During this period total detections remained stable at 28%.

Confidence and satisfaction remained high with confidence recorded at 91.2%, and overall satisfaction at 75.4% for ASB and 85.7% for Crime matters at March 2015.

**Table 1: Crimes of note**

<b>Crime</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Change 2014-15</b>	<b>Detection Rate</b>
Burglary Dwelling	148	-39%	20%
Burglary Other	197	-26%	10%
Criminal Damage	517	-7%	15%
Violence with Injury	382	+20%	38%
<b>Total Notifiable Offences</b>	<b>3586</b>	<b>-1.2%</b>	<b>28%</b>
ASB (anti-social behaviour)	2539	-8%	

- 2.5 The Neighbourhood Policing team in Surrey Police was pleased to hear that part of their patch, Egham, had been highlighted as the safest university town in the UK by the Telegraph newspaper, because of its low crime incidence:

“Royal Holloway’s pleasant Surrey surroundings are not just home to the beautiful Windsor Park but also to Egham, the safest university town in the country. With an average of 57 crimes per 1,000 residents – compared to the national average of 99 crimes per 1,000 – parents can sleep comfortably knowing that their child is in the safest student town possible.”

- 2.6 Fraud is a national issue, and online crime is an increasing problem but does not fall within the scope of local police forces for recording purposes. However, there are multiple examples of it taking place in Surrey and prevention is a key activity for Trading Standards and neighbourhood police teams, who raise awareness of “scams” amongst vulnerable residents through a variety of methods.

Case study example (from Surrey Police website):

Police Officers from East Surrey are warning Reigate and Banstead residents against fraudsters following an incident in Kingswood, Tadworth where a couple discovered that bogus bank accounts had been set up in their name without their knowledge or consent.

Offenders set up new bank accounts and arrange for the post containing the bank cards to be delivered to an address that they later visit to retrieve the cards, so they can carry out fraudulent monetary transactions. The post is then collected by the comen if left in outside post boxes, or left sticking out letter boxes.

- 2.7 The CyberSafe Surrey Network, an initiative developed by the Police Crime Commissioner’s Office, will be launched on 6 July and further details will be provided at the meeting.

### **3. OPTIONS:**

- 3.1 By transferring the budget of £3,337 to the Safer Runnymede Partnership the Committee will make a direct financial contribution to the Partnership, enabling the community safety projects and activities to continue throughout 2015-16.

#### **4. CONSULTATIONS:**

- 4.1 The Safer Runnymede Partnership meets four times yearly and has representation from the County Council (the Community Partnership and Committee Officer); Surrey Fire and Rescue Service is represented in its own right. Activities and expenditure are reported and approved at each meeting. At present, the Partnership is chaired by the Assistant CEO of Runnymede Borough Council.
- 4.2 The Partnership reports to the Local Committee annually and seeks members' views on its objectives and activities.

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

- 5.1 In 2014/15 £3,294 was received from the Local Committee for local community safety work. This funding was used to publicise the new enforcement powers available under the Anti-Social Behaviour and Policing Act 2014, Domestic Abuse Awareness week held in October 2014, and crime prevention items.

Activity/Resource/Project	Number produced	Cost £
DA Awareness Wk leaflets	700	78
Personalised Love Hearts DA Awareness Wk	600	180
Purse Dipping Bells Silver	300	105
"Community Trigger" leaflets	500	160
"Community Trigger" posters	35	45
"Reporting ASB" leaflets	300	60

**Table 2: Finance – expenditure 2014/15 (Surrey County Council contribution: £3,294.00)**

- 5.2 Expenditure of this budget is monitored by the Community Partnerships Manager.
- 5.3 The Partnership also accessed further funding of £5000 from the Police and Crime Commissioner Office (PCCO) for Junior Citizen handbooks, and £2000 for Older People's community safety events which were held in local day centres.

#### **6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:**

- 6.1 There are no direct equalities and diversity implications, but through the Safer Runnymede Partnership the County Council will strive to ensure that services are accessible to harder to reach groups. Crime reduction is a benefit to all in the community.

#### **7. LOCALISM:**

Local groups may approach the CSP for funding to deliver projects which directly support the aims of the partnership. The Partnership maintains a local focus through the Joint Action Group which looks at specific locations within

the borough where clusters of crime or anti-social behaviour have been reported.

**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 transfer of the budget will enable the partnership to continue to work with the community to reduce crime, tackle antisocial behaviour and raise awareness of safer practices and behaviours.

**9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Local Committee is asked to:

- (i) Agree that the community safety budget of £3,337 that has been delegated to the Local Committee be transferred to the CSP.
- (ii) Agree that the Community Partnerships Manager manages and authorises expenditure from this budget delegated to the Local Committee in accordance with the strategic aims of the CSP.

**10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:**

10.1 The Safer Runnymede Partnership will be advised of the transfer and this funding will support projects for the coming year.

**Contact Officer:**

Sylvia Carter, Community Partnership & Committee Officer (Runnymede)  
01932 794081 [/Sylvia.carter@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:Sylvia.carter@surreycc.gov.uk)

**Consulted**

Safer Runnymede Partnership members

**Annexes:**

None

**Sources/background papers:**

Safer Runnymede and Community Safety - Annual Report 2014-15