

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**LOCAL COMMITTEE (RUNNYMEDE)****DATE: 19 SEPTEMBER 2016****LEAD OFFICER: SYLVIA CARTER****SUBJECT: COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE: 2015-16 [FOR INFORMATION]****DIVISION: ALL DIVISIONS****SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

This report gives a brief update on work to support community safety by the Safer Runnymede Partnership in 2015-16.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Local Committee (Runnymede) is asked to:

- (i) Note the work of the Community Safety Partnership, Safer Runnymede.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

Surrey County Council is a statutory member of the community safety partnership, known as the Safer Runnymede Partnership. The Council values partnership working that makes 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 The County Council has delegated £3,000 in 2016-17 to the Local Committee to support local community safety activities, and this is the subject of a separate report for decision on this agenda (19 September 2016).

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.
- 2.2 In 2015-16, the Safer Runnymede Partnership continued to focus on: addressing problems caused by identifiable individuals; addressing problems which occurred at identified locations, support for projects and diversionary activities, and support for new partnership approaches.

2.3 Ongoing partnership activities:

The Joint Action Group (looking at locations in the borough where crime or anti-social behaviour is clustered) met less frequently in 2015-16, as the number of locations which required active monitoring was reduced.

The Community Incident Action Group (which considers individuals who are having an impact on the community) had a steady number of referrals in 2015/16 and by year end there were twelve individuals on the agenda, only two of whom were young people. Mental health issues had featured in the cases discussed. Three Criminal Behaviour Orders were issued during the year.

The Junior Citizen partnership programme trained 600 pupils in Year 6 from 16 Runnymede primary schools on a range of real-life scenarios, at the Thorpe Park conference centre in the autumn of 2015.

For Domestic Abuse Awareness Week in October 2015, campaign leaflets and personalised love heart sweets were distributed to residents, colleagues and Royal Holloway students. Runnymede Borough Council's Housing Options Team received training in obtaining emergency injunctions for the victims of domestic violence, delivered by the National Centre for Domestic Violence.

2.4 Crime trends in 2015-16:

The crime data for Runnymede in the previous year, reported to the Local Committee in June 2015, was at an exceptionally low level following a

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decade of falling crime, and as reported by the Inspector at the time, it was unlikely that this historically low rate in the borough would be sustained. In the reporting year April 2015-2016, total notifiable offences [TNO] in the borough increased gradually across a number of crime categories, with a similar increase seen in nearby boroughs Spelthorne and Elmbridge. The rate of total reported offences per 1000 population in Runnymede rose from 45 in May 2015, to 59 by end of March 2016.

The rate of positive outcomes (resolutions) averaged 20% over the year, although there was a high of 30% in one month. This represents a reduction in the detection rate from 28% over the previous period 2014-15.

April 2016 onwards, total notifiable offences [TNO] in Runnymede: reported offences per 1000 population (supplied by Surrey Police)

To 21 August 2016 there have been 57.06 total notifiable offences [TNO] in Runnymede reported offences per 1000 population. This is down on the peak to date during this period of 58.30 in April 2016. The number of total notifiable offences [TNO] in Runnymede in this period compared to the previous period is 56 offences lower, which is a reduction of 3.4%.

Snapshot of offences from April 2016 to the end of July 2016:

- **Domestic Burglary** is down at 6.79 reported offences per 1,000 population (61 offences), it is down by 17.6% (13 offences).
- **Violence** as an overall category is up at 23.8% (121 offences). Within the over-arching Violence category, “**Violence with Injury**” is down 3% (5 offences), but “**Violence Without Injury**” is up 37% (126 offences). There have been no murders or attempted murders in Runnymede over this period.
- **Violence Without Injury** is a wide-ranging category in which violence can be implied or solicited, and includes putting people in fear of violence and harassment. Such offences are increasingly being made via social media.
- **Harassment** (“pursuing a course of conduct which the perpetrator knows or ought to know amounts to harassment”) stood at 263 offences. This is an increase of 107 offences (68.6%) compared to the previous equivalent period last year. This represents 8.41 reported offences per 1,000 population.
- **Common assaults** (excluding against a PC) is stable at 5.8 reported offences per 1,000 population (161 offences), which is only 1 more offence than compared to the previous equivalent period last year. There have been 8 assaults on police officers in this period compared to 2 in the previous equivalent period last year.
- **Criminal Damage** is lower at 7.52 reported offences per 1,000 population (200 offences), and there have been 61 fewer offences compared to the previous equivalent period last year. This is a reduction of 23.4% on the previous year.
- **Vehicle crime (excluding interference)** is higher at 4.22 reported offences per 1,000 population (108 offences), and there have been 10 more offences compared to the previous equivalent period last year. This is an increase of 10.2%.
- **Theft or unauthorised taking of a vehicle** is higher at 0.73 reported offences per 1,000 population (31 offences), this is 16 more offences compared to the previous equivalent period last year. This is an increase of 6.7%.

- **Theft (other than vehicle) and Handling Stolen Goods** is lower at 12.31 reported offences per 1,000 population (369 offences), this is 47 fewer offences compared to the previous equivalent period last year. This is an decrease of 11.3%.
- **Drug offences** are lower at 2.46 reported offences per 1,000 population (33 offences), this represents 50% fewer offences in comparison to the previous equivalent period last year (33 offences).

Serious sexual offences remain stable at 1.38 reported offences per 1,000 population (30 offences), this is only 1 more offence compared to the previous equivalent period last year (an increase of 3.4%).

Positive outcomes - the latest figures available for total notifiable offences [TNO] in Runnymede are: a 13.9% positive outcome rate (detection rate) for between 1 April 2016 and 31 July and a positive outcome rate of 19.33% over the year between 1 August 2015 and 31 July 2016.

2.5 Serious and organised crime (SOC) and Organised Crime Groups (OCGs).

Community Safety Partnership Boards coordinate joint work by the Police and Partner Agencies against serious and organised crime (SOC) and Organised Crime Groups (OCGs). It is understood that the police cannot deal with serious and organised crime alone, and that an effective local response depends on relationships and information sharing between law enforcement agencies and government departments, regulators, local authorities, the voluntary sector and private sector. Partners will identify and share with Surrey Police information on any groups or individuals they consider to be criminally active in their area.

2.6 Anti-Social Behaviour

Both Surrey Police and Runnymede Borough Council receive and log reports of anti-social behaviour. In 2015-16 the Police recorded a fall in reported incidents in the borough, and RBC saw a small drop in reports compared to the previous year, but because of ongoing concerns about the persistence of fly-tipping incidents and the cost of dealing with them, it has been agreed that there will be a concerted campaign to deter this behaviour (linked to a county-wide initiative) in 2016-17.

In addition to online and telephone reporting, the neighbourhood police team held two evening Facebook panels, with input from partners, which enabled real-time discussion with local Facebook users about areas of local concern.

Safer Runnymede priorities

- 4.1 The Safer Runnymede Partnership meets four times per annum and has representation from the County Council (the Community Partnership and Committee Officer and nominated Local Committee councillor); Surrey Fire and Rescue Service is represented in its own right. The Partnership is currently chaired by the Head of Community Services at Runnymede Borough Council (line manager for the community safety officer).
- 4.2 The Partnership reports to the Local Committee annually and welcomes members' views on its objectives and activities.

- 4.3 Surrey County Council's Children's Safeguarding Board is the lead agency for Child Sexual Exploitation across the Boroughs. The role of the CSP is to offer a multi-agency response and support the Missing and Exploited Children's Conference (MAECC)/Oversight Group tackling and preventing CSE within Runnymede. The CSP has highlighted CSE as a key priority.
- 4.4 Further information about Runnymede Borough Council's 24 hour control centre and CCTV monitoring can be found in **Annex 1**.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 In 2015/16 £3,337 was transferred to the CSP from the Local Committee for local community safety work. This funding was used predominantly for crime prevention and information materials. SafetyNet is a case management system which enables agencies to share information about individuals coming to notice because of anti-social behaviour, for example as part of the CIAG agenda:

Activity/Resource/Project	Cost ££
DA Awareness Week promotional materials	370
Junior Citizen: transport costs for school children	500
2015 Community Safety Plan booklets	334
Membership and subscriptions	350
Fly-tipping "CCTV in operation" signs	75
SafetyNet database costs for partnership working on case management	1,516
Timers for "Candlelight" burglary deterrent x300	519

Table 2: Finance – expenditure 2015-16 (Surrey County Council contribution: £3,294.)

- 5.3 The Partnership also accessed further funding from the Police and Crime Commissioners' Office (PCCO) for Junior Citizen (£6,000) and also for mobile CCTV (£3,000) to combat fly tipping, and £10,000 in Prevent grant from the Home Office for activities co-ordinated county-wide by Surrey County Council.

6. CONCLUSION

The Local Committee is asked to:

- i) Note the work of the Community Safety Partnership.

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Consulted

Safer Runnymede Partnership members

Annexes: 1: Community Safety and Safer Runnymede Annual Report 2015-16

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