



Resident Experience Board

22 September 2016

Surrey Community Safety Board

Purpose of the report: The Police and Justice Act 2006 requires local authorities to undertake annual scrutiny of Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs). Subsequent guidance suggests, but does not mandate that in two tier authority areas district/borough and county councils should work together to develop a collaborative approach to the scrutiny of community safety issues.

In Surrey, district and borough councils fulfil the duty to scrutinise local community safety partnership plans. The County Council's Resident Experience Board will therefore scrutinise the work of the overarching strategic Community Safety Board (CSB).

Following a review of the scrutiny of community safety in 2015 the Chairman of the Residents Experience Board was provided with options, based on the priorities of the Community Safety Board, to choose a single issue that could be explored in greater depth. This year, that issue will be Anti Social Behaviour, paying particular interest in how work at the county strategic level translates into local delivery and the provision of better outcomes for the residents of Surrey.

This paper sets out the current responsibilities of the County Community Safety Board and informs the Committee of current county-wide priorities and activity that has taken place to address them during 2015/16.

Introduction

1. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as amended by the Police Reform Act 2002 and the Police and Justice Act 2006, requires responsible authorities named under the Act to work together, alongside the community and voluntary sector to develop and implement strategies for reducing crime and disorder in their area. The responsible authorities are:
 - District and Borough Councils
 - County Councils
 - Police
 - Fire & Rescue Service
 - Probation Service
 - Clinical Commissioning Groups

2. In much of the County the Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) are district and borough boundary based. However, Reigate & Banstead, Tandridge and Mole Valley have merged to create the East Surrey Community Safety Partnership
3. In two tier authority areas, there is a requirement to have a county-level strategy group to add value and co-ordinate county-wide activity on common themes. In Surrey, the multi agency Community Safety Board fulfils this role and is chaired by the Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey. Community Safety Board membership and Terms of Reference is provided in **Annex 1**.
4. The Community Safety Board is administered by the Surrey County Council Community Safety Team who routinely develop and progress work in furtherance of their priorities. The Board works closely with other county wide boards to ensure effective strategic join up, including: Surrey Safeguarding Children Board, Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board.
5. A diagram showing the structure of community safety delivery is provided in **Annex 2**.

Formulation and implementation of Strategy

6. Each CSP is required to prepare a full strategic assessment every three years, which is refreshed annually, and to then develop and implement an annual partnership plans to address those issues identified in the assessment.
7. Surrey County Council's Community Safety Team produces a Strategic Assessment on behalf of the local Community Safety Partnerships and the county Community Safety Board.
8. The Strategic Assessment comprises an overview that informs the priorities of the Community Safety Board, and local chapters to inform district and borough partnership plans. The latest strategic assessment can be viewed here:
<http://www.surreycommunitysafety.org.uk/community-safety-in-surrey/single-strategic-assessment/>

Information Sharing

9. Confident and effective information exchange is the key to multi-agency crime reduction work. When conducted appropriately it reveals a more accurate picture of what is going on and enables more effective interventions and outcomes. During 2015/16, Surrey County Council's Community Safety Team worked with community safety partners across the county to review and re-launch the Surrey Crime & Disorder Information Sharing Protocol. The new protocol was agreed and is now published on the Community Safety website: <http://www.surreycommunitysafety.org.uk/information-sharing/>
10. In support of this new protocol, the Community Safety Team are now working with colleagues in Surrey County Council's Legal Services and the Training Delivery Team to develop a universal information sharing e-learning course that will be available to both Surrey County Council and community safety partners.

The Priorities of the county-wide Community Safety Board

11. Annually the Board reviews and sets its county wide community safety priorities. Each of these priorities is, in turn, managed by a coordinating group who have a strategy and an action plan to deliver their priority. Outlined below are the 2015-16 priorities along with a brief description of the notable areas of work undertaken during the past year.

Anti Social Behaviour

12. See in-depth report in **Annex 3**

Domestic Abuse

13. Work to tackle domestic abuse in Surrey is framed by the multi-agency Domestic Abuse Strategy 2013 – 18 which in turn is underpinned by annual action plans. Examples of the work delivered as a result of the strategy and action plans over the past two to three years' include services for children experiencing domestic abuse in the home, the implementation of domestic violence protection notices and orders (DVPN/O's), a domestic abuse checklist for Children, Schools & Families staff, the piloting of the 'IRIS' project whereby GP's are assisted in the identification of people experiencing domestic abuse and someone within the practice to who they can refer the individual for support and assistance

14. Domestic Homicide Reviews

Since the introduction of Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) in 2011, five of the 11 borough/district Community Safety Partnerships have undertaken a DHR. In total, 12 DHRs have been initiated in Surrey - six have been concluded. Between them, the reports have identified over 60 recommendations.

15. In July 2015 the Community Safety Board asked Surrey County Council's Community Safety Team to draw together the reports' recommendations, actions taken, and the lessons learned from Domestic Homicide Reviews. As part of their discussions the Community Safety Board expressed a desire:

- For a county-wide process to capture and disseminate the learning and good practise from Domestic Homicide Reviews
- To develop closer links with both the Children and Adults Safeguarding Boards, to share the learning from the DHRs and from the reviews that they oversee and to disseminate the learning to influence and improve practice by practitioners, and
- That DHR actions are tracked at a county level more effectively

16. In line with its terms of reference, it was proposed that the Community Safety Board has an oversight role for all Domestic Homicide Reviews in the county, including:

- The general status and progress of DHRs and their recommendations
- Quality assurance of the actions and their delivery
- Seeking longitudinal evidence of change of practice, policy or procedure
- Capturing and disseminating the lessons learnt across all Domestic Homicide Reviews in the county

17. Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme

Also in July 2015, the Community Safety Board agreed to the scoping of a Domestic Abuse perpetrator scheme for Surrey, their likely costs and the options for running a scheme, after a national report highlighted feedback from victims that working with the perpetrator can reduce the harm. Subsequently the Board established a task and finish group to develop a scheme in Surrey.

18. There are several areas in the country beginning to work with perpetrators and Surrey joined with the Government Transformation Network in tracking the emerging evidence.

19. The agreed proposal was to establish a pilot scheme throughout Surrey. This allows for a consistent county-wide approach, reducing the potential for reputational harm to organisations that could arise from applying a post code constraint to risk management considerations.

20. A service specification was written, a tendering process undertaken and a contract awarded to the successful applicant in July 2016. The service will go live in October 2016.

Prevent (Counter Terrorism)

21. The Counter Terrorism and Security Act received Royal Assent on 12 February 2015 and states that 'specified authorities must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.' In Surrey the strategic lead for this activity is the Community Safety Board.

22. The operational lead for the coordination of local partners in actively preventing people from being drawn into terrorism is the Community Safety Team of the County Council.

23. Key work areas that have followed include:

- Creation of a Prevent Partnership Group and appropriate governance mechanisms involving a wide range of public sector providers across the County.
- Agreement and publication of a [Prevent Strategy](#) for Surrey
- Responding to Channel Panel referrals and subsequent follow-up work
- Ensuring that all partners have Prevent plans in place along with monitoring and evaluation processes
- Development of three Prevent Forums, aligned with the Channel Panels across the county. These will meet more frequently and involve more practitioners than the Prevent Partnership Group.
- Work to develop practical and effective links with Safeguarding Boards and the safeguarding agenda.

24. During April/May 2016 the County Council's Community Safety Team commissioned and delivered 34 half day sessions of Prevent awareness training across Surrey to district, borough and county council staff, and to County Councillors, reaching in excess of 650 individuals. Going forward, briefing sessions are being offered and booked for district and borough Councillors, a Prevent 'train the trainer' session is planned to take place in

November 2016 and the Home Office Prevent E-Learning Package has been made available on the [Surrey Skills Academy](#) website.

25. The Health and Wellbeing Board for Surrey regularly shares reports with the Community Safety Board on overarching and shared agendas, these are:

Substance Misuse

26. The Surrey Substance Misuse Partnership provides to the Health & Wellbeing Board quarterly reports on changes or updates in legislation, new initiatives and performance data for the substance misuse treatment system these are shared with the Community Safety Board.

27. Of particular note this year was the introduction of The Psychoactive Substances Act, which received Royal Assent on 28 January 2016. The act applies across the UK and came into force on 26 May 2016. The Act makes it illegal to produce, supply, import or export any psychoactive substance that is likely to be used to get high. The Act is intended to tackle the production and supply of substances more commonly referred to as 'Legal Highs'.

Mental Health

28. A shared key issue is mental health particularly in relation to policing and services in the community with achievements to date including, but are not limited to:

- 5 safe haven cafes now open across Surrey (from April 2016)
- Mental Health Peer support workers in place
- Reduction of Section 136¹ people taken into police custody down to only 3% of the figure from previous years
- Conveying of people on Section 136 by ambulance introduced
- Review and refresh of protocols and improved working between Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Trust, Police, NHS England 111 helpline, Ambulance
- Crisis provision for children and adolescents extended (HOPE)
- Mental health staff pilot in police call centres expanded to a 7 night service

29. On the 13 October 2016, the second Anti Social Behaviour Practitioner's Forum will take place, its key theme will be Mental Health, as both a contributing factor in the carrying out of the ASB and how ongoing, persistent ASB can affect the mental health of ASB victims.

New Responsibilities on the Surrey Community Safety Board

30. With each passing year expectations on the Community Safety Board and the local community safety partnerships increases as a result of new legislation, policy and guidance. Outlined below are two areas of new work:

Serious Organised Crime

¹ The police can use Section 136 of the Mental Health Act to take someone, in a public place, they believe has a mental illness and are in need of care to a place of safety.

31. This year there has been particular emphasis on how community safety partners, and in particular borough and district councils, can use the tools and powers available to them to disrupt serious organised crime activity.

32. There is a clear role for local authorities alongside law enforcement agencies to tackle organised crime. The expectation is that they will work in partnership with the police and other agencies to:

- Identify and safeguard vulnerable adults exploited by serious organised crime groups (OCGs)
- Tackle child sexual exploitation, especially where there is clear organised criminality
- Protect communities from cyber enabled crime such as fraud
- Use local regulation and licensing and powers to disrupt OCGs
- Use taxi/PHVs or licensed premises to share essential community intelligence
- Tackle those selling counterfeit or illicit goods which may be linked to a wider, more organised criminality.

33. A police led, multi-agency group has been established to take forward this area of work.

Child Sexual Exploitation

34. In support the above, Surrey County Council's Community Safety Team worked with Surrey Police to deliver a county-wide conference in February 2016, to:

- Raise awareness of CSE among Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) demonstrating what it is, how you can recognise it and what to do about it
- Provide an opportunity to learn about the new Multi Agency CSE Action Plan
- Let CSPs know about MAECCs (Missing And Exploited Children's Conference) and their role in protecting victims of CSE
- Explore how CSPs can help disrupt activity linked to CSE through the use of existing tools and powers
- Provide a networking opportunity for CSPs and safeguarding professionals working to tackle CSE

35. Since this event, local authority representatives are now working with the Safeguarding Children Board to progress work in this area, including training for taxi drivers and operators on CSE awareness, improving intelligence gathering and information sharing on CSE and the proactive use of local authority powers to disrupt CSE related activity.

Conclusions:

36. The two tier arrangements in Surrey provide an excellent opportunity to identify common themes and work collaboratively across the county where appropriate, whilst maintaining the ability of district/borough based Community Safety Partnerships to develop bespoke responses to address the needs of their local communities.

37. Despite continuing reductions in public funding and staff available to deliver and support community safety partnership work, Surrey continues to benefit from low levels of crime and increasingly effective partnership working has played a key role in this achievement.

38. The Community Safety Board continues to achieve improvements in county wide strategic join-up and service delivery on cross cutting issues across CSPs and county partners, particularly Domestic Abuse, Prevent and Anti Social Behaviour and the developing new work streams on Serious Organised Crime and, in particular, Child Sexual Exploitation. This is despite the fact that no statutory authority exists that allows the county Community Safety Board to either directly task or hold local Community Safety Partnerships to account. The Surrey community safety team delivers for the Community Safety Board work that provides a county wide approach which district and borough community safety partnerships can utilise.
39. The Community Safety Board, at its meeting in December 2016, will be reviewing its priorities and setting new ones for 2017 that reflect the crime and disorder issues for the County and new and emerging legislation.
40. Work delivered by the Community Safety Board and local Community Safety Partnerships contributes significantly to improvements in resident experience and ensuring they stay safe.

Recommendations:

41. Members are asked to:

- a) Note the progress made since last year, particularly against a setting of increased responsibility, coupled with continuing reductions in resources available to undertake community safety work.

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Annexes:

- Annex 1 Community Safety Board membership and Terms of Reference
- Annex 2 Community Safety Delivery Structure
- Annex 3 Anti Social Behaviour in-depth Report

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