

**SPELTHORNE BOROUGH COUNCIL AND
SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**



SPELTHORNE JOINT COMMITTEE

DATE: 17 July 2017

LEAD OFFICER: Keith McGroary, Community Safety Manager, Spelthorne Borough Council

SUBJECT: Community Safety Partnership Update

AREA(S) AFFECTED: ALL

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

Section 17 of The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a requirement on all local authorities to consider crime and disorder in all the services it provides:

This report updates the Joint Committee on the joint work carried out by the Spelthorne Safer Stronger Partnership - SSSP (statutorily known as the Community Safety Partnership), which may be partly funded by SCC contributions upon successful application by the Partnership.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Spelthorne Joint Committee is asked to note:

- (i) The contents of the report.
- (ii) The details of the Performance Overview and Performance Data 2016 – 2017 (Annex A).
- (iii) The 2017 – 2020 Partnership Plan (Annex B);
- (iv) The Joint Enforcement Team Performance (Annex C)

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

This report presents the Partnership Plan for 2017 - 2020 and the latest Performance Report of the SSSP 2016 - 2017. This item is for information only.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

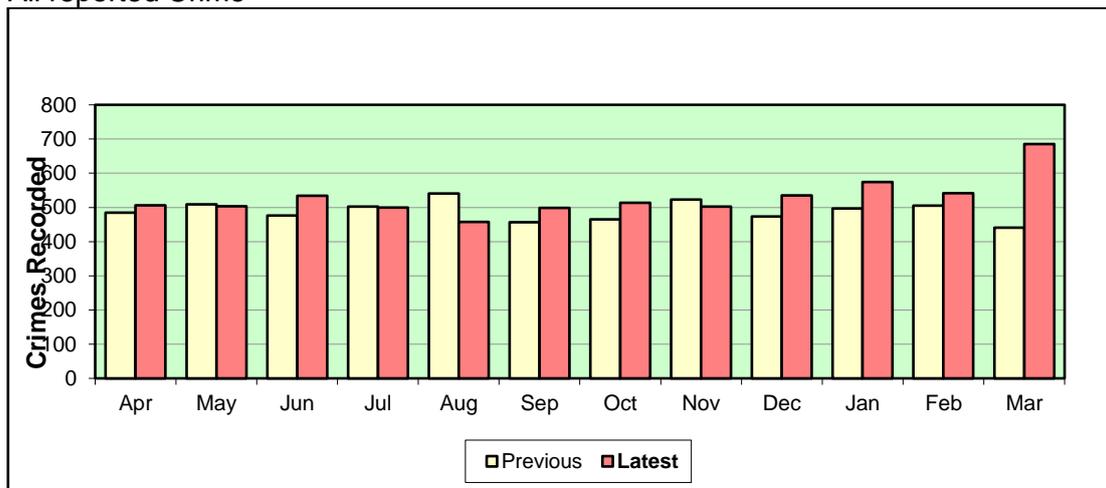
- 1.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and subsequent legislation place a requirement on Surrey County Council to consider crime and disorder in all the services it provides.

- 1.2 Surrey County Council is one of the statutory “responsible authorities” of the local Community Safety Partnership (or CSP, known locally as the Spelthorne Safer and Stronger Partnership), and is required to work with partners to improve community safety and reduce crime and disorder.
- 1.3 The Partnership uses a wide range of methods to engage with the local community. These have included meetings such as, PCC Crime Summit and written forms of engagement such as surveys, newsletters and websites.
- 1.4 The Partnership has produced a Performance Update for 2016 – 2017 and a 2017 – 2020 Partnership Plan and which are attached as Annexes ‘A’ and ‘B’ to this report.

2. ANALYSIS:

- 2.1 Over the last 3 years there has been a steady reduction in the number of crimes committed in the Borough; however for the 2016-17 financial year, there has been a marked increase with regards to recorded crimes.
- 2.2 The general trend nationally has been upwards, this has at least in part attributed to the changing of police recording requirements which has resulted in reports that may have not been previously recorded as now being recorded.

All reported Crime



- 2.3 As police resources are depleted due to cuts in funding, particularly around the number of PCSO’s, there is a growing expectation that the Local Authority and other Partners take even more involvement with low-level ASB issues. Spelthorne, together with Reigate & Banstead have introduced the Joint Enforcement Team over the last 3 years, where a Local Authority uniformed presence of officers accredited by the Chief Constable with similar powers to a PCSO patrol the streets and deal with low level offending behaviour with the ability to issue fixed penalty notices (Annex ‘C’). Community Safety Teams are also becoming increasingly engaged with the police to support appropriate responses and interventions, something that the police seek to encourage and value in the fight to reduce ASB and help our communities feel safe.
- 2.4 Anti-social behaviour has reduced every year for the last 5 years, and this year there has been a further drop of 112 incidents compared with 2015-16. The total number of ASB incidents reported for 2016-17 was 2,568.

www.surreycc.gov.uk/spelthorne

Citizen continues to be rolled out with over 1,000 young people aged 10 years attending the event where they learn about stranger danger, first aid, road and water safety and much more. This is not delivered in many Boroughs in Surrey, but has been a regular annual event for over 10 years in Spelthorne and something we are very proud of.

- 2.5 Spelthorne introduced a Senior Citizen scheme 3 years ago, and has held another successful event at the Greeno Centre in February this year where 37 elderly people attended. There was a focus on bogus officials, computer fraud (identity theft), personal health and well-being and so forth. A further event is planned for later this year and this is now in the annual calendar of events of the Community Safety Team.

3. OPTIONS:

- 3.1 The Committee is asked to note the information provided within the report

4. CONSULTATIONS:

4.1 Consultation takes place on an annual basis to help inform the Community Safety Strategy; the Crime Summit held by the Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) was a key means of carrying out surveys with the local community. The Crime Summit is no longer being held by the new PCC, so the Spelthorne Community Safety Partnership will be holding a public meeting in September or October this year where the consultation will continue. The provision of the Community Safety Strategy is a statutory requirement.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 Resources for the Spelthorne Safer Stronger Partnership are prioritised as part of this action planning process. The Partnership is determined to make best use of its available resources.
- 5.2 There are no government grants or allocated funding from the PCC to support CSPs with revenue funding to support posts, this is a challenge experienced across most of England and Wales. Research with Surrey CSPs show that there has been a loss of some posts across the county coupled with other posts becoming mainstreamed council positions.
- 5.3 In the case of Spelthorne the Community Safety Team has been restructured. There are now 2 Community Safety Officers who between them cover reports of neighbour disputes, anti-social behaviour, CCTV cameras and much more. There is also a Community Safety Manager who covers this function as 50% of his role.
- 5.4 With budgets to CSPs from Government sources cut, and the financial burden often falling to local authorities who themselves are facing significant financial cuts, Spelthorne Community Safety Partnership (CSP) has been pro-active in seeking financial support from businesses within the Borough to deliver Partnership activities and community safety work. Previously the Partnership received funding of £21k a year from A2 Dominion Housing (A2D), £3,000 a year from BP and £27k from, Spelthorne Council. This year the contribution from A2D is £5k and SBC contribute £10k. However SBC will no longer claim back salaries paid for Community Safety Officers of £43k,

but instead will absorb this into the Council's budget therefor relieving the Partnership of this annual revenue cost.

- 5.5 In June 2017 the Spelthorne Safer Stronger Partnership have a healthy budget for the year of £68k, and there are no revenue costs.

6. WIDER IMPLICATIONS:

6.1

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Crime and Disorder	Set out within this document
Equality and Diversity	No significant implications
Localism (including community involvement and impact)	No significant implications
Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)	No significant implications
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	No significant implications
Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults	No significant implications
Public Health	No significant implications

7. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 7.1 Surrey County Council is required by legislation to consider crime and disorder in all the services it provides. In Spelthorne, the County Council is a 'responsible authority' of the Community Safety Partnership.
- 7.2 Together with key local partners, the CSP has been working to tackle crime and disorder in the Borough, focusing on key priorities within the Partnership Plan.
- 7.3 That this report be noted

8. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- 8.1 The Joint Committee is invited to receive further updates, as desired.

Contact Officer:

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Consulted:

Not for the purposes of this report

Annexes:

'A' Performance Report
'B' 2017-2020 Partnership Plan
'C' Joint Enforcement Team (JET) Performance

Background papers:

Community safety Partnership minutes
