



Communities Select Committee

8 February 2018

Annual Scrutiny of 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. Surrey County Council's Communities Select Committee will therefore scrutinise the work of the overarching strategic Community Safety Board (CSB).

The Chairman of the Communities Select Committee is asked, 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 Surrey's Prevent Strategy which will be considered fully by the Communities Select Committee at its meeting in September 2018.

This paper sets out the responsibilities of the Community Safety Board and informs the Committee of county-wide priorities and activity that has taken place to address them during 2016/17.

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 and Rescue Service
 - Probation Service
 - Clinical Commissioning Groups

2. In much of the county, Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) are district and borough boundary based. However, Reigate and Banstead, Tandridge, Mole Valley and Epsom and Ewell 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. The Community Safety Board Strategic Plan for 2017-19 is provided in **Annex 1**.
4. The Community Safety Board is administered by Surrey County Council's (SCC) 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. The membership of the Community Safety Board is provided in the Terms of Reference attached as **Annex 2** to this report.

<h3>Formulation and implementation of Strategy</h3>

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 plan to address those issues identified in the assessment.
7. SCC's Community Safety Team produces a Strategic Assessment on behalf of the local CSPs and Surrey's Community Safety Board.
8. Production of the 2017-18 Strategic Assessment took a slightly different approach to that used previously, following a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) format for the first time. The strategic assessment and JSNA processes are virtually identical, so a community safety JSNA chapter satisfies the requirement to produce a county strategic assessment.
9. The JSNA process itself was revised to take a 'life-course' approach and takes into consideration the harms caused, rather than focussing purely on volume issues. This suited the aims of the strategic assessment perfectly given the significant reductions in volume crimes and the need to focus attention on repeat and vulnerable victims. In addition, rather than the chapter being a data dump for everything partners know on community safety, it will be structured to provide a narrative on key strategic issues, linking to data and resources that already exist wherever possible (hosted by Surrey-i and Tableau).
10. The chapter, published at <https://www.surreyi.gov.uk/grouppage.aspx?groupid=36>, covers the following priorities:
 - Anti-Social Behaviour
 - Child Sexual Exploitation
 - Cyber Crime
 - Domestic Abuse
 - Modern Slavery, which includes Human Trafficking
 - Serious and Organised Crime

The Priorities of the county-wide Community Safety Board

11. Annually, the Community Safety Board reviews and sets its county wide community safety priorities. Each of these priorities is, in turn, managed by a coordinating group which has a strategy and an action plan to deliver their priority.

12. Tier one priorities for action:

- Prevent
- Domestic Abuse
- Serious Organised Crime

13. Tier two areas of oversight:

- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Mental Health Crisis Care
- Resilience
- Substance Misuse
- Re-Offending
- Road Safety
- Cyber Crime

14. The following paragraphs give a brief description of the notable areas of work undertaken during the past year on the Community Safety Board's tier one priorities for action:

Prevent

15. See in-depth report in **Annex 3** (this report was originally produced as a case study for the June 2017 Community Safety Board).

Domestic Abuse

16. 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 last year include:

- work to design a single commissioning framework for specialist domestic abuse support;
- development of the pilot perpetrator scheme;
- awareness raising through support of the White Ribbon campaign and achieving White Ribbon status;
- launching the new Surrey Against DA website;
- evidencing delivery through Refuge services

17. Domestic Homicide Reviews

In line with its terms of reference, it was proposed that the Community Safety Board has an oversight role for all Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) 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; and
- capturing and disseminating the lessons learnt across all DHRs in the county.

18. 14 DHRs have been initiated in Surrey since being established on a statutory basis under Section 9 of the Domestic Violence Crime and Victims Act (2004). Although there are 14 reviews, the homicides they relate to actually total 16 victims. The location (borough and district), and date, of these homicides is:

- Surrey Heath, August 2011
- Waverley, October 2011
- Guildford, March 2012
- Surrey Heath, December 2012
- Guildford, August 2013
- Waverley, February 2014
- Waverley, February 2015
- Elmbridge, June 2015
- Reigate and Banstead, June 2015
- Waverley, October 2015
- Elmbridge, May 2016
- Reigate and Banstead, June 2016
- Reigate and Banstead, January 2017
- Waverley, October 2017

19. The report in **Annex 4** shows the current status of all 14, but six have been published and are available on borough and district council websites.

20. The Surrey Community Safety Team manages a list of recommendations from DHRs, identifying common themes across the county to support their implementation and aid learning. The most common themes found in recommendations are:

- Record keeping
- Risk assessment
- Information sharing
- Identification of domestic abuse
- Organisational policy

21. A learning event was held on the 11 January to review best practice when undertaking domestic homicide reviews, what is taking place in Surrey and how learning can be better shared. The event was coordinated by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and a full report from the event is due soon.

22. Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme

The Surrey Community Safety Team, in partnership with Surrey Police and Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey, managed to raise some funding to establish an eighteen month pilot project to work with the perpetrators of domestic abuse. The project is being delivered by the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company (KSS CRC) following a successful tendering process.

23. Domestic Abuse Commissioning

SafeLives, a national domestic abuse charity, has been working alongside the DA Commissioning Group, a sub-group of the DA Management Board, since early 2017 to undertake a strategic needs analysis of domestic abuse for Surrey.

The needs analysis sets out the national and local strategic context of domestic abuse, its prevalence and its legislative background. The report reviews the level of need across Surrey to provide an understanding of the commissioning and funding required and maps the current domestic abuse provision for children, young people and families. The report also includes the findings from a programme of co-production workshops with victims/survivors, children/young people, statutory and specialist services designed to seek the views of these stakeholders.

This analysis phase of the project concluded in November with the publication of the Domestic Abuse Overview Report: Need and Provision in Surrey. The executive summary of this report is attached as **Annex 5** to this report.

The DA Commissioning Group will, using the findings of the work produced by SafeLives, now focus on the commissioning of domestic abuse services for Surrey with the aim that there are services in place for 2019.

Serious Organised Crime

24. The Government's Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) Strategy was published in October 2013 and puts a responsibility on Police and Crime Commissioners to help establish new local partnership arrangements to help tackle serious and organised crime. Through the strategy, the Home Office seeks to create arrangements that enable police forces to better engage with local partners, particularly those holding law enforcement powers in intelligence-sharing and tasking to disrupt and pursue those involved in serious and organised crime. The approach intends to capitalise on the fact that other public bodies, particularly local authorities, will often unknowingly have an interest in or hold information on individuals involved in SOC due to other, and often seemingly unconnected, low-level offences those individuals also commit. For example, anti-social behaviour and benefit fraud.

25. Surrey Police has established a county-wide partnership group to tackle SOC. The Surrey SOC Partnership Delivery Group, launched in March 2017, has met on three occasions and has drawn up an action plan and agreed priorities for the next three to six months, these include:

- a) implementing an improved intelligence sharing framework between all agencies to inform joint / single agency activity;
- b) developing a bench marking of data held by all agencies at the start of SOC operations so we can measure impact across all partners;
- c) raising awareness to increase knowledge and understanding across all agencies, starting with local authority departments, including Joint Enforcement Teams; and
- d) creating a brand / strapline recognised by all, including the public, that promotes joint agency operational activity under the Prevent, Protect Prepare and Pursue approach.

26. Serious Organised Crime Partnership Coordinator Post

A SOC Partnership (Prevent) Officer's post has been advertised, interviews held in mid-December, an appointment made, subject to security clearance, with the post holder starting in January/February 2018.

27. Child Sexual Exploitation

SCC's Community Safety Team have worked closely with the Surrey Safeguarding Children Board and district and borough community safety managers to strengthen the partnership response to Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE).

A new framework is now in place formalising the role played by district and borough Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) with regards to the disruption of known or suspected perpetrators of CSE. This work will be delivered through local multi agency Community Harm and Risk Management meetings (CHaRMM).

The expectation is that CHaRMMs will complement the work of the Police CSE Teams, taking action to address any associated anti-social behaviour of known or suspected perpetrators of CSE or to assist in the gathering of additional intelligence. The safeguarding of children at risk of or experiencing CSE remains the responsibility of weekly CSE Risk Management Meetings, managed and chaired by SCC's Children's Social Care services.

Child Sexual Exploitation – Disruption a Briefing for CHaRMM Members is provided in **Annex 6**.

Conclusions:

28. 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 CSPs to develop bespoke responses to address the needs of their local communities.
29. 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.
30. 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. This is despite the fact that no statutory authority exists that allows the county Community Safety Board to either directly task or hold local CSPs to account. SCC's Community Safety Team delivers for the Community Safety Board work that provides a county wide approach which district and borough CSPs can utilise.
31. The Community Safety Board, at its meeting in December 2017, will be reviewing its priorities and setting new ones for 2018 that reflect the crime and disorder issues for the county and new and emerging legislation.

32. Work delivered by the Community Safety Board and local CSPs contribute significantly to improvements in resident experience and ensuring they stay safe.

Recommendations:

33. It is recommended that the Communities Select Committee 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 Strategic Plan 2017-19

Annex 2: Community Safety Board Terms of Reference

Annex 3: Prevent report

Annex 4: Domestic Homicide Review status update

Annex 4: Executive Summary of Domestic Abuse Overview Report: Need and Provision in Surrey

Annex 5: Child Sexual Exploitation – Disruption a Briefing for CHaRMM Members

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