

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



**DATE: 23 SEPTEMBER 2019**

**LEAD OFFICER: PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE OFFICER**

**SUBJECT: REPRESENTATION ON TASK GROUPS AND EXTERNAL BODIES**

**DIVISION: ALL**

**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

This report seeks to evaluate the need to set up task groups in view of the current transformation work being carried out by the Committee.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**The Joint Committee (Runnymede) is asked to agree:**

- (i) To appoint the vice-chairman to represent the Committee on the Community Safety Partnership as set out in their terms of reference.
- (ii) To dispense with the establishment of the Committee's task groups
- (iii) To suspend representation to the Early Help Board until their review has been completed.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

It is customary for the Joint Committee to appoint representatives to their task groups and external bodies at the beginning of the municipal year. However, in line with the County's "Community Vision for 2030" and the Borough Council's own partnership working initiatives, Committee members are examining whether task groups are currently the best way to tackle key issues such as parking.

Therefore it is suggested that the Committee considers the role of task groups as part of the current transformation work and re-visits them should it be appropriate in the future.

The current status of each area of work has been set out in the analysis and the Terms of Reference for each group and external body has been attached as appendix 1.

**1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:**

- 1.1 Joint committee task groups are established at the start of each municipal year. Membership of each task group is nominated and decided by councillors of the Joint Committee.
- 1.2 Representation on external bodies is similarly decided and is reviewed and agreed by joint committee members annually.
- 1.3 In view of the Committee's desire to re-evaluate its role, it is suggested that the formation of task groups is put on hiatus whilst this is undertaken.

**2. ANALYSIS:**

- 2.1 In previous years, the Committee has established the following task groups
- 2.2 **Parking Task Group**
- 2.3 The On Street Parking Task Group meets at least once a year and formally reports to the Joint Committee annually providing information such as:
  - On street parking enforcement - reviewing existing restrictions and considering proposals for new ones.
  - Financial information including an overview of the income and expenditure for the on street parking account (and any recommendations for the use of surplus income if relevant).
  - The Terms of Reference have been revised to include officers from both the borough and county council as well as to allow membership to external parties with an interest in the areas under discussion.
- 2.4 Setting up the task group would add to officers' work load and additional meetings to the task group members' diaries.
- 2.5 As the Runnymede Parking Review is already underway, establishing a task group at this stage would have limited impact on the outcome.
- 2.6 **Royal Holloway College / Englefield Green parking group**

A report was brought to committee last September detailing a consultation which was held in the area to gather residents' views on a proposal to implement a Controlled Parking Zone. The data gathered was insufficient to support this proposal at this time and it was recommended that the group suggest alternative parking measures going forward at their autumn meeting.

- 2.7 It is recognised that the pressure on parking still exists and may be exacerbated should there be an increase in student accommodation or any significant property developments.
- 2.8 Members are monitoring the parking situation and continue to liaise with the local community. Should there be changes in the circumstances or a solution presents itself, the group can reconvene on an adhoc basis.

### **2.9 Runnymede Early Help Advisory Board**

- 2.10 Early Help Advisory Boards (EHAB) were set up in 2017, as part of the county council's Early Help offer and at that time two members of the area Local/Joint Committee were appointed to each local board. Membership of the EHAB was previously reviewed on an annual basis along with LC/JC member representation on task groups and other external bodies.
- 2.11 In February 2019 the county council replaced Early Help with its new Family Resilience practice model and consequently the role of the EHABs is currently under review.
- 2.12 It is recommended therefore that Joint Committee representation should be addressed once the review has been completed.

### **2.13 Resident Engagement Task Group**

- 2.14 At the meeting of the Joint Committee in September 2018, it was agreed that a Resident Engagement Group was to be established to look at the increasing public engagement.
- 2.15 A county-wide review of the joint and local committees, conducted last year showed there was a broader appetite for public engagement and a recommendation was made to expand the purview of the committees to facilitate this.
- 2.16 Building on this and recognising the strong track record of locality partnership working in the county, discussions have started with the Leaders of Surrey's district and borough councils and the Chairmen of the Local and Joint Committees on what future locality partnerships could look like.

It is also recognised that Runnymede Borough Council has included matters relating to the Joint Committee as part of the remit of their External Relations and Infrastructure working group.

- 2.17 The Committee is also currently internally reviewing its approach to communications and public engagement.
- 2.18 In view of the changing landscape for partnership working and in reflection of the opportunity presented by the borough's working group, the recommendation is that the establishment of the Resident Engagement Task Group should not go ahead this year.

**2.19 Runnymede Community Safety Partnership (CSP)**

2.20 This is an external body to which the Joint Committee is request to agree the appointment of a county member (currently residing as either chair or vice-chair) to represent the Committee.

2.21 At the last meeting, the Committee agreed to hold £3,000 of funding for community safety projects and invited the CSP to put forward their proposals for projects it could be used against.

2.22 As this funding is currently unallocated, representation on the CSP could help to ensure this funding is utilised effectively.

2.23 The Terms of Reference are attached to this report as Annex 1

**3. OPTIONS:**

3.1 The Committee can agree with the recommendations set out in the report.. Alternatively, it can establish new task groups, or reconvene previous task groups. If a new task group is established, provisional terms of reference should be agreed.

3.2 The committee can either make the appointments to external bodies, as set out within the report, or amend these appointments.

**4. CONSULTATIONS:**

4.1 Joint committee member views are being sought on the nominations for representatives on external bodies and on the membership of joint committee task groups.

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

5.1 None.

**6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:**

6.1 There are no direct equalities or diversity implications. However, through its membership of external bodies, the County Council can help to ensure that local services are accessible to harder to reach groups.

**7. LOCALISM:**

7.1 Membership of task groups and representation on external bodies allows local councillors to consider, recommend and influence policies and services in response to local residents' needs.

<b>8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:</b>
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<b>Area assessed:</b>	<b>Direct Implications:</b>
Crime and Disorder	Set out overleaf.
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.

#### 8.1 Crime and Disorder implications

The County Council's membership of local CSPs helps ensure the achievement of its community safety priorities.

<b>9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>
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- 9.1 The Committee is asked to consider the membership of Task Groups and appointments to outside bodies.

<b>10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:</b>
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- 10.1 The relevant bodies and officers supporting Task Groups will be notified of the names of those members appointed

**Contact Officer:**

Carys Walker, Partnership Committee Officer, Telephone 01932 794081

**Consulted:**

Joint committee members.

**Appendices: Runnymede Community Safety Partnership. Terms of Reference.**

**Sources/background papers:**

**Runnymede Joint Committee June 2019, REPRESENTATION ON TASK GROUPS AND EXTERNAL BODIES**

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