

## SURREY POLICE AND CRIME PANEL 21 NOVEMBER 2022

### PROGRESS AGAINST THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN

#### 1 SUMMARY

1.1 This report sets out the progress made towards achieving the 2021-2025 Police and Crime Plan, published in December last year. The report outlines key areas of progress and sets out proposals to ensure the public have greater access to key performance data concerning both the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Surrey Police.

#### 2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 The PCC published a refreshed Police and Crime Plan in December 2021 covering the period 2021 to 2025.

2.2 The five priorities set out in the 2021-25 plan are as follows:

- Reducing violence against women and girls in Surrey
- Protecting people from harm in Surrey
- Working with Surrey communities so that they feel safe
- Strengthening relationships between Surrey Police and Surrey residents
- Ensuring safer Surrey roads

2.3 The plan is available on the website of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) or in paper copy on request. This report provides an update on how the plan has been met to date, and we would recommend that Panel members also revisit the recently published 2021/22 Annual Report which provides further information.

#### 3.0 PRIORITY 1: REDUCING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SURREY

3.1 **Winner of Tilley Awards 2022:** In October 2022, Surrey Police won the annual Tilley Award, set up by the Home Office in 1999 to celebrate problem-oriented projects that have achieved success in resolving issues faced by the police, partners and/or the community. The award was in recognition of work undertaken to ensure the safety of women and girls using the Basingstoke Canal in Woking, following a number of indecent exposures and suspicious incidents since 2019. Using £175,000 secured by the OPCC, the police, local authority and the Canal Authority have:

- Installed new CCTV cameras to cover the length of the towpath;
- Invested in electronic bikes, allowing officers and volunteers from Canal Watch to patrol the path more effectively;
- Cut down overgrown shrubbery to improve visibility and allow more room for users of the canal to safely pass each other;
- Begun to remove graffiti along the canal, making the area a nicer place to be;
- Invested in signage which promotes early reporting of suspicious incidents, which is due to be installed in the coming weeks.

3.1

**Additional £1million to tackle Violence Against Women and Girls:**

In October 2022 the Commissioner's office secured almost £1million in Government funding to provide a package of support for young people to help combat violence against women and girls in the county. The sum, granted by the Home Office's 'What Works Fund', will be spent on a series of projects designed to build self-confidence in children with the aim of enabling them to live safe and fulfilled lives. At the heart of the new programme is specialist training for teachers delivering Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education at every school in Surrey via the Government's Healthy Schools scheme, which aims to improve the health and wellbeing of pupils. This funding is in addition to the £1.4 million of additional funding secured by the office during 2021/22.

3.2

**New Domestic Abuse & Stalking Perpetrator Schemes:** Complementing local provision for victims, the Commissioner's office introduced a set of new domestic abuse and stalking perpetrator programmes, designed to work with offenders to address problematic and inappropriate behaviours and reduce the risk of further offending. Both Surrey Police and wider partners are now able to refer individuals into these services, and the stalking programme is ensuring that Surrey Police is well placed to meet its duties under the Stalking Protection Act 2019.

3.3

**Partnership Work:** Beyond our commissioning activity, the OPCC has been working closely with partner organisations involved in Domestic Homicide Reviews and Safeguarding Adult Reviews to ensure that staff across all local agencies have a better understanding of the factors that lead to deaths and are better placed to prevent reoccurrences. This coordinated approach is supporting focussed work with older victims, the development of training to improve the ability of staff to identify and escalate risk, and improved engagement with community and faith groups.

4.0

**PROTECTING PEOPLE FROM HARM IN SURREY**

4.1

**Better support for victims:** The Commissioner continues to support the development of the Surrey Police Victim and Witness Care Unit, ensuring that all victims of crime in Surrey have access to high-quality support and advice. The Unit makes proactive contact with around 50,000 victims of crime annually and OPCC staff have worked with Surrey Police to introduce new dedicated Fraud Case Workers and a Stalking Advocate, providing immediate specialist advice with no need for onward referrals to external agencies.

4.2

**Work with schools:** Significant work has been undertaken with Surrey County Council to develop the Surrey Police offer in school, ensuring that key safety messages are embedded in the County's Personal, Social and Health Education

(PSHE) curriculum. Supporting this, the Commissioner's office has been leading on work to re-establish Surrey's Junior Citizen programme – a series of local events that aim to teach valuable life skills that will keep students safe.

- 4.3 New Support for Young People:** Just before Christmas the Commissioner signed a three-year contract worth £390,000 with charity Catch22 to launch a new service for young people at risk of or affected by criminal exploitation in Surrey. The new service offers a combination of creative workshops and tailored one-to-one support to help individuals address the root causes of their vulnerability and ultimately remove themselves from unhealthy situations.

## **5.0 WORKING WITH SURREY COMMUNITIES SO THAT THEY FEEL SAFE**

- 5.1 Improving Burglary Outcomes:** In February the PCC raised concerns over the solve rate of burglaries with the Chief Constable, which at the time was averaging 3.5% across the county. Following a huge effort from the Force, great strides have been made in improving the response to burglary which is now being reflected in performance data. The 12-month rolling average has now increased to 6.6%, with monthly performance reaching over 28% in August.
- 5.2 More Officers & Staff:** Surrey Police have continued to deliver on its commitment to recruit more police officers and staff, investing in key areas such as Neighbourhood Policing Investigation Teams and the rural crime team. This has been an enormous undertaking for the Force against a complicated national backdrop, but progress is being made and momentum maintained.
- 5.2 Community Safety Assemblies:** Recognising that community safety is not just a policing matter and that all local agencies need to work collectively to address resident concerns, the Commissioner has established a bi-annual Community Safety Assembly - bringing together key stakeholders to set strategic aims, address resident concerns and resolve challenges in delivering safer and healthier communities across Surrey.
- 5.3 Tackling ASB:** The PCC's office has a key role to play in the Community Trigger process in the county which is powerful tool to help with persistent ASB problems. It also funds a number of projects including a mediation service which includes a victim coaching service and a number of activities for young people in the county to divert them from criminality. The Joint Enforcement Teams, or JETs, that were set up in a various parts of the county thanks to PCC funding also have an important role to play in tackling ASB across Surrey. The Commissioner marked Anti-Social Behaviour Awareness Week by signing a commitment to continue working closely with partners to tackle issues in Surrey's communities.

## **6.0 STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN SURREY POLICE AND SURREY RESIDENTS**

- 6.1 Launch of Performance Hub:** OPCC believes that residents should have access to key performance data concerning both itself and Surrey Police. We have therefore developed an online Performance Hub to provide the public and stakeholders with convenient access to data in a format that can be easily understood, helping to improve transparency and confidence in local policing.

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- 6.2 **Community Surgeries:** As part of the Commissioner's commitment to enhance the voice of local people in policing the office has established a regular schedule of public surgeries. Held on the first Friday of every month, these one-to-one meetings provide a valuable opportunity for the Commissioner to hear feedback from residents.
  - 6.3 **999 Response Times:** Data released by the Home Office for all forces in the UK shows that, between 1 November 2021 to 30 April 2022, Surrey Police were one of the top ten performing forces for answering 999 calls, with 82% of calls answered within 10 seconds.

## 7.0 ENSURING SAFER SURREY ROADS

- 7.1 **Tackling the Fatal Five:** Surrey police are in the process of establishing a new policing team dedicated to cutting the driving offences that lead to the most death on Surrey roads. Known as "the fatal five offences", the new team will be focussing on combatting careless driving, drink and drug driving, not wearing a seatbelt, using a mobile phone and speeding. The first wave of officers are now in place and the Commissioner's office will continue to monitor progress.

## 8. SUPPORTING OPENNESS & TRANSPARENCY

- 8.1 Appendix 1 provides a summary of the OPCC's new Performance Hub and intended functionality.

## 4. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Police and Crime Panel note the update.

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