

## SURREY POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

### LOCAL POLICING BOARDS AND CRIME SUMMITS

29 November 2013

#### SUMMARY

As part of the PCC's Police and Crime Plan and to meet the People's Priority to 'Give you the opportunity to have a greater say in how your streets are policed', the PCC has set out the following actions:

- Make sure that Surrey Police provides opportunities for everyone to engage about their issues at a neighbourhood level
- Hold an annual Police and Crime Summit, together with the Council Leader and Chief Executive, in each Borough and District where people can come and take part in discussions about police and community safety issues
- Ask local councillors, community safety officers and Surrey Police to formalise current engagement arrangements to ensure that there is a regular Local Policing Board that the public can attend in each Borough and District in Surrey

At the request of the Police and Crime Panel, this report provides more information on how these commitments are being met.

#### CRIME SUMMITS

The PCC's office (OPCC) has engaged with local councils and police partners to ensure that there is a Crime Summit held in every borough and district in Surrey during 2013/14. The current status of these summits is as follows:

- Reigate and Banstead – ran on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2013 by the OPCC at Harlequin Theatre, Redhill. Approximately 60 residents attended.
- Elmbridge - ran on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2013 jointly between the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and the OPCC at the Civic Centre in Esher. Approximately 105 residents attended.
- Spelthorne - ran on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2013 jointly between the CSP and the OPCC at Spelthorne Borough Council. Approximately 70 attended.
- Epsom and Ewell - ran on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2013 at Bourne Hall, Ewell. This was a joint event with the borough council, with an event for volunteers in the

area first, followed by the Crime Summit. About 45 people attended the summit.

- Guildford - to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at G Live. Jointly organised between the OPCC and Guildford Borough Council. Registration is now open. The PCC will be able to update the panel on the 29<sup>th</sup> November on the event and attendance.
- Tandridge – being planned for 17<sup>th</sup> December at Tandridge District Council Chambers. To be hosted by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- Runnymede – being planned for 6<sup>th</sup> February
- Mole Valley – being planned jointly between OPCC and Mole Valley District Council for 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014 at Dorking Halls.
- Waverley – being planned for 11<sup>th</sup> March 2014 by OPCC to be held at Farnham Maltings
- Surrey Heath – being planned for 20<sup>th</sup> March 2014.
- Woking – being planned for end of March 2014.

To date, the Summits have covered a wide-range of topics. The themes coming out of the Summits have been:

- Local anti-social behaviour issues and what Surrey Police and partners are doing to tackle the issues raised
- Anti-social driving/ speeding/ cycling on pavements and speed watch initiatives
- The importance of Neighbourhood Watch and other volunteers in tackling crime and anti-social behaviour
- Burglary prevention

Other issues which have been raised, but not as a theme across the Summits, include:

- The meaning of Zero Tolerance
- Better communication of who neighbourhood officers are
- Better communication of the PCCs plans and actions
- Funding of Surrey Police
- Cyber crime prevention
- Tackling cold calling/ doorstep trading
- PCSO numbers

All Summits have been publicised on the PCC's website, through local media and council websites and promotional material.

## LOCAL POLICING BOARDS

As set out in the plan, the PCC has asked Surrey Police, local councils and Community Safety Partnerships to formalise existing relationships to ensure that there are Local Policing Boards held in each borough and district in Surrey. The PCC has not been directive as to the format, method of engagement used or frequency, but has left it up to those who know their local neighbourhoods best to decide upon and implement the best local approach.

The PCC does not oversee individual boards in detail, but requests updates through his bi-monthly management reports from the Chief Constable. The updates from Surrey Police since the Police and Crime Plan was set are as follows:

### **July 2013:**

*The Local Policing Boards are organised by the local Neighbourhood policing teams, and some have already been held; they are attended by the Neighbourhood Inspector, and partner agencies are invited (table below). Numbers of attendees have varied and again, the Force is working with the PCC's office around structure and feedback mechanisms.*

### Schedule of Local Policing Boards

<i>Borough/District</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Location</i>
Waverley	22 May	12:30	Cranleigh Leisure Centre, Cranleigh
Tandridge	3 Jun	19:00	White Hart Barn, Godstone Green, Godstone
Reigate & Banstead	20 Jun	19:00	Earlswood Baptist Church, Earlswood
Runnymede	25 Jun	18:30	Addlestone Community Centre, Addlestone
Spelthorne	27 Jun	19:30	Greeno Centre, Glebeland Gardens, Shepperton
Elmbridge	10 Jul	19:00	Cobham British Legion, Cobham
Mole Valley	15 Jul	20:00	Charlwood Pavilion, Charlwood
Guildford	16 Jul	19:30	Stoughton Social Club, Guildford
Surrey Heath	16 Jul	19:30	St John the Baptist Church, Windlesham
Woking	25 Jul	19:30	Coign Church, Woking
Mole Valley	2 Sep	19:45	St Nicholas Church Hall, Bookham
Epsom & Ewell	5 Sep	19:00	Epsom and Ewell High School

## September 2013

- *The Epsom and Ewell Neighbourhood Inspector has been holding his fortnightly Facebook online panel meetings at 8pm on every other Tuesday. These have resulted in over 1000 people still viewing the meeting and several residents getting involved and raising what is important to them.*
- *Woking Safer Neighbourhoods Team (SNT) has been continuing their push towards unique engagement events. The Horsell team have recently staged a 'burglar dunk tank' to raise awareness of burglary/prevention. This involved dunking members of the community dressed as burglars and helped raise money for a local 'young carers' charity.*
- *Elmbridge SNT held a Partnership Action Day in Weybridge on 14th July, designed to raise awareness in the services that local authorities provide in the borough. It was held in Churchfields Recreation Ground and run alongside a fun day. Representatives from fire, ambulance, Elmbridge Borough Council, Elmbridge Housing Trust and a wide variety of police departments attended with information stands and a number of engagement activities. Approximately 300 people attended during the course of the event, which lasted for 5 hours. A large amount of information was handed out in relation to all services and a number of local issues identified.*

## November 2013

*Having set up local policing boards and tested a variety of methods, the boards are now embedded as 'business as usual'. They will continue in each borough and district, primarily bi-monthly with the local Inspector. Partner agencies will continue to be invited and the boards will use a variety of formats based on what is best for the area, best for reaching the largest number of people, and best to enable a diverse range of people to participate.*

*The Force recognises that local policing boards are one of the key methods for the PCC to understand what issues are important to the public; we have therefore put in place a mechanism through local Superintendents and Inspectors, whereby the issues raised from each event will be fed back to the PCC's office.*

*In the last 3 weeks alone, there have been events in Mole Valley, Reigate and Banstead, Epsom and Ewell, and Elmbridge. As examples of topics discussed, attendees at Mole Valley raised issues around CCTV in Dorking and rural fly-tipping, whilst those in Reigate and Banstead requested an increased presence of uniformed foot-patrolling officers in town centres to enforce matters like cycling on pavements, obstruction of the highway, littering and*

*parking infringements. Issues for Epsom and Ewell included CCTV, parking, anti-social behaviour and seasonal issues such as fireworks.*

Local Policing Boards are all published on the Surrey Police website and promoted by local neighbourhood officers. Attendance varies depending on the area and levels of concern about crime and anti-social behaviour and willingness of residents to attend board meetings.

## **OTHER ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

The management reports to the PCC have highlighted other, often innovative, engagement methods being used locally. These have included:

- An online Facebook panel for Epsom and Ewell attracted 1105 people.
- The Force has a social media board, which has representatives from across the different Surrey Police teams, and a social media learning week is planned to encourage further use of this.
- The Roads Policing Unit is now tweeting, and CID will also be using Twitter soon. Work is ongoing to ensure officers and staff can tweet operationally during their duties
- Teenagers in North Surrey had a chance to air their views and concerns to Surrey Police during a conference at Sandown Park racecourse. About 150 people aged between 14 and 19 attended the 'Surrey Hear our Thoughts' (SHOUT) youth conference in March. Held in partnership with the Youth Support Service, Surrey County Council and Surrey Fire and Rescue, the teenagers took part in an interactive drama production based on real life events covering antisocial behaviour, drugs, internet bullying and grooming and social media. The conference gave young people from a variety of backgrounds the chance to voice their concerns, issues and priorities. In the last three years youth crime has reduced by half and schemes such as these have been shown to make a positive impact towards achieving this.
- Surrey Police is using a new social media site to reunite stolen property with its owners. A dedicated Surrey Police page has been set up on website Pinterest in a bid to reunite property believed to be stolen with its rightful owners. Pinterest offers an effective, efficient and convenient opportunity to view items at times suitable to the user and is in a format that is widely accessible to the community as a whole. A large amount of property, including electrical items, jewellery and watches, was recovered following a search warrant at an address in Croydon last month. The property is believed to have been stolen following burglaries at addresses in Reigate and Banstead, Epsom, Mole Valley, Tandridge and Guildford. Letters have been hand delivered to all the victims of dwelling burglaries in targeted areas since January 2013 inviting them to look on the website and identify any property which may have been stolen from their home.

In addition, the force website has a dedicated page for every neighbourhood in Surrey. Residents search on their postcode then can see upcoming engagement

events, can view details of their local neighbourhood officers and see how to contact them and receive information on local news and actions taken.

## **SUMMARY**

As can be seen from the above, there is a great deal of engagement going on. Some of that is traditional meeting engagement and some is via more innovative social media methods. The PCC has not dictated how engagement takes place and different local methods have emerged according to local need.

Over the next few months, the PCC is expecting to receive more feedback information on the results of engagement.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members of the Police and Crime Panel note the report.

## **EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

A diverse method of engagement is being used to appeal to as wide as possible range of Surrey residents, including those who wish to attend meeting, often but not always an older age group, those who use social media, often but not always a younger group, events aimed at young people. All Crime Summits held are in venues which are accessible to all and provide hearing loops as required.

**LEAD OFFICER:** Johanna Burne, Senior Policy Officer, OPCC

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 01483 630 200

**E-MAIL:** Burne10675@surrey.pnn.police.uk