

MEETING OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL**08 October 2019****PUBLIC PETITION****CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY, FIRE & RESILIENCE: RESPONSE**

The Making Surrey Safer Plan was reviewed and approved by Cabinet on 24 September 2019. This petition focusses on a small part of the Plan and is out of context. Significantly it does not take into account the substantial increase in community and business safety activities to protect residents and businesses - which we know saves lives. The plan was also scrutinised by a Working Group of the Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee leading up to the Cabinet decision. Their recommendations helped inform the decision.

In the areas listed in the petition and across the whole of Surrey, we will continue to provide fire and rescue cover within our response standard. The changes in the plan will not impact this. We are very aware that the elderly and vulnerable people are at greater risk of fire and this is why the Making Surrey Safer Plan is focused on protecting those most at risk by putting significantly more effort and resources into life-saving prevention work to prevent incidents happening. This plan focuses on the most vulnerable residents in Surrey, and is designed to provide better outcomes for all of those who live, work and travel within the County.

The changes will come into effect from April 2020 and will be monitored through a phased introduction programme giving assurance that each phase of the change is effective before we move onto the next. This will be undertaken by the Service and a dedicated reference group which will report back to the Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee for appropriate scrutiny.

The service will also regularly review its Community Risk Profile and distribution of resources as population numbers and distribution changes over time, to ensure we are providing adequate resources that continue to meet the risk and changing needs of communities.

Recommendation: That the Council notes that Cabinet approved the Making Surrey Safer Plan and that Members will continue working with the Fire and Rescue Service during its implementation.

**Denise Turner-Stewart
Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Fire & Resilience**

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