

Health and Wellbeing Board Paper

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1. Reference information

Paper tracking information	
Title:	Review of the final draft of the Community Safety Agreement 2021-2025
Related Health and Wellbeing Priority:	Priority 3: Supporting people to fulfil their potential
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Sponsor:	Rob Moran, Chief Executive, Elmbridge Borough Council (Priority 3 Sponsor)
Paper date:	2 June 2021
Related papers	Annex 1 - FINAL DRAFT Surrey Community Safety Agreement 2021 to 2025

2. Executive summary

This paper presents to the Board the final version of a new Surrey Community Safety Agreement following the merger of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Community Safety Board in March 2020.

3. Recommendations

That the relevant Proper Officer(s) in consultation with the Chairman:

1. Approves the Community Safety Agreement.
2. Ensures there is consideration of the Agreement and its focus areas fit into the Health and Wellbeing Strategy review and refresh.

4. Reason for Recommendations

This paper recommends a new Community Safety Agreement for 2021/22 for the following reasons:

- It will ensure the Health and Wellbeing Board fulfils its statutory duties under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998;
- It will offer opportunities to develop relationships between the Health and Social Care, Community Safety, and Criminal Justice partners by clearly setting out our ambition;

- It will allow us to start to meet the aims of the merger;
 - Set out the shared priorities that bind the HWBB, PCC and the Community Safety Partnerships;
 - Ensure there is coordination at the strategic and local delivery level;
 - Formalise performance reporting structures so both successes and needs are captured and shared; and
 - Provide a governance framework and accountability for both Surrey residents and partners.

5. Detail

A Community Safety Agreement (the Agreement) is a statutory document that is a requirement for two tier authorities such as Surrey under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended by the Police and Justice Act 2006).

When the Community Safety Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board merged in March 2020, the Health and Wellbeing Board's Terms of Reference were amended to reference the CSA and the requirement to review and amend the agreement annually (addition 3.2.6 and amendments 2.2, 6.1).

The Agreement aims to set out how the responsible authorities¹ will work together to identify and address shared priorities in relation to reducing crime and disorder. In two-tier local authority areas, there is a requirement to have a County Strategy Group in order to bring together all district, borough and relevant partners responsible for community safety activity. Following the merger, the HWBB now performs this function.

The Agreement is intended to be a flexible document, which can be adapted based on new and emerging priorities, and the priorities of key strategic boards and cross-cutting partnerships. Since June 2020 there has been an interim arrangement in place to meet the statutory duty and while the partners develop the Community Safety Agreement.

The Agreement has been developed using available data and in consultation with a vast range of partners. In September 2020 data was gathered from core sources, Surrey Police, the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Children and Young People data for example. Local information was compared to national trends and contextualised by looking at studies and national strategies to ensure the Surrey Agreement took into consideration the wider context. The Task and Finish group, consisting of representatives from the statutory partners, considered this information and developed priorities based on the evidence.

¹ The Act details the requirement for Responsible and Cooperating bodies including local authorities (both the District & Borough Councils and the County Council), the Police, Fire and Rescue, Clinical Commissioning Groups, the Police & Crime Commissioner and Probation services to develop policy and operational approaches to prevent crime and disorder, combat substance misuse and reduce reoffending.

Through the process three areas of focus emerged:

Protecting our most Vulnerable; focusing on crime types like domestic abuse and child exploitation this focus area emerged by looking at our data and looking across to what the other strategic partnerships and the local Community Safety Partnerships are focusing on. This is where we commit to support some of our most vulnerable people.

Protecting our Communities from harm; recognises the impact crime and anti-social behaviour has on our communities and focuses on areas our residents feel are most important to them.

Empowering communities to feel safe; many of our Community Safety Partnerships recognise the need to communicate and share our work to build confidence and trust. This focus area looks to build relationships with communities to find lasting solutions to community safety issues.

The Task and Finish Group also recognised the need to consider cross cutting themes, which impact on all areas of the Agreement. These are, vulnerability, problem solving, taking a public health approach and the complexities around data, information management and community feedback.

The draft Community Safety Agreement was presented to the Board in March 2021. The Board agreed a period of consultation. During this period feedback has been positive with the only inclusions into the Agreement being a recognition of the debate around public safety for women and girls following the Sarah Everard murder.

The feedback also noted the partnership landscape was complex and there needs to be some development of accountability and ownership for the priorities. The Health and Wellbeing Strategy is undergoing a review, which will include the remit of the delivery boards and at a later date, the Strategy metrics. The Agreement will feature in this review and how the community safety work is developed and delivered will be considered in the refreshed Strategy, due to be completed by September 2021.

6. Challenges

The Agreement is an ambitious document which cuts across a number of strategic partnerships. To manage this the Community Safety partners will link into the review of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy to ensure there is the right governance of the focus areas of the Agreement.

7. How is this being communicated?

The draft Community Safety Agreement was discussed all local Community Safety Partnerships and at an informal meeting of the HWB Board in March 2021. It will be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board Communications Group to develop communication links and develop bespoke messages.

8. Next steps

- If approved, to disseminate the Agreement to partners.
 - If approved, to develop action plans for each focus area within the Agreement.
 - If approved, to ensure ongoing alignment between the Agreement and the refreshed Health and Well-being Strategy.
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