

2015/16 COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP REVIEW REPORT

<u>Report of the:</u>	Chief Executive
<u>Contact:</u>	Kelvin Shooter
<u>Urgent Decision?(yes/no)</u>	No
<u>If yes, reason urgent decision required:</u>	N/A
<u>Annexes/Appendices (attached):</u>	<u>Annexe 1</u> - CSP Strategy and Action Plan 2015/16
<u>Other available papers (not attached):</u>	None

REPORT SUMMARY

This report informs the Committee of the performance of the Epsom & Ewell Partnership (CSP) for the year 2015/16.

RECOMMENDATION (S)

Notes

- (1) **The Committee is asked to note and comment on the performance of the CSP over the year 2015/16 including its role and financial position.**

1 Implications for the Council's Key Priorities, Service Plans and Sustainable Community Strategy

- 1.1 The Corporate Plan 2016/20 looks to make the Borough a safe, secure and pleasant place to live, work, conduct business and study. The CSP strategy and the work of its statutory and non statutory partners involved in community safety seek to achieve the same vision and objectives through the partnership.

2 Background

- 2.1 The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 set up the requirement for local authorities and police authorities to jointly conduct crime & disorder audits and based upon those audits develop strategies to deal with identified issues. This was managed under the banner of 'Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership'.

- 2.2 Over the years this has evolved through legislation, such as the Police & Justice Act 2006, and operational necessity to include organisations such as Fire and Rescue, The Probation Service and Health. To reflect the wider partnership the name was changed to become 'Community Safety Partnership'. This Act also provided an opportunity for the work of the local CSP to be scrutinised.
- 2.3 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 removed the Police Authorities and replaced them with Police & Crime Commissioners (PCC). With regard to the PCCs engagement with a CSP the 2011 Act has removed the mandatory requirement for the PCC to take over the previous role of the Police Authority and have left it to the PCC and CSP to decide the best way to work together.
- 2.4 Prior to the 2011 Act the CSP received funding directly from the Home Office to cover its operating costs and to finance the undertaking of the strategic work it had agreed in the action planning process. Following the 2011 Act this funding was removed from the CSP and given to the office of the corresponding Police & Crime Commissioner. The Surrey PCC does not currently fund the operating costs of the Borough CSPs. The CSP can bid for grants PCC grants for specific projects that meet the PCC criteria.
- 2.5 The purpose of this report is to present the Audit, Crime & Disorder and Scrutiny Committee with an end of year appraisal on the position and performance of the CSP.

3 2015/16 Strategy and Action Plan.

- 3.1 Under the relevant legislation the CSP is required to produce an annual strategy and action plan (SAP). The one for 2015/16 can be found in [Annexe 1](#).
- 3.2 The SAP meets the statutory requirements and was devised to be a realistic interpretation of what the CSP was able to deliver given its capabilities and resources.
- 3.3 The sub groups of the CSP that consist of the 'Community Incident Action Group' and the 'Joint Action Group' continue to be effective vehicles for a partnership approach to dealing with community safety issues relating to individuals and areas in the Borough.

4 Proposals

- 4.1 At the end of 2015/16 the CSP is in a position to maintain itself as a viable entity in both its financial and administrative capabilities to meet the statutory requirements placed upon it. At the current rate of depletion of its reserves the CSP would be able to remain sustainable for the next 8 to 10 years.

- 4.2 There has been a continued challenge with engaging partners who have a statutory interest or are not required in a statutory capacity but have a vested interest in community safety matters. This is not to say that these partners are not engaged in community safety activities but with reducing resources available to the CSP and resource restrictions in their own organisations they are engaged in activities on an individual basis devised to meet their own business needs.

5 Financial and Manpower Implications

- 5.1 The CSP held a reserve of £80,749.00 at the end of 2015/16.
- 5.2 During the course of 2015/16 the CSP spent £17,020.00 and received £8,287.00 income.
- 5.3 The CSP is administered by an officer one day a week paid for from the CSPs residual funds. The Council provides a further four days a week to cover administration of community safety obligations and associated project work.
- 5.4 **Chief Finance Officer's comments:** None for the purposes of this report.

6 Legal Implications (including implications for matters relating to equality)

- 6.1 The work of the CSP is legislated for in the following Acts of Parliament;
- The Crime & Disorder Act 1998
 - The Police & Justice Act 2006
 - The Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act 2011
 - The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014.
- 6.2 **Monitoring Officer's comments:** Whilst it seems clear that the declining resources directly available to the Community Safety Partnership, and many of the partners, are having an impact on the work of the CSP, we still have statutory duties to fulfil, and must ensure that we find ways of working with our partners to meet those obligations.

7 Sustainability Policy and Community Safety Implications

- 7.1 As described within this report.

8 Partnerships

- 8.1 The CSP is by definition a partnership of which the Council is a statutory member. Historically the Council has fulfilled the role as facilitator to the CSP and provides additional resources for the administration beyond that available to the CSP.
- 8.2 The CSP will continue to seek wider partnerships with other agencies or other Surrey Districts or Boroughs in an attempt to strengthen its position and add value to its impact within the Borough.

9 Risk Assessment

- 9.1 The strategic direction of the CSP will, for the coming years, allow its current resources to meet its financial and legal obligations.
- 9.2 The position as stated in 4.1 is dependent upon spend and income forecasts based upon current activity. Should such factors as changes to Central Government requirements of CSPs, the need to conduct Domestic Homicide Reviews and agreed funding intervention by the CSP in community safety issues, the forecast for sustainability would need to be revised.

10 Conclusion and Recommendations

- 10.1 The CSP over the course of 2015/16 has attempted to realign its aspirations and expectations to its resources, capabilities and challenges faced by its partners.
- 10.2 Whilst its ability to be a pro-active agency has reduced it is still a useful vehicle in bringing together partners and agencies to deal with community safety issues as they arise.

WARD(S) AFFECTED: (All Wards);