

AUDIT, CRIME & DISORDER AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
15 NOVEMBER 2016

**EPSOM & EWELL COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP HALF YEAR REPORT
2016/17**

Report of the: Chief Executive
Contact: Kelvin Shooter
Urgent Decision?(yes/no) No
If yes, reason urgent decision required:
Annexes/Appendices (attached): None
Other available papers (not attached):

REPORT SUMMARY

This report informs the Committee of the work and position of the Epsom and Ewell Community Safety Partnership (CSP) for the first half of 2016/17.

RECOMMENDATION (S)

- (1) The Committee is asked to note and comment on the work and position of the CSP for the first half of 2016/17.

Notes

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

- 1.1 The concept of creating a safe and secure community is implicit across the services provided by the council. The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is a vehicle by which that concept can be achieved.

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'.

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- 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 & 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. As a result of 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 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 update on the on-going work and position of the CSP.

3 CSP sub groups

- 3.1 Community Incident Action Group (CIAG) is a monthly group that is chaired and administered by the Epsom & Ewell Neighbourhood Police and brings together agencies from inside the authority and other agencies such as housing associations and Surrey County Council. The purpose of the group is to identify individuals within the Borough who are either victims or perpetrators of ASB/crime and deliver solutions through partnership working. The number of referrals varies from month to month; at the time of writing this report there are six youths and thirteen adults being considered.
- 3.2 Joint Action Group (JAG) is a group called as and when required to find solutions to areas of the borough where ASB/crime has been identified as a problem. This group is normally chaired by the organisation that has called it together and is administered by the CSP. As with the CIAG, the partners from inside and outside of the council look for solutions which address both the perpetrators and the victims. During the first half of this year four JAGs have been in operation dealing with issues such as youth ASB, street violence, robbery and drug related offences.

4 East Surrey amalgamation

- 4.1 As part of the CSP review in 2014/15 an option was considered to form an East Surrey CSP (ESCSP) with the districts and boroughs of Mole Valley, Reigate & Banstead and Tandridge. At the time the CSP declined the invitation but kept the option open.
- 4.2 Early 2016/17 a further invitation was received from the East Surrey Police Command and the Chair of the ESCSP. A report was received by the CSP outlining the invitation and the implications such an amalgamation would have. It was agreed by the CSP to seek an amalgamation. All partners have been informed of this decision and asked to confirm their support; including the EEBC Environment Committee which received a report on the 25 October 2016. The EEBC Environment Committee have subsequently agreed to the amalgamation and to delegate to the Chief Executive of the Council to finalise the details of the agreement to combine with the ESCSP.
- 4.3 The application to amalgamate was received by the ESCSP on the 22 September 2016 and was accepted subject to formal ratification by CSP partners and agreement by the Surrey Police & Crime Commissioner.

5 Proposals

- 5.1 None other than those stated.

6 Financial and Manpower Implications

- 6.1 All changes noted in this report are cost neutral.
- 6.2 **Chief Finance Officer's comments:** *There are no specific financial implications attached to this report, however any obligations to formulate future strategies associated with reducing crime and disorder would have to be considered jointly (and funded) with partners.*

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

- 7.1 All legislation pertaining to the matters contained in this report is noted above including the ability to combine CSPs provision for which is contained within the 1998 Act, as amended by the 2011 Act.
- 7.2 **Monitoring Officer's comments:** It is important that, whatever arrangements are made, we do not lose sight of the Council's obligation, jointly with partners, to formulate and implement strategies for:
 - 7.2.1 reducing crime and disorder (including anti-social behaviour adversely affecting the local environment);
 - 7.2.2 combatting the misuse of drugs alcohol and other substances in the area;
 - 7.2.3 reducing re-offending in the area

8 Sustainability Policy and Community Safety Implications

- 8.1 The decisions of the CSP in terms of its in borough activities and its work at area and county level have been taken with sustainability in mind given the capacity and resources available to it.

9 Partnerships

- 9.1 The concept of the CSP is to deliver solutions and change through partnership working.

10 Risk Assessment

- 10.1 Risks have been considered and accounted for in the CSPs terms of reference and in entering into an amalgamation the risks have been addressed in terms of reference of the ESCSP.

11 Conclusion and Recommendations

- 11.1 The CSP will in the future address local issues through the CIAGs and JAGs. It will address area and county wide issues through its association with the ESCSP.
- 11.2 The new model will allow it to operate locally and take a strategic role on an area basis while being cost neutral.

WARD(S) AFFECTED: (All Wards);