

Audit and Scrutiny Committee

5 February 2026

COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT

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Wards affected: (All Wards);
Appendices (attached):

Summary

This report updates the Committee on the work of the Epsom and Ewell Community Safety Partnership.

Recommendation (s)

The Committee is asked to:

(1) Note and comment on the work of the Epsom and Ewell Community Safety Partnership (CSP).

1 Reason for Recommendation

1.1 Under the Police and Justice Act 2006, this Council is required to allocate the scrutiny of the local Epsom and Ewell Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to one of their committees so as to provide public accountability of the CSP.

2 Background

2.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 established the principle of partnership working on a formal basis and through several legislative adjustments, this is now achieved in this borough through the CSP.

2.2 The current partnership was established in 2020 holding its first meeting in August of that year. Currently the CSP core members meet four times a year and in 2025 this has been 13th March, 18th June, 10th September and 3rd December. The CSP membership is composed of representatives from each of the following:

- Epsom and Ewell Borough Council (Chair)
- Chair of the Council's Crime and Disorder Committee

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- Elected Member from Surrey County Council
- Surrey Police Safer Neighbourhood team
- Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner's Office
- Surrey Fire and Rescue
- Surrey County Council Community Safety team
- Town & Country Housing (formerly Rosebery Housing Association)
- Probation Service
- Epsom Business Improvement District

2.3 In 2004 the CSP determined its priorities for the 2025-2027 timeframe as being:

- Focus on the most vulnerable or those at risk of harm
- Serious Organised Crime and PREVENT
- Identify and tackling crime and antisocial behaviour
- Reduce reoffending by adult and young offenders.

2.4 Much of the work of the partnership continues to be delivered via two multiagency problem-solving approaches. First is the monthly Community Harm and Risk Management Meetings (CHaRMM) where partners focus on specific victims and offenders. Secondly, the Joint Action Groups (JAGs), meeting every 6 weeks, is where multiagency partners focus on geographical areas of concern.

2.5 In 2025 the CHaRMM agendas had between 6-8 adults and a single youth whilst the JAG programme focussed on 4 areas with 3 areas closed having received a successful problem solving series of interventions.

2.6 Examples of JAG outcomes have been

- A reduction in dangerous and antisocial e bike/moped/vehicle use on a pedestrian alleyway in Scotts Farm Road/Ruxley Lane.
- A reduction in antisocial congregation, retail theft and low-level criminality in the Epsom Square, Epsom Town Centre.
- Enhanced resilience to an educational setting and the creation of a large-scale community mural adjacent to an alleyway between East Ewell Railway Station and Reigate Road, to address instances of threatening behaviour, robberies and knife crime.

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- 2.7 A major element of partnership working has been the Clear, Hold, Build programme which has adopted the public branding of "Safer Epsom and Ewell". This project, currently underway, closely aligns with the four priorities of the CSP and includes the delivery partners NESCOT, Police, the North Surrey Domestic Abuse Service, Surrey County Council East Surrey Adolescent Service, Epsom & Ewell Borough Council and Town and Country Housing with the Chair of the CSP and the Police Borough Commander chairing the shared delivery group.
- 2.8 Safer Epsom and Ewell follow the nationally recognised Clear, Hold, Build methodology, scaled to the resources available with the aim of tackling and keeping at bay elements of Serious Organised Crime.
- 2.9 Together with the centrally pooled Domestic Abuse Related Death Review (DARDR), coordinator resource, the CSP managed a single DARDR during the course of 2024-2025 involving a female victim of domestic abuse who took her own life. This report was accepted by the Home Office, and an action plan will be presented at the next CSP meeting.
- 2.10 The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 introduced specific measures, which are the responsibility of responsible agencies, including the CSP, designed to give victims and communities a say in the way that complaints of antisocial behaviour are dealt with. This includes the anti-social behaviour case review which gives victims of persistent antisocial behaviour the right to request a multi-agency case review where a local threshold is met. In 2025 the CSP received 6 requests for review of which one met the threshold for adoption.

3 The CSP Priorities

- 3.1 The CSP publishes its [partnership priorities on the Borough Council's website](#) which outlines, at a high level, the broad areas for delivery over the planned period of 2025-2027. It identifies the lead agency as well as the objective, measure and timescale for each objective.
- 3.2 Progress against the plan is monitored by Council officers and presented at the CSP meetings.

4 Scrutiny of the CSP

- 4.1 The duty of the Borough Council to scrutinise the work of the CSP arises through a number of legislative provisions including the Police and Justice Act 2006 the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009. The Audit and Scrutiny Committee's terms of reference include the provisions to carry out this CSP scrutiny function.

5 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

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5.1 Equality Impact Assessment

5.1.1 The CSP priorities include a focus on the most vulnerable or those at risk of harm. As such the work of the CSP is considered to have a positive impact on equalities within the borough.

5.2 Crime & Disorder

5.2.1 The work of the CSP inherently seeks to reduce crime and disorder through partnership working.

5.3 Safeguarding

5.3.1 Safeguarding is closely tied to crime and disorder in the context of the CSP. Various types of exploitation often involve vulnerable adults and children.

5.4 Dependencies

5.4.1 The success of the CSP depends on contributions from all partners, including statutory and non-statutory partners and the challenge remains to be able to demonstrate relevance of the CSP to all partners involved.

6 Financial Implications

6.1 As a non-incorporated body, the CSP has no budget of its own. The coordination and administration of its functions is mainly drawn from Epsom & Ewell Borough Council and Surrey Police, whilst project funding is obtained on a case-by-case basis via individual partners from various local and national funding bodies.

6.2 **Section 151 Officer's comments:** I am satisfied that the arrangements outlined in the report do not present any direct financial risk to the Council.

7 Legal Implications

7.1 Under section 19 (1) of Police and Justice Act 2006 every council must ensure that it has a committee with power (a) to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions and (b) to make reports or recommendations to the local authority with respect to the discharge of those functions.

7.2 **Legal Officer's comments:** Relevant comments are contained within the body of this report.

8 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

8.1 **Council's Key Priorities:** The following Key Priorities are engaged:

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- Safe and Well

8.2 **Service Plans:** The matter is included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

8.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations:** Crime can often have a negative impact on the local environment, including littering, fly tipping as well as general environmental degradation. Reducing crime is considered to have a positive impact on climate and environment.

8.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications:** It is considered that the CSP will enhance community safety for reasons set out in this report.

8.5 **Partnerships:** The local CSP is a statutory arrangement and operates in addition to, and complimentary to, the day to day working arrangement established between all partners.

8.6 **Local Government Reorganisation Implications:** None

9 Background papers

9.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Other papers:

- Epsom and Ewell Community Safety Partnership Community Safety Action Plan 2025-2027.