

COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP 2014/15 – END OF YEAR REPORT

Report of the: Chief Executive
Contact: Kelvin Shooter
Urgent Decision?(yes/no) No
If yes, reason urgent decision required:
Annexes/Appendices (attached): Annexe 1 - Epsom & Ewell Community Safety Partnership Review Report June 2015
Annexe 2 - Community Safety Partnership Action Plan 2014/15
Annexe 3 - Community Safety Funding Plan 2014/15
Other available papers (not attached):

REPORT SUMMARY

This report informs the Committee of the work of the Epsom and Ewell Community Safety Partnership (CSP) for the year 2014/15.

RECOMMENDATION (S)

- (1) The Committee is asked to note and comment on the work and expenditure of the CSP over the 2014/15 financial year.

Notes

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

- 1.1 The Council had, during the period this report covers, the following priority for 2014/15: 'Safer and stronger communities – promote safer, more active and caring communities'. This encompasses a desired and legal commitment from the Council to work with the Police and other organisations to reduce anti-social behaviour, fear of crime and consider a range of activities and interventions that have an impact upon the general safety of the community.

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'.
- 2.3 The Policing & 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 2001 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 although it should be noted that the Commissioner is sympathetic to the funding challenges facing the Surrey CSPs. The CSP also can bid for PCC grants for specific projects that meet the PCC criteria.
- 2.5 The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 gave the Council and its partners increased opportunities to tackle the causes and issues surrounding anti-Social behaviour and crime and in doing so made those agencies more accountable to the community.
- 2.6 The purpose of this report is to present the Audit, Crime & Disorder and Scrutiny Committee with the CSP performance management report for 2014/15. This report also brings to the attention of this Committee a fundamental review of the CSP (Annex 1) in terms of its operational capabilities and how it can be most effective in the future given the resources available to it.

3 2014/15 Partnership Plan

- 3.1 The CSP agreed an annual Partnership Action Plan (Annexe 2) and budget for the year (Annexe 3) shows the end of the year position against the 2014/15 Action Plan.
- 3.2 Of the 16 actions, 11 achieved 'green' (achieved status), 3 achieved 'amber' status (partially achieved/in progress) and 2 achieved 'red' status (not achieved).
- 3.3 Comment on 'Red' status items;

The loss of the qualified programme organiser early in the year halted the sessions for domestic abuse victims and witnesses. Due to the specialist nature of the qualifications and experience required to carry out these sessions it has not been possible to find a replacement.

Comment on 'Amber status' items;

Substance abuse education: Awaiting appointment of Town Centres Manager to negotiate space in retail areas.

Town Centre Environmental Visual Audit: Unable to identify resources to carry out regular audits.

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Targeted domestic burglary areas: Change of key personnel and command in the Neighbourhood Policing who are now reviewing their priorities.

4 Proposals

- 4.1 The action plan for the coming year is to be based upon the adopted recommendations of the review. These are;
- 1) The residual CSP funds to be retained for unforeseen liabilities and statutory requirements of the CSP e.g. Domestic Homicide Reviews.
 - 2) The CSP maintain capabilities to deal with statutory obligations placed upon it and as a point of contact for CSP matters.
 - 3) Joint Action Groups and Community Intervention Action Groups to be convened as and when problems with areas or individuals arise.

5 Financial and Manpower Implications

- 5.1 Finances for the work of the CSP are ring fenced in a separate budget that is currently controlled by the CSP and administered by the Council's Finance Department.
- 5.2 **Chief Finance Officer's comments:** No comments 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 Policing & Social Responsibility Act 2011
 - The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act 2014.
- 6.2 **Monitoring Officer's comments:** No comments for the purposes of this report.

7 Sustainability Policy and Community Safety Implications

- 7.1 As conveyed in this report and the attached Annexe 1.

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 administrator to the CSP and provides additional resources for the administration beyond that available to the CSP.

9 Risk Assessment

- 9.1 The risks to the CSP members have been identified in the review and taken account of in the review's recommendations.

10 Conclusion and Recommendations

- 10.1 The 2014/15 review has provided a platform by which the CSP can remain sustainable and fulfil its obligations.

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WARD(S) AFFECTED: All.