

Minutes of a Meeting of the External Partnerships Select Committee held at Surrey Heath House, Camberley on 25 June 2013

+ Cllr Josephine Hawkins - Chairman
+ Cllr Paul Deach – Vice-Chairman

+ Cllr Glyn Carpenter	+ Cllr Ken Pedder
+ Cllr Ian Cullen	+ Cllr Ian Sams
+ Cllr Tim Dodds	+ Cllr Pat Tedder
+ Cllr David Hamilton	+ Cllr Alan Whittart
+ Cllr Lexie Kemp	- Cllr John Winterton
+ Cllr Adrian Page	vacancy
+ Cllr Chris Pitt	

+ Present
- Apologies for absence presented

Substitutes: Councillor Charlotte Morley substitute for Councillor John Winterton

In attendance: Councillors Bob Paton and Valerie White.

01/EP Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 5 March 2013 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

02/EP Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman welcomed the Borough Inspector, Martin Goodwin, and Angela Hollinshead, Surrey Crimestoppers Area Manager to the meeting.

PART I **(public)**

03/EP Crime and Disorder Update

Inspector Goodwin informed the Committee that in the past year the Neighbourhood Team had maintained the second lowest level of recorded crime in the County, with the borough seeing a 12% reduction in recorded crime during that period. The Team had detection rates of 30% which, whilst that placed it mid-table nationally, it was recognised this was an area for improvement.

The Committee was advised that satisfaction rates remained high, with 90.8% of those surveyed were confident in the way the police operated. In addition, the Team achieved an 81.9% satisfaction rating with the management of Anti-Social Behaviour. Inspector Goodwin emphasised that these positive figures were due to partnership work, in particular a strong Community Safety Partnership (CSP).

Violence in Camberley Town Centre was down by 31.5%. Inspector Goodwin advised that this was not just due to effective policing, but also due to projects carried out in partnership with other agencies and groups, such as Street

Angels, the Taxi Marshalls funded by the CSP, robust licensing by the Police and the Borough Council's Licensing Team, and the night-time closure of the High Street.

Inspector Goodwin reported that there had been an 18% reduction in vehicle crime, although he noted that there was a need to change the culture regarding the security of vehicles and any property within vehicles. In addition, he would continue to champion the Drive-Smart campaign, which tackled anti-social driving.

The Committee was informed that an operation had recently been undertaken to target vehicle crime. Targeted action had taken place in January and April, as higher rates of vehicle crime were experienced during those months. Members were reminded that a cross-border threat remained: it was estimated that 45% of the crime was committed by those living outside the county.

Members were advised that, across the borough, violence with injury was down by 32%, resulting in 91 fewer victims and thereby reducing the impact upon public services, such as Frimley Park Hospital.

Inspector Goodwin reported that there had been a significant increase in the burglary of dwellings in the past year. Although the number of incidents was small in comparison to 10 years previously, Inspector Goodwin referred to the impact the crime had upon the victim's life. Members were informed of the importance placed upon preventative work, including the prevention of repeat victims, and the Committee noted the role played by the borough's large network of Neighbourhood Watch groups.

The Committee was informed that resources had been invested in dealing with rural crime and a specialist rural crime officer, who was responsible for dealing with all rural crime, was in post. Members discussed targeting rural crime such as fly-tipping; it was advised that in some instances it was more appropriate for the Police to support actions led by other organisations.

It was reported that work to prevent wildfires on heathland had been undertaken in partnership with other agencies, including joint patrols with the fire service and heathland conservation and educational talks in schools. It was also important that barriers were in the correct places and ensuring that any rubbish was cleared.

The Committee was informed that the need to improve the Team's engagement plan had been recognised. An engagement project was currently being undertaken to look at the deployment of resources to ensure officers were available in the right place at the right time. Inspector Goodwin also advised that he intended to develop the Neighbourhood Team's use of Social Media.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

04/EP Crimestoppers

The Chairman welcomed Angela Hollinshead, Crimestoppers Area Manager for Surrey, to the meeting. The Committee was informed that Crimestoppers was an independent charity which enabled people to provide information on

crime and criminals anonymously. Crimestoppers had 90 members of staff and over 550 volunteers across 43 county committees. There was 1 national call centre which operated for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Crimestoppers provided a single national number and a secure online form through which information could be submitted. She emphasised that the information was anonymous as no details were recorded except the crime being reported and it did not record callers' telephone numbers; any information received was sanitised to ensure any details which could identify a caller were omitted.

Crimestoppers worked with the Police and participated in national campaigns. It was advised that Crimestoppers considered it was better to contact the Police with information, with Crimestoppers being available only for when an individual felt unable to contact the Police.

Members were informed that the Crimestoppers website had a youth section, Fearless, which provided signposting of services and aimed to raise awareness amongst young people of what constituted a criminal matter and where they could go for help.

Members were informed that, since its establishment, Crimestoppers had received over 1.4m actionable calls. It was reported that 22 people were arrested every day due to information provided to Crimestoppers. In the previous year Crimestoppers had received nearly 100,000 actionable calls, with 1300 calls in Surrey. In the past year there had been 93 actionable calls for Surrey Heath, equating to approximately 2 calls a week being passed to the Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Police Team.

The Committee noted the breakdown of calls in Surrey Heath by the type of crime which, overall, was similar to the national and Surrey picture. However, the number of calls in Surrey Heath relating to drink driving, disqualification from driving and no insurance were double the national average. It was also reported that the percentage of calls relating to immigration was higher than the national average.

The Surrey Crimestoppers branch was run by a committee of 11 volunteers who employed 1 part-time member of staff. Members were informed that Surrey Crimestoppers cost £30,000 a year to run and relied entirely upon grants, donations and sponsorship to fund its work in Surrey. A fundraising co-ordinator had recently been recruited. Surrey Crimestoppers worked in partnership with other agencies and had recently worked with the Police and Crime Commissioner on a Facebook advert.

Members were informed that, although rewards were available for information which led to an arrest and charge, nationally, less than 0.5% of those eligible for a reward had made a claim.

RESOLVED, that the presentation be noted

05/EP Surrey Police and Crime Panel Update

Councillor Charlotte Morley, the Council's appointed member of the Surrey Police and Crime Panel, reminded Members of the changes to Police governance arrangements introduced by the Police Reform and Social

Responsibility Act, which had resulted in the abolition of the Police Authorities and the election of Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC). Police and Crime Panels had been introduced to scrutinise and support the work of the directly elected Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Surrey Police and Crime Panel was a joint committee comprising elected representatives from all 11 boroughs and districts and the County Council, plus 2 independent co-opted members. All members of the joint committee had equal voting rights. The Panel was hosted and supported by Surrey County Council.

The Panel's structure included a complaints sub-committee, a finance sub-committee, and an ad hoc projects group. Consideration was being given to establishing Working Groups to consider specific decisions by the PCC.

The Panel had a number of duties as follows:

- To review the Commissioner's proposed precept
- To review the Commissioner's proposed appointment of a Chief Constable
- To hold confirmation hearings for senior appointments to the Commissioner's office
- To deal with non-criminal complaints against the Commissioner
- To review the Commissioner's draft Police and Crime Plan
- To review the Commissioner's Annual Report

Cllr Morley indicated that, in relation to the review of the draft Police and Crime plan, she had particularly focused upon checking it was in line with the PCC's election manifesto.

The Committee was informed that, since its establishment, the Panel had undertaken a number of key tasks, including agreeing the appointment of the Deputy PCC, agreeing the 2013/14 Police Precept, and agreeing the PCC's Police and Crime plan. It had also dealt with its first formal complaint.

The Committee was informed that Police and Crime Panel meetings were open to the public and were also webcast. It was hoped that in future there would be an increase in the number of residents attending the meetings, viewing the webcasts, or visiting its web page. The Panel had received its first question from a member of the public. Members supported the intention to increase residents' awareness and interaction with the Panel and noted the need for it to develop its communication.

Members considered the PCC's six election pledges, in particular his Zero Tolerance pledge and discussed how this translated into practical policy.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted

Note: It was noted for the record that Councillor Charlotte Morley declared that she was a member of Surrey Police and Crime Panel.

06/EP Committee Work Programme

The Committee considered a report on the work programme for the 2013/14 municipal year.

It was suggested that, in relation to the Highways Authority's presentation at the meeting on 14 November 2013, it would be helpful for all Members to have the opportunity to submit questions before the meeting.

RESOLVED, that the Work Programme for 2013/14, as attached at Annex A to these minutes, be agreed.

CHAIRMAN

External Partnerships Select Committee Work Programme – 2013/14

Date		Topic	Presenter/ Author
17 September 2013	1.	Youth Support Service	Mike Blower/ Gavin Kitchen
	2.	Siemens Apprenticeships scheme	Marcus Hall, Siemens
	3.	Voluntary Support North Surrey (to focus upon youth provision)	Solette Shepherdson
14 November 2013	1.	Update on organisations in receipt of Revenue Grants	Kevin Cantlon
	2.	Highways Authority, Surrey CC	Andrew Milne
14 January 2014	1.	Community Safety Update	Inspector Goodwin
	2.	Trading Standards	TBC
	3.	Neighbourhood Watch	John Eldridge
4 March 2014	1.	Health and Wellbeing Board	TBC
	2.	Enterprise M3 LEP	Geoff French
	3.	Collectively Camberley BID	Glen Fulton