

WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

COMMUNITY WELLBEING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

17 NOVEMBER 2010

Title:

Safer Waverley Partnership Plan 2019-20

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Anne-Marie Rosoman, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Safety

Head of Service: Andrew Smith, Head of Housing Delivery and Communities

Key decision: No

Access: Public

1. Purpose and summary

- 1.1 To note the activity contained within the Safer Waverley Partnership Plan for 2019-20, and note the 2020/21 priorities and activity in light of the COVID19 pandemic.

2. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee are asked to note the Safer Waverley Partnership Plan 2019/20 and associated activity undertaken from April 2019-March 2020, and the focus of work since April 2020 and the impact of COVID-19 on the Safer Waverley Partnership.

3. Reason for the recommendation

The Community Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee has the function to scrutinise the work of their local Community Safety Partnership (The Safer Waverley Partnership) on an annual basis.

4. Background

- 4.1 Community Safety is the use of skills, knowledge and techniques, to prevent and reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime and develop safer communities in which to live, work and visit.
- 4.2 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and subsequent related acts gave local councils, the police, fire and rescue, probation and local health services, duties to work together to formulate and implement a Community Safety Plan. In addition, Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 placed a duty on local councils to consider the crime and disorder implications of all their day to day activities.
- 4.3 Each local area is required to form a Strategy Group to formulate and implement a

Community Safety Plan. In Waverley this group is called the Safer Waverley Partnership (SWP) Executive Group and is made up of representatives from Waverley Borough Council, Surrey Police, Surrey County Council, Surrey Fire & Rescue Service, Probation Service, and Guildford & Waverley and North East Hampshire & Farnham Clinical Commissioning Groups.

- 4.4 The SWP Executive is responsible for producing a Community Safety Partnership Plan. The SWP Partnership Plan 2019/20 is attached as Annexe 1.
- 4.5 Provisions contained within the Police and Justice Act 2006 gave local councils the duty to scrutinise the functioning of their local Community Safety Partnership. Each local council had to put in place a Committee to review, scrutinise and make observations or recommendations about the functioning of the CSP's responsible authorities. The Community Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee takes on this function in Waverley.
- 4.6 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 replaced police authorities (who were a statutory member of the Community Safety Partnership) with directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) in England and Wales. Unlike police authorities, PCCs are not 'responsible authorities' under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, so are not members of CSPs. However there is a mutual duty on PCCs and CSPs to co-operate to reduce crime and disorder and re-offending. For this reason, a representative from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) attends SWP Executive meetings.
- 4.7 The Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 established the statutory requirement to carry out Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs). This requirement came into force in April 2011 and is the responsibility of the Safer Waverley Partnership to implement.
- 4.8 The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 introduced more effective powers to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and placed a greater focus on the impact of ASB on victims and their needs. The Community Trigger/ ASB Case Review was introduced to give victims of persistent anti-social behaviour the ability to request a formal case review where a locally defined threshold is met. The SWP is responsible for carrying out these reviews.
- 4.9 Partnership activity to note 2019/20
 - a. The SWP commissioned Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) 6.
 - b. Recommendations from all DHRs shared with Surrey DHR Oversight Group to ensure best practice disseminated County wide.
 - c. Serious Organised Crime awareness video developed
 - d. Community Safety briefing session for all Councillors
 - e. Scam awareness evening
 - f. Joint visits between WBC Tenancy and Estates Team and Surrey Police took place to target those vulnerable to county line drug dealing.

- g. Community trigger applications
- h. Nine locations referred to Joint Action Group (JAG) for a multi agency problem solving approach. One task and finish group established
- i. 18 perpetrators whose behaviour impacting on the community and 8 victims/vulnerable residents referred to Community Harm and Risk Management Meeting (CHaRMM) to be case managed.
- j. Road User Awareness Days delivered to 6 schools.

Further detail is contained within Annexe 1.

4.10 2020/21 - plans and priorities

4.10.1 The Partnership Plan was refreshed at the end of March 2020, prior to the impact of Covid 19 and is attached as Annexe 2. The Safer Waverley Partnership agreed to keep the same priorities as the previous year. Whilst the focus of much of the activity remains the same, there are some new actions within the Plan including the following identified as a result of discussions at this Committee:

- a. Devise a Partnership media protocol to formalise SWP approach to communications.
- b. Improve engagement opportunities with town and parish councils regarding Community Safety issues.

4.10.2 Within the introduction of the 2020/21 Partnership Plan it has been highlighted that 'activity is liable to change following the need for all agencies to monitor and respond to COVID-19 in order to protect residents, communities and businesses. Progress against some actions may be affected due to changing priorities, diverted resources and COVID-19 related restrictions'.

4.11 2020/21 - impact of COVID-19 to date

4.11.1 Community tension

There has been an increase in community tension in this period. Whilst some of this can be attributed to a breach of lockdown measures (i.e. the gathering of groups) reported to the police, the impact of the pandemic and its restrictions has caused an increase in residual ASB. This has been associated with families being at home and children not being at school, leading to frustrations and boredom, resulting in neighbour disputes and complaints relating to noise and nuisance behaviour. This has culminated in an increase in Community Trigger applications received by the Safer Waverley Partnership (8 to date in 2020/21 compare to 3 in 2019/20).

The Safer Waverley Partnership are trying to increase the awareness both internally and externally of the existence of the Community Trigger and the process and have been working alongside the ASB team at Surrey Police as part of this. There are also plans to try and encourage more reporting of ASB in hotspot areas through a targeted poster and sign campaign.

4.11.2 **Domestic Abuse**

The South West Surrey Domestic Abuse Outreach Service has seen the need for financial assistance increase substantially this year, due to the extra costs of delivering services related to the Covid 19 pandemic.

There has been a 28% increase in referrals to the service during April-September this year compared to the same period in 2019. Referrals have remained fairly consistent month on month with a dip only in May. Police referrals have increased compared to this time last year.

- a. Around 50% of survivors engaging in casework were medium/high risk.
- b. 92% of survivors are female.
- c. Relationship of perpetrator - 85% partner/ex partner (30% current partner 55% ex-partner).

4.11.3 **Scams**

Fraudsters have been exploiting the spread of coronavirus in order to carry out fraud and cybercrime. The Covid-19 crisis has created a surge in opportunities for coronavirus related fraud with scammers targeting vulnerable people who may have lost their income in the past few months. Whilst it is currently not possible to hold another scam awareness evening similar to that in 2019, raising awareness about scams and advising residents how to prevent them has been a key objective of the Partnership since lockdown.

- 4.12 The Committee will be informed of the statutory obligations placed on the Safer Waverley Partnership and gain an understanding of its work during 2019/20 and current focus for 2020/21 in light of COVID-19

5. Relationship to the Corporate Strategy and Service Plan

- 5.1 This report relates to the following line in the Corporate Strategy 2019-2023: 'Engage with all stakeholders to better control crime and anti-social behaviour.'

6. Implications of decision

6.1 Resource (Finance, procurement, staffing, IT)

There are no direct resource implications associated with this report.

6.2 Risk management

Risks are managed through the Safer Waverley Partnership Executive on a quarterly basis. Risks are identified and mitigated through a risk register and are managed and delivered through formal mechanisms of the partnership.

6.3 Legal

There are no direct legal implications associated with this report.

6.4 Equality, diversity and inclusion

The Partnership has a priority to raise awareness of hate crime and how to report it, and consider the Surrey Police Hate Crime profile and agree action for

Waverley.

6.5 Climate emergency declaration

The Partnership is currently in the process of streamlining some of its groups to reduce the amount of travelling for meetings, with the additional option of attending meetings via zoom. Meeting papers for the SWP Executive and its sub-groups are circulated electronically.

7. Consultation and engagement

7.1 The report goes to Community Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny for consultation and scrutiny. A members briefing on the work of the SWP was held in January. Whilst a roadshow to engage with the public on their Community Safety priorities was not possible in 2020 due to Covid 19, a Surrey Police online ASB survey was promoted in addition to a public meeting of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey for Waverley residents.

8. Other options considered

8.1 There are no options to be considered within this report.

9. Governance journey

9.1 This report only goes to the Community Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Annexes:

Annexe 1 – Safer Waverley Partnership (SWP) – 2019/20 Partnership Action Plan – end of year progress

Annexe 2 – Safer Waverley Partnership (SWP) Partnership Plan 2020-21

Background Papers

There are / are no background papers, as defined by Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972).

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Agreed and signed off by:

Legal Services: date

Head of Finance: date

Strategic Director: date

Portfolio Holder: date