

Council Report

Ward(s) affected: All

Report of Managing Director

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Safer Guildford Partnership Plan 2017-2020

Recommendation to Council:

That the Safer Guildford Partnership Plan 2017-2020, as set out in Appendix 1 to this report, be adopted.

Reason for Recommendation:

To meet the requirement for the Council to adopt a three-year community safety plan for the borough.

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to highlight the work and strategic priorities of the Safer Guildford Partnership and to invite the Council to adopt the Safer Guildford Partnership Plan 2017-2020.
- 1.2 The report is also due to be considered by the Executive at its meeting on 18 July 2017.

2. Strategic Priorities

- 2.1 The work of the Safer Guildford Partnership supports the "Our Society" theme of the Council's Corporate Plan and, in particular, the strategic priority of maintaining low levels of crime in the borough.

3 Background

3.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as amended by the Police Reform Act 2002 and the Police and Justice Act 2006, requires responsible authorities named under the Act to work together, alongside the community and the voluntary sector to develop and implement strategies for reducing crime and disorder in their area. The responsible authorities are:

- District and borough councils
- County Councils
- Police
- Fire & Rescue Service
- Probation Service
- Clinical Commissioning Groups

3.2 In Guildford, this represents the following agencies:

- Surrey Police
- Guildford Borough Council
- Surrey County Council
- Surrey Fire and Rescue Service
- National Probation Service
- Guildford and Waverley Clinical Commissioning Group

3.3 Since 1998, Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 has placed a duty on each responsible authority to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of those functions on, and the need to do all it reasonably can to prevent:

- Crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social behaviour and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and
- The misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area.

3.4 This means that all responsible authorities should take account of community safety in all aspects of their work and do all that they can within their core business to prevent crime and disorder. All policies, strategies, plans and budgets are therefore considered with the potential contribution to the reduction of crime and disorder.

3.5 The legislation also places a duty on responsible authorities to join together in a formal strategic group to undertake frequent strategic assessments of levels and patterns of crime and drug misuse in their area and to produce annual rolling three-year community safety plans.

Safer Guildford Priorities and Partnership Plan

- 3.6 The Safer Guildford Partnership is required to carry out an annual partnership strategic assessment. The purpose of this is to assist in producing the priorities for the annual three-year rolling partnership plan. The data, which forms the basis of this analysis, is drawn from a variety of sources and partner agencies across Guildford and Surrey.
- 3.7 The Partnership's priorities are based on key policy areas and the Surrey County Council strategic assessment, which draws together key data sets and combines these with the knowledge and experience of local partners. In summary they are:
- To focus on threat, harm, risk and vulnerability, including
 - serious and organised crime
 - child sexual exploitation
 - modern day slavery
 - domestic abuse
 - threat of radicalisation
 - cyber related crime
 - supporting vulnerable victims
 - To identify and tackle anti-social behaviour hotspot locations and perpetrators
 - To reduce re-offending
 - To promote reassurance to our public to help make our communities stronger
- 3.8 These priorities are included in the proposed new Safer Guildford Partnership Plan 2017-2020 attached as **Appendix 1** to this report. The draft plan has been approved by the Executive of the Safer Guildford Partnership and is now being presented to the Council for formal adoption.
- 3.9 The Partnership's Operational Management Forum (OMF) will monitor Implementation of the Partnership Plan. This group is responsible for providing the Executive of the Partnership with regular reports on progress. The Executive is responsible for the overall delivery of the Partnership Plan.

Review of Safer Guildford Partnership

- 3.10 We recently completed a review of the Safer Guildford Partnership, which sought to ensure that:

- current ways of working continued to be effective;
- the partnership was fit for purpose and using evidence to inform its activities
- the membership was appropriate to deliver against its priorities
- the partnership was responding to changing national and local priorities

3.11 Arising from the review, we have introduced governance and reporting changes within the Partnership, including:

- new members to address gaps in partner representation, including representatives of mental health and probation;
- a revised delivery structure (as set out in **Appendix 1** to this report);
- new terms of reference, meeting schedule, agenda structure and performance management arrangements;
- the introduction of an annual review forum to maintain the effectiveness of the Partnership; and
- through a partnership development event, looking back at what has gone well and learning from what may not have.

3.12 The ambition of the Safer Guildford Partnership is to be intelligence led and use resources smartly to deliver its community safety plan. This will ensure effective performance and the delivery of tangible outcomes in the right place at the right time.

3.13 To support this approach, the Partnership has agreed to the creation of a Partnership Community Safety Analyst. This new role will be specific to produce a local strategic assessment based on partnership intelligence and data, drive the work, and focus resources of the partnership. The role will also develop and implement a new performance management framework to enable the partnership to be accountable and improve and provide evidence of its effectiveness. The role will be a fixed term part-time contract for one year initially and the grading is subject to job evaluation. The role will report directly to the Community Safety Manager.

3.14 The review also concluded that the Partnership should adopt a strategic approach with a renewed focus on risk, vulnerability and harm. This will

provide a coordinated and coherent approach by partners to key issues, such as:

- serious and organised crime;
- child sexual exploitation;
- modern day slavery;
- prevent (radicalisation)
- cyber-crime

3.15 The Partnership will maintain operational delivery by addressing matters of local concern through the Community Harm and Risk Management Meeting (CHaRMM) and the Joint Action Group (JAG).

4. Financial Implications

4.1 The Safer Guildford Partnership Budget for 2017-18 is £56,337 which includes a carry forward of £28,000 and a £15,000 contribution from Guildford Borough Council. There is no central government funding available for Community Safety Partnerships in this financial year.

4.2 The funding for the Community Safety Analyst role will be funded jointly by a significant contribution from Surrey Police and carry forward monies from the Safer Guildford Partnership allocation.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 We have a statutory obligation under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to work with partners to address crime and disorder related matters, including the production of a community safety plan.

6. Human Resource Implications

6.1 There are no direct human resource implications arising from this report other than the new Community Safety Analyst post referred to previously.

7. Key Risks

7.1 The Safer Guildford Partnership continues to perform its statutory role, but this is in the context of reduced resources from partners and the removal of previous central government funding. This will require the Partnership to maintain its focus on agreed priority areas.

8. Consultations

- 8.1 This report has been prepared in consultation with partners from the Safer Guildford Partnership.
- 8.2 At its meeting on 18 July 2017, the Executive will consider this report. Any comments arising from the Executive meeting will be reported on the Order Paper.

9. Conclusion

- 9.1 The report sets out the structure, work and operation of the Safer Guildford Partnership. It also summarises the proposed future priorities of the Partnership, which are included in the Safer Guildford Partnership Plan 2017-2020.

10. Background Papers

- Surrey Joint Strategic Assessment 2017
- Safer Guildford Partnership Community Safety Plan 2014-2017

11. Appendices

Appendix 1: Safer Guildford Partnership Plan 2017-2020.