

**MINUTES OF THE CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2010**

**Present:**

Councillor Philippa A. Broom (Chairman)

Councillor S.J Rough (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors:

Miss M.M. Bain

H.R. Jaffer

L.E. Nichols

A.P. Hirst

Mrs I. Napper

G. F. Trussler

**Apologies:** Councillors Mrs E.M. Bell, S.E.W. Budd, K. Chouhan and Mrs C.E. Nichols.

An apology was also received from Sarah Haywood from Surrey Police Authority.

**In Attendance:**

Councillor Ernest Mallett - Spelthorne Member for the Surrey Police Authority  
Inspector Sarah Greenhalgh – Surrey Police.

**328/10        DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

None reported.

**329/10        THE SPELTHORNE STRONGER, SAFER PARTNERSHIP**

The Committee was given a short presentation by Tim Kita, Head of Community Safety and Corporate Services. The presentation provided information about the work undertaken by the Stronger and Safer Partnership and outlined the targets for the years between 2010 and 2013 for reduction in crime. The presentation also provided statistics and data for current crime levels within Spelthorne and identified crime projections. It also highlighted issues and challenges facing the Partnership as well as opportunities. A copy of the presentation is **attached**.

The Committee considered the report and following on from the presentation a discussion took place about the statistics and data showing the increase and decrease in crime levels within Spelthorne. Inspector Sarah Greenhalgh provided specific details about particular crimes taking place in the Borough.

During the discussion, Ernest Mallett, Spelthorne Member for the Surrey Police Authority and Inspector Sarah Greenhalgh provided details about the possibility of using proceeds of crime for community based projects.

The Committee considered the impact of local sponsorship and external agencies to support projects that bring greater awareness of the dangers of

drugs and crime. It was noted that limited sponsorship was already in place and was being pursued for certain schemes.

The Committee noted that the National Performance Indicators had been abolished which would enable both the County and the Borough Councils to set their own targets, which was felt more suited to accommodate local challenges and the needs of the local community.

Arising from the recent spending cuts, the County Safer, Stronger Board was currently undertaking a comprehensive review of community safety services across the county to be completed in December 2010. The main aim of the review was to:

- achieve maximum performance at a reduced cost;
- review existing delivery structures; and
- review funding for Partnership posts, and the role of partners.

The Committee, in discussing the current action plan noted that out of the 50 action points, 38 were on target and 4 had been completed.

Overall crime in the Borough had continued to reduce with the exception of drugs (up by 6%) and theft (up by 7%). Members discussed whether this was due to the current economic climate and rising unemployment or whether this was due to more offences being detected. It was suggested that the NHS could be encouraged to be more influential in the work of the Partnership by continuing to raise awareness of alcohol and drug abuse, but it was recognised that they had become more involved in Partnership work generally during the last few years.

The Committee considered the current funding streams available to the Partnership and the possible changes that would occur under the spending review. It was noted that:

- 1) The pooled budget was funded by key stakeholders such as the Borough Council, County Council, Surrey Police and the [NHS Surrey](#)
- 2) The Basic Command Unit Fund would cease at the end of the financial year as part of the spending review.
- 3) The Area Based Grant was allocated via the County Council but was likely to be effected by the spending review and had already faced a 50% reduction in the capital allocation and 20% reduction in the revenue allocation.

Full details of the current budget together with projections were also submitted.

The Committee in acknowledging that under the spending review funding would be reduced received an assurance that a robust monitoring system was in place to ensure that the budget balanced and all external funding was spent.

The Committee discussed the numerous projects and initiatives organised by the Partnership and made particular reference to the success of PAD's (Partnership Action Days), Junior Citizen and the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

It was noted that the Police Neighbourhood Teams would be co-located in the Council Offices which would enhance the Partnership working arrangements.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1) To note the report of the Head of Community Safety and Corporate Services and to support the action being taken to progress the work of the Partnership; and
- 2) That the findings of the review being undertaken by the County Safer, Stronger Board be circulated to all Committee Members in December 2010 (or as soon as complete) together with details of the final reductions in the Area Based Grant, following which the Chairman in liaison with Officers decide whether there is a need for the matter to be reported back to the Committee in February 2011.

**330/10          WORK PROGRAMME**

No additional issues had been identified at this stage apart from circulating the findings of the County Safer, Stronger Board on the review of Community Safety Services in December 2010.