

SPELTHORNE BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Borough is fortunate to have a dedicated Community Safety Team and which is part funded by the Partnership.

The Council plays the lead role in producing the yearly strategic assessment which identifies the Partnership's priorities for the coming year, based on information and intelligence provided by partners and consultations. This year our key priorities are:-

- To reduce crime
- To reduce anti-social behaviour
- To reduce re-offending

and to increase confidence and reassurance.

As the Chair mentioned earlier, the overall crime rate is **down** and so were the following crimes for that period (April – July):-

Vehicle crime	-16%
Criminal damage	-23%
Anti-social behaviour	-4.5%

The following increased:-

Domestic burglary	+ 34%
Theft (non vehicles)	+ 12%

and no change in:-

Serious violent crime

In relation to crime statistics we are compared to 14 other similar Councils called our 'family' – for a variety of crimes. Currently our performance is 12/15, the same as last year and one place better than in the previous year to that. We are working hard to improve our position.

If we compare our overall crime with our nearest neighbours – Elmbridge and Runnymede – for April – July, compared to last year – results are:

Spelthorne	-2.6%	(53 fewer crimes)
Runnymede	+1.6%	(30 more crimes)
Elmbridge	-7.6%	(198 fewer crimes)

Moving away from statistics, the Borough plays a key role in helping tackle neighbourhood issues – and has successfully organised a number of “street meets” – 5 so far this year. We have adopted minimum standards for dealing with complaints about anti-social behaviour and spend a great deal of time co-ordinating responses to anti-social behaviour concentrating on offenders, location and victims.

P.T.O.

The Council has an extensive network of CCTV in the main towns of Staines, Ashford and Shepperton, monitored 24/7 and a local network in various parks and other places. This year we have upgraded the Staines system, included SMS texting as a reporting option, improved and expanded the Sunbury Cross subway network and have plans to upgrade the camera in Hadfield Park, Stanwell and provide CCTV in the public area to the rear of The Parade Shops in Sunbury.

Other projects worthy of special mention include the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme – now 210 strong, the Community payback scheme which has seen offenders clearing sites, the Construction Bus teaching basic practical skills and 'Spelthorne's Got Talent' competition – focusing on links between alcohol and crime committed by young people – and of course Junior Citizen – working with over 1100 primary school children.

For next year, the Council will continue to focus on tackling neighbourhood anti-social behaviour issues, working closely with the Police in the new co-located offices and leading on the development of new priorities.