

Runnymede Borough CouncilCRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE5 July 2018 at 7.30.p.m.

Members of the

Committee present : Councillors M J Maddox (Chairman), P J Taylor (Vice-Chairman),
S L Dennett, T J F E Gracey, N M King and N H Prescott

Member of the

Committee absent: Councillors Mrs L M Gillham, S M Mackay and P S Sohi

140 FIRE PRECAUTIONS

The Chairman read out the Fire Precautions.

141 NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Group mentioned below had notified the Chief Executive of their wish that the change listed below be made to the membership of the Committee. The change was for a fixed period ending on the day after the meeting and thereafter the Councillor removed would be reappointed.

<u>Group</u>	<u>Remove From Membership</u>	<u>Appoint Instead</u>
Conservative	Councillor Mrs Y P Lay	Councillor N H Prescott

The Chief Executive had given effect to this request in accordance with Section 16(2) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

142 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 5 April 2018 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

143 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs L M Gillham.

144 RUNNYMEDE POLICING UPDATE

The Committee received a verbal update on policing in Runnymede from Inspector Pinkerton.

In light of the change in membership of the Committee this Municipal Year, further to the invitation of the Chairman, Inspector Pinkerton began by providing a summary of his experience and the remit of his role as the Inspector for the borough. Surrey Police worked closely and effectively with Runnymede Borough Council colleagues on a number of initiatives to improve the quality of life for Runnymede residents. This included action on fly tipping, Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO)s, unauthorised encampments and anti-social behaviour. Inspector Pinkerton highlighted that the priorities for Surrey Police in 2018-19 were Domestic Abuse, Hate Crime, Domestic Burglary and Victim Care and Satisfaction.

It was highlighted that some 23 police officers had been assaulted since the last meeting of this Committee, on average one assault per week. It was noted that local Police Officers in this Borough attended on average 180-200 incidents per week. Since the last meeting of the Committee, it was noted that there had been 131 missing person enquiries, 35 of which were classed as High Risk. In addition, 149 child protection incidents had been investigated and 371 'concern for safety, mental health and vulnerable adult' incidents.

Members queried the level of child protection orders. The Committee was advised that the number were not an abnormally high level of incidents within the borough, and that some recorded incidents might include repetition due to repeated visits to the same abode.

It was noted that the area of highest police demand in the borough was Holloway Hill (St Peter's Hospital and ACU), which accounted for some 18-20% of Police work across the borough. To address this, ongoing work with St Peter's Hospital to reduce calls on police resources was highlighted.

The work of the Community Harm and Risk Management meetings (CHaRMM) and Joint Action Group (JAG) were highlighted; in particular the work with Surrey County Council (SCC) to address traveller site issues and with Thorpe Park following their night events. Other examples were cited as to the good work achieved by both groups borough wide.

Total notifiable offences reported to Surrey Police for this year to date were 8.8% up (119 offences). It was explained that a major factor in the previous 20% increase of domestic burglaries recorded by the police was due to the Home Office requiring incidents including sheds and garages to be included as from September 2017. Efforts to address domestic burglary were noted, including a recent Operation leading to 50 arrests (since November 2017) that had led to 17 individuals being charged.

Inspector Pinkerton highlighted the continued need for all partners to enable data sharing so as to ensure that the police were assisted in their investigation.

The increase in the local Traveller population and unauthorised encampments was noted, along with the new police protocol for exercising their statutory powers regarding removal; it was noted that there would be a presumption by the police not to exercise their powers unless there was clear harm or where those within the encampment had indicated that their stay would exceed seven days. Members noted the difference in opinion between the Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey and Surrey Local Council Leaders regarding the effectiveness of transit sites. The police were invited by Members to clarify how many transit sites were required and their proposed location so that the public were clear what the police believed to be needed.

Further to a specific request in the last Municipal Year, Inspector Pinkerton provided data on domestic burglaries in the Virginia Water area and the Committee noted that whilst there was a spike in such incidents in November and December 2017, they had since reduced and the figures were back within the norm for the area.

Members queried if there were any statistics or evidence regarding an increase in incidents this last year further to the decision by SCC to turn off street lights within the borough at night. The Committee was advised that there was no evidential link between SCC's decision and the latest recorded crime figures, nor had a pattern in behaviour been noted to suggest any negative impact.

Members noted the details of the two recently approved PSPOs in Addlestone and Egham which prohibited specified activities in a defined public area, queried the delayed implementation of these PSPOs and asked for more information regarding the proposed publicity of these Orders. It was noted that the Council decided to allow for a grace period of six weeks to ensure that the public were provided sufficient time to appreciate the effect

of the Orders before they were to be enforced. Inspector Pinkerton agreed to inform the Committee of the planned strategy and efforts to publicise these PSPOs.

Members raised concerns regarding ongoing parking issues on the A30. The Committee was advised that as the area was classed as a rural clearway, Council Officers had no power to assist the police addressing this issue. It was believed that the main cause was infrequent visitors to the local area; the police were liaising with the Crown Estate and Surrey County Council to place bollards at pinch points to manage the issue. The Crown Estate had also been invited to place multi-lingual parking signs in the area to help advise foreign visitors of the parking restrictions. Members commended the police's efforts to address these issues.

Members sought assurances regarding police presence at Armistice celebrations. The Committee was advised that there would be a presence on Remembrance Day at Chertsey, Egham, Addlestone and the RAF memorial.

Members of the Committee thanked Inspector Pinkerton for his comprehensive presentation. The Chairman repeated Members' offer of support to the police, where it was possible to do so. The Inspector expressed his appreciation for the Council's support at all levels of the authority.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 8.22 p.m.)