

Runnymede Borough Council

CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE

6 February 2019 at 7.30 p.m.

Members of the Committee present : Councillors M J Maddox (Chairman), P J Taylor (Vice-Chairman)  
S L Dennett, Mrs L M Gillham, T J F E Gracey, P S Sohi and Mrs G Warner

Member of the Committee absent: Councillors N M King and S M Mackay

460 FIRE PRECAUTIONS

The Chairman read out the Fire Precautions.

461 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.

<b>Group</b>	<b>Remove from Membership</b>	<b>Appoint Instead</b>
Conservative	Councillor Mrs Y P Lay	Councillor Mrs G Warner

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

462 MINUTES

Runnymede Policing Update – Subject to change of wording in the penultimate paragraph from ‘reporting’ to ‘littering’, the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 4 October 2018 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

463 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor N M King.

464 RUNNYMEDE POLICING UPDATE

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

Runnymede had the lowest total of Total Notifiable Offences (TNO) for the three Northern Boroughs. It had the sixth lowest level of reported crime in 2018 and the greatest reduction in reports of overall crime in Surrey this year to date.

In 2017 – 2018 there had been a large increase in residential burglary but due to a concerted effort Surrey Police were now seeing significant decreases. For this financial year to date (until the end of January 2019) there had been a 55% reduction in residential burglaries. It was noted that this reduction was after the Home Office’s redefinition of residential burglaries (effective from September 2017) which included offences in garden sheds and free-standing garages.

However, it was reported that there had been a worrying increase in vehicle crime and in particular thefts from tradesmen's vans. Plans to combat this type of crime included prevention work including Selecta DVA marking of tools, targeted overt patrolling and use of social media to alert residents daily when there had been a crime.

Crime was not the largest component of Officers duty time. Safeguarding vulnerable persons and dealing with mental health issues took a significant amount of rostered hours. Estimates showed that non crime responses accounted for between 60%-80% of response Officer time. The Holloway Hill Hospitals (St Peters and ACU) were the greatest point of demand in Surrey.

Public confidence in neighbourhood policing in Runnymede had remained broadly consistent this quarter at 90.2%. 69% of the public in Runnymede agreed that the Police were dealing with the crime and ASB that mattered in the area.

Hate Crime was monitored with particular regard to any extra offences caused by Brexit. To date, Brexit had caused no apparent increase in Hate Crime. Runnymede was sixth of 11 Surrey Boroughs for reported Hate Crimes for the year to date.

The Committee was advised that the latest additions to JAG were:  
Thorpe Industrial Estate, Heathervale Park New Haw and Waitrose car park in Egham.

It was reported that the existing Public Space Protection Orders in Central Addlestone and Hazel Close, Englefield Green were ongoing and both had reduced anti-social behaviour significantly in their localities.

Last summer had been a particularly difficult one with regard to the numbers and types of illegal encampments. During the last year various improvements had been implemented to improve responses to unauthorised encampments which included new procedures, joint working and further training.

A large number of vulnerable people and drug users made Runnymede a prime location for County lines to operate from. Using intelligence packs as a guide proactive patrols were undertaken in Chertsey, Addlestone and Egham areas. Visits were also made to local vulnerable persons who might be at risk of cuckooing. The aim of these visits was to safeguard the vulnerable persons and gather intelligence.

Incidents of suspected selling of alcohol to underage children in a particular area was raised by a member of the Committee. The Inspector confirmed he had not received any reports of this. Police Officers and Trading Standards both regularly did 'test buys', but should Members have any concerns or reports of suspected underage selling of alcohol they could contact him direct at anytime.

Inspector Pinkerton was thanked for the 'Meet the Beat' sessions which had been running throughout the Borough. These had been very well received by residents.

Inspector Pinkerton stressed to Members the value of the close working relationship with Safer Runnymede which produced very good results particularly in relation to the evidence they collected.

The Committee thanked Inspector Pinkerton for his comprehensive update.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 8.07 pm.)