

# Crime and Disorder Committee

Thursday 4 February 2021 at 7.30pm

**This meeting will be held remotely via MS Teams with audio access to the public for the items via registered dial-in only**

## Members of the Committee

Councillors J Furey (Chairman), T Gracey (Vice-Chairman), A Alderson, M Brierley, J Broadhead, S Dennett, R Edis, L Gillham and S Mackay.

In accordance with Standing Order 29.1, any Member of the Council may obtain remote access via MS Teams to the meeting of this Committee, but may speak only with the permission of the Chairman of the Committee, if they are not a member of this Committee.

## AGENDA

### Notes:

- 1) Any report on the Agenda involving confidential information (as defined by section 100A(3) of the Local Government Act 1972) must be discussed in private. Any report involving exempt information (as defined by section 100I of the Local Government Act 1972), whether it appears in Part 1 or Part 2 below, may be discussed in private but only if the Overview and Scrutiny Select Committee so resolves.
- 2) The relevant 'background papers' are listed after each report in Part 1. Enquiries about any of the Agenda reports and background papers should be directed in the first instance to **Mr J Gurmin, Democratic Services Section, Law and Government Business Centre, Runnymede Civic Centre, Station Road, Addlestone (Tel: Direct Line: 01932 425624). (Email: [john.gurmin@runnymede.gov.uk](mailto:john.gurmin@runnymede.gov.uk))**.
- 3) Agendas and Minutes are available on a subscription basis. For details, please ring Mr B A Fleckney on 01932 425620. Agendas and Minutes for all the Council's Committees may also be viewed on [www.runnymede.gov.uk](http://www.runnymede.gov.uk).

Continued.....

4) If you wish to hear the debate for the items on this Agenda by audio via MS Teams you must register by 10.00 am on the day of the meeting with the Democratic Services Team by emailing your name and contact number to be used to dial-in to [democratic.services@runnymede.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@runnymede.gov.uk)

5) **Audio-Recording of Meeting**

As this meeting will be held remotely via MS Teams, you may only record the audio of this meeting. The Council will not be recording any remote meetings.

## **LIST OF MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION**

### **PART I**

#### **Matters in respect of which reports have been made available for public inspection**

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### **PART II**

#### **Matters involving Exempt or Confidential Information in respect of which reports have not been made available for public inspection.**

a) **Exempt Information**

(No reports to be considered under this heading)

b) **Confidential Information**

(No reports to be considered under this heading)

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

TERM	EXPLANATION
<b>ABC</b>	Acceptable Behaviour Contract
<b>ACC</b>	Assistant Chief Constable (SP)
<b>ASB</b>	Anti Social Behaviour
<b>BIM</b>	Borough Intelligence Model – Safer Runnymede’s online ASB reporting forms
<b>BTP</b>	British Transport Police
<b>CCG</b>	Clinical Commissioning Group
<b>CCTV</b>	Closed Circuit Television
<b>CBO</b>	Criminal Behaviour Order
<b>CEOP</b>	Child Exploitation and Online Protection
<b>CHaRMM</b>	Community Harm and Risk Management Meeting – multi agency group which reports to the CPS and deals with problem individuals.
<b>CPN</b>	Community Protection Notice
<b>CPS</b>	Crown Prosecution Service
<b>CRA</b>	Crime Reduction Advisor
<b>CSE</b>	Child Sexual Exploitation
<b>CSP</b>	Community Safety Partnership
<b>CSS</b>	Community Safety Strategy
<b>CT</b>	Counter Terrorism
<b>DA</b>	Domestic Abuse (Surrey County Council’s preferred terminology rather than Domestic Violence)
<b>DAAT</b>	Drug & Alcohol Advisory Team commissioning body for drug & alcohol services.
<b>DV</b>	Domestic Violence (national recognised term)
<b>DVD</b>	Digital Versatile Disc
<b>DVPN</b>	Domestic Violence Protection Notice
<b>EH</b>	Environmental Health
<b>EIA</b>	Equality Impact Assessment
<b>FGM</b>	Female Genital Mutilation
<b>FPN</b>	Fixed Penalty Notices
<b>GOSE</b>	Government Office of the South East
<b>HBV</b>	Honour Based Violence
<b>HMIC</b>	Her Majesty’s Inspector of Constabularies
<b>ICADs</b>	Intergraph Control & Dispatch System – Police computer system for call handling & dispatching work.
<b>IDVA</b>	Independent Domestic Abuse Advisor – attached to specialist Domestic Abuse Courts
<b>IHC</b>	Incident Handling Centre – Police call centre
<b>IOM</b>	Integrated Offender Management – probation led multi agency work to provide a comprehensive support program to individuals

<b>ISP</b>	Information Sharing Protocol
<b>IT</b>	Information Technology
<b>JAG</b>	Joint Action Group - multi agency group which reports to the CSP and deals with problem locations or crime types
<b>JC</b>	Junior Citizen
<b>KPIs</b>	Key Performance Indicators
<b>MAISP</b>	Multi Agency Information Sharing Protocol – umbrella policy which the SISP operates within.
<b>MAPPAs</b>	Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements – deals with precautions and plans around known sex offenders and high risk individuals in the Borough
<b>MARACs</b>	Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences – deals with precautions and plans around individuals involved in Domestic Abuse and their families.
<b>NEET</b>	Not in education, employment or training
<b>NHW</b>	Neighbourhood Watch
<b>North Cluster</b>	Police area which includes Runnymede, Spelthorne & Elmbridge.
<b>NSO</b>	Neighbourhood Specialist Officer (Police)
<b>NT</b>	Neighbourhood Team (Police)
<b>PADs</b>	Partnership Action Days – multi agency events which involve the public to reassure, offer information or build community spirit
<b>PCC</b>	Police Crime Commissioner
<b>PCSO</b>	Police Community Support Officers
<b>PCT</b>	Primary Care Trust
<b>PPOMP</b>	Prolific & Priority Offender Management Panel – Multi agency group which works with individuals over 18 years of age who are already known to the criminal justice system.
<b>PSPO</b>	Public Spaces Protection Order
<b>RBC</b>	Runnymede Borough Council
<b>REED</b>	Roadside Education & Enforcement Days
<b>RHUL</b>	Royal Holloway University of London
<b>RPCSO</b>	Roads Police Community Support Officer
<b>SARCs</b>	Specialist Assault Rape Centres
<b>SECAMBS</b>	South East Coast Ambulance Service
<b>SCC</b>	Surrey County Council
<b>SCSU</b>	Surrey Community Safety Unit
<b>SDVC</b>	Specialist Domestic Violence Courts
<b>SFRS</b>	Surrey Fire & Rescue Service
<b>SISP</b>	Surrey Information Sharing Protocol particularly for crime & disorder purposes sits under the MAISP
<b>SNT</b>	Safer Neighbourhood Team
<b>SOC</b>	Serious Organised Crime
<b>SR</b>	Safer Runnymede Care & Control Centre

<b>SSCPB</b>	Safer & Stronger Communities Partnership Board
<b>YES</b>	Youth Engagement Scheme short program run by Surrey Fire & Rescue Service
<b>YJS</b>	Youth Justice Service
<b>YRI</b>	Youth Restorative Intervention

1. **NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

2. **MINUTES**

To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 1 October 2020 attached at Appendix 'A'. As this meeting is being held remotely, the Chairman will ask Members of the Committee if they approve these Minutes which will then be signed when this is physically possible.

**(To resolve)**

**Background papers**

None

Runnymede Borough Council

## APPENDIX 'A'

CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE1 October 2020 at 6.30.p.m. via MS Teams

Members of the Committee present: Councillors J Furey (Chairman), T Gracey (Vice-Chairman), A Alderson, J Broadhead, S Dennett, R Edis and L Gillham.

Members of the Committee absent: Councillors M Brierley and S Mackay.

228 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 4 July 2019 were confirmed as a correct record. As the meeting was being held remotely using MS Teams, the Chairman would sign these minutes when this was physically possible.

229 RUNNYMEDE POLICING UPDATE

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

Runnymede continued to have the lowest total of Total Notifiable Offences (TNO)s of the three Boroughs in the Northern Surrey Police Division (which consists of the Elmbridge, Runnymede and Spelthorne boroughs) and accounts for 30% of the reported crime for the Division. This was a stable figure, and Runnymede had the lowest numbers in all categories of offences except for residential burglary where Spelthorne had a lower number. Runnymede had the sixth highest level of reported crime in Surrey to date this financial year with the nearest equivalent Borough in Surrey being Tandridge. So far this year, Runnymede had recorded 607 TNOs which ranked Runnymede the seventh highest of the 11 Surrey districts with the nearest equivalent Surrey district being Elmbridge. Overall police demand was up 4.1% over the last 12 months in Runnymede. Runnymede was the only borough in Surrey to show an increase in demand even though its TNO total was slightly down.

Runnymede had continued to maintain its police attendance rate for Grade 1 incidents over the last twelve months with 68% attended with 15 minutes and 49% of Grade 2 incidents attended within 60 minutes. Both were just above the force average. St Peter's Hospital and the Abraham Cowley Unit accounted for 391 police attendances over the last 12 months which was a 15% reduction compared to the previous twelve months. Runnymede police were working with the management of both St Peter's Hospital and the separate Abraham Cowley Unit to reduce police attendances and incidents in these locations.

Residential burglary remained a priority for both Runnymede and the Northern Surrey police Division. A dedicated operation (Operation Spearhead) utilising Criminal Investigation Officers and local response teams had succeeded in reducing these offences and this year there had been significantly reduced levels of residential burglary. In the 2019-20 financial year there had been 51% more residential burglaries in Runnymede than in the previous financial year. In response, the police had targeted and arrested known local burglars and had also worked with other forces in the South East region to deal with cross-border offenders. These were particularly connected with keyless car thefts of high value vehicles and "Asian Gold" burglaries.

Inspector Pinkerton was pleased to report that for the financial year to date (17/09/2020) there had been 115 Residential Burglaries in Runnymede compared to 163 in the same period last year. There had been a significant reduction in offences during lockdown. In



April 2020, there had only been 5 offences (compared to 23 in the same period last year) which was undoubtedly due to the Coronavirus Regulations of 23 March 2020. There had been twice as many shed break-ins compared to the equivalent period for last year. The main motivation for the shed break-in crime appeared to be to steal bicycles and the police were using social media to alert the public to the need to make their property more secure.

Currently Addlestone was the area with the most residential burglary offences in Runnymede and accounted for 26% of the total for the borough. Chertsey was the second highest area for these offences. Since 01/04/2020, 59% of residential burglaries had occurred in the south of the borough with 41% in the north of Runnymede. New Haw had the biggest reduction and Egham and Virginia Water had both seen a significant reduction. The police were putting out marked patrols in central Addlestone and also deploying plain clothes officers and continued to keep residents informed through social media and to provide free crime prevention advice. All burglary victims were visited first by response officers and then by Police Community Support Officers who provided both reassurance and practical preventative advice.

Vehicle crime and especially thefts from vans had significantly declined after targeted patrol activity and provision of DNA kits to victims. The Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner had given Runnymede police a financial contribution towards these DNA kits. One growth area of crime was theft of catalytic converters especially from Toyota and Honda cars. This type of offence had increased because of a rise in the cost of the precious metals in the catalytic converters. This crime was much more prevalent in Surrey than Sussex, probably because Surrey was closer to London. Incidents appeared to occur along major roads. In Runnymede, hospital car parks and Thorpe Park car park had been hot spots for this crime and the police were working with the management of these organisations to improve the security of these car parks.

Whilst the numbers of violence with injury offences had declined in Runnymede there had been a 22% increase in violence without injury offences. These were usually threats to injure or harm. The Committee was concerned about this large increase. It was noted that this crime was difficult to control as most of the threats were made on social media platforms. Despite the police warning the public that they could acquire a criminal record if they continued to make online threats of physical violence, some people continued to behave irresponsibly by threatening to harm and sometimes even to kill other people. It would not be possible for the social media platforms to remove this online correspondence as these platforms were run by companies based in the United States of America. That country was prepared to tolerate a greater level of online abuse than the United Kingdom on the grounds that there should not be interference with the public's right to free expression of opinion. The same level of tolerance did not apply to the United Kingdom and the police had to enforce the law as it applied in the United Kingdom.

There were several "County Lines" operating regularly in Runnymede and they were subject to on-going concerted policework. County Lines used dedicated mobile phone lines to take orders from drug users. Offenders targeted various kinds of vulnerable people including children and adults with substance misuse issues, mental health conditions or learning development disorders. Recently Runnymede police's Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) had been working closely with local Housing Trusts in relation to two identified vulnerable adults at risk of being "cuckooed" (i.e. having their place of residence taken over by drug dealers). The SNT had carried out safeguarding visits and had worked with charities, including Catalyst, who provided drug and alcohol support. Runnymede SNT had made 465 visits to vulnerable people as part of safeguarding. In order to combat cuckooing, the police had obtained closure orders to prescribe which people were allowed to dwell in a particular residence. The police relied on intelligence from various sources, including local authorities, in taking action against cuckooing. The police did not record the numbers of premises that were cuckooed.

Operation Annexe which began in February 2020 focused on two Addlestone peer group gangs of young people who were involved in anti-social behaviour (ASB), drug use and supply, criminal damage, intimidation and harassment. Core and peripheral gang members had been identified and targeted and warrants had been obtained. The number of recorded incidents involving these gangs had greatly declined due to persistent police action against the principal members and also through visible policing especially in central Addlestone and Rowtown. Child victims had been raised with Children's Services and monthly multi-agency Complex Strategy Meetings were held to share information and promote a consistent approach across agencies. Two of the leading gang members had now been arrested and charged with possession with intent to supply drugs. The police had also secured three charges against a local prolific offender for supplying nitrogen oxide canisters to people under 18 years of age.

Local police had carried out a considerable amount of work to detect and prevent modern slavery in Runnymede. They had closed brothels and inspected nail bars and car washes, and the SNT had run an operation to prevent road haulage vehicles and coaches being used to facilitate clandestine entry. SNT teams had visited numerous local haulier and coach companies and depots to provide advice and had checked their credentials to ensure they complied with relevant legislation and liaised with the Border Force. All details had been obtained and then shared as intelligence with the relevant departments and agencies. Runnymede SNT also were part of a pro-active operation to prevent potential modern slavery across agricultural and food processing sites in Surrey.

The police had worked with Runnymede Borough Council and the Environment Agency against large-scale fly tipping which was an organised criminal enterprise. In July, for example, the SNT had assisted the Council's Environmental Health Officers and the Environment Agency in taking action on an unauthorised encampment at a private derelict property in Thorpe. In view of the large scale of fly tipping at the location, the Environment Agency were the lead agency, but Surrey Police had provided officers and a drone to gather evidence.

Runnymede remained in sixth place out of 11 Surrey districts for ASB incidents. The pattern of incidents in terms of locations in Runnymede was similar to previous years. 54% of reports for this year to date were for rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour. Overall complaints to police about ASB were up 54% but had been declining each month since April 2020. Since Government measures designed to reduce the spread of COVID-19 had come into effect, additional reports of ASB and gatherings had been received where people were not respecting these restrictions.

The greatest growth area for ASB in Runnymede was rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour. There were only two reports for street drinking and only 15 reports for vehicle nuisance. The Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO)s covering central Addlestone and Englefield Green had reduced ASB complaints especially about youths. They provided additional powers of dispersal to police officers. A breach of the PSPO was a criminal offence which could be dealt with either by way of a fixed penalty notice of up to £100 or prosecution. Both PSPOs were currently under review and the police hoped that they would continue as a deterrent to ASB in these areas.

For the most recent quarter, approximately 70% of the ASB victims who had been contacted by Runnymede police had provided feedback on the service that they had received. Runnymede had the highest satisfaction level out of the eleven Surrey districts for the way the police dealt with ASB. Respondents had been impressed with the speed of service and knowledge of officers and had also reported that the officers were helpful, had good manners and showed understanding for victims of ASB.

It was noted that Rowtown's crime figures were included within the New Haw crime statistics and that the policing areas and local authority boundaries were not always coterminous. The Committee agreed that it would be helpful to receive details of

convictions obtained by the police when compared to investigations. The Committee was advised that this would not be possible for County Lines work, but that Members of the Committee could be advised of the domestic burglary conviction figures for Runnymede and Inspector Pinkerton agreed to provide this for the Committee.

A Member asked whether any further action could be taken to stop the playing of music and drinking late in the evening in Aviator Park, Addlestone. This activity was disturbing local residents. A skateboard zone was included within the Park. It was noted that Aviator Park was one of the police's response task areas and the police had liaised with Runnymede Borough Council on measures to deter ASB in the location. The area was well lit at night and had CCTV coverage. If people in the park were disorderly or drunk, they would be ejected by the police. It was suggested that a byelaw closing Aviator Park in the evening might be helpful but it was noted that this would have to be enforced and the police might have other areas with a greater level of criminal behaviour to patrol and would not be able to maintain regular patrols indefinitely. The Committee discussed whether the Park could be locked up in the evening or whether fencing could be put around it and it was noted that these might not be practical propositions. It was noted that the police would wish to establish the views of the skateboard zone users on any new proposals for Aviator Park before any further action was taken. The Committee concluded that probably there was no further action that could be taken but it was agreed that Runnymede Borough Council's Head of Green Space should be asked whether he was also of that opinion or whether he had any proposals for further action. The advice from the Head of Green Space would be reported to the Committee.

A Member was concerned about cars travelling in excess of speed limits in various locations including St. Peter's Way, Clay Corner, Ruxbury Road and Green Lane. It was noted that the police liaised with Surrey County Council Highways about speeding hotspots. St. Peter's Way and the road in the vicinity of the Veterinary Laboratories Agency in New Haw were two of these hotspots which were prioritised by the police after looking at information provided by Surrey Highways.

A Member also raised the issue of hoax telephone calls to the public where the hoaxer claimed that they were calling from a bank or other financial organisation in order to obtain information to try and steal money from the person (often an elderly person) receiving the call. This type of activity was described by the police as "spoofing". Current technology allowed these criminals to copy the telephone number of an authentic organisation so that the phone of the person receiving the call would show what appeared to be an authentic number. The Committee noted that if the public received these types of calls they should put the phone down. Banks would never ask for information over the telephone and the police had used a variety of means to get this message across to the public. Unfortunately, these types of crimes were difficult to detect. This was specialist area of police work where the City of London Police were undertaking the lead role.

The Committee asked Inspector Pinkerton whether Runnymede police had received any extra resources. It was noted that an additional Youth Engagement Officer should be arriving in November along with two more Neighbourhood Support Officers by the end of the year. Runnymede police resources had been stretched since the Covid-19 lockdown and existing crime levels had not lessened significantly following the various public restrictions imposed to lessen the spread of Coronavirus. As reported to the Committee earlier in the meeting, demand for the police in Runnymede was up by 4.1%. Runnymede police would therefore have more resources for 2021 than for 2020. These extra resources were funded by an increase in the police precept.

The Chairman stated that there could be a considerable delay sometimes of up to 11 months between an individual being appointed to a police post and starting work which he considered to be a long time. It was agreed that Inspector Pinkerton would ask the police training school to provide any figures they may have showing the time between a decision

being taken to employ an individual in a police post and that individual beginning their employment and advise Members of the Committee.

The Chairman referred to one of the observations made by the founder of the Metropolitan Police, Robert Peel, which was that one of the ways in which effective policing could be measured was by the absence of crime and disorder. Inspector Pinkerton replied by stating that this dictum ran like a gold thread through all police operations. It was noted that Runnymede police had local priorities which would further the aim of reducing crime and disorder, one of which was to reduce residential burglary. There were also priorities which applied to Surrey as a whole and Inspector Pinkerton agreed to circulate to Members of the Committee the Surrey Chief Constable's priorities for Surrey.

Inspector Pinkerton stated his view that policing should not be judged by the detection rate for crimes alone, although this would be one of the ways in which police performance would be assessed. The classification of crimes was continually changing which affected detection rate results, for example, residential burglary now included thefts from garages when previously this had fallen within the "other" type of burglary category. The numbers of crimes reported to the police throughout the country increased each year which meant that overall detection rates were likely to be lower than for 50 or 60 years ago when the crimes reported were far fewer. Police performance should be judged by a number of different measures. These might include, for example, public satisfaction, whether general crime had been reduced and detection rates for crime. There were certain types of crime where detection was difficult, for example "spoofing", as referred to earlier in the meeting. Furthermore, if a crime was reported a long time after it had occurred, this would make detection more problematic.

The Chairman stated that, in his view, the public had high expectations of the police which were set by the political agenda without the resources always being provided to the police to meet those expectations and he suggested that this was something which might be taken up with MPs by members of local authorities. Inspector Pinkerton stated that it was not appropriate for him to comment on political decisions on the resourcing levels of the police as this was a political matter. He also stated that the police were servants of the political process and the courts. As the police had to enforce the law, they appreciated well framed legislation. In the past legislation had been rushed through which had not been considered properly on subjects such as dangerous dogs or football violence which had made the enforcement of those laws more difficult for the police.

It was agreed that for future Crime and Disorder Committee meetings, the Committee would receive the slides and the notes on policing in the borough provided by Inspector Pinkerton as part of his update on policing in the borough.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman thanked Inspector Pinkerton for providing clear, concise and detailed information on police work in Runnymede.

## 230 SAFER RUNNYMEDE ANNUAL REPORT 2019

The Committee received a report from the Safer Runnymede Manager on the Safer Runnymede Annual Report 2019. The report detailed the operation of the service and third party organisations for which Safer Runnymede currently provided CCTV monitoring. The report also detailed the number of incidents recorded in the last year compared to the two previous years and the evidence produced by Safer Runnymede for use predominantly by the police. There were a number of development opportunities that had been progressed over the last year including a workstation at Staines Police Station and the increased use of redeployable (RD) cameras both inside and outside Runnymede.

The report had been due to be considered by the Committee at its meeting in April 2020, but that meeting had had to be cancelled because of the Covid-19 lockdown. It had not been possible for the Committee to consider the report during the summer as the Members

of the Committee, who also sat as the Overview and Scrutiny Select Committee, had held a series of meetings during July to consider the local response to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Safer Runnymede operated in compliance with the National Strategy for Public Space CCTV and were accredited to the Surveillance Camera Commissioner Code of Practice with level 2 accreditation in place until August 2023. Safer Runnymede operated in partnership with many organisations and individuals working for those organisations including the police Borough inspectors for Runnymede and Spelthorne.

The Safer Runnymede CCTV system was operated strictly in accordance with the agreed and published Code of Practice. This complied with the requirements of the Information Commissioner. This required complaints about misuse of cameras or invasion of privacy to be investigated and reported. There had been no CCTV related complaints in 2019. One subject access request had been received in 2019 which was a written request made by or on behalf of an individual for information. Three Privacy Impact Assessments had been conducted during 2019 under which privacy risks throughout the development life cycle of a program or system were identified and assessed. Five Freedom of Information requests had been received by Safer Runnymede in 2019 under legislation in which the public were entitled to receive information about Safer Runnymede's activities.

During 2019 Safer Runnymede had provided the police with evidence recorded on Digital Versatile Discs (DVD)s in 284 cases and a further 159 still photographs had been supplied to the police for identification purposes. A new portal had been developed where evidence could be uploaded to cloud servers which would mean Safer Runnymede officers could spend less time preparing DVDs and more time on monitoring cameras and other tasks.

Safer Runnymede had used three RD CCTV units across the Borough and had leased a further unit to partners at Spelthorne Borough Council. These RD cameras had contributed directly to the reduction in numbers of residential burglaries and incidents of ASB. They had also been used to support police operations in connection with County Lines drug dealing and closure orders for dwellings being used for drugs related crimes.

After considerable legal consultation and then subsequently a formal Data Sharing Agreement, Safer Runnymede had provided the police with a Safer Runnymede system workstation which was located in a secure environment at Staines Police Station. This was used by Surrey Police officers based in Staines as a forensic tool for the investigation of crime. It allowed the police to interrogate the video evidence system locally, in what was known as a modular form, thereby reducing the need to deploy officers to the Civic Offices at Addlestone for CCTV review. Surrey Police had obtained numerous benefits from this modular arrangement which Safer Runnymede hoped could be utilised elsewhere across Surrey, either at police stations or at Council Offices.

A number of organisations had shown an interest in entering into formal agreements with Safer Runnymede for the provision of CCTV services. Negotiations were currently taking place with those organisations. The Committee noted that Safer Runnymede had an operating deficit and was at present some way from a break even financial position. However, if the negotiations came to fruition, the deficit would be reduced.

The Network Management Information Centre (NMIC) at Leatherhead received images from Safer Runnymede's Public Space CCTV cameras via fibre links. The NMIC's role was to monitor traffic flow around the Surrey County Council area and the images were used to assist in traffic management or major incident planning. Runnymede did not receive images from the NMIS as it did not have a role in traffic management.

Although Surrey Police did make a financial contribution towards Safer Runnymede there was a clear reason for an increase in the level of their contribution as Safer Runnymede could demonstrate that they were increasing the efficiency of the police. The Chief

Financial Officer at Surrey Police had changed recently and Runnymede's officers would be making the case to this person for an increase in Surrey Police's financial contribution.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman thanked the Safer Runnymede Manager for the excellent work of his team and asked him to continue to strive towards expanding the number of organisations for which Safer Runnymede provided CCTV monitoring.

(The meeting ended at 7.45.p.m.)

Chairman

3. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

If Members have an interest in an item, please record the interest on the form circulated with this Agenda and e-mail it to the Legal Representative or Democratic Services Officer by 5.00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. **Members are advised to contact the Council's Legal section prior to the meeting if they wish to seek advice on a potential interest.**

Members are reminded that a non-pecuniary interest includes their appointment by the Council as the Council's representative to an outside body and that this should be declared. Membership of an outside body in their private capacity as a director, trustee, committee member or in another position of influence thereon **should be regarded as a disclosable pecuniary interest, as should an appointment to an outside body by the Council as a trustee.**

Members who have previously declared interests which are recorded in the Minutes to be considered at this meeting need not repeat the declaration when obtaining remote access to the meeting. Members need take no further action unless the item in which they have an interest becomes the subject of debate, in which event the Member must withdraw from the meeting if the interest is a disclosable pecuniary interest or if the interest could reasonably be regarded as so significant as to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest.

5. **RUNNYMEDE POLICING UPDATE (SURREY POLICE – INSPECTOR PINKERTON)**

**Synopsis of report:**

**To receive a presentation on policing in Runnymede provided by Inspector Pinkerton, the Borough Inspector.**

**Recommendation:**

**None - For information only.**

1. **Context of report**

1.1 In recent years, the Committee has received regular policing updates from Surrey Police.

2 **Report**

2.1 Inspector Pinkerton, the Borough Inspector will report to the Committee on policing in the Borough. The slides for his presentation are set out at Appendix 'B' attached. The notes to those slides are set out at Appendix 'C' attached.

**(For information)**

**Background Papers**

None

# Runnymede Crime and Disorder Committee

## 4th February 2021.

APPENDIX 'B'

SLIDE 1

19/01/21 – v.1.0



16



# Runnymede - Introduction

SLIDE 2

Increasing demand and a greater amount of safeguarding work

5<sup>th</sup> highest level of demand in Surrey

+ 6.3% total incidents investigated over the last 12 months

+ 10.3% Grade 1 & 2 incidents attended over the last 12 months

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# General Crime Situation in Runnymede

SLIDE 3

TNO – 7.4%

30% reported crime on Northern Division.

**Greatest reductions:**

- Residential Burglary (-45%)
- Theft (-21%)
- Vehicle crime (-27%).

**but**

- Violence +15.2% (of which 22% of offences is linked to physical injury)

18

# Runnymede Crime Trends

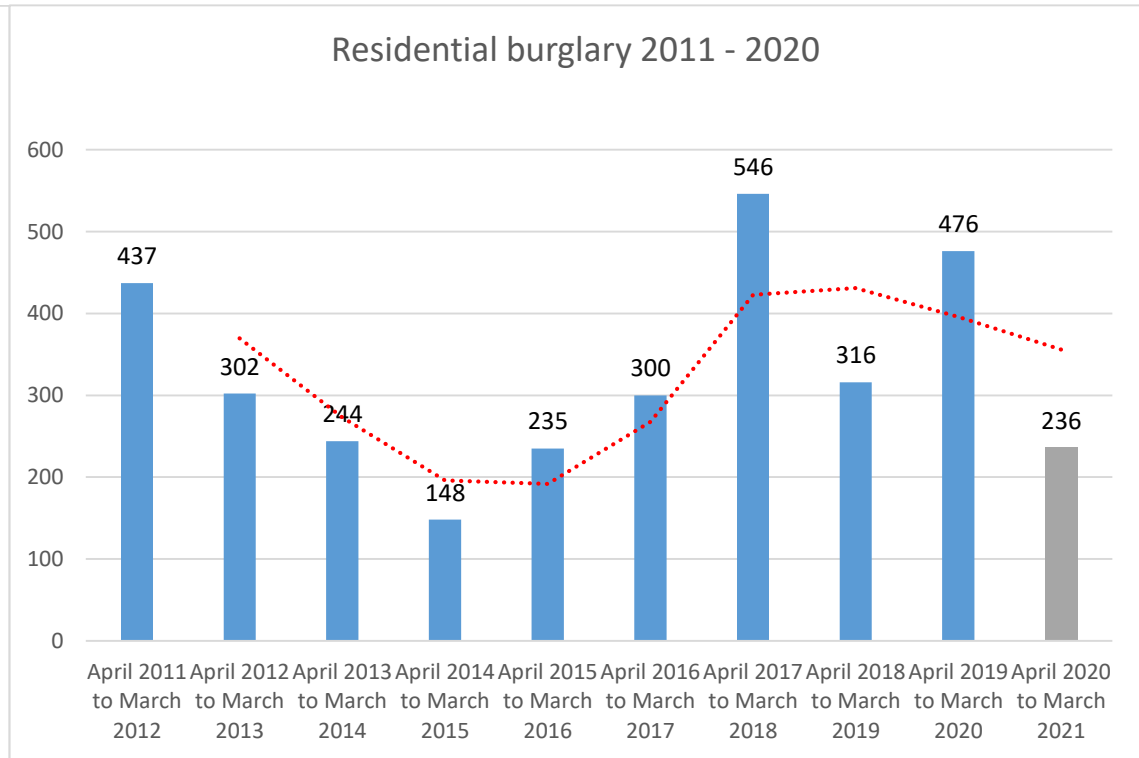
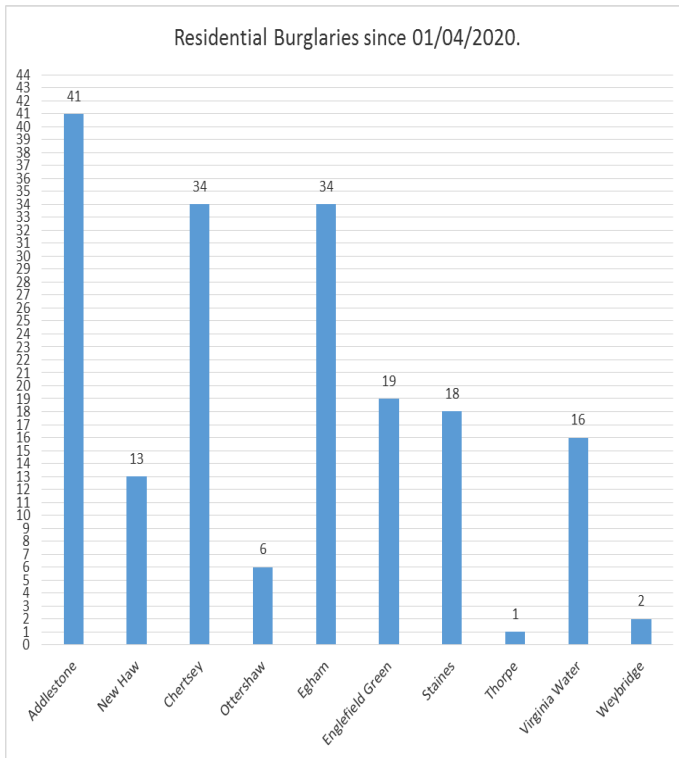
SLIDE 4

Year on year April  
2020 - end of  
December 2020.      Share of  
   crime type

Offence	Elmbridge	Spelthorne	Runnymede	Northern
Burglary	37%	37%	26%	100%
Criminal Damage	34%	36%	30%	100%
Drugs	32%	31%	37%	100%
Violence with injury	34%	37%	29%	100%
Vehicle crime (-intf)	34%	41%	25%	100%
TNO	35%	35%	30%	100%

# Runnymede Residential Burglary

SLIDE 5



Fifth highest Borough for Residential Burglary offences by volume in Surrey.  
Highest per 1,000 dwellings

20

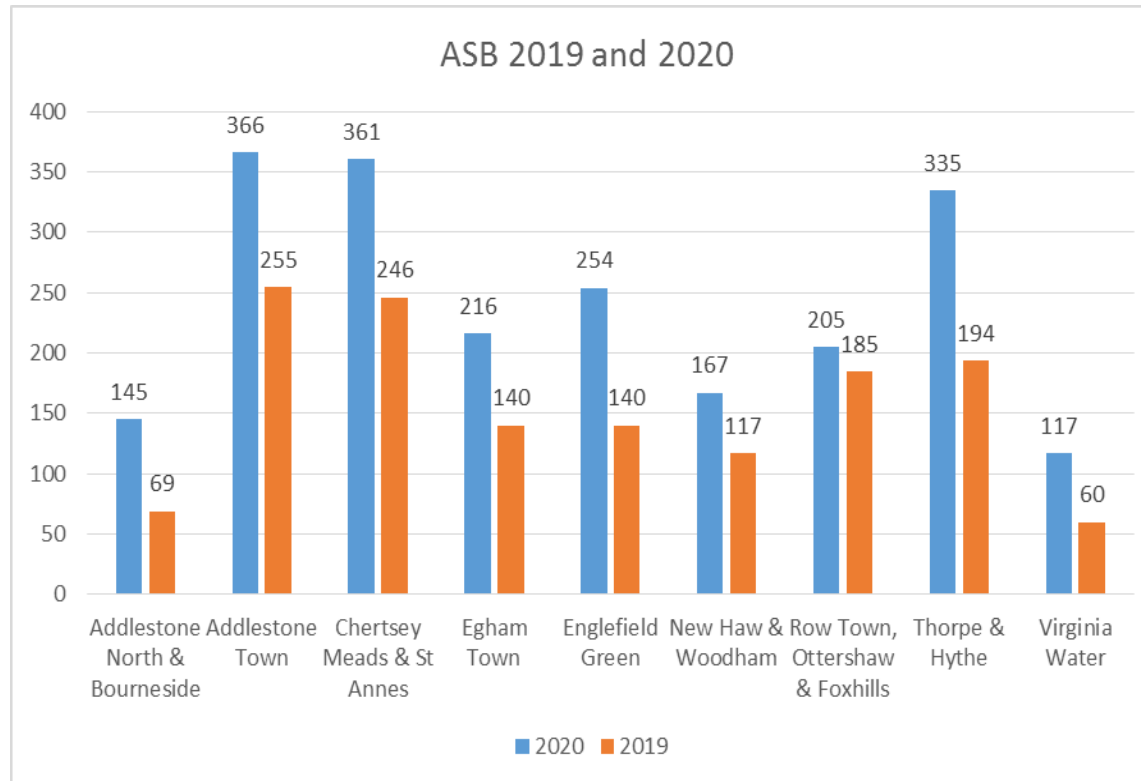
# Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

SLIDE 6

There has been a 55% rise in Anti-Social Behaviour.

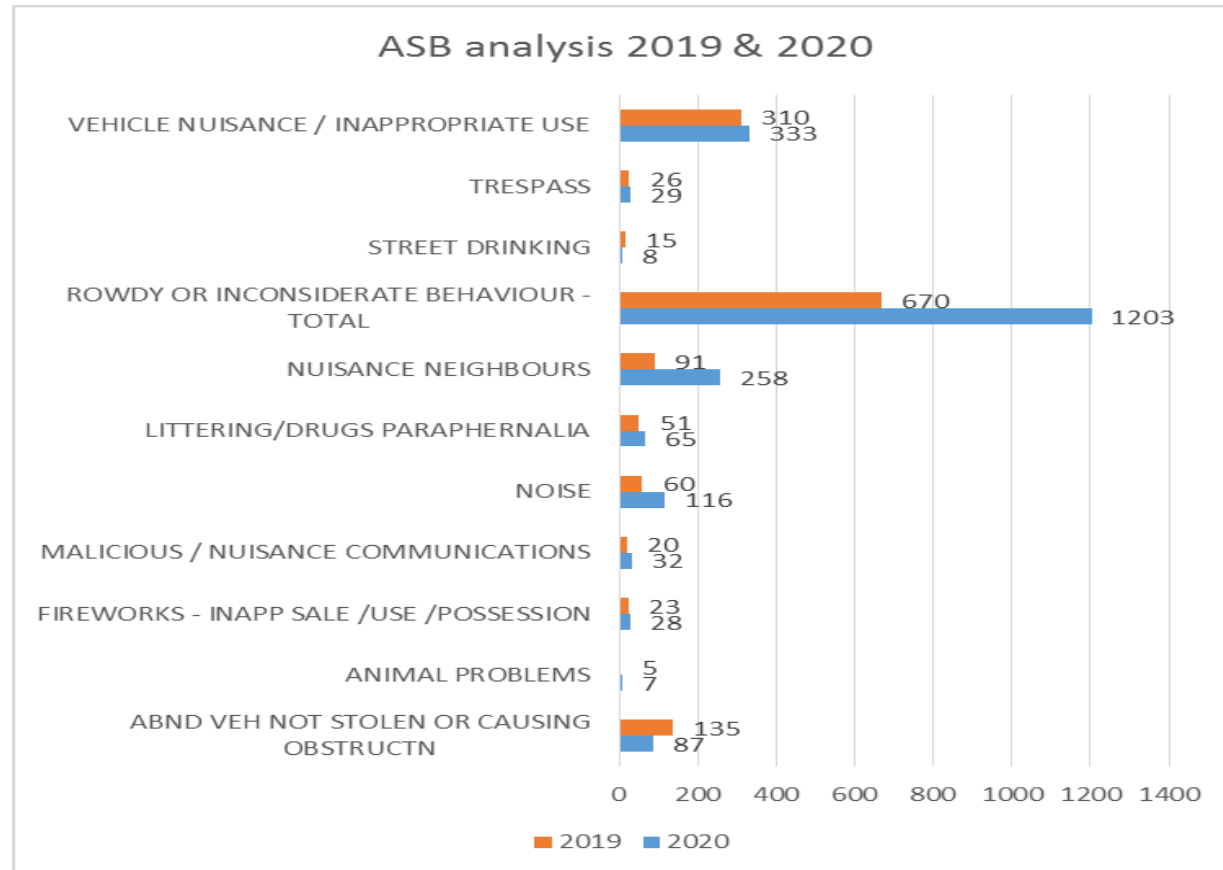
55% of reports this FYTD are for Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour. 15% are for Vehicle Nuisance.

Chertsey Meads & St Annes, Addlestone Town, and Thorpe and Hythe remain the top three wards with 50% of incidents.



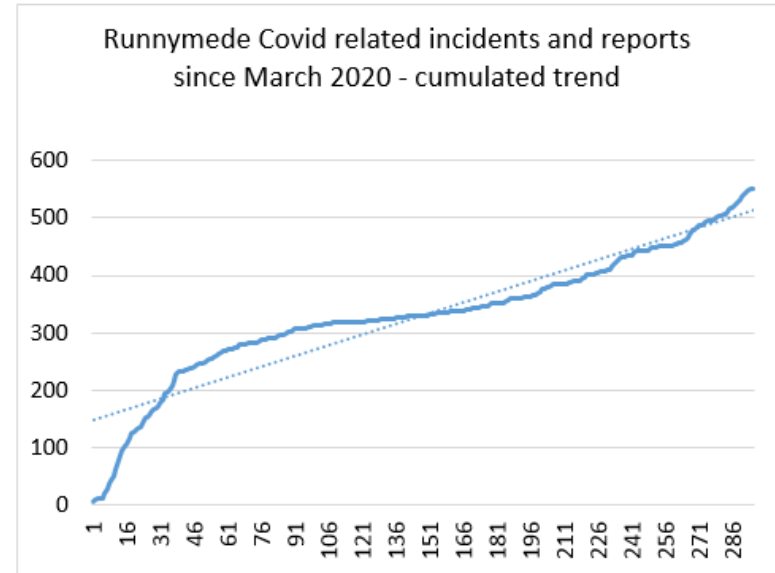
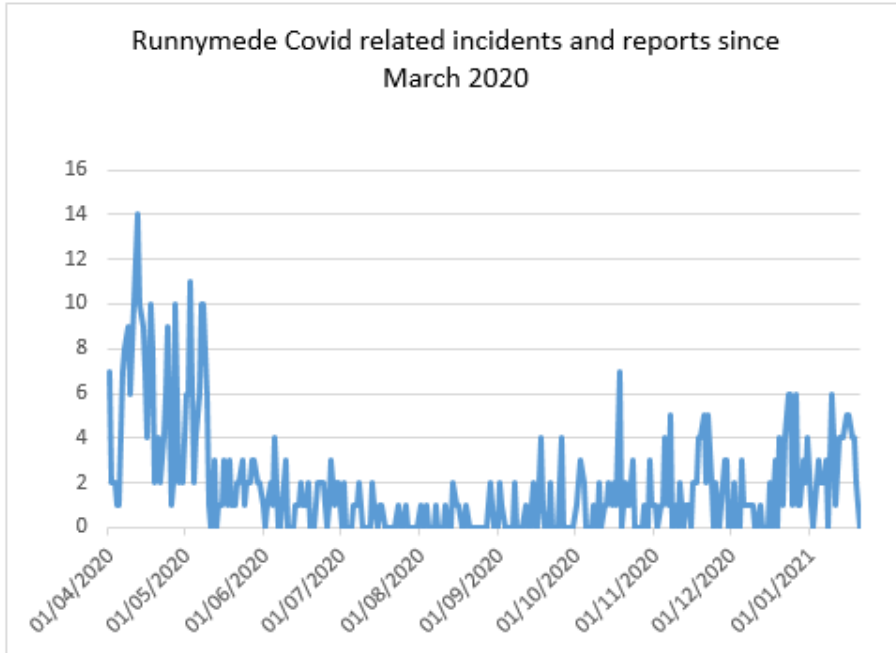
# Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

- Nearly three quarters of reports fall into two categories:
- Rowdy Behaviour &
- Vehicle Nuisance.



# Op Apollo – Coronavirus response.

SLIDE 8



Does not include police visits on behalf of RBC or SCC.

# Serious Organised Crime.

SLIDE 9



24



Notes for Police Presentation

Runnymede Crime and Disorder Committee, Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February 7.30 p.m.

**Slide 1: Buffer.**

**Slide 2:**

**Introduction:**

1. Since my last report in October 2020, there has been an increase in calls on police resources as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic. The pandemic's demand on police resources has not had a uniform effect across Surrey. In Runnymede over the last twelve months, Total Notifiable Offences did not drop down as far as in other boroughs. For the year to date, they are up by 0.6% and only in the last quarter to December have we seen a significant reduction - down 11.7%.
2. Consequently, for the twelve months to date to the end of December 2020 there have been 9,138 incidents attended in Runnymede graded Grade 1 or 2 (immediate or urgent). This is an annual 10.3% increase. The quarterly demand is up by 7%. We are the fifth highest borough in Surrey for demand ahead of Woking and behind Spelthorne.
3. Over the 12 months to the end of September 2020, Runnymede officers have investigated 4,280 offences which is an increase of 6.3%. Again, it has only been in the last quarter to December that there has been a reduction which is at 3.3%.
4. The pandemic has created a new type of demand. The initial tracing and visiting of vulnerable people who the NHS could not contact has been completed. There remains, however, concerns for safety, vulnerable adult and mental health incidents linked to the effects of lockdown on individuals. Often, the police are their first port of call.

**Slide 3:**

**General Crime Situation in Runnymede:**

5. There has been a 7.4% decrease in crime. Runnymede has the fifth highest level of reported crime in Surrey to date this financial year with our nearest equivalent Borough being Woking. In terms of crime per 1,000 population it has the highest rate in Surrey just ahead of Spelthorne.
6. There have been significant reductions in Residential Burglary of 44.7% or 153 offences (which will be addressed later in this presentation), theft (down 21%) and vehicle crime (down 27%).
7. Violence, however, has increased by 15.2% or 234 offences. This rise in violence is not as many due to fighting in public or similar such incidents. These have actually declined in number (by 8 offences). It is wholly accounted for by offences which have not caused

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physical injury. This does not mean that they are necessarily minor as the category includes causing harassment and distress and threats to harm including those made on social media.

8. We continue to work with the hospitals to reduce the number of unnecessary calls for police attendance. The number of calls to St Peter's Hospital and the ACU are down by 23% for the last twelve months and 42% in the last quarter to December. This does not mean that we do not attend when necessary. Recently, a man who persistently attended A+E and disrupted staff was arrested and then sentenced to 12 weeks in prison for *causing a nuisance on NHS premises*. A member of hospital staff emailed the officers to say:

*"Just want to say thank you for your recent post about male imprisoned for public offences at St Peters hospital, yes I know who this is and I am over the moon to hear this. Thank you for all your support greatly appreciated by myself but from all of us..."*

#### **Slide 4:**

#### **Runnymede Crime Trends.**

9. These are consistent. Runnymede's share of the overall burglary on Northern Division has declined since October. The number of drug offences has increased as the result of a passive drugs dog lead operation at Thorpe Park during Fright Nights. At the Thorpe Park Resort Ticket Office, a security corridor was set up in order to allow a passive drugs dog to detect drug contamination. This resulted in 96 positive indications, the majority of whom received Community Resolutions.

#### **Slide 5:**

#### **Residential Burglary**

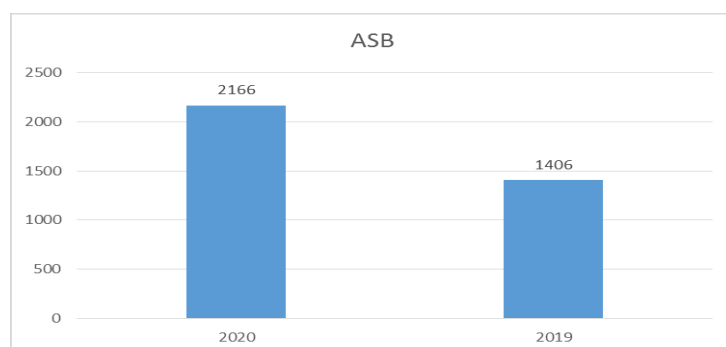
10. In the last financial year (2019-20) there were 160 more Residential Burglaries in Runnymede than in the previous financial year which was +160 (51%) up.
  - Financial year to date (04/01/2021) there have been 180 Residential Burglaries in Runnymede compared to 339 in the same period last year. This is a reduction of 159.
  - There was a significant reduction in offences during the first lockdown. In April 2020, there were only 5 offences (compared to 23 in the same period last year) which was undoubtedly due to the Coronavirus Regulations of the 23rd March 2020. This may be mirrored in the latest lockdown with more people at home. Sheds and garages may be targeted more frequently because of this.
  - Addlestone has had the greatest number of offences this financial year (41) Chertsey (34) and Egham (34) are the highest areas for offences accounting for 59% of all the burglaries on the Borough. In this period, activity in Egham has had the highest levels of all Runnymede wards for the last three months (9) with Chertsey (6) and Addlestone (5)
  - Sheds are being targeted. Shed breaks are at twice the rate of the equivalent period for last year. These appear to be aimed at stealing bicycles overnight, and a similar pattern is apparent in Elmbridge.

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- Since 01/04/2020, the balance across the Borough is 52% of Residential Burglaries in the South (of the M3) and 48% in the North. Since 2018, the balance is 58% in the South and 42% in the North.
11. Residential burglary remains a priority for both Runnymede and Northern Division. Our dedicated operation (Op Spearhead) which involves CID, NPT response and Neighbourhoods has continued throughout the pandemic. We have also looked at our data to see where the highest rates of increase in the winter months occur. As a result we have instigated Op Bluebottle in the Stepgates area of Chertsey. All the residents in the area have been written to provide specific information on the vulnerabilities specifically exploited by criminals in Chertsey during the winter months. For example:
- 68% of properties were detached or semi-detached, this indicates that offenders are using side gates.
  - 60% of entries/attempted entries were through the rear of the property, with the majority of access being from either smashing or forcing a back or patio door.
  - 86% of entries/attempted entries were on the ground floor.
  - The home was unoccupied 72% of the time (with a third unoccupied for 24 hours+).
  - The most common stolen items included jewellery
12. Along with this we have had targeted patrol activity by the Neighbourhood and Specialist Teams to deter and detect burglars
13. We have also been successful in applying for funds from the PCC's Community Safety Fund for crime prevention materials as part of our forthcoming "The Community Is Watching" campaign against residential burglary.

**Slide 6:**

**Anti-social behaviour (ASB)**

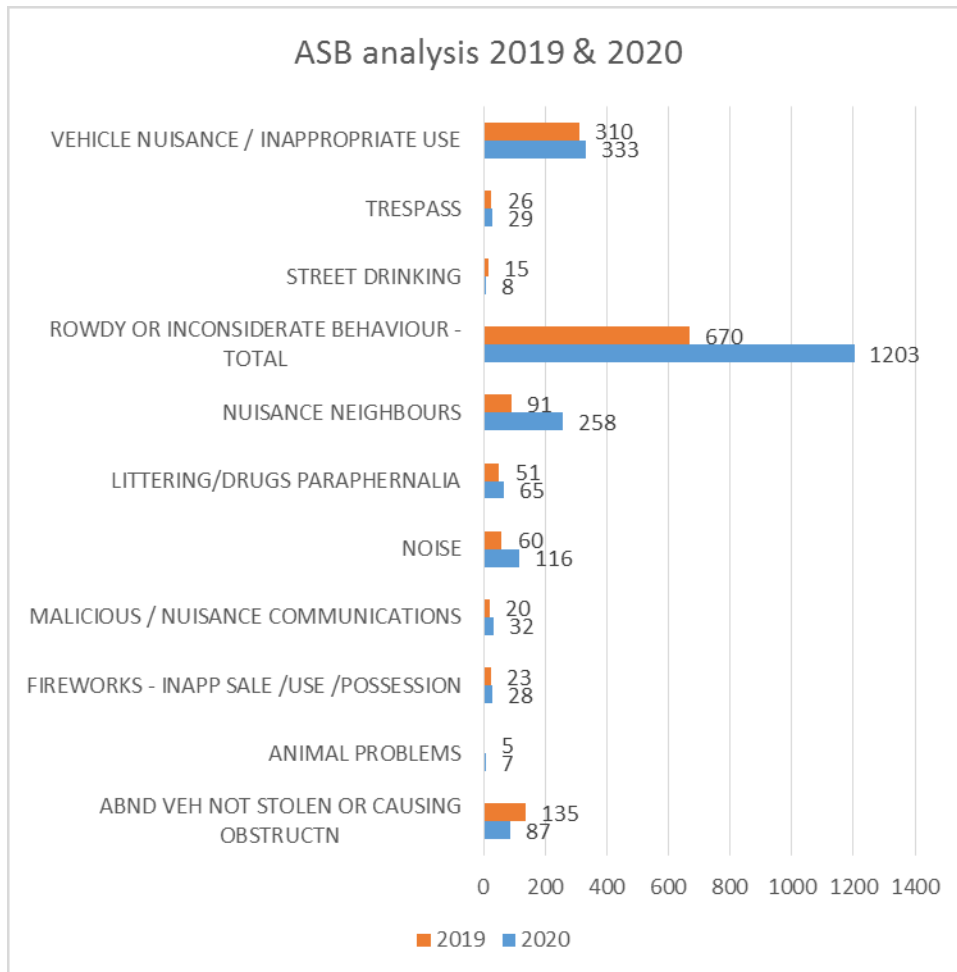


14. There has been a 55% rise in Anti-Social Behaviour. Spelthorne has had a 62% rise and Elmbridge has had a 76% rise.
15. Nearly three quarters of reports fall into one of two categories. 55% of all anti-social behaviour is in the Rowdy or Inconsiderate behaviour category. The next largest category is Vehicle Nuisance at 16%.

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16. Half of all ASB in Runnymede occurs in three areas - Chertsey Meads and St Ann's, Addlestone Town and Thorpe and Hythe.
17. Currently, 25% of the ASB reported in Runnymede is related to Covid issues. This varies across wards - Chertsey Meads & St Ann's has the lowest Covid contribution (20.8%) and Egham Town the highest (31%).
18. Covid related issues account for of 37% of all reports for Rowdy and Inconsiderate Behaviour.

**Slide 7:**



19. We have Public Space Protection Orders in central Addlestone and Englefield Green. This allows officers to disperse unruly persons who will be subject to a penalty if they return.
20. We have put a lot of time and resources to deal with youths in central Addlestone (Op Annexe). Multi-agency meetings between Runnymede Council and police were held and support given to Primary Victims and Secondary Offenders, to build relationships and develop intelligence. Information was shared regularly and widely through a newly formed task force of police and partners.

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21. Covert operations were launched to increase Intelligence, Primary Offenders were targeted criminally with the innovative use of tools like Child Abduction Warning Notices. Secondary Offenders faced enforcement and tailored use of ASB legislation to both restrict criminal activity and actively safeguard against CCE (Child Criminal Exploitation). Arrests were also used as an opportunity to support and encourage disclosures.
22. We have introduced an ASB car staffed with PCSOs to attend incidents fast time and provide advice and reassurance to victims. This provides a consistent approach to dealing with ASB which identifies and prevents chronic issues early reducing future demand. The ASB car deploys local knowledge to identify and solve problems as they occur and enable fast time partnership working utilising ongoing relationships with partners as and when required.
23. Every month on Facebook and through Crimestopper's "In the Know" portal we have published what we have done in the preceding month. This is read by about 8,000 people.

### **Slide 8:**

#### **Op Apollo – Coronavirus**

24. The emergence of a new and much more transmissible strain of the coronavirus has resulted in more of the Force's employees currently off sick and at home self-isolating. We had to close Staines custody centre for 12 days last month, which meant that only two out of our three custody suites were open, resulting in staff having to travel further for work and to transport prisoners in order to keep people safe. We also had to ask for assistance from our colleagues in Hampshire during one shift at the end of December as so many of our call handlers were off sick or self-isolating.
25. Whilst there is anecdotally some disappointment about the cancellation of the extended Christmas bubble, the current community tension level across Runnymede continues to be low. There has been no significant protest regarding either the change to Christmas regulations or the introduction of the latest lockdown.
26. Our policing stance remains to follow the 4Es approach but where there are clear breaches of the legislation, the expectation is enforcement and issuing fines.
  - Engage
  - Explain
  - Encourage
  - Enforcement
27. The number of incidents attended has climbed steadily since the Autumn. In Runnymede we are attending about 50+ incidents a month. These are largely quarantine checks for travellers and reports of breaches of regulations by neighbours. We have made over safeguarding 500 visits to people's homes and dealt with 547 Coronavirus incidents or intelligence submissions. Of these only 13 were related to reported hate crimes (1.3%).
28. Where people show a blatant disregard for the rules, Surrey Police will take enforcement action. In the last two weeks, we have issued one £10k Fixed Penalty Notice (Kingswood) for

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a gathering which involved over 30 vehicles and one summons for holding a gathering of 30 people or more (Cobham). Surrey Police have now issued a total of 572 Fixed Penalty Notices between the start of the lockdown on 23 March and 5 January for contravention of lockdown regulations.

29. In Runnymede, (to 18/01/2021) we have issued 37 Fixed Penalty Tickets (FPN)s which is 28% of all such tickets issued on the Northern Division (Elmbridge, Runnymede, Spelthorne).

**Slide 9:**

**Serious Organised crime**

30. The current UK threat level remains at SEVERE. SEVERE means an attack is highly likely. Likely targets include places of worship, political figures and police. We use Prevent to try to stop vulnerable people from being radicalised by terrorists or extremists and make regular contact with schools, community and religious groups across Runnymede.
31. At present there are three County Lines operating regularly in Runnymede and one residential burglary criminal gang. In all there have been 36 County Lines recorded in North Surrey over the past 12 months. The key commodities sold by County Lines in North Surrey are crack cocaine and heroin.
32. At present there are no Organised Crime Groups based in Runnymede but we have identified two residential burglary criminal gang operating regularly in Runnymede. Busy arterial routes and proximity to London mean offenders often travel to North Surrey to commit offences.
33. There are continued, although decreased, reports from Asian households where high-value family gold has been stolen.
34. A number of High Schools in North Surrey have been known to have older males loitering outside the school selling drugs to children.
35. There has also been a rise in keyless theft of high-value vehicles and theft of catalytic converters (due to a substantial price increase of the metals inside these car parts). A sharp upwards trend in catalytic converter theft is mirrored nationwide, and the use and frequent swapping of cloned number plates by offenders is also becoming a standard MO seen in North Surrey. The most targeted vehicles are Toyota Prius and Honda Jazz. Offences are highest along the border with London Boroughs and locations of high opportunity tend to be dense residential areas, and public car parks such as hospitals, supermarkets and leisure centres. We are working with Crown Estate and St Peter's Hospital to reduce the opportunity for thieves to operate in their car parks.

*Prepared by Insp 2236 Pinkerton 19/01/21.*

6. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**OFFICERS' RECOMMENDATION that –**

**the press and public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the following report(s) under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the report(s) in question would be likely to involve disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in appropriate paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Act.**

**(To resolve)**

**PART II**

**Matters involving Exempt or Confidential information in respect of which reports have not been made available for public inspection**

a) Exempt Information

(No reports to be considered under this heading)

b) Confidential Information

(No reports to be considered under this heading)