

Kevin Hurley – Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey

Police and Crime Plan Update 2015

Introduction

I was elected as Surrey's first Police and Crime Commissioner in November 2012. As part of my election campaign, I consulted widely on what people wanted from Surrey Police and other community safety partners in the county. This led to the development of the 6 People's Priorities for Surrey which now form the basis of the Surrey Police and Crime Plan.

The 6 People's Priorities are:

Take a Zero Tolerance Policing Approach

A relentless focus on those who blight our lives: anti-social louts, violent bullies, burglars and those who deal drugs to our young people. We will seize the profits of their crime.

More Visible Street Policing

Reduce expenditure on back office roles and use the ill-gotten gains of criminals to pay for patrol officers.

Put Victims at the Centre of the Criminal Justice System

Ensure that victims are given a quality service from reporting a crime to giving evidence. The professionals in the Courts and Police work for you, sometimes they forget.

Give You the Opportunity to have a Greater Say in how Your Streets are Policed

Set up local policing boards to bring decision making closer to neighbourhoods. You will be able to participate and have your views heard.

Protect Your Local Policing

Working with Police Chiefs to maintain the morale and ethos of service of your officers by supporting them against unreasonable criticism and ensuring their voice is heard. We cannot expect them to take on the criminals unless we back them.

I will be Uncompromising in the Standards You Expect from Your Police

With public support comes an expectation that your police deliver a quality service. We expect the Chiefs to inspire their officers and unlock their passion to deliver a professional, courteous and positive approach to policing. You pay for it; you have a right to expect it.

The Police and Crime Plan for Surrey details the actions I will take and those that I expect Surrey Police, community safety partners and partners in the criminal justice system to take to achieve these priorities on behalf of people who live and work in Surrey. The substantive Plan was reviewed by the Police & Crime Panel for Surrey in March 2013 and received its full support.

The full Plan can be viewed on my website www.surrey-pcc.gov.uk or a paper copy can be requested from my office by phoning 01483 630200.

Update to the Police and Crime Plan

I had set the four year Police and Crime Plan to reflect public priorities for my term of office. Those priorities, set out above, remain. Each year I publish an update to the actions I will be taking to achieve the plan. Last year I updated the actions to include:

- **Joint Enforcement and Joint Working** – working more closely with Council partners to develop Joint Enforcement Teams (JETs) to share their powers to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour
- **Campaign for Better Funding for Surrey Police** – continuing my campaign for better funding for Surrey Police by challenging Government arrangements.
- **Collaboration and Campaigning for National Mergers of Police Forces** – the current system of delivering local policing through 43 headquarters is very wasteful. We want officers on our streets not billions wasted on Chiefs , PCCs and their staff in expensive HQs all doing the same work.
- **Safeguarding the Passion for Service of Police Officers and Staff** - doing everything I can to make our staff feel valued and empowered to keep us safe.
- **PCC Actions to Support Crime Prevention** – working with partners in the public and private sector on cybercrime prevention and using my position as PCC to raise the profile of the agenda to tackle issues such as child exploitation, domestic violence, human trafficking, drug trafficking to our young people and sexual offences.
- **Commissioning of Victims' Services** - working with partners within Surrey and across the southeast region to commission high quality, value for money services for those who suffer the consequences of crime. I remain committed to ensuring that victims are at the centre of the Criminal Justice system. Working to ensure that the specific and specialist needs of those who have suffered domestic abuse or sexual offences are met.

The six People's Priorities are the guide for all those who work in the county on Public Safety issues.

During the last year examples of what has been achieved are: Reported crime has fallen by 8% with arrests up by 15%-burglary has fallen by 25%. Two Council led Joint Enforcement teams are now up and running in Surrey dealing with Anti-Social Behaviour; I have been consulting with the public on whether to hold a referendum to pay for more funding for Surrey Police; I have continued to work closely with the Sussex PCC to deliver savings through collaboration; I have spoken out on a number of occasions in support of local officers; the cybercrime prevention partnership has been developed and I have spoken publically on topics such as preventing and tackling child exploitation and Female Genital Mutilation together with the Sussex and Thames Valley PCCs I have commissioned Victim Support to provide victim referral services from April this year and have given grants to local specialist service victim support providers and a whole lot more.

During the next year I will be in my last 18 months of my term of office. Areas of additional focus for me will be:

1. Funding for Surrey Police

Due austerity measures, the Government has cut the funding nationally for the police service. In addition, top-slicing has taken place from the national police budget to

pay for inspection, the national body that oversee police complaints and the College of Policing. Surrey Police also receives one of the lowest government grants per head of population, second only to Dorset, a much more rural force. Surrey is one of the most efficient police forces in the country, as recognised by the Government's inspectors for policing and has made most of the big savings that can be made. All of this means that Surrey Police is facing a money problem.

Surrey Police financial modelling shows that this gap is likely to lead to cuts in officers and staff over the next four years. It is my view that this gap will see a significant reduction in policing services and will mean that the Chief Constable will have to make some unenviable choices as she seeks to respond to the changing demand for policing. I am aware that she believes further investment to protect children and vulnerable adults from harm and abuse, to defend against cybercrime and to prevent and respond to counter terrorism is necessary, this will necessitate more reductions in addition to those resulting from austerity in other services.

From 2016/17 Surrey Police will be facing large budget gaps. I intend to consult and discuss with the public during the next year how much they are willing to see the Surrey Police budget cut balanced against whether they would wish to pay more in their council tax for policing.

It is most unlikely Surrey Police will see any mitigation of the cuts in Government funding. I will therefore be discussing with the Chief Constable where cuts will take place over the next four years and considering what impact this will have on services delivered to local people. This is not what I would like to be doing – I stood as PCC for Surrey to make things better not to see them get worse but I will be left with no option-unless we all pay a bit more in our Policing element of the council tax.

2. Joint Enforcement Teams

Whatever the funding situation for Surrey Police, and partners in preventing crime and anti-social behaviour, I still believe that we can use our resources to best effect by working together. Joint Enforcement Teams, JETs, are now up and running in Reigate and Banstead and in Spelthorne Boroughs. These teams see police officers and council officers with legal powers (such as traffic wardens, housing officers and environmental health officers) collectively tackle issues of local concern. We will be evaluating these two JET projects to inform our future plans for further JETs.

Over the next year I will work with partners to get more JETs up and running in Surrey to tackle issues that the public tell me matter to them, such as poor driving and parking. I also wish to see these teams work with regional police colleagues to help tackle organised crime groups operating out of local areas but using all possible powers available. I will provide some funding out of my PCC budget to support the establishment of these teams.

3. Embedding victims services and developing support for children

October 2014 saw the move away from central funding of victim support services to these services being funded locally by Police and Crime Commissioners. Together with my Sussex and Thames Valley PCC colleagues, we have commissioned Victim

Support to provide our helpline and victim support services in Surrey, Sussex and Thames Valley. I have also provided funding to specialist services who provide support to victims and survivors of crimes such as sexual assault and domestic violence .e.g. provide the correct school uniforms for the unfortunate children whose mothers are forced to move overnight for safety to refuge in a different area.

During the next year I will be reviewing how victims and survivors in Surrey are supported and looking at any areas where more funding and support is required. I have already identified that more help is needed for children who are vulnerable to grooming and exploitation and I will be looking at how children and young people can be supported.

4. Roads Policing

Over the last year we have seen a doubling of the people killed on Surrey's roads from around 15 a year to more than 30 a year. This loss of a loved one is one of the most traumatic things that can happen to a person or family. We are working on what we can, working with Surrey Police, Surrey County Council and others to reverse this increase. From education for new drivers and those caught speeding, to road design and enforcement on the roads, we need to do all we can to protect the lives of people who drive, ride motorbikes, cycle or walk on Surrey's roads.

5. Counter Terrorism

We will all be aware that over the last few years we have seen an increase in extremist terrorist activity in the world. In Britain measures to prevent terrorism are a collective effort between national specialist unit, local police forces and councils. In the South East there is a regional Counter-Terrorist Unit, paid for out of local police budgets, this links up with local Surrey Police Departments. Neighbourhood police work locally with partners and communities to prevent terrorist activity.

There is national work to review the counter terrorism strategy. I shall be working with the other South East Police and Crime Commissioners to collectively oversee the regional counter terrorist strategy.

External Funding and Grants for 2015/16

In my role as Police and Crime Commissioner, I can use my total budget to provide funding not only for Surrey Police but also for other community, voluntary and community safety organisations. That budget is reducing following cuts in government funding and I now face difficult choices as to where I spend public money.

Last year, I maintained a Community Safety Fund of £623,370 as a local fund to ensure that we can support community safety projects. I was also granted £395,200 by the Ministry of Justice to commission specialist support services for victims of crime (including restorative justice) and successfully bid for just over £450,000 additional funds to support victims in Surrey.

In 2015/16, I will preserve the Community Safety Fund, it will total £633,645. I plan to set aside £350,000 to support PCC-led partnership projects, such as joint enforcement, cyber-enabled crime prevention, and support for victims of Anti-Social Behaviour.

Of the victims' fund, I expect to receive £1,229,000 from the Ministry of Justice to commission services to help victims to cope with and recover from crime. Approximately £408,000 will be used to commission the delivery of victims' needs and non-specialist support services from Victim Support. I have collaborated with the Police and Crime Commissioners in Sussex and Thames Valley to contract high quality services in a cost effective way. This will ensure that victims of crimes such as burglary will have their needs assessed and will receive a service to support them to cope and recover from their experience of crime.

In addition, £827,000 will be allocated to providing more specialist support for victims. This will include:

- Support for victims of domestic abuse – including specialist Outreach support and Independent Domestic Abuse Advisors
- Support for victims of sexual assault and rape – including specialist Outreach support and Independent Sexual Abuse Advisors
- Refuge provision
- Support for young and adult victim/witnesses at court

There are also emerging needs in Surrey, where the prevalence of the crime and the support needed is yet to be fully understood, such as child sexual exploitation. Many crimes may go un-reported and the OPCC will consult with victims, providers and partners to ensure support is easily accessible and tailored to the individual need.

This year I plan to streamline what is remaining from the Community Safety Fund and the Victim's Fund to create a flexible fund which supports local groups deliver against my priorities and support victims of crime cope and recover. This fund will total approximately £480,000.

Any organisations bidding for funds will be expected to show how their work supports the People's Priorities or helps victims to cope and recover from crime and what the expected outcomes will be. All applications will be assessed by a panel consisting of representatives from Surrey Police and the Office of the PCC as a minimum. Details of how to apply for funding can be found on my website: www.surrey-pcc.gov.uk.

2015/16 Budget and Finances

As Police and Crime Commissioner, I receive all funding relating to policing in Surrey – both Government Grant and the police element of the local council tax precept. It is my role to set a revenue and capital budget for Surrey Police and determine the level of council tax precept (the amount raised locally for policing).

The Revenue Budget for Surrey Police

For 2015/16, I have set a revenue budget of £205.7 million for Surrey Police. This budget is divided over the following broad expenditure headings:

Employee costs	£179.2m
Premises related costs	£7.7m
Supplies and Services	£32.4m
Transport and Travel	£6m
Income	(£19.5m)

Surrey receives one of the lowest levels of Government grant for policing, this funding continues to decrease. I have outlined measures to manage this and the budget gap for Surrey Police.

The savings programme and budget reductions total £6.9m for 2015/16 (3.4% of the total budget). This is a challenge. Much has already been achieved by working in collaboration with Sussex and other forces, reducing the 'back office', slimming down management structures and rationalising the police estate. I will be working with the Chief Constable to identify further savings and efficiencies.

Council Tax Precept

For 2015/16, the Surrey police precept will increase by or 1.99%. This level of precept has been reviewed and agreed by the Police and Crime Panel.

The increase will mean that the sum paid by a Surrey Band D household for policing for 2015/16 will rise from £211.68 to £215.89 This represents an increase of approximately 8p per week.

The Commissioner's Budget

In total for 2015/6, I will receive £101.1m from the Government and a further £103.9m council tax. An additional £0.7m is from reserves and a council tax surplus, giving a revenue budget of £205.7m. £203.5m of this is the Surrey Police budget. The remaining £2.2m remains with the PCC. Separately the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), provides PCCs with funding to commission services which support victims in coping and recovering from crimes. This funding totals £1.2m, bringing my overall PCC budget to £3.4m

I publish a detailed breakdown of the budget for the Office of the PCC, but in broad terms, this breaks down as:

- £1.23m for commissioning services for victims, including Victim Support and other specialist services (for more detail see the previous section on grants)
- £0.97m staffing costs, including salaries and on-costs for the PCC, Deputy/Assistant PCC and the team of support staff

- £0.69m to provide a Community Safety Fund to support local projects
- £0.22m to discharge my statutory functions and responsibilities (e.g. consultation, communication, running the Independent Custody Visitor Scheme)
- £0.09m for the running costs of the Office of the PCC and
- £0.12m for statutory audit functions
- £0.03m for fees for memberships of national policing bodies

The budget for my office funds a small team of staff who support me in fulfilling my duties including partnership working, being engaged with and visible to the Surrey people, holding the Chief Constable to account, overseeing finances and audits, awarding grants and commissioning projects, dealing with correspondence and complaints and running the Independent Custody Visiting Scheme.

Consultation

When I originally set out the People's Priorities, the budget for 2013/14 and the Surrey Police and Crime Plan, I undertook a series of consultation including surveys, four public consultation events and a large number of public and partner meetings. This built on considerable consultation and engagement during the election campaign for PCCs.

During the last year, my Deputy, my two Assistant Police and Crime Commissioners and I have been out engaging with Surrey people. We have attended over 150 meetings with community groups, including meetings at churches, mosques and other religious centres, neighbourhood watch groups, residents associations and 'youth shout' (which over 100 young people in Surrey attended). In addition, my office and I are active participants on Twitter.

This year I have also held Crime Summits in each borough and district. Generally, events have attracted between 80 and 100 residents with more people following on Twitter. At these summits, I have discussed the People's Priorities and budget for Surrey Police.

In addition, I have sought feedback from residents and businesses on the 2015/16 budget and the budget gap for Surrey Police over the next four years. As outlined above, I have been considering whether to propose a 24% increase in the police element of council tax in order to protect Surrey Police and see a step change in the service provided to the Surrey public. I have surveyed over 3,000 people with regard to their views on the Surrey Police budget and council tax levels and heard feedback at meetings. There has also been a facility on my website to provide feedback.

Contact

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