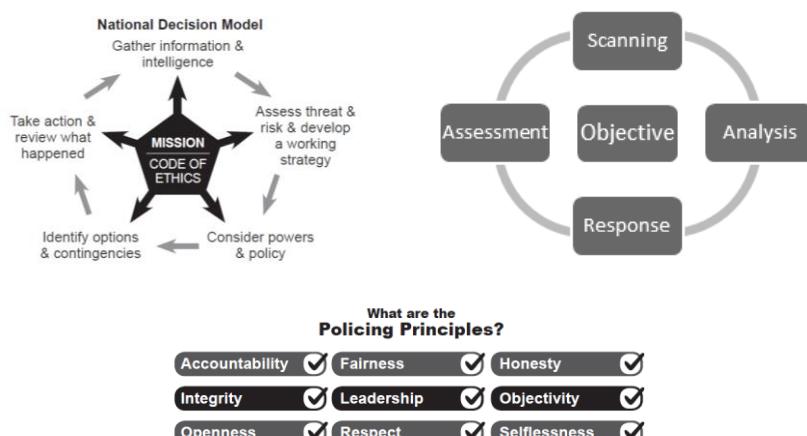




Community Resolutions

Required for:	PCC Performance Meeting December 2020
Security Classification:	Official
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Suitable for publication:	Yes
Title:	Community Resolution
Version:	1
Purpose:	Community Resolution Brief to Police Crime Commissioner
ACPO / Strategic Lead:	T/ACC Alison Barlow
NDM / OSARA compliance:	Yes / No
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1. Purpose

To review Community Resolutions and their use and compliance in Surrey during Q2 2020/2021.

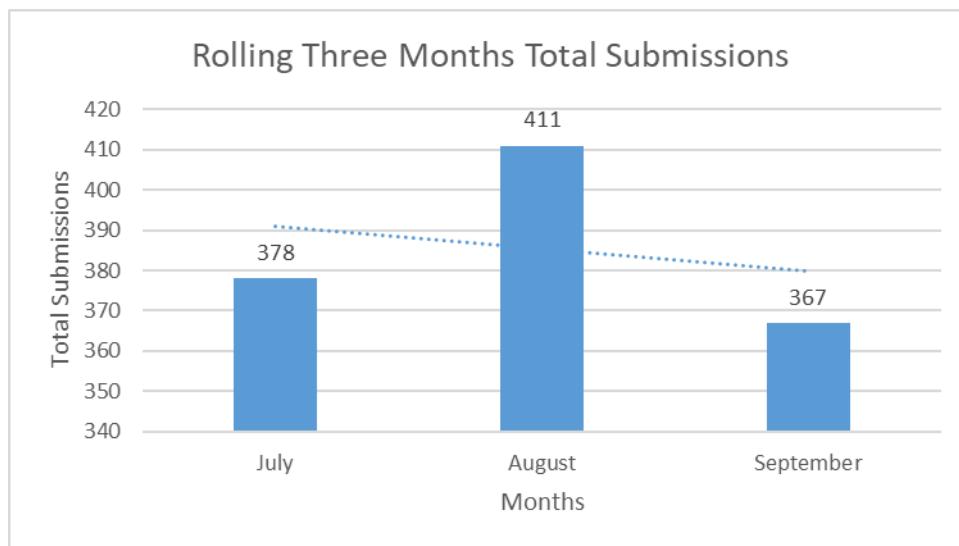
2. Summary

Community Resolutions are a non-judicial method of disposal for low level offences, primarily aimed at first time offenders who show genuine remorse.

The College of Policing guidance on offence types state the most appropriate offences for this method of disposal are likely to be low level criminal damage, low value theft, minor assaults (without injury) and anti-social behaviour.

There has been 2412 Community Resolution Submissions between April-September 2020 but for the purpose of this report the data reviewed will only be from Q2 2020/2021.

Total Number of Community Resolution Submissions Q2 2020/2021



3. Crime Types

The table below shows the type of crimes that have been submitted as Community Resolution for Q2. Column 3 highlights where any submission did not comply with the current policy and therefore the Community Resolution was rejected.

Crime type	Number of Submissions	Rejected
AFFRAY	3	1
ARSON	1	
ASSAULT (ABH)	69	
ASSAULT (COMMON)	160	4
ASSAULT (SEXUAL)	1	
BURGLARY	1	
COMMUNICATIONS	60	3
CRIMINAL DAMAGE	96	2
DOGS	32	
DRUGS CLASS A	29	

(POSSESSION)		
DRUGS CLASS A (SUPPLY)	1	
DRUGS CLASS B (POSSESSION)	319	2
DRUGS CLASS C	3	
HARASSMENT	16	
MOWP	2	
MV CRIME	3	
OTHER	13	
PUBLIC ORDER S4 / S4A / S5	191	3
THEFT	54	1
WEAPONS/KNIFE	29	2
(blank)	1	
D&D	16	
DRUG IMPORTATION	16	
WEAPON IMPORTATION	21	
FRAUD	10	1
Voyeurism	1	
SEXUAL ACTIVITY WITH CHILD	1	1
OUTRAGE PUBLIC DECENCY	3	
DRUGS CLASS B (SUPPLY)	2	

4. Non Compliance

- 1.6% of the submissions in this Quarter were rejected based on Surrey's current Community Resolution policy (see link at point 7).

Rejection reasons:

	Domestic related	Sgt Rationale (Offending History)	Offender under 10	No Admission	Indictable offence	CR Withdrawn by YIT	Not ethically sound
July	1	0	0	0	1	1	2
August	0	1	0	1	0	3	2
September	0	0	0	0	0	4	2

Those flagged as 'not ethically sound' include issues such as:

- Occurrences which required Inspector authorisation which have not been authorised and the CR rescinded.
- Occurrences which are child protection offences.

5. Observations

- Surrey's Community Resolution Policy allows for officers to use their discretion when deciding what is appropriate providing they document a rationale and in some cases have the appropriate level of authorisation. The only offences that cannot be resolved are intimate domestics, indicatable only/serious offences and child protection cases. Children must also be referred to the Checkpoint and Youth Intervention Team if the cases involve drugs or family related offences to ensure the right level of intervention and support is given. There has been a growing theme that many child related drug offences were not being referred which is being addressed through communication and the new Checkpoint intranet page as well as a review of the referral process to streamline this where possible.
- The table at point 3 shows the offences that are being submitted for Community Resolution by officers. Although many of the above offences fall outside the College of Policing's vision of appropriate offences, the majority still satisfy Surrey's current policy allowing officers to use their own judgement with few restrictions on crime type. There is some debate as to whether some of the above offences can be considered 'low level' however there is no set definition in policy as to what is considered low level and therefore are relying on individual judgement.
- Surrey have a high percentage ratio of Community Resolutions and this is likely because there are very few restrictions on its use, allowing officers to use their discretion and imposing levels of authorisation on more risky cases. (e.g. Inspector authorisation of Hate Crime cases). Bearing in mind Community Resolutions are primarily designed for low level first time offenders it may be appropriate to review our current policy to ensure Surrey are applying this outcome in line with national expectations.
- There is a large number of cannabis possession offences currently being resolved which has increased since other out of court disposals have ceased (cannabis warning/PNDs). Some of these cases involve children and should be going through our Youth Intervention Scheme, this is being reviewed by the Checkpoint team. There is also a view that some of these cases are being pushed into Community Resolution but would actually be more appropriate sitting in other outcomes. With fewer out of court disposal options, those cases that would not be in the public interest to proceed to court are being resolved but many are not first time offenders. Outcome 10- formal action not in the public interest should be considered in these cases.

6. Conclusion

- Surrey was one of the first forces to move from the 6 to 2 structure removing the use of PND and cannabis warnings and have been a leading force in relation to diversionary schemes like Checkpoint. This has led to the increase use of Community Resolutions.
- It is accepted that Surrey's Community Resolution policy requires review and this is currently taking place with key people across the force and will incorporate current force and national expectations around appropriate offences and levels of authority required. Part of the review is to establish if a joint process with Sussex Police is viable.
- Overall Surrey's Community Resolutions are effective with a very low level of non-compliance (1.6%). With the current policy review, Checkpoint intranet page, relevant communication and reminders for those supervisors authorising this will improve further.
- Occurrence Management Unit will continue to offer attachments to supervisors to support the correct use of Community Resolutions and offer education on all Home Office outcomes.

7. Link to CR policy

[Community Resolution Procedure](#)