

# Report | Public consultation on Surrey's Police and Crime Plan 2021-25

As required by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey (OPCC) carried out a wide consultation on the priorities that the Surrey public would like to see in the new Police and Crime Plan 2021-25.

Public consultation was carried out from 11-25 October 2021 using Smart survey. Additional consultation was held with over 30 partners, local organisations, community groups, and Surrey police officers and staff between July and October 2021.

## **Summary of results**

The Police and Crime Plan survey received **2,593 responses and 1,309 comments**. 95% of responses (2,470) were provided by residents in Surrey.

The top six priorities selected by Surrey residents were as follows:

•	Catching offenders and bringing them to justice	65%	1,603 responses
•	Visible Police Presence	45%	1,098 responses
•	Tackling anti-social behaviour	42%	1,034 responses
•	Preventing violence against women and girls	40%	981 responses
•	Reducing burglary	38%	936 responses
•	Tackling drug dealing	35%	867 responses
•	Tackling street violence/knives	33%	803 responses

50% of residents provided a comment under Question Two, 'other considerations', and Question 12, 'anything else you would like to add'.

The top priorities from 1,227 comments were categorised as follows:

•	Visible policing	226 comments (22%)
•	Road safety – predominantly speeding and noise	80 comments (8%)
•	Engaging with the community	50 comments (5%)
•	Violence against women and girls	40 comments (4%)
•	Young people and children	33 comments (3%)

Nine comments about young people and children specifically mentioned the importance of engaging with schools (27% of total). Seven comments about domestic abuse may or may not have been made in the context of violence against women and girls so these have been listed separately – see 'Questions'.

#### Promotion

The consultation was promoted online, and offline to local stakeholders including Neighbourhood Watch, OPCC partners and the local media. Online promotion reached approximately 40,000

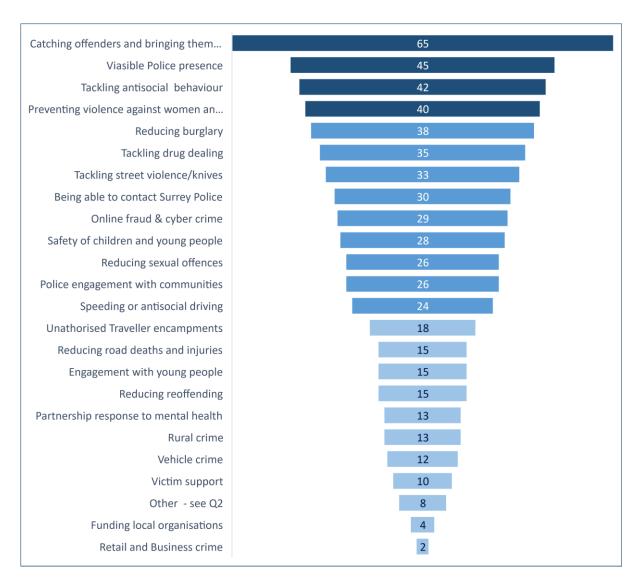
people and prompted close to 2,500 engagements. The survey was also promoted by the Crawley Observer and was shared by partners including the Home Office.

#### Questions

# 1. What six priorities would you most like to see included in my Police and Crime Plan for Surrey?

1,603 residents (65%) said 'Catching offenders and bringing them to justice' was a priority, followed by visible policing (45% respondents), 'Tackling antisocial behaviour' (42% respondents) and 'Preventing violence against women and girls' (40%).

Tackling retail or business crime, funding local organisations and supporting victims of crime received the fewest votes, however it is important that is considered in the context of the 'top six priorities' that residents were asked to list.

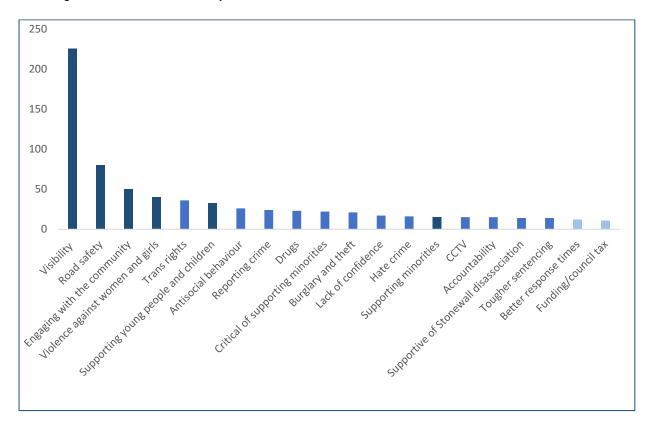


While 'Tackling speeding and antisocial driving', and 'Reducing road deaths and injuries' were listed by 24% and 15% of residents respectfully, it may be helpful to consider that these areas combined were listed by 39% of residents (959 people).

This reflects that correspondence received by the OPCC is predominantly about either speeding, or antisocial behaviour. However, this is important as they are the only related priorities listed in Question One that are not captured under a broader heading, therefore affecting comparison.

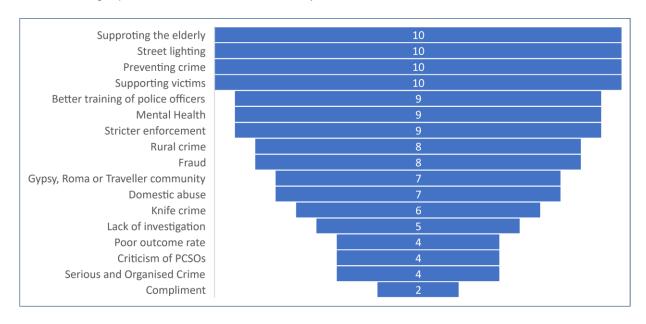
# 2. Is there anything else you would like me to consider when developing my Surrey Police and Crime Plan?

1,016 residents left a comment on other areas they would like the Commissioner to consider. The following main areas were listed by residents in this section:



Comments categorised as 'Trans rights' included references to hate crime. To avoid double counting, these comments were not categorised under 'Hate crime'. Comments about hate crime against other members of the LGBT+ community, as well as other protected groups are included under 'Hate Crime'.

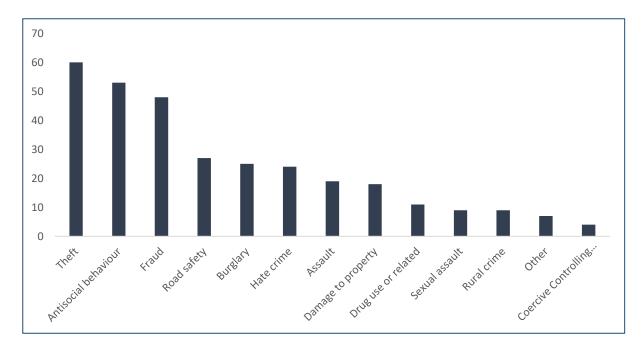
The following topics were each commented on by less than 1% of those who answered:



# 3. Have you been a victim of crime in the last 12 months?

Yes	13.77%	357
No	81.49%	2,113
Prefer not to say	4.74%	123

### 314 (88%) of residents told us which type of crime they were affected by:



Damage to property mostly included damage to cars while on driveways. A large number of thefts were of catalytic converters. Rural crime included poaching, theft of machinery and wildlife crime.

Of those who said they experienced hate crime, 13 residents said they were specifically targeted for being Trans. One person said they were harassed as a result of their views on Trans rights.

Nine people expressed their dissatisfaction with the response of Surrey Police. Two people complimented Surrey Police on the response they received.

# 4. If you replied 'yes' to being a victim of crime, did you report it?

514 people answered this question (21%). Just over half said they reported the crime they had experienced.



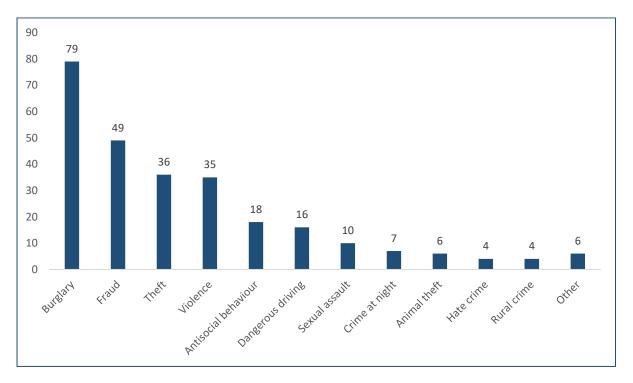
It should be noted that more people answered this question than replied that they had been a victim of crime in the previous question.

# 5. Is there a type of crime you feel most at risk of being a victim of?

Every resident answered this question. 62% of residents said there was a crime they felt most at risk of (1,523 people).

Residents felt most at risk of their homes being burgled (%), followed by fraud (20%), theft (14%) and violence (14%).

Answers from a random sample of 152 (10%) of responses are below. Most comments included more than one crime type:

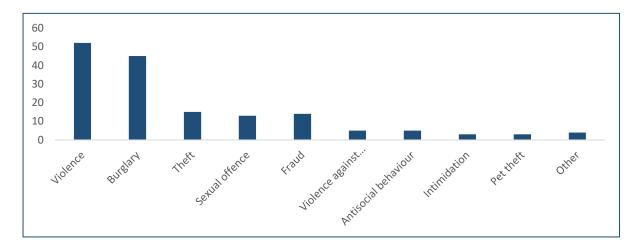


# 6. Is there a type of crime you feel would impact your life the most if you were to become a victim?

Every resident answered this question. 73% of residents said there was a crime they felt would most affect them (1,803 people).

Residents in this sample felt they would be most impacted by Burglary and Violence (both 18%), followed by theft and sexual offences (6% and 5%).

Answers from a random sample of 180 responses (10%) are below:



## 7. Which Borough do you live in?

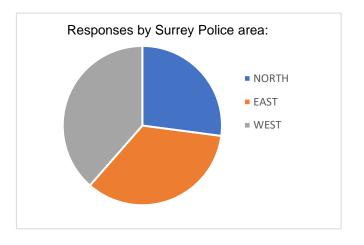
95% of the survey responses were provided from Surrey boroughs. The most responses were received from residents in Surrey Heath, followed by Reigate and Banstead. The least responses were received from Epsom and Ewell, and Runnymede.

Elmbridge	9.56%	248
Epsom & Ewell	5.05%	131
Guildford	7.91%	205
Mole Valley	8.91%	231
Reigate & Banstead	10.22%	265
Runnymede	6.94%	180
Spelthorne	9.53%	247
Surrey Heath	11.49%	298
Tandridge	8.41%	218
Waverley	8.68%	225
Woking	8.56%	222

Previous surveys by the OPCC in January-February 2020 and 2021 showed a lower response from boroughs in North Surrey (Elmbridge, Runnymede and Spelthorne). In this survey, the responses from Elmbridge and Spelthorne residents are the third and fourth highest.

The chart opposite reflects that the North division includes only three boroughs. East and West Surrey divisions each contain four.

123 respondents selected 'I don't live in Surrey'.



## 8. What is your age category?

59% of survey respondents (1,455 people) were between the ages of 50-80 years old. 10% of survey respondents were aged 17yrs or below, however the least engagement was with young people aged 25-29yrs old:

17 or below	10.32%	255
18-24	4.78%	118
25-29	1.66%	41
30-39	5.99%	148
40-49	9.76%	241
50-59	15.59%	385
60-69	21.30%	526
70-79	22.02%	544
80+	6.19%	153
Prefer not to say	2.39%	59

# 9. What is your sex?

The majority of responses were from Men. The below is an opposite ratio to that of the general population that is approximately 52% female. 104 people selected, 'Prefer not to say':



10. If you are interested in hearing from me as your Police and Crime Commissioner, please provide your email address and you will be added to my mailing list for future updates!

This information has been omitted for data protection reasons.

11. I may find it useful to speak with some respondents in more detail when drafting my Police and Crime Plan. Would you be happy for me or my team to contact you to discuss your answers in more detail if needed?

45% of residents (1,074) said they would be happy to speak further with the Commissioner.

12. Is there anything else you'd like to add? Tell us below:

693 residents responded to this question. A large number of these responses were duplicates of answers given in question one. Unique answers to this question have been included in the analysis for question one for this reason.