Richmond Community upon Safety Thames Partnership



Richmond upon Thames

Community Safety Partnership Plan 2014-17 (Year 2 2015-16)





Richmond upon Thames Community Safety Partnership Plan 2014-17 Year Two 2015-16

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Introduction

This Plan presents the Community Safety Partnership's commitments for year two 2015-16 of the three year Plan 2014-17, outlining how we will take these forward and defining how we will measure our progress. Our priorities have been informed by analysis of crime and anti-social behaviour performance to identify current and future needs and shaped by residents' views through consultation. Our vision is for Richmond upon Thames to be the best and the safest borough in London.

Although recorded crime has increased slightly over the last year, with 197 more crimes (2% increase) in 2014-15 compared to 2013-14, residents of Richmond upon Thames, or people who work or visit the borough , continue to have one of the lowest risks of being victims of crime for any London Borough. It's important to note that all of the top five safest boroughs are recording an increase in crimes ranging from 1% to 5%. Richmond upon Thames is the fourth safest borough in London in terms of overall crime, and the safest borough in terms of violent crime offences.

We continue to focus on what matters to local people. We want to understand what is important to our residents; to identify priorities and encourage them to get involved and take more responsibility. The All in One survey of borough residents in 2010/11 produced a high level of responses that were used to inform community action planning. The results of the survey have given us better information about which local areas people identify with and what priorities residents want to see addressed in each of those areas. Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) are now being developed for each area to help maintain and enhance the built environment. This can have a positive impact on Community safety and in reducing crime. Furthermore the Residents' surveys carried out in September 2012, 2013 and 2014 have provided the Partnership with information on attitudes to crime and anti-social behaviour. The 2014 survey results showed the only 3 % of residents asked perceived there was a high level of anti-social behaviour locally.

We are all aware of the current financial climate and the savings that have to be made to make the public sector more efficient. The Council and its partners have had to make some difficult decisions with regard to available resources and where best to deploy them. This will make being London's safest borough more challenging, but we recognise that this is an aspiration that continues to be important for our residents and visitors.

On 23 January 2015, the leaders of Richmond and Wandsworth councils, announced plans to create a shared staffing arrangement, which will deliver substantial savings to preserve front-line services. Increasingly the Council and the police are working across borough boundaries to find efficiencies and new ways of working, whilst continuing to deliver the services people want.

The Council's strategic direction identifies community leadership, building community capacity and acting as a strategic commissioner as its key roles, focussing less on directly delivering services itself. The Community Safety Partnership reflects the strategic direction in its plan. As well as considering the most effective and efficient way to commission services, through a range of providers, the Partnership also recognises the important part that communities play in reducing crime and works with a number of community groups to promote crime prevention.

New legislation will have an impact this year on a number of areas relating to community safety. The Counter Terrorism and Security Bill creates a general duty on specified authorities to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. This places the Prevent Strategy on a statutory footing and will have implications for councils, partner agencies and bodies such as local Schools and colleges.

Counter-terrorism is a priority for any London Borough and with our iconic sites, including sites of national importance and one of the largest capacity stadia in Europe (82,000 capacity), we are taking our responsibilities to reduce the risks seriously as we prepare to host the 2015 Rugby World Cup. The Borough Commander continues to report to the Community Safety Partnership on all the counter terrorism work conducted in the borough.

An emerging priority for the Council and partners is child sexual exploitation (CSE). The Community Safety Partnership supports the Richmond Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy. This strategy sets out local multi-agency working arrangements as agreed by the Richmond Local Safeguarding Children's Board. It promotes a coordinated approach to addressing CSE through better information sharing and consistent identification. The strategy also highlights the shared multi-agency responsibility to improve interventions, to protect those most at risk and ensure that appropriate action is taken against those who sexually exploit children.

New Anti-Social Behaviour legislation came into effect on the 20 October 2014. The new legislation streamlines the number of measures available and proposes new measures to better protect communities from the serious harm caused by criminal and antisocial behaviour. The Community Safety Partnership will monitor usage of the powers and share best practice with partners.

Road safety is a new area within the Strategic Intelligence Assessment and Community Safety Partnership Plan. Residents have indicated through the village planning process, the Safer Neighbourhood Board and the Community Safety Partnership consultation that this is an important area for them.

For 2015-16 the partnership priorities are:

- town centre crime and night-time economy (includes violence with injury and antisocial behaviour),
- domestic abuse,
- anti-social behaviour,
- burglary,
- integrated offender management and substance misuse,
- Theft of and theft from motor vehicles, bicycle theft and crime prevention,
- Road safety (including speeding, cycling and driving through red lights and cycling on pavements and improving dangerous junctions)

The focus for the coming year is to keep crime figures low, to use intelligence and data to target our resources and to increase people's awareness of their own responsibility in helping us to reduce acquisitive crime.

Background

The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act required the police and local authorities to work together and with others to reduce crime and disorder. Further legislation has extended this duty to also cover substance misuse, anti-social behaviour and to reduce reoffending in their areas. Section 17 of the 1998 Act also requires local authorities to do all they reasonably can to reduce crime and disorder in their area.

The Community Safety Partnership is required to produce an annual Strategic Intelligence Assessment which is used to determine the priorities for the Community Safety Partnership Plan. This Plan sets out the priorities for the Partnership. The Plan is supported by a delivery plan for each priority, progress on which is reported to the Community Safety Partnership on a quarterly basis.

Performance and Strategic Intelligence Assessment 2014-15

The annual Strategic Assessment is produced as a requirement of the Police and Justice Act 2006. The aim of the assessment is to analyse crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and re-offending, subsequently identifying key issues that affect our communities. It also considers what needs to be achieved to improve community safety and is used to update the Partnership's priorities in the Community Safety Partnership Plan. This process assists the Partnership by measuring performance against targets, adapting priorities to emerging trends and threats, and directs resources appropriately in the financial year ahead. It also identifies intelligence requirements and gaps.

To ensure a partnership approach to the assessment, where ever possible data has been used from all partners as follows:

- London Borough of Richmond upon Thames
- London Fire Brigade
- Metropolitan Police, Richmond upon Thames Borough
- Safer Neighbourhood Board (SNB)
- Richmond Council for Voluntary Service
- Richmond Housing Partnership (RHP)
- Richmond Magistrates' Court
- The Ethnic Minorities Advocacy Group (EMAG)
- National Probation Service (NPS)
- Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)
- Achieving for Children
- Refuge

The 2014-15 Strategic Intelligence Assessment was produced by the Council. Due to changes to the Metropolitan Policing staffing structure their intelligence function is now delivered through a sub-regional arrangement; meaning there is less capacity locally to analyse data. While we are continuing to work hard to find effective ways to resolve this gap; it has meant that this year's strategic intelligence assessment has less detailed crime analysis than in previous years.

However, this year's Strategic Intelligence Assessment does include more detailed profiles of domestic abuse, anti-social behaviour, hate crime and integrated offender management than in previous years. The Assessment also includes child sexual exploitation and road safety data for the first time.

In 2014/15 the biggest priorities for our communities were:

- town centre crime and the night-time economy
- domestic abuse,
- anti-social behaviour,
- burglary,
- reducing re-offending including drug misuse and
- low level high volume crime.

The table below highlights the Community Safety Partnership's achievements on the priorities for 2014/15, compared with figures for 2013/14:

Priorities	Measures/Targets 2014-15	Achievements
To aspire to be London's safest boroughs	An increase in total notifiable offences for 2014/15 compared to 2013/14	2% (197 more crimes) Remains fourth safest borough
Town centre crime and night-time economy	Reduction of 6% in violence with injury	Up 23% (121 crimes)
Anti-social behaviour	% of residents who think anti-social behaviour is a problem in their neighbourhood	3% of Richmond borough residents have a high level of perceived ASB
Burglary	Reduction of 5% in burglary	5% reduction
Domestic abuse	80% customer satisfaction with IDVA service (number of stated outcomes achieved)37.5% feel safer after intervention40% reduction in severity of physical abuse	99.4% 38.2% 85.9%
Integrated offender management	An 8% growth in the proportion of drug and alcohol offenders in Richmond who successfully complete treatment, and do not re-present within 6 months successful completions of drug treatment	Achieved 100% not re- presenting
Low level, high volume crime awareness	Increased media attention	Medium

The Partnership has not successfully achieved all of its targets for 2014-15. The number of total notifiable offences has been impacted by rises in violence and theft of motor vehicles. This rise has been seen in all of the five safest boroughs in London. The partnership was successful in reducing anti-social behaviour, both residential and non-residential burglary, theft from motor vehicle and meeting domestic abuse targets through the commissioned service.

Due to changes in crime recording for grievous bodily harm offences, the statistics for violent crime have shown a significant increase, this has been seen across London. Richmond is still the safest borough for violent offences.

While Richmond has the second lowest number of reported domestic violence compared to other London Boroughs, domestic violence is considered a high risk area. It is a crime with a significant incidence of under reporting, therefore, the actual level of domestic violence is likely to be significantly higher than Police figures show.

Burglary is a high priority issue for the borough and there has been a decrease in 2014/15. Both residential and non-residential burglary has reduced by 5%, with 30 less residential crimes and 34 less non-residential crimes compared to last year. Non-residential burglary has been a focus for the Partnership, with targeted Police work and communications campaigns to raise awareness of residents and to make sure they secure their sheds and garages; this needs to continue in the coming year, as although there has been a reduction we are 29 out of 32 compared with the other London boroughs.

Theft of motor vehicles also contributes to a significant proportion of total offences.

Theft of motor vehicles has shown a 19% increase (+44 crimes), this is largely related to keyless crimes by organised criminals targeting high value cars, using card reader technology to steal cars without physically needing the keys. While this appears to be reducing in quarter four (1 January – 31 March 2015) there is still a need to focus on these crimes. Theft from motor vehicle has reduced by 9% (80 crimes less).

The drug testing on arrest service has now been joined with Kingston as there is now a single custody suite covering both boroughs. This scheme identifies those whose offending behaviour is drug related and facilitates them receiving treatment. The scheme has informed and improved the Partnership's offender management work.

Drug use is a known driver of criminal behaviour, particularly acquisitive crime. Levels of production and supply in Richmond are very low and many suspects arrested for drug offences live outside the borough; therefore it appears that many suspects travel into Richmond and partake in drug use.

Controlled Drinking Zones and Dispersal Zones have been used to ensure that people visiting our town centres remain safe and are not disturbed by alcohol related anti-social behaviour. The new legislation means that these powers will be replaced with slightly different measures over the coming years. Existing zones will be treated as Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) and remain in place for a period of three years and will be reviewed prior to expiry. PSPOs can be used to place restrictions on activity within defined areas, but the response to alcohol related anti-social behaviour is also supported by new dispersal and seizure powers for the police, which can be used without consultation. These powers are intended to allow police officers to deal with problems as soon as they become apparent.

Whilst the number of reports of anti-social behaviour has reduced, it remains a priority as it impacts the lives of many residents and communities in Richmond upon Thames.

The work over the last year has focused on streamlining the case management process for referrals of anti-social behaviour and improving reporting mechanisms and management of risk. The new anti-social behaviour legislation came into force on the 20 October 2014 and in addition to the powers mentioned above, requires all local authorities to use the Community Trigger, an initiative which Richmond has been piloting for the Home Office. The focus for the 2015-16 will be to continue to streamline the process and take more of a co-ordination role.

Child sexual exploitation is a new area within the Strategic Intelligence Assessment. The Community Safety Partnership will work with partners to improve their data recording and analysis in order to deepen partners' understanding of child sexual exploitation. This will form part of the annual refresh of the performance dataset produced by Achieving for Children. The Community Safety Partnership will continue ongoing work to ensure close working relationships with the Local Safeguarding Children's Board and Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board.

Community Engagement and Consultation

The Community Safety Partnership has ongoing community engagement via the Safer Neighbourhood Board and Police Liaison Groups through which the Council and the Police receive feedback on a regular basis which helps direct our activity. The Village Planning process also gives an opportunity for the Partnership to hear about the community safety issues in specific areas.

The Community Safety Partnership consults with residents with regards to the findings of the Strategic Intelligence Assessment and on setting the priorities for the coming year. The consultation is published online and those who respond are asked to rank the areas of priority in order of importance. The Assessment is also considered by the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Following this process the Community Safety Partnership agrees the priorities and the direction within the priorities.

The consultation findings were that residents felt burglary, road safety and anti-social behaviour were clear priorities. The below table shows the results of the consultation; and identifies the priorities in ranked order.

Ranked priorities1) Burglary2) Road safety3) Anti-social behaviour4) Town centre crime5) Motor vehicle crime6) Theft of bicycles7) Domestic abuse8) Child sexual exploitation

Community Safety Partnership Plan 2014-17: Year Two 2015-16 Priorities

The Community Safety Partnership has agreed the following eight priorities, with the overall objective to aspire to be London's Safest Borough. Each priority has a delivery plan.

Priority 1: Anti-social Behaviour

The focus for the partnership is to streamline the processes which sit behind the services provided to residents to make sure the Council is as efficient as possible with the dedicated resources available and that those experiencing anti-social behaviour are given the right support. Over the next year the council will improve its co-ordination role and will work to implement the new anti-social behaviour legislation and provide clear guidance to partners and residents.

Priority 2: Burglary

The focus for the Partnership will be on prevention through targeting offenders and locations more effectively through intelligence.

We will improve the sharing of information with partners and residents to raise awareness and encourage residents to follow key security advice and not to leave their property insecure.

Priority 3: Town centre crime and night-time economy (violence with injury and anti-social behaviour)

The focus for the Partnership is to continue the good work of last year and to have a clear focus on theft and pick pocketing during the day and violence, anti-social behaviour and theft during the evening linked to the consumption of alcohol.

The targeted flexible Police patrols and their successful joint work with the Council's Licensing Team will continue to enhance community confidence and satisfaction and there will be an increased focus on Rugby days.

Priority 4: Domestic Abuse

The focus for the Partnership is to achieve positive outcomes for adult and child victims of domestic abuse, increase the effectiveness of the multi-agency risk assessment conference (MARAC) and practitioner's awareness of the MARAC and its work.

The key areas of focus for the coming year will be the ongoing development of the MARAC process and the performance of the Domestic Abuse Service, and implementing the domestic homicide review protocol. We will be improving the data and information we have on the nature and extent of domestic abuse in the borough and the services available to help us provide support and focus resources where they are most needed. We will also be widening our data and information collection to include all crimes which fall within the categories of violence against women and children.

The Partnership has a very effective MARAC training programme which aims to increase awareness of the MARAC and the effect of domestic abuse on adult and child victims. This will continue to be available to all partners to increase their knowledge and raise practitioners' awareness in the borough.

Priority 5: Reducing re-offending including substance misuse

The focus of the Partnership is to fully embed and develop an integrated offender management approach. This means that offenders will be dealt with as part of a joined up staged and risk management approach and that we can target those offenders causing the most impact in the borough. The Partnership will also continue the monitoring of drug testing on arrest and the use of data to develop an offending profile. All this work will be linked in with the Strengthening Families Programme as this develops.

Priority 6: Theft of and from motor vehicles, bicycle theft and crime prevention

The focus of the Partnership is to deliver targeted campaigns to increase residents understanding of how they can help to reduce these types of crime. The partnership will target small hotspot areas as they emerge.

Priority 7: Road safety

Road safety has been raised as a concern throughout the village planning process and through the Safer Neighbourhood Board. The partnership will collect intelligence and feedback on speeding and lobby the Safer Transport Unit and the Metropolitan Police for additional cameras and resources for the borough.

The Police will continue to target road users who jump red lights, both cars and bicycles and also provide advice to bicycle users who are seen cycling on pavements.

Priority 8: Child sexual exploitation

The focus of the partnership is to improve data collection and the sharing of intelligence in relationship to this crime. The partnership will help raise awareness of child sexual exploitation so that the community better understand the risk.

Performance Management Framework

The performance of the Community Safety Partnership will be monitored by the use of a performance management framework, with agreed targets for each of the seven priorities. The achievement against these targets will determine the Red, Amber or Green status of the delivery plans, outputs and outcomes and will be reported the Community Safety Partnership on a quarterly basis.