



Safer Neighbourhood Teams - Abstraction

Policy

1. Introduction

1.1 This policy is required to ensure Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT) spend as much time as possible visibly delivering neighbourhood policing and community problem solving within their assigned Borough/District and that abstractions from their core role are kept to a minimum.

2. Policy Statement

2.1 Surrey Police supports the front line role of the SNTs in providing a visible and pro-active role in addressing identified chronic and repeat issues within local communities.

2.2 This policy is designed to enhance and support safer neighbourhood policing by:

- Providing public access to their dedicated local SNT officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSO)
- Allowing SNT officers and PCSOs to find effective, long-term and sustainable solutions to chronic and repeat issues within neighbourhoods, working collaboratively with partner agencies and the local community wherever practicable to problem solve.
- Ensuring SNT officers and PCSOs remain visible on their respective Borough/District.

2.3 However, in certain circumstances detailed within this policy, SNT officers and staff will be available to support wider policing when no alternative resources are available.

2.4 All personnel involved in the resourcing and directing of SNT staff are responsible for adherence to this policy.

3. Definition of abstraction

For the purposes of this policy, abstraction is defined as the temporary extraction of personnel assigned to the Safer Neighbourhood Team within a specified Borough/District, or from their core functions around collaborative problem solving of chronic and repeat issues within neighbourhoods

4. Circumstances when abstraction is justified

4.1 SNT officers will be available to support wider policing as it is accepted that abstractions may be necessary for certain operational situations including:

- Significant spontaneous events
- Critical or major incidents
- Serious or major crime

- Civil disasters or national security issues
- Circumstances authorised at the Force Management Meeting (FMM)
- Emergency calls for assistance from the public when other police resources are unavailable or where an SNT officer is the closest resource
- Major pre-planned operations e.g. Epsom Derby
- Mandatory training required by all officers and staff.

4.2 However, the abstraction of SNT officers and PCSOs must only take place where there are no other resources available.

4.3 To ensure sufficient resilience, neighbourhood teams will not exceed a 30% abstraction rate unless one of the above circumstances is met. Abstraction includes: annual leave, sickness, training, operational and administrative commitments that are outside of that team's normal day-to-day business activities for example, Operational Orders, Court attendance, etc. It is essential that SNT supervisors must maintain effective oversight of their team's abstraction levels.

Team: Safer Neighbourhood Team