EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Surrey has launched a Joint Enforcement Team Project and has invited Elmbridge to take part in phase two of the project.

RECOMMENDED: THAT

(A) CABINET AGREE TO PILOT THE ELMBRIDGE JOINT ENFORCEMENT TEAM FOR ONE YEAR

REPORT:

1.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

In 2014 Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner, Kevin Hurley launched a Law Enforcement Project known as the Joint Enforcement Team (JET), a pilot project to tackle anti-social behaviour in Surrey. The aim was to bring together an existing workforce to encourage more efficient and effective ways of working.

2.0 Pilot Boroughs

In April 2014 Reigate and Banstead Borough Council launched their JET, followed by Spelthorne Borough Council in December 2014. The idea was to provide a quicker, more visible and more robust response to anti-social behaviour in the Boroughs.

2.1 Staffing

The Reigate and Banstead JET is made up of existing Officers who already have powers of enforcement, such as Planning Officers, Environmental Health Officers and Traffic Wardens, who work with Police from the Reigate and Banstead Safer Neighbourhood Team to deal more effectively with anti-social behaviour problems. In Spelthorne the team is made up of 4 new Law Enforcement Officers,

2.2 Areas of work

The areas of work covered by the current Spelthorne and Reigate and Banstead JETs include:
- Abandoned Vehicles
- Anti-social behaviour
- Beggars
- Bins in the road
- Blue Badge Enforcement
- Cycling Offences
- Dangerous dogs
- Dog Fouling
- Fly posting and graffiti
- Fly tipping and litter
- Highway obstruction
- Sale of alcohol
- Scrap metal
- Street drinkers
- Street trading
- Unlawful Occupation
- Unlicensed skips
- Untaxed vehicles
- Waste in front gardens

3.0 **Elmbridge Joint Enforcement Team**
Evaluations are now underway in the pilot boroughs and the outcomes will not be known until July 2015. However Elmbridge has been approached to launch a JET in July 2015 as part of phase two of the programme.

3.1 **Proposal - Elmbridge Borough Council**
The proposal for Elmbridge is to deliver the Elmbridge JET using existing staff and not realigning any enforcement officers to a joint team. The idea is that this will be a simple and straightforward process that will use existing resources. For example, we already work jointly with the Police (and others) on Traveller incursions, planning enforcement, out of hours/noisy patrol, fly tipping, waste carrier checks and partnership action days.

It is proposed that the Elmbridge JET uses the existing Environmental Enforcement Officers. This will complement their current work areas and help to formalise some of the partnership work that takes place. This will be done by using the Joint Action Group (JAG) to coordinate work.

It is proposed that any specific JET activities that need to take place should be tasked and co-ordinated through JAG on a six-weekly basis. If tasking is required outside of the JAG a process will be put in place and there will be a nominated point of contact for all agencies who will be able to deal with partnership enforcement requests.

3.2 **Benefits**
It is expected that the proposed delivery of the JET in Elmbridge will:

- Increase partnership working, particularly through the formal tasking at JAG.
- Enable the branded service to be used by other officers within Elmbridge, such as Planning Enforcement and the Out of Hours Noise Service.

3.3 **Governance**
The Governance of the JET will come under the responsibility of the Elmbridge Community and Safety Partnership (EC&SP). Quarterly reports from the JAG Chair on the activity of the JET will be presented to the JET.

3.4 **Equipment and Branding**
Branded hi-vis jackets will be supplied by the PCC’s office to the current Enforcement Officers within Environmental Services for any partnership activities they undertake.

The uniforms will use the Surrey Law Enforcement logo, which is used by the other JETs in Surrey. The Elmbridge Borough Council logo will also be used on the jackets.

4.0 **Launch**
It is proposed that there will be a press launch for the Elmbridge Joint Enforcement Team in July.

5.0 **Evaluation**
It is proposed that the Elmbridge JET will be piloted for one year. Throughout the year update reports will be received by the Elmbridge Community and Safety Partnership. After one year an evaluation of the project will take place and will be presented to CMB.

6.0 **Summary**
In conclusion, it is proposed that the Elmbridge JET will:

- Use the existing Joint Action Group (JAG) to task any joint enforcement activity.
- Appoint a point of contact for the Police and Environmental Services for any tasking that needs to be arranged outside of JAG.
- Use the Environmental Enforcement officers as the Council Officers for the JET.
- Use the current structure of the Elmbridge Community and Safety Partnership to govern the JET.

**Financial implications:**
As with the JETs in Spelthorne and Reigate and Banstead, the PCC’s office has offered to pay for Elmbridge Enforcement Officers to complete the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme, which would then enable the officers to be granted additional powers by the Chief Constable. It is not proposed that Elmbridge Officers undertake the training at this stage as we will not be requesting additional powers.

The cost of the uniforms will be covered by the PCC’s office.
**Environmental/Sustainability Implications:**
The JET team should continue to ensure a high quality environment within Elmbridge in which residents of the Borough can live.

**Legal implications:**
It is expected that the JET will formalise Partnership working and as a result may increase the amount of enforcement activity that takes places. This may result in an increase in the number of fixed penalty notices issued, as well as prosecutions.

**Equality Implications:**
None for the purpose of this report.

**Risk Implications:**
The risks of piloting the JET are considered to be low. The project will be monitored through the Elmbridge Community and Safety Partnership.

**Community Safety Implications:**
The proposal will enable a more joined up approach to enforcement activities

**Principal Consultees:**
Council Management Board
Head of Environmental Services
Surrey Police

**Background papers:**
None

**Enclosures/Appendices:**
None

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