



City of Surrey

Police Committee

Minutes

Executive Boardroom
City Hall
14245 - 56 Avenue
Surrey, B.C.
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2006
Time: 12:30 p.m.

Present:

Chair: Councillor Steele
Mayor Watts
Councillor Villeneuve
Councillor Bose
Councillor Hepner
Councillor Hunt
Councillor Higginbotham

Regrets:

Councillor Gill
Councillor Martin
C/Superintendent MacRae, Surrey RCMP
Manager, By-Law & Licensing Services

Staff Present:

Acting City Manager
City Solicitor
Superintendent H. Eaton, OIC, Surrey RCMP
Inspector C. Callens, RCMP
Deputy City Clerk, Legislative Service

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Police Committee – May 30, 2006

File: 0540-20 PC

It was Moved by Councillor Hunt
Seconded by Mayor Watts
That the minutes of the Police Committee
meeting held on May 30, 2006, be adopted.
Carried

Note: The above minutes were received by Council at the Regular Council – Public Hearing meeting of June 12, 2006 and recommendations adopted.

B. PRESENTATION

1. Crime Reduction Strategies

File: 0540-20 PC

A presentation was provided by the Mayor regarding Crime Reduction Strategies outlining some of the initiatives with the delegates in the United Kingdom. A copy of the presentation is attached and labeled Appendix A.

Councillor Bose entered the meeting at 12:46 p.m.

Discussion:

- In the United Kingdom (U.K.), a Closed Circuit Television camera system (CCTV) is monitored by city employees not by police.
- Many types of offences are monitored and referred to the appropriate agency for resolution (hazardous material dumping, homeless persons, etc.).
- There are 386 youths registered under the Youth Offender Program.

- Individuals may be tested for drugs and alcohol upon arrest in the United Kingdom and if found to be under the influence, can access treatment within 24 hours.
- One case manager is assigned and stays with the offender from the beginning of the process to the end.
- Convicted offenders are provided with a holistic treatment: education, housing, and job training. They are not released to the streets without full treatment.
- In the United Kingdom, “Parenting Orders” are meted out to parents of offending youths. Parents may be ordered to undertake counseling or parenting classes – this is legislated through the court system and if not followed, parents may serve jail time.
- Under the “Parenting Order” program, treatment is provided to parents with addiction or other challenges.
- The cost for treating an offender in the U.K. is £1 or \$3.00 CDN for treatment versus \$20.00 CDN per offender in B.C.’s criminal justice and health systems.
- The British government spends £170,000,000 per year on drug intervention programs or £1,900 in treatment per month.
- Surrey is considering using Auxiliary Officers as Community Constables.
- In the U.K. there is a significant problem with alcohol – drunken, disorderly conduct from youths drinking in parks. It was noted that alcohol is available in local supermarkets and pubs in the U.K.
- In the U.K., if youths are suspended from school, they are not sent home. Instead they have to report to a session with a designated team that works with the individual. Mayor Watts noted that she is working with Theresa Campbell, Surrey School District to set up this system here.
- The use of parenting contracts and orders can significantly change a child’s behaviour when the responsibility is placed on the parents.
- In the Canadian environment, there are challenges in terms of public interest and human rights having precedence.
- However, there are situations when certain strategies should be undertaken for the greater good of the community.
- The community plays a significant role in these strategies in the U.K. through Community Action Teams in each area.
- The suggestion was made to create a steering committee to continue to pursue the establishment of a community court in Surrey.
- The CCTV includes traffic offences such as unpaid car insurance. It was noted that at the time a car is seized in an unpaid insurance situation, the owner must pay for insurance or risk having his/her car crushed.
- Four principles of action were devised to move Surrey ahead in crime reduction: Deter and Prevent; Catch and Convict; Rehabilitate and Integrate; and Reducing Fear of Crime. These principles of action are now the focus of four sub-committees of the Public Safety & Crime Reduction Task Force.

Councillor Steele commented that she spoke recently to the new Surrey Bar Association and stated that some of the lawyers requested an opportunity to be included in the Crime Reduction Task Force.

Mayor Watts stated that there has been significant support from the Attorney General and Solicitor-General's offices on these initiatives.

The Acting City Manager noted that crime reduction initiatives in the United Kingdom are nation-wide programs driven by the federal government. He noted that there are only two levels of government in the U.K.: federal and city or local government. He noted that the latter government level covered city business as well as what would normally be covered by provincial governments here. He went on to say that the level of funding to city governments is significantly higher than in Canada with 80% of their budgets being transfer payments from the federal government. He added that in order for city governments to sustain funding from the federal government, they must meet specific targets. He stated that the federal government measures program effectiveness and efficiency through surveys (British Crime Surveys) done on a continuous basis for every jurisdiction in the U.K.

Mayor Watts stated that a briefing on Crime Reduction Strategies has been forwarded to the B.C. provincial government, the Canadian federal government, and the Office of the Prime Minister.

Councillor Steele noted that England is dealing with heroine and cocaine problems; crystal meth has not yet arrived on the scene. She noted the British authorities were particularly interested in the challenges faced in Canada with respect to treatment for crystal meth addiction.

The Mayor noted that the four sub-committees would meet and report back to the Police Committee.

The City Solicitor entered the meeting at 1:22 p.m.

The City Solicitor advised, in response to a question posed by Councillor Higginbotham, that he would look at whether parenting orders and on the spot drug testing would be allowed in Canada.

The General Manager, Finance, Technology and HR entered the meeting at 1:24 p.m.

Inspector Callens commented that the RCMP is authorized by Statute to demand blood tests for alcohol or as conditions of release, probation, parole court and an officer may order a "demand" breath test for alcohol. There is no Statute that allows the RCMP to demand a drug test.

The Acting City Manager described the testing as non-invasive; essentially it is similar to a Popsicle stick and when placed on the individual's tongue, produces immediate results. He continued that the test was not admissible as evidence in Court, but rather used as a tool to direct people to treatment rather than obtaining a conviction.

In addition, he described the U.K. federal government's buy-in to the program in that it directed the creation of a stream of justice starting at the time of arrest

through to release in a certain timeframe (48 hours for some crimes). He indicated that the U.K. federal government is pushing the programs as much as the local governments.

Councillor Bose asked how transferable these programs in Britain would be to Canada, noting that social structures are sufficiently similar on some application approaches.

Mayor Watts commented that the cities of Manchester, Wirral and Liverpool were chosen as areas to visit because of the similarities in population, diversity, and social issues to Surrey.

It was noted that the main objectives of these areas were to deal with the same concerns that Surrey faces (auto theft, drug-related crime, break and enters, drunkenness and disorderliness). It was added that there are some elements of transportability, however, some areas would require changes in legislation, either federally or provincially. The statement was made that Surrey is acting as the leader and would have to get other municipalities on board through the UBCM or FCM.

The following comments were then provided:

- A Crime Reduction Strategy will be formulated to go forward in January 2007.
- The four components: Deter and Prevent; Catch and Convict; Rehabilitate and Integrate, and Reducing Fear of Crime have been struck with all partners at the table to bring together some initiatives that could be expanded upon, such as the Youth Intervention Program.
- The RCMP Crime Reduction Task Force has made some significant inroads in these areas, which should be recognized, and built upon.
- Work needs to be done in the area of perception of crime and a different method of reporting crime statistics by the media (positive headlines).

Councillor Hunt left the meeting at 1:47 p.m. and returned at 1:50 p.m.

Councillor Hepner left the meeting at 1:50 p.m.

- Another observation while in the U.K. was the fact that police officers, city workers (meter readers, waste disposal, etc.) wore the same lime green jackets or vests; they were very visible.
- There were a large number of “beat” officers working in pairs or foursomes.
- This produced the perception that there were many more personnel watching the community. To multiply the effect on “officers” on the street, use similar colours and uniforms.
- In terms of staffing, there has to be significant resources attached to this.
- The City of Manchester has a partnership arrangement to house the homeless. There is a facility in that city with 200 beds that will house the homeless overnight.

- The observation was also made that there is an overall fundamental respect for the police in the United Kingdom; police were able to deal with most incidents in less time; fewer incidents of aggression and hostility.

Councillor Hepner returned to the meeting at 1:54 p.m.

It was presented by Mayor Watts be received. Moved by Councillor Villeneuve
Seconded by Councillor Hepner
That the Crime Reduction strategy as
Carried

**C. Police Committee Corporate Report No. PC001 (see Appendix B attached)
Crime Prevention Grants
File: 1850-01**

The Budget & Reporting Manager, Finance & Technology submitted a report requesting the Police Committee's support for the following on-going Community grants:

1. Crime Stoppers of Greater Vancouver
2. South Fraser Community Services
3. Surrey Community Crime Prevention Society

Discussion:

The comment was made that the Grants Evaluation Committee should review the programs that these organizations are offering and their effectiveness. Questions were raised as to whether the Street Youth Program offered by Surrey Community Crime Prevention Society is still in operation; whether Outreach Workers are still in place; and whether the City is still endorsing funds at a pre-2006 levels.

J. Giebelhaus left the meeting at 2:01p.m.

The statement was made that an evaluation of these programs is required and that Council should not agree to any grants until some kind of evaluation process is undertaken.

J. Giebelhaus returned to the meeting at 2:03 p.m.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

It was Moved by Councillor Hunt
Seconded by Councillor Hepner
That the Police Committee would advise Council
that it receive Corporate Report No. PC001 on-going Community grants for the following agencies:

1. Crime Stoppers of Greater Vancouver;
2. South Fraser Community Services; and
3. Surrey Community Crime Prevention Society

Carried

D. INFORMATION ITEMS

- 1. Staffing**
- 2. Crime Trends**
- 3. Community Policing**

The Chair noted that Items D.1 “Staffing”, D.2 “Crime Trends”, and D.3 “Community Policing” would be taken off the agenda and replaced with the heading “Crime and Reduction Strategies”.

E. OUTSTANDING ITEMS

F. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Dell Hotel

Inspector Callens provided the following crime analysis based on ten days before the closure of the Dell Hotel on September 12th and ten days after the closure, in an area two blocks east and west, and two blocks north and south with the Dell Hotel at the core.

Pre-Closure	Post-Closure
110 Calls for Service (12 incidents directly related to the hotel)	91 Calls for Service
6 Assaults	3 Assaults
2 Firearms Related	0 Firearms Related
3 Robberies	0 Robberies

He noted that there were generally two types of crime statistics generated and updated every day (Hot Spot Maps) in RCMP offices; this helps direct target teams to those areas requiring more policing. He continued that a second type of map provides information on a deeper level, providing information on outgoing and point of entry information (i.e. items being stolen). He noted that this

information is then drawn together to connect a series of offences to suggest an offender or group of offenders and links the offender(s) to the series of crimes. He stated that these "Hot Spot" maps now form part of the everyday operations available to every member; briefings are held a minimum of twice a week and external media access is provided in certain instances.

E. OUTSTANDING ITEMS

1. Police Committee – Terms of Reference (see Appendix C attached)

This item was deferred from the May 30, 2006 Police Committee meeting.

It was

Moved by Mayor Watts

Seconded by Councillor Hepner

That the Police Committee adopt the Police

Committee Terms of Reference.

Carried

F. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Border Crossing

A brief discussion ensued with respect to the recent walk-out by Canadian Customs Officers causing a volume back-up of 3.5 to 4 hours. It was expressed that there needs to be a contingency plan in place.

Inspector Callens commented that the Surrey RCMP detachment attends the border crossings as well as Abbotsford and Langley detachments. He noted that upon learning of the situation, his office was able to gather information leading to the downgrading of the threat assessment.

He added that the RCMP did attend as did support supervisors to get the traffic moving, but that Canadian Customs Officers, under Section 2 of the Canadian Labour Code, do have the right to remove themselves from dangerous situations. He suggested that the Customs Office needs to address their internal policies.

Action Item:

Inspector Callens to provide a report back to the Police Committee on the options available to the RCMP to deal with these types of situations.

2. Problem-Solving Approach in Public Safety

File: 0360-20

A brief discussion ensued relative to information submitted in a memo dated September 26, 2006 from the City Solicitor. It was noted that there are several initiatives underway in the City of Portland in the area of crime reduction such as offenders performing clean-up work in the community, using armed retired police officers to supplement the police force, and employing the homeless to clean and keep an eye on the streets (Sidewalk Ambassadors).

It was information as submitted by the City Solicitor relative to problem-solving approach in public safety.

Moved by Mayor Watts
Seconded by Councillor Hunt
That the Police Committee receive the

Carried

3. Graffiti on Fraser Highway

Mayor Watts commented on a new program encouraging graffiti artists to practice their art on fencing along Fraser Highway. She described the program as featuring a large stretch of canvas laid across the sound abatement fencing along a stretch of Fraser Highway and noted that it appears to be very successful.

G. NEXT MEETING

Councillor Steele stated that the Police Committee meeting dates would be changed to Monday mornings at 10:00 a.m. on a bimonthly basis, when Council meetings are not taking place.

The next Police Committee meeting will then be scheduled for Monday, November 27, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. in the Executive Boardroom.

H. ADJOURNMENT

It was adjourn.

Moved by Councillor Hunt
Seconded by Councillor Watts
That the Police Committee meeting do now

Carried

The Police Committee adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Margaret Jones, City Clerk

Chairperson: Councillor Barbara Steele
Police Committee

APPENDIX C

POLICE COMMITTEE

(hereinafter referred to as "the PC")

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Committee Composition

The Police Committee is a standing committee appointed by the Mayor and is a Committee of the whole of Council.

2. Administration

The following Administration staff are to attend:

- City Manager or his/her designate
- Officer-in-Charge, Surrey RCMP and/or his/her designates
- City Solicitor
- Manager, By-law & Licensing Services

3. Meeting Dates

The Police Committee shall meet at the call of the Chair, with no less than one meeting every two months.

4. Police Committee Procedure

The proceedings of the Police Committee meetings are to be conducted in public, unless otherwise specifically warranted.

Procedures of the Police Committee will be governed by Roberts Rules of Order unless declared informal by the Chair.

The Agenda (for both open and closed meetings) will be prepared by staff in consultation with the Chair and the City Manager, if required.

The minutes of each Police Committee meeting will be taken by the City Clerk or his/her designate and submitted for consideration to Regular Council, if held in **open** session, or to Closed Council, if held in a **closed** or **"in camera"** session, in accordance with the *Community Charter*.

5. Duties of the Police Committee

The duties of the Police Committee are to:

- Consider items referred by Council;
- Consider items referred by Surrey RCMP, Fire Department and City Manager;
- Liaise in conjunction with the RCMP with community groups on matters pertaining to police;
- Discuss municipal policing priorities and review community policing initiatives with the RCMP;
- Assist Surrey RCMP with Public Relations and Special Programs by providing public appearance and media support;
- Develop policies and/or programs designed to enhance public safety for review and approval by Council; and
- Review, at the request of Council, decisions of other committees established by Council and/or City administration, with a view to providing Council with advice and recommendations on safety aspects.

Revised 09/26/06



Corporate Report

CITY MANAGER'S
DEPARTMENT

NO: PC001

DATE: Sept. 26, 2006
Police Committee

C.

POLICE COMMITTEE

TO: **Councillor Steele, Police Committee Chair** DATE: **September 21, 2006**
FROM: **General Manager, Finance, Technology & HR** FILE: **1850-20**
SUBJECT: **Crime Prevention Grants**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Police Committee endorse the following recommendations:

- Continue to provide a City Grant of \$12,500 to Crime Stoppers of Greater Vancouver for their TIPS Line;
- Continue to provide a City Grant of \$24,000 to the South Fraser Community Services Society for their Street Youth Program, and
- Continue to provide a City Grant of \$43,500 to the Surrey Community Crime Prevention Society for their Crime Watch Program.

INTENT

This report is intended to provide the Police Committee with information regarding the on-going City grants provided to Crime Stoppers of Greater Vancouver, the South Fraser Community Services Society, and the Surrey Crime Prevention Society and to seek endorsement from the Police Committee for continued support.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

The City Grants Policy (D-26) allows for two categories of grants. The first category is 'on-going', which allows for grant funding to continue from year-to-year. The second category is for 'one-time' requests only. In order to be eligible for a grant, the organization must meet the requirements of the Community Charter (Section 173(1)(c) and 182); have an active governing body composed of volunteers. Both categories require that organizations submit information to the Grant Evaluation Committee on an annual basis. The organization's main responsibility should be program and policy development.

BACKGROUND

The City of Surrey has been providing on-going community grants to support crime prevention initiatives since 1982. These grants have been provided to Crime Stoppers of Greater Vancouver, South Fraser Community Services, and the Surrey Crime Prevention Society. Each year the Grant Evaluation Committee brings forward these on-going grants to Council for their approval. This year the Grants Evaluation Committee is requesting that the Police Committee review grant requests that are specific to policing initiatives, before taking all requests to Council.

DISCUSSION

The City of Surrey has been providing **Crime Stoppers of Greater Vancouver** with a grant of \$12,500 per year since 1999. Crime Stoppers has projected expenses of \$333,000 for 2006 and is supported by municipal partners, donations and sponsors throughout the region. Crime Stoppers was created in 1985 and has taken over 61,300 tips since that time, which has led to over 6,200 arrests and over 10,900 cases cleared. In early 2005, Crime Stoppers installed new software that allows them to improve their reporting capabilities. From March 2005 to August 2006, Crime Stoppers has sent Surrey 925 tips, which has led to 15 arrests and 80 cases cleared.

The Grants Evaluation Committee recommends that the Police Committee endorse the continued support of this grant for Crime Stoppers of Greater Vancouver.

The City of Surrey has been providing the **South Fraser Community Services Society** with a grant for Street Youth Services for \$24,000 per year since 1992. The Street Youth Services Program has projected expenses of \$102,000 for 2006 and is supported by the Ministry of Human Resources, the United Way and the City of Surrey. They also receive various fundraising initiatives through the efforts of South Fraser Community Services Society. The Street Youth Services Program is operated as a storefront operation, that targets youth aged 16-18. The centre provides a safe environment that includes showers, laundry facilities, television, and hot meals. Staff members also assist youth in resolving personal, interpersonal, legal, and educational issues, while emphasizing the need for personal safety. Statistics for 2004/05 indicated that the Youth Centre served 394 youths through referral and drop-in services, provided services to 2,323 youth, and made 507 referral to other agencies for these youth.

The Grants Evaluation Committee recommends that the Police Committee endorse the continued support of this grant for South Fraser community Services Society.

The City of Surrey has been providing the Surrey Crime Prevention Society with a grant for Crime Watch Patrols for \$43,500 per year since 1982. In addition to the on-going grant of \$43,500, the Surrey Crime Prevention Society has also received \$25,000 per year from Council Initiatives for the last five years, to fund the coordinator of the Graffiti Removal program. During 2004/05, the Crime Watch Patrols have attended a number of community events, providing visible security presence with volunteers working approximately 7,100 hours. The Graffiti Removal program has cleaned graffiti from more than 1,200 Surrey businesses, schools, walls, fences, boxes and benches in the City, established a "Graffiti Free Zero-Tolerance Zone" and made use of over 600 volunteer hours.

The Grant Evaluation Committee recommends that the Police Committee endorse the continued support of the Crime Watch Patrol.

The Graffiti Removal Program does not meet the City Grant Policy requirements, however, should the Police Committee wish to provide continued support for this program, they could recommend that it continue to be funded from Council Initiatives for 2007.

CONCLUSION

The City of Surrey has been providing on-going grant funding to Crime Stoppers of Greater Vancouver, the South Fraser Community Services Society, and the Surrey Crime Prevention Society. The Grants Evaluation Committee is requesting that Police Committee review the services provided by these organizations, as outlined within this report and provide the Committee with their recommendations.



Vivienne Wilke, CGA
General Manager, Finance,
Technology & HR