

NOTICE OF MEETING

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY PANEL

**Tuesday, 13th March, 2018, 6.30 pm - Civic Centre, High Road,
Wood Green, N22 8LE**

Members: Councillors Tim Gallagher (Chair), Barbara Blake, Clive Carter, Makbule Gunes, Bob Hare and Anne Stennett

Co-optees/Non Voting Members: Ian Sygrave (Haringey Association of Neighbourhood Watches)

Quorum: 3

1. FILMING AT MEETINGS

Please note that this meeting may be filmed or recorded by the Council for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site or by anyone attending the meeting using any communication method. Although we ask members of the public recording, filming or reporting on the meeting not to include the public seating areas, members of the public attending the meeting should be aware that we cannot guarantee that they will not be filmed or recorded by others attending the meeting. Members of the public participating in the meeting (e.g. making deputations, asking questions, making oral protests) should be aware that they are likely to be filmed, recorded or reported on.

By entering the meeting room and using the public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings.

The chair of the meeting has the discretion to terminate or suspend filming or recording, if in his or her opinion continuation of the filming, recording or reporting would disrupt or prejudice the proceedings, infringe the rights of any individual or may lead to the breach of a legal obligation by the Council.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair will consider the admission of any late items of urgent business (late items will be considered under the agenda item where they appear. New items will be dealt with as noted below).

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A member with a disclosable pecuniary interest or a prejudicial interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered:

- (i) must disclose the interest at the start of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent, and
- (ii) may not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must withdraw from the meeting room.

A member who discloses at a meeting a disclosable pecuniary interest which is not registered in the Register of Members' Interests or the subject of a pending notification must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days of the disclosure.

Disclosable pecuniary interests, personal interests and prejudicial interests are defined at Paragraphs 5-7 and Appendix A of the Members' Code of Conduct

5. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS

To consider any requests received in accordance with Part 4, Section B, Paragraph 29 of the Council's Constitution.

6. MINUTES (PAGES 1 - 8)

To approve the minutes of the meeting of 31 January 2018 (attached).

7. CABINET MEMBER QUESTIONS; CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES

To question the Cabinet Member for Communities, Councillor Eugene Ayisi, on current developments arising from his portfolio.

8. COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP; CRIME PERFORMANCE FIGURES (PAGES 9 - 28)

To consider and comment on current performance issues and priorities for the borough's Community Safety Partnership including performance in respect of the MOPAC priority areas, emerging issues and statistics for levels of crime within parks.

9. REVIEW ON PARKS (PAGES 29 - 64)

To agree the final report of the review.

10. WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE (PAGES 65 - 74)

To note the Panel's work plan for the year and consider and recommendations to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for future work.

11. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

To consider any items admitted at item 3 above.

12. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Robert Mack, Principal Scrutiny Officer

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Bernie Ryan

Assistant Director – Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer

River Park House, 225 High Road, Wood Green, N22 8HQ

Tuesday, 06 March 2018

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY PANEL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 31ST JANUARY 2018

PRESENT:

Councillors: Tim Gallagher (Chair), Clive Carter, Makbule Gunes, Bob Hare and Anne Stennett

Co-opted Member: Ian Sygrave (Haringey Association of Neighbourhood Watches)

41. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Chair referred Members present to agenda Item 1 in respect of filming at this meeting and Members noted the information contained therein.

42. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Barbara Blake.

43. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

None,

44. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

45. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS

None.

46. MINUTES

In answer to a question, Zoe Robertson, Head of Commissioning and Client in the Commercial and Operations Service, reported that the changes to visitor parking permits were not yet in place and would be introduced in the next financial year. She confirmed that the age for the concessionary rate would be 65, as previously recommended by the Panel.

In answer to another question, she stated that there was a rolling programme of communication with residents on changes to waste and recycling. This included a door knocking campaign by Veolia from February to promote the green waste service. Work with schools to education children on waste and recycling was now to be undertaken on-line. She agreed to circulate further details of this, including

timescales, and planned communication with residents on the closure of Park View recycling centre to the Panel.

AGREED:

1. That the minutes of the meeting of 21 December 2017 be approved; and
2. That the Head of Commissioning and Client be requested to circulate further information to the Panel on the development of on-line education for schools on waste and recycling and planned communication with residents regarding the closure of Park View recycling centre.

47. CABINET MEMBER QUESTIONS; CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT

Councillor Peter Mitchell, the Cabinet Member for Environment, reported on key developments within his portfolio as follows:

- He reported that safety measures were being looked at for Finsbury Park including CCTV, lighting, closing the gates at night and the use of park guards. The Police were also undertaking a full assessment of safety issues in the park. Action would be taken when this had been received, which was envisaged as being mid February. The Police currently had an increased presence in the park and were focussing on drug dealing and anti-social behaviour. The Council was providing additional support to rough sleepers in the park and repairing the perimeter fence. A meeting had taken place in the park with a range of local stakeholders, including local MPs and the Friends group. An access audit was also being undertaken by Councillor Hearn. In addition, the park celebrated its 150th Anniversary in 2019 and plans were being developed for this;
- Income from events in Finsbury Park in 2017/18 had been £800,000. £50,000 had been spent on fences and similar amounts on tennis, netball and volleyball courts. Smart bins had also been purchased, which sent a message to operatives when they needed emptying. In addition, £35,000 had been obtained from the Environmental Impact Levy. Some of this had been distributed to a range of user groups through small grants of between £600 and £1100. Signage, new disability bikes and distance markers for runners and walkers were amongst the other items that the money had been invested in;
- As part of the Active Communities Programme, Brunswick Park had been given a grant of £174,000 to develop facilities. It was anticipated that the work would be completed by April. A grant had also been made for Stationers Park to develop the play area and there was the potential for grant funding to be obtained for a large project at Bull Lane Playing Fields;
- As part of the Smarter Travel programme, active travel plans were being developed with schools. In addition, secondary schools were now taking up cycle training. The Sustainable Transport works plan for 2018-19 was also be finalised;

- A new delivery model was being considered for highways and street lighting. In addition, consideration was being given to changes to how allotments were managed, in consultation with the Allotments Forum;
- There was currently a programme of tree planting, funded by a grant from the Mayor of London;
- A litter reduction plan for parks was being developed;
- An event on Air Quality was planned to take place towards the end of February to launch an Air Quality Strategy. It was hoped to set up a steering group to take forward action following this;
- Consultation on the proposed landlord licensing scheme was taking place. In answer to a question, he stated that he was keen to promote a wide range of responses to it, particularly from tenants.

A Panel Member stated that repairs of an inferior quality had been undertaken to a path in Finsbury Park that had been previously been upgraded using Heritage Lottery funding. As a result of this, the path was now deteriorating. The Panel felt that it was the responsibility of those who rented facilities at the park to make good any damage that occurred. The Cabinet Member agreed to raise this issue with officers. In addition, the Chair stated that he had previously raised the condition of the grass which had not been repaired adequately following events and was deteriorating. He felt that this should also be raised with officers.

In answer to a question, the Cabinet Members stated that the capital works that were taking place to the Parkland Walk were to bridges over roads. He agreed to provide further information regarding the tree planting programme, including numbers, area and criteria.

Mr Sygrave reported that the Haringay ward Police Panel had had concerns about Finsbury Park for some time. One option to address some of the issues would be to redeploy officers from Ducketts Common where the need for them had diminished. He felt that it was important that the response was joined up and that all three boroughs that the park covered were involved. However, there were no easy answers to the issues and he welcomed the measured response. He requested a breakdown of where money from the events programme at Finsbury Park had been spent.

Ms Robertson stated that she was happy to provide further information on the issues that had been raised and the discussions with the other two boroughs. In respect of improved lighting, there was a colony of bats within the park that needed to be considered. The needs of those using the running track and the basketball, netball and tennis courts also needed to be taken into account. The Cabinet Member reported extra Police resources had been deployed within the park but it was not clear if this was sustainable. He was happy to meet with ward Councillors to update them on progress.

In answer to a question, the Cabinet Member stated that residents liked the idea of parks being locked at night and they felt that it deterred anti-social behaviour.

However, Finsbury Park was large and this could present challenges in ensuring that it was completely empty when the gates were closed. Locking parks was also expensive.

Ms Robertson reported that £800,000 had been raised from events in 2017/18. £545,000 had been used for the running of parks. The remainder had been re-invested in parks. She was happy to provide further details.

The Panel welcomed the proposed landlord licensing scheme, which it was felt had the potential to reduced fly tipping and anti social behaviour, especially in areas with a large number of houses in multiple occupation (HMOs).

AGREED:

1. That the Head of Commissioning and Client be requested to provide the Panel Members with;
 - An update on action to address community safety issues in Finsbury Park;
 - A breakdown of income and expenditure from the events programme in Finsbury Park for 2017/18; and
 - Further information on the Council's tree planting programme.
2. That the Cabinet Member be requested to raise the issue of the quality of repairs to the path within Finsbury Park that had been upgraded with the use of Heritage Lottery funding and to the grass areas that had been damaged following events,

48. STREET CLEANSING, WASTE AND RECYCLING; CURRENT PERFORMANCE

Ms Robertson reported that street cleansing was monitored in three tranches per year. Keep Britain Tidy (KBT) had been undertaking monitoring but the Council now had its own team that was now doing this. It appeared that KBT had applied stricter standards as there had been a higher number of borderline fails than in the past. Tranche 2 results had now been received and these could be shared with the Panel shortly. Whilst fly tipping continued to be an issue, there had been a reduction since October. However, levels tended to fluctuate. Fly tips continued to be collected within the times specified in the contract with Veolia. The majority consisted of domestic black bags and items rather than originating from commercial sources. There was an action plan to address the issue and this would include addressing hotspots. Panel Members commented that Houses in Multiple Occupation tended to be the worst offenders. It was hoped that the landlord licensing scheme would help address this.

Ms. Robertson stated that levels of recycling had plateaued. They had been affected significantly by a change in the law but what was now being collected was of much higher quality. Work was taking place with Veolia to promote greater levels of recycling. In answer to a question, she stated that it was not anticipated that the ban by China on plastic waste imports would have a major impact on the Council's collections. She also reported that the pilot scheme for on the spot fines for littering with Kingdom had ended. The scheme was being reviewed and recommendations would be made in response to this.

In answer to a question, she stated that the drop off in performance in recycling correlated strongly with the changes in the law. Improvement was dependent to a great extent on bringing about behaviour change. The issue was being looked at continually with Veolia. In respect of detritus, Members had stated that the current assessment of performance was more in line with their experience. However, monitoring was not perfect and was dependent on when streets were inspected. Consistency enabled trends to be observed more easily. The service was particularly interested in knowing how long it took for streets to deteriorate. Work was taking place with Veolia on a range of matters and a report back would be made in due course.

49. TEAM NOEL PARK PILOT - OVERVIEW

Ms Robertson reported on the outcome of the Team Noel Park pilot. This had been completed a year ago. It had been designed to be a prototype of how the Council could work together with local communities. The key outcomes that were aimed for were to:

- Make Noel Park is a cleaner and safer place;
- Increase resident satisfaction with Noel Park as a place to live, work/trade and visit; and
- Increase the level of pride in the area amongst residents.

The aim was also to strengthen the community and it was hoped to put the Council in a position where it could co-commission services with residents. £100,000 had been allocated to the project.

The project had not delivered on the key outcomes that were intended but valuable learning had nevertheless been obtained from it. It was now recognised that building relationships took time and ward Councillors were a key link. A toolkit for Members on community engagement was now being developed. It was also found that behaviour change required a big shift in norms and could not be implemented quickly. In addition, developing joined up working was labour intensive and required a change of culture.

In answer to a question, Ms Robertson stated that Veolia undertook an annual survey. This had recently been done and the results would be available in February. In answer to another question, she stated that it was hard to say whether the project had delivered value for money. There was not the money to replicate the exercise though. There had nevertheless been some good outcomes. Some of the learning had been implemented including a more joined up approach to fly tipping and the development of ward walks. She agreed to circulate details to the Panel of a survey that had been undertaken in the area on rubbish in resident's gardens as part of the pilot project.

Panel Members expressed regret at the demise of the Council's area forums as it was felt these were an effective way of engaging with the local community. Ms Robertson commented that there was a wider question for the Council to consider regarding how it engaged with residents.

AGREED:

That further information be circulated to the Panel on the survey that had been undertaken as part of the pilot project on the prevalence of rubbish in the gardens of residents.

50. UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF SCRUTINY REVIEW ON CYCLING

Emma Williamson, Assistant Director of Planning, reported on progress with the implementation of the recommendations of the Panel's review on cycling. 17 out of the 20 recommendations had been agreed. Most would be incorporated into the Council's walking and cycling action plan. Consultation was take place on this during the summer with the aim of implementing plans from 2019.

The Panel noted that a 12 month trial of dockless cycle hire in the borough was to be undertaken. The Council wished to have a guarantee within the contract that it would not be liable for any costs should the provider cease operating. Discussions were currently taking place with Mobike with the aim of launching the pilot scheme in the summer. Panel Members commented that an independent review on the rideability of cycles provided by Mobike had not been positive and felt that this might impact on the level of take up by residents. Neil Goldberg, Transport Planner, reported that other providers did not meet the Council's criteria. It was likely that the Mobike cycles that were used in Haringey would be different to first generation models used elsewhere. Mobike met all of Transport for London's practice guidelines. He was nevertheless happy to feed the Panel's comments back.

Mr Goldberg reported that Liveable Neighbourhood funding had been obtained for a scheme in Crouch End that would improve cycling and walking conditions. In addition, the Mayor's Office had announced plans to develop a cycle route from Tottenham Hale to Camden. Moves to reduce space for cars were contentious but could be looked at as part of the further development of proposals for Crouch End.

Panel Members acknowledged that not everyone could cycle and that developing the cycle infrastructure could mean that car users had less road space. However, they felt that a bold approach was required. The needs of pedestrians should not be overlooked though. Attention was drawn to an island bus stop on cycle route CS1 which required people getting off buses to walk across the cycle lane. Mr Goldberg stated that the route was being reviewed and details of the outcome could be circulated to Panel Members in due course.

In answer to a question, Ms Williamson reported that there was some funding available for bike hangars but it had proven difficult to keep up with demand.

AGREED:

That details of the outcome of the review of CS1 be circulated to Panel Members.

51. TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Ms Williamson reported that on the Council's draft Transport Strategy, which had recently been consulted on. It was intended that there would be actions plans beneath the overall strategy, including a specific one for walking and cycling. There had been 50 responses to the consultation on the strategy. The majority of these had been supportive and/or wanted targets to be included. Few changes were proposed but reference to motorcycles would be added in response to comments made as part of the consultation.

The Panel felt that it was important that the strategy was consistent with that of the Mayor and that it would have an important role as a lobbying tool. It was noted that, whilst much was dependent on Transport for London, a lot could be delivered locally. Mr Goldberg reported that the strategy had been welcomed by Transport for London and was in line with the Mayor's transport strategy. He stated that Local Implementation Plan (LIP) funding of £1.9 million had been obtained for 2018-19. It was agreed that a breakdown of how LIP funding for 2018-19 was to be spent would be circulated to Panel Members.

AGREED:

That the Assistant Director of Planning be requested to provide a breakdown of how LIP funding for 2018-19 will be spent be circulated to the Panel.

52. WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

It was noted that the only item on the agenda so far for the Panel meeting on 13 March was Cabinet Member Questions for the Cabinet Member for Communities. It was proposed that, in addition, an update on proposals to implement recommendations from the Panel's review on street sweeping also be considered.

AGREED:

That, subject to the above addition, the work plan for the Panel be approved.

CHAIR: Councillor Tim Gallagher

Signed by Chair

Date

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Report for: Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel

Item number:

Title: Crime Performance Statistics (Haringey)

Report authorised by : Stephen McDonnell, Director of Commercial & Operations

Lead Officer: Eubert Malcolm, Head of Community Safety & Enforcement

Ward(s) affected: Key crime wards

**Report for Key/
Non Key Decision:** Non key-decision

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 This report should be read in conjunction with the presentation attached as Appendix A. The presentation shows Haringey's performance against the Mayor's (MOPAC) Police and Crime Plan (PCP) key priorities, as well as measures of confidence and satisfaction in policing. Statistics on crime in Parks have also been included.
- 1.2 The presentation outlines areas of concern and/or where performance is out of kilter with the London average. Other areas covered are critical locations and emerging problems. Officers will share mitigation ideas and key points at the Scrutiny Panel meeting.
- 1.3 Members should observe that Haringey is performing well in relation to knife injury victims aged under 24. The borough is however performing less well in the areas of personal robbery, firearm discharges, non-domestic abuse violence with injury and hate crime. In addition, confidence and satisfaction in policing whilst recently improving still remains a significant challenge for the borough.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

- 2.1 I am pleased to note that the partnership work that has taken place over the past year has continued to have a positive contribution to some of the key priority crime types, particularly knife crime injuries to young people. There are still a number of key areas, however, that are challenging for the borough and will require us to continue to work together to tackle, particularly around community confidence and satisfaction.
- 2.2 I look forward to working with all partners to build on our good work and to address the challenges going forward, and I look forward to hearing from

policing colleagues on their suggestions for approaches we can take to reduce risk and harm, particularly for the most vulnerable members of our community.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That the Panel note the content of the Crime Performance Statistics pack, which highlights areas of challenge: These are: personal robbery, firearm discharges, non-domestic abuse violence with injury, hate crime and confidence and satisfaction in policing.

4. Reasons for decision

n/a

5. Alternative options considered

n/a

6. Background information

- 6.1 Haringey has a signed agreement with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime to contribute to tackling the Mayor's priority crimes. The agreement is accompanied by a grant of £781K for 2017/18 which is allocated across five areas: Drug treatment intervention to reduce reoffending; Integrated Offender Management; an integrated Gang Exit Programme; Advocacy and support to victims of domestic violence; Cross-borough support to ASB victims and witnesses (Haringey and Enfield).
- 6.2 MOPAC are reducing the current funding envelope by 33% from 2018/19, to £518K for Haringey. This funding reduction will be spread evenly over each of the five areas. There are opportunities to access some of the remaining funding via MOPAC's co-commissioned projects. Haringey will be accessing two of these projects: Out-There Response and Rescue (tackling exploitation of young people by organised criminals), and Advance Minerva (wrap around support services for female offenders). Further potential co-commissioning opportunities are also being discussed at present with MOPAC.
- 6.3 Quarterly returns are required which give considerable detail about our expenditure and performance to date. Haringey has an excellent reputation for compliance on both fronts.
- 6.4 Performance monitoring occurs in between Community Safety Partnership board meetings and attendance includes the holders of KPIs, the budget holders and statutory partners such as the police.

7. Contribution to strategic outcomes

- 7.1 This work contributes to the Mayor of London's Policing and Crime Strategy; Haringey's Corporate Plan priority 3 and the Haringey Community Safety Strategy. It will also help to shape Haringey's forthcoming new Borough Plan,

as well as the Knife Crime Action Plan and the refreshed Community Safety Strategy.

7.2 Officers and partners work strategically across related work areas and boards such as Youth Offending, Safeguarding Children and Adults, Health and Wellbeing, Tottenham Regeneration, Early Help and the Community Strategy.

8. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)
n/a

Finance and Procurement

The reduction in MOPAC funding may potentially lead to capacity issues, however, this can be mitigated to some extent through the co-commissioning projects, of which Haringey will be involved in at least 2 projects and by realigning resources across the system to build capacity.

Legal

n/a

Equality

There is an inherent impact on equalities of much of our community safety work and this is presented and discussed at the Community Safety Partnership meetings. This includes the peak age of offending being between 16 and 24; a very high percentage of young black males (mostly of African-Caribbean origin) involved in gangs (approx. 80%); the impact of domestic and sexual violence on women and girls; high concentrations of crime occurring in areas of deprivation; and vulnerable individuals and communities becoming victims of hate crime.

This report considers the areas of challenge in direct correlation with the impact on victims, especially vulnerable victims. In this respect, significant attention is being given to the disproportionate impact.

9. Use of Appendices

1x Appendix A - Crime Performance Statistics pack

10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

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Crime and ASB Performance Overview

March 2018

Sources:

Except where noted, all data from Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) Website and MPS AWARE System

haringey.gov.uk

Performance Overview



▪ Mayor's Police and Crime Plan (2017-2021) has outlined key priorities for Haringey, which are due for review shortly:

Mandatory High Harm Crimes:

- Sexual Violence
- Domestic Abuse
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Weapon-Based Crime
- Hate Crime

Mandatory Volume Crime:

- Anti-Social Behaviour

Local Priorities:

- Robbery
- Non-Domestic Violence with Injury (VWI)

▪ Key focus on Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation, whilst balancing response to volume crime

▪ Ranking tables show Haringey in the London context (No.1 indicates best performing borough)

haringey.gov.uk

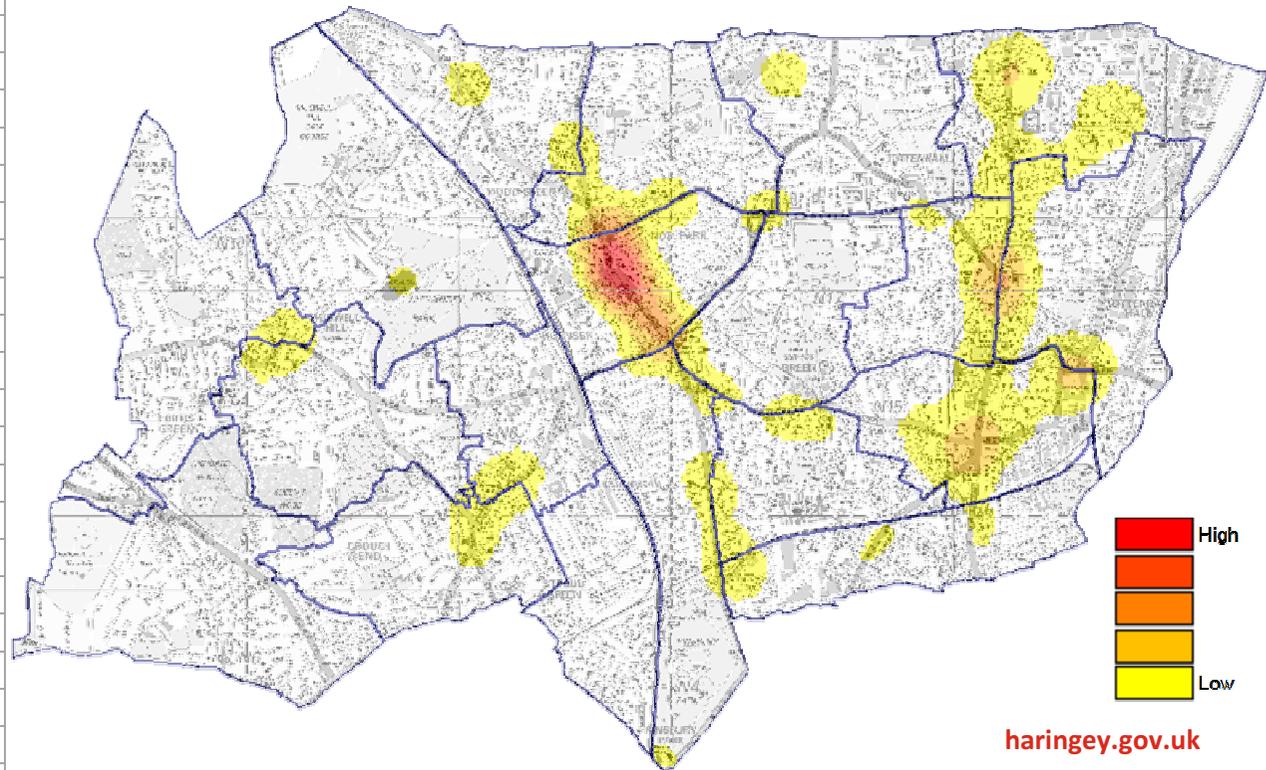
Total Notifiable Offences



| Borough | TNO | London Rank | Volume |
|------------------------|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| Lambeth | -2% | 1 | 34779 |
| Lewisham | 0% | 2 | 25011 |
| Croydon | 1% | 3 | 30444 |
| Ealing | 1% | 4 | 28222 |
| Harrow | 2% | 5 | 13892 |
| Wandsworth | 2% | 6 | 25254 |
| Merton | 4% | 7 | 13734 |
| Hammersmith and Fulham | 4% | 8 | 21692 |
| Tower Hamlets | 4% | 9 | 31922 |
| Southwark | 4% | 10 | 34000 |
| Barnet | 5% | 11 | 26914 |
| Barking and Dagenham | 5% | 12 | 18631 |
| Kensington and Chelsea | 6% | 13 | 21425 |
| Waltham Forest | 6% | 14 | 22754 |
| Haringey | 7% | 15 | 30236 |
| Brent | 7% | 16 | 29689 |
| Enfield | 8% | 17 | 25119 |
| Greenwich | 8% | 18 | 25397 |
| Havering | 8% | 19 | 18900 |
| Hounslow | 8% | 20 | 24827 |
| Hillingdon | 9% | 21 | 24716 |
| Hackney | 9% | 22 | 31720 |
| Sutton | 9% | 23 | 12024 |
| Bromley | 10% | 24 | 22740 |
| Bexley | 10% | 25 | 14778 |
| Newham | 10% | 26 | 34422 |
| Kingston upon Thames | 10% | 27 | 11444 |
| Westminster | 14% | 28 | 57036 |
| Richmond upon Thames | 15% | 29 | 13179 |
| Islington | 15% | 30 | 32108 |
| Redbridge | 16% | 31 | 23393 |
| Camden | 25% | 32 | 37849 |
| London Total | 8% | | 818251 |

Overall recorded crime in Haringey has increased by 7% in the 12 months to February 2018, compared to a London wide average increase of 8%.

The main hotspots are located around Wood Green High Road and around the A10 corridor, from Bruce Grove to Seven Sisters.



haringey.gov.uk

Hate Crime



- There has been a London wide trend of increased reports of hate crime over the past year.
- Haringey has experienced an increase of +3.5% in hate crime reports in the 12 months to December 2017. London as a whole has seen an increase of +3%

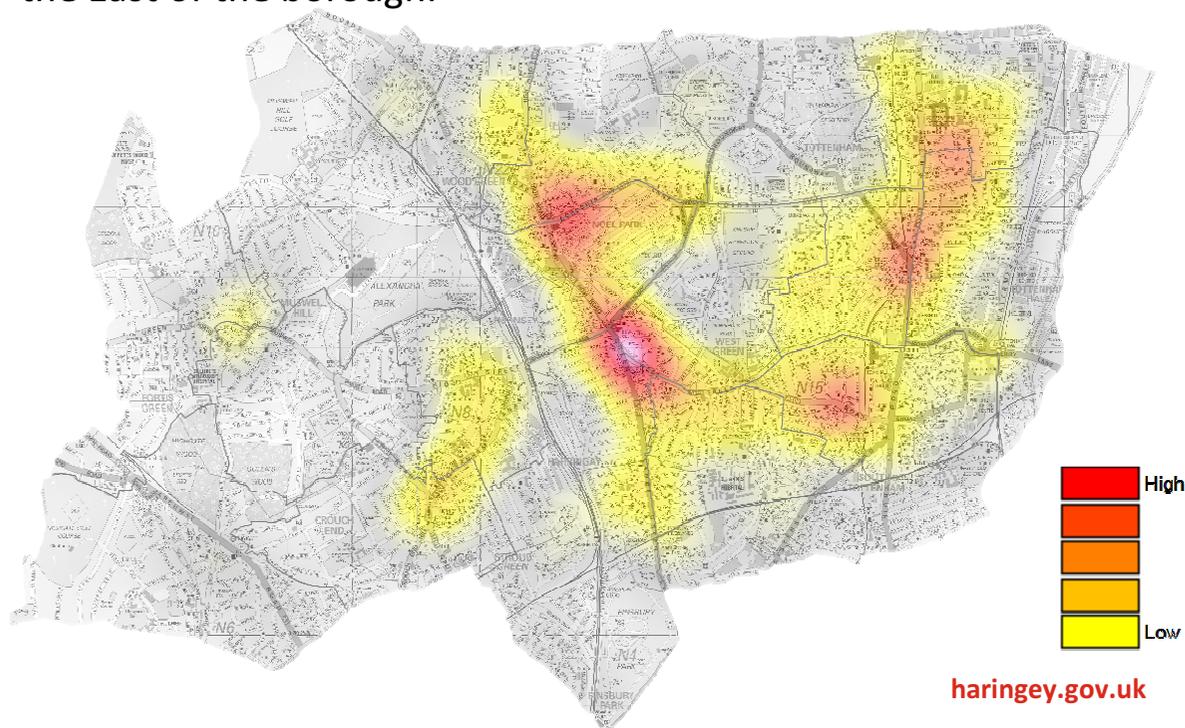
| | Haringey January 2016 – December 2016 | Haringey January 2017 – December 2017 | Haringey Change % | London Change % |
|--|---|---|----------------------|--------------------|
| Racist & Religious Hate Crime | 681 | 675 | -1% | +1% |
| Homophobic Hate Crime | 65 | 94 | +45% | +4% |
| Anti-Semitic Hate Crime | 32 | 37 | +16% | 0% |
| Islamophobic Hate Crime | 50 | 52 | +4% | +36% |
| Disability Hate Crime | 23 | 14 | -40% | -44% |

Domestic Abuse Violence with Injury



| Borough | Domestic Abuse VWI | London Rank | Volume |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Waltham Forest | -12% | 1 | 767 |
| Kingston upon Thames | -9% | 2 | 307 |
| Hillingdon | -9% | 3 | 722 |
| Havering | -8% | 4 | 674 |
| Hackney | -7% | 5 | 796 |
| Lewisham | -4% | 6 | 1018 |
| Tower Hamlets | -4% | 7 | 849 |
| Merton | -3% | 8 | 467 |
| Enfield | -3% | 9 | 898 |
| Greenwich | -3% | 10 | 964 |
| Bromley | 0% | 11 | 802 |
| Barking and Dagenham | 0% | 12 | 788 |
| Newham | 1% | 13 | 1018 |
| Ealing | 1% | 14 | 941 |
| Harrow | 2% | 15 | 505 |
| Redbridge | 2% | 16 | 670 |
| Lambeth | 2% | 17 | 968 |
| Islington | 2% | 18 | 700 |
| Hounslow | 3% | 19 | 877 |
| Sutton | 4% | 20 | 485 |
| Bexley | 4% | 21 | 577 |
| Haringey | 6% | 22 | 1015 |
| Southwark | 6% | 23 | 1046 |
| Brent | 7% | 24 | 984 |
| Croydon | 7% | 25 | 1319 |
| Westminster | 8% | 26 | 595 |
| Hammersmith and Fulham | 9% | 27 | 528 |
| Barnet | 11% | 28 | 816 |
| Wandsworth | 12% | 29 | 722 |
| Camden | 13% | 30 | 548 |
| Kensington and Chelsea | 20% | 31 | 356 |
| Richmond upon Thames | 22% | 32 | 366 |
| London Total | 2% | | 24088 |

- Domestic Abuse VWI in Haringey has increased by 6% in the 12 months to February 2018, compared to a London wide average increase of +1.8%.
- Offending takes place primarily in residential locations, with hotspots in Turnpike Lane, Wood Green and Bruce Grove.
- Over two-thirds of all reported Domestic Abuse VWI occurs to the East of the borough.

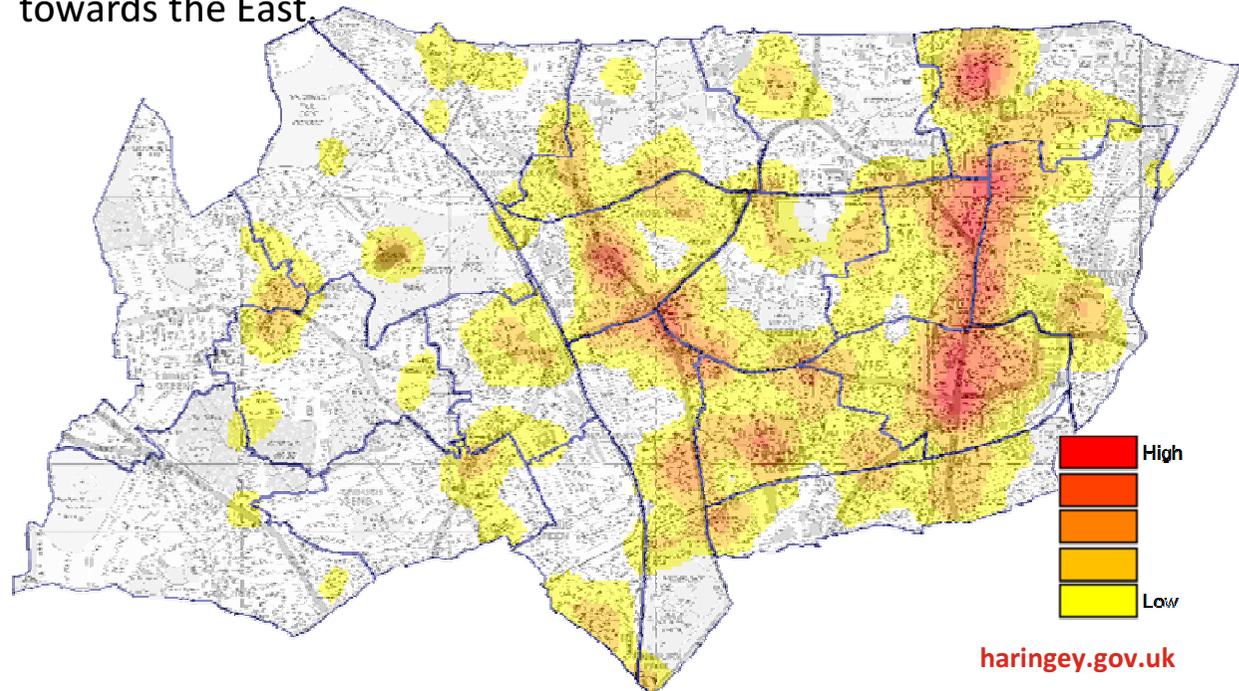


Sexual Offences



| Borough | Sexual Offences | London Rank | Volume |
|------------------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|
| Lewisham | -1% | 1 | 695 |
| Redbridge | -1% | 2 | 545 |
| Hammersmith and Fulham | -1% | 3 | 434 |
| Tower Hamlets | 0% | 4 | 739 |
| Hounslow | 1% | 5 | 553 |
| Haringey | 1% | 6 | 642 |
| Kensington and Chelsea | 2% | 7 | 477 |
| Barking and Dagenham | 3% | 8 | 354 |
| Lambeth | 4% | 9 | 903 |
| Croydon | 5% | 10 | 880 |
| Bexley | 6% | 11 | 413 |
| Harrow | 7% | 12 | 330 |
| Bromley | 8% | 13 | 514 |
| Ealing | 10% | 14 | 607 |
| Westminster | 10% | 15 | 1024 |
| Wandsworth | 11% | 16 | 727 |
| Hackney | 12% | 17 | 798 |
| Enfield | 13% | 18 | 618 |
| Southwark | 14% | 19 | 848 |
| Newham | 15% | 20 | 863 |
| Merton | 15% | 21 | 357 |
| Barnet | 15% | 22 | 624 |
| Greenwich | 16% | 23 | 654 |
| Waltham Forest | 19% | 24 | 600 |
| Camden | 19% | 25 | 739 |
| Brent | 19% | 26 | 690 |
| Richmond upon Thames | 21% | 27 | 348 |
| Hillingdon | 21% | 28 | 562 |
| Sutton | 21% | 29 | 379 |
| Kingston upon Thames | 22% | 30 | 320 |
| Islington | 27% | 31 | 665 |
| Havering | 29% | 32 | 465 |
| London Total | 12% | | 19367 |

- Overall sexual offences in Haringey have increased by 1% in the 12 months to Feb 18, compared to a London wide average increase of 12%.
- 42% of sexual offences in Haringey are categorised in the most serious category of rape, which is similar to the London wide picture
- Offences are spread across entire borough, with more clustering towards the East.



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Personal Robbery

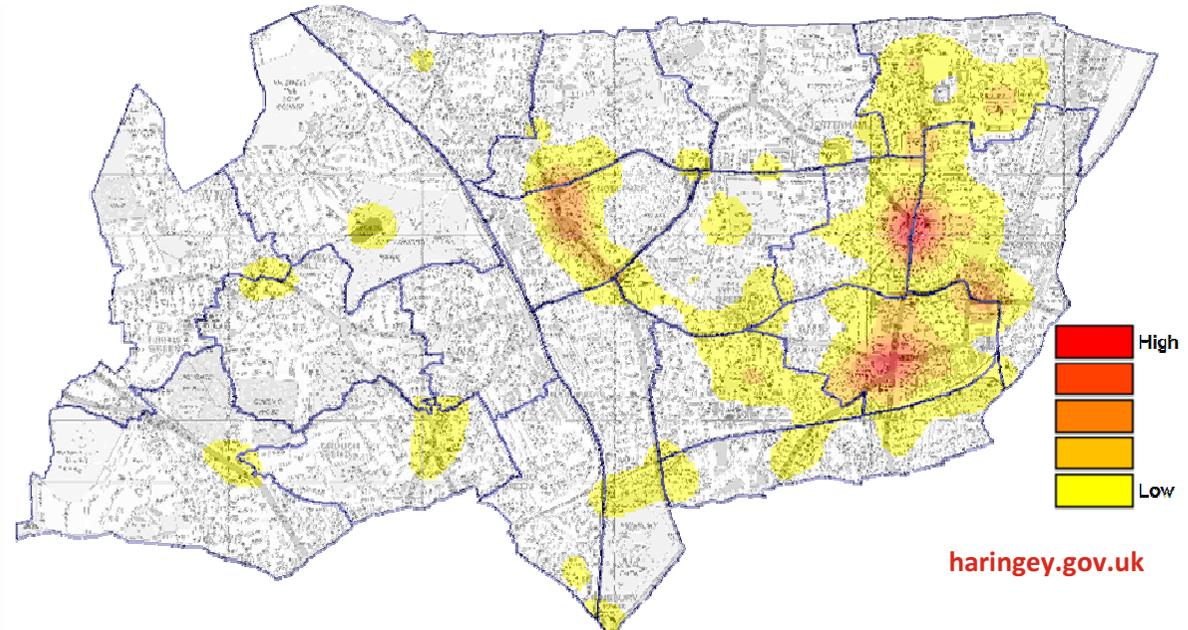


| Borough | Personal Robbery | London Rank | Volume |
|------------------------|------------------|-------------|--------|
| Harrow | -18% | 1 | 315 |
| Croydon | 2% | 2 | 1183 |
| Lewisham | 14% | 3 | 999 |
| Hounslow | 18% | 4 | 481 |
| Tower Hamlets | 20% | 5 | 1511 |
| Enfield | 21% | 6 | 999 |
| Hillingdon | 22% | 7 | 524 |
| Lambeth | 23% | 8 | 1509 |
| Merton | 24% | 9 | 353 |
| Wandsworth | 24% | 10 | 763 |
| Ealing | 25% | 11 | 847 |
| Westminster | 29% | 12 | 2398 |
| Brent | 30% | 13 | 1219 |
| Kensington and Chelsea | 30% | 14 | 682 |
| Greenwich | 30% | 15 | 636 |
| Bexley | 32% | 16 | 288 |
| Southwark | 35% | 17 | 1800 |
| Waltham Forest | 36% | 18 | 827 |
| Barnet | 38% | 19 | 645 |
| Newham | 38% | 20 | 2071 |
| Hackney | 40% | 21 | 1467 |
| Hammersmith and Fulham | 40% | 22 | 563 |
| Haringey | 41% | 23 | 1836 |
| Redbridge | 48% | 24 | 890 |
| Kingston upon Thames | 52% | 25 | 181 |
| Barking and Dagenham | 59% | 26 | 877 |
| Sutton | 61% | 27 | 268 |
| Bromley | 71% | 28 | 628 |
| Islington | 90% | 29 | 1814 |
| Havering | 96% | 30 | 626 |
| Camden | 122% | 31 | 2025 |
| Richmond upon Thames | 123% | 32 | 232 |
| London Total | 41% | | 31457 |

Personal robbery has increased significantly in Haringey, by 41%, which is more than an additional 500 offences per year. London wide offending has also worsened, experiencing an increase of 41%.

In particular, robbery of mobile phones has seen an increase of 51% in Haringey (653 in 12 months), which is significantly above the London increase in this same category of 39%.

Moped enabled robbery volumes have begun to reduce in recent months. The highest volumes have taken place in Islington, Camden and Hackney.



Knife Injury Victims Aged Under 25



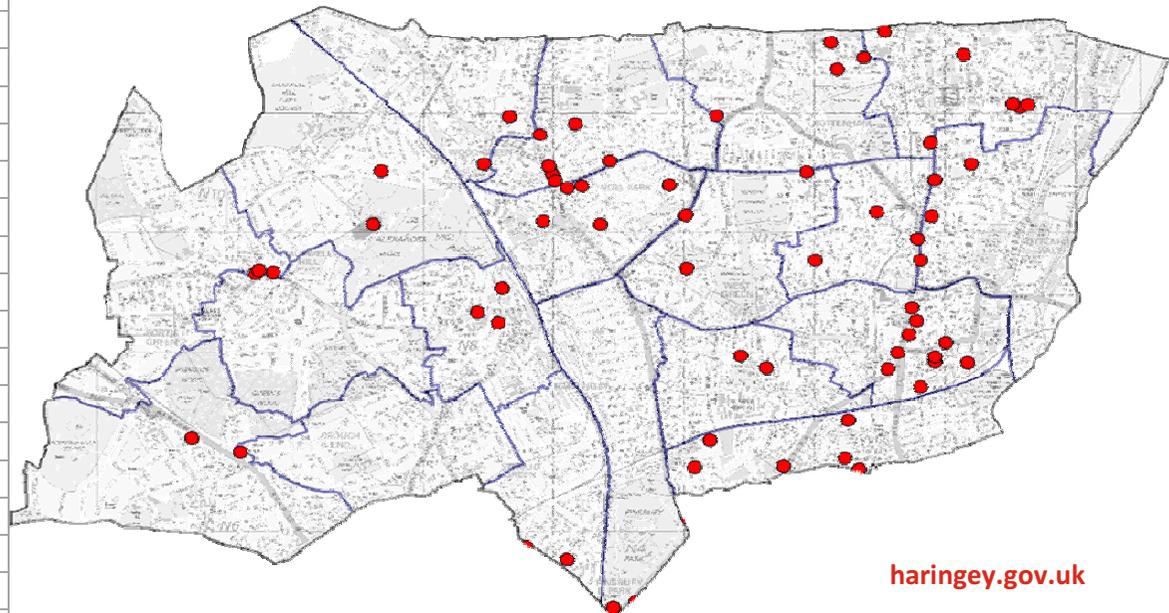
| Borough | Knife Injury Victims Aged Under 24 (Non-Domestic) | London Rank | Volume |
|------------------------|---|-------------|-------------|
| Ealing | -14% | 1 | 79 |
| Merton | -14% | 2 | 28 |
| Hounslow | -9% | 3 | 58 |
| Bexley | -8% | 4 | 28 |
| Haringey | -8% | 5 | 83 |
| Barking and Dagenham | -1% | 6 | 42 |
| Kensington and Chelsea | 2% | 7 | 98 |
| Lewisham | 4% | 8 | 54 |
| Wandsworth | 6% | 9 | 127 |
| Newham | 8% | 10 | 102 |
| Tower Hamlets | 9% | 11 | 102 |
| Croydon | 11% | 12 | 47 |
| Harrow | 13% | 13 | 62 |
| Barnet | 14% | 14 | 51 |
| Bromley | 16% | 15 | 69 |
| Redbridge | 17% | 16 | 78 |
| Greenwich | 17% | 17 | 91 |
| Westminster | 18% | 18 | 144 |
| Lambeth | 18% | 19 | 106 |
| Hackney | 19% | 20 | 93 |
| Islington | 20% | 21 | 115 |
| Hammersmith and Fulham | 22% | 22 | 45 |
| Brent | 28% | 23 | 122 |
| Havering | 31% | 24 | 45 |
| Richmond upon Thames | 34% | 25 | 20 |
| Southwark | 35% | 26 | 159 |
| Kingston upon Thames | 35% | 27 | 21 |
| Waltham Forest | 39% | 28 | 85 |
| Hillingdon | 48% | 29 | 69 |
| Enfield | 50% | 30 | 95 |
| Sutton | 67% | 31 | 30 |
| Camden | 70% | 32 | 92 |
| London Total | 8% | | 2440 |

■ Haringey has experienced a reduction in young victims of knife injuries, reducing by **-8%**. During this period, London overall has increased by **8%**.

■ **However, serious incidents still occur, which often lead to serious and life-changing injuries.**

■ Key locations are Wood Green High Street, Turnpike Lane and Bruce Grove / Lansdowne Road

■ Hotspots have continued to shift, following targeted partnership work in long standing high volume locations.



Lethal Barrelled Firearm Discharges

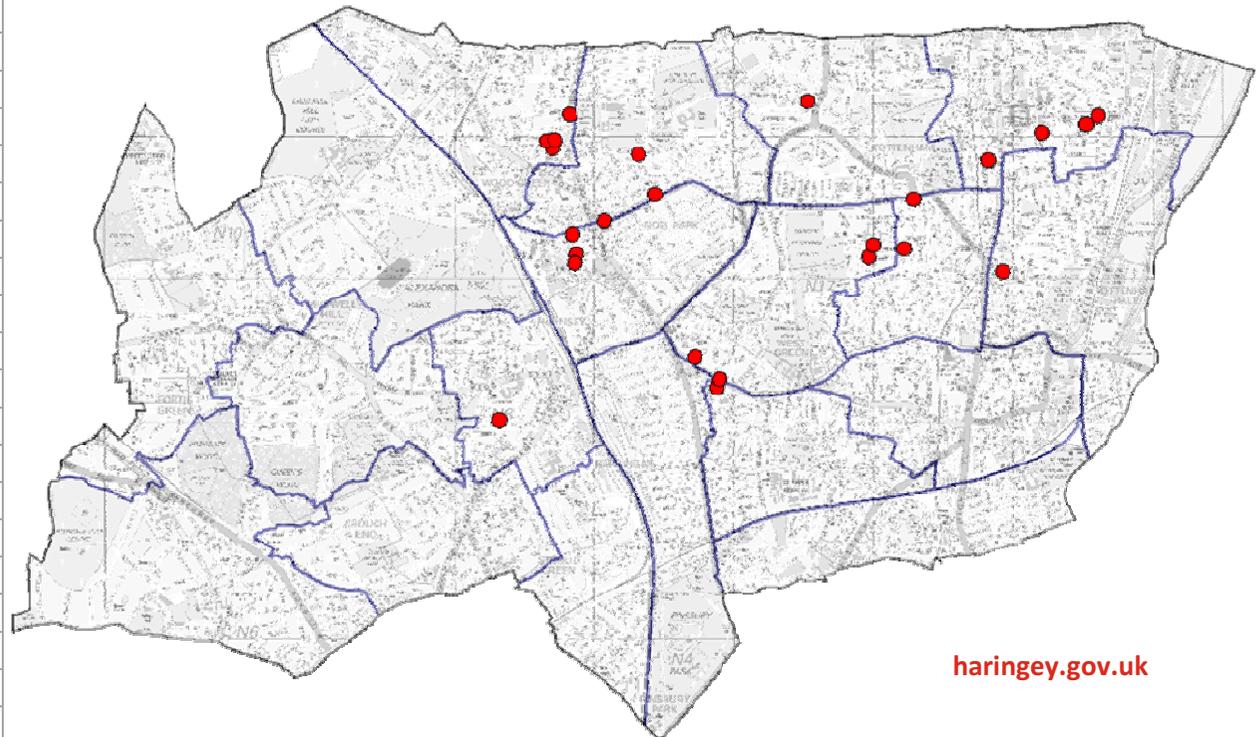


| Borough | Lethal Barrelled Firearm Discharges | London Rank | Volume |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|--------|
| Barnet | -89% | 1 | 2 |
| Wandsworth | -80% | 2 | 2 |
| Tower Hamlets | -62% | 3 | 5 |
| Bexley | -40% | 4 | 3 |
| Waltham Forest | -35% | 5 | 15 |
| Kensington and Chelsea | -33% | 6 | 4 |
| Lewisham | -27% | 7 | 8 |
| Ealing | -25% | 8 | 3 |
| Greenwich | -18% | 9 | 9 |
| Lambeth | -17% | 10 | 24 |
| Hackney | -14% | 11 | 18 |
| Redbridge | 0% | 12 | 10 |
| Westminster | 0% | 13 | 8 |
| Enfield | 6% | 14 | 17 |
| Brent | 10% | 15 | 23 |
| Islington | 10% | 16 | 11 |
| Newham | 11% | 17 | 41 |
| Southwark | 27% | 18 | 14 |
| Harrow | 33% | 19 | 4 |
| Bromley | 33% | 20 | 4 |
| Sutton | 33% | 21 | 4 |
| Richmond upon Thames | 50% | 22 | 3 |
| Barking and Dagenham | 80% | 23 | 9 |
| Hounslow | 100% | 24 | 5 |
| Hammersmith and Fulham | 100% | 25 | 8 |
| Kingston upon Thames | 100% | 26 | 6 |
| Croydon | 133% | 27 | 2 |
| Camden | 133% | 28 | 14 |
| Merton | 150% | 29 | 14 |
| Haringey | 160% | 30 | 44 |
| Hillingdon | 175% | 31 | 11 |
| Havering | 600% | 32 | 7 |
| London Total | 12% | | 352 |

■ Lethal barrelled firearm discharges in Haringey have increased significantly, from 17 up to 44, year on year, a 160% increase. London has increased by 12% over this same period.

■ Haringey accounts for **1 in 8** of all lethal barrelled firearm discharges in London.

■ Firearm related incidents mostly occur to the East of the borough, and show some correlation with known gang linked areas. Offences also demonstrate some geographical clustering.

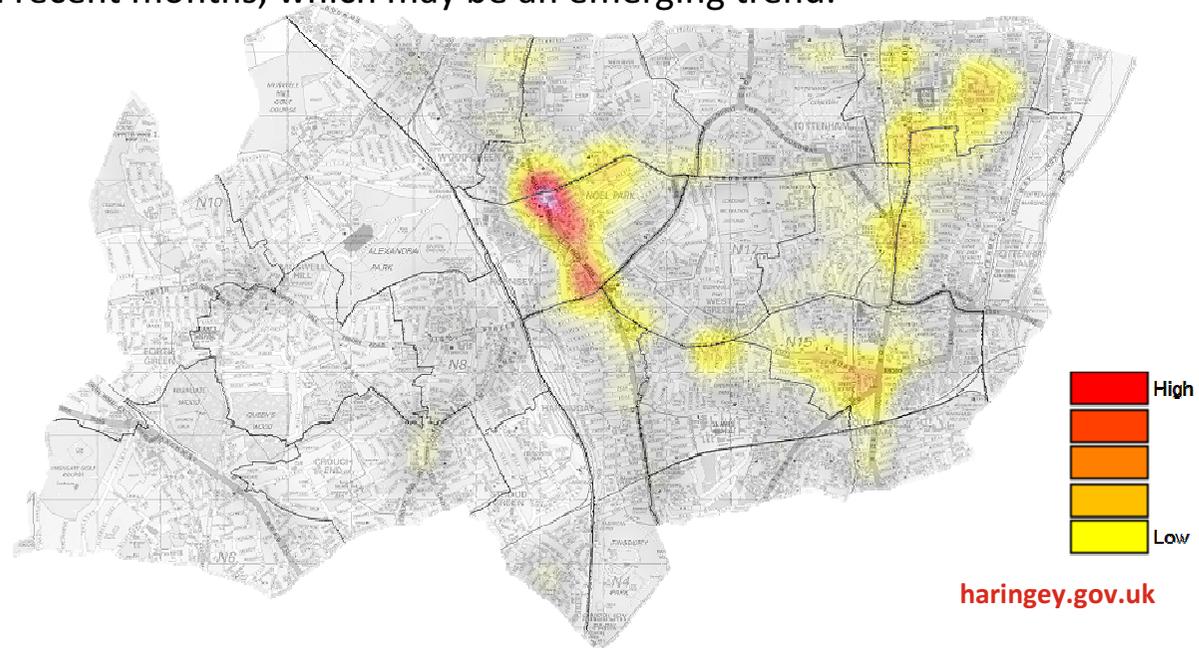


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Non-Domestic Abuse Violence With Injury **Haringey** LONDON

| Borough | Non-Domestic Abuse VWI | London Rank | Volume |
|------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Hammersmith and Fulham | -7% | 1 | 1192 |
| Croydon | -5% | 2 | 2103 |
| Islington | -4% | 3 | 1653 |
| Barking and Dagenham | -4% | 4 | 1290 |
| Hillingdon | -4% | 5 | 1643 |
| Newham | -3% | 6 | 2244 |
| Richmond upon Thames | -3% | 7 | 609 |
| Tower Hamlets | -3% | 8 | 1974 |
| Ealing | -3% | 9 | 1952 |
| Lambeth | -2% | 10 | 2710 |
| Merton | -1% | 11 | 889 |
| Southwark | 0% | 12 | 2214 |
| Wandsworth | 0% | 13 | 1506 |
| Kingston upon Thames | 0% | 14 | 789 |
| Camden | 1% | 15 | 1901 |
| Waltham Forest | 1% | 16 | 1554 |
| Greenwich | 2% | 17 | 1809 |
| Barnet | 3% | 18 | 1462 |
| Redbridge | 3% | 19 | 1403 |
| Kensington and Chelsea | 3% | 20 | 1007 |
| Hounslow | 4% | 21 | 1893 |
| Brent | 4% | 22 | 1570 |
| Havering | 5% | 23 | 2225 |
| Harrow | 5% | 24 | 1291 |
| Lewisham | 6% | 25 | 886 |
| Westminster | 7% | 26 | 2944 |
| Haringey | 8% | 27 | 1993 |
| Hackney | 8% | 28 | 2087 |
| Bexley | 11% | 29 | 1034 |
| Enfield | 12% | 30 | 1594 |
| Sutton | 16% | 31 | 879 |
| Bromley | 20% | 32 | 1475 |
| London Total | 4% | | 51775 |

- Non-domestic VWI offences have increased in Haringey by 8%, which is larger than the London-wide increase of 4%.
- A significant proportion of incidents occur in busy locations, such as shopping centres, transport hubs and key thoroughfares.
- Some incidents are also linked to retail/night time economy related issues, including when individuals have been refused entry to shops or bars/pubs and subsequently attacking staff/security.
- An small increase in violent incidents in park locations has been noted in recent months, which may be an emerging trend.



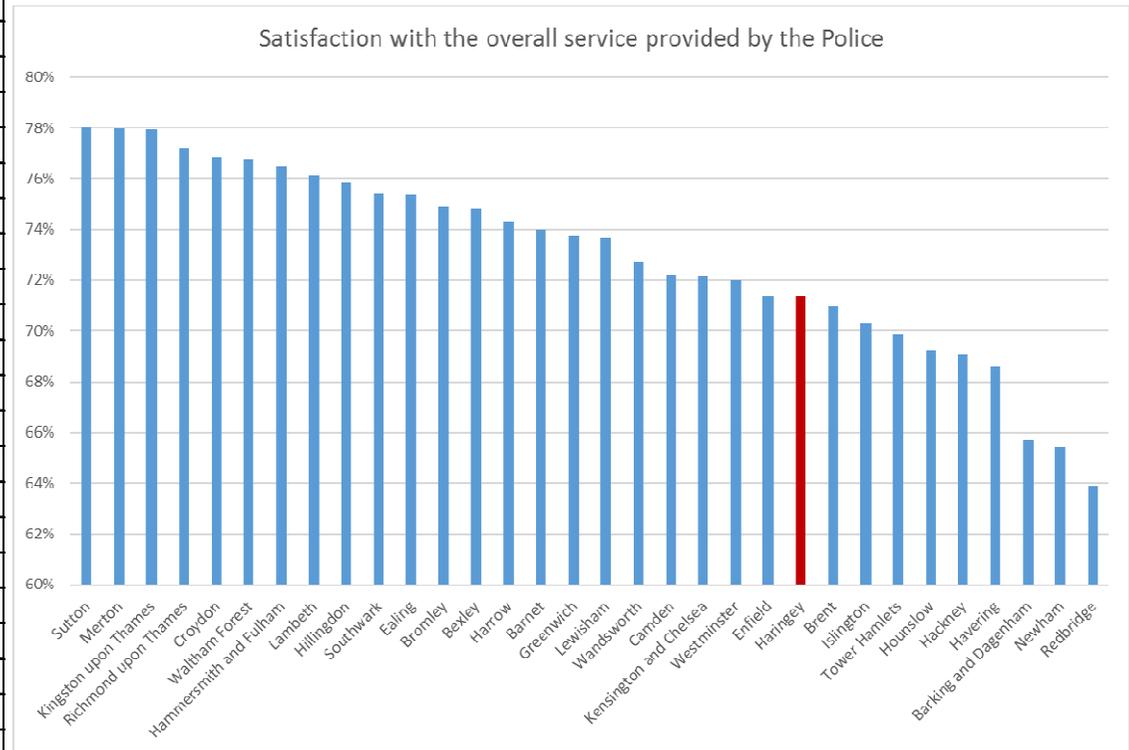
Confidence and Satisfaction Levels

Nov 2017



| Borough | Satisfaction with the overall service provided by the Police | Rank |
|------------------------|--|-----------|
| Sutton | 78% | 1 |
| Merton | 78% | 2 |
| Kingston upon Thames | 78% | 3 |
| Richmond upon Thames | 77% | 4 |
| Croydon | 77% | 5 |
| Waltham Forest | 77% | 6 |
| Hammersmith and Fulham | 76% | 7 |
| Lambeth | 76% | 8 |
| Hillingdon | 76% | 9 |
| Southwark | 75% | 10 |
| Ealing | 75% | 11 |
| Bromley | 75% | 12 |
| Bexley | 75% | 13 |
| Harrow | 74% | 14 |
| Barnet | 74% | 15 |
| Greenwich | 74% | 16 |
| Lewisham | 74% | 17 |
| Wandsworth | 73% | 18 |
| Camden | 72% | 19 |
| Kensington and Chelsea | 72% | 20 |
| Westminster | 72% | 21 |
| Enfield | 71% | 22 |
| Haringey | 71% | 23 |
| Brent | 71% | 24 |
| Islington | 70% | 25 |
| Tower Hamlets | 70% | 26 |
| Hounslow | 69% | 27 |
| Hackney | 69% | 28 |
| Havering | 69% | 29 |
| Barking and Dagenham | 66% | 30 |
| Newham | 65% | 31 |
| Redbridge | 64% | 32 |

■ Haringey is currently ranked 23rd out of 32 London boroughs for satisfaction with the overall service provided by the police, an improvement of 6 places compared to the previous reporting period



Confidence and Satisfaction Levels

Nov 2017



- Haringey is currently ranked **23rd** for satisfaction with the overall service provided by the police, at 71%, compared with a London average of 73%.
- In particular, Haringey has improved **for overall satisfaction for the BAME community**, at 71%, up from 67% previously. This compares to 73% for the white community in Haringey.
- Haringey has improved to **7th highest** for ease of contact, at 91%. The London average is 88%.
- Haringey's ranking for satisfaction with police actions currently sits at 66%, below the average of 68%.
- Satisfaction with treatment ranks Haringey **22nd in London**, and satisfaction with follow up ranks the borough **26th**.

Crime in Parks



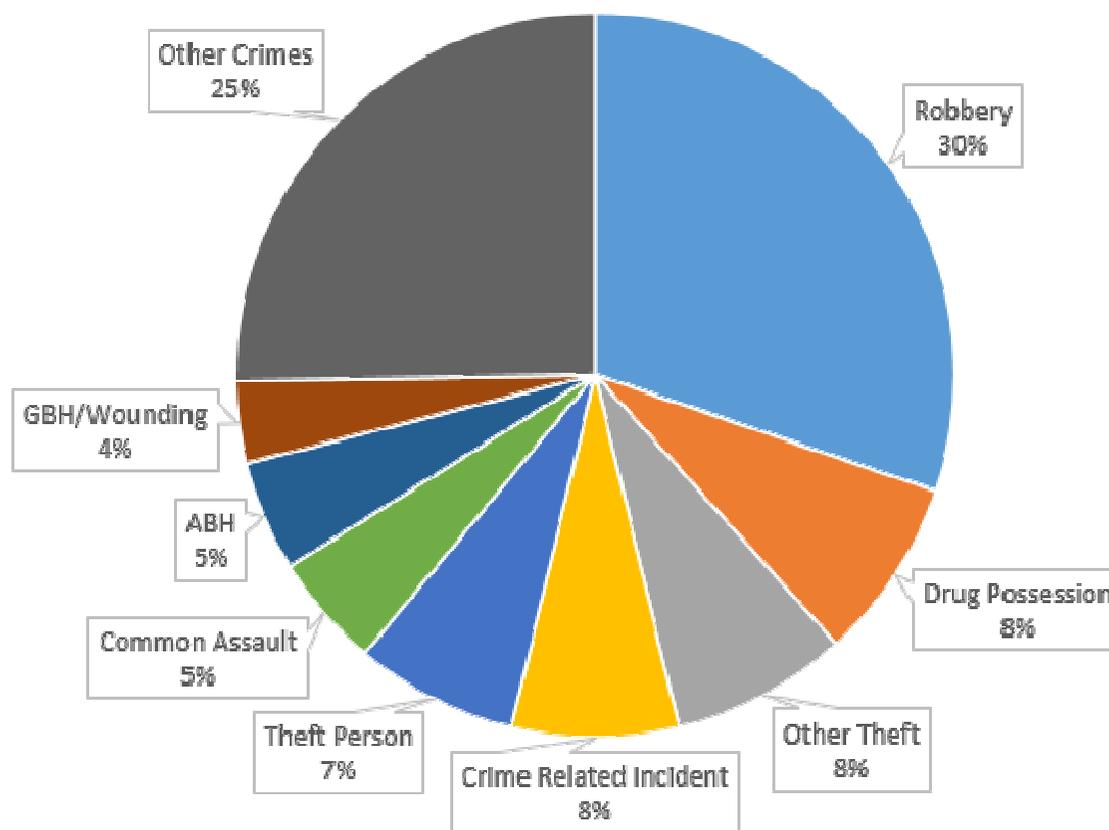
- 629 crimes have occurred in parks over the previous 12 months, representing a small 2% reduction as compared to the previous year.
- The below table summarises the highest crime volume parks in the borough.

| Park | Total Crime 12 Months | % Of All Park Crime | Change Compared to Previous 12 Months |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Finsbury Park N4 | 155 | 25% | 42% |
| Lordship Recreation Ground N17 | 66 | 10% | 78% |
| Alexandra Park | 51 | 8% | 21% |
| Markfield Park, N15 | 49 | 8% | 26% |
| Down Lane Park N17 | 37 | 6% | -18% |
| Downhills Park N17 | 36 | 6% | -14% |
| Bruce Castle Park N17 | 34 | 5% | 0% |
| Chestnuts Park N15 | 22 | 3% | -21% |
| Ducketts Common N4 | 22 | 3% | -70% |
| Tottenham Green | 18 | 3% | 1700% |
| All Other Parks | 139 | 22% | -17% |
| TOTAL | 629 | | -2% |

Crime in Parks

- The most common crime occurring in parks is robbery, usually involving mobile phones being stolen.
- Other common crime types including drug offences, theft and lower level violence, with some more serious violent offences occurring, but on an infrequent basis.

Crime Types In Parks



Summary

- Several areas of positive performance
- Current MOPAC Police and Crime Plan priorities (Robbery and Non-DA VWI) continue to be high-volume and high risk
- Challenges include :
 - Responding to Robbery and Weapon Enabled Crime
 - Continuing to tackle vulnerability, including Domestic Abuse and Youth Violence
 - Improving Confidence and Satisfaction levels

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Report for: Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel – 13 March 2018

Item number:

Title: Scrutiny Review on Parks

Report

authorised by: Cllr Tim Gallagher, Chair of Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel

Lead Officer: Robert Mack, 020 8489 2921 rob.mack@haringey.gov.uk

Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key/

Non Key Decision:

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1 Under the agreed terms of reference, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) can assist the Council and the Cabinet in its budgetary and policy framework through conducting in-depth analysis of local policy issues and can make recommendations for service development or improvement. The Committee may:

- (a) Review the performance of the Council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or particular service areas;
- (b) Conduct research to assist in specific investigations. This may involve surveys, focus groups, public meetings and/or site visits;
- (c) Make reports and recommendations, on issues affecting the authority's area, or its inhabitants, to Full Council, its Committees or Sub-Committees, the Executive, or to other appropriate external bodies.

1.2 In this context, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 17 July agreed to set up a review project to look at the issue of parks that would be undertaken by the Environment and Community Safety Panel.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

N/A

3. Recommendations

3.1 That the Panel agree the report and its recommendations and that it be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for final approval.

4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1 The Committee is requested to agree the report and the recommendations within it so that it may be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for approval.

5. Alternative options considered

- 5.1 The Panel could decide not to agree the report and its recommendations, which would mean that it could not be referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for approval.

6. Background information

- 6.1 The rationale for the setting up of the review, including the scope and terms of reference, is outlined in paragraphs 1.1 to 1.6 of the report.

7. Contribution to strategic outcomes

- 7.1 This review relates to Corporate Plan Priority 3 – “A clean, well maintained and safe borough where people are proud to live and work”.

8. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)

Finance and Procurement

- 8.1 Where there are financial implications of implementing the recommendations within this report, it is important that the recommendations are fully costed and a funding source identified before they can be agreed. If the recommendation requires funding beyond existing budgets or available external funding, then Cabinet will need to agree the additional funding before any proposed action can proceed.

Legal

- 8.2 Under Section 9F Local Government Act 2000 (“The Act”), Overview and Scrutiny Committee have the powers to review or scrutinise decisions made or other action taken in connection with the discharge of any executive and non-executive functions and to make reports or recommendations to the executive or to the authority with respect to the discharge of those functions. Overview and Scrutiny Committee also have the powers to make reports or recommendations to the executive or to the authority on matters which affect the authority’s area or the inhabitants of its area. Under Section 9FA of the Act, Overview and Scrutiny Committee has the power to appoint a sub-committee to assist with the discharge of its scrutiny functions. Such sub-committee may not discharge any functions other than those conferred on it.
- 8.3 Pursuant to the above provisions, Overview and Scrutiny Committee has establish Scrutiny Review Panels of which include Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel to discharge on its behalf defined scrutiny functions. On the request from Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel has undertaken a review on parks. In

accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Panel must refer the outcome of its review to Overview and Scrutiny Committee for consideration and approval.

- 8.4 The remit of the Scrutiny Panel's review is defined in the terms of reference set out in the review report. The Scrutiny Panel should keep to the terms of reference and ensure that its findings and recommendations are based good evidence, accord with good practice and are reasonable and rational.

Equality

- 8.5 The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

- 7.7 The three parts of the duty applies to the following protected characteristics: age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy/maternity; race; religion/faith; sex and sexual orientation. In addition, marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.

- 7.8 The Committee should ensure that it addresses these duties by considering them during final scoping, evidence gathering and final reporting. This should include considering and clearly stating: How policy issues impact on different groups within the community, particularly those that share the nine protected characteristics; Whether the impact on particular groups is fair and proportionate; Whether there is equality of access to service and fair representation of all groups within Haringey; Whether any positive opportunities to advance equality of opportunity and/or good relations between people, are being realised.

- 7.9 The Committee should ensure that equalities comments are based on evidence, when possible. Wherever possible this should include demographic and service level data and evidence of residents/service-users views gathered through consultation

9. Use of Appendices

Appendix A: Draft report of Scrutiny Review on Parks

10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

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Scrutiny Review: Parks

A Review by the Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel

2017/18

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Panel Membership | Cllr Tim Gallagher (Chair) |
| | Cllr Barbara Blake |
| | Cllr Bob Hare |
| | Cllr Clive Carter |
| | Cllr Makbule Gunes |
| | Cllr Anne Stennett |
| | Mr I Sygrave (Co-opted Member) |

Support Officer: Robert Mack, Principal Scrutiny Support Officer

Rob.mack@haringey.gov.uk

0208 489 2921

CHAIR'S FOREWORD

Haringey's parks are much loved facilities that provide a wide range of benefits for the community. There have been various attempts to quantify these benefits, but parks also contribute to life in the borough in ways that are not always quantifiable, in relation to areas such as health, education, social cohesion and place-making. Despite this, there has historically been a lack of recognition of the wide-ranging benefits that parks provide and a tendency to take them for granted. This has led to them being regarded as a low priority for funding and something of a financial liability.

Parks have suffered disproportionately from budget cuts. The adverse impact of these has been felt gradually but there are now signs that long-term harm is being done to our parks. Although the borough's Parks Service are highly-regarded, it has been widely acknowledged during this review that it is chronically underfunded, with staff numbers too low and maintenance levels insufficient to keep parks at the standards residents expect. The principal cause of this is, of course, the cuts to council funding from central government. However, as a panel we have tried to explore ways of increasing funding within the current constraints.

The most effective and efficient means of managing our parks is for those of sufficient size to have their own dedicated members of staff, as was the case in the past. Although we recognise that this is not possible within the current parks budget, it should be the council's long-term aspiration for the future. We should also be looking to obtain Green Flag status for as many of our parks as is possible, as this will help ensure that they all benefit from high standards.

It is important that a holistic strategic approach for our parks is taken and that the responsibility for their upkeep and development is more widely shared amongst the partners who benefit from the outcomes they produce. In particular, the Health and Well Being Board should play a key role. Natural Capital Accounting can help to illustrate the contribution that parks make to a range of outcomes by quantifying them, which should also help the service obtain funding from external sources.

Finally, we need to ensure that our parks and open spaces are preserved for future generations. The pressure on land in London is likely to intensify and this may cause parks to be considered as acceptable options for development. Any permanent development on land designated as a park should be objected to on principle, unless the overall provision of open land is enhanced. In addition to the loss of a valuable amenity for residents, any such development would be counterproductive to the regeneration of the borough by reducing its attractiveness. In order to increase levels of protection, we therefore feel that all designated parks should be put under covenant with the Fields in Trust.



Councillor Tim Gallagher – Chair of Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Parks Service engage further with Friends groups to ensure they have a clear guide to the structure of the Parks Service and have a named contact for each area of responsibility (*paragraph 3.16*).
2. That the Council's formal position be, subject to the provision of suitable additional funding and the setting of service standards at an appropriate level, to support the making of parks into a statutory service (*4.5*).
3. That it is acknowledged that the current level of revenue funding for the Parks Service is insufficient to maintain parks and open spaces to an acceptable standard and risks causing long term damage to our parks and open spaces and that it therefore is increased (*4.14*).
4. That an explicit commitment be made to maximise the use of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding for parks and open spaces and that all of the cost of maintaining facilities developed using such funding should also come from the CIL (*4.18*).
5. That every effort be made to maximise capital funding from external sources but that any match funding required for capital works or projects should come from wider capital programme funding rather than specifically from the budget for the Parks Service (*4.19*).
6. That the Council state its aspiration to have a dedicated member of staff in all parks of sufficient size to warrant this and that this be included in its vision for the service within the forthcoming Parks Strategy (*4.23*).
7. That Green Flag status should be sought for all of the boroughs parks that are considered able to achieve it (*4.25*).
8. That, in respect of litter in parks, the development of pilot schemes aimed to reduce levels be welcomed and the Panel kept informed of progress (*4.29*).
9. That levels of litter in parks be monitored closely to ensure that recent changes to waste and recycling arrangements do not impact adversely on them and that information in respect of this be included in regular performance information submitted to the Panel (*4.29*).
10. That the wider benefits of parks are emphasised strongly within the new Parks Strategy and reflected in outcome specifications and that it be developed in collaboration with the Health and Well-Being board in order that health and well-being issues are fully taken into account (*5.5*).

11. That the Parks Strategy be developed utilising values calculated using the Natural Capital Accounting model (5.9).
12. That, in view of the significant contribution that they make to delivering long-term health and well-being benefits, a percentage of the Public Health budget be earmarked for the maintenance and development of parks and open spaces (5.17).
13. That where parts of the local transport infrastructure for walkers and cyclists pass through parks and open spaces, LIP funding be used for their development and maintenance (5.25).
14. That the Council commit to a programme of putting all of the boroughs designated parks and green open spaces under a Fields in Trust covenant and that this includes a clear timetable for completion (6.14).

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The review was set up by the Panel in response to community concerns regarding the cumulative effects of budget cuts on parks and open spaces within the borough and the possibility that these may lead to long term decline.

Terms of Reference

- 1.2 The terms of reference for the review were as follows:

“To consider and make recommendations to the Council’s Cabinet on the development of a strategy for the borough’s parks and open spaces and, in particular;

- Maintenance of standards and support;
- The wider benefits and contributions to Corporate Plan priorities that parks make;
- Potential sources of funding; and
- Effective protection from inappropriate development or commercialisation.”

Sources of Evidence

- 1.3 Sources of evidence were:

- Research documentation and relevant local and national guidance;
- Interviews with key stakeholders and local organisations; and
- Visits to Railway Fields and Albert Road Recreation Ground.

- 1.4 A full list of documentation considered and all those who provided evidence as Appendices A and B.

2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Approximately 13% of Haringey is open space. There are 61 parks and open spaces, 58 of which are the responsibility of the Council. There are also a small number that are not the Council's responsibility, including Alexandra Park, Tottenham Marshes and Highgate Wood. They are very much loved by residents, with 81% indicating that they are satisfied or very satisfied with their local parks and open spaces. There are 13.5 million visits to them per year, which works out as a cost of 9 pence per visit.
- 2.2 The Parks Service is currently part of the Council's Commercial and Operations business unit and comes within the portfolio of the Cabinet Member for Environment. The service is responsible for a number of functions, including:
- Grounds maintenance in parks and open spaces, around Homes for Haringey properties, next to highways and within sports and leisure facilities;
 - Allotments, which is the only part of the service that is statutory;
 - Nature Reserves;
 - Trees and woodland management;
 - Events in parks;
 - Capital Investment and major projects;
 - Sports and play facilities;
 - Partnerships and property management; and
 - Relationships with Friend's groups.

Strategic Role

- 2.3 The Parks Service has a direct relationship to Priority 3 within the Council's Corporate Plan; "A clean and safe borough where people are proud to live". However, it also makes a contribution to:
- Priorities 1 and 2 in terms of people's activity levels, food growing and children's play; and
 - Priorities 4 and 5 in terms of the creation of new green space or investment into existing green space and employment of apprentices or new business opportunities within parks.

Funding

- 2.4 Overall revenue expenditure is currently £4.7m per year. Employee costs are £2.5m of this total. The service has an income of £3.5m though and, taking this into account, the net cost of the service to the Council is £1.2m. 40% of the income of the service comes from its grounds maintenance contract with Homes for Haringey and almost half of all staff are engaged on this contract.
- 2.5 The income that the service receives comes from a wide range of sources, including:
- Grounds Maintenance services - £1.5m;
 - Cemeteries and crematoriums - £770k;
 - Events - £750k;
 - Leased community and commercial property - £245k;

- Professional advice to Homes for Haringey and housing services - £150k;
- Allotments - £94k;
- Filming - £50k;
- Sports fees and charges - £25k; and
- Traded services with schools - £20k.

- 2.6 The resources that are available for maintenance have not changed significantly since the budget for the Parks Service was reduced in 2011. Services provided to Homes for Haringey were unaffected by the cuts and therefore the remainder of the service was affected disproportionately. As a consequence, the number of Parks Service staff working within parks and open spaces was reduced by approximately 50%. There are currently 49 front line gardening and maintenance staff, of which 21 will be wholly engaged in work for Homes for Haringey.
- 2.7 The “More Than Parks” project formed part of Priority 3 of the Corporate Plan and was also part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for 2015-18. It sought to generate additional income and to reduce service costs by £1.2m over three years. The project represented the first three years of a five-year project to reduce the operational cost of the service to zero.
- 2.8 In addition, around £47m of capital investment has been secured over the last 12 years, of which 70% has been external. £1m of capital funding has come from events in parks but this income is now used for revenue purposes instead. The Council’s 10 Year Capital Strategy includes £7m investment for parks. No further budget reductions are planned over next three years. There is also a certain amount of Section 106 money, which is generally capital rather than revenue funding. In addition, Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding has also been used for parks and open spaces.

External Funding

- 2.9 Whilst there are a number of external funding opportunities for parks, these are nearly all capital funding. External funding has been obtained from a range of bodies, such as Sport England, the Football Foundation, the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Mayor’s Office and Veolia. In particular, the London Marathon Trust has contributed £0.5m to the refurbishment of the athletics track at Finsbury Park. It is sometimes the case that Friends of Parks groups can access funding that is not available to the Council.

Friends of Parks Groups

- 2.10 The Parks Service has a very good relationship with the 45 Friends groups that are active in the borough. Senior officers from the service meet regularly to discuss issues and strategy with them via the bi-monthly Haringey Friends of Parks Forum meetings. Amongst the things that Friends groups can provide are volunteer support within parks, assisting with tasks such as clearing vegetation, litter and clean-up operations, as well as monitoring maintenance issues, organising activities and events, promoting the park, conducting surveys,

developing vision and applying for external funding. The work that is done by Friends groups is greatly appreciated by the Parks Service. However, the Panel noted the view of officers that the service is now possibly over reliant on their efforts. Many of the actions that they undertake were previously undertaken by parks staff.

2.11 The service is also supported by a number of external partners including the Conservation Volunteers, Groundwork and the Police. Most parks have been adopted by a local neighbourhood watch scheme.

2.12 The Council submitted evidence to a recent DCLG Review of Parks. The government has published a response and there is now a cross departmental government group that is co-ordinating action with a cross-sectorial 'Parks Action Group (PAG)' of national greenspace organisations. Dave Morris, the Chair of Haringey Friends of Parks Forum, is a member of the PAG representing the National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces

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3. COMMUNITY VIEWS

Introduction

- 3.1 The Panel obtained the views of a number of interested people from within the local community on the current challenges facing parks within the borough. It heard from Dave Morris who fed back the views of Haringey Friends of Parks Forum as well as responses from a recent survey of all Friends groups across the borough. In addition, the Panel also heard from Clif Osbourne and Richard Evans from the Conservation Volunteers and Robby Sukdheo from the Pavilion at Albert Road Recreation Ground.

Haringey Friends of Parks Forum

- 3.2 Mr Morris stated that parks and green open spaces were much loved facilities and extensively used. They provided a range of essential and unique services for all sections of the community. He felt that the Parks Service was chronically underfunded. It had suffered 50% cuts in staffing since 2011 but funding levels had been in the lowest quintile of London boroughs even before this. Net spending was now the third lowest in London.
- 3.3 The long term impact of cuts had taken a number of year to become manifest and there were now concerns that parks had reached a similar stage of crisis as in the 1980s and 90s and that this would take considerable effort to recover from. The need to generate revenue to compensate for the loss of funding had led to the controversial programme of major commercial events, including concerts, in parks.
- 3.4 Friends groups across the country were calling on local authorities to reverse budget cuts to parks and open spaces and to provide effective protection from development, sell off, fragmentation and inappropriate commercialisation. There was no desire amongst Haringey's Friends groups for alternative management models to be adopted and Mr Morris felt that the Parks Service did a great job despite chronic underfunding and understaffing.
- 3.5 It was important the service had adequate and long-term revenue funding so that it could be rebuilt. He felt that other services that gained benefit from parks should contribute to their upkeep. For example, the waste collection budget that is currently earmarked to Veolia could make a contribution in view of the litter that the Parks Service collects. Highways and Transport for London could also contribute as paths within parks are used as travel routes by residents. In order to achieve this, it was important to have a vision for parks. Parks were of particular significance for Haringey as a high percentage of people did not have access to a garden.
- 3.6 He stated that ongoing capital investment was or should be available for parks from sources such as CIL funding, the NHS, the London Mayor's Office and central government. He felt that any match funding should come out of the Council's capital budget rather than from the parks budget.

- 3.7 There needed to be on-site staffing for all substantial parks as well as effective levels of backroom staffing. All parks ought to be maintained to at least Green Flag standard as a minimum. There also needed to be effective protection, with all parks put into the Fields in Trust covenanting scheme. The Haringey Development Vehicle (HDV) was a particular concern due to the potential for pieces of public green space to be placed within it. There was therefore every reason for all parks and open spaces to be placed under covenant in order to provide additional protection.
- 3.8 Community involvement was important and this meant more than just listening to the views of residents. Lordship Recreation Ground was co-managed between the Friends, user groups and the Council and he felt that such an approach could be adopted elsewhere across the borough.
- 3.9 In 2003, the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and Regions Committee concluded that a statutory duty of care for public spaces might encourage local authorities to give them greater priority when making funding decisions. The recent Communities and Local Government (CLG) Select Committee report on parks had not recommended this as it was thought that they could be protected by other means. He felt that the lack of a recommendation regarding this had weakened the report. In the absence of suitable alternatives, protection through statutory status provided a way forward. It would need to be backed up with standards and funding though.
- 3.10 Whilst there was a good relationship between Friends groups and the Parks Service, he felt that the Council as a whole had not prioritised the issue of parks. All parks should be managed in a fair and equitable way and receive the same level of service. Finsbury Park was currently suffering disproportionately due to the concerts there, which had been made necessary to provide funding for all parks and open spaces in the borough.
- 3.11 Parks were an essential part of the borough's infrastructure and needed to be properly financed and managed. The Council was responsible for a wide range of services, many of which were statutory, and the budget for parks was a comparatively small part of this. A decision needed to be made by the Council to recognise that if parks were indeed a priority then, proper funding was required.

Friends of Parks Forum Survey

- 3.12 Mr Morris reported that there had been 19 responses to the survey of Friends groups. These contained answers to multiple choice questions as well as extensive comments that provided detailed evidence from most of the parks and green open spaces within the borough. A similar survey was undertaken in 2012, which received 11 responses and a summary of this was also presented. Most parks of a significant size were represented amongst the Friends groups that had responded to the more recent survey. He commented that parks with an active friends group were likely to be in a better condition than those without due to the contribution that Friends groups make.

- 3.13 The survey showed that Friends groups considered that the condition of Haringey's parks in 2010 was, on average between a scale of excellent to poor, between adequate and inadequate. Since the 2011 cuts, staffing presence, maintenance and management was felt to have deteriorated further. Infrastructure repairs and safety were considered to have diminished slightly. Most of the Friends groups that responded were involved in litter picking and maintaining flower beds and woodland. Most did this occasionally and for parts of sites. However, a lot felt that it would be difficult to sustain this level of activity and that they were also doing things that should be done by parks staff. There was a high level of goodwill but this could not be taken for granted.
- 3.14 Ease of contacting parks service grounds workers was currently considered to be between okay and good, with a similar response in respect of office-based staff. Half of respondents stated that their parks had been faced with a threat of inappropriate development or commercialisation. These mainly concerned planning matters, some of which were historic.
- 3.15 Compared with responses on the position in 2010 in the Friends Groups survey from 2012, relations with management were now rated a lot lower. In particular, the rating given to management in 2012 had shown a rapid deterioration following the budget cuts. Infrastructure repairs had also showed some decline. Friends groups had been contributing less to litter picking and flower bed and woodland maintenance in 2012 and had also felt that the level of their involvement at that time was more sustainable. In addition, there had been a substantial dip in the level of satisfaction with working and liaising with grounds workers and office based staff.

Communication with Friends Groups

- 3.16 Although witnesses were highly complimentary about the Parks Service, some Friends groups felt that there could be improvements in the communication between Parks Staff and Friends Groups. At times, queries from Friends Groups can go unanswered or are answered very late. In particular, it was noted that Friends groups do not understand the structure of the Parks Service or the appropriate officer to contact about specific issues.

Recommendation:

That the Parks Service engage with Friends groups to ensure they have a clear guide to the structure of the Parks Service and have a named contact for each area of responsibility.

The Conservation Volunteers

- 3.17 Mr Osbourne and Mr Evans felt that Haringey Parks Service provided an excellent service and were head and shoulders above other boroughs in their

work. However, they were limited by what they were able to do due to lack of resources. They had a good partnership with the Council and were in the process of agreeing a lease on Railway Fields from them, which they currently manage and run. They receive funding from the Council as well as some external sources, including the Veolia Educational Trust who contribute £30,000 per year. There is also some funding from corporate partnerships.

- 3.18 All the work on the site is currently undertaken by volunteers. The Conservation Volunteers also worked in 20 other parks. In particular, they produce conservation action plans and undertake Green Flag work in some parks. They stated that there was a biodiversity action plan for the borough but this was now out of date. They had worked closely with the borough's Conservation Officer and they were currently waiting for a new one to be appointed by the Council. The Panel was subsequently informed that this post is currently being filled.
- 3.19 Mr Osbourne and Mr Evans highlighted the educational work that the Volunteers currently undertake. They host a large number of visits from nursery, infant and primary schools during the year. A part time education project officer is employed and additional funding is being sought to extend his/her hours. Outreach is provided to some schools and bids for external funding had been made to support this work.
- 3.20 They felt that the Council's Parks Service was seriously understaffed and that this was bound to have effects. Without Friends groups, there would be a lot more difficulties. Understaffing had compromised the care that the service was able to give to parks. In some places, neglect of paths and benches was so bad that they were potentially dangerous. Managers could struggle to respond to enquiries due to the size of their workloads. In the light of the budget constraints that the service had, they felt that what they had managed to achieve was remarkable.

The Pavilion at Albert Road Recreation Ground

- 3.21 The Panel met with Mr. Sukdheo at the Albert Road Recreation Ground, which has benefitted substantially from investment in facilities. Of particular note is the impact that improvements have had on reducing anti-social behaviour and providing sports and leisure opportunities for local children and young people.
- 3.22 He reported that the recreation ground had been affected in the past by gangs and the Pavilion had had problems with graffiti. Facilities had since been vastly improved and external funding had been obtained to fund developments, including £300,000 from the Lawn Tennis Association. Recent enhancements included facilities for table tennis. In addition, work was being undertaken to resurrect the bowls facilities and to introduce petanque, which had been funded by the ward budget.
- 3.23 Tennis courts were available from £5. As long as there was nobody waiting for a court, people could stay on for as long as they wished. Children were allowed to use the tennis courts for nothing. The view was that income would instead

be generated by them taking tennis lessons in due course. In addition, schools were able to use the facilities for free. The hope was that this would encourage people to spend money in the café.

3.24 Levels of crime and vandalism were now very low. They had successfully employed a number of gang members and this has helped to reduce problems. It was now very rare for there to be incidents. There was a very good relationship with the Parks Service and the Friends Group. The Parks Service were responsible for the grounds maintenance. Bookings for the sporting facilities had increased by tenfold in the last 15 years.

3.25 He felt that the Parks Service were massively understaffed and severely stretched. This could lead to work not being done as often as it needed to be. For example, hedges had needed to be cut as they were almost on the road. Staff also tended to be moved around a lot, which could lead to a lack of continuity.

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4. MAINTAINING AND SUSTAINING PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

Introduction

- 4.1 The biggest current challenge facing parks and open spaces would appear to be ensuring that they are maintained adequately following the significant budget reductions that have taken place in recent years. The Panel therefore focussed in detail on the options that might be available to address this. Most local authorities are in a similar position to Haringey and there are a number of ideas that are currently being explored.
- 4.2 Tony Leach from Parks for London outlined some of the initiatives that are being undertaken. The purpose of Parks for London is to inform and advise all who manage and are involved in parks in London, celebrate all the good things that parks contribute and share good practice. Mr Leach felt that parks had reached a tipping point due to the cumulative effect of cuts. There was a danger of them suffering decline to the levels experienced in the 1980s, when their visible neglect made them a magnet for anti-social behaviour.

Statutory Status

- 4.3 Parks are not a statutory service and had therefore suffered disproportionately from budget cuts as services which were statutory had been prioritised. It has been suggested that making them a statutory service could provide a means of reversing their decline. However, Mr Leach commented that demands on statutory services were already very high though and designating another service as statutory without additional funding would merely increase demand on limited resources. He therefore felt that it would only be of benefit if accompanied by specific ring fenced funding.
- 4.4 The Panel noted the view of Mr Farrow, who commented that statutory services had also been affected deeply by budget cuts. It was the view of his professional colleagues that statutory status for parks could lead to a “race to the bottom”, with services benchmarked against the lowest standards.
- 4.5 Although it is not within the power of Haringey to change this, the Panel is of the view that making parks a statutory service would raise its profile and guarantee their maintenance to a certain level. It would also make parks a higher priority when funding decisions are taken. It is nevertheless mindful that it is very unlikely that there would be any benefit from this if it merely increased further the pressure on funds for statutory services. In addition, benchmarking would need to be set at an appropriate level so that this did not just lead to services being provided at the bare minimum. It nevertheless concurs with the view of Parks for London that there would be benefit in parks becoming a statutory service if this is accompanied by additional funding from central government and underpinned by the setting of service standards at an appropriate levels.

Recommendation:
That the Council’s formal position be, subject to the provision of suitable

additional funding and the setting of service standards at an appropriate level, to support the making of parks into a statutory service.

Funding

- 4.6 Mr Leach stated there are no simple solutions to the issue of funding but having a clear strategy would put boroughs in a better position. There were a wide range of grants available, such as the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), Section 106 and the London Marathon Charitable Trust and not all boroughs were taking full advantage of these. It was possible to use some sources of capital funding as revenue, for example CIL funding. One other option was crowd funding for specific projects with boroughs match funding the amounts raised.
- 4.7 The Panel noted that the biggest challenge was to identify sources of revenue funding. The government is encouraging a range of solutions, including investing to save. In larger parks, investment in facilities could provide a means of generating a revenue stream. One option that is being trialled is the setting up of endowment funds to provide a long-term revenue stream. This requires the creation of a trust to run those parks and open spaces that were to benefit from the endowment. Sheffield and Newcastle have considered such approaches but only Newcastle had so far decided to proceed, albeit for a small proportion of their open spaces. There is a danger that such an approach could create a “two tier” system. It is not yet clear whether endowment schemes are a viable option and, in particular, how safe money invested in endowments is. More money is currently spent on parks in London and the south east than elsewhere so the pressure to test such alternative approaches is not as intense.
- 4.8 There are already a number of parks that operate as independent trusts, including Alexandra Palace Park and Crystal Palace. All of them have faced challenges though. Bexley had run one of its parks through a trust but has recently brought it back in-house and wound the trust up. Potters Field, which is adjacent to City Hall, is owned by Southwark but run by a trust and has generated a lot of income. In particular, the trust has collaborated with the nearby Business Improvement District to improve other neighbouring parks.
- 4.9 There are some parks and open spaces that are particularly special and therefore well placed to generate income. Mr Leach felt that it was important to ensure that reasonable amounts were charged for their use. Some boroughs have developed trading arms, which allow them greater freedom to trade and make a profit, including Bromley and Hounslow. Such models are very new and it is therefore currently unclear how effective they are likely to be.
- 4.10 The Panel noted that most London boroughs have been forced to increase the number of events that are held in their parks in order to increase income. However, there have not been as many events that have taken place as perceived. There were only 9 very large events (50,000 plus spectators) in London in 2016 and 2 of these were royal events. There had been 34 events

that were classified as large (5,000 to 50,000 spectators) including events in Finsbury Park. However, Mr Leach felt that income from an increase in the number of events in parks was not a long-term solution to the revenue funding of parks.

Revenue

- 4.11 All of the witnesses that the Panel heard from felt that Haringey parks are chronically underfunded and that this was having an adverse effect that may have long-term consequences. It feels that there are currently not enough staff to meet demand in areas such as litter picking, grass cutting and carrying out basic maintenance and this is, in some cases, causing health and safety concerns. As shown by the Friends of Parks Forum survey, a majority of Friends groups feel that standards of both management and maintenance, along with Friends/Council communications, have declined. Without Friends groups, this situation would undoubtedly be considerably worse.
- 4.12 Any decline is not the fault of Haringey's parks staff and all witnesses that the Panel heard from were highly complimentary about them. For example, the Conservation Volunteers staff at Railway Fields described Haringey's Parks Service as 'second to none' in London.
- 4.13 A comparatively large percentage of Haringey residents do not have access to a garden and this means that parks are of particular importance to the borough. In addition, the majority of the new homes that are planned for the borough will not have gardens. This makes it particularly difficult to justify a net level of spending on parks that is now the third lowest in London.
- 4.14 The Panel feels that the current situation is unsustainable and risks causing long-term damage to our parks and open spaces. It needs to be acknowledged that there is insufficient revenue funding for the service. Whilst the Panel is mindful that all areas of the council's budget are under pressure, it nevertheless recommends that revenue funding for the Parks Service be increased.

Recommendation:

That it is acknowledged that the current level of revenue funding for the Parks Service is insufficient to maintain parks and open spaces to an acceptable standard and risks causing long term damage to our parks and open spaces and that it therefore is increased.

Capital

- 4.15 The Panel noted that Haringey's submission to the Communities and Local Government Select Committee review on parks stated that there will be between £7 and £10 million invested in parks through Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding over the next ten years. Peter O'Brien, Assistant Director for Area Regeneration, reported that parks and open spaces in Tottenham have already benefitted significantly from Section 106

funding. The funding arises from planning obligations and is therefore generally capital but a small percentage can be allowed for maintenance.

4.16 The Panel was advised that CIL funding can be used for revenue as well as capital provided that it is used to maintain infrastructure funded by it. However, a decision was taken in Haringey to use strategic CIL for spending against the Capital Programme. Access to such funding is likely to vary across the borough but there should nevertheless be opportunities to take advantage of it. Further opportunities will arise from the development of neighbourhood plans as 20% of CIL funding is intended to be spent on neighbourhood priorities. With several areas of the borough being developed, CIL funding can provide a significant additional source of funding. However, Mr O'Brien stated that there are considerable demands on CIL funding but its further use for parks could nevertheless be explored.

4.17 Mr Farrow reported that the proposed Business Improvement District for Wood Green has been extended to include Ducketts Common and could provide an opportunity to fund additional enforcement and litter picking there. In respect of CIL, he felt that it would be necessary to engage with planners regarding the identification of a percentage of funding for green open spaces and the joining up of such spaces. The Panel noted that a report is being submitted to the Council's Cabinet regarding a five-year programme for CIL funding.

4.18 The Panel has noted and concurs with the recommendation of the CLG Select Committee on Parks that states: "We believe that local authorities should be allowed to use Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy funds to cover parks' revenue requirements." It feels a commitment should be made to maximise the use of CIL funding for the development of parks and open spaces, particularly in areas with a Neighbourhood Plan, and that *all* of the cost of maintaining facilities developed by such funding should also come from the CIL.

Recommendation:

That an explicit commitment be made to maximise the use of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding for parks and open spaces and that all of the cost of maintaining facilities developed using such funding should also come from the CIL.

4.19 The Panel notes that significant capital funding has been obtained from external sources, such as the London Marathon Trust, the Veolia Educational Trust and the Heritage Lottery Fund. It feels that every effort should be made to maximise funding from such sources. However, it is mindful that obtaining such funding can also create difficulties for the Parks Service if match funding is required. It therefore feels that any match funding for capital works or projects should come from wider capital programme funding rather than specifically from the budget for the Parks Service.

Recommendation:

That every effort be made to maximise capital funding from external sources but that any match funding required for capital works or projects should come from wider capital programme funding rather than specifically from the budget for the Parks Service.

On Site Staff

- 4.20 Markfield Park and Lordship Recreation Ground are currently the only two parks within the borough to have dedicated on-site staff. However, this is to ensure that the terms of their Heritage Lottery Grant are complied with as there is a 10-year commitment to an increased level of maintenance. The Council's commitment to this is counted as additional match funding. Once the ten-year period has passed, there is no longer any financial contractual obligation, as is now the case with lottery-funded Finsbury Park.
- 4.21 Mr Farrow stated that, provided that there was sufficient work to keep them fully occupied, having a dedicated member of staff on site was the most efficient way to support and maintain individual parks and was a good aspiration. He felt that the Lordship Recreation Ground community/Council co-management model was a success story and showed what well-funded and well-staffed parks could be like in the future.
- 4.22 The view of Haringey Friends of Park Forum was that dedicated on-site staff are required in all parks of a significant size in order to improve standards of management and maintenance. Lewis Taylor, Parks Manager from Commercial and Operations, commented that there used to be site based staff in a lot of the larger parks and this had helped to develop a sense of ownership on the part of staff. The number of site-based staff had diminished following the introduction of Compulsory Competitive Tendering and they had been replaced with mobile staff.
- 4.23 The Panel is of the view that the Council should aspire to have a dedicated member of staff on site in all parks of sufficient size to warrant it. It is mindful that, within current budget constraints, this will need to be aspirational at the moment but feels that this is model of service that the Council needs to be working towards and part of the future vision for the service that should be included within the forthcoming strategy.

Recommendation:

That the Council state its aspiration to have a dedicated member of staff in all parks of sufficient size to warrant this and that this be included in its vision for the service within the forthcoming Parks Strategy.

Green Flag

4.24 The Council has been successful in gaining annual Green Flag status for 22 parks within the borough, a number that has gradually increased since 2003. The awards require eight sets of criteria to be fulfilled, including partnership with a range of bodies. 22 major parks and open spaces are also maintained to Green Flag Standard. Smaller spaces are managed to the same specification but do not have formal management plans.

4.25 The Panel is of the view that the Green Flag scheme is of value in promoting good standards within parks. It therefore feels that Green Flag status should be sought for all of the boroughs parks that are considered able to achieve it.

Recommendation:
That Green Flag status should be sought for all of the boroughs parks that are considered able to achieve it.

Litter

4.26 The Panel noted evidence that level of litter has increased. The Parks Service currently spends £0.25 million per year on litter picking and emptying bins, which could be better spent employing additional parks staff. Work has been taking place with Parks for London and Keep Britain Tidy to look at how levels of litter can be reduced.

4.27 Consideration is being given to the use of different types of bins and some open bins have been removed. The service is also looking at the greater use of equipment as there are pieces on the market that could help. However, many machines are too heavy and not suited to the terrain in parks. Community Payback has proven useful for litter picking but that there is an agreement that it can only be used where friends group are happy at their use.

4.28 Recycling collections have been withdrawn due to the issue of contamination, where a small number of non-recyclable items placed in recycling bins can result in entire loads being rejected. There are nevertheless still 13 recycling bins. The amount of recyclable material that comes from parks is, in any case, small. The best solution is for people to take their recyclable materials home.

4.29 Mr Farrow reported that a range of approaches will be piloted to reduce litter. One of these under consideration was removing all bins except ones for dog waste. It was not clear what was likely to work and there was no simple solution. The Panel welcomes the pilot schemes that are being developed and requests that updates on progress be presented to the Panel in due course. In addition, the Panel is mindful of the potential for recent changes to waste and recycling collection arrangements to impact on parks and open spaces and would also wish to monitor this issue.

Recommendations:
• That, in respect of litter in parks, the development of pilot schemes aimed

to reduce levels be welcomed and the Panel kept informed of progress;
and

- That levels of litter in parks be monitored closely to ensure that recent changes to waste and recycling arrangements do not impact adversely on them and that information in respect of this be included in regular performance information submitted to the Panel.

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5. THE WIDER BENEFITS OF PARKS

Introduction

- 5.1 The Panel heard that parks and open spaces contribute to a very wide range of benefits to the community and many of these are only now starting to be appreciated. The benefits cover a wide range of areas, which include:
- Health and well-being;
 - Leisure and recreation;
 - Climate change adaptation and mitigation;
 - Ecology and diversity;
 - Transport routes;
 - Social cohesion;
 - Flood control; and
 - A sense of place and attractiveness.

Strategic Role

- 5.2 Mr Leach stated that the development of a green infrastructure strategy by boroughs could provide them with an important tool to guide them and the Mayor's draft London plan encouraged all boroughs to do this. He felt that it was particularly important that the wider benefits of parks were reflected fully within this. A holistic approach was more complicated but could deliver greater rewards in the long term. Strategies could be developed in collaboration with Health and Well Being Boards as, in particular, parks provide a lot of health and well-being benefits. He also felt that having outcome specifications that relate to priorities such as health and education could also be useful in helping to generate funding.
- 5.3 The Panel noted the following finding of the Select Committee on Parks "We strongly believe that without being able to demonstrate the contribution made by parks to broader agendas, local authority parks departments will find it difficult to secure sufficient priority for their parks, or to access alternative funding sources. For this reason, we welcome the new models which are emerging to help assess the value of parks' broader contributions in a more nuanced way."
- 5.4 It is intended that the Council's new Parks Strategy will recognise the wider benefits of parks through considering the service's strategic role further and, in particular, aiming to quantify the contribution that is made to a range of corporate priorities. As part of this, it will explore opportunities for other Council services to commission further activities in parks. Work is also taking place with partners regarding shared management arrangements.
- 5.5 The Panel welcomes the recognition of the wider benefits of parks within the new strategy and feels that they should be emphasised strongly and reflected in outcome specifications. In addition, it is of the view that there should be specific collaboration with the Health and Well Being Board to ensure that health and well-being issues are taken fully into account.

Recommendations:

That the wider benefits of parks are emphasised strongly within the new Parks Strategy and reflected in outcome specifications and that it be developed in collaboration with the Health and Well-Being board in order that health and well-being issues are fully taken into account.

Quantifying the Value

- 5.6 Various efforts have been made to quantify the total value of the contribution that parks and open spaces make. This is important as parks may otherwise be regarded as a financial liability and investment in them as a drain on the public purse.
- 5.7 A tool developed by the University of Exeter has calculated the value of Haringey's parks and open space to the local economy at £24,308,554 per annum. A report (Natural Capital Account for London) commissioned by the Greater London Authority, National Trust and Heritage Lottery Fund to estimate the economic value provided by London's public parks also found the following:
- London's public green spaces have a gross asset value of more than £91 billion, providing services valued at £5 billion per year;
 - For each £1 spent by local authorities and their partners on public green space, Londoners enjoy at least £27 in value;
 - Londoners avoid £950 million per year in health costs due to public green space;
 - The value of recreational activities is estimated to be £926 million per year; and
 - For the average household in London, the monetary value of being in close proximity to a green space is over £900 per year.
- 5.8 It is estimated that the gross asset value of Haringey's parks and open spaces was £2.9 billion. It put the mental health savings for Haringey as £41 per person per year and physical health savings at £70 per person per year. These figures are particularly important as they show that any money allocated to parks by the NHS or public health as part of preventative measures is likely to deliver positive outcomes.
- 5.9 The Panel concurs with the view of the Select Committee on Parks of the importance and assessing the value of the contribution that parks make to a range of outcomes. It notes that both Barnet and Barking and Dagenham have produced strategies for parks and open spaces that utilise values calculated using the Natural Capital Accounting model and feels that Haringey should follow a similar route as a means of strengthening its case for sustainable funding and generating funding.

Recommendation:

That the Parks Strategy be developed utilising values calculated using the

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| Natural Capital Accounting model. |
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Health and Well Being

- 5.10 The Panel considered in detail the significant contribution that parks and green spaces make to health and well-being. Evidence regarding this was received from Marlene D'Aguilar from the Council's Public Health Service and Marco Inzani from Haringey CCG.
- 5.11 Ms D'Aguilar reported that there were targets for the borough for reducing levels of inactivity and these were currently going down. Parks had a key role in addressing inactivity through both organised activities, such as the Council's walks programme, and unorganised activities, such as play. They are also used for formal and informal sports use, such as football, tennis and outdoor activities. Outdoor gyms and green gyms have made parks a purposeful health destination. There were people who use parks for walking and running and these activities have no cost. There are also established and informal walking and running groups who use parks on a regular basis. In addition to physical health, parks can also help to address mental health and social isolation through providing places for people to meet and socialise.
- 5.12 One particular initiative that was taking place is the placing of distance markers around some of the borough's larger parks to assist walkers or runners in knowing how far they have walked or run. In respect of children, parks enabled them to use their imagination and active learning when playing and can assist in the development of leadership skills due to safe risk taking.
- 5.13 Mr Inzani reported that the CCG concurred with the views of Public Health. The CCG currently had a number of priorities and older people were a particular focus of attention. Action planned in respect of this would include initiatives to increase independence and reduce social isolation. There was an opportunity to link this work with the promotional work on parks being undertaken by Public Health. Prevention is also an important part of the work that is being undertaken and exercise and, in particular, walking are important parts of this with specific links to parks.
- 5.14 He stated that preventative work is the responsibility of Public Health. Whilst the CCG was supportive of the preventative agenda, actions arising from it can take a long time to deliver benefits. Some campaigns, such as smoking cessation, could deliver quicker results. The CCG also has its own cost pressures and currently has a deficit of £7 million.
- 5.15 The Panel noted that key parts of the Sustainable and Transformation Plan (STP) for the north central London are focussed on achieving savings through prevention. It is of the view that parks have an important role to play in the achievement of such outcomes. It is essential that there is provision for prevention in health budgets in order to provide funding for things that could

contribute significantly, such as parks. Failure to invest in prevention is likely to have long-term costs for the health economy.

5.16 Mr Inzani stated that he would be happy to refer any relevant recommendations from the review to North Central London Partners, who have overall responsibility for the STP. Prevention was nevertheless within the responsibilities of the local authority due to its role in respect of public health. However, prevention was something that the CCG believed in. The Panel noted that the total annual budget of Haringey CCG was £359 million whilst that of the Public Health Service was £20.742 million.

5.17 The Panel considers that the contribution that parks and open spaces make to health and well-being has so far been undervalued and unrecognised. Evidence provided to the recent Select Committee on Parks from the Land Trust highlighted research from the University of Exeter, which concluded that parks and open spaces in England contribute £2.2bn to public health. In addition, a significant part of preventative action that is planned as part of the STP in order to deliver savings for health and social care partners involves their use. The Panel therefore is of the view that a percentage of the Public Health budget should be earmarked for the maintenance and development of parks. The Panel is nevertheless mindful that prevention should not just be the responsibility of the local authority as it is priority for all local health and social care partners.

Recommendation:

That, in view of the significant contribution that they make to delivering long term health and well-being benefits, a percentage of the Public Health budget be earmarked for the maintenance and development of parks and open spaces.

Regeneration

5.18 The Panel received evidence from Peter O'Brien, Assistant Director for Area Regeneration on the role that the borough's parks and open spaces play within plans for regenerating and developing the borough. Parks were one of the attractions of Tottenham and a key ingredient for successful communities. The Panel noted his view that bad parks can have precisely the reverse effect. They were a major priority for residents, as demonstrated by a survey undertaken of residents in Tottenham Hale that placed them as their second highest priority. Social groups were also massively skewed towards those that were linked to the use of parks and open spaces. There was huge pressure to deliver additional housing for the borough and, as most of the planned housing developments do not have gardens, the importance of parks is even greater.

5.19 He reported that networks of green spaces are being developed by taking action to connect them. This will involve greening certain streets ("greening the grey"), which will help to improve air quality and biodiversity. He stated that healthy and active living is an increasing priority in regeneration.

- 5.20 The Panel noted that proximity was not the same as accessibility. For example, a significant number of people in Tottenham have not visited Lee Valley, despite it being nearby. This demonstrated the importance of connections. The all London green grid provides the overall policy framework to guide the design and delivery of the green infrastructure for London. There is a Haringey grid beneath this and this could be used to focus action to bring in funding in regeneration areas, such as Tottenham.
- 5.21 The Parks Service are consulted on relevant planning applications and are also part of the planning process. They have been engaged from the outset in proposals regarding the regeneration of Tottenham and, in particular, “greening the grey”. Mr. Farrow commented that implementing policies such as connecting up green spaces took time. He reported that public space might not necessarily always be managed by local authorities and can instead be maintained by separate service charges to residents. An example of this is Queen Elizabeth II Park in Stratford.
- 5.22 The Panel was pleased to note that the boroughs parks and open spaces are a key attraction of Tottenham. They are therefore important to plans to regenerate the area. However, it is also mindful of the evidence that it heard that their neglect has the potential to have a negative impact on such plans. It is of the view that this further strengthens the argument for an increase in revenue funding.
- 5.23 It also recognises that where regeneration takes place and the population increases, the demand on parks will become greater. This increase will be accompanied by additional intake of council tax and business rates for the Council and, in recognition of the increased demand on parks, it feels that a proportion of this should be put towards the parks budget as additional funding.

Transport

- 5.24 The Panel noted evidence from Mr Leach that funding from Transport for London could be obtained by boroughs bidding for Local Implementation Plan (LIP) funds. This could be used to develop any parts of the local transport infrastructure that pass through parks and open spaces. In particular, the Mayors Transport Plan included the aspiration to develop healthy streets that were suitable for walking and cycling and this would include those that passed through parks and open spaces.
- 5.25 The Panel therefore is of the view that where parts of the local transport infrastructure that are used by walkers and cyclists pass through parks and open spaces, LIP funding be used for their development and maintenance.

Recommendation:

That where parts of the local transport infrastructure for walkers and cyclists pass through parks and open spaces, LIP funding be used for their development and maintenance.



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6. PROTECTION

Introduction

- 6.1 The Panel noted that parks and green open spaces within the borough are protected through a number of ways. All that are designated as such receive protection under the Local Plan. Major areas of open space are further designated as Metropolitan Open Land and Significant Open Land. A number of open spaces are designated as local nature reserves or Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC's). Eight parks have been dedicated as Queen Elizabeth II Fields, a Fields in Trust protection scheme that was set up in celebration of the 2012 Diamond Jubilee.
- 6.2 Concerns have nevertheless been expressed by residents about the possibility of parks being used for development purposes. Half of the respondents to the survey commissioned by Haringey Friends of Parks Forum stated that their park had been threatened with inappropriate development or commercialisation. The Panel also noted evidence from Mr Leach that, whilst the draft London plan had shown most parks and open spaces as being protected, this would not necessarily prevent planners from looking at some areas of such green space.

Regeneration and Development

- 6.3 Mr O'Brien felt that there was generally a high level of protection for parks and green open spaces, although this did not apply to open spaces that had not been formally designated as such. In some cases, swapping land used for parks and open spaces for other pieces of land could be considered. As a general rule, regeneration plans avoided the use of parks and open spaces if at all possible.
- 6.4 He stated that it is not Council policy to allow developments on land that is designated as parks and open spaces and this is not expected to change. Land that is not designated has a lesser level of protection. There is particularly strong protection for the three sites that have benefitted from Heritage Lottery Funding, with a 35-year claw back period. The development of the new Parks Strategy will include public debate about what is acceptable in parks.
- 6.5 Mr O'Brien commented that, in some limited circumstances, land swaps could lead to configurations of parks and open spaces that worked better. While clear planning protection exists and was important, a complete lack of flexibility could have unforeseen consequences in limiting the options available when delivering complex regeneration programmes.

Fields in Trust

- 6.6 The Panel heard from David Sharman, from Fields in Trust, who reported on the increased protection that could be provided for parks and open spaces through working with them to develop covenants. The organisation was set up over 90 years ago and originally called the National Playing Fields Association and is dedicated to improving outdoor facilities. There can be challenges regarding

land designated as green open space and a covenant provides a more secure and effective means of protection.

- 6.7 The covenants are a bespoke legal agreement that require the landowner to maintain the land in perpetuity. Any changes to the agreement require the approval of Fields in Trust. Activities ancillary to recreation are permitted and there is a list of permitted changes, such as the development of 3G sports pitches. Cafes, playgrounds and green gyms can be included within the protection.
- 6.8 Eight parks and open spaces in Haringey are already protected through such a covenant as part of the Queen Elizabeth II Fields scheme and the Panel heard that these have worked well. Mr Sharman felt that extension of such protection would demonstrate forward thinking on behalf of the Council and provide a significant public commitment to preserving parks and open spaces. Such a move could also provide improved access to funding through sources such as the London Marathon Trust.
- 6.9 Mr Sharman stated that should Haringey wish to extend its use of covenants to cover all of the borough's parks, it might be possible to use the borough as a model of good practice. Hammersmith and Fulham have already included all of its parks and Glasgow City Council has included 27 of theirs. Other local authorities are considering similar action.
- 6.10 The process for covenanting sites is relatively straightforward. A survey of sites would need to be undertaken and a template deed developed in collaboration with legal officers. The legal work required is likely to take days rather than weeks to complete. Once completed, the covenants require signing and sealing. The input of Fields In Trust and plaques is free of charge. The only upfront cost is £80 that needs to be paid to the Land Registry.
- 6.11 2,830 sites around the UK are currently protected, covering 31,000 acres. Approximately half of these have been covenanted since the current deed of dedication was developed. The protection that the covenants provide will be stronger than current protection, which can be subject to change due to revisions in local plans. The protection is also long term in nature. The covenants can allow for commercial events to be staged but a limit will need to be set. However, this can provide an efficient way of limiting the number of events.
- 6.12 The Panel heard that land swaps would still be technically possible where parks are protected by covenant. In such circumstances, a request would need to be submitted for approval to the Fields in Trust Land and Planning Committee. Approval can be given to disposal of land provided there was suitable replacement. Such replacements would need to be better and benefit the same community. Proposals for replacements also need to be firm and not speculative. The Panel is of the view that land swaps should only be proposed if they enhance provision of green space rather than merely replace pieces of land.

6.13 Whilst the Panel notes that all parks and open spaces are protected under the Local Plan, and some designated as Metropolitan Open Land or Significant Open Land, it feels that firmer protections are nevertheless needed to reassure residents and enshrine this commitment. In addition, current protections could be subject to change due to revisions in Local Plans.

6.14 The Panel also noted that the Parks Service would be likely to incur legal costs in the region of £1200 per covenant for each additional park or green open space that was put under covenant. It nevertheless is of the view that putting all of the boroughs parks and green open spaces under a Fields in Trust covenant would provide;

- An effective additional layer of protection;
- Demonstrate a commitment to preserving parks and open spaces for future generations; and
- Provide reassurance to local residents that developments will not be able to impinge on parks and open spaces.

Recommendation:

That the Council commit to a programme of putting all of the boroughs designated parks and green open spaces under a Fields in Trust covenant and that this includes a clear timetable for completion.

6.15 The Panel also feels that, as a point of general principle, there should be strong objection to any form of permanent development on land designated as parks and open spaces, unless overall provision is enhanced through a land swap and there is no net loss of open land. This should be enshrined in planning and regeneration policy. In addition, careful consideration needs to be given to what is acceptable on private land abutting parks and open spaces so that developments on such land do not impact adversely on them.

Appendix A

The Panel received evidence from the following:

- Simon Farrow – Highway, Parking, Parks and Open Space Manager, Commercial and Operations
- Lewis Taylor – Parks Manager, Commercial and Operations
- Dave Morris, Chair of Haringey Friends of Park Forum
- Marlene D’Aguilar – Health in All Policies Officer, Public Health Service
- Marco Inzani – Head of Integrated Commissioning, Haringey CCG
- Peter O’Brien – Assistant Director, Area Regeneration
- Tony Leach - Parks for London
- David Sharman - Fields in Trust.
- Clif Osbourne and Richard Evans - The Conservation Volunteers
- Robby Sukdheo – Albert Road Recreation Ground

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Appendix B

List of documents submitted or considered as evidence:

- Haringey Parks Service;
 - PowerPoint overview;
 - Overall Parks Budget Positions 2017-18;
 - List of 50 park sites and their protections.
- Haringey Friends of Parks Forum:
 - Haringey Parks and Green Spaces Scrutiny Review Summary/Appendices on Structure/Funding Options/Vacant Officer Posts/Forum Submission to National Inquiry/Mins of Sept 2017 Forum.
 - Results of Questionnaire of Haringey's Friends Groups 2017 (in full), and Results of Questionnaire from 2012 (Summary only)
- Friends of Parkland Walk statement and survey
- Panel Notes from 29 September 2017, 31 October 2017, 21 December 2017 and 8 January 2018.
- CLG Select Committee Report on Public Parks (30 January 2017)
- Natural Capital Accounts for Public Green Space in London – GLA, National Trust and Heritage Lottery Fund (October 2017)
- Park Life: Ensuring Green Spaces Remain a Hit with Londoners - London Assembly Environment Committee (July 2017)
- Learning to Rethink Parks; Big Lottery Fund, Heritage Lottery Fund and Nesta (2106)

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Report for: Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel – 13 March 2018

Item number:

Title: Work Programme Update

Report authorised by : Bernie Ryan, Assistant Director of Corporate Governance

Lead Officer: Robert Mack, Principal Scrutiny Officer, 0208 489 2921, rob.mack@haringey.gov.uk

Ward(s) affected: All

**Report for Key/
Non Key Decision:** N/A

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1 This report gives details of the scrutiny work programme for that has been undertaken this municipal year.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

N/A

3. Recommendations

3.1 That the Panel note its completed workplan for the year and consider any recommendations to the Overview and Scrutiny for future work.

4. Reasons for decision

4.1 The work programme for Overview and Scrutiny was agreed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 17 July 2017. The Panel has been undertaking work from within this during the current municipal year. It being the last meeting of the year, it may wish to reflect on issues considered and make suggestions for future pieces of scrutiny work.

5. Alternative options considered

5.1 The Panel could choose not to review its work programme however this could diminish knowledge of the work of Overview and Scrutiny and would fail to keep the full membership updated on the work programme.

6. Background information

6.1 The careful selection and prioritisation of work is essential if the scrutiny function is to be successful, add value and retain credibility. At its first meeting

of the municipal year, on 13 June 2017, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed a process for developing the 2017/18 scrutiny work programme.

- 6.2 Following this meeting, a number of activities took place, including various agenda planning meetings, where suggestions, including a number from members of the public, were discussed. From these discussions issues were prioritised and an indicative work programme agreed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in late July.
- 6.3 Whilst scrutiny panels are non-decision making bodies, i.e. work programmes must be approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, this item gives the Panel an opportunity to oversee and monitor its work programme and to suggest amendments.
- 6.4 The Panel's work for the year is now concluding. It may wish to reflect on the work that has been undertaken and make suggestions on potential future work.

Forward Plan

- 6.5 Since the implementation of the Local Government Act and the introduction of the Council's Forward Plan, scrutiny members have found the Plan to be a useful tool in planning the overview and scrutiny work programme. The Forward Plan is updated each month but sets out key decisions for a 3 month period.
- 6.6 To ensure the information provided to the Panel is up to date, a copy of the most recent Forward Plan can be viewed via the link below:

<http://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RP=110&RD=0&J=1>

- 6.7 The Panel may want to consider the Forward Plan and discuss whether any of these items require further investigation or monitoring via scrutiny.

Recommendations, Actions and Responses

- 6.8 The issue of making, and monitoring, recommendations/actions is an important part of the scrutiny process. A verbal update on actions completed since the last meeting will be provided by the Principal Scrutiny Officer.

Contribution to strategic outcomes

- 6.8 The individual issues included within the work plan were identified following consideration by relevant Members and officers of Priority 3 of the Corporate Plan and the objectives linked. Their selection was specifically based on their potential to contribute to strategic outcomes.

7. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)

Finance and Procurement

- 7.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations set out in this report. Should any of the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny

generate recommendations with financial implications then these will be highlighted at that time.

Legal

- 7.2 There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.
- 7.3 Under Section 21 (6) of the Local Government Act 2000, an Overview and Scrutiny Committee has the power to appoint one or more sub-committees to discharge any of its functions.
- 7.4 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the approval of the future scrutiny work programme and the appointment of Scrutiny Panels (to assist the scrutiny function) falls within the remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 7.5 Scrutiny Panels are non-decision making bodies and the work programme and any subsequent reports and recommendations that each scrutiny panel produces must be approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Such reports can then be referred to Cabinet or Council under agreed protocols.

Equality

- 7.6 The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
 - Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.
- 7.7 The three parts of the duty applies to the following protected characteristics: age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy/maternity; race; religion/faith; sex and sexual orientation. In addition, marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.
- 7.8 The Panel should ensure that it addresses these duties by considering them during final scoping, evidence gathering and final reporting. This should include considering and clearly stating: How policy issues impact on different groups within the community, particularly those that share the nine protected characteristics; Whether the impact on particular groups is fair and proportionate; Whether there is equality of access to service and fair representation of all groups within Haringey; Whether any positive opportunities to advance equality of opportunity and/or good relations between people, are being realised.
- 7.9 The Panel should ensure that equalities comments are based on evidence, when possible. Wherever possible this should include demographic and service

level data and evidence of residents/service-users views gathered through consultation

8. Use of Appendices

Appendix A – Work Programme

9. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- 9.1 External web links have been provided in this report. Haringey Council is not responsible for the contents or reliability of linked websites and does not necessarily endorse any views expressed within them. Listings should not be taken as an endorsement of any kind. It is your responsibility to check the terms and conditions of any other web sites you may visit. We cannot guarantee that these links will work all of the time and we have no control over the availability of the linked pages.

Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel

Work Plan 2017-18

| A. Projects | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. Street sweeping | <p>As part of the savings proposals agreed as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2015-18, a reduction of £2.8 million was made in the Integrated Waste Management Contract. The frequency of street sweeping in residential roads was reduced from twice to once weekly, delivered over 5 days, as a result of this. The benefits of this universal approach were felt to be that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There was a consistency across the borough, with all wards receiving the same level of service;• It was easy to understand and explain; and• All residents were given an equal opportunity to prevent litter being dropped. <p>It was acknowledged that there was a risk arising from this that levels of cleanliness would be reduced and the Council would not meet its target for being in the top quartile for London on street cleanliness. The service reductions were implemented at the start of January 2016. Performance declined from January to April 2016 whilst the new cleanings schedules were settling in but subsequently improved, albeit not quite up to previous levels. There were issues on Homes for Haringey estates though and the twice weekly sweep to these areas was reinstated as a result of these.</p> <p>The review will consider, within the current level of costs, the options that are available to improve outcomes and whether there might be merit in moving to a system that is more responsive to levels of need. In doing this, the review will look at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Relevant performance data from Haringey, including resident satisfaction levels;• Volumes of rubbish collected in different parts of the borough;• Service models used by other boroughs and comparative performance levels; and• Housing estates and the work undertaken by Homes for Haringey; and• The outcome of the Team Noel Park pilot. <p>The terms of reference of the review are:</p> |

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|------------------------|---|
| | <p>“To consider and make recommendations on, within the current level of costs, the options available to improve the cleanliness of residential streets across the borough in order to achieve greater level of equality of outcome.”</p> |
| <p>2. Parks</p> | <p>There is widespread agreement amongst parks groups across the country that parks and open spaces across are under threat. This is due to the cumulative effects of budget cuts which have impacted severely on their resources and left many local authorities struggling to maintain sites adequately. In Haringey, £1.4 million has been taken out of the budget already, with another £1.17 million is expected to be saved / additional income generated by 2018. The number of full time parks maintenance staff has also been reduced by 50% since 2012.</p> <p>Action has been taken by the Council to mitigate the effects of budget reductions through generating income, pursuing efficiency savings, adopting less maintenance heavy horticultural approaches and working with various partners. Parks are still well used and highly regarded by residents and make an invaluable contribution to the health, well-being and quality of life of the community. During this period resident satisfaction has remained high at 84% in 2016/17 and the number of Green flag parks has risen from 15 to 22. There are nevertheless further financial challenges that will need to be addressed and concern has been expressed by park users at the possibility that these may lead to decline. Deterioration could lead to parks attracting vandalism, anti-social behaviour and crime and less attractive and accessible to residents</p> <p>The recent report by the House of Commons Select Committee on public parks addressed many of these issues. The report highlights the benefits of having a formal plan or strategy and action is being undertaken to develop one for Haringey by the service, in collaboration with Public Health. The review would aim to feed into this process</p> <p>It is proposed that the review focus on;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of standards and support; • The wider benefits and contributions to Corporate Plan priorities that parks make; • Potential sources of funding; and • Effective protection from inappropriate development or commercialisation. |

| B. "One-off" Items: | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Date of meeting | Potential Items |
| 26 June 2017 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet Member Q&A - Environment; To question the Cabinet Member for Environment on current issues and plans arising for her portfolio. • Appointment of Non-Voting Co-opted Member • Work Programme for the Forthcoming Year • Waste, recycling and street cleansing data • Scrutiny Review – Fear of Crime; Final Report |
| 12 October 2017 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet Member Q&A – Communities; To question the Cabinet Member for Communities on current issues and plans arising for his portfolio. • Community Safety Partnership; To invite comments from the Panel on current performance issues and priorities for the borough’s Community Safety Partnership. To include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Crime Performance Statistics - Update on performance in respect of the MOPAC priority areas plus commentary on emerging issues; and ○ Statistics on hate crime. • Update on implementation of recommendations of Scrutiny Review on Community Safety in Parks |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Monitoring; To receive an update on the financial performance relating to Corporate Plan Priority 3. |
| 21 December 2017 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Scrutiny • Charges for Replacement Bins and Collection of Green Waste and Bulky Items |
| 31 January 2018 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet Member Q&A - Environment; To question the Cabinet Member for Communities on current issues and plans arising for his portfolio. • Waste, recycling and street cleansing data • Team Noel Park Pilot • Transport Strategy • Update on implementation of recommendations of Scrutiny Review on Cycling |
| 13 March 2018 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet Member Q&A – Communities; To question the Cabinet Member for Communities on current issues and plans arising from his portfolio. • Community Safety Partnership; To consider and comment on current performance issues and priorities for the borough’s Community Safety Partnership. To include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Crime Performance Statistics - Update on performance in respect of the MOPAC priority areas plus commentary on emerging issues; and ○ Statistics for levels of crime within parks. • Scrutiny Review on Parks; To approve the final report of the review. |

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