

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY PANEL HELD ON THURSDAY, 13TH SEPTEMBER, 2018, 18:30.

PRESENT:

Councillors: Eldridge Culverwell, Scott Emery, Adam Jogee (Chair), Julia Ogiehor and Reg Rice.

12. FILMING AT MEETINGS

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

13. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr White and Cllr Amin. Cllr Barbara Blake attended the meeting as a substitute for Cllr Amin.

14. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

15. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

16. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS

None.

17. MINUTES

RESOLVED

The minutes of the 13th March 2018 were approved as a correct record of the meeting.

18. APPOINTMENT OF NON-VOTING CO-OPTED MEMBER

The Panel received a report which sought formal approval of the re-appointment of a non-voting co-opted member to the Panel.

RESOLVED

That a representative from Haringey Association of Neighbourhood Watches be appointed as a non-voting co-opted member of the Panel for the 2018/19 Municipal Year.

19. MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

This report sets out the terms of reference and membership for Overview and Scrutiny and its panels for 2018/19.

RESOLVED

That the Panel:

- I. Note the terms of reference (Appendix A of the report) and Protocol (Appendix B of the report) for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
- II. Approve the terms of reference/policy areas and membership for each Scrutiny Panel for 2017/18 (Appendix C of the report).

20. WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

Clerk's note – The Panel agreed to vary the order of the agenda and the item on the work programme was taken following Item 8. The minutes reflect the order in which items were taken, rather than they appear on the published agenda pack.

The Panel received a report which outlined the development of the Panel's work programme for 2018/20. As part of the overall work planning progress, a scrutiny café event was held earlier in the day with community representatives and local residents; to seek their input on which areas they would like OSC and the four scrutiny panels to consider as part of their respective work plans. The Chair provided a verbal update on the event and outlined some of the key themes that emerged.

Paragraph 4.11 of the report set out some of the areas that the Chair had identified for possible inclusion on the Panels' work programme. In light of the Chair's suggestions and those put forward at the scrutiny café event, the Panel were asked to consider which areas they would like to see incorporated into the work programme. A summary of the topics proposed is set out below.

Waste/Veolia

- The need for a balance between enforcement action and creating behaviour change.
- Flytipping and dumping.
- Charges for bulky waste collection and the reverse incentive this creates for fly-tipping.
- Green waste charges.
- Recycling rate.
- Street sweeping and the use of a uniform street sweeping schedule.

Environment

- Air pollution and air quality- increased transparency and understanding where the monitoring points are.
- Reducing plastic waste. The Council should lead by example on this.

Community Safety

- ASB, crime and disorder. Examining how well partners work together to tackle these issues, including; Police, Noise Team, ASB Team and HfH.
- Examining the background statistics around youth violence, including mental health services.
- Discrimination against vulnerable communities such as travellers and BAME groups.
- Youth violence and knife crime. The increased use of 'Stop and Search' powers by Police.
- Reducing the criminalisation of children.
- The gangs matrix.
- The relationship between the police and the community. The impact of merging Haringey and Enfield police.

Parks/Leisure

- The Panel undertook a detailed review into the funding and maintenance of parks last year. The Panel noted the need to prevent duplication and suggested that they would like to see an update on the implementation of those recommendations.
- Events in parks.
- Use of Bruce Castle Park for pre-match NFL events at Spurs. It was felt that a balance was needed between developing additional sources of revenue and wider public access.
- How can the Council promote smaller community based events in parks
- Progress made against the previous scrutiny review on cycling.

Cross-cutting themes

- Providing to support to refugees and how this can be done in a joined-up way and the Government's 'Hostile Environment' policy.
- Whether the Council has a hate crime strategy.
- Accessibility of services and ensuring equitable access for vulnerable communities.

Following discussion of the suggested topics for the work programme, the below points were noted:

- a. Officers advised the Panel that the merging of Haringey and Enfield police was due to be implemented in January 2019 and that there would need to be a period for this service to bed in before any review took place.
- b. In reference to concerns raised around the performance of Veolia, officers advised that this covered a wide range of divergent topics and cautioned the Panel to be pick a specific issue/s.
- c. In response to the criminalisation of children, the Cabinet Member advised that tackling this was a priority for the administration and that he was particularly concerned that the first interaction of some young people with police was getting younger and younger.

- d. Officers advised that a draft air quality plan was being developed and would come to Cabinet later in the year. It was suggested that the Panel may want to review those plans as part of the wider policy development process.

In light of the Borough Commander coming to its next meeting, the Committee requested that they provide an update to the Panel around an increase in Stop and Search. **(Action: Clerk).**

In response to concerns raised about recent media reports in relation to the YMCA in Hornsey, the Chair requested that officers raise this issue with the Lead Member and Director of Children's Services. **(Action: David Murray).**

The Clerk agreed to feed back to the Committee on when the cycling review was due to come back to the Panel for an update. **(Action: Clerk).**

The Panel was advised that there were two additional panel meetings in the calendar this year and that Chair of OSC, in conjunction with Panel Chairs, had suggested cancelling the October round of panel meetings. In view of the fact that the Borough Commander was due to come to the October meeting, the Panel agreed to cancel its November meeting instead. **(Action: Clerk).**

The Panel agreed that the main areas of focus for Scrutiny Reviews would be:

- a. Crime and Anti-social behaviour – examining the role of the Council as well as key partners.
- b. Developing a plastic-free policy and how the Council could lead by example.

The Panel also agreed that there would be some work undertaken at a future meeting around air quality and reviewing the joint arrangements for police in Haringey and Enfield. The Panel further requested that a report be brought to a future meeting of the Panel around the gangs matrix. **(Action: Clerk).**

RESOLVED

That the Panel put forward the above items for inclusion within the work plan for 2018 - 20 for referral to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 2 October.

21. CABINET MEMBER QUESTIONS: CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES, SAFETY AND ENGAGEMENT

The Cabinet Member for Communities, Safety and Engagement took questions from the Panel on matters relating to his portfolio. In summary, the following points were noted:

- a. In response to a request for further information on proposals around community consultation, the Cabinet Member clarified that that officers were working on 3 key policy areas in respect of young people; youth violence, refreshing the youth services strategy and work being done by the Chief Executive's office around vulnerable children. The Cabinet Member confirmed that he was looking to develop some level of community consultation in respect of these pieces of work but that the exact details of this were still to be agreed. The Cabinet Member suggested that, as part of this, he would like to hold a series

- of roundtable discussions with key partners, community groups and key service providers. The Committee was advised that officers were progressing work in all three areas and it was anticipated that these would be taken to Cabinet in February.
- b. The Panel requested further details be provided on what the big conversation would be with young people as and when this information was available. **(Action: Cllr Mark Blake).**
 - c. The Committee noted with concern the statistics that showed a 11% rise in homophobic hate crime and requested information on what was being done to combat this. In response, the Cabinet Member acknowledged these concerns and assured the Panel that the Council was committed to working with the community to combat this. The Panel was advised that the Council had worked closely with partners to organise the upcoming Haringey Gay Pride event and that the Cabinet Member would be attending.
 - d. In response to concerns about a rise in homophobic hate crime, officers advised Haringey was below the pan-London trend and that some of the increase could be explained by increased reporting rates. In response to a question about whether there was a London-wide response to this, officers suggested that hate crime was a top priority for the police and that this would likely be covered as part of their hate crime strategy. The Chair suggested that this might be something to raise with the Borough Commander at the Panel's next meeting.
 - e. In response to a query around the Council Tax reduction scheme, the Chair advised that this was a question for the Cabinet Member of Finance.
 - f. The Cabinet Member suggested that the Panel may want to look into clear-up rates for crimes as well as complaints, as part of the future performance reports that it receives.

22. KNIFE CRIME AND MOPAC PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

The Panel received a presentation from Sandeep Broca which provided a performance update in relation to the dataset covered by Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime. The following arose from the discussion of the presentation:

- a. The Committee were advised that the statistics showed that there was a 6% increase in the total level of crime in Haringey over a 12 month period, up to July 2018. This was against a 4% average rise across London.
- b. In response to a query about the reasons behind the rise in crime, the Panel were advised that burglary had been a big driver behind the increase, as had lower level theft such as shoplifting. The Cabinet Member suggested that the reasons behind the rise of these crimes were difficult to unpick.
- c. The Panel welcomed the 13% reduction in knife crime and enquired the reasons behind this. In response, the Panel was advised that there was significant partnership working undertaken with schools and good links had been built in that regard. The level of reduction of knife crime among young people was around 24%.
- d. The Committee raised significant concerns with the large increase in lethal barrelled firearm discharges in Haringey. Officers advised that this was also a concern for police colleagues. The Panel were informed that a large number of these were suspected as being gang-related. The Chair suggested that this

should be something for the Borough Commander to feedback on at the Panel meeting in October. **(Action: Clerk).**

- e. In response to a request for further information in relation to acid attacks in the borough, officers advised that, when the data was last reviewed, there had been three reported incidents involving noxious substances in the previous 12 months. Reported instances in Haringey were much lower than those of Camden and Hackney.
- f. The Committee raised concerns around the exclusion of young people in schools and whether there were any links to knife crime. The Cabinet Member advised that the Council's Policy team were undertaking a review of all available data on exclusions and it was anticipated this work would be ready in October. The Cabinet Member cautioned that the rate of school exclusions would be exacerbated by further cuts to the schools grant, which would have a disproportionate impact on the pupil referral unit and youth violence.

23. SCRUTINY REVIEW ON FEAR OF CRIME. UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS.

RESOLVED

That the Panel noted the 9 month update on the recommendations of the Scrutiny Review on Fear of Crime.

24. STREET CLEANSING, WASTE AND RECYCLING: CURRENT PERFORMANCE

The Panel noted the report and agreed that a further performance update around street cleansing, waste and recycling would be brought to the Panel in conjunction with an invitation to the Cabinet Member for Environment to attend the meeting. **(Action: Clerk).**

25. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

None

26. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- 16th October 2018
- 18th December 2018
- 7th February 2019
- 11th March 2019

CHAIR: Councillor Adam Jogee

Signed by Chair

Date