

MINUTES OF MEETING COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 3RD JUNE, 2020, 14:00

PRESENT:

Cllr Mark Blake – Cabinet Member for Communities and Equalities (Chair).
Treena Fleming – Borough Commander, Haringey Metropolitan Police
Cllr Julia Ogiehor- CSP Member
Cllr Zena Brabazon – Cabinet Member for Children and Families
Stephen McDonnell- Director for Environment and Neighbourhoods
Beverley Tarka – Director Adult & Health, Haringey Council
Ann Graham – Director of Children's Services
Dr Will Maimaris – Interim Director Public Health
Geoffrey Ocen – Chief Executive, Bridge Renewal Trust
Eubert Malcolm – Interim Assistant Director Stronger Communities
Joe Benmore – Community Safety & Enforcement Team
Sandeep Broca – Community Safety & Enforcement Team
Hugh Smith – Policy & Equalities Officer
Sanjay Macintosh – Community Engagement Consultant
Rachel Lissauer – Director – Haringey & Islington CCG
Jean Taylor – Head of Policy
Patsy Wollaston- Senior Probation Officer
Tony Hoolaghan – COO, Haringey & Islington CCG
Tracey Downie – Executive Director of Housing Management, Homes for Haringey
Philip Slawther – Democratic Services

130. 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.

131. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Sean McLaughlin.

Apologies for lateness were received from Beverley Tarka.

132. URGENT BUSINESS

None.

133. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

134. MINUTES

The following updates were noted in relation to the minutes of the meeting on 26th February 2020:

- In relation to the Young People at Risk Strategy, it was noted that the AD for Stronger Communities and the Director of Public Health had met and that VAWG or youth violence had been identified as the likely topic for a joint meeting of the CSP & HWB, but that this may be further informed by the agenda item on Haringey Together at this meeting.
- The AD Stronger Communities confirmed that the Bridge Renewal Trust had a programme on the challenges faced by Covid-19. It was anticipated that the programme would be reviewed during autumn 2020 and this would be brought back to the CSP going forward. In relation to a request for a case study, it was noted that there were a number of videos that officers were in the process of editing and this would form part of the feedback on Haringey Community Gold to the CSP.
- A film was presented to the last meeting, which was well received and was also shown on BBC news. It was noted that the film had not been taken up by any production companies.
- In relation to the 'Green Book', it was confirmed that the Bridge Renewal Trust has undertaken a community briefing and workshop for voluntary organisations. There was also a request for a follow up meeting to take place and it was being explored whether this could be undertaken virtually, in light of Covid-19.
- It was noted that a discussion on youth offending and the Youth Justice Board would be brought back to a subsequent meeting of the CSP. **(Action: Clerk).**
- An agenda item on re-housing of families and young people in the community under the threat of violent reprisals including colleagues from Homes for Haringey would also be brought back to subsequent meeting. **(Action: Clerk).**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting on 26th February were agreed as a correct record.

135. MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED

That the Membership and Terms of Reference were noted.

136. CRIME PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

The Panel received a presentation which provided a crime performance overview for the period of March and April 2020, as compared to the same period in 2019, in order to gain an understanding of the changes during lockdown. The presentation was introduced by Sandeep Broca, Intelligence Analysis Manager as set out at pages 27-34 of the agenda pack. The following arose during the discussion of the presentation:

- a. The Partnership enquired about what the impact of coming out of lockdown on crime levels in the borough was anticipated to be. In response, the partnership was advised that that officers had undertaken some modelling on the Partnership's priority crime types and it was expected that there would be a

- small increase in some of those crimes. It was anticipated that levels could spike to slightly above what would be normally expected, as people began using transport hubs etcetera, but that any spike would level off.
- b. The Borough Commander advised that she was keen to prevent spikes in crime when the lockdown was lifted from increased footfall and that Police colleagues had reinforced patrols at a micro-beat level at known hotspot locations to prevent this. Analysis of the data from these patrols was being undertaken and would be used to further inform development of this strategy. The Borough Commander advised that it was encouraging that crime numbers were still down following the recent ease of lockdown restrictions. The police had also sent letters out to the youth offending cohort, signposting them to services within the borough and support them to move away from criminality.
 - c. The Borough Commander commented that the Met Commissioner had established a violence suppression unit in each borough and the Haringey and Enfield unit was called the north area tasking team, which comprised of 40 officers who all had very good local knowledge and would be used as a localised problem solving team.
 - d. The Partnership sought assurances around increases in domestic violence during lockdown and the fact that this was not reflected in the data. In response, the Borough Commander acknowledged that the numbers had not risen as much as would have perhaps been anticipated and that this may be because victims of domestic violence were still at home with their abuser and were waiting for lockdown to be lifted. The Police have sent out clear messaging to the public around domestic violence and the support/reporting mechanisms in place even during lockdown. There was anecdotal evidence of some increases in reports to third-party support agencies but that these had not translated into crime reports. In order to anticipate that expected increased demand post-lockdown, the Borough Commander advised that she had put some additional resources into the safeguarding team.
 - e. In relation to reports around gangs involved in county lines activity using the lockdown to recruit young people, the Police advised that they didn't have any specific intelligence on this but were aware of these reports. It was suggested that many young people were grateful of the lockdown as it reduced the pressure on them and fears of exploitation. The importance of outreach youth workers as part of Haringey Community Gold was emphasised as a vital resource in dealing with this.
 - f. In response to a request for data around social distancing and the extent to which fines were issued by the Police, the Partnership was advised that Police colleagues had tried to take a balanced approach to social distancing and that enforcement and issuing of fines was very much a last resort. The number of FPNs and arrests was very low in Haringey as it was felt that it was crucial to work with the community and bring the public along with the Police. The Chair set out that the joint working undertaken in parks had been really positive during the lockdown and thanked colleagues for their support in this.
 - g. The IOM Strategic Lead advised the Partnership that he estimated that 98% of the circa 6000 engagements with the public in parks and open spaces had been positive and was well received by the public.

RESOLVED

That the Board noted the content of the Crime Performance Overview presentation.

137. HARINGEY TOGETHER - RECOVERY AND RENEWAL

Section 1: Reflections on Covid-19

Sanjay Mackintosh opened the session by describing the aims, objectives, and methodology of Haringey Council's Recovery and Renewal programme. In the process of resetting our strategic priorities for a post-Covid-19 world, the Council is having conversations with partners about how they perceive the change that has taken place and what their priorities will be going forward. This specific conversation is happening to reflect the clear ways in which Covid-19 has impacted aspects of community safety.

Members of the CSP were asked to reflect on **what has changed for people in Haringey over the last three months**.

In terms of community safety metrics, recorded volumes of most crime types in Haringey have reduced. A notable exception to this is domestic abuse, and it is likely that the drugs trade has changed rather than necessarily scaled down.

Several members of the CSP noted changes in community relations. There has been increased solidarity and cohesiveness within Haringey's communities, with more support being offered to more vulnerable people on a voluntary basis. This has enabled partners to collaborate with communities more effectively, build trust, and have a dialogue that has led to a better understanding of vulnerability in the community. In this way food poverty and digital poverty have become more visible and CSP partners have been able to better understand feelings within communities about what has happened. Several members of the CSP noted that the Covid-19 pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on more vulnerable communities, and BAME communities in particular, both in terms of safety and in terms of the economic impact.

Members of the CSP highlighted that the partnership has worked more effectively together since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic. It has been apparent that partners have invested more time and energy in working together to face the challenges that the Covid-19 pandemic has presented, resulting in stronger relationships between partners.

Members of the CSP were asked to reflect on what they **anticipate happening over the next three months in terms of community safety**.

In terms of criminal activity and community safety, several CSP members noted that they expected to see increased levels of crime and anti-social behaviour, potentially to levels above those recorded before the beginning of lockdown. This may lead to increased numbers of people entering the criminal justice system. However, CSP members were asked to note reductions in non-domestic violence with injury and robbery in the period before the beginning of lockdown and the potential for those reductions to be sustained.

A clear concern among CSP members was the potential impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on household finances. This is likely to increase in the coming months, potentially leading to increases in acquisitive crime and engagement in other forms of criminal activity. There may also be increased pressure on young people to engage in criminal activity to financially support families, particularly as exploitation may become more common as schools and other public spaces re-open.

CSP members also noted the potential for community relations to deteriorate as social distancing measures remain in force.

CSP members were asked to reflect on the **challenges and opportunities of the next few months**.

A wide range of both challenges and opportunities were noted. Challenges included:

- Maintaining the sense of safety that some young people have felt during the lockdown that has come about from reduced exposure to criminality and exploitation in the community
- Organising and mobilising mental health services to deal with the impact that the pandemic has had on mental health, and particularly young people's mental health
- Addressing the educational deficits and inequalities that are likely to have arisen due to school closures
- Managing the impact of events in the USA on local community relations
- Reaching and communicating with all communities in Haringey
- Mitigating the likely economic impact of Covid-19 and ensuring that community safety activity is informed by the economic context and alive to the concurrent social issues

Opportunities included:

- Sustaining and harnessing the surge in collective action within communities
- Creatively redesigning how we work, particularly regarding multi-agency collaboration and communication, in order to strengthen our partnership and expand it to include health partners, faith groups, and the criminal justice sector
- Engaging with young people and focusing energies on their future prospects
- Creating safer communities through urban design that encourages walking and cycling
- Developing new approaches to the drug trade and mental health

It is notable that across both challenges and opportunities, CSP members focused on young people, the economy, and mental health as well as criminal activity and policing.

Lastly, CSP members were asked to describe what their **priorities for community safety** would be going forward.

In community safety terms, it was noted that the borough's priorities still stand, notably robbery, anti-social behaviour, and violence with injury, as well as a reduction in overall crime. In addition to these, it was suggested that the partnership should prioritise drugs and domestic abuse.

Most CSP members who contributed highlighted the need to reach out and engage with communities, and particularly young people and BAME communities in order to begin to address the disproportionate impact of Covid-19. For these groups, the economic impact of Covid-19 will be more severe and so education, job creation, and economic regeneration should be prioritised. It will be necessary for the partnership to engage in good faith, to be open about what we hear, to reflect what we hear in our plans and activity, and to demonstrate the results of what we have heard. This will help to build trust with communities and demonstrate that we are on the public's side.

As a system, it was agreed that partners will need to be agile, creative, and inclusive.

Session 2: Community Safety Scenarios

Sanjay Mackintosh introduced CSP members to the second session, where they were asked to review a set of scenarios, ranging from best case to worst case, that described the community safety aspects of potential futures. The exercise is intended to enhance our understanding of how partners perceive the future, draw out their expectations, and enable better understanding of the factors that could influence the next phases of the ways that the Covid-19 pandemic could impact Haringey.

While there was general consensus that the scenarios appeared to be broadly right, CSP members suggested that the best-case scenario could be more optimistic, while the worst-case scenario could be more pessimistic. For instance, the best-case scenario could describe Haringey as being “best in class for engaged communities, confidence in policing and crime levels, with close working, engagement, and trust with the faith community.” It would also be preferable to state that a best-case scenario would entail no enforcement of social distancing as every member of the community takes responsibility for complying with social distancing measures, and this would see the Police working collaboratively with the community.

Similarly, the worst-case scenario could account more for a more severe economic downturn, potential more violent crime, and potential effects of recent events in the USA. It is notable that unforeseeable events may well influence what comes next. It will also be important to consider pre-lockdown declines in violent crime and robbery in terms of potential sustainability.

There may need to be a more nuanced approach to hate crime and violence against women and girls. These crime types have complex relationships with the pandemic and occur in ways such that offending is not always visible, and so an increase in referrals is not necessarily a bad thing. For example, while a best-case scenario might see low prevalence of VAWG, it would not be appropriate to say that a best-case

scenario would see low levels of referrals to VAWG services. It may be more appropriate to articulate these aspects of the scenarios from a victim's perspective.

Section 3: What we need to know

CSP members were asked to feedback thoughts on the kinds of data, intelligence, and insight that we will need to test the scenarios and the kinds of questions we may want to ask residents.

Analysis: Emerging Themes

Several themes emerged from the CSP's discussion that may indicate strategic priorities going forward:

- Engaging and working with communities to build trust and confidence and enable community action
- Strengthening the partnership
- Addressing inequalities, particularly those affecting BAME communities and young people
- Addressing risk factors for criminal activity and building conditions for safe communities (e.g. mental health, education, and economic opportunity)
- Reducing high harm crime, such as violence with injury, robbery, domestic abuse, and hate crime

138. PERFORMANCE REWARD GRANT 2018-2020 - PROGRAMME DELIVERY REPORT

The partnership received a programme delivery update on the Performance Reward Grant 2018-20. The report was introduced by Joe Benmore, Interim Head of Community Safety & Enforcement and was included in the agenda pack at pages 55-60. The following was noted in relation to the discussion of this item:

- a. It was noted that the total grant awarded to Haringey for 2018-20 was £471k, split across the five different priority areas. The funding was divided into £260k revenue funding and £211k in capital funding. To date, committed spend was around £400k, with an underspend of £49k in capital and £22k in revenue spend. One example of underspend in the capital funding was a project to purchase phones for victims of DV, being replaced with an app, which cost less.
- b. In response to a question, officers advised that plans were in place to re-profile the unused capital spend into a number of different broad intervention areas. Officers have submitted these proposals to MHCLG and requested a steer on whether there were any restrictions on how the money could be spent.

RESOLVED

- I. That the Partnership note the project delivery and spend outcomes achieved at the end of the two year funding period 2018-2020.
- II. The Partnership further notes that we are awaiting a decision as to whether we will be able to slip capital and revenue spend into the 2019-2020 financial year.

139. CRIME-STOPPERS

This item was deferred to the next meeting. **(Action: Clerk).**

140. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

N/A

141. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

6th October

CHAIR:

Signed by Chair

Date