

**MINUTES OF MEETING Environment and Community Safety  
Scrutiny Panel HELD ON Thursday, 30th June, 2022, 6.30 - 8.40  
pm.**

**PRESENT:**

**Councillors: Eldridge Culverwell, George Dunstall, Tammy Hymas,  
Michelle Simmons-Safo (Chair), Alexandra Worrell and Nick da Costa**

**141. 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.

**142. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Ian Sygrave.

Cllr Emery also sent his apologies. Cllr Da Costa attended the meeting as a substitute.

The Cabinet Member for Tackling Inequality and Resident Services gave apologies, and the Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Jobs and Community Cohesion also gave apologies.

**143. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business.

**144. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**145. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS**

None.

**146. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the previous meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

#### 147. MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Panel received a report which set out the terms of reference and membership for Overview and Scrutiny, including the four scrutiny panels for 2022/23.

The Panel sought clarification as to whether non-voting co-optees received payment for being co-optees. *\*Clerk's note – Statutory non-voting co-optees on Scrutiny receive an allowance as do statutory non-voting co-optees on the combined Pensions Board and Committee. However, co-optees on this panel do not receive an allowance.\**

#### RESOLVED

That the Panel:

- I. Noted the terms of reference (at Appendix A of the report) and Protocol (at Appendix B) for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and its Panels;
- II. Noted the Non-Voting Member protocol (at Appendix C);
- III. Noted the policy areas/remits and membership for each Scrutiny Panel for 2022/23 (at Appendix D).

#### 148. APPOINTMENT OF NON-VOTING COOPTEE

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 2022/23 Municipal Year.

#### 149. COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE

The Panel received a cover report and accompanying presentation on crime performance in the 12-months to May 2022 as compared to the preceding 12-month period, as well as compared to the previous 3-year average. The Panel also received a presentation on Community Safety workstreams, which were ongoing across the borough, and which sought to reduce instances of crime and anti-social behaviour as well as to increase feelings of safety. These included a number of projects tackling violence, vulnerability and exploitation, which directly contributed to the wider borough aims and strategies. The report and presentations were introduced by Sandeep Broca, Intelligence Analysis Manager and Joe Benmore, IOM Strategic Lead as set out in the agenda pack at pages 71-96.

The Panel noted that that whilst overall crime had increased by 5% in the past 12-months, Haringey had noted a long-term reduction of 0.2% as compared to the 3-year

baseline. Over the 3-year comparison period, most key crime categories had experienced significant reductions.

The following arose during the discussion of this agenda item:

- a. The Panel queried what made a successful project and what had worked particularly well in this regard. In response, officers advised that adopting trauma-based approach had been a key approach along with the need for genuine partnership working to tackle the most pressing issues from a multi-agency perspective.
- b. The Panel questioned what factors were behind the differential crime performance figures for different wards. In response, officers advised that the differences were not just reflective of socio-economic disparities but also reflected a trend that crime levels were higher in areas with higher footfall as well as higher levels in and around transport hubs.
- c. In response to a question, officers advised that a lot of the micro analysis of violence was carried out through the North Area Violence Reduction Unit and factors such as gender, age and links to deprivation were all analysed. Officers acknowledged that increases in crime were not even across different geographic locations and that a lot of work was done to try and unpick this. Officers also set out that victim and offender analysis was also carried out and that, to a large extent this mirrored the model used by police.
- d. The Panel sought assurances around location based working groups and queried what other locations were being considered. In response, officers advised that Finsbury Park was also a location where work was being done, largely in response to a public perception of crime in the area. Tottenham Hale was also identified as a high profile location, particularly around schoolboy robberies. Officers advised that a lot of work was also being done with police colleagues in schools. In terms of spill over from particular locations, officers highlighted the role of multi-agency action weeks taking place in problem hotspots.
- e. The Panel questioned the extent to which the Domestic Violence figures represented the true prevalence of this crime type and sought assurances from officers about if they were confident in the veracity of these figures. In response, officers acknowledged that there was likely to be significant under reporting of this crime type, particularly as it was often reported to third parties rather than the police. Officers acknowledged that more work had to be done to better understand the prevalence of DV and how partners could respond to crime in the home, rather than on the streets.
- f. The Chair noted concerns with the impact of the Covid pandemic on DV and also questioned the police's response to instances of DV suggesting that, in some cases, the police response was less than helpful. The Chair expressed a desire for the police to look at how they managed the process after a DV incident was reported and how the police liaised with third parties. Officers suggested that DI Sebastian Adje should be invited to a future meeting, as the police lead on DV.
- g. In response to a question, officers advised that the police published sanction detection rates and that these were around 7.5% in Haringey. This meant that

7.5% of crimes resulted in someone being found to have committed a crime and for that person to then receive a sanction. The Panel requested more granular detail on the crime figures, particularly so that there was a breakdown of ward-level data going forwards. **(Officers to note).**

- h. The Panel sought assurances about how local crime priorities for Haringey were agreed. In response, officers advised that the local priorities were set by MOPAC in conjunction with officers and the Community Safety Partnership and that these decisions were based on data and analysis. Hence non-domestic violence with injury and robbery were two of the key priorities selected for Haringey. The process of setting priorities was done with each borough every year.
- i. In response to a question, officers acknowledged the roll of grass roots organisations and the fact that officers were not best placed to run projects themselves. One role for the Council in this was supporting grass roots organisations and providing training and up-skilling opportunities for them.
- j. In relation to engaging with young people, officers highlighted the work of Haringey Community Gold and in particular the role of the outreach workers in providing that link with young people. Officers acknowledged that the organisation could always do better on social media in terms of monitoring community tensions.
- k. In response to a further question, officers acknowledged that some people were too scared to report crime and that they key to overcoming this was to ensure that the Council and partners had a high profile visible presence in the community in order to build trust.
- l. In response to a question around at what ages children were engaged with through the community safety projects outlined, officers advised that they worked with children as young as eight.

## **RESOLVED**

That the Panel noted the content of the Crime Performance Overview pack, which highlights the changes to crime performance in the past 12-months and 3-years.

## **150. WASTE AND RECYCLING UPDATE**

The Panel received a report which provided an update on the borough's waste, recycling, and street cleansing performance. The report was introduced by Beth Waltzer, Community Safety, Enforcement and Waste Manager as set out in the agenda pack at pages 51-70. The following arose during the discussion of the report:

- a. The Panel members advised that they had been contacted by residents during their surgeries about the issue of missed collections and instances of black bags being left next to bins and not being collected. In response, officers highlighted that the authority undertook around 300k collections per week and that the missed collection rate was very low. However, officers suggested that Members could feed back to them directly on cases where something had been missed and that officers would follow up on these. Officers also commented that Veolia had a number of staff shortages for HGV drivers as they were

- unable to compete with pay levels in the private sector. This resulted in the use of agency staff, who were perhaps not so familiar with the routes. Officers were keen to point out that the borough retained weekly recycling collections and that there should therefore be enough waste collection to prevent having additional black bin bags left out.
- b. The Panel requested the ability to report missed refuse collections through the Haringey Love Clean Streets app. Officers responded that a microsite was being developed, which would include the ability for residents to report missed collections.
  - c. The Panel raised concerns about graffiti on Parkland Walk and whether this tended to fall between the gaps between the Parks department and Veolia. In response, the Panel was advised that Veolia were responsible for removing graffiti regardless of whose land it was on. Officers requested that Members provide details of any instances of graffiti.
  - d. The Panel questioned the extent to which street litter was more evident in the east compared to the west of the borough. In response, officers acknowledged that there were always areas where street litter was more prevalent in certain areas. Haringey had a frequency based contract so that streets were swept once a week regardless of location.
  - e. The Panel sought clarification about how the authority could boost its recycling rate. The Panel also questioned how the NLWA were seeking to increase recycling and what was being done to improve messaging and engagement campaigns around litter. Officers advised that they were seeking to undertake a waste composition analysis to look at what items were and were not being recycled. It was hoped that this would allow the authority to tailor its communications messaging to particular areas and locations. Veolia also had two outreach workers and the Carbon Management team also had an outreach worker who went out into schools and undertook engagement work. Officers agreed to come back to Members with more information on the timetable for educational outreach programmes. **(Action: Beth Waltzer)**.
  - f. Officers also advised the Panel that the government had introduced a number of waste legislation changes that were due to come in for 2024/25 and that it was hoped that this would increase recycling rates.
  - g. The Panel questioned what could be done around differentiating the colours of the bins used, in order to reduce instances of contamination and residents putting the wrong type of refuse in the bin. In relation to the Council's litter strategy, officers were looking at whether the Council had the right bins and whether these were in the right locations and the Panel were assured that they could look at dual recycling bins as part of this. It was noted that dual recycling bins had pros and cons attached to them and could result in higher levels of contamination.
  - h. The Panel queried what plans there were for further rollout of black boxes across the borough. In response, officers advised that the introduction of black boxes were not suitable to every location in the borough, with their location determined by factors such as the width of pavements and the need for those locations to be accessible and safe for the Veolia waste crews to collect the waste.

- i. In response to the point raised about use of agency workers, Members sought assurances that the authority was engaging with relevant union reps to iron out any problems with staff performance. In response, officers advised that Veolia had a very strong relationship with their staff, including engaging with Trade Unions.

## **RESOLVED**

That Members are asked to note the content of the report relating to the waste, recycling, and street cleansing services.

## **151. WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE**

The Panel received a report which set out how the foundations will be laid for targeted, inclusive and timely work by the Panel on issues of local importance, where scrutiny can add value through the development of its work plan. The Panel noted the provisional date of 9<sup>th</sup> September for the proposed Scrutiny Café event.

The Panel put forward the following list of areas of interest and potential agenda items for upcoming panel meetings:

- An update on the Parking Management IT System and ongoing issues therein.
- Pocket parks.
- LTN's and LTN strategy (first tranche to be rolled out in August?)
- Street trees
- Active Travel – how can we support more residents to access bike hangers and other infrastructure.
- Highways and progress around introduction of 20mph speed limits.
- How is the Council encouraging use of brownfield sites in the borough to protect green spaces.
- Interaction between crime and youth service provision.
- Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Environment & Transport to undertake a Q&A for September.
- Cabinet Member Economic Development, Jobs and Community Cohesion to do a Q&A for November Panel. Borough Commander to be invited also.

## **RESOLVED**

- I. That the overall approach, outlined at section 4 of the report, for developing a work programme for Overview and Scrutiny for 2022-24 for approval at its meeting on 13 October 2022 be noted;
- II. That, pending commencement of the finalised work programme, the Panel agree the provisional items for its meetings on 5 September.

## **152. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

N/A

**153. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

- 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022
- 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022
- 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022
- 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023

CHAIR: Councillor Michelle Simmons-Safo

Signed by Chair .....

Date .....