

**Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 6<sup>th</sup> December 2010 – Cabinet Member questions**  
**Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion – Councillor Bernice Vanier**

No	Page/ Point	Question/Observation	Answer (Where applicable)
		<b><u>Questions from Cllr Dhiren Basu</u></b>	
1	Page 1 Senior Parenting Practitioner	It appears that the Senior Parenting Practitioner, who has been working with families and schools, has helped reduce enforcement orders for 150 families. Can you clarify how long has this post been in place to achieve these results? Secondly, how is this post currently funded? Thirdly, what feedback has been received by schools and the families? Surely if the service is well received by all and received such results in a relatively short period how do we sustain this type of work?	<p>The Snr Parenting practitioner has in fact engaged with over 160 families involved in ASB activity; the majority of these being HfH residents. Due to her intervention, no further enforcement action has been required against these families. Not only have Parents been equipped with improved parenting skills but due to no further enforcement action being required, saved the Council and HfH significant legal costs and Families not being evicted from their homes. The Snr Parenting Practitioner was appointed in July 2007. The post is funded via the Dept. Of Education up until March 2011.</p> <p>A full assessment of the schools programme was carried out earlier this year and the overall feedback from all schools (Teachers and Pupils) was <i>'Excellent'</i>. Schools have welcomed the ASBAT 'Respect' educational programmes with a waiting list of schools wishing to participate. Due to the loss of two support workers (July 2010) who were assisting in supporting the parenting programme as well as the schools programmes, has resulted in a reduction of both sets of intervention. The schools programme has had to be cancelled until further notice, as there are no longer the resources to deliver the sessions. The 6 month 121 support which was given to parents following completion of the 13 week parenting programme, is now only available to a handful of parents. The ASBAT Manager has been required to make a tough decision where he has been unable to ask the ASB Officers to become involved and 'plug the gap', as they are required to concentrate on the ASBAT's core business of enforcement action to protect residents from ASB incidents. They also do not have the necessary qualifications or training to deliver parenting support or time away from their ASB cases to deliver a schools programme. This decision was taken in the context of the</p>



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			number of ASB cases the ASBAT are dealing with, which has doubled over the last year.
2	Page 3 Equalities & Cohesion	The new Equalities Act 2010 came into force on 1st Oct. You say that all directorate equalities work programmes have been updated and everyone with a policy brief has been updated. This excludes the vast majority of staff who need to be aware of these changes and implement these in day to day service delivery. How will front line staff be informed of these new duties and services audited against this?	As I also said in my update “A further programme of briefings and road shows on the equality Act 2010 has been planned including briefings for both the Labour and Liberal Democrat Groups.” These briefings include briefings for front line and other staff throughout the organisation. We have asked each directorate equalities forum to identify the training needs around the Equality Act for each division. We have also organised a seminar on the legal aspects of the Equalities Act and property; for legal, housing and equalities staff. Another more general legal seminar will be organised on the Equality Act in the new year. The induction for all staff in new roles has been updated to include information about the Equality Act. We have also put information about the Equality Act into our mainstream Organisation Development and Learning ODL training programme this covers all staff development where appropriate including specific Equalities training courses.
		<b><u>Questions from Cllr David Winskill</u></b>	
3	Government Spending Review	<p><b>3a</b> What discussions have there been with the Met Borough Commander about options and possible cuts to the MPS work force and budget and the implications for Haringey?</p> <p><b>3b</b> Have changes to any specific projects and /or shared/placed officers been discussed?</p> <p><b>3c</b> Are there any plans to reconfigure or otherwise change the Safer Neighbourhood Teams?</p>	<p><b>3a</b> The Borough Commander and his senior team have been involved in all the discussions and decisions regarding cuts (imposed by the Coalition Government in-year) and end of the Area Based Grant and Basic Command Unit funds. Discussions have begun regarding reductions in resources of both the Council and local Police service to identify how we can jointly work together and share resources with the aim of mitigating against the significant reductions to budgets both statutory organisations are facing from April 2011. These discussions and planning will continue for the foreseeable future, as we do not expect the cuts to be concluded in 2011.</p> <p><b>3b</b> Yes – there are many shared areas of work, plus work by the Council/Police that impacts significantly on the other organisation and all these are the subject of discussions. This is natural when a partnership has been very effective for many years, and this partnership has been highly effective as shown by the year-on-year reductions in key crimes.</p> <p><b>3c</b> A senior officer attended a Breakfast meeting at New Scotland Yard on 22/11/10 to hear the MPS’ plans to review the Safer Neighbourhood Teams model that is currently employed across London. Although the MPS are hoping to avoid significant reductions to the SNTs, it will be impossible for the teams to remain the same size with one covering each ward after April 2011, due to the reductions by Government to Police</p>



			budgets. Discussions and planning will take place to consider how these reductions can be achieved locally.
4	Youth Crime <i>This work is not core funded and therefore at high risk of being lost.</i>	<p><b>4a</b> How is the work currently funded and why is it not core funded?</p> <p><b>4b</b> Are there any third sector bodies that can pick up any of this activity?</p>	<p><b>4a</b> The YOS is currently funded by a mix of grants and core funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Core council funds 25%</li> <li>• Youth Justice Board 40%</li> <li>• Area Based Grant 26%</li> <li>• Various small grants 9%</li> </ul> <p><b>4b</b> The YOS already commissions some voluntary sector agencies to provide certain services (e.g. the Appropriate Adult Service and the Intensive Supervision &amp; Surveillance Service), and works alongside other voluntary and community organisations to provide other services (e.g. Red Cross for weapons awareness group work). The YOS also recruit volunteers from some community groups, as well as seeking these volunteers from other sources. We are always keen to work with third sector agencies, whilst bearing in mind the need to ensure all CRB checks are made on anyone working with our young people to ensure their safety and wellbeing.</p>
5	General	What discussions have there been with third sector and outside organisations to discuss how prevention and reducing re-offending current projects can be continued?	These discussions have taken place mainly in partnership meetings, and with the agencies known to have experience of working with young people. However, certain roles need to be carried out by profession officers (social workers, health officers, Police officers etc). KORl Art work with young people to prevent offending/re-offending using drama to explore risk factors that may lead to offending. The YOS Prevention Team work in schools (primary and secondary) to reduce youth crime, working alongside teachers who are then able to continue this work.
		<b>Questions from Cllr Karen Alexander</b>	
6	Page 1 Anti Social Behaviour	<p><b>6a</b> It is worrying that case workings are managing far in excess of their recommended cases. How is the council supporting these staff? With the spending cuts in mind how is the council planning to support this department in the future?</p> <p><b>6b</b> The preventative work seems to have been very successful. How is the council going to build on this success in light of the risk to the post of the Senior Parenting Practitioner and if her post is lost</p>	<p><b>6a</b> Due to reductions in funding introduced by the Coalition Government, we are not in a position to be able to bring in temporary ASBAT officers when numbers of referrals hit peaks, as in previous years. The choice was therefore to either develop waiting lists or for staff to take on extra cases. Due to the high commitment to our residents' safety, our ASBAT officers have taken on this extra work. Managers are monitoring this and also ensuring that cases that can be, are closed. Managers are also seeking alternative funding, as we do not want to reduce this essential service unless we have to due to lack of funds.</p>



		<p>at the end of March 2011 how is the council going to continue to manage this good work?</p>	<p><b>6b</b> The Snr Parenting Practitioner is the only person in the ASBAT who has the national qualification to deliver the '<i>strengthening families, strengthening communities</i>' &amp; the '<i>Triple P</i>' parenting programmes. If her post ceases in March 2011, the service will be required to come to an end.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Page 4 Rape Crisis Provision</p>	<p><b>7a</b> How is the council working with the Police and other agencies to deal with the huge increase in reported rapes in the borough between September 2009 and September 2010? <b>7b</b> Has the council explored ways of playing its part in stemming the increase and preventing this crime in the first case?</p>	<p><b>7a</b> In addition to the new Rape Crisis Provision (funded for 18 months by the GLA) that I outlined in my briefing, Solace a voluntary sector women's organisation are also funded externally to provide rape counselling services in Haringey. Haringey's Domestic Violence Strategy that was updated in 2008 to include Gender Based Violence which meant tackling issues around rape was now part of the strategy and delivery plan. This encompassed measures to improve the recording, reporting and awareness of issues around rape. Since 2008 we regularly analyse statistics about rape at the Domestic Violence Partnership Board (DVPB) to improve both reporting and criminal justice systems outcomes for rape cases. The co-chair the DVPB is the Police Borough Commander) and other police officers are regular attendees. Last year we held a seminar on issues around rape as part of the 16 days of action Against Violence Against Women ("White Ribbon" events). We have also organised visits to and presentations from the Haven our local multi agency sexual assault referral centre.</p> <p><b>7b</b> We have updated "I Shall Survive" to include information about the advice and support offered locally around rape issues and published this information on the council's website and have been running a campaign to make sure all residents and service providers are aware of services around rape issues. We have received excellent from many people feedback saying how helpful this is. The police make sure that additional publicity is given to rape cases where their have been successful criminal justice systems outcomes to discourage perpetrators and encourage reporting.</p>



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8	General	<p>There has been some scaremongering in the press recently about the possibility of councils saving money by reducing or in some cases switching off all together the street lighting at night. Can the cabinet member reassure members and residents alike that this is not something the council will consider now or in the future please?</p>	<p>The Council has no intention of turning off street lights in the borough. The Council has made significant investment in street lighting over the last eight years and is planning to continue the renewal of street lighting throughout the borough to improve lighting levels, improve safety and reduce the fear of crime throughout the borough. We are monitoring the trials in other boroughs of turning off or dimming street lights at certain times to assess whether there is scope to dim some street lights at some times with no detrimental affect on safety or fear of crime. No plans to dim our street lights have been developed and the infrastructure to be able to do this would require a large amount of capital investment.</p>												
		<p><b><u>Questions from Cllr Martin Newton</u></b></p>													
9	Community Safety, General, SNT:	<p>Is it the intention of the Council to make sure that all Safer Neighbourhood Teams are manned to the one sergeant, two constables and three police community support officer strength for each ward? If not, what plans do the Council have to recommend differential make-up of the ward teams?</p>	<p>This is a Police decision and needs to be asked of our local Borough Commander. However, we have heard from New Scotland Yard that following information of cuts to the MPS funds from the Government, SNTs are being reviewed. This review will cover location of SNTs, what these teams deliver, and the structure of the teams. As Cabinet Member, along with my officers I will be working with our local Police to assist with this review and consider what suggestions and proposals can be made to Central Territorial Policing at New Scotland Yard that takes into account our local needs and the reduced resources available.</p>												
10	p.1, Anti-social behaviour:	<p>What is the breakdown by ward for anti-social behaviour cases and what are the outcomes that have been achieved by ASBAT?</p>	<p>For the period Nov 09- Nov 10, the following cases were allocated to he ASBAT.</p> <p>Breakdown by ward 258</p> <table data-bbox="1064 1236 1478 1431"> <tr> <td>Alexandra</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bounds Green</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bruce Grove</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Crouch End</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fortis Green</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Harringay</td> <td>33</td> </tr> </table>	Alexandra	5	Bounds Green	7	Bruce Grove	12	Crouch End	4	Fortis Green	3	Harringay	33
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Highgate	14
Hornsey	30
LB Enfield	5 (LBH tenants in TA)
Muswell Hill	8
Noel Park	13
Northumberland Park	28
Seven Sisters	13
St Anns	7
Stroud Green	5
Tottenham Green	18
Tottenham Hale	10
West Green	10
White Hart Lane	19
Woodside	14

Enforcement rates remain above the London and National Average. Since inception (2003), the following enforcement outputs have been achieved to protect residents.

- **197 Closure Orders (Crack House Closures - working in partnership with the police)**
- **24 ASBO's**
- **200 Acceptable Behaviour Contracts**
- **191 Injunctions**
- **63 Possession Orders/evictions**
- **1 Premises Closure Order**
- **9 Dispersal Orders**

**The ASBAT has also delivered Parenting Classes and Parenting Support to over 160 Families engaged in ASB activity with no further enforcement action required. They have also delivered a comprehensive schools programme in Primary and Secondary Schools with an overall rating of 'excellent'. There is also a Victim Support worker (until March 2011) providing support to all ASB victims and assistance at court proceedings.**



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			<b>The ASBAT has received two national awards for its work during 2008 &amp; 2010.</b>
11	p.1, Anti-social behaviour:	Is there a list of anti-social behaviour priorities used by ASBAT and how does persistent noise score in this hierarchy?	The ASBAT deal with the more serious incidents of ASB. This includes all Hate Crime cases, Threats of violence, actual violence, gang related activity, street drinking, Class A drugs (supply and consumption) and serious and persistent youth nuisance. Anything which requires court action also sits with the ASBAT. The ASBAT do not deal with noise nuisance; this is dealt with the Council's Enforcement Response Service.
12	p.4, Domestic Violence:	Can you confirm if you are conducting a review of the Domestic Violence Strategy to take into account the potential loss of refuge services now that places are under threat from London Borough Grants cuts?	All 6 local refuges in Haringey are funded by the Supporting People programme, however 1 also receives additional funding from London Council's Grants Scheme to offer some specialist bed space within the refuge for women with substance misuse issues. We are working with this refuge provider to try and ensure this aspect of the refuges work is funded in future.
13	p.4, Action against violence against women:	What is the scale of the problem of trafficking and domestic servitude in Haringey?	The reason we are having a seminar on trafficking and domestic servitude this year as part of the 16 days of action Against Violence Against Women ("White Ribbon" events) is to further analyse the extent of trafficking and domestic servitude in Haringey. In June the DVPB had a speaker from the MPS trafficking unit and started receiving regular MPS monitoring information on trafficking, once we have been receiving this information for 12 months we will have a clearer picture of the extent of this problem. We know of 6 reported incidents so far this year but anecdotal reports say this is under reporting of the problem. We are also concerned that trafficking might increase with the Olympics in 2012, as large sporting events world wide, always show an increase in prostitution and trafficking when they occur.
		<b><u>Questions from Cllr Joseph Ejiofor</u></b>	
14	Page 1	The Cabinet member has pointed out that overall recorded crime has fallen by 7%. How many murders were committed in each Haringey Ward in each of the past 5 years?	The following data has been drawn from the police crime recording system (CRIS). It may not tally exactly with the final ratified figures as we receive the data monthly and crimes can later be reclassified (for example, if an assault victim in a coma dies, the incident could be reclassified as murder). However,





			<p>discrepancies will not be significant.</p> <p>In 05/06 there were 4 murders in Haringey, in Tottenham Hale, Highgate and 2 in Noel Park          In 06/07 there were 3 murders in Haringey, in Tottenham Hale, Bruce Grove and Muswell Hill          In 07/08 there were 4 murders in Haringey, in Seven Sisters, Northumberland Park and 2 in Bruce Grove          In 08/09 there were 6 murders in Haringey, in Crouch End, Bruce Grove, 2 in Tottenham Hale and 2 in Tottenham Green          In 09/10 there were 6 murders in Haringey, in St. Ann's, Bruce Grove, Northumberland Park, Seven Sisters, Noel Park and Stroud Green          In 10/11 so far there have been 2 murders in Haringey, in Tottenham Green and Bruce Grove</p> <p>Overall the peak wards are Bruce Grove (6 murders), Tottenham Hale (4) and Tottenham Green and Noel Park with 3 each.</p> <p>The peak time for murders was 21:00 – 00:59 when 11 of 25 were recorded. There was no significant peak day.</p> <p>Information available to the Community Safety Team about the characteristics of the victim and offender (accused) in the above cases is limited.</p>
15	Page 1	How does the Cabinet Member see her role contributing to reducing the murder rate, and bringing the diverse communities in Haringey into closer working with the police service?	The Cabinet Member has a leadership role as Chair of the Safer Communities Executive Board. This board examines performance, data and intelligence and oversees how the joint resources of all partners can be brought to bear to prevent and reduce crime and disorder in the borough as it affects particular neighbourhoods and communities. At the strategic level, she has a





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			<p>responsibility to ensure that the best possible responses are sought for all locally identified problems. Key voluntary groups, working directly with those affected by crime, are already members of the Safer Communities Partnership and the Chair must ensure that they have an equal voice. The Police Community Consultative Group is active in the borough. Senior police are present at every meeting and provide regular updates on organised crime and terrorism. Responses to the latter are mostly the domain of policing.</p> <p>As outlined below, murders remain rare and are invariably committed within close relationships including gang-related activity. The murders committed in the borough over the past few years have involved a significant number of east Europeans and alcohol abuse is a key driver. These issues are being looked at within existing groups in Haringey. The Cabinet Member is the Borough's Alcohol Champion and she Chairs the Alcohol Strategy Group. As such, she will be in a steering position to oversee relevant responses. It is anticipated that alcohol-related issues will feature more prominently in the forthcoming new Drugs Strategy.</p>
16	Page 1	Could you briefly explain the process through which Haringey's Youth Offending Service refers young people at risk to Haringey's Child Safeguarding team? How many referrals have been made in each of the past 18 months?	<p>Haringey YOS is a children's service and therefore the officers in the YOS have all received training on and work within child protection and safeguarding policies and procedures. In recent Inspections and Serious Case Reviews which have included safeguarding issues on YOS cases, no concerns have been noted. Because the YOS was not added as a discreet field to the data kept on referrals until September 2010, and the referrer's details were not mandatory until earlier this month, it is not possible to gain this information, but will be in future.</p>
17	Page 1 Anti Social Behaviour	What processes are in place to ensure that each of these initial contacts are adequately followed up?	<p>All referrals by the YOS to the Safeguarding Team is reported to the line manager in the YOS who monitors through regular supervision to ensure appropriate actions are taken by both Teams (YOS and Safeguarding Team). If the YOS officer or manager do not feel there has been adequate follow up, the YOS Strategic Manager (who is a member of the Local Safeguarding Children Board) would take this up with the Assistant Director, Safeguarding Children.</p>
18	Page 2	What does the Cabinet member feel would be the	<p>Central Government money for drug treatment services is allocated via the Pooled</p>



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consequence of a substantial cut in funding for the work of Haringey Drug and Alcohol Action Team?

Treatment Budget (PTB) which combines money from the Home Office, Department of Health, mainstream Health and Social Care monies. More recently the Area Based Grant has been added to these funding streams and has particularly been used to commission alcohol treatment, this was because the money for drug treatment was ring fenced and under the previous government could not be spent on alcohol misuse work. In addition what was a ring fenced Young Persons Substance Misuse Grant was transferred into the ABG meaning that services and projects commissioned from the ABG are under severe threat due to the loss of this grant.

**Losses under ABG include**

- Closure of COSMIC a service for children affected by parental substance misuse and their families (This is by far the most serious loss and will impact on the safeguarding of some of our most vulnerable children).
- Loss of Parental Substance Misuse Social Work post in children's service
- Loss of YP substance misuse commissioner post
- Loss of Children in Care post in children's service
- Loss of Vulnerable Young Person post in Children's Service

In summary this will mean increased safeguarding risks to children affected by parental substance misuse and to children who may have substance misuse problems themselves.

**Losses For those with Alcohol Problems**

In addition some of the posts that are funded in HAGA to work on reducing alcohol related admission rates, street outreach and in particular Polish street outreach would end – resulting in inevitable rising alcohol related hospital admission rates,



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increased alcohol related ASB etc

**Specific loss to the DAAT**

In addition a post in the DAAT is funded by the ABG – the Communities Development Worker post is at risk – meaning the loss of meaningful user/carer involvement with this group and some of the communities and drugs work.

**Pooled Treatment Budget Cuts**

At the time of writing the exact allocation of the PTB is not known. This should be clearer following announcement of the Governments new Drug Strategy in December – but it is thought that there will be cuts the extent of which is not currently known. The DAAT have started to work with drug and alcohol treatment providers in anticipation of this. The majority of DAAT are funded from the PTB, one from ABG and one mainstream Health and Local Authority monies.

It is thought that post 2012 the PTB will go into the Public Health Service as part of the ring fenced Health Improvement monies.