

Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel

Community Safety in Parks Review; Scope and Terms of Reference (2015/16)

Review Topic	Crime in Parks
Rationale	<p>Following two recent incidents, concerns have been raised with Members regarding crime in parks and how it can be addressed effectively within current resource constraints so that residents feel safer when using them.</p> <p>It is proposed that the review look at how parks can both be made safer and feel safer for park users. In doing this, it will examine a range of issues, including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rough sleeping and drinking; - Anti social behaviour; - Traffic management; - Resource issues, including presence in parks; - How crime can be “designed out”; - By laws and enforcement; and - The locking and unlocking of parks; <p>The review will also look at how other similar London boroughs address the issue and especially action that has proven effective elsewhere.</p>
Scrutiny Membership	<p>Members of the Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel will carry out this review:</p> <p>Councillors: Adam Jogee (Chair), Pat Berryman, John Bevan, Barbara Blake, Sarah Elliott, Bob Hare and Sheila Peacock</p>

	Co-opted Member: Mr I Sygrave (Haringey Association of Neighbourhood Watches)
Terms of Reference (Purpose of the Review/Objectives)	To consider and make recommendations to the Council's Cabinet for improvements that can be made by the Council and its partners on how they address both crime and fear of crime in parks.
Links to the Corporate Plan	This review relates to Priority 3 – “A clean, well maintained and safe borough where people are proud to live and work” Objective 2 is: “To make our streets, parks and estates clean, well maintained and safe”.
Evidence Sources	This will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Data on crime in parks, including hotspots; - Benchmarking information from other boroughs; - Haringey Community Safety Strategy 2013 - 17
Witnesses	The following witnesses will be invited to take part in the review / submit evidence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Simon Farrow, Head of Direct Services, E&CS - Sarah Jones, Events and Partnerships Manager, E&CS - Police (including Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator) - Haringey Friends of Parks Forum - Alexandra Palace and Park

<p>Methodology/Approach</p>	<p>A variety of methods will be used to gather evidence, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Desk top research - Evidence gathering sessions/workshops with witnesses - Visits or evidence from local authorities who have been successful in addressing crime in parks <p>The review will begin with a scene setting session detailing current practice and issues as well as providing relevant data and benchmarking with other local authorities. Consideration will be given to undertaking the remaining evidence gathering in a single “Scrutiny in a Day” session.</p>
<p>Equalities Implications</p>	<p>All sections of the community benefit from access to parks but they are particularly beneficial to those who may not otherwise have access to green space. Those who come into this category are likely to include a disproportionate number of people from lower socio-economic groups within the community, a large percentage of whom will come from ethnic minorities. In addition, parks are also heavily used by people with parental responsibilities, the majority of which are likely to be women.</p>
<p>Timescale</p>	<p>It is envisaged that the final report of the review will be approved by the first meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 2016/17.</p>
<p>Reporting arrangements</p>	<p>A response to the recommendations within the final report will be prepared for submission to the Cabinet by the Assistant Director for Environmental Services and Community Safety. There may also be a need for the recommendations to be considered by the Community Safety Partnership should they impact on partnership activity.</p>
<p>Publicity</p>	<p>The project will be publicised through the scrutiny website and scrutiny newsletter providing details of the</p>

	scope and how local people and community groups may be involved. The outcomes of the review will be similarly published once complete.
Constraints/ Barriers/Risks	<p>Risks:</p> <p>Not being able to get key evidence providers to attend on the agreed date of evidence gathering.</p> <p>Not being able obtain evidence from key informants e.g. local authorities</p>
Officer Support	<p>Scrutiny Support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rob Mack, Principal Scrutiny Officer <p>Service Support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stephen McDonnell, Assistant Director Environmental Services and Community Safety - Sarah Jones, Events and Partnerships Manager - Simon Farrow, Head of Direct Services - Eubert Malcolm, Head of Community Safety and Regulatory Services