



CRIME & DISORDER COMMITTEE AGENDA

7.30 pm

**Wednesday
7 November 2012**

**Committee Room 2 -
Town Hall**

Members 9: Quorum 3

COUNCILLORS:

Osman Dervish (Chairman)
John Wood (Vice-Chair)
Becky Bennett
Denis Breading
David Durant

Roger Evans
Georgina Galpin
Frederick Osborne
Linda Van den Hende

**For information about the meeting please contact:
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What is Overview & Scrutiny?

Each local authority is required by law to establish an overview and scrutiny function to support and scrutinise the Council's executive arrangements. Each overview and scrutiny committee has its own remit as set out in the terms of reference but they each meet to consider issues of local importance.

They have a number of key roles:

1. Providing a critical friend challenge to policy and decision makers;
2. Driving improvement in public services;
3. Holding key local partners to account; and
4. Enabling the voice and concerns of the public.

The Crime and Disorder Committee considers issues by receiving information from, and questioning, Cabinet Members, officers and external partners, particularly the Responsible Authorities, i.e. Metropolitan Police, Metropolitan Police Authority, Fire and Rescue Authorities, and Primary Care Trusts, to develop an understanding of proposals, policy and practices. They can then develop recommendations that they believe will improve performance, or as a response to public consultations.

Committees will often establish Topic Groups to examine specific areas in much greater detail. These groups typically consist of between 3-6 Members and the review period can last for anything from a few weeks to a year or more to allow the Members to comprehensively examine an issue through interviewing expert witnesses, conducting research and site visits. Once the topic group has finished its work it will send a report to the Committee that created it and it will often suggest recommendations to the executive.

Terms of Reference

The areas scrutinised by the Committee are in exercise of the functions conferred by the Police and Justice Act 2006, Section 19-22 and Schedules 8 & 9.

AGENDA ITEMS

1 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman will announce details of the arrangements in case of fire or other events that might require the meeting room or building's evacuation.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

(if any) – receive.

3 DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Members are invited to disclose any pecuniary interest in any of the items on the agenda at this point of the meeting.

Members may still disclose any pecuniary interest in an item at any time prior to the consideration of the matter.

4 MINUTES OF THE MEETING (Pages 1 - 6)

To approve as correct the minutes of the meetings held on 18 October 2012 and authorise the Chairman to sign them.

5 INTEGRATED OFFENDER MANAGEMENT

To receive a presentation from Lucy Satchell-Day, Assistant Chief Officer, London Probation Trust.

6 LOCAL POLICING MODEL - UPDATE

To receive an update, if any, from Chief Superintendent Mike Smith, Borough Commander, Metropolitan Police.

7 PROTECTION OF OLDER PEOPLE (Pages 7 - 12)

To receive a report from Community Safety.

8 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TOPIC GROUP

To receive an oral update.

9 URGENT BUSINESS

To consider any other item in respect of which the Chairman is of the opinion, by reason of special circumstances which shall be specific in the minutes that the item should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

**Ian Buckmaster
Committee Administration &
Member Support Manager**

Public Document Pack Agenda Item 4

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CRIME & DISORDER COMMITTEE Town Hall, Main Road, Romford 18 October 2012 (7.30 - 8.45 pm)

Present:

Councillors Osman Dervish (Chairman), John Wood (Vice-Chair), Denis Breading, David Durant, Roger Evans, Georgina Galpin, Linda Van den Hende, Frederick Thompson (In place of Frederick Osborne) and Linda Trew (In place of Becky Bennett)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Becky Bennett and Councillor Frederick Osborne

One member of the public attended the meeting.

Through the Chairman, announcements were made regarding emergency evacuation arrangements and the decision making process followed by the Committee.

7 MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 2012 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

8 UPDATE FOLLOWING THE OLYMPICS

The Borough Commander, Metropolitan Police advised the Committee that during the Olympics and Paralympics the police had received no intelligence of criminal activity nor recorded any significant crime during this period. Over the period he could only identify four crimes which could very loosely be associated with the Olympics.

The structures which were in place had proved to be robust.

The Borough Commander praised the work of the Royal Military Police who had worked closely with the police during this period and this had assisted in heading off any problems.

Before the Olympics started he had been promised additional resources, but this had not been forthcoming. What additional resources he did receive were utilised to deal with known offenders.

The legacy from the planning would be used and incorporated in planning for future events.

The report was **noted**.

9 **UPDATE ON LOCAL POLICING MODEL**

The Borough Commander advised the Committee that there had been no change since the presentation to the all Members back in September. The Metropolitan Police were working closely with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MoPAC) on the planning, but as yet there had been no agreement about the sharing of services. An update would be given once details were available. The timescale for the commencement of the changes was now April 2013.

The Committee were concerned that Havering would continue to be well policed. The Borough Commander stated that on paper the model made sense, however, with out details of the resources which would be available locally it was impossible to say. In his opinion he believed Havering would see little difference.

Following the presentation it appeared that changes were likely at senior level, i.e. the possibility of a shared Borough Commander. Would this have an effect on supervision? In response the Borough Commander informed the Committee that this was being looked at. In London senior officers tended to supervise less staff: this would change. He did not believe this would have a serious effect on the quality of policing in the borough.

The Committee were informed of discussions which had taken place at the Police and Crime Panel in its scrutiny of MoPAC. The Police and Crime Panel had been provided with a list of boroughs where there would not be a shared Borough Commander: neither Havering, Barking & Dagenham nor Redbridge was on that list. If there was a shared Commander there would be a senior officer available in each borough to ensure Partnership work would continue.

The other key issue was the possible closure of police stations. The Committee were advised that across London a third of floor space was unused. The mayor had given a re-affirmation of his commitment to ensure that where counters were closed they would be replaced locally, possibly by sharing space with other partners. The key was to ensure response times were maintained and that public access was available as many citizens needed the face to face contact and the attraction of deterrence.

The Committee **noted** the report and awaited further information.

10 **UPDATE FROM THE LOCAL FIRE BRIGADE**

Chris Drew, Borough Commander, London Fire Brigade, advised the Committee that the brigade's core business was on the decrease, but the ancillary business was on the increase. During the Olympics Havering had not been affected. The pre-planning and partnership work had been excellent. The planning and efficiency of the Borough Olympic Control Centre had been tested during the Olympic Torch relay when the brigade had received two calls which would normally require the use of roads closed

for the relay. The pre-planning and use of alternative routes plotted in advance had ensured there was no delay in tackling the fires.

The committee was provided with details of the latest statistics on the work of the Fire Brigade locally, comparing figures to last year. With most indicators the numbers were down on last year, the exception being accidental fires in the home. This was probably accounted for with more people being at home and working from home than in previous years.

The Committee were informed that both Queens Hospital and St Georges continued to be the source of numerous false alarms. The brigade was working with the hospitals to reduce this problem.

The Committee asked if there was any truth in the rumours that one of the boroughs fire stations would be closed. They were given an assurance that even through the London Fire Brigade needed to identify £65m of savings there were no current plans to close a fire station in Havering. The model being used to develop plans to achieve savings was based on attendance times, not call rates and this worked to the boroughs advantage. Current proposals included the relocation of nine appliances from Inner London to Outer London.

The proposals for savings would be made available for consultation after 21 November.

The committee were advised that there were no job cuts proposed, any savings in salary would be achieved by natural wastage and there was a freeze on recruitment.

The report was **noted**. If there were any significant changes proposed in the consultation a further report would be brought to the Committee.

11 **HCSP BUDGET FOR 2012/13**

The Committee were provided with details of how the Community Safety Fund had been distributed in 2012-13. The Community Safety Partnership had been allocated £110,412.80 by MoPAC to be spent in the current financial year. This money had been divided and allocated in accordance with the Strategic Assessment 2012/13 priorities and associated action plans. It was proposed the money be spent on the following projects.

Integrated Offender Management	£20,000.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support and advice for offenders	
Violence against women and girls	£20,000.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drop – in advocacy services for victims of Domestic Violence (DV) within Havering• A support group and counselling services for victims of DV within Havering	

Addressing Crime at a local level	£45,000.00
The HCSP had established three Area Based Community Safety Groups which will address locally identified crime, including Serious Youth Violence and ASB using a problem solving approach. Each group would be allocated £15,000	
Administrative support for the HCSP	£4,413.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative support to the HCSP and associated action groups 	
Young People's Substance Misuse Services	£20,000.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To contribute to the provision of the Havering Young Person's Substance Misuse Service, supporting young people with alcohol and drug misuse problems 	
Community Call to action	£1,000.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support the Crime and Disorder Overview and Scrutiny process 	

Details of how the money was allocated against these themes was provided.

The Committee questioned the make up of the Area Initiatives and how they linked up with the existing structures such as ward panels, CPCG, etc. Officers agreed to provide members with the answer after the meeting.

The Committee noted that the Central Community Safety Group had allocated £3,036 to provide security for the Deeper Lounge and £500 for Drug Itemiser consumables. At this time the Deeper Lounge was continuing to operate from a stall on the market, but hoped in the near future to have a more secure location.

The Borough Commander advised that the drug itemiser was now in constant use. The Police had adopted a pre-planned approach based on risk assessments.

The Committee **noted** the report.

12 **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TOPIC GROUP**

Since the Topic Group had been established and the Scoping Report agreed the Topic Group had met once and attended the Women's Aid Refuge AGM.

At the first meeting the Topic Group had received a briefing on the Troubled Families programme and how it connected with work to help the victims of Domestic Violence. The initial research had identified 850 individuals who

could be considered as part of the Troubled Families agenda. Of these 350 had been identified as at risk from Domestic Violence.

The Topic Group had identified two areas of concern which they wished to look at in more detail, these were education and housing. Representatives from Homes & Housing and Education had been invited to the next meeting. Family Mosaic had also been invited to that meeting which would take place on 22 October.

The visit to the AGM had allowed members to see where victims were housed in a safe refuge. A major issue for Women's Aid was finance and they would be invited to a future meeting to talk about the problems they faced.

The report was **noted**.

Chairman

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CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE

7 November 2012

REPORT

Subject Heading:

Prevention of Older People becoming
Victims of Crime.

CMT Lead:

Ian Burns

Report Author and contact details:

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Policy context:

Crime and Disorder Reduction

SUMMARY

This report provides an overview of the recent Havering Community Safety Partnership work programme to prevent older people becoming victims of crime in Havering

RECOMMENDATIONS

That members note the contents of the report

REPORT DETAIL

Statistics

The information used for this report is for all crimes from 1st September 2011 to 31st August 2012.

It discounts victims that are non-resident in the borough and clearly only uses those who have their dates of birth or age recorded.

When ages are compared to the census data (2011) the only over-represented ages of those 50+ in relation to the demographics is the 50 -54 where we have 7.0% victim with a demographics of 6.96% but as can be seen this is marginal. All persons older than this are less than the boroughs demographics.

Age Range	Percentage of victims	Census	Victim Age Range Higher Than Demographics?
50 - 54	7.0%	6.96%	Yes
55 - 59	4.9%	5.78%	No
60 - 64	4.2%	6.16%	No
65 - 69	3.5%	4.68%	No
70 - 74	2.0%	4.01%	No
75 - 79	1.9%	3.67%	No
80 - 84	1.3%	2.91%	No
85 - 89	0.7%	1.77%	No
90 & over	0.3%	0.80%	No

When the crime types are looked at 31.5% of those victims are victims of burglary with theft from motor vehicle (11.9%) being the next most prevalent. The third is 'other theft' (10.6%).

During the year there were 32 distraction burglaries victims of which 23 were female (72%). The methods of gaining entry are many as shown below.

Bank Worker
Council Worker
Gardener
Help
Money
Police Officer

Post Office Worker
Use Toilet
Water Board
Water Problems
Workman

The most prevalent is related to water issues (16%).

Of the 32 London boroughs Havering is the 12th safest for this type of crime with seven boroughs in London all in excess of 50 crimes of this nature – all are north of the Thames and three situated in the North-East.

Projects and Initiatives to protect Older Residents

A number of initiatives have been developed by the HCSP to prevent older residents becoming victims of crime.

1. Older People's Safety Events

In March 2007 the HCSP held an Older Persons Safety Event at the Queens Theatre in Hornchurch. The aim of the event was to raise awareness of distraction burglary and over 400 residents attended on the day. A drama production "Ma Kelly's Doorstep" focussed on bogus callers, and presentations were given by Havering Police, Community Safety, Trading Standards, London Fire Brigade and Neighbourhood Watch.

A further event was held at the Queens theatre in February 2008 which was attended by over 400 older people. Two events were also held in Harold Hill in December 2008 for Older People where 200 people attended,

2. Crime Prevention Road Shows

The Community Safety Service conducts regular road shows across the Borough to raise awareness of crime trends and to distribute crime prevention advice and merchandise such as purse chains, personal alarms, and property marking kits. Over 50 road shows were held in 2011-12.

3. Drama productions

In 2009 Havering Community Safety Team commissioned a piece of new drama with ARC theatre titled "By Appointment". The drama focused on distraction burglary with a target audience of older residents. The drama was designed to be performed in Luncheon Clubs and other meeting places for older people in the borough.

The drama highlighted the importance of:

- Never answering the door to callers who have not booked an appointment.
- Using the nominated neighbour scheme and notice to inform callers of a responsible neighbour to call to identify themselves
- Showing the yellow card at the window, but not leaving it in the window.
- Locking doors and windows properly, particularly UVPC windows.
- Removing keys from locks and keeping them away from letterboxes and out of burglar's sight.

- Installing a door chain.
- When out, making the house look like someone is at home.
- If away use timers to switch on lights and radios.
- Cancelling milk or deliveries when away.
- Ensuring a neighbour or friend ensures that all mail is pushed right through the letterbox and perhaps open and shut curtains.
- Availability of free home security checks through the Safer Homes scheme.

The Drama was launched at a Community Safety Conference in February 2010 and then toured around luncheon clubs in the Borough delivering a further 10 performances.

4. Banking protocol

Developed by the Havering Community Safety Partnership in conjunction with our local banks, the Metropolitan Police, Community Police Consultative Group and Age Concern, the scheme has a strong focus on prevention and early intervention. It provides a route for bank staff to tactfully intervene when older and vulnerable customers seek to withdraw unusually large sums of cash. Therefore, not only does it focus on preventing our residents from being a victim of crime but also identifies vulnerable residents who might be living with dementia, so we can intervene and provide access to vital support services.

The initial idea for the scheme emerged after several reported incidents in Havering of older and vulnerable people being accompanied to banks, building societies and post offices by unscrupulous conmen to withdraw large sums of cash as payment for supposed 'building work'. Following discussions at the Community Safety Serious Acquisitive Crime Group a working group was established and project plan was developed. Funding was secured from the Community Safety Service and the CPCG.

The banks have been keen to adopt the scheme. Bank staffs use a prompt card with set questions to tactfully enquire about the purpose of any cash withdrawal over £500. They will explain the dangers of carrying large sums of cash and suggest an alternative, and safer, method of payment such as a cheque or bank transfer. If the cashier is suspicious in any way about the intent of the withdrawal or the vulnerability of the customer, he/she will notify their supervisor immediately and a call will be placed to the appropriate agency for assistance. This might be Trading Standards and/or the Police if they suspect the customer a victim of crime; or Adults Social Care and/or Age Concern if they feel the customer is confused in any way. The simple act of asking a few questions allows bank staff to delay the withdrawal of large sums of cash to give the referral agency time to respond.

Currently 19 banks have signed up to the scheme across the Borough. The scheme will be rolled out in Harold Wood and Collier Row this autumn / winter.

A Bogus Callers Group has been established to continue to progress work in this area.

5. Nominated neighbour

The scheme was launched in November 2004 to protect vulnerable members of the community from bogus callers. The Nominated Neighbour scheme allows vulnerable individuals to direct any unexpected callers to a nominated person – a family member, friend or trusted neighbour living close by.

The Nominated Neighbour will then check the identification of the caller and remain with him or her while they conduct their business. Packs containing a yellow plastic card, which can be shown to unexpected visitors, indicating who the nominated neighbour is, and guidance notes are distributed by the community safety service or through Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

Most bogus callers rely on gaining the confidence of a resident to get into their property. By encouraging older people not to talk to unexpected callers and instead direct them to a third party it increases the chances of a bogus caller being caught.

Most victims of distraction burglary are of pensionable age and in many cases as well as facing financial loss, they are left traumatised and upset.

Research suggests that areas which show visible signs of a caring and supportive society, such as Neighbourhood Watch are less likely to be targeted by distraction burglars.

6. Havering Safe at Home Service

The Council have funded the Havering Safe at Home service for residents over the age of 60 years. This was extended in 2008 to include all victims of domestic burglary.

In 2011-12 there were 2527 referrals to the scheme which included target hardening, minor adaptations without delay (MAWD) and minor repairs.

Target hardening can include the fitting of door and window locks, door viewers and chains and key safes. The scheme also offers a full fire safety check and fitting of smoke and Carbon monoxide alarms.

The scheme is funded to March 2013 and we are currently working with Age UK to secure funding from March 2013 onwards.

7. Buy with Confidence

The Councils Trading Standards service delivers the Buy with Confidence Scheme which allows you to find a reputable trader when looking for goods or services. All traders which are part of the scheme have been vetted by the Council's trading standards team and agreed to provide high standards of customer service. Any business can apply to join and the list of approved traders includes everything from builders to wine merchants and from chauffeurs to upholsterers. Before becoming an approved business, all traders must:

- Comply with relevant consumer protection legislation
- Ensure that staff are properly trained for their work
- Respond promptly and correctly to customer complaints
- Get CRB checks for all staff who carry out work in people's homes

If any business stops complying with the requirements of the scheme, they will be removed. A national website supports the scheme and is where you can search for which ever business you require by area.

Visit www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

*There is a **corporate** requirement to set out the implications and risks of the decision sought, in the following areas*

Financial implications and risks:

MOPAC have not yet confirmed the funding process for 2013-14. A further reduction in funding will impact on the Councils ability to address Crime and Disorder.

Legal implications and risks: The Council has a responsibility under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to address crime and disorder within the borough.

Human Resources implications and risks: No Human Resource implications

Equalities implications and risks: An equalities impact assessment has been conducted on the 3 year Community Safety plan

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers