



Haverling

LONDON BOROUGH

CRIME & DISORDER SUB-COMMITTEE AGENDA

7.30 pm

**Thursday
10 April 2014**

**Town Hall, Main Road,
Romford**

Members 6: Quorum 3

COUNCILLORS:

Osman Dervish (Chairman)
John Wood (Vice-Chair)
David Durant

Linda Van den Hende
Roger Evans
Georgina Galpin

**For information about the meeting please contact:
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Members of the public are entitled to report on meetings of Council, Committees and Cabinet, except in circumstances where the public have been excluded as permitted by law.

Reporting means:-

- filming, photographing or making an audio recording of the proceedings of the meeting;
- using any other means for enabling persons not present to see or hear proceedings at a meeting as it takes place or later; or
- reporting or providing commentary on proceedings at a meeting, orally or in writing, so that the report or commentary is available as the meeting takes place or later if the person is not present.

Anyone present at a meeting as it takes place is not permitted to carry out an oral commentary or report. This is to prevent the business of the meeting being disrupted.

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Members of the public are asked to remain seated throughout the meeting as standing up and walking around could distract from the business in hand.

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 sub-committee has its own remit as set out in the terms of reference but they each meet to consider issues of local importance.

The sub-committees 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.
4. Enabling the voice and concerns to the public.

The sub-committees consider issues by receiving information from, and questioning, Cabinet Members, officers and external partners 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. These are considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Board and if approved, submitted for a response to Council, Cabinet and other relevant bodies.

Sub-Committees will often establish Topic Groups to examine specific areas in much greater detail. These groups consist of a number of 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 or undertaking site visits. Once the topic group has finished its work it will send a report to the Sub-Committee that created it and will often suggest recommendations for the Overview and Scrutiny Board pass to the Council's 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 - 16)

To approve as correct the minutes of the meetings held on 23 January and 5 February, 2014 and authorise the Chairman to sign them.

5 COMMUNITY PAYBACK (Pages 17 - 18)

To receive a verbal report from SERCO.

6 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (Pages 19 - 26)

To consider the attached report.

7 SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD BOARD (Pages 27 - 28)

To note the response from the Interim Safer Neighbourhood Board.

8 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.

**Andrew Beesley
Committee Administration
Manager**

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
JOINT (ALL) OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Town Hall
23 January 2014 (7.30 - 9.05 pm)**

Present:

COUNCILLORS

Conservative Group Jeffrey Brace, Wendy Brice-Thompson, Pam Light, Robby Misir, Barry Oddy, Frederick Thompson, Melvin Wallace and Keith Wells

Residents' Group June Alexander, Clarence Barrett, Gillian Ford, Linda Hawthorn, Ray Morgon, John Mylod, Linda Van den Hende and John Wood

Labour Group Keith Darvill+, Pat Murray and Denis O'Flynn

Independent Residents Group Michael Deon Burton

UK Independence Party Group Lawrence Webb+, Ted Eden and Fred Osborne

+Substituting for Councillor Paul McGeary.

+Sunstituting for Councillor Sandra Binion.

Cabinet Members in attendance: Councillors Michael White (Leader of the Council) Steven Kelly (Deputy Leader) Roger Ramsey and Paul Rochford.

All decisions were taken with no votes against.

The Chairman reminded Members of the action to be taken in an emergency.

1 MEMBERSHIP AND CHAIRMAN OF MEETING

With the agreement of all Overview and Scrutiny Committee Members present, the Chair was taken at this special meeting by Councillor Pam Light.

2 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman advised all present of action to be taken in the event of emergency evacuation of the town hall becoming necessary.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (IF ANY)

Apologies for absence were received from the following Members:

Children and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

Councillor Sandra Binion (substituted by Councillor Lawrence Webb)

Councillor Nic Dodin (Substituted by Councillor John Mylod)

Margaret Cameron (co-opted Member – non-voting)

Ian Rusha (co-opted Member – non-voting)

Crime & Disorder Committee:

Councillor Osman Dervish (substituted by Councillor Wendy Brice-Thompson)

Councillor Roger Evans (substituted by Councillor Frederick Thompson)

Councillor Georgina Galpin (substituted by Councillor Barry Oddy)

Councillor David Durant

Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

Councillor Lynden Thorpe (substituted by Councillor Barry Oddy)

Councillor Barbara Matthews

Councillor David Durant

Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

Councillor Nic Dodin (substituted by Councillor John Mylod)

Councillor Peter Gardner (substituted by Councillor Frederick Thompson)

Towns & Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

Councillor Osman Dervish (substituted by Councillor Frederick Thompson)

Councillor Garry Pain (substituted by Councillor Melvin Wallace)

Councillor Linda Trew (substituted by Councillor Jeffrey Brace)

Value Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

Councillor Rebecca Bennett (substituted by Councillor Barry Oddy)

Councillor Billy Taylor

Councillor Damian White (substituted by Councillor Jeffrey Brace)

Councillor Sandra Binion (substituted by Councillor Lawrence Webb)

4 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of interest.

5 **THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL STRATEGY**

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Michael White, explained that the Council had been required to find approximately £40 million of savings over the last four years. The Leader thanked officers for their hard work in delivering these savings. Front line services, for example weekly refuse collection, had been protected while the back office had been transformed through initiatives such as Shared Services. There had also been more than 80 restructures across the Council.

The latest financial settlement meant that further cuts would be required in the coming years although this was in line with projections for this period. Specifically, £6.5 million of funding would be lost in 2014/15 with a further £9.8 million lost in 2015/16. This would of course be challenging but the Council had been very robust in meeting savings targets. The Council should also be proud of there not having been a rise in Council Tax over the last five years.

It was felt that the funding cuts in 2014/15 could be covered in Havering without major service cuts or tax increases. Work was currently underway on the next financial strategy from 2015/16. This was estimating a potential budget gap of around £60 million which would be a challenge for the new Council.

The Government austerity programme would continue until at least 2017/18 and a further Comprehensive Spending Review was expected. Government policy to ensure an average 1% annual increase in public sector pay also impacted on the Council.

The introduction of local level business rates had not generated any additional income for the Council as the Council was only allowed to keep 30% of this revenue. A proposal to pool business rates with some neighbouring Councils would however allow the minimisation of risk. The leader also felt the use of the Council pension fund to invest in the local infrastructure could be explored further.

There was a 10% shortfall from the Government on Council Tax benefits although it was thought that a revision of the Council Tax base in Havering should deliver more money. A new homes bonus of £2.4 million for 2014/15 would allow some one-off investments such as that in Harrow Lodge Park.

There had been a rise in NHS funding to support social care but this was pooled with the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs). New legislation affecting education and care for people under 25 years and the care of elderly people would also have a financial impact. This was also the case with the rise in numbers of properties and pupils in Havering and the rising numbers of very elderly people would lead to a heavy demand on social care services.

In conclusion, the Leader emphasised that the Council wished to protect front line services and this was in line with the Living Ambition strategy. Efficiencies had been made in all areas of the Council, for example the partnership with London Borough of Newham. Further savings would however be needed and it would be necessary to ask which Council services did not need to continue in their current form and which could be delivered in a better way in order to keep the budget under control.

Having received the presentation from the Leader of the Council, the Overview and Scrutiny Committees noted:

1. The financial position of the Council.
2. That the report was formally consulting them on the proposed Corporate budget adjustments and that this was the opportunity to scrutinise the budget proposals.

Answers to questions raised by Members on specific items of the budget are shown in the appendix to the minutes.

Chairman

APPENDIX: JOINT MEETING OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES, 23
JANUARY 2014, ANSWERS TO MEMBER QUESTIONS ON THE COUNCIL'S
FINANCIAL STRATEGY

Questions were asked by Members on the areas shown below and answers were given by officers or Cabinet Members as follows:

1. Amount of business rates levy able to be retained – The forecast for business rates did expect a growth in the pool from the Thurrock area although this did assume that the proposed port in Thurrock went ahead.
2. Details of the Council's response to the Business Rates appeal process – This could be made available to Group Leaders.
3. Robustness of estimate for rise in Council Tax base – For the first time a material rise in the Havering Council Tax base had been seen and officers were looking at the impact of this. This would lead to a rise in demand for Council services but it was difficult at this stage to forecast the precise impact.
4. Pooled Business Rates – This system allowed each Council in the pool to reduce what they paid into Central Government. Officers would produce a briefing note on this for Members.
5. Number of grant announcements still awaited – Most grant announcements had now been received and a full table would be included within the February Cabinet report. There were now fewer grants received than in previous years.
6. Increase in overall level of risk – There was a risk from changes to the means of funding e.g. the local collection of Business Rates. It was also difficult to manage in-year issues. Efforts were however ongoing to manage and mitigate risk within the budget. All Councils were struggling with the risk of grants potentially being replaced by funding that would have to be bid for. This was a challenge for Councils throughout the country. It was also noted that the risk referred to in paragraph 3.7 of the Cabinet report related only to the current programme of savings.
7. Overspend on the Special Educational Needs (SEN) budget – This was due to an overspend on transport costs but had been offset by other savings being delivered early. This would be a pressure again next year and the transport costs were currently undergoing a full review in order to ascertain if efficiency can be improved.

8. Customer Services budget variance – The on-line portal that would allow staff savings to be made had only gone live in December rather than August 2013 due to IT problems. Restructures had now started that would lead to savings in the longer term. It was recommended that Members should use the portal to report issues such as flytips in their ward.
9. Emergency Assistance Scheme – A proposal had been put to the Corporate Management Team to carry forward any underspend to the overall emergency funding budget for next year.
10. Proposed investment in the borough by the Council pension fund – It was intended to put a sum of additional money into the pension fund in order to avoid having to increase future annual contributions by the Council. This investment would allow the pension fund to invest in Havering by e.g. buying property. This was common practice in many other pension schemes and safeguards would be in place and professional advice taken. It was important to maximise the return from the pension fund and a similar model involving a number of local Councils had funded the successful Salford Quays development near Manchester.
11. Distribution of anticipated funding gap – It was expected that the majority of the funding pressures would take place in the first two years of the next four-year cycle. This included expected reductions in Government funding and local pressures.
12. Expected value of reserves – The Council's general reserve currently stood at £11.5 million. The figure for all earmarked reserves was £48 million.
13. Details of revised arrangements for social care funding – This was the first year of Better Care funding under the current arrangements. Governance arrangements were similar for 2014/15 but funding now had to be agreed by the Health and Wellbeing Board and by NHS England. Overall funding had risen as this now included the CCG budget but more services also now had to be provided. Arrangements would become more complicated in year two as issues such as delayed discharges and seven-day working in health and social care would have to be addressed. Negotiations would be needed with the CCG on these areas and a two-year plan had to be finalised by April 2013.
14. Impact of Children and Families Bill – Officers were continuing to work through the Bill and its implications. Financial modelling was in progress and it was wished for people to stay local although would be able to receive a personal budget that they could spend anywhere. An overview and scrutiny

topic group was currently looking at this area. It was not yet possible to say however what the demand for these services would be. The cost of potentially providing education for children with special educational needs up to the age of 25 was also being worked on.

15. Member allowances – A saving of two Cabinet posts had already been agreed in the budget although this depended on Members' views after the Council election.
16. Parking income – There was in the current year a projected shortfall of approximately £400,000 across all parking budgets. Central Government was currently consulting on Council parking policies and this and this could introduce measures such as the removal of CCTV cars and a grace period on tickets. Economic factors had meant there was now less use made of car parks and seasonal factors such as wintry weather also negatively affected income.
17. Building control – Officers felt there was not enough external work to bid for to meet the quite high income targets for building control. Some staff would however still be required to discharge the Council's statutory building control functions.
18. Remand framework – The costs of children on remand had now been passed from the criminal justice system to Councils with only a small grant to cover this. The Council had spent some £557,000 on this so far this year and the Council had no control over how quickly cases reached court.
19. Housing Benefit and Council Tax support grant – This grant had been reduced across London and this funding needed to be replaced by the Council.
20. Electoral Registration – More resources were needed to cover the required Individual Electoral Registration process that was due to start in June 2014.
21. Utilities price increase – This was mainly due to inflation in electricity prices.
22. Phase 2 primary expansion – The grant allocation covered both 2014/15 and 2015/16. Although there may be a need to spend some in advance of the grant receipt this would be managed as part of the Council's cash flow and would not impact on the wider Capital programme or delay delivery.
23. Estimated school maintenance grant – Details of schools grants had been compiled for the February Cabinet report but officers would confirm the exact grant figure by e-mail.

24. Transfer of public health – It was confirmed that this was now a function of the Council led by the Director of Public Health.
25. Production of budget - The Chairman and several other Members thanked Councillor Ramsey, the Chief Executive and Council officers for their hard work in producing the budget.

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
CRIME & DISORDER COMMITTEE
Town Hall, Main Road, Romford
5 February 2014 (7.30 - 8.55 pm)**

Present:

Councillors Osman Dervish (Chairman), John Wood (Vice-Chair), Roger Evans and Georgina Galpin

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor David Durant and Councillor Linda Van den Hende

20 MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 November, 2013 were agreed as a correct and signed by the Chairman.

21 REVIEW OF YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICES

Officers advised that in the most recent Performance Report, September, 2013, the Youth Justice Board had identified Havering Youth Offending Service as 'not a priority' for requiring any extra support from their organisation. This was a positive report and showed that the Youth Justice Board had gained confidence in local systems.

This position was reinforced by the majority of the performance indicators and the fact that we now had a strong team in place to deliver the service priorities.

Performance over the twelve months from April 2012 to March 2013 indicated 121 fewer young people entering the Youth Justice System. This decrease was higher than the comparative figures for London.

Similarly data showed that in terms of rates Havering had shown a reduction in the use of custody. Compared to the same period last year the numbers had reduced from 14 to 10.

We asked that in future we be provided with data comparing our performance with that of our iQuanta boroughs, i.e. Bexley and Bromley.

The restructure of Havering YOS staff had commenced in October 2013 and was now nearly complete. There had been complications due to on-going HR issues. The restructure brought together a permanent team consisting of end to end case managers who were multi-skilled and deliver continuous

support and enforcement to young offenders. It had also delivered a management structure seen by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation as highly useful for supervision and 'grip' of cases.

The YOS had increased partnership working over the last year and this had been seen throughout both social care and crime/community safety.

The one problem remaining to be resolved was that of accommodation. The loss of Portman House had been both positive and negative. Positive in that it was not fit for purpose and had driven the service to work from satellites, but negative in that a base for the team to consolidate had been very difficult. Satellite premise had been and would continue to be used where possible and this had been beneficial in many cases. However, a central base for the team to work from, with bespoke health and safety plans, would benefit the service in the long term.

We were assured that the service was moving in the right direction and thanked officers for their hard work.

22 **TRANSFORMING REHABILITATION**

Lucy Satchell-Day provided an update on the current position with the changes to the probation service. All staff employed by the London Probation Trust had been assigned to either the National Probation Service (NPS) or to the local Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC). The good news for Havering was that Lucy had been appointed as the lead officer for the CRC and Carina Heckroodt as the senior officer for the local NPS team. The Senior Management Team is in post for both teams. The internal split would happen from 1 April, 2014.

Locally the CRC would serve both Havering and Barking & Dagenham. The NPS would cover Havering, Barking & Dagenham and Newham. This inconsistency arose because of the disparity of caseload being transferred.

The Government had extended the life of the Probation Trusts until 31 May, 2014, after which they will cease to exist.

The competition phase is due to conclude in September.

The key challenges facing the new organisations were:

- Staff motivation; and
- Forming new Partnerships.

So far there has been no information on who will replace the Probation Trusts, as responsible authority, on the Community Safety Partnerships.

We have **noted** the update.

23 MOPAC FUNDED PROJECTS -UPDATE

We received an update on progress with the MOPAC funded Projects.

1. Street Triage – we had received £30,000 to deliver a street triage project in Romford Town Centre. The project started on Friday, 6 December, 2013. It was staffed by 2 paid medics every night. Additional support was provided by a number of St Johns volunteers.

20 incidents had been attended with only 7 requiring support of an ambulance. Officers would continue to monitor the success of the project and work with the Street Pastors to assess how many people were helped so that they did not need to attend A&E.

2. Substance Misuse and Young People – we had received £40,000 to deliver this project. The outcomes to date were as follows:

Target	Outcomes	RAG
55% of young offenders reporting reduced substance misuse.	64% report a reduction or stopping their substance misuse	Green
70% of young offenders reporting improved physical health.	75% reporting an improvement.	Green
75% of young offenders reporting improved psychological well being.	75% reported improvement	Green
65% of young offenders reporting improved family relationships.	75% reported improvement.	Green

We were pleased with the outcomes but asked whether the improvement had been maintained and how the improvement in family relationship was assessed.

Whilst the percentages were impressive how large was the cohort? We were advised by officers that this related to a cohort of 20.

3. Domestic Abuse Providers – we had been granted £20,000 to deliver this project. 24 staff had been trained by the Domestic Violence Intervention Project. Additionally, London Probation had been commissioned to deliver a ‘training the trainer’ programme for 16 front line officers in quarter 4, to deliver the Caring Dads programme across the borough.

4. Improving Support for Domestic Abuse – we had been granted £35,000 to deliver this project.

The Independent Domestic Violence Advocate had supported 36 victims who had been referred by the MARAC. A specialist Domestic Violence Worker had been appointed to the Tier Three team in Children’s Services and was already providing support to 14 families.

52 two-hour drop-in sessions had been provided, each quarter, which had been attended by 208 victims. 3 courses, each of 10 sessions had been delivered. These had been attended by 70 women with crèche facilities provided for 32 children.

The Borough Commander advised us that the number of domestic violence victims had risen by 2% which made this project even more valuable.

5. Rent Deposit Scheme for Offenders – we were granted £32,400 to deliver this scheme. The outcomes were as follows:

Target	Outcomes	RAG
75% of cohort to sustain engagement with floating support services and criminal justice agencies after 6 weeks.	100% currently	Green
Reduction in offending after 12 weeks.	3/3 (only three have completed 12 weeks, the fourth is on target and complying).	Green
Reduction in substance misuse after 12 weeks on the IOM scheme.	1/1 (only applicable to 1 at present)	Green
Increased engagement with education, training or employment after 6 months.	7/8 in ETE, 1 starting in January, 2014	Green
75% of the cohort to be sustaining their tenancy after 6 months.	100% with 8/8 on course.	Green
75% of cohort to be successfully completing/ completed their order/ licence.	100% currently with */* on course.	Green

Officers advised that the average cost of a rent deposit in Havering was between £1,300/ £2,000. We were supporting 15 offenders and had already pretty much spent the budget.

LSD advised that MOPAC was giving priority to IOM bids and we should be pursuing this option vigorously.

It was still a major problem to find suitable accommodation for ex-offenders.

6. Drugs and Alcohol Service Provision – a grant of £56,000 had been provided to deliver this scheme. This funding was matched by funding from the Public Health budget. The outcomes were as follows:

No.	Outcome	Baseline	Target	Q1	Q2
1	Increase the number of RA referrals picked up by the drug treatment services.	93%	95%	86%	86%
2	Increase in the number of criminal justice clients entering drug treatment	59%	65%	52%	77%
3	Reduce criminal justice clients attrition from treatment	31%	26%	41%	36%
4	Reduce the number of criminal justice clients who re-present to treatment within 12 months	7%	4%	0%	7%
5	Reduce the re-conviction rate of offenders sentenced to a drug or alcohol community order	New measure	20% re-offended	33% Cohort 1	Not available

We have **noted** the report.

24 **SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD BOARDS**

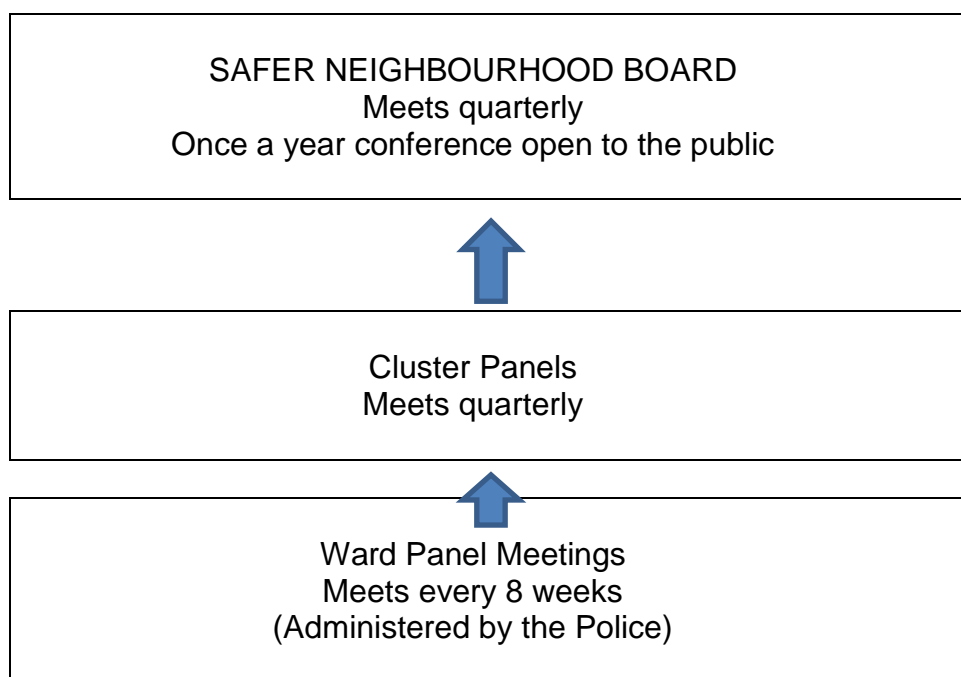
The Mayor of London, through MOPAC was looking for boroughs to introduce Safer Neighbourhood Boards across London to replace the Community Police Consultative Groups. We were pleased to note that Havering would be one of the first boroughs to have the new Board in place.

MOPAC had set the following aims for all Safer Neighbourhood Boards:

- To have a broad remit to reflect MOPAC's broader responsibilities, respecting the view that local people will know best what is needed at the local level
- To ensure communities are more closely involved in problem solving and crime prevention
- To have greater reach and ensures a more frequent refresh of ideas and views;

- To achieve greater coherence between different engagement mechanisms, e.g. Independent Advisory Groups and Stop and Search Community Monitoring Groups, so as to provide greater public accountability in policing and crime reduction
- To make more efficient use of resources to deliver value for money and target funds at tackling issues of local concern and crime prevention.

We noted the roles of the proposed Board and the suggested membership. The proposed delivery structure was as follows:



We expressed concern that the guidance from MOPAC suggested that the Board meetings be held in private. It was our view that they should be held in public and we have **asked** the Shadow Board to consider this at their first meeting.

We have asked that officers be thanked for their hard work in progressing the creation of the Safer Neighbour Board so quickly.

25 **2013/14 ANNUAL REPORT**

Officers had prepared a draft Annual Report of our activities for the year. We are satisfied that this paints a true picture and have authorised our Chairman to agree a final version which incorporates the business transacted at this meeting.

The agreed version should then be presented to full Council.

26 **STREET PASTORS**

We have asked officers to provide an update on the position with regard to the introduction of Street Pastors in to Hornchurch on Friday and Saturday nights.

27 **METROPOLITAN POLICE AWARDS.**

Councillor Roger Evans advised that the Romford Safer Neighbourhood Team had been listed as a finalist in the above awards. The Team had achieved a 31% reduction in mobile phone thefts in Romford Town Centre.

We have asked the Borough Commander to pass our congratulations on to the Team.

Chairman

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Community Payback in Havering

December 2013 hours worked

Group Projects	1089
Agency Placements	213

January 2014 hours worked

Group Projects	1237
Agency Placements	365

Current Projects Operating

LBH Streetcare Team – work completed & in progress.

Angel Way garage area. The team cut back, cleaned, painted and general tidied location.

A1306 New Road. The team have litter picked area, cut back and general tidied area.

Keswick Car Park. The team have litter picked, removed moss, cut back and general tidied area.

Hoppy Hall Car Park. The team have litter picked, removed moss, cut back and general tidied area.

Appleton Way Car Park. The team have litter picked, removed moss, cut back and general tidied area.

Dorrington Way Car Park. The team have litter picked, removed moss, cut back and general tidied area.

Crow Lane Cemetery. The team have on going work of preparing and painting the railings surrounding the cemetery, excluding the gates.

LBH Historic Building & landscapes. The team have been working in Raphaels Parks preparing and painting the internal park railings. Project has been suspended until April when weather has improved.

LBH Havering Homes. The Team have worked on the Briar Road Estate painting kick rails, edging pathways and tidying and clearing the car parks. Work has additional been undertaken at Waterloo Gardens with the painting of kick rails, shed doors and general ground maintenance of the area. Most recently work has been carried out by the group at Highfield Towers where again kick rails and metal fencing as wells as some general maintenance of the immediate area.

Add-Up. The team have just commenced on a short project to redecorate 2 offices in Billet Lane.

St Nicholas Church. The team have just commenced the redecoration of the interior of the church, once this is complete they will commence of the exterior of the church.

Gaynes School. The team are working within the school and its grounds, assisting with grounds maintenance, sorting and clearing of sheds within the school grounds, and painting within the school where required.

Dycorts School. The team are assisting with grounds maintenance, exterior painting of the school and out buildings.

Marshalls Park School. The Team are assisting with grounds maintenance, painting of classrooms and corridors when required. They also assist the caretaker with school furniture and the clearing and assembling of school furniture.

Mead School. The team are assisting with grounds maintenance, creations of foot paths, painting of classrooms, corridors and toilets. Assembling for school furniture, setting up of classrooms with new furniture and removing old furniture.

Completed projects

Crownfield School and St Edwards School.

Work undertaken at Crownfield School was the construction of decking outside a number of classrooms, grounds maintenance, painting of playground equipment/sheds, and painting within the school.



Work undertaken at St Edwards was grounds maintenance, painting of classrooms and corridors.

Potential new projects – Ardleigh Green School.

CRIME & DISORDER COMMITTEE

10 April, 2014

Subject Heading:

Review of services for victims of domestic violence

CMT Lead:

Cynthia Griffin

Report Author and contact details:

Jasbir Kaur

Telephone: 01708 432028

Email: Jasbir.kaur@havering.gov.uk

Policy context:

This report relates to the councils strategic objective of valuing and enhancing the lives of individuals

SUMMARY

This report provides a review of domestic violence services in Havering.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That members note the contents of the report.

REPORT DETAIL

Background

The cross-government definition of domestic violence and abuse is:

Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass, but is not limited to, the following types of abuse:

- psychological
- physical
- sexual
- financial
- emotional

The definition acknowledges controlling and coercive behaviour prevalent in domestic violence. The definition, which is not a legal definition, includes 'honour' based violence, female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage, and is clear that victims are not confined to one gender or ethnic group.

The Council's community safety team co-ordinates the Domestic Violence Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) and, in conjunction with Housing and Adult Social Services, commissions a number of services to support victims of domestic violence and their families break the cycle of domestic abuse, through the legal process to prosecution of the perpetrator.

Domestic violence in Havering – the facts

Domestic violence is prevalent in Havering and has a significant impact on the councils Living Ambition Vision to provide Havering residents with the highest quality of life. Domestic violence is under reported in Havering which follows national trends. Detailed below is a brief breakdown of domestic and sexual violence in Havering as of 25th March 2014.

Domestic and sexual violence

Havering	12 months to January 2014	12 months to January 2013
Domestic violence	1,329	1,245
Rape	77	54
Other sexual	129	134

- For domestic violence this represents an increase of 6.7% in Havering and a Met-wide increase of 8.7%.
- For rape in Havering this represents a 42.6% increase, compared to a Met-wide increase of 22.8%.
- Other sexual offences across the borough saw a 3.7% decrease, compared to a 0.7% increase across London.

(Source: Metropolitan Police March 2014)

A more detailed breakdown of domestic violence in Havering can be found in the attached violence against women and girls strategic problem profile.

Current service provision

Victims of domestic violence have access to the following services:

Refuge

Havering Women's Aid provide refuge accommodation for women fleeing domestic violence and abuse. Currently there are two refuges in Havering. Refuge one is based in an existing refuge building owned by Havering council. This refuge consists of 23 bed spaces. Refuge two is a newly converted building owned by Old Ford Housing Association. The building consists of fourteen self-contained flats, varying from a bedsit to one, two and three bedroom flats and has forty bed spaces. In 2012-13, one hundred and ten families were supported in refuge accommodation. In the first three quarters of 2013-14, eighty families have been supported in local refuge.

Advocacy and support group service

Havering Women's Aid are commissioned to provide a minimum of 204 two hour drop-in sessions in the borough. In addition to the drop in, the service is supported by an Independent Domestic Violence Advisor who provides two hours support to victims. The service also monitors clients accessing the service and will sign post victims to other support services including the referral of high risk victims to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). There has been a steady increase in the number of advocacy referrals. A breakdown of referrals can be found below:

Year	Number of Advocacy Sessions held	Number of referrals received for service
2010-11	204	250
2012-13	208	370
2013-14	156	156 (quarter 4 figures unavailable at time of writing report)

Havering Women's Aid support group focuses on improving victim awareness of domestic violence, improving confidence and independence. A referral breakdown for the last three years can be found below:

Year	Number of support groups held	Number of client attending support group
2010-11	4	61
2012-13	4	99
2013-14	3	75 (quarter 4 figures unavailable at time of writing report)

Both services support vulnerable women and girls aged 16 years and above who are experiencing violence. The service also safeguards children who are at risk of domestic violence. On an ad hoc basis the service will also support male victims of abuse.

Additionally, Havering Women's Aid deliver the Empowerment, Freedom and Community Groups courses for victims and their children. These courses are aimed at empowering victims of domestic abuse, improving self-esteem and confidence and exploring the impact of domestic violence on children. The organisation also fund holiday clubs for vulnerable children impacted by domestic violence.

As with all services of this nature, the uncertainty of future public funding remains a potential risk to future service provision. The Havering community Safety Partnership receives monitoring reports on the prevalence of DV in the borough so that resource allocation decisions can be taken. Funding is subject to meeting agreed MOPAC targets for this area of work.

Floating Support

The floating support service provides emotional and practical help, advice and information to women and children experiencing domestic abuse who want to remain within their own home. In 2012-2013 the service provided 11,960 hours of floating support to one hundred and thirty one families.

Victim Support Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA)

The Community Safety team and the Home Office jointly fund the IDVA post. The IDVA supports domestic abuse clients through the criminal justice process and

refers high risk cases of domestic violence to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference. In 2012-13 the IDVA supported sixty three clients through the criminal justice process and a further twenty-eight clients to MARAC. For the current year to date the IDVA has supported forty-nine high risk victims of domestic violence at MARAC which represents a 75% increase – given the percentage change it is anticipated that the IDVA's case load will continue to increase.

The IDVA has recently received CAADA sexual advocacy training and the borough now has its first CAADA accredited Independent Sexual Violence Advisor.

The IDVAs support through the criminal justice process is essential as the Crown Prosecution Service has stated the main reason for the collapse of domestic violence trials is victims withdrawing statements. From December 2012-November 2013, a total of thirty-five cases went to Crown Court, of these twenty were successful providing a conviction rate of 57.1%. At Magistrates Court two hundred and twenty-five cases went to court during the same period leading to one hundred and fifty seven successful prosecutions and a conviction rate of 69.8%. In the main the IDVA supports victims at Magistrates Court demonstrating the need for support for the more serious cases that are heard at Crown Court. The main reason IDVA support is not always available for Crown Court cases are delays and lengthy court waiting times.

The service provider has identified problems with the police referral system and a lack of funding as possible risks to future service provision. The post is funded by a £20k grant from the Home Office which is match funded by the Council. Future provision will be grant dependent.

Maternity Service IDVA

The maternity service IDVA contract, based at Queens Hospital and commissioned by the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), ends in March 2014. We understand from discussion with the CCG that there are no plans to re-commission the service – which potentially has implications for vulnerable pregnant women, especially, as pregnancy is often a time that domestic violence commences for the first time.

Age UK Havering Safe at Home Service

The service, which is commissioned by the Council and is provided by Age UK, provides a 'target hardening' (securing of windows and doors) service, and remains free to victims of domestic violence. For the year to date forty-six homes of domestic violence victims have been target hardened.

East London Rape Crisis Centre

Havering, along with Newham, Redbridge, Waltham Forest, Tower Hamlets, Hackney and Barking & Dagenham have contributed £20,000 each to funding the Centre. The service provides free confidential specialist help for women and girls who have been raped or experienced any other form of sexual violence. The service is for women and girls aged 14 years and above. In 2012-13, ninety-five Havering clients were referred to the service (some accessed this service in person, although the majority accessed it by telephone). For the financial year to date there have been one hundred and seventeen Havering clients referred to the service.

The Nia Project runs the Centre and also manages the Emma Project which provides refuge and floating support for women who are experiencing domestic

violence and have problematic substance misuse. Officers are continuing to monitor uptake of this service from Havering residents.

From 1st April 2014, MOPAC will take responsibility for the commissioning and funding of this service.

Specialist domestic violence worker in the Tier 3 team

A specialist domestic violence worker is based in the Council's Tier 3 team within the Childrens, Adults and Housing Directorate, although is employed by Havering Womens Aid. Their role is to ensure the effective co-ordination of domestic abuse cases which have been identified by the Tier 3 team and to provide practical and emotional support for victims and their children. This post is currently vacant and it is hoped that it will be filled shortly.

Independent Domestic Abuse Programme (IDAP)

IDAP is a group work programme specially designed for men who have been abusive to spouses, partner and ex-partners. It is designed to challenge offender's patterns of thinking that underpin and maintain their violent and abusive behaviour.

For the financial year 2012-13, eleven Havering offenders have been referred to the Independent Domestic Abuse Accelerated programme (IDAPA). For the same period, there were twenty one successful completions of domestic violence related programmes, with a breakdown as follows: four completed one-to-one domestic abuse work, six completed Independent Domestic Abuse Programme (IDAP), and eleven completed (IDAPA). The IDAPA programme has been removed in the current financial year and the IDAP rolled out in August 2013. Since July 2013 two men have successfully completed the IDAP programme. Due to difficulties earlier in the year Probation analysts have been unable to provide further data, this is now being reviewed and it is hoped that data will be available in the next month. This post is funded by London Probation Trust.

Women's Safety Officer – Probation

The Women's Safety Officer provides contact and support to spouses and partners of men who are undertaking the IDAP. The Officer supported forty one victims of domestic violence in 2012-13. Currently the borough's statistics for the number of victims supported by the Officer have been clustered with Barking & Dagenham and a request has been made for Havering data. Probation have identified a lack of funding as the main risk to the continuation of the post.

MARAC

The Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) safeguards adult male and female victims of domestic violence and their children, manage offender behaviour and safeguard staff working with families. Since 2009 there has been a significant increase in the number of cases heard at MARAC – a breakdown of which can be found below:

Year	Number of MARAC cases	Number of vulnerable children in household
2013	185	301
2012	161	212
2011	118	155
2010	107	122
2009	8	7

The 2013 figures represent a 14.90% increase on the previous year. Referrals are being received from a wide range of agencies, however, this year there have been no MARAC referrals from Education, drug services, secondary acute trust and the voluntary sector. There have also been no referrals for the LGBT community which remains a hard to reach community along with BME residents. Since the data collection remit changed to include perpetrators and victims aged 16 and 17 years old, the MARAC has heard one case involving a 16 year old perpetrator. It should be noted that this perpetrator had previously attended MARAC prior to the data collection change. The MARAC self-assessment conducted by the Co-ordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse has identified a number of areas for improvement/recommendations. There are currently no financial implications for the Community Safety team as the co-ordination of the MARAC has been incorporated in to the Domestic Violence Officer's substantive duties.

Pan London Domestic Violence Projects

A number of pan London domestic violence projects are available to Havering victims of domestic violence, funded by the London Borough Grants Scheme, organised by London Councils, to which the Council contributes funding to each year. These include:

- Thyme domestic and sexual violence project for female offenders
- Women in Prisons advice line
- London Violence Against Women and Girls consortium – provides preventative projects in schools, advice & counselling, domestic & sexual violence helplines, specialist refuge provision and support on harmful practices. To date the consortium has provided training for 11 professionals.
- Rights of Women help line provides free legal advice
- DVIP family safety project works with domestic violence perpetrators and their families
- Tender Education & Arts – provide workshops in schools on themes such as domestic and sexual violence, promotion of healthy relationships and warning signs. The project has worked in Gaynes School, Sander Drapers and Brittons. Work is due to commence in one primary school and one out of school setting.
- GALOP Domestic Abuse Project – supports gay men and women experiencing domestic violence through advocacy, counselling and practical help. Twenty staff attended a recent professionals training event.
- Sign Health supports deaf victims of domestic violence
- Women's Aid
- Eaves Housing for Women – provides support and emergency accommodation for trafficked women.
- Ashiana – provide support and emergency accommodation for women and children particularly from South Asian and Turkish communities. The service has provided workshops on healthy relationships and counselling for local girls and women.
- Women's Resource Centre – provide support and advice around sustainability, management and training for voluntary and community organisations working in the area of sexual and domestic violence services, including how to better meet the needs of men and boys.
- Pan London Domestic and Sexual Violence Help Line – two hundred and forty three Havering women have called the help line.

All London Councils projects are subject to funding. The current projects are funded from 2013-2015.

Counselling provision through Relate, Women’s Trust and Phoenix Counselling

The Charity Relate have a network of counsellors trained for domestic violence referrals. The organisation does not receive funding from the council and the majority of clients self-refer or are recommended by other agencies. Most referrals are self-funded with the exception of a few that are funded through children’s social care. For year 2012-13 Relate counselled one hundred and thirty nine adult clients. This figure increased to one hundred and ninety clients in 2013-14.

The Women’s Trust provides free one to one counselling to women affected by domestic violence. In 2011-2012 there were eight referrals to the service, this increased to eighteen in 2012-13. For the financial year to date there have been eleven referrals.

Phoenix counselling advisory service is for 13-20 year olds based at Youth Zone. For 2013-13 the service received the following referrals:

		Intimate Partner		In the home		Relative, Friend or Stranger		Total
Year		Sexual abuse	Violence	Sexual abuse	Violence	Sexual abuse	Violence	
2012-13	Pregnant girls		3		1			4
	Girls	7	19	4	7	27	6	70
	Boys				1	1		2

Recommendations

The Committee:

- Support Havering Community Safety Partnership to develop a Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy leading to the elimination of domestic violence.
- Note the loss of the maternity IDVA service at Queens Hospital and potential safeguarding implications for pregnant women and victims of female genital mutilation.
- Note the recommendations in the Violence Against Women and Girls strategic problem profile.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

MOPAC funding for the next three years has been agreed for Havering Women’s Aid Advocacy and Support Group. Future funding is dependent on achieving agreed MOPAC targets and therefore is not guaranteed.

Funding of the Rape Crisis Centre was topsliced from Havering’s MOPAC Crime Prevention grant for 2013-14. From next year, the service will be funded by MOPAC on a pan London basis.

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:

The Domestic Violence IDVA is employed by Victim Support London on an annual contract and therefore there are no HR implications for the Council if future funding is not secured.

The Tier Three worker is employed by Havering Women's Aid on an annual contract and therefore there are no HR implications for the Council if future funding is not secured.

Equalities implications and risks:

All commissioned services must ensure that as part of council contractual arrangements and corporate procurement processes they are compliant with the Equality Act 2010 and in particular the Public Sector Equality Duty. This will be monitored through the equalities monitoring of those who access the service.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Violence against women and girls strategic problem profile (attached)



Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

Agenda Item 7

Trevor Meers

Chair of Safer Neighbourhood Board

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Date: 12th March 2014

Dear Councillor Dervish,

Re: Safer Neighbourhood Boards

Thank you for your letter dated 18th of February requesting that the newly formed Safer Neighbourhood Board consider holding all future meetings in Public.

The Board met for the first time on the 4th of March to agree Terms of Reference and future meeting arrangements. The Board discussed the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the levels of public involvement in future Board meetings. The Board agreed that for the first year they would meet quarterly and that these meetings would not be open to the public. They did however commit to an annual conference which will be open to the public and a date for this will be agreed later in the year. The Board agreed that public attendance can best be achieved at ward panel level and through attendance at Groups represented by Board members. We will be working closely with Havering Police to make Neighbourhood Ward Panels accessible to all.

I would be grateful if you could advise the Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the Safer Neighbourhood Board decision.

Yours sincerely

Trevor Meers
Interim Chair
Safer Neighbourhood Board

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