

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
PEOPLE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY SUB COMMITTEE
Council Chamber - Town Hall
9 March 2023 (7.00 - 9.15 pm)**

Present:

COUNCILLORS

Conservative Group Ray Best, Jason Frost (Chairman), Christine Smith and David Taylor

Havering Residents' Group Bryan Vincent and Julie Wilkes

Labour Group Patricia Brown and Frankie Walker (Vice-Chair)

Also present Julie Lamb and Ian Rusha

24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Apologies were received from Councillors Laurance Garrard, Jacqueline McArdle and Darren Wise.

25 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Co-optee Julie Lamb declared an interest for item 6 as she is a social care worker.

There were no other disclosures of interests.

26 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reminded members of the actions to be taken in case of an emergency.

27 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th December 2022 and special meeting held on 21st January 2023 were agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

28 POLICING NUMBERS UPDATE

The Sub-Committee were presented with the 2022/23 policing numbers across the East Area BCU.

Chief Superintendent (CS) Stuart Bell presented the updated policing numbers to the Sub-Committee. Members noted that the vacancies of police staff had reduced across the BCU to just a 50 officer deficit. Members noted that the neighbourhood teams were fully staffed with additional resources put into Romford Town Centre. It was explained that all new recruits start in emergency response and when they move to other services it is decision made on a local level. CS Bell explained that measures had been put in place to slow them leaving without restricting them.

CS Bell explained some of the challenges the Metropolitan Police Force had faced, including needing an update to their IT system to incorporate all of the new wards across London. It was also explained to members that concerns had been raised regarding unfit officers and female safety and extra resources had been put into investigating officers who had complains made against them.

The Sub-Committee agreed for a report to be brought back by the Police on Violence Against Women and Girls.

There were no other recommendations.

29 ADULT SOCIAL CARE FINANCIAL OUTTURN

The Sub-Committee were presented with the Adult Social Care financial outturns.

Barbara Nicholls, Director of Adult Services, explained that Havering's financial position was not too dissimilar from the nation position surrounding adult social care. Members also noted that the funding formula applied for Havering is based on data from 2013 which had been disadvantageous as it means the Government grant is small however the Council had received £2.3million additional discharge funding. It was also explained to members that, although the cost of energy and other services had increased, the Council would still be able to provide the care that residents needed.

The Sub-Committee made no recommendations.

30 LOCAL AREA COORDINATION UPDATE

The Sub-Committee were presented with an update on the Local Area Coordination (LAC).

Members noted that the LAC walked alongside 400 residents in areas covered by the LAC, which were in Rainham, Harold Hill and Collier Row/Havering Park). It was explained that due to the sustainability of the LAC it was hoped the LAC would be rolled out to Romford and Brooklands wards. Officers presented case studies to the Sub-Committee members which outlined the positive work and change the LAC was providing for residents.

**People Overview & Scrutiny Sub
Committee, 9 March 2023**

The Sub-Committee agreed to bring an update report back before September 2023 to scrutinise the position of the LAC before funding runs out.

Chairman