



CRIME AND DISORDER OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Subject Heading:

Safer Neighbourhood Boards

CMT Lead:

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Policy context:

This report relates to the Council's strategic objective of 'A clean, safe and green borough and the key activity of working with partners to maintain low crime rates and make people feel safer.'

SUMMARY

1.1 Safer Neighbourhood Boards (SNBs) will be the means by which the Mayor of London (through the Deputy Mayor and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime) holds Borough Police Command Units to account for performance, giving Havering Residents and victims a greater voice in setting policing priorities.

1.2 Safer Neighbourhood Boards will sit alongside existing performance management arrangements in the Havering Community Safety Partnership, and scrutiny arrangements through Havering's Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee.

1.3 This report sets out the proposal for Havering's first Safer Neighbourhood Board

RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That members note the report and contribute ideas regarding the introduction of Safer Neighbourhood Boards.

2.2 That the Governance Committee ratify the Lead Member for Community Safety as the Council Member for Safer Neighbourhood Boards

REPORT DETAIL

3. Aims of SNBs as set out by MOPAC

3.1 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

3.2 To ensure communities are more closely involved in problem solving and crime prevention

3.3 To have greater reach and ensures a more frequent refresh of ideas and views;

3.4 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

3.5 to make more efficient use of resources to deliver value for money and target funds at tackling issues of local concern and crime prevention.

4. Role

4.1 The Safer Neighbourhood Board will have a number of specific responsibilities that include:

- Monitoring volumes, trends and types of complaints relevant to Havering borough from victims of crime and complaints from members of the public against police officers
- Monitoring crime performance and community confidence
- Increasing the use of Community Payback in Havering
- Ensuring all wards have a ward panel of residents
- Overseeing the Independent Advisory Group
- Overseeing the Custody Visitors Panel and ensuring the system of custody visiting is delivered
- Supporting the further development of Neighbourhood Watch
- Overseeing the work of the local stop and search monitoring group
- Informing policing priorities in the borough
- Supporting the development of bids for funds from a crime prevention fund.
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5. Membership of the Safer Neighbourhood Board

5.1 It is intended that SNB Members will:

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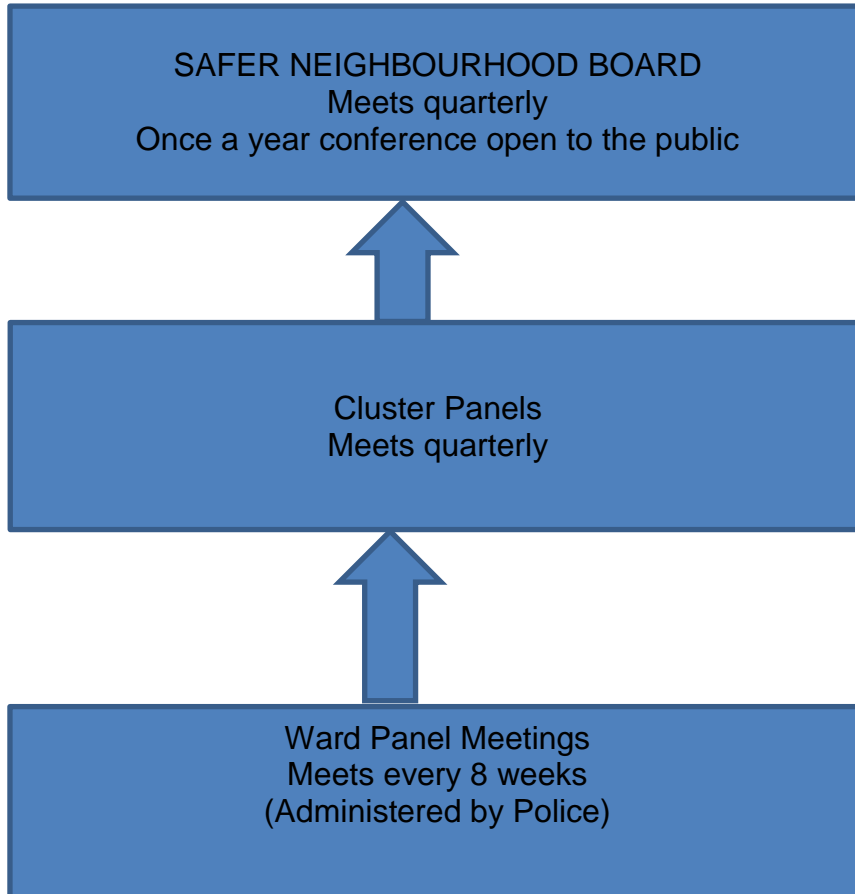
- Be representative of Havering's' communities and participate fully in listening to community concerns and assisting the police and other statutory agencies in tackling crime and disorder, whilst improving confidence and providing reassurance. Selecting the right individuals is essential.
- Be capable of engagement with a wider group of stakeholder forums in the Borough in order to focus on Borough-wide issues whilst leaving local neighbourhood concerns to be addressed through direct dialogue with Neighbourhood Policing Teams.

5.2 It is proposed that the following should be represented in membership:

| Member representation | Number |
|---|---------------|
| Independent Chair | 1 |
| Cabinet Member for Community Safety | 1 |
| Ward Panel member representing each of the three Local policing Areas – Central , North and South . | 3 |
| Over Fifties Forum | 1 |
| Victim Support | 1 |
| Youth parliament | 1 |
| Faith Representative | 1 |
| BME Group | 1 |
| Independent Advisory Group | 1 |
| Independent Custody Visitors | 1 |
| Stop & Search representative | 1 |
| Neighbourhood Watch | 1 |
| To attend in a support / advisory capacity | |
| MOPAC (one meeting a year and will provide assistance and input as needed) | 1 |
| Borough Commander | 1 |
| Head of Community Safety / Community Safety Team Leader | 1 |
| Community Safety Team Member (Administration) | 1 |

6. Proposal

6.1 The proposed delivery structure is set out in the flow chart below



Ward Panels

1. Each of the 18 wards in Havering will hold a ward panel meeting every 8 weeks
2. Will provide up to date data on crime and disorder within the ward
3. Identify policing priorities for the ward
4. Provide the public with information of police activity within the ward since the previous meeting
5. Chairs of the ward panels will meet quarterly in cluster meetings chaired by the SN Inspectors to discuss progress against ward priorities
6. Ward panels will be coordinated and facilitated by SN Sergeants. Minutes will be produced and made available on the SNT webpage.
7. Ward Councillors can be members of the ward panel but will not have voting rights.

8. Various public forums /committees/ panels are held around Havering and these will be encouraged to participate in ward panels to make them as representative as possible. There will be publicity around the borough to get the public involved.

Cluster Panels

1. Each cluster will be made up of the six panel ward chairs, the cluster inspector and a representative of the community safety team (if required).
2. Will meet quarterly
3. Key issues that resonate with a majority of the ward panels will be discussed
4. Each Cluster to nominate one ward panel chair to represent them at the Safer Neighbourhood Board; so there will be three ward panel chairs at Board level
5. These will be chaired by cluster inspectors

Safer Neighbourhood Board

1. Will meet quarterly
2. Will receive reports on the following
3. Monitoring volumes, trends and types of complaints relevant to Havering Borough from the Borough Commander
4. Monitoring crime performance and community confidence from the Borough Commander
5. Information on work placements being undertaken in Havering , numbers of offenders on orders, total hours worked and breach rates for non-compliance from SERCO
6. SN Police Inspectors to provide a summary of meetings held in their Local Policing Areas with residents, to include number and frequency of meetings, numbers in attendance and principle matters discussed, including priorities set for the wards
7. The Independent Advisory Group representative on any matters discussed by the IAG in the reporting period and any matters arising; membership and recruitment needs of the IAG;
8. The Custody Visitors Panel representative on a summary of custody visits undertaken during the reporting period and any matters arising
9. Havering Neighbourhood Watch representative on principle activities during the year; number and membership of active neighbourhood watches; new watches starting during the year
10. MOPAC representative to provide information about the funds available, the bidding process and the criteria for selection; the panel to award funding if appropriate

11. Will hold an annual public conference to enable the Safer Neighbourhood Board to inform on public and stakeholder surveys, trends, performance and other relevant criteria on which to base the selection of priorities; the panel to contribute as a stakeholder to the Annual Strategic Assessment undertaken by the Havering Community Safety Partnership; the London Borough of Havering Community Safety Team to assist in this process
12. The Board will be facilitated, coordinated and funds managed by the Havering Community Safety Team
13. The Chair of the SNB will attend the quarterly HCSP to provide and update on the activity of the Board

7. Selection of Independent Chair

7.1 The selection of the independent chair will be decided by members of the Safer Neighbourhood Board.

7.2 Havering are at the moment considering this as a Non-Executive Director role with a small payment attached.

8. Tenure

8.1 The Mayor of London requires that there will be a three year maximum tenure for board members. However, to avoid all the board members ending their term at the same time, it is proposed that initial appointments will be made for one, two or three years.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks: Safer Neighbourhood Boards will be managed within resources that MOPAC have allocated for Safer Neighbourhood Boards; currently £5200 per annum.

Legal implications and risks: Safer Neighbourhood Boards are being set up across London with guidance from MOPAC under powers invested in the Mayor (and Deputy Mayor) by the Government under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. The Lead Member for Community Safety should be ratified as the Council representative for this board.

Human Resources implications and risks: Safer Neighbourhood Boards will be co-ordinated by the Community Safety Team within existing resources.

Equalities implications and risks: Equality implications will be contained within the Equality Analysis for Community Safety.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Safer Neighbourhood Board Guidance - MOPAC