



## CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT, 2013/14

### SUMMARY

This report is the Annual Report of the Committee, summarising the Committee's activities during the year ending February 2014.

It is planned for this report to stand as a public record of achievement for the year and enable Members and others to compare performance year on year.

There are no direct equalities or environmental implications attached to this covering report. Any financial implications & risks from reviews and work undertaken will be advised as part of the specific reviews.

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Committee note the 2013/14 Annual Report and authorise the Chairman to agree the final version for Council.
2. That the Committee agree the report be referred to full Council.

**Staff Contact:** James Goodwin  
Committee Officer

**Telephone:** 01708 432432

Cheryl Coppel  
Chief Executive

**Background Papers** - None.

# CRIME & DISORDER COMMITTEE

# REPORT

**Subject Heading:**

Annual Report 2013/2014

**Report Author and contact details:**

James Goodwin, Committee Officer  
01708 432432

**Policy context:**

To summarise the work of the Council's  
Crime & Disorder Committee.

**Financial summary:**

Not applicable.

## SUMMARY

This report is the annual report of the Committee, summarising the Committee's activities during the past Council year. This is the fourth meeting of the Committee and all meetings have been well attended. The year has seen change following a shift in the political balance in the Council in September when three members were removed from the Committee. The service of all three members, Councillors Rebecca Bennett, Denis Breading and Frederick Thompson was acknowledged by the Committee.

It is planned for this report to stand as a public record of achievement for the year and enable members and others to compare performance year to year.

There are no direct equalities or environmental implications attached to this report. Any financial implications from reviews and work undertaken will be advised as part of the specific reviews.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the Committee note the 2013/2014 Annual Report and authorise the Chairman to agree the final version.
2. That the Committee agree the report be referred to full Council on 26 March, 2014.

**REPORT DETAIL**

During the year under review, we have met as a Committee on 4 occasions, and reviewed the activities of a number of the Council's partners on the Havering Community Safety Partnership.

**1. LONDON PROBATION TRUST**

**1.1 Transforming Rehabilitation**

1.1.1 Back in February 2013 we received a presentation from Lucy Satchell-Day from the London Probation Trust on the Government's proposals to transform the Rehabilitation Services. When the Government published their response to the consultation we invited Lucy back to update us to explain how this might impact on probation services in Havering.

1.1.2 The government proposed the creation of a New National Public Probation Service to replace the existing Probation Trusts. The new National Probation Service will be responsible for:

1. All cases assessed as high risk;
2. All case and parole reports;
3. Initial Risk Assessments;
4. All MAPPA cases in the Community;
5. A small number of public interest cases;
6. Cases where risk of harm has escalated to 'high';
7. Breach and Recall decisions;
8. Victim Liaison Unit and Approved Premises; and
9. Commissioning interventions for high risk offenders.

1.1.3 The country would be divided into 21 Contract Package Areas (CPAs). London would be one CPA with approximately 33,000 cases. Each CPA would include the following business:

1. Management of all medium risk and low risk cases, in Custody and the Community, with the development of 'through the gate' services;
2. Currently envisaged that most interventions, including Community Payback, Accredited Programmes and Specified Activity requirements would be included; and

## **Crime and Disorder Committee, 5 February 2014**

3. The management of 'high risk of harm' and MAPPA cases while in custody.

1.1.4 There was potential for existing Trusts to spin off into staff-led 'Mutuals' and bid for business. The London Probation Trust was looking to establish a 'Mutual' to deal with interventions.

1.1.5 All work and resources identified as being in the 21 CPAs would be established as 21 'going concerns'. These would be called Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs). CRCs would be established as private entities which would be overseen by the Ministry of Justice until the CPA were awarded to the new providers. At this point the CRCs would be sold to the successful bidders. The Government would retain a small stake in the CRCs.

1.1.6 The Government was also proposing to:

1. Reconfigure the prison estate to establish 'resettlement prisons' in local areas;
2. Establish a Professional Body for Probation Officers, although there was no guarantee new providers would subscribe.
3. Make arrangements for Her Majesty's Inspector of Prisons to oversee quality across the whole provider network, and
4. Include Community Payback in the CPAs with the exception of London which would be considered separately.

1.1.8 Members expressed concern that the companies who were likely to be bidding for the work were the same companies which had recently received bad press for their mishandling of the electronic tagging contracts.

### **1.2 Community Payback**

1.2.1 The provision of the Community Payback Service had been removed from the London Probation Service and contracted out to SERCO in London. This had led to difficulties in arranging for the use of the Community Payback Scheme as it had proven difficult to contact the appropriate SERCO officer.

1.2.2 However, the Head of StreetCare has since met with SERCO and put in place a formal agreement to utilise Community Payback in the borough.

## **2. METROPOLITAN POLICE**

2.1 The Borough Commander, Chief Superintendent Jason Gwillim had been a regular attendee at all the committee's meetings, and responded to questions from Members on performance and other territorial policing issues.

## **2.2 Safer Neighbourhood Teams**

- 2.2.1 The structure of Safer Neighbourhood Teams were scrutinised in relation to the new Local Policing Model. Back in July, 2013 Members were given an assurance by the Borough Commander that within each ward there would be three named officers, a Sergeant, a PC and a PCSO. This core of officers would receive additional support as and when required.
- 2.2.2 Overall within the borough the total number of officers available for the Safer Neighbourhood Teams remained the same with those not fixed within a particular neighbourhood being available to all wards and 'flexed' to provide the most efficient use of resources.
- 2.2.3 By October 2015 the number of officers available to the Safer Neighbourhood Teams will increase, with an extra 54 officers being available on the streets. There was still some work to be done on shift patterns to ensure areas were covered at the time of most need. Overall the new proposals were working well.

## **2.3 MOPAC Targets**

- 2.3.1 We have received reports on crime within the borough. The targets had been set by the Mayor of London these were
- Burglary,
  - Criminal damage,
  - Robbery,
  - Theft from motor vehicle,
  - Theft/taking of a motor vehicle,
  - Theft from a person, and violence with injury.
- 2.3.2 By October the borough was showing a reduction in crime in all but two areas. The first was robbery where the increase was down to one event, The 'One Love Festival', where a spate of theft from persons had occurred. Work was on-going to refine those figures as on investigation some of the reported losses of mobile phones may not have been robberies. Lessons had been learnt by the police who for future events treated them as crime prevention rather than public safety operations.
- 2.3.3 The other area of concern was Domestic Violence were numbers were up slightly. This might have been caused by a change in the definition, or it could also be due to an increase in reporting, which is to be viewed positively. The definition of DV was now:

'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'

2.3.4 The good news was that in Havering the detection rate for Domestic Violence is very good.

## 2.4 **Burglary**

2.4.1 Burglary continued to be an area of concern for local residents. The Borough Commander provided an update on the level of burglary in the borough at the Committee's meeting in October.

2.4.2 Members were provided with details of the various initiatives being undertaken by the Police and partners to tackle the problem and raise public awareness. The good news was that these initiatives appeared to be paying off, as burglary across the borough was down on last year.

2.4.3 For a rolling 12 month period the figures were:

- Burglary was down by 9.2%
- Residential burglary down by 4.9%
- Non-residential burglary down by 21.6%.
- Detection rates were at 12.4% the second best in London.

2.4.4 Bexley was the force with a better detection rate and the Borough commander indicated he was speaking to that force to see if there were additional steps which could be taken to improve further what was already a reasonably good situation.

2.4.5 We were pleased to hear that when burglars were sentenced they generally received a custodial sentence. Unfortunately the same was not the case with those found guilty of theft from motor vehicles.

## 3. **NHS ENGLAND**

3.1 Back in October you invited NHS England to make a presentation on how Prisoners and Ex-Offenders with mental health Issues were provided with services. Hong Tan, Head of Health in the Justice System attended and delivered a very thought provoking presentation.

3.2 He directed the Committee's attention to the need to take preventative measures rather than tackling the problems at too late a stage. He highlighted the disparity in the percentage of both female and male

## **Crime and Disorder Committee, 5 February 2014**

offenders with mental health issues compared to the general population.

- 3.3 Since 1990 there had been a number of changes to the way health services for people in prison and other places were commissioned. Under the current regime the NHS Commissioning Board is responsible for the 'Commissioning of Health Services for people in prison, etc.'
- 3.4 Clinical Commissioning Groups were responsible for 'Commissioning the majority of health services for offenders managed in the community or released from custody.'
- 3.5 The third group responsible for commissioning services are local authorities who are responsible for 'Commissioning public health and care services for offenders managed in the community or released from Custody.' These included drug and alcohol treatment services for offenders not in prison or places of detention.
- 3.6 This multiplicity of commissioning bodies made it easy for offenders to slip through the cracks and emphasised the need for close co-operation between the three agencies.

## **4. LOCAL AUTHORITY**

### **4.1 Alcohol and Drugs Strategy**

- 4.1.1 We were advised by the Director of Public Health, Dr Mary Black, that a new Alcohol and Drug Strategy was being drawn up. In the past the two problems had been treated separately. The new strategy would incorporate both the health and community safety aspects of both drug and alcohol misuse.
- 4.1.2 The aim of the strategy was 'To prevent harm caused by substance misuse in Havering.' It was key to ensure that money spent on drug and alcohol misuse was being spent as effectively as possible.
- 4.1.3 Details of the scale of the problem were provided:
  - Estimated 870 Opiate & crack users,
  - Highest proportion of powder cocaine users entering treatment, and
  - Estimated 3,320 'dependent drinkers'.
- 4.1.4 Dr Black suggested two areas not covered in the draft strategy that she would like to see reflected in future drafts, which were the emerging issue of 'legal highs' and abuse of prescription drugs. We recommended that the strategy should include reference to these problems and provide for educational programmes in schools on the use of legal highs.

## **Crime and Disorder Committee, 5 February 2014**

- 4.1.5 The Borough Commander did advise that the police do not have much information on legal highs, but evidence of their use was being seen in the discarded canisters on the street.

### **4.2 Anti-Social Behaviour and Hate Crime Policy**

- 4.2.1 Officers were in the process of reviewing the Council's Anti-Social Behaviour and Hate Crime Policy. This was to ensure that across the council there was a consistent approach to tackling and preventing anti-social behaviour. A further driver behind the need to review the policy was the changes proposed by the government to the way authorities tackle anti-social behaviour.

Officers would bring back further reports to the Committee as work on the review progressed.

### **4.3 MOPAC Funding**

- 4.3.1 We were advised that for 2013/14 the Havering Community Partnership had received £213,400 in funding from MOPAC. In a departure from previous years funding was now associated with a particular project. The following projects had been funded:

1. Street Triage - £30,000;
2. Substance Misuse and Young People - £40,000;
3. Domestic Abuse Perpetrators - £20,000;
4. Improving Support for Domestic Abuse - £35,000;
5. Rent Deposit Scheme for offenders - £32,400; and
6. Drugs and Alcohol Service Provision - £56,000.

- 4.3.2 However, in August MOPAC announced that they reserved the right to reduce the level of funding by up to £20,000 for any borough which did not voluntarily provide this level of support to the maintenance of the Rape Crisis Centre.

- 4.3.3 Havering did not provide this support because there were relatively a low number of referrals to the North East London Rape Crisis Centre, which was based in Hackney. We were advised that the Havering Community Safety Partner was challenging this decision.

- 4.3.4 If the funding was reduced by £20,000 the adjustment of the budgets was left to the HCSP.

### **4.4 Locality Groups Model**

- 4.4.1 In 2012/13 the Havering Community Safety Partnership had introduced a new operating model for tackling longer-term community safety issues that required a multi-agency approach. The new model replaced the previous 'type of crime' working groups with three cluster location groups (north, south and central) which means that partners could concentrate on a variety issues affecting the



area.

4.4.2 These location groups correspond with the clusters the police use to deploy safer neighbourhood teams. Details of the work of the groups were provided which included concentrated work to tackle the issue of burglary in two high priority areas in each cluster. Partners worked together to visit every property in these areas providing advice, handing out time switches, etc.

4.4.3 This was an opportunity for us to comment on how successful the new model was. We expressed concern that ward councillors were not being notified when these activities were taking place and also questioned how ward priorities were being fed into the process. We were advised that matters would be formalised when the new Safer Neighbourhood Boards were introduced.

#### **4.5 Troubled Families Project**

4.5.1 We have received an update on the work of the Troubled Families Project.

- 386 families have been identified to date
- Of these 275 meet ASB/Crime criteria
- 33 (representing 75% of known gang members) meet the gang nominal
- 46 fall within housing/welfare reforms/debt problems nominal
- 3 have Child Protection Plans
- 5 were known to MARAC
- 15 attended the PRU
- 5 top post codes are RM3 – 86, RM 5 – 32, RM7 – 30, RM13 – 30, RM12 – 25

4.5.2 As work proceeded an increase in child to adult domestic violence had been identified. Similarly a problem had been identified in identifying networks used by young people. One unforeseen network had been identified with potential young offenders getting together at the PRU.

4.5.3 We were given an assurance that the Council would be able to meet its target of assisting 415 families over the four years of the initial programme.

### **5. CRIMINAL JUSTICE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE 2013**

5.1 In September the Vice-Chairman of the Committee attended the Annual Criminal Justice Management Conference in Central London. Contributors at the conference included:

- Antonia Romeo, Director General, Transforming Justice, Ministry of Justice;
- Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, Metropolitan Police Commissioner;
- Ian Blakeman, Director, Commissioning and Commercial,

**Crime and Disorder Committee, 5 February 2014**

National Offender Management Service; Ian Pilling, Assistant Chief Constable, Merseyside Police; and

- Jeremy Wright, MP, Parliamentary Undersecretary of State for Justice.

**IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

**Financial implications and risks:**

Narrative report only - not applicable.

**Legal implications and risks:**

Narrative report only - not applicable.

**Human Resources implications and risks:**

Narrative report only - not applicable.

**Equalities implications and risks:**

Narrative report only - not applicable.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None