

Crime & Disorder Sub- Committee

27 February 2020

REPORT

Subject Heading:

Councillor Call for Action – Outcome of the Consultation on Proposed Changes to the Community Warden Service

SLT Lead:

Barry Francis – Director of Neighbourhoods

Report Author and contact details:

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Policy context:

The delivery of the proposed restructure of the Enforcement Service within Neighbourhoods to create an integrated Enforcement and Safety Service for Havering.

Financial summary:

The financial implications of the decision are in line with the Approval and Implementation of Organisational Restructure 2019 report and Addendum Report 2019.

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Communities making Havering
Places making Havering
Opportunities making Havering
Connections making Havering

[X]
[X]
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SUMMARY

The Board is invited to consider the Councillor Call for Action on this matter and take any action it considers appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board considers the Councillor Call for Action, scrutinises the proposed Non-key Executive Decision and decides what, if any, comments it wishes to make to the service on this matter.

REPORT DETAIL

In accordance with Overview and Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rule 9, a Councillor Call for Action was received from Councillor Lawal on 29 October 2019. This related to proposed changes to the Community Warden Service and the outcome of the consultation exercise that was undertaken concerning this. Details of the grounds for the Councillor Call for Action are given in appendix A. The proposed decision itself is attached at appendix B.

The Committee is required to scrutinise the proposed decision and officers will be in attendance in order to facilitate this. The Committee has the option to pass its comments and views on the proposals back to the service for consideration. Members will need to agree, at the meeting, any response to be fed back on behalf of the Sub-Committee as well as any other action that the Sub-Committee wishes to take. Members may for example wish to agree to take on update on how the new Community Warden Service is performing in say, a year's time and agree to add this to the work programme.

It should be noted that the issue will be dealt with under the Council's decision making process as a non-key decision by the Lead Member and is not therefore subject to the call-in process.

Appendices

Appendix A – Grounds for Councillor Call for Action
Appendix B – Proposed Non-key Executive Decision

Appendix A

Grounds for requisition by Councillor Tele Lawal

As you are aware, the Council is planning to make changes to its Enforcement and Safety Service, including Housing Community Wardens, subject to consultation.

Please, find here for your easy reference:

<https://consultation.havering.gov.uk/housing/proposed-changes-to-the-community-warden-service/>

I would like this proposal/consultation feedback to come to the Crime and Disorder O&S for proper scrutiny - before it is reviewed by the Cabinet (Part 4.9, Section 9 Councillor Calls for Action), in order for us to make recommendations for their consideration.

In addition, may we invite Havering Unison to attend and provide information on how the proposal will impact not only residents but council officers, who they've been advocating for (Part 4.9, Section 16 Attendance by others).

My main concern (I have many) with this proposal is that the Housing Community warden service which is solely for Council housing tenants/leaseholders will be removed. Despite the service no longer being available, Council housing tenants/leaseholders, will continue to pay the same rate as they currently do for the Housing Community Wardens.

I don't believe it is right to have Council tenants/leaseholders pay for a service that is being transformed to benefit the whole Borough, which in my view will primarily be Romford.

It is this committees' responsibility to scrutinise the Council's joint working with the Police and other public agencies that deal with crime and disorder. Therefore, we must review this proposal properly to ensure residents are getting their value for money and are safe.

Appendix B

Proposed Non-key Executive Decision