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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PEOPLE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY SUB COMMITTEE 12 July 2022 (7.00 - 9.16 pm)

Present:

COUNCILLORS

Conservative Group Jason Frost, Joshua Chapman, Christine Smith,
David Taylor and Ray Best

Havering Residents' Group Laurance Garrard, Linda Hawthorn and Julie Wilkes

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

East Havering Residents Group Darren Wise

Councillor Frankie Walker acted as the Chairman.

1 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman advised those in the Chamber what to do in case of an emergency.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr John Wood.

Mr Ian Rusha and Ms Julie Lamb sent apologies but were present via Zoom.

Cllr Best was late to join the meeting.

3 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interests.

4 COMMUNITY SAFETY SERVICE UPDATE

The Sub-Committee received a presentation from the Community Safety & Intelligence Service Manager.

Members were updated on the structure of the Community Safety Team and also the crime statistics in the Borough from the previous year compared to the previous 2 years. Members noted a reduction notifiable offences in the Borough by 4% from 2019-20 and 12% compared to 2018-19 with anti-social behaviour and robbery/ theft reducing during and after the COVID-19 pandemic due to residents working from home more, however, domestic

violence and abuse increased during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. Members were updated on the Violence against Women and Girls initiative within the Borough and also the Men's only helpline, both in place to help victims come forward to report cases of domestic abuse.

Members noted the 6 priorities of the service as set out below:

- 1) Reducing violence in the Borough as it makes up 32% of all crimes in Havering.
- 2) Tackling VAWAG and domestic abuse as a wider issue
- 3) Reducing reoffending in the Borough
- 4) Tackling the rising seriousness of youth violence and exploitation
- 5) Reducing the level of crime in the Borough's Town Centres. 20% of all crimes committed are in Romford Centre, but the service are focusing on reducing crime in all Centres in the Borough.
- 6) Using communications to improve the resident's view on the safety within the Borough.

The Sub-Committee noted the revised 3 year plan will be submitted to Cabinet and Council for agreement.

The Sub-Committee made no recommendations.

5 WORK PROGRAMME DISCUSSION

Members of the Sub-Committee discussed items for the work programme for future meetings. The items raised at the meetings are listed below:

- Update on the revised CCTV decision
- Strategic direction on sufficient provision for SEN schools
- Briefing's from the Directors of Children's and Adult's
- Local Area Co-ordination
- Passenger transport
- In-borough supported living – delivered, occupied & future plans
- School places expansion programme
- Areas of scrutiny from previous Sub-Committees that have been merged

Some members raised questions regarding the terms of reference, the voting rights of co-optees and the process of submitting recommendations from the Sub-Committee to either the Overview & Scrutiny Board or Cabinet, to which officers explained that answers would be provided to members after the meeting.

As part of the discussions, Cllr Chapman wished to put forward a motion to have his items formally entered onto the work programme. The clerk explained that a formal motion was not needed as all items are submitted onto the work programme and then the Chair and fellow Sub-Committee members agree the priority and order of which items will be presented at

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which future meeting. The Chairman advised members to send any further ideas for work programme items via email to the Chairman and the clerk.

Chairman

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