

MAJOR SCRUTINY REVIEW: CRIME PREVENTION RESOURCES

Cabinet Member	Councillor Douglas Mills
Cabinet Portfolio	Community, Commerce & Regeneration
Officer Contact	Khalid Ahmed, Administration Directorate
Papers with report	Appendix A: Corporate Services & Partnerships Policy Overview Committee Final Report

HEADLINE INFORMATION

Purpose of report	To receive the Corporate Services & Partnerships Policy Overview Committee report on the review on crime prevention resources.
Contribution to our plans and strategies	Safer Hillingdon Partnership Plan 2011-2014
Financial Cost	Within existing budgets.
Relevant Scrutiny Committee(s)	Corporate Services & Partnerships
Ward(s) affected	All

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Cabinet:

1. Welcomes the review's final report from the Corporate Services & Partnerships Policy Overview Committee and endorses their recommendations below, subject to the proposed implementation outlined in paragraphs 5-10:

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CORPORATE SERVICES & PARTNERSHIPS POLICY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

- **RECOMMENDATION 1** - That the Police be asked to give consideration to the re-promotion of the Crime Prevention Bus to enable it to be used for the benefit of residents of the Borough.
- **RECOMMENDATION 2** - That the Police be asked to work jointly with Hillingdon Association of Voluntary Services on using volunteers to drive the Crime Prevention Bus to increase the opportunity for it to be used more.

- **RECOMMENDATION 3** - That Officers within the Council's Transport and Projects Team continue to work closely with the Police by pre-evaluating speed "hot spots", with the use of Council speed strips (if practical and cost effective), following which the Police will be able to deploy speed meters to catch speeding motorists and to act as deterrent to other drivers against speeding in Hillingdon.
- **RECOMMENDATION 4** - The excellent joint working which takes place between the Police Partnership Tasking Team and the Council's Community Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour Investigations Service Team, which has resulted in some outstanding results in the Borough, be praised.
- **RECOMMENDATION 5** - That in relation to the Council's CCTV services, consideration be given to providing more flexibility in the hours CCTV images are monitored, within existing staffing resources.
- **RECOMMENDATION 6** - That consideration be given to the Council applying for Compensation Orders to the Courts for those offenders who are successfully prosecuted for fly tipping within the Borough.

INFORMATION

Reasons for recommendation

The purpose of the review was to examine the effectiveness of the equipment and man-power used by the Metropolitan Police which has been funded by the London Borough of Hillingdon and to assess its effectiveness in terms of crime prevention.

In addition, the review examined the work of the Safer Schools Police Officers, the Council's CCTV service and the praised the success of the Older Peoples Burglar Alarms Scheme.

Alternative options considered / risk management

The Cabinet could decide to reject or amend one or more of the Committee's recommendations or implement them in a variety of ways.

Supporting Information

1. The terms of reference of the review were as follows:

- To identify the equipment which the Council helps fund for use by the Police in Hillingdon
- To assess the effectiveness and value for money to the Council on this funding of police equipment
- To assess the impact (if possible) the various types of equipment have had on crime in the Borough
- To understand the relationship between the Police and the Council in terms of the influence the Council has on the deployment of the equipment in the Borough
- To assess the impact the new local policing model will have on the deployment of this equipment
- To assess the role of the Police Officers funded by the Council
- To look at the work of the Safer Schools Police Officers and the impact of the Leader of the Council's initiative on the Older Peoples Burglar Alarms Scheme.

2. The Corporate Services & Partnerships Policy Overview Committee held meetings on 28 March, 30 April and 10 June 2013 and received evidence and background information from the following witnesses:-
 - Ed Shaylor - Community Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour Investigations Service Manager – LBH.
 - Sergeant Allyson Keith - Safer Schools - Metropolitan Police.
 - PC Dave Tennyson - Metropolitan Police.
 - Liz Jones - Community Safety and CCTV Manager – LBH.
 - Inspector Kevan Baylie - Local Policing Team, South Cluster – Partnership Inspector.
3. It was noted that the Council has provided funding for Hillingdon Police for two CCTV vehicles, a Crime Prevention Bus, four Speed Meters and 11 police officers, which form the Police Partnership Tasking Team. The review provided the Committee with an opportunity to assess the effectiveness of these resources for the residents of the Borough.
4. This is a review which began in the previous Committee cycle in 2012/2013 and was concluded in this year's Committee cycle.

Proposed Implementation of Recommendations

5. The Cabinet Member for Community, Commerce and Regeneration has considered the recommendations of the Committee's review and proposes the following in terms of their implementation.
6. Recommendations 1 and 2 – Noting that Hillingdon Police welcome the continued availability for use of the Crime Prevention Bus, the Council is supportive of using new ways to promote safety advice to residents, in particular using it to market Council related initiatives, such as the Older People's Burglar Alarm. Exploring links with HAVS to find additional drivers will assist in this.
7. Recommendation 3 – Road Safety has always been a top priority for the Council. The Transport and Projects Team already work closely with police on speeding across the Borough. After speed strips have been used by the Council for road safety, many of which are generated through Ward Panels or the Petition Hearing process, looking at ways to improve the sharing of speed information to police about problem or hotspot areas will ensure residents see a continued effort by local agencies to tackle the problems they have raised. Officers will explore this, in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation and Recycling.
8. Recommendation 4 – The Cabinet Member welcomes the Committee's endorsement of the strong and effective partnership work between the Police Partnership Tasking Team and the Council's Community Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour Investigations Team. It should be noted that Cabinet, on 20 June 2013, gave approval to provide further grant funding to the Metropolitan Police Service under Section 92 of the Police Act 1996 to be used for the provision of enhanced police services within the London Borough of Hillingdon.
9. Recommendation 5 – The Cabinet Member continually reviews the operation of the CCTV control room to ensure its operation effectively responds to police, security and other community safety priorities and will give further consideration to the Committee's findings in its report.

10. Recommendation 6 – The Cabinet Member, in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Business Services, will explore this recommendation to see whether not the Council can re-cover the costs of the removal of fly-tipping with the caveat that by undertaking such legal action, the overall resource impact on the Council is neutral or generates income which can be re-used in appropriate areas. This will be discussed with the Court through appropriate channels.

Financial Implications

It is anticipated that the implementation of the Committee's recommendations could be contained within existing budgets, however if the Cabinet were minded to make a significant change to the Council resources allocated to crime prevention this would need to be included in the Medium Term Financial Forecast process for 2014/15 and beyond.

EFFECT ON RESIDENTS, SERVICE USERS & COMMUNITIES

What will be the effect of the recommendation?

The recommendations will provide further enhancements to Council funded crime prevention resources by Hillingdon Police, which would be for the benefit of the residents of the Borough.

Consultation Carried Out or Required

The Committee took evidence from a range of witnesses as described in the review report.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Corporate Finance

Corporate Finance has reviewed this report and concurs with the financial implications set out above.

Legal

The underlying theme in the report of the Corporate Services and Partnerships Policy Overview Committee is the effective partnership working between the Council and the police which has its statutory origin in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 as amended by the Police and Justice Act 2006. The objective of this partnership is to develop and implement strategies to tackle crime and disorder.

There is a recommendation in the report that consideration be given to the Council applying for Compensation Orders to the Courts for those offenders who are successfully prosecuted for fly tipping within the Borough.

There is a statutory power to apply to a Magistrates Court for Compensation Orders. Section 130 of the Powers of Criminal Courts [Sentencing] Act 2000 provides that a Court by or before which a person is convicted of an offence, instead of or in addition to dealing with him in any other way, may on application or otherwise, make an order requiring him to pay compensation for any loss or damage resulting from that offence. The compensation shall be of such amount as the Court considers appropriate but shall not exceed £5,000.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL