

HILLINGDON SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD BOARD

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REASON FOR ITEM

The Committee is requested to nominate to Council a Committee representative to sit on the new Hillingdon Safer Neighbourhood Board.

OPTIONS OPEN TO THE COMMITTEE

1. To nominate a Councillor from the Committee direct to Council on 16 January;
2. To not nominate at this time. Members should note this could risk an incomplete Board Membership in place prior to its operation from 1 April 2014.

INFORMATION

Safer Neighbourhood Boards will be the means by which the Mayor of London, through the Deputy Mayor and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC), holds Borough Police Command Units to account for performance, giving local Londoners and victims a greater voice in setting policing priorities and access to a crime prevention fund for local delivery.

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

- Monitoring volumes, trends and types of complaints relevant to Hillingdon borough from victims of crime and complaints from members of the public against police officers
- Monitoring crime performance and community confidence
- Playing a significant role in setting tasks for Community Payback
- Ensuring all wards have a ward panel of residents
- Supporting the Independent Advisory Group
- Supporting the Custody Visitors Panel and ensuring the system of custody visiting is delivered
- Ensure the stop and search community monitoring function is delivered
- Supporting Neighbourhood Watch
- Suggesting policing priorities in the borough
- Encouraging bids for funds from a crime prevention fund.

Safer Neighbourhood Boards will sit alongside existing performance management arrangements in the Safer Hillingdon Partnership and Local Strategic Partnership and the Council's External Services (Crime and Disorder) Scrutiny Committee.

The Boards will become operational by 1 April 2014.

Board Operation and Membership

The Mayor of London has provided flexibility on how Boards should operate but they are keen to ensure its membership reflects a broad range of representation from stakeholders. The Mayor of London requires that there will be reserved places for a councillor, a representative of a local victims' organisation and a young person. It is proposed that:

- Two councillors will be appointed to the Board by Hillingdon Council. One will be appointed upon the recommendation of the Leader of the Council and the second upon nomination from the Corporate Services & Partnerships Policy Overview Committee
- The young person be appointed annually through the Hillingdon Youth Council
- An older person will be appointed through the Hillingdon Older People's Assembly
- Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch will nominate a representative
- Applications will be invited for two positions as "lay" members of the Board and additionally one representative a local victims organisation

The Board's Terms of Reference propose that one Elected Councillor representative be nominated from this Committee, due to its important policy overview role in relation to community safety, whilst also recognising the recent reviews by the Committee that have had an effect in this area. The second Councillor Representative would be appointed directly by Full Council.

Timeline

Following the Committee's single nomination, Council on 16 January 2014 will be asked to approve the 2 Councillor appointments to the Board. Cabinet on 23 January will agree the appointment of the first Chairman and the Terms of Reference of the Board, and delegate future Chairman appointments and changes to the Terms of Reference to the Cabinet Member.

The Board itself will thereafter be run independently by the Chairman with officer support from the Police and Council. The Board is expected to meet quarterly.

The Board will have its first shadow meeting before the 1 April, operating formally thereafter.

SUGGESTED COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

1. Members consider a nomination.