

COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2014

CONSERVATIVE MOTION – STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE – SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES

This Council notes that:

- Crime levels in Merton as recorded by the number of Total Notifiable Offences have fallen year on year since 2008 (from 15,142 to 11,582) with the latest figures showing that overall crime in the borough has continued to drop over the last 12 months (down 7.9%);
- Whilst crime remains one of the top concerns for residents, the number of people citing it as a major concern has fallen consistently since 2008 and there has been a further reduction this year according to the most recent Annual Residents Survey. Concern about crime in the borough is now at its lowest level for 12 years and is significantly below the London average.
- The percentage of residents who are satisfied with policing in Merton now compared to the previous year has increased considerably (up 5%).

This Council congratulates the local police, working in partnership with Safer Merton, on these achievements but also notes with concern that there has been a significant rise in cases of Violence with Injury reported, both since 2011-12 and over the last 12 months.

This Council therefore welcomes the pledge by the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, at the public reassurance meeting held in Merton on 10th November 2014 that he recognises the 2012 Neighbourhood Policing Model is not perfect and will shortly be announcing constructive proposals to seek to improve the current arrangements.

In light of the Commissioner's announcement, this Council calls on the Borough Commander to build on his force's current successes by continuing the focus on front line policing, as established under the 2012 reforms, including retaining all of the necessary key police resources as currently allocated.

Councillor Charlie Chirico

Councillor David Simpson

Councillor Jill West

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