

Committee: Overview and Scrutiny Commission

Date: 23 March 2016

Subject: Crime and policing in Merton

Lead officer: Stuart Macleod, Merton Borough Commander

Lead member: Councillor Peter Southgate, Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Commission

Contact officer: Julia Regan, Head of Democracy Services,
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Recommendations:

- A. That the Overview and Scrutiny Commission discuss and comment on the crime data provided by the Borough Commander (see Appendix A) and ask other questions as appropriate.
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1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. The Borough Commander has been invited to attend the Overview and Scrutiny Commission meeting to give a brief overview of any changes since he last attended the Commission in July 2015 and to address the questions identified by Commission members as set out in section 2 below.
- 1.2. He was also been requested to provide crime data in the same format as that provided previously. This is set out in Appendix A.

2 DETAILS

- 2.1. The Commission, at its meeting on 28 January 2016, agreed to ask the Borough Commander to provide an overview of any changes since the last meeting and anything he wished to draw to their attention.
- 2.2. Commission members also identified a number of questions they would like to discuss with the Borough Commander and agreed that there was no need to provide a written report in advance of the meeting.
- 2.3. The questions are:
- Has the Borough Commander given any thought to how the government's announcement on greater collaboration between the emergency services might be taken forward locally?
 - Has the reduction in the use of stop and search powers impacted on knife crime?
 - How does the level of policing, and reduction in numbers of officers, compare to other boroughs?
 - Is the dispersal of rough sleepers in Hyde Park likely to have an impact locally?
 - How do the ward teams work together? In particular, how is consistency across the borough monitored and how is good practice shared between teams?

- How much collaboration is there between the police, council and other agencies to deal with low level crimes? Will there be an impact on the council's planning enforcement team when these issues are not dealt with by the police?
- Have cutbacks had an impact on 999 call response times?

3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Commission members may choose to ask questions about other aspects of policing in Merton.

4 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

4.1. Not applicable.

5 TIMETABLE

5.1. Not applicable.

6 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

6.1. There are no property or resource implications at this time.

7 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

7.1. None for the purposes of this report.

8 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

8.1. None for the purposes of this report.

9 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

9.1. None for the purposes of this report.

10 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

None for the purpose of this report.

11 APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

Appendix A –MOPAC performance indicators for Merton and surrounding boroughs

12 BACKGROUND PAPERS

12.1. None

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