

Committee: Overview and Scrutiny Commission

Date: 7 October 2014

Subject: 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,
julia.regan@merton.gov.uk, 0208 545 3864

Recommendations:

- A. That the Overview and Scrutiny Commission discuss and comment on the crime data provided by the Borough Commander and ask the questions identified at the Commission's meeting on 8 July (paragraph 2.3 below) plus other questions as appropriate.
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1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The data provided in this report arises from a request made at the Overview and Scrutiny Commission on 8 July 2014. The data is in the same format as that provided to the Commission at its meeting on 11 March 2014.

2 DETAILS

- 2.1. Appendix A contains Metropolitan Police performance indicators for Merton for the past three months on a rolling 12 month basis for Merton (snapshots at 29 July, 26 August and 25 September 2014) plus snapshot information on 25 September 2014 for Merton's statistical neighbours.
- 2.2. Chief Superintendent David Palmer will attend the Commission's meeting on behalf of the Borough Commander on 7 October in order to make a brief statement and answer questions.
- 2.3. The following questions identified by the Commission at its meeting on 8 July were sent to the Borough commander so that these could be addressed at the meeting on 7 October:
- 1) What are his views on how the Controlled Drinking Zone (CDZ) is working and what could be done to improve it. Note - the context for this question is that members have received complaints from residents regarding continued street drinking. There was discussion about whether signage could be developed that would be easily understandable to the public. Members noted that a report on the review of the borough wide CDZ was received by Licensing Committee on 12 June 2014– this report was sent to Commission members on 11 July so they could consider whether to ask further questions.
 - 2) Please provide the most recent detailed data on crime rates in the format provided by Superintendent David Palmer to the March 2014 meeting of the Commission. If possible, include information on what percentage of crime is committed in each of the three districts and what percentage of police manpower is allocated to each.

- 3) Is most crime committed within 200m of Wimbledon Broadway? Would he like to see a town centre police team to focus on that area?
 - 4) Given the need to make significant financial savings, what is the value of each of the two largest police stations in the borough?
 - 5) What is the plan for the buildings that the police have vacated?
 - 6) How is the new neighbourhood policing model working? Is it an effective model? Please base these responses on evidence and state what evidence has been used to support your views.
 - 7) Where and how are officers being deployed across the borough?
 - 8) How frequently are officers pulled out of the borough and for what reasons?
 - 9) The Commission will receive a report on the review of CCTV at its meeting in October. What enhancements would the Borough Commander like to see made to the CCTV system?
 - 10) Please provide an update on the sponsorship offer by the Baitul Futuh Mosque to pay the qualification fee for 50 local people for the certificate of policing knowledge certificate that new recruits are required to gain prior to starting work with the police. How many of those recruits will be deployed in Merton?
 - 11) What support is provided to schools to combat crime in schools and what statistics are available regarding the level of crime in schools?
- 2.4. The Head of Democracy Services, Julia Regan, undertook to send members the link to the Metropolitan Police crime figures website so that they could look at ward level statistics. The following link was sent on 11 July:
<http://www.met.police.uk/crimefigures/datatable.php?borough=vw&period=year>

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

12 BACKGROUND PAPERS

12.1. None