

Minutes



To: All Members of the Community
Safety & Waste Management
Cabinet Panel, Chief
Executive, Chief Officers, All
officers named for 'actions'

From: Legal, Democratic & Statutory Services
Ask for: Elaine Manzi
Ext: 28062

COMMUNITY SAFETY & WASTE MANAGEMENT CABINET PANEL WEDNESDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2017

ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL

S N Bloxham; M A Eames-Peterson; J S Hale; D J Hewitt (*substituting for S J Featherstone*) F
R G Hill; T W Hone (*Chairman*); P V Mason; R H Smith (*substituting for M Bright*) T J Williams;
J F Wyllie; C B Woodward (*Vice Chairman*); P M Zukowskyj

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

B A Gibson

Upon consideration of the agenda for the Community Safety & Waste Management meeting on 8 November 2017 as circulated, copy annexed, conclusions were reached and are recorded below:

Note: No conflicts of interest were declared by any member of the Cabinet Panel in relation to the matters on which conclusions were reached at this meeting.

PART I ('OPEN') BUSINESS

MINUTES SILENCE

Prior to the Cabinet Panel commencing, the Chairman led Members in observing a minutes silence to remember Cllr Robert Gordon, Leader of the Council, who had died the previous month.

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Cabinet Panel meeting held on 13 July 2017 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2. PUBLIC PETITIONS

There were no public petitions received.

ACTION

3. HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER UPDATE REPORT

Officer Contact: Debbie Barker Police Support Manager, Deputy Police & Crime Commissioner [01707 806157]

3.1 The Cabinet Panel considered a report providing an update on the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Hertfordshire and the work of the Commissioner’s Office presented by David Gibson Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner accompanied by Chris Brace, Chief Executive Officer, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

3.2 In response to Member concerns regarding reduction in police and Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) numbers, and general issues with recruitment to police and PCSO posts, assurance was received that there were no current plans to reduce police or PCSO numbers in Hertfordshire, nor was there an issue of recruiting to posts. Members also learnt that the final decision regarding the number of police officers and PCSO was undertaken by the Chief Constable for Hertfordshire, not the Police and Crime Commissioner. A Member noted their concern that in the Hatfield South division that four of the seven PCSO posts were vacant.

3.3 Further to a Member question regarding the success of the Direct Entry Scheme for recruitment of Detectives, it was agreed that the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC) should provide further information on this to the next Community Safety and Waste Management Cabinet Panel.

David Gibson/Chris Brace

3.4 During general discussion regarding the role of PCSO’s Members requested that the consideration of using PCSO’s to monitor speeding within divisions be discussed within the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Members heard that further to concerns being raised by the Divisional Member regarding speeding along the A10 in the Cheshunt area, the OPCC had successfully arranged for speed cameras to be installed in the area affected which had produced positive results and a reduction in incidents.

David Gibson/Chris Brace

3.5 The Panel noted that the report from the OPCC did not contain crime statistics and Members expressed concerns regarding the increase by 54.3% of incidents of criminal activity such as burglaries within the county. Members learnt that the criteria of crime classifications was regularly reviewed and changed by central government, and as such this is partly the reason why crime statistics had increased and was also the reason why they were difficult to report on accurately. It was agreed that further information on crime statistics which had been shared at other meetings should be brought to future Community Safety and Waste Management Panels.

David Gibson/Chris Brace

CHAIRMAN’S INITIALS

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- 3.6 A Member challenge that accurate crime statistics could be sourced through the British Crime Survey was noted by the Panel.
- 3.7 It was advised that in terms of monitoring the crime statistics and the response to them, an audit function undertaken through a Crime Registrar was being implemented by the Hertfordshire Constabulary.
- 3.8 During Panel discussion, Members raised the issue of unauthorised or dangerous parking within the county, and it was noted that the responsibility for monitoring and taking appropriate action on this was somewhat unclear as depending on the type of incident, the responsibility was divided between the Local Authority, the Police or a private landowner, who often disagreed where the actual responsibility lay. It was agreed that Members who had concerns about unauthorised or dangerous parking within their divisions should discuss this with their Local Community Safety Partnership. It was further agreed that the matter should be raised at the next meeting of the Police & Crime Panel with the view of seeking a solution to making the areas of responsibility for dangerous or illegal parking clearer.
- 3.9 In response to a Member challenge regarding Point 4.1.5 of the OPCC report regarding Criminal Justice, it was agreed that further consideration should be given by the OPCC to work to improve the outcomes for victims.

All
Members/
Colin
Woodward

David
Gibson/Chris
Brace

Conclusion:

- 3.10 The report of Police and Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire was noted by Members.

4. POLICE & CRIME PANEL UPDATE

Cllr Colin Woodward – Vice-Chairman of the Community Safety and Waste Management Cabinet Panel and Police & Crime Panel Representative

- 4.1 Colin Woodward, Hertfordshire County Council's Police & Crime Panel representative, provided Members with a verbal update on the work of the Police and Crime Panel since the last meeting of the Community Safety & Waste Management Cabinet Panel.
- 4.2 Members heard that there had not been a formal meeting of the Police and Crime Panel since the last meeting of the Community Safety and Waste Management Cabinet Panel, but there had been an informal meeting on the 13 September 2017, and a Training Day on 20 October 2017. The next meeting of the Police & Crime Panel was scheduled to be held on 16 November 2017. The agenda and papers can be found here: <http://www.hertspcp.org.uk/SitePages/Meetings.aspx>

**CHAIRMAN'S
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- 4.3 The Panel were advised that the informal meeting on the 13 September 2017 had discussed the following issues:
- The potential creation of a National Association of Police & Crime Panels;
 - The number and frequency of Police & Crime Panels not changing;
 - The Police and Crime Commissioner's Plan update being presented at the next meeting.
 - Ideas to encourage public attendance at Police & Crime Panels;
 - Morale within the police force.
- 4.4 It was advised that further to a Member concern raised at the Community Safety and Waste Management Panel of the 26 June 2017 the matter of the Police and Crime Commissioner using OWL to promote his business case was raised, but the Police and Crime Panel had felt that this was a legitimate tool to communicate this matter.
- 4.5 Members also received details of the topics discussed at the Police and Crime Panel Training Day on the 20 October 2017. These were as follows:
- An increase in daily 999 and 101 calls from further to increasing concerns following the recent terrorist attacks. This had led to training and recruitment of 30 additional staff to manage the calls;
 - A HMIC inspection had confirmed the improvements made in call answering times and advice further to these steps being taken
 - An increase in overall criminal activity by 54.3% attributed to changes in crime classifications. Recording of incidents is monitored by the Crime Registrar.
 - Crime Survey showing 83.4% of responses stating they feel confident in the Police Force, although improvements are required with victim satisfaction
 - £48m of savings made since 2010/11, but concerns regarding sustainability of reserves used to bolster budgets
 - Increased collaboration between neighbouring forces.
- 4.6 The Chairman thanked Cllr Woodward for his comprehensive update on the activities of the Police & Crime Panel and received assurance that Cllr Woodward would raise the concerns regarding illegal and dangerous parking at the next meeting of the Police & Crime Panel on 16 November 2017.

Conclusion:

- 4.7 Members noted the update on the work of the Police and Crime Panel.

**CHAIRMAN'S
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5. HERTFORDSHIRE DRUGS & ALCOHOL STRATEGY 2016-19

Officer Contact: Gary Ray, Community Protection Manager (Tel: 01438 843608)

5.1 Members considered a report on the Community Protection Department's involvement in the Drugs and Alcohol Strategy 2016-19. It was noted that the aim of the strategy was to reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse in Hertfordshire and is the first time that drug and alcohol strategies had been combined. The strategy had been agreed at Cabinet on 12 December 2016:

<http://cmis.hertfordshire.gov.uk/hertfordshire/Calendarofcouncilmeeting/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/506/Committee/8/Default.aspx>

5.2 Members received assurance that although the paper did not fully detail the strategic approach as to how the plan would be delivered to individual people or groups, this was undertaken by sub-groups, each of which had their own action plan and targets.

5.3 It was acknowledged that the Vision and Priority Outcomes contained within the report did not make clear that alcohol was an illegal drug for anyone to purchase who was under the age of 18. Members requested that further consideration should be given to clarifying this.

Gary
Ray/Guy
Pratt

5.4 Members learnt that the drugs and alcohol strategies had been combined as it was felt that this would be the best use of resources, given that many of the issues and support work undertaken with service users in each area was the same.

5.5 In response to a Member concern regarding the accessibility of services to support drug and alcohol users, it was noted that in 2019, the council was scheduled to commission a new drug and alcohol treatment service which would consider needs assessments and accessibility as part of the tender process.

5.6 Members noted that details licencing applications that had been granted and revoked should be considered as part of the discussions and work in implementing the Drug and Alcohol Strategy. It was agreed that the Community Safety Team would circulate details of recent licencing applications and revocations to Members of the Panel subsequent to the meeting.

Guy
Pratt/Gary
Ray

5.7 During general discussion the need to target education and provide support on drug and alcohol abuse to elderly residents and to ethnic minority groups including Eastern European communities was considered.

**CHAIRMAN'S
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- 5.8 Members concern regarding the fact that there is no minimum standard of training or approach for those providing drugs and alcohol education, information and advice directly to children, young people and adults was acknowledged.
- 5.9 The Panel heard that ‘test purchasing’ to target premises licensed to sell alcohol who had been observed to sell to young people under the legal age of 18 was ongoing with the most recent visits taking place by undercover police cadets within the last two weeks. It was clarified test purchasing visits were only undertaken where the police had received intelligence that an incident of underage selling had taken place. Local members were not notified when visits were due to take place, however, they were alerted if further action was required after the visit had been made.
- 5.10 In response to a Member question it was noted that recreational drugs, such as nitrous oxide, also known as legal highs, were not specifically mentioned in the report as there was not currently an endemic problem with these being used or sold within the county, and constant monitoring was taking place to ensure that this continued. Members learnt that monitoring was particularly stringent at the number of music festivals held within the county.
- 5.11 Members received clarification that legal highs are now illegal.
- 5.12 The Chairman thanked officers for the report, and noted that it was particularly positive to see that predicted outcomes were contained within the report. The Chairman suggested to officers that they should also consider approaching the third sector for support in achieving the outcomes, as voluntary groups also offer a wide range of support services and have strong links to communities.
- Conclusion:**
- 5.13 The Panel noted and commented upon the development of the Hertfordshire Drugs and Alcohol Strategy and the ongoing role of the Community Protection Directorate in the delivery of the action plan.

Guy
Pratt/Gary
Ray

6. LOCAL AUTHORITY COLLECTED WASTE SPATIAL STRATEGY 2016 – HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRE ANNEX

Officer Contact: Alexandra Radley- Senior Project Manager- Waste Management (Tel: 01992 556165)

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- 6.1 The Cabinet Panel were presented with the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) annex to the Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW) Spatial Strategy 2016 setting out an assessment of the HWRC network and identifying the Waste Disposal Authority's vision for a robust, efficient and fit for purpose service that was capable of fulfilling future demand.
- 6.2 Addressing immediate Panel Member concerns, the Chairman assured Members that the purpose of paper was not to consider the immediate closure of any existing HWRC sites, but to be updated on and consider future long term planning of the HWRC service given increasing demographic and housing development pressures within the county.
- 6.3 Members were further advised that the proposed development of supersites as detailed in the report would take time and still be subject to planning approval. It was noted that the first supersite, currently the subject of a planning application near Ware, would not be operational for approximately two years. The proposed additional supersite developments in the report at Stevenage and Turnford would likely take longer to develop. It was stressed that only at the time of the supersites becoming fully operational would a review of existing HWRC's take place with the view to making a decision about their future operational viability.
- 6.4 Further to a Member challenge regarding the report stating that eleven sites were unsuitable, Members received further assurance that no HWRC site within Hertfordshire was classified as unsafe, although it was acknowledged that some sites, such as Cole Green near Welwyn Garden City and Bishops Stortford were less than ideal in many respects and already at full capacity.
- 6.5 Further to a Member suggestion that more work should be undertaken with District Councils to promote the use of Local Waste Recycling Centres (i.e. bottle banks, clothing banks, paper recycling banks), to alleviate the pressure on HWRC's, it was agreed that this could be considered although it was noted that that due to the misuse of these sites, many District Councils were now removing them from their areas.
- 6.6 In response to a Member question, it was established that a majority of HWRC's have cameras so users can check in advance online how busy the sites are before making the decision to make the journey to a site. In addition it was noted that HWRC sites had signs on their gates detailing opening hours and advising of other sites in the area should a user arrive to find a particular site closed.

Conclusion:

- 6.7 Members noted the Household Waste Recycling Centre annex to the Local Authority Collected Waste Spatial Strategy 2016.

Alexandra
Radley

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7. WASTE MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE MONITOR- QUARTER 2

Officer Contact: Simon Aries, Assistant Director Transport, Waste & Environmental Management (Tel: 01992 555255)

- 7.1 The Panel received a report detailing the Quarter 2 Performance Monitor for Waste Management for 2017/18. This report set out the final position for the waste indicators for the 2016/17 year.
- 7.2 Members were advised that in 2016/17, the Waste Management Unit had a very good performance with all of its performance indicators achieving their target or improving on their performance from the previous year.
- 7.3 In response to a Member question, the Panel were advised that value for money continued to be assessed and any future costs and/or savings would be subject to scrutiny by the Director of Resources. The planning application itself would be subject to a full assessment of the impacts by the Waste Planning Authority.
- 7.4 **Conclusion:**
The Cabinet Panel noted and commented upon the Waste Management Performance Monitor for Quarter 2 - 2017/18.

8. WASTE MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE INDICATOR REVIEW

Officer Contact: James Holt, Waste Manager Contract Development (Tel: 01992 556318)

- 8.1 The Panel were presented with a report detailing a proposal to review the format and frequency in which performance indicators for the department were presented at Cabinet Panel.
- 8.2 Members noted that the proposal detailed the intention to report performance indicators on a six monthly basis, supported by the Hertfordshire Waste Partnership Annual Report, and outlined the areas which the performance indicators would report on moving forward.
- 8.3 In response to a Member request it was agreed that the Waste Disposal Indicators should also be presented on a six monthly basis rather than annually.

James Holt

**CHAIRMAN'S
INITIALS**

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8.4 During Member discussion it was also requested that more historical information is presented within the reports, for example, 13 months of figures, to enable a more informed analysis to be undertaken of performance through comparisons and trends

James Holt

Conclusion:

8.5 Members commented on and agreed to the revised set of management performance indicators.

8.6 Members commented upon and agreed the reporting frequency of the management indicators.

OTHER PART I BUSINESS

No other Part One business was recorded.

**KATHRYN PETTITT
CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER**

CHAIRMAN _____

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