

## 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

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### COMMUNITY SAFETY & WASTE MANAGEMENT CABINET PANEL THURSDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2018

#### ATTENDANCE

#### MEMBERS OF THE PANEL

S N Bloxham; M A Eames-Peterson; S J Featherstone; J S Hale; D J Hewitt (*substituting for 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

Upon consideration of the agenda for the Community Safety & Waste Management meeting on 8 February 2018 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

##### 1. MINUTES

1.1 The Minutes of the Cabinet Panel meeting held on 8 November 2017 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to the following amendments proposed by P M Zukowskyj which were agreed by the Panel:

1. Point 4.4: **Deletion** of the sentence 'but the Police and Crime Panel had felt that this was a legitimate tool to communicate the matter. **Replaced** with 'It was unclear what the view of the Police and Crime Panel was as it had not met since the issue had been raised.'
2. Point 4.5: **Deletion** of the sentence 'An increase in daily 999 calls and 101 calls from further to increasing concerns following the recent terrorist attacks.'

3. Point 4.5. **Deletion** of the sentence ‘This had led to the training and recruitment of 30 additional staff to manage the calls.’ **Replaced** with ‘The roles of these staff were not provided to the panel, although it was known they were not police officers. Clarity of their roles was requested for a future update’

## 2. PUBLIC PETITIONS

2.1 There were no public petitions received.

## 3. HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER UPDATE REPORT

Officer Contact: Debbie Barker Senior Partnerships and Commissioning Manager, OPCC [01707 806157]

3.1 Members received the Police & Crime Commissioner report detailing the update in activity undertaken by the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC) since the last meeting of the panel.

3.2 In response to a Member challenge, it was explained that 35 new local neighbourhood policing officer posts had been created from the funding received through the increase in the police precept and reallocating currently vacant posts in tri-force teams. In addition, more staff will be recruited for the force control room to respond to the increased demand from the public.

3.3 During discussion Members learnt that for future budgets there was currently a predicted gap with respect to what would be received and what would be able to be achieved through additional income and additional savings. Members received assurance that to date there had not been a notable reduction in the number of officers, as in 2013 there had been 1,953 and in 2017 there had been 1,952 officers in post.

3.4 This statement was strongly disputed by a P M Zukowskyj who challenged that the figure quoted by the Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) conflicted with the figure quoted within Home Office statistics. It was queried whether the PCC's figure included such roles as back office staff, management, and PCSO's.

3.5 Further to robust discussion and debate, it was concluded that it would be beneficial for the Member in question to meet with the PCC outside of the meeting in order for the matter to be discussed in more detail.

David Lloyd/  
P M  
Zukowskyj

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| 3.6  | In response to a Member question as to whether the increase in staff numbers would lead to more crimes being investigated, as it was noted that there had been an increase in crimes reported, it was explained that the increase could be partially due to the fact that historically not all minor crimes had been logged onto the police's crime system, although they had all been investigated by officers. Assurance was received that more officers would inevitably mean more input into resolving crimes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |             |
| 3.7  | During discussion, the issue of the role of Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) was raised by Members and in response to queries as to whether PCSO resource could be utilised to combat the issue of speeding within the districts. The Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) stated that he welcomed the input of Members of the Panel in developing the future shape of the police force and invited them to be more participatory in doing so however the panel were advised that this was not deemed to be a priority issue, and it was hoped that this would become a lessening problem in the future due to technological advances in the development of cars which would be able to standardise speed levels. The PCC also confirmed that he also welcomed any initiative from private business in the efforts to reduce criminal activity. |             |
| 3.8  | In response to a Member query as to whom the best person within the force for Members to contact would be to provide Member input, it was suggested that Members should contact the Chief Inspector for their local district or borough in the first instance.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | All Members |
| 3.9  | The panel were briefed on the challenges of recruiting young people to the Stop and Search Panel, and Members were asked to promote this within their districts in order to encourage participation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | All Members |
| 3.10 | In response to a Member observation regarding the comments made by the Chief Constable of Bedfordshire regarding the challenges he was facing in tackling crime within the county, Members received assurance that as a county, Hertfordshire were not facing the same level of challenge and nationally had relatively low recorded criminal activity. Further assurance was received that although Bedfordshire were a member of the trforce arrangement with Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire, this was a collaboration that was regularly reviewed to ensure that it remained an efficient and effective partnership.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |             |
| 3.11 | In discussion regarding the mental health street triage scheme, it was confirmed that there were two vehicles with mental health clinicians available within the county between 9am-4am daily, as it was between these hours that the incidents of mental health crisis mainly occurred. It was further established that officers had received training to assist in the recognition and management of members of the public presenting with mental health symptoms.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |             |

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**Conclusion:**

- 3.12 The report of the 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 Members received a verbal update on the work of the Hertfordshire Police & Crime Panel.
- 4.2 The panel were advised that the key issue of discussion for recent meetings the panel had been the Police & Crime Commissioner’s Budget which after questioning by the PCP and members of the public was approved. It was explained that as well as a formal meeting, members of the Police and Crime Panel had also attended a budget training day.
- 4.3 The full minutes of the formal meeting can be found here:  
<http://www.hertspcp.org.uk/SitePages/Meetings.aspx>
- 4.4 Members of the PCP were pleased to note that the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner had made significant efforts to engage the public with the consultation on the budget, and had received a total of 370 responses to the consultation. Most of which were supportive.

**Conclusion:**

- 4.5 The verbal update from the Police & Crime Commissioner was noted by the Panel.

**5. COMMUNITY SAFETY & WASTE MANAGEMENT INTEGRATED PLAN 2018/19 - 2021/22**

**Officer Contact:**

**Author(s):**

Guy Pratt, Deputy Director Community Protection (Tel: 07770 880406)  
Lindsey McLeod, Head of Corporate Finance (01992 556431)

- 5.1 **Notification of a Declarable Interest:** PV Mason declared that he was a member of the Ratty’s Lane Action Group. No vote was undertaken on the agenda item and Cllr Mason was permitted to participate in the debate.

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Prior to the report being discussed, the Chairman made the following announcement:

'All Members who have a disclosable pecuniary interest arising from an allowance from the County Council, another local authority in Hertfordshire, or a body to whom they have been appointed by the County Council, have received a dispensation to allow them to participate in debate and vote on the Integrated Plan.

All Members have been granted a dispensation to participate in debate and vote in any business of the County Council relating to setting the council tax or precept when they would otherwise be prevented from doing so in consequence of having a beneficial interest in land which is within the administrative area of Hertfordshire or a licence (alone or jointly) to occupy such land.'

- 5.2 Members were presented with a brief overview of the full structure and detail of the council's Integrated Plan for 2018/19 -2021/2 (IP Plan) pertaining to the area of Community Safety & Waste Management.
- 5.3 Members were reminded that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee had undertaken a full day session looking at the Integrated Plan on 24 January 2018 where Executive Members and officers had answered questions from scrutiny groups. A report containing observations and recommendations from the scrutiny groups was considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 1 February 2018.
- 5.4 It was explained that the Integrated Plan (IP) would be considered by Cabinet on 19 February before being finalised at County Council on 20 February 2018.
- 5.5 It was further explained to the Panel that the purpose of the report for panel was for Members of the Panel comment on the IP in relation Community Safety & Waste Management and to identify any issues that it felt the Cabinet should consider in finalising the Integrated Plan proposals.
- 5.6 Member's attention was firstly drawn to the shorter of the two reports (document 4(i)) which set out the actions that the council has carried out to engage and consult with the public and partners.
- 5.7 Members noted that on page 5 of the report, which detailed the responses to a public questionnaire, that in a choice between service reductions and further council tax increases, 56% of respondents said that they would rather see an increase in council tax and 32% a reduction in services. It was noted that the graph at the top of page 4

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illustrated that the percentage of respondents supporting a reduction in expenditure on disposing of the council's waste was 26% (a reduction on the 28% last year and the 33% and 39% in previous years) while those supporting a reduction in expenditure on community protection was 17% (a reduction on the 22% last year and the 26% and 27% in previous years).

- 5.8 Members were then invited to consider the proposed Integrated Plan for Community Safety & Waste Management detailed on page 63 and 64 of the main report (document 4ii). It was noted that this contained the following elements; Key Priorities (pages 65 & 66); Key Pressures and Challenges (pages 66 to 70); Key Projects and Programmes (pages 70 to 72); Key Savings (page 72); how the departments have reviewed effectiveness and value for money (pages 73 to 75); and Risks in delivering projects (page 76).
- 5.9 The Panel noted the changes to the revenue budget were set out on pages 77 and 78. It was explained to Members that Service Specific Inflation was calculated to add £400,000 per year; Pressures add £2m in 2018/19 rising to £4m in 2021/22; while ongoing savings of £1.4m have been identified increasing to just under £2m in 2018/19. The total budgets for the services that make up the portfolio (page 80) totalling £78.8m in 2018/19 rising to £81.5m in 2021/22 and the capital programme Pages (81-87) for Community Safety & Waste Management to £30.5m over the four years of the plan were also noted by Members.
- 5.10 Members discussed the potential impact on the budget plans of the notification of a call in by the Secretary of State regarding the proposed development of an Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) at Ratty's Lane Hoddesdon, by Veolia (ES) Hertfordshire Limited. The panel noted that the Secretary of State's decision would add many months of delay to the project, but that, within the current IP period there are no immediate budget implications.
- 5.11 In answer to a question of what plans are in place if the ERF is not granted planning permission the Panel received assurance that arrangements had been secured for disposing of residual waste until March 2021 and contingency plans had already been considered. It was noted that the lack of a long term in county treatment solution would most likely mean out of county disposal routes would be necessary and that this would be contrary to the proximity principle for disposing of waste close to where it's generated. It was agreed that the concerns of the Panel should be highlighted to Cabinet when making its final decisions in relation to the budget.
- 5.12 Members also raised concerns regarding the potential impact on the budget plans presented by the final decision not yet being announced by the Home Secretary regarding the potential transfer of governance of Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue Service from Hertfordshire County

Terry Hone

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Council to the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire.

5.13 The panel were advised that a number of other local authorities were also experiencing delay in the decision regarding the transfer of governance within their own authorities, and as a result, discussions had taken place with the Local Government Association with a view to making a joint representation to the Home Office to outline the impact the delay in the decision being made was having on effective future planning.

5.14 Members agreed that risk to the budget plan regarding the delay in decision by the Home Secretary regarding the transfer of governance of Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue Service from Hertfordshire County Council to the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire should also be brought to the attention of Cabinet when making its final decisions in relation to the budget.

Terry Hone

**Conclusion:**

5.15 The Panel provided comment to Cabinet on the proposal relating to the Integrated Plan in respect of the Community Safety & Waste Management Portfolio. The Panel also identified any issues that it felt that the Cabinet should consider in finalising the Integrated Plan proposals. These are outlined in the preceding text.

**6. COMMUNITY PROTECTION MID-YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT 2017/18**

**Officer Contact:**

Jon Smith, Area Commander, Performance & Business Support, Community Protection (Tel: 01992 587510)

6.1 Members received the Community Protection Mid Year Performance Report for 2017/18 providing an overview of where the directorate was performing well and highlighting areas for further investigation or action.

6.2 The panel discussed the detail with in the report, and in response to a member query it was confirmed that sickness records injuries sustained to officers both on and off duty. It was agreed that Members would be provided with a more detailed breakdown of the sickness statistics in order for them to undertake more informed analysis.

Jon  
Smith/Guy  
Pratt

6.3 Officers also agreed to provide further detail on the number of people who had undertaken the Customer Satisfaction Survey for Joint Protective Services, in order to provide Members with a better understanding of the statistics provided.

Jon  
Smith/Guy  
Pratt

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- 6.4 In response to Member concern regarding the low number of people volunteering to work in Trading Standards, it was advised that volunteering to work with the Fire & Rescue Service was more popular, but efforts were continuing to promote recruitment.
- 6.5 Members were advised that Trading Standards teams were very active in the community, and held regular awareness raising events in organisations such as banks or building societies to reduce the risk of members of the public being supped by rogue traders.
- 6.6 It was also confirmed that the Local Intervention Fire Education (LIFE) scheme was also continuing, although this had not specifically been mentioned in the report.
- 6.7 Members also noted the challenges surrounding the recruitment of retained firefighters, and were advised that campaigns were ongoing to try to increase the numbers.
- 6.8 The Panel discussed the number of recorded fire deaths within the county, and were pleased to note that increased focus was being placed on the fire protection teams working with residential care homes to minimise the risk of fires occurring, given the two recent fires in local care homes.

**CONCLUSION:**

- 6.9 The Community Protection Mid-Year Performance Report for 2017/18 was noted by the Panel.

**7. HERTFORDSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT**

**Officer Contact:** James Holt, Waste Manager - Contract Development Tel: 01992 556318

- 7.1 Members were presented with the Hertfordshire Waste Partnership (HWP) Annual Report, which presented an overview of the work of the Partnership including the County's 10 boroughs and districts as well as the county council.
- 7.2 Members were pleased to note that the recycling rate had improved from 50.4% in 2015/16 to 52.2% in 2016/17.
- 7.3 Members were encouraged to present the report to their own district councils in order to raise awareness and encourage initiatives to improve recycling in districts.

All Members

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7.4 Members noted the high level of successful recycling at St Albans District Council.

**CONCLUSION:**

7.5 The Hertfordshire Waste Partnership Annual Report was noted by Members.

**8. WASTE MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE INDICATOR UPDATE**

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

8.1 Members were presented with an updated set of waste performance indicators, further to Members agreement on the details of the indicators at the Community Safety & Waste Management Cabinet Panel on 8 November 2017.

8.2 Further to Member concerns regarding the impact of the decision by the Chinese authorities to ban imported waste it was confirmed that it is having a minimal impact on recycling in Hertfordshire at this current time.

8.3 The panel discussed the high level of media awareness on the issues associated with the dumping of plastics in the world's oceans and it was confirmed by officers that the Herts Waste Partnership had plans in place to focus on communication on the management of plastics by residents as part of the WasteAware work programme.

Simon  
Aries/James  
Holt

**CONCLUSION:**

8.4 The Waste Management Performance Indicator Update was noted by the panel.

**9 FLY TIPPING IN HERTFORDSHIRE**

Duncan Jones, Hertfordshire Waste Partnership, Partnership Development Manager & Chairman of the Hertfordshire Fly Tipping Group (Tel: 01992 556150/07769 682052)

9.1 The panel were presented with a report providing an update on the ongoing work being undertaken to tackle fly-tipping within the county.

9.2 Members noted that grant funding had been secured by the Herts Fly Tipping Group from the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner which had in turn been used to support a range of projects to tackle fly-tipping and asked for further information and requested further detail as

Duncan  
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n Aries

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to how successful this had been.

9.3 Further to a Member request it was agreed that officers would circulate to the Panel further details of the flytipping statistics for each of the individual districts, in order for the panel to undertake more detailed analysis of the figures underpinning the report.

Duncan  
Jones/Simon  
Aries

9.4 During discussion it was noted that there was some confusion amongst the public with regards to the definition of flytipping and also whether the responsibility for flytipping lay with the district or county council. It was established that responsibility was dependent on a number of factors, but was primarily dependent on the location of where the flytipping had taken place. Members were reminded that a number of stakeholders were involved with the council with the Hertfordshire Fly Tipping Group, and that Highways England were also involved with discussions.

9.5 **CONCLUSION:**  
Members noted the Fly tipping update.

## 10. OTHER PART I BUSINESS

### **HERTFORDSHIRE WASTE RECYCLING CENTRE THEFTS**

10.1 The Chairman verbally informed Members that it had been brought to his attention that Hertfordshire Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) across the county had been the victims of theft with seven containers of metal from different HWRC premises across the county being stolen in the last six months.

10.2 Members noted that to date this had cost the council's contractor £4.5k per container and had resulted in the HWRC's needing to be temporarily closed whilst repairs to the sites and investigations into the thefts taking place.

10.3 The panel were advised that ongoing police investigation had yet to yield any results with regards to catching the perpetrators.

**KATHRYN PETTITT**  
**CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER**

**CHAIRMAN** \_\_\_\_\_

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