

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: Deborah Jeffery
Ext: 25563

COMMUNITY SAFETY & WASTE MANAGEMENT CABINET PANEL FRIDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2018

ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL

J Bennett-Lovell; S N Bloxham; S J Featherstone; B A Gibson; J S Hale; F R G Hill; T W Hone (*Chairman*); J G L King; P V Mason; R H Smith (*substitute for M Bright*); T J Williams; C B Woodward (*Vice Chairman*); J F Wyllie

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Upon consideration of the agenda for the Community Safety & Waste Management meeting on Friday 9 November 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

ACTION

1. MINUTES

- 1.1 The Minutes of the Cabinet Panel meeting held on 10 September 2018 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2. PUBLIC PETITIONS

- 2.1 There were no public petitions received.

3. HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER UPDATE REPORT

Officer Contact: Dr Amie Birkhamshaw, Director of Delivery & Commissioning (Tel: 01707 806154)

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| 3.1 | The Panel considered 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 | Members were also advised that since the report had been written, on the 29 October 2018, the Police & Crime Commissioner had hosted a relaunch event for the Police & Crime Commissioner's Plan for 2019-2024 to discuss priorities for the county with community safety and criminal justice partners. | |
| 3.3 | Further to a challenge from Opposition Lead Spokesmen for the Liberal Democrat group as to why she had not been invited or allowed to attend the event, and confirmation from the Labour Group Leader that the Labour Group had also not been invited to the event, it was agreed that the invitation list for such events would be reviewed by the OPCC. | OPCC |
| 3.4 | In terms of recruitment, it was confirmed that 15 Special Officers, 11 Police and Community Support Officers and 29 constables had been recruited to Hertfordshire Constabulary in the last two weeks, and the aim was to recruit to a total of 2000 posts by the end of the year. | |
| 3.5 | Members learnt that the OPCC were currently drafting a Serious Violence Strategy in response to increasing concerns surrounding county lines and knife crime. Mentors had attended schools in Broxbourne to raise awareness with pupils of the dangers, and the OPCC had submitted a bid to the Home Office to obtain funding to continue preventative work in this area. | |
| 3.6 | In response to a Member question, it was confirmed that the Police's Athena database was now running smoothly, further to some initial data quality issues subsequent to its launch earlier in the year. | |
| 3.7 | During discussion, the response times and ability of call handlers to manage calls at the 101 service was challenged. Assurance was received that improvements were being made in this area, with 71 additional staff being recruited to the control room. It was agreed that statistical data detailing call volume and response times would be circulated to Members. Members were also reminded that where criminal activity is suspected but not witnessed can also be reported online through the OPCC website. | OPCC |
| 3.8 | In response to a Member question it was confirmed that the Cyber Crime Strategy was scheduled to be launched on 16 November 2018 and publicity routes to raise awareness were being considered. Members expressed some concern that this was being targeted at businesses and not individual residents who also needed the support. | |

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3.9 Members noted that the take up of a fly-tipping fund for private landowners so far had been low.

CONCLUSION:

3.10 The report of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire was noted.

4. POLICE AND CRIME PANEL UPDATE

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

4.1 The Panel were advised that no meeting had taken place since the last meeting of the Panel. The next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel would be taking place on 15 November 2018 at the Borough of Broxbourne.

4.2 In response to a Member question, it was established that there had been no information received regarding a revised date for the Police and Crime Panel Training Day, originally scheduled for the 24 September, but later cancelled. It was agreed that this should be raised at the Police and Crime Panel meeting on 15 November 2018 and Members updated accordingly.

Colin
Woodward

5. INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN (IRMP)

Officer Contact: Darryl Keen, Director of Community Protection and Chief Fire Officer, (Tel: 01992 507500)

5.1 Members considered a report outlining the suggested proposals to be contained within the Integrated Risk Management Plan which were due to be presented for public consultation at the beginning of December 2018.

5.2 In response to a Member question regarding the proposal outlined at point 4.4 of the report regarding the removal of the second traditional fire engine and the introduction of a rapid response vehicle at Watford fire station, it was explained that this decision was reflective of and appropriate to the changing profile of incidents that fire crews attended, and would allow for more flexibility of crew allocation. Assurance was received that in addition to the two vehicles highlighted, an Aerial Response Vehicle would also be at the station.

5.3 In response to challenge received regarding the proposal to trial the On Call Review recommendations, assurance was received that due to the collective agreement being in place between senior management,

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employees and unions within Hertfordshire, this was a proposal that would be able to be implemented within the county.

5.4 Members were also advised that no financial savings were attached to the proposals as they were not financially driven, and Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue Services budgets would be scrutinised under a different process as part of the council's Integrated Plan Scrutiny in January 2019. Assurance was also provided that the council were committed to recruit to 48 currently vacant posts within the service.

5.5 In response to Member challenges that the risk management plan contained limited information with regards to workforce, the prevention strategy and the protection strategy, assurance was received that the plan had used these as foundations to its construction, but it was acknowledged that this was not explicitly highlighted within the plan, and it was agreed that this would be reviewed accordingly.

Darryl Keen

5.6 Members were reminded that with the impending outcomes from Hackitt Review into the Grenfell Tower fire, would mean that the Protection Strategy although reviewed annually was subject to being reformatted.

5.7 The Liberal Democrat Opposition lead acknowledged the comments made and explanation given regarding the IRMP, but expressed concern regarding the limited information regarding risk within the report.

5.8 Further to continued discussion and Opposition Member challenge and disagreement regarding the content of the IMRP, the Chairman agreed to a request from the Labour Group representative that the recommendations contained within the report be put to individual vote by Members.

5.9 **CONCLUSION:**

Members voted on the recommendations contained within the report individually by a show of hands.

Recommendation 1

Panel to recommend to Cabinet that it agree the approach taken by Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue Service in terms of the Integrated Risk Management Plan. (IRMP)

EIGHT Members voted in **FAVOUR** of this recommendation and **FIVE** Members voted **AGAINST** this recommendation.

Recommendation 2

Panel to recommend to Cabinet that it support the draft

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proposals for the IRMP, as outlined in the report.

EIGHT Members voted in **FAVOUR** of this recommendation and **FOUR** Members voted **AGAINST** this recommendation. **ONE** Member **ABSTAINED**

Recommendation 3

Panel to recommend to Cabinet that it approve the draft IRMP, as attached as Appendix 1, for public consultation.

NINE Members voted in **FAVOUR** of this recommendation and **THREE** Members voted **AGAINST** this recommendation. **ONE** Member **ABSTAINED**

6. TRADING STANDARDS FORMAL ACTIONS POLICY

Officer Contact: Andrew Butler, Head of Protection

- 6.1 Members considered a paper outlining the planned proposals to amend the Trading Standards Formal Actions Policy to include how breaches of the policy would be enforced. In addition, Members were asked to discuss their views on the introduction of Penalty Charge Notices (PCN) for offenders, and the intention to trial the use of PCNs as an appropriate formal action in relation to Letting Agents who are not transparent with the details of fees payable by tenants and landlords.
- 6.2 Members broadly welcomed the proposals outlined within the report.
- 6.3 In response to a Member question, explanation was received that offenders would receive advice or warnings prior to being issued with PCN's, and would also have the opportunity to undertake an appeals process if they felt the PCN had been issued unfairly.
- 6.4 During discussion it was agreed that full consideration should be given to how awareness raising and communication about these changes should be undertaken with businesses.
- 6.5 In response to a Member challenge about how the customer's or complainant's point of view would be incorporated into the process, it was acknowledged that although the council could not force an individual business to correct or reimburse customers for any losses incurred; the level of penalty issued to the business by the council would be able to be reflective of any action that they did or did not take accordingly, which could act as a deterrent.
- 6.6 **CONCLUSION:**

Andrew
Butler

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Members recommended that Cabinet approve the amended Trading Standards Formal Actions Policy at Appendix 2;

6.7 Members noted the proposed approach to the use of Penalty Charge Notices by Trading Standards in regards to the legislation requiring letting agents to display fees payable by prospective tenants and landlords.

7. ROGUE TRADING: DOORSTEP CRIME

Officer Contact:
Guy Pratt, Deputy Director, Community Protection
Tim Day, Senior Trading Standards Officer

7.1 Members were presented with an update report on the work of the Trading Standards Service in tackling doorstep crime.

7.2 The Panel were pleased to note the work that had been undertaken to date, but requested that continued awareness raising should take place to ensure that the public were aware who to contact should they suspect or be a victim of rogue trading. Guy
Pratt/Tim
Day

7.3 Further to discussion it was agreed that officers would produce text for Members to put in to newsletters that they circulate to their constituents as part of the awareness raising drive. Guy
Pratt/Tim
Day

7.4 Members were also reminded that they could sign up to Online Watch Link (OWL), a shared secure platform to share information and maximise the potential of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

<https://www.owl.co.uk/>

7.5 In response to a Member question, it was established that officers were were working with vulnerable individuals targeted by phone scams, but Trading Standards does not have the power or ability to prevent phone calls to individuals. However, methods such as registering with the Telephone Preference Service or installing call blockers were being used as ways to mitigate scam phone calls.

7.6 **CONCLUSION:**
Panel noted and commented upon the report Rogue Trading: Doorstep Crime

8. WASTE MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE INDICATOR UPDATE

Officer Contact: James Holt, Waste Manager Contract Development

8.1 Members received the Waste Management Performance Indicator Update report.

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| 8.2 | The Panel noted and discussed the report, and confirmed that they remained content with the style and format of the presented data. | |
| 8.3 | In response to a Member question, it was noted that four Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC's), including Cole Green, were not listed in Figure 8 of the report detailing the number of Unscheduled closures of Household Waste Recycling Centres during advertised operational hours as the sites did not have Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology. It was agreed that officers would explore alternatives methodologies for sourcing the data at these sites to enable Members to have a fully comprehensive set of data to analyse in future meetings. | James Holt/Matthew King |
| 8.4 | The Chairman took the opportunity to thank officers for the successful Member visit to the Westmill Landfill site on 7 November 2018, and reminded members about the planned visit to Waterdale Reuse Centre on 21 November 2018 which would enhance Member understanding of the facts behind the statistics presented in the quarterly reports. | All Members |
| 8.5 | CONCLUSION:
Members noted and commented upon the Waste Management Performance Indicator Update. | |
| 9. | OTHER PART I BUSINESS

None. | |

**KATHRYN PETTITT
CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER**

CHAIRMAN _____

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