

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, REGENERATION, HOUSING AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

2ND NOVEMBER 2011

Present – Councillors, Burrows, Critchley (Chairman), Francis, Mrs Kellett, Morgan, Pickup, Silvester P Wild and D A Wilkinson.

Also in Attendance

Councillor Sherrington	-	Executive Member for Cleaner, Greener, Safer
Mr A Donaldson	-	Assistant Director, Policy, Partnerships Communications and Chief Officer Support
Mrs G Hughes	-	Head of Community Safety
Chief Superintendent David Hull	-	Greater Manchester Police
Mrs S Wootton	-	Senior Scrutiny Officer

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Mrs Fairclough, Harkin and Lord

Councillor Critchley in the Chair

32. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the proceedings of the meetings of the Environmental Services Scrutiny Committee, held on 24th February 2011 and the Environmental Services, Regeneration, Housing and Skills Scrutiny Committee, held on 12th October 2011, were submitted.

Further to minute 49, Impact of Designated Public Place Orders, Members queried when the implementation on the ban of alcohol in the town centre would take place. It was confirmed that this would commence in March 2012.

Resolved – That the minutes of the proceedings of the Committees be signed as a correct record

33. DECISION MONITORING REPORT

The Director of the Chief Executive's Department submitted a report detailing the progress of decisions previously taken by the Scrutiny Committee, acting as the Community Safety Partnership.

Members were provided with further information regarding Hate Crime Reporting and how this had been promoted.

Resolved – (i) That the report be noted

(ii) That information regarding Hate Crime Reporting would be passed on to the relevant Scrutiny Committee for further information

(iii) That a report would be made available to the Scrutiny Committee in a year's time in reference to the CCTV's in taxis.

34. BE SAFE – PRIORITIES AND ISSUES

The Director of the Chief Executive's Department submitted a report, which provided an overview of the role and statutory responsibilities of the Community Safety Partnership as well as establishing the Government's reform plans in relation to community safety activity.

The report also explained the role of the Local Criminal Justice Group in order that partners could consider the assimilation of these partnerships. The report further comprised of the following:-

- Understanding of the Government's reform agenda across the community safety spectrum;
- Considered the current partnership structures and agree any revisions to these structures, including the assimilation of the Community Safety Partnership and the Local Criminal Justice Group; and
- Agree an overarching work programme for the Be Safe Partnership.

In addition to the report Mrs Gill Hughes and Chief Superintendent David Hull attended the meeting to provide Members with a presentation regarding the Community Safety Partnership. Members were introduced to the newly appointed Chief Superintendent David Hull, who explained that with the help of Bolton Council, they were looking at bringing various groups together in order to become more efficient and providing the time to at looking at improvements locally, through the adaptation of the National Government Reform Agenda.

Members were informed, that the trend to all crime was falling, even levelling out, although in terms of serious acquisitive crimes, theft seemed to be on the rise, despite having fallen in recent times. That being said, based on updates for the end of October 2011, indication showed that the Police were on target within their performance rating.

Further information was provided in relation to the following:-

- Police and Crime Commissioners;
- Reducing re-offending;
- Increasing the amount Special Constables in the borough;
- The success of neighbourhood policing;
- Reparation and Community Payback; and
- The challenges ahead.

With reference to the challenges ahead, Members were informed that the Police and Crime Commissioners would bring about a significant change. Further challenges for the Be Safe partnership were increased public accountability and public expectations, a need to further enhance informal social control and community guardianship and further reductions in police and other budgets. An election for Police and Crime Commissioners would be held in November 2012, for a four year term.

Resolved (i) That Members thanked the Chief Superintendent for his attendance and informative presentation

(ii) That Members requested further information regarding crime data on a Ward basis.

35. BE SAFE PARTNERSHIP, PERFORMANCE AND SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The Director of the Chief Executive's Department submitted a report which outlined the performance framework for the Safer Bolton Strategic Partnership as well as providing a performance overview for the first six months of the year.

By way of background information, Members were informed that previously the Community Safety Partnership was measured by its performance against national Public Sector Agreements and a number of national indicators. These had now been set aside and the government were asking Community Safety Partnerships to set targets around what was important locally.

In addition, each Government department had developed "impact indicators" and Community Safety Partnerships would need to consider the impact indicators being developed by the Home Office, Ministry of Justice, Department of Health and Communities and Local Government. Community Safety Partnerships would also need to consider a range of regional targets set by individual agencies, such as the Greater Manchester police, Probation and others.

Further information was provided in relation to the following:-

- Community Strategy Refresh;
- Performance Framework; and
- Anti-Social Behaviour.

Resolved – That Members noted the position.

(The meeting commenced at 6.00pm and ended at 7.20pm).