

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY PANEL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 25TH SEPTEMBER, 2024

MEMBERS: Councillors: Michael Rye OBE (Chair), Lee Chamberlain (Vice-Chair), Nawshad Ali, Hannah Dyson, Chris James and Eylem Yuruk

Officers: Dudu Sher-Arami (Public Health Director), Glenn Stewart (Assistant Director, Public Health), Ivana Price (Head of Service, Young People & Community Safety), Jonathon Toy (Head of Community Safety), Jon Newton (Service Director, Adults & Older People), Lia Markwick (Lead Accommodation Service Development Manager) and Stacey Gilmour (Governance & Scrutiny Officer)

Also Attending: Cllr Gina Needs (Cabinet Member, Community Cohesion & Enforcement), CI Rob Gibbs (Neighbourhood Policing), John Prior (Parent Engagement Network) and a Local Press Reporter

1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Alev Cazimoglu (Cabinet Member, Health & Social Care), Tony Theodoulou (Executive Director, People) and Doug Wilson (Director of Health & Adult Social Care).

To accommodate officers presenting the health items on the agenda, the Panel **AGREED** to the Chair's proposal to amend the running order of the agenda, therefore agenda item no:6 was taken first followed by agenda item no:5. However, for clarity the minutes are shown in the order of the published agenda.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received regarding any item on the agenda.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

AGREED the minutes of the Crime Scrutiny Panel held on 27 February 2024 and the minutes of the Health & Adult Social care Scrutiny Panel held on 24 April 2024.

4. WOMEN'S NIGHT-TIME SAFETY CHARTER (WNSC)

Ivana Price, Head of Service, Young People & Community Safety and Cllr Gina Needs, Cabinet Member, Community Cohesion & Enforcement provided

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an introduction, noting that the report sets out background to the Mayor's Women's Night-time Safety Charter (WNSC) and the steps that businesses need to take to adopt the Charter as well as other key points that form core elements of support for women and girls if they feel unsafe in the area. The report also provides the outline of how and where officers intend to pilot the Charter as part of a long-term plan to expand it across the borough.

Jonathon Toy, Head of Community Safety highlighted key aspects of the report. The Women's Night-time Safety Charter came into effect in 2018, following two successful projects in Lambeth and Southwark. The purpose of the Charter is to work with businesses to create safe environments and is part of the Mayor's Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy and London's commitment to the UN Women Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces global initiative.

The Safer Business Network has been appointed by the Mayor's Office to lead on the London wide Charter. The Network co-ordinates and administers Business Crime Reduction Partnerships (BCRPs) across London. The Charter sets out 7 Pledges that each business is required to work towards in order to create a safe environment for women and girls to both work and travel in.

All London Councils have signed up to the Charter with Enfield Council signing it back in 2022 and since then positive progress has been made (details of which are included on page 19 paragraph 2.9 of the agenda pack). The Council has taken the opportunity to refresh its overall approach towards this programme and to support this the Director of Public Health has recently taken on the role of Champion for women's safety. The Council is now working on an action plan to ensure the 7 Pledges are being actively progressed, aligning with the pan London approach. The intention is to develop a Women's Night-time Safety Charter for businesses across Enfield.

The approach is to include a number of elements within the Charter to maximise engagement including Safe Havens, which are a practical way for businesses to let people know that a form of support is easily available if they need help; Ask for Angela- a customer facing campaign which helps prevent and reduce sexual violence and vulnerability. It's a code word which can be given to staff when a customer feels unsafe or threatened and allows them to access discreet help and WAVE- which is designed for those in a customer facing role, aimed to help identify vulnerability and put interventions in place to support those visitors coming to a business.

Speaking about the last two years, Jonathon explained that what hadn't been done up until recently was to focus the attention on getting local businesses signed up to the Charter. A very small number of businesses have signed up, but it is certainly not the numbers hoped for and therefore it was felt that this was where the focus needed to be. Therefore, with the support of the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion & Enforcement, Cllr Gina Needs, it was agreed that a pilot would launch in one particular area of the borough; namely the Fore Street and Edmonton Green areas, as this is where the highest level

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of street harassment and sexual abuse in Enfield is recorded. This location is also the key focus for the Operation Pisces footprint and provides the best opportunity to pilot the programme. In addition, Tottenham Hotspur Football Club has already signed up to the Charter and is a key anchor institution in the area. The Club has offered their support in rolling out the pilot and offered facilities for networking events.

The intention is that the Council will fund the training programmes for interested businesses as part of the pilot. The aim is to offer a mixture of Face to Face and virtual training and a budget of £2500 has been identified to fund this.

The aim is to run the pilot for 6 months, commencing September 2024 and use the learning to expand the programme across the borough.

On Friday 27th September Council Officers plan to walk along Fore Street in Edmonton with female colleagues and Councillors connected to the campaign to get a sense of what is going on in the area, and all Members of the panel were invited to join this walk-about.

Questions were invited from the Panel.

In response to Members' questions regarding how many businesses were currently signed up to the Safe Havens, Ask Angela and WAVE schemes in Enfield, Officers advised that numbers across the borough were disappointingly small, at just over single figures, therefore the aim is to encourage more local businesses to join these schemes and promote the services.

In response to Members' queries regarding monitoring the progress of the programme, Officers advised that a WNSC task and Finish Group has been established to oversee the development and progress of the programme. This group includes representation from the Police, Solace Women's Aid, Enfield Council Domestic Violence and Community Safety leads, Regulatory Services, Safer Business Network, Tottenham Hotspur Football Club and Enfield Council Communitation leads. The group will also report to the SSCB Violence Against Women and Girls Board, which reports directly to the Enfield SSCB Board.

Members asked further questions about the roll out of the programme across the Borough, and whether local Business Association would be approached to help with this. Officers assured Members that this would most definitely be the case and welcomed any contacts that Councillors might have which could assist in future engagement.

In response to a question raised regarding what measures the Council has in place to support Councillors, especially women Councillors who may experience incidences from members of the public, Officers said that this was a point well made, and could be looked at as part of a refresh of the current

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action plan as it is important to ensure that it encompasses every woman, girl, Councillor or Council employee using any facility or visiting a Council building. Ivana Price, Head of Service, Young People & Community Safety also referred to the White Ribbon Day Conference taking place on 25 November 2024, which marks the start of the 16 days of activism against Gender-Based violence. During these 16 days the LBE, alongside the BCU will be holding events with dedicated sessions for women, girls and employees about how to keep safe and Members were invited to attend these sessions. Alternatively, if Members were interested in a more bespoke session, outside of the 16 days of activities this could be considered. Cllr Needs suggested incorporating something into the Members Development Training Sessions and Officers agreed to look into this and feedback accordingly.

Action: Ivana Price/Stacey Gilmour.

5. **SUPPORTING INDEPENDENCE: A LOCAL PREVENTION STRATEGY (2023-2027)**

Jon Newton, Service Director, Adults & Older People, introduced the report which provided an update on the development and delivery of Supporting Independence: A Local Prevention Strategy (2023-2027).

Lia Markwick, Lead Accommodation Service Development Manager, highlighted key areas of the report, which included the headline priorities for supporting independent living for young people in transition to adulthood, adults (18-64 years) and older people (65 years and over) with adult social care needs in Enfield over a five-year period.

Recognising that barriers to living independently reach beyond adult social care, the strategy first considers 'Universal Themes' that can impact a person's opportunity to live independently, including information and advice and health and housing. It also considers growing opportunities to enhance independent living through the use of digital technology- a landscape of opportunity that continues to evolve.

The latter section of the strategy focuses on specific priorities for supporting independent living, according to nature of disability or area of need and details of these 'In Focus' areas are included in the report. The strategy is intended to complement existing strategies and contribute to a holistic portfolio of documents, that together set out, in partnership with people who need support and their carers, what is needed locally to better support independent living.

The Year 1 Action Plan set out key actions to support delivery of priorities from September 2023 to March 2024. An end of year review of Year 1 Action plan has now been completed with the purpose of updating on progress against priorities and identifying the impact of this strategy work. Some key areas progressed under this strategy in Year 1 are set out in the report.

Further information was provided on the Universal Priorities including information and advice, the right home, training and employment, technology, active connected and engaged communities. Good progress has been made

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to increase high quality, accessible housing options for older people with support and care needs in the borough. Reardon Court Extra Care Housing Scheme - which has now opened its doors to new tenants – will offer 70 new homes with the availability of 24-hour on-site care for older people who wish to live independently but may require support and care to do so. Benefits of this type of scheme are cross cutting as it is a good opportunity for an alternative to residential care places and it also has the potential to impact on housing in respect of opportunities to downsize for example from council housing.

An update was also provided on the 'In Focus' Priorities and it was noted that in Year 1, Enfield exceeded targets for completing annual health checks for people with learning disabilities in the borough, supporting the priority to reduce health inequalities for people with learning disabilities. In 23/24 79% of people with a learning disability had a health check completed.

Year 1 also saw the expansion of the number of 'flexi flats' available for use within the Extra Care Housing provision from 2 to 7. This provides accessible short stay accommodation for people with care and support needs, including physical disabilities who may require short term housing with care, to enable hospital discharge or prevent the need for residential care. Over 23/24, this provision supported on average 6 individuals per quarter.

Questions were invited from the Panel.

In response to a Member's question regarding how the Council promotes independent living for elderly residents in the community, Officers advised that a good example is the Reardon Court Extra Care Housing Scheme as it supports people from residential homes, council homes as well as those individuals who will almost certainly need services shortly, to move into supported community living. So, the model actually provides people who are coming from virtually no support to quite high levels of support.

Reference was also made to the Community based and Residential based (nursing and residential homes) budgets and it was noted that the former is going up with the latter going down as less and less people are moving into that institutionalised way of living as more and more people want to live in the community and not in a placement. Therefore, the hope is to introduce more Extra Care Housing Schemes like Reardon Court, however this will take time.

In response to Members' queries regarding the direct payment model, it was advised that this model allows the individual to receive the monies they require to pay for services following a social care assessment. Direct payments aim to give the individual more flexibility in how services are provided and by paying the money directly to the individual instead of care services, they have greater choice and control over their life and can make their own decisions about how their care is delivered.

Members asked further questions about work taking place with voluntary and community sector partners and officers advised that Adult Social Care

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Prevention & Early Intervention contracts have supported the ongoing delivery of priorities in this area over Year 1. Information was provided on outcomes over 2023/24 which included the delivery of support for people with or at risk of Long-Term Conditions to maximise health and wellbeing. Over 23/24 AgeUK ICAN service reached over 3100 people who attended support groups and events. This included five large events and regular peer support groups, such as Tea & Chatter, Stroke Café and Walk and Talk Groups. These services are helping to reach people at risk of loneliness and social isolation. On average across the year, 79% of people surveyed felt less isolated since interaction with the AgeUK ICAN service.

Officers further advised that in Year 1 Enfield Carers Centre secured agreement from the GP Federation & Integrated Care Board to proceed with a pilot to improve the identification and support for unpaid carers across five GP surgeries in the borough. The work of the Care Ambassadors has successfully contributed to the identification of unpaid carers over 23/24. Outreach work with primary care and hospitals, has contributed to the identification of a further 757 unpaid carers on Enfield Council's Carers Register over the year. This has been a hugely important piece of work in understanding and identifying unpaid carers in order to offer information, advice and provide support where needed. This pilot will continue through Year 2 with the view to apply learning and good practice borough wide

In response to Member's questions and comments regarding people with mental health support needs it was advised that in 2023 Enfield submitted one of twelve successful national bids to pilot an Individual Placement Support (IPS) model in Primary Care. The aim of this pilot was to support over 1500 people into work or prevent them from losing employment due to health conditions. The pilot has attracted £3.25m of DWP funding for delivery. Since the project started in October 2023 the Enfield and Haringey initiative has supported over 887 people, enabled over 114 new job starts and over 45 returns to work.

In response to a question regarding whether the strategy reflects and reaches those who need it, Officers advised that a lot of work had gone into the development of the strategy to ensure that the voices of those people who use the services and unpaid carers were heard and this was achieved by holding various focus groups which involved over 50 organisations and individuals and therefore it is hoped that the strategy is a very focused document. Officers added that consulting on the delivery of the strategy will always be key, and this will be done through the action plans as well as ongoing engagement with partnership boards to review progress and shape future actions for delivery with people who use services and their carers.

The Chair referred to the Draft Local Plan and felt that there was a significant gap in it with regards to the need for more places like Reardon Court and similar Extra Care Housing schemes. Officers explained that from a Social Care perspective, they do regularly feed into the development of planning documents and provide needs data on the older persons' population in the Borough. In terms of more Extra Care Housing provision, from a population

perspective more was needed locally as it is one of a number of options for older people looking for accommodation with a bit of extra support therefore a continued conversation around this issue is needed.

The Chair responded by saying that given that the Draft Local Plan has another hearing in public it would be useful if the responsible Directors provided input at this stage as there is still time to shape the Local Plan. He added that there is great virtue in supported living as it takes the strain off health services, provides better, healthier living conditions for people who make use of it and it frees up properties that can provide family homes for those that need it, therefore it was important to address this issue as a Council.

6. PROCUREMENT AND AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR BOROUGH-WIDE STOP SMOKING SERVICE (SSS)

Dudu Sher-Arami, Public Health Director, provided an introduction noting that this was a great news story for residents as there hadn't been a stop smoking service (SSS) in the borough for many years. She advised that additional resources had been allocated from the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) specifically to do this piece of work and the report detailed the plan for achieving this.

Glenn Stewart, Assistant Director, Public Health introduced and highlighted key aspects of the report. Smoking is the greatest single preventable cause of health inequalities, mortality, and morbidity in the borough accounting for approximately 230 deaths a year and estimated to cost the borough some £209m a year. The UK Government has a target for the UK to become smokefree by 2030 where 'smokefree' means a smoking prevalence of 5% or less. The current prevalence is estimated at between 13.5% (according to the Annual Population Survey) and 15.6% (according to GP data) of the adult (18+) population i.e., 40-50,000 smokers. Grant funding for the borough-wide stop smoking service will be received over five years, from 2024-2029, and depending on prevalence will amount to approximately £2m.

Key elements of the required service were explained, and it was noted that the new provider will be expected to offer a comprehensive borough-wide SSS. This will include both face-to-face and a digital offer. Two levels of support will be offered; one whereby smokers will be given face-to-face support for 6 weeks, the other whereby smokers will be given the same support but through teams or telephone 1-1 support.

Expectations of the grant that LBE will achieve include a certain number of people setting quit dates over the five years of the grant and these figures are detailed in the report. The provider will be monitored through statutory quarterly returns on the number of quitters, success rates, ethnicity, areas of deprivation etc. In addition, LBE will have regular contract meetings with the provider and there will also be links to the North Middlesex Hospital smoking pathway, London-wide work, and Enfield GP Federations SSS's. As of 12 September 2024, seventeen providers have expressed an interest.

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The next steps of the process included sticking to the procurement timetable with a provider in place and accepting clients from January 2025 (challenge notwithstanding). Contract and performance management would then take place from January 2025 to March 2029.

Questions were invited from the Panel.

In response to Members' queries regarding how this provision would impact maternity services, it was advised that this comes under the NHS long term plan, so they are obliged to pick up patients going into hospital either due to maternity or as an in-patient where smoking cessation services are currently offered. However, up to now no support is offered when leaving hospital but this new provision will assist with this.

Clarification was sought regarding the GP data shown on page 41 of the report detailing smoking prevalence by ward and it was explained that this was only a guide as it logged all smoking preferences including people who smoked occasionally or had since stopped.

In response to a question regarding how people will be referred to the service it was advised that this would be the same model as previously, with individuals able to self-refer without any interaction with health services.

Members asked further questions about the priority groups, and it was advised that smoking prevalence varies by geography (South-East of the borough), ethnicity (Turkish, Eastern European and Irish) and health (Serious Mental Illness (SMI)). Good quality engagement will be essential, and the right actions taken to reach the 'hard to reach groups' in the borough

Members questioned if the new service would monitor vaping figures and ensure people weren't 'shifting habits'. Officers advised that the minimum the Office for Health Improvements and Disparities (OHID) are asking for is to achieve the targets identified in the report. The conditions of the grant are very clear in that it cannot be used to target vaping however, a suite of indicators will be used on a regular basis to monitor impact and progress.

Panel Members requested that a further update be provided in a years' time to feedback on how the campaign is progressing.

Action: Stacey Gilmour

7. SAFER STRONGER COMMUNITIES PERFORMANCE REPORT AND DEEP DIVE ON OPERATION PISCES

Cllr Gina Needs, Cabinet Member, Community Cohesion & Enforcement, provided an introduction noting that the report sets out the key highlights from crime data for Enfield up to August 2024. The report also provides a deep dive into the Community Safety Partnership Programme in the Upper

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Edmonton and Edmonton Green area and sets out the rationale for the approach, progress to date and next steps.

CI Rob Gibbs, Neighbourhood Policing provided an overview of the deep dive- Clear Hold Build Operation Pisces – Upper Edmonton and Edmonton Green. The Stronger Communities Board Community Safety Plan 2022-25 has three broad priorities: - Crimes that cause direct harm to people, Theft or damage to property and Harm caused to neighbourhoods.

There is one part of Enfield, the Upper Edmonton and Edmonton Green area, that accounts for 20% of the total crime for the Borough. It is an area dominated by organised criminality, drug supply, street sex trade, violence, and street harassment, which blights the lives of the local community and legitimate businesses.

The National Police Chiefs Council have developed an approach called Clear, Hold, Build, aimed at addressing organised criminality in defined local areas and its long-term impact. Clear, Hold, Build is a place-based, 3-phases operational framework designed to simultaneously tackle the totality of Serious Organised Crime Groups (OCGs), their business models, what is enabling their model, locally exploited vulnerabilities, and highest harm hotspots. It provides an integrated partnership approach that delivers tactical options which are systematic, proportionate, and targeted.

The long-term aim is to empower and galvanise the community's own voice to 'claim back' communities blighted by OCGs and build longer-term resilience and confidence to tackle future Serious Organised Crime threats. To achieve this the programme brings together the very best of investigative capabilities, multi-agency disruption opportunities and community-based problem-solving skills in a collaborative way.

Operation Pisces is a multi-agency programme which is focused on the Northumberland Park, Fore Street and Edmonton Green area. In May 2024 the crime analysis of the Fore Street (including Joyce and Snells Estate) and Edmonton Green area indicated that from June 2023-May 2024 Fore Street recorded the biggest hot spot within Enfield for Robbery offences. There were 236 robberies in and around Fore Street in this period, 24% of all the Borough's offences. There were twenty Lethal Barrel Weapon Discharges, 26% of Enfield's total and Fore Street had by far the highest rate of anti-social behaviour in the borough during the above 12-month period. Hot spots also appear around Fore Street for robberies, knife crime and drug trafficking.

Operation Pisces Clear phase commenced in June 2024 and the Police have committed a significant level of resources including the 5 local Safer Neighbourhood Teams, Territorial Support Group, the Specialist Crime North proactive teams and Specialist Crime Central Modern Slavery and Child Exploitation. Enfield Council has also established a Partnership Tasking and Enforcement Group bringing together the council's operational and enforcement services as well as Police leads. The group is chaired by the

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Head of Community Safety and meets fortnightly, tasking services based on the most current intelligence.

Information was provided on partnership action and activity that has taken place including Police foot patrols, carrier-based patrols, Automatic Numberplate Recognition (ANPR), live facial recognition, passive drugs dogs, use of CCTV, warrants and covert tactics. 213 arrests have been made as well as 226 stop and searches for drugs, firearms, knives and offensive weapons. There has also been the closure or disruption of 3 drug lines.

The Partnership Tasking and Enforcement Group co-ordinated a Week of Action at the end of July with activity including but not limited to: Food Safety Officers carried out a total of 17 food hygiene inspections and issued 7 formal hygiene improvement notices, Private Sector Housing Officers carried out visits to 28 properties with 8 flats occupied by single families requiring a selective licence, and 4 flats being used as HMO's requiring an HMO licence.

Members were further advised that since the commencement of the Operation Pisces the crime profile for both the area and Enfield has seen significant improvements, with the average daily crime in the borough having reduced from 146 crimes per day to 113 crimes per day, a 23% reduction since the start of the operation.

There has been a great number of police and council deployments and investment in Operation Pisces as the Clear phases progresses and planning activity begins for the Hold phases. Police leads will continue to bid for central police resourcing with a specific request for the Territorial Support Group. The intention is to continue the enforcement action until the end of December 2024.

The report also set out the key highlights from crime data for Enfield up to August 2024 which Members **NOTED**

8. **WORK PROGRAMME 2024/25**

The Panel **AGREED** to add the following item to their Work Programme 2024/25:

- Planned merger of the Royal Free and North Middlesex University Hospitals.

A suitable meeting date for this item to come to the Panel would be agreed between Officers and the Chair, and the Work Programme updated accordingly.

Action: Stacey Gilmour, Governance & Scrutiny Officer

With the above addition, the Panel **NOTED** the Work Programme 2024/25

9. **DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

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NOTED the next meeting of the Panel would be held on Wednesday 27 November 2024, 7:00pm in the Conference Room at the Civic Centre.

The Chair thanked Members, Officers and Police colleagues for their time and contributions and the meeting ended at 9:10pm.