

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CRIME SCRUTINY PANEL HELD ON THURSDAY, 28TH MARCH, 2019

**MEMBERS:** Councillors Lee David-Sanders (Chair), Kate Anolue (Deputy Mayor), Chris Dey, Rick Jewell, Bernadette Lappage and Mahtab Uddin

**Absent:** Councillor Claire Stewart

**Officers:** Andrea Clemons (Head of Community Safety), Dawn Evans (Community Safety Intelligence Officer), Daniel Hunt (ASB Co-Ordinator, Community Safety Unit), Susan O'Connell (Governance & Scrutiny Officer), Stacey Gilmour (Governance & Scrutiny Secretary)

**Also Attending:** T/Superintendent Neil Billany (North Area BCH), Inspector Erica Crawshaw (Neighbourhoods Inspector for Enfield), Enfield Youth Parliament Representative, Simon Allin (Newsquest North London), 10 members of the public.

### 1046. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting and said how pleased he was to see such a great turnout. An apology for lateness was received from Councillor Chris Dey.

### 1047. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

### 1048. SSCB PARTNERSHIP PLAN AND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Andrea Clemons, Head of Community Safety provided a progress update highlighting the following:

- i) Andrea thanked the Committee for the opportunity to provide the performance update and reminded Members that it is framed to support Enfield's Partnership Plan (4 years – 2017-2021).
- ii) The crime agenda is very dynamic, and things change therefore it is important to regularly review the plan.
- iii) Members were reminded of the priorities in the Partnership Plan which are:
  - Reducing burglary and keeping people safe at home;
  - Tackling violent crime – in all its forms
  - Keeping young people safe and reducing their risks from crime;
  - Promoting cohesion and tackling hate crime;
  - Dealing with anti-social behaviour.
- iv) A recent strategic assessment showed that the above were still relevant priorities. There was also a suggestion of including vehicle crime as a priority however, although it is recognised that this is an important crime, the harm caused by it is less than that caused by

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violent crime so the decision was made not to include it as a priority, which would require one of the other priorities being dropped, although work will continue in the usual way around combating vehicle crime.

- v) Enfield's Safer & Stronger Communities Board will be meeting next week at which time a new Action Plan will be developed and Andrea agreed to report on this at the next meeting of the Crime Scrutiny Panel.

**Action: Andrea Clemons, Head of Community Safety**

### 1049. COMMUNITY SAFETY PERFORMANCE

Andrea Clemons Head of Community Safety presented this report and highlighted the following:

- i) Andrea thanked the Committee for the opportunity to provide the Community Safety Performance Report. She said that she would be focussing tonight on Violent Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour but would be happy to answer questions on any aspect of the report.
- ii) Total notifiable Offences in Enfield have increased by 10.3% in the year ending February 2019. In London, there has been a smaller increase of 2.1% in the same period.
- iii) Residential Burglaries have increased by 13.5% in the year ending February 2019.
- iv) Serious Youth Violence has decreased in the last year in Enfield by 5.8% and London has also experienced a similar decrease of 5.1% in the same period. Enfield is currently the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest borough in London for Serious Youth Violence victims.
- v) Domestic Abuse with Injury has increased in Enfield by 4.9% in the year to February 2019. ASB calls have reduced in Enfield by 2.2% in the year ending February 2019, compared to the same period in the previous year.
- vi) The borough of Enfield recorded the fourth highest number of Serious Youth Violence victims out of all the 32 boroughs, consequently dropping from worst (1<sup>st</sup>) borough at the end of February 2019 and is almost level with our bordering borough Haringey, recording 378 victims in the same period, equating to an increase of 11.2% in the last year.
- vii) Graphs were included in the report detailing Enfield's position out of the 32 London boroughs for gang related offences.
- viii) In the year ending February 2019 Knife Crime in Enfield has increased by 9.7% compared to the previous year. London has experienced a smaller decrease of 0.3% in the same period.
- ix) Non-Domestic Knife Crime injury victims under the age of 24 make up nearly 50% (n=87) of all knife crime injury victims in Enfield and overall there has been a reduction of 8.4%, recording 87 victims in the last year, compared to 95 the previous year.
- x) Enfield recorded a total of 50 Gun Crime Personal Robbery offences, compared to 17 recorded the previous year.
- xi) There were 2496 Residential Burglaries in Enfield in the year ending February 2019, compared to 2200 in the previous year, an increase of

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- 13.5%. Enfield is significantly above London which recorded an increase of 3.4% in the same period.
- xii) Residential Burglaries in Enfield experienced a reduction in February 2019 after a peak in January 2019 and remain slightly higher than this time last year.
  - xiii) A new rollout of MetTrace has been confirmed for 2019, areas and timescales have yet to be confirmed.
  - xiv) Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) calls have reduced in Enfield by 2.2% in the year ending February 2019. In London, there has also been a decrease of 1.6% for the same period.
  - xv) The report included further information on each of the priorities in detail and provided figures, analysis and data. Tables showing the types of orders issued were discussed and explanations provided.
  - xvi) With regards to Issues and Challenges it was noted that the levels of crime are compared on a rolling 12-month basis and as a result of changed time periods, certain crimes are showing reduced numbers. If levels of Hate Crime, Rape, Sexual Offences, Knife Crime with Injury and Possession of Knives along with Serious Youth Violence continue to reduce, significant reductions after May 2019 should be able to be demonstrated.

The following questions and comments were raised:

- Overall Serious Youth Violence has fallen but remains high.
- The fall in the reduction of violent crime in Enfield could be attributed to more Police Officers on the streets carrying out stop and searches. There had been almost double the amount of stop and searches in February, with about half having taken place in higher crime wards along the border with Haringey.
- The recent merger between Enfield and Haringey's police forces to a shared command unit could also be having an impact, as it means resources can be deployed either side of council borders.
- Enfield had benefited from an increased police presence in February after a spate of incidents left the borough with the highest rate of Serious Youth Violence in the capital in the year to November 2018.
- Although the borough's knife crime rate rose by nearly 10% in the 12 months to February 2019 this may also be as a result of having additional Police Officers on the borough as they have uncovered these extra offences.
- Residents and Councillors raised concerns about the number of recent incidents in which school children had been attacked during their lunchbreaks and after school, resulting in their possessions and even their clothes being stolen.
- A/Superintendent Neil Billany from the Met Police's North Area Command Unit confirmed that as a result of these incidents more Police Officers had been deployed to problem areas such as Enfield Town to combat this trend. He also added that Police Officers had been into schools to give pupils advice on how to stay safe and protect themselves

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- He also advised that there were 40 Police Constables linked to schools in Enfield and Haringey and pupils could go to them for advice or to report incidents. It was recognised however that one of the problems faced is making sure pupils are confident enough to approach and talk to these Police Officers. In response to claims that many pupils are not aware of the existence of the school Police Officers T/Superintendent Billany agreed to look at ways of raising awareness so that their presence is known resulting in more positive engagement between pupils and Officers.
- Andrea Clemons, Head of Community Safety said that in addition to the ongoing police work Enfield Council are also looking at additional measures to address the increase of recent attacks on school children in Enfield, including looking at increasing CCTV around the town centre, particularly in Enfield Market Square and Holy Walk. However, there are some conservation issues around this with regards to trees, lamppost designs etc but it was hope that that this would be resolved moving forward.
- Discussions took place on the Enfield Community Patrol Project, an initiative supported by Love Your Doorstep, Enfield Town Business Retailers, Metro Bank, Local Policing Teams and the Headteacher of Enfield Grammar School. This community lead scheme had been set up to provide extra eyes and ears for the police and to empower community spirit by working together. The scheme involves a parent patrolling rota which consists of volunteers in high-vis jackets who assist by way of an adult presence in and around Enfield Town during school morning, lunch and home times with a view to helping to keep the local school children safe from harm.
- Feedback as a result of this initiative had already been very positive with local school children reporting that they felt less anxious walking to and from school and during their lunch hours due to the presence of the Community Patrol.
- T/Superintendent Billany said that the safety of the Community Patrol volunteers is paramount, so police advice if witnessing an incident would always be to step back and contact the police. However, having this Community Patrol in place means that the police now have very reliable witnesses to any crimes that do take place, which is very positive as this is not often the case.
- With regards to supporting the young victims of the above crimes it was suggested that more work needed to be done and Andrea agreed to talk to Enfield Council's Children's Services to ask what support is currently in place and what more can be done.

### **Action; Andrea Clemons, Head of Community Safety**

- Information was provided on activities and events planned across the borough during the Easter holiday. This included free boxing lessons at Edmonton Eagles and various basketball events had also been commissioned, these were in addition to the usual youth club activity programme. It was hoped to extend these activities beyond the two-week Easter holiday if resources allowed.
- The advertising and promotion of community events and public meetings was also discussed, and it was agreed that there needed to

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be better engagement and effective communication with residents. Methods of communication also needed to be reviewed as not everyone had use of the internet and emails.

- Members discussed a recent review undertaken by Croydon's Safeguarding Children's Board - 'Vulnerable Adolescent Thematic Review'. The review considered a cohort of 60 vulnerable young people with either poor outcomes or considerable concerns, with a view to determining whether there were any patterns in the children's experiences which could inform and improve future planning. The review also addressed early intervention and where this may have proved beneficial. Members commented on the reduction in Serious Youth Crime rates in Croydon and questioned whether this was a result of working practices following the outcome of the review? The Chair said that it was a very open and transparent review and felt that it would be a very good read for Members of the committee, especially given the similarities between the London Boroughs of Enfield and Croydon in terms of population and demographics. It was agreed that a copy of the review would be circulated to Members.

**Action: Susan O'Connell, Governance & Scrutiny Officer**

The Chair thanked Andrea for her update as well as Dawn for providing all the statistics and information over the past year which has provided the committee with a clear picture with regards to crime rates in the borough and where we are at.

### 1050. STREET PROSTITUTION & BROTHELS IN ENFIELD

RECEIVED a report from Daniel Hunt, ASB Co-ordinator, Community Safety Unit.

NOTED:

- i) Enfield has historically had an issue with street sex work, which is mainly being reported in the Fore Street area (Upper Edmonton Ward).
- ii) In contrast knowledge of the locations of brothels suggests that they are located more widely across the borough.
- iii) Over the past few years the profile of sex workers has changed from being local females, known to be Class A drug dependent users to largely being eastern European females. There are however still a high number of Class A drug dependent users still actively working in the area.
- iv) The eastern European sex workers have previously stated to police and others that they are here as economic migrants with the purpose of earning as much money as possible to send back home to their families. However, it is believed that there may be the possibility that this activity is being controlled and there may be instances of human trafficking taking place.
- v) As part of its response to these issues Enfield Council has previously commissioned outreach work delivered by the Terrance Higgins Trust to work with sex workers around their sexual health. Joint operations

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have also been carried out with the police and immigration to the Fore Street area and to other known brothel locations. The Salvation Army also conducts outreach work in the Fore Street area to offer assistance to the sex workers who may have been trafficked.

- vi) MOPAC (Mayors Office Policing and Crime) provided resources to deliver the Change Program in Enfield. This program is run independently and is ultimately self-funding. It is a conditional cautioning option offered to people arrested for and pleading guilty to kerb crawling. Individuals attend a one-day program which highlights the personal, social and legal issues with using sex. This program has been used in several other areas with a high degree of success in stopping re-offending.
- vii) MOPAC funding is also being used for a Display Vehicle which has been used in the Fore Street area making people aware of the issues and warning people not to use sex workers.
- viii) This is part of a targeted communications campaign which also includes posters, which are currently placed in bus stops reminding kerb crawlers of penalties for kerb crawling activity.
- ix) Enfield Council has also implemented a Public Spaces Protection Order which applies to the whole of the borough and prohibits prostitution related activity. This new power has allowed for the Police and Council to carry out more targeted operations from which fixed penalty notices have been issued on individuals.
- x) Enfield Council also work with landlords where brothels have been reported to ensure they are taking action to stop the activity which has an impact in the community.
- xi) Local data information was provided in the forms of charts and tables. In the year 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018 to 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019 there have been 126 calls to the Police about 'Prostitution Related Activity', compared with 118 calls recorded in the same period for 2017/18.

Following Daniel's update the following questions/comments were raised:

- Further information was provided on the issues and challenges faced which included a high turnover in sex workers every few months, the numbers of sex workers in the area, a large number of kerb crawlers not having English as their first language meaning they are unable to be offered the Change Program, high resource costs for coordinated council and police operations plus lack of funding to commission further outreach work on a more regular basis.
- Work will continue to: issue Fixed Penalty Notices to kerb crawlers, promote the Salvation Army's 24hr number that will be issued to sex workers who may be trafficked or need other support, physical changes will be made to affected areas to reduce opportunities for crime and work will continue to monitor locations of reported brothels in the last year and identify landlords that have repeatedly allowed their properties to be use for prostitution related activity and take legal action.
- Erica Crawshaw provided information on coordinated police and council work taking place which included a five-week activity plan

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which would see the emphasis paced back on the sex workers as well as stepping up enforcement and focusing on outreach work. At the end of the five-week period success will be measured by whether the situation has improved, if the girls have changed etc.

- Leaflets (in five different languages) will be handed out to men parked up in cars for seemingly no apparent reason advising on the legislations around kerb crawling.
- It is often very hard to divert the sex workers away from this type of business as this is usually what they have come to England for. However extensive outreach work continues in the hope of building trust between the sex workers and the outreach teams.
- Discussions took place about Operation Make Safe and the work that takes place in the borough around exploitation and safeguarding.
- There is no direct correlation between areas in the borough with high levels of prostitution and those with high levels of serious youth violence. This could be very much to do with the area/environment which can unfortunately be very hard to change as certain behaviour and activities become entrenched. It is therefore important to make generational changes around education etc. so that history doesn't repeat itself.
- Members thanked Daniel and his team for their outstanding work. The Chair also thanked Daniel for his informative and interesting report and felt that although there was a lot to digest, it was reassuring to hear that a lot of work had taken place to tackle this issue and was encouraged to hear that there would be a continued focus on this moving forward.

### **1051. NORTH AREA BASIC COMMAND UNIT UPDATE**

RECEIVED an update from T/Superintendent Neil Billany North Area BCU (Enfield and Haringey) – Neighbourhoods.

NOTED:

- i) Enfield and Haringey Police merged on the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019 to form the 'North Area basic Command Unit'.
- ii) This is part of a wider efficiency driven project across London that has seen the 32 traditional borough command units come together to create 12 BCU's.
- iii) Since 9<sup>th</sup> January officers and staff have been assumed from two additional commands, with Child Abuse Investigations and Serious Sexual Offences now being managed and investigated locally.
- iv) The North Area BCU is currently led by DCS Helen Millichap with a wider SLT of 5 Superintendents and 6 Chief Inspectors. DCS Millichap will be leaving on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at which point DCS Trina Fleming will take up the post. Superintendent (Neighbourhoods) Nigel Brookes had now left the MET to join Kent Police and Neil advised that he would only be covering the post temporarily until 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

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- v) An update on each strand was provided namely; Headquarters, Emergency Response Teams (ERT), Neighbourhoods, Local Investigations and Safeguarding.
- vi) Since the 9<sup>th</sup> January response times are closely monitored as a key indication of how the merge is progressing. Response times have improved slightly since the point of 'go live' and are better than this time last year for both Enfield and Haringey.
- vii) Inspector Erica Crawshaw remains the Neighbourhoods Inspector for Enfield, with all 7 Sergeants working across the wards at the point of going live remaining in post.
- viii) Work is ongoing to find suitable accommodation for the losses of Southgate and Enfield Police Stations, with wards teams needing to remain base don, or close to, their allocated area in order to reduce travelling time and spend more time on the streets.
- ix) The Safeguarding Team is largely based at Edmonton Police Station with pan-BCU responsibility. Amalgamation of officers from the Child Abuse Command and Sapphire (Serious Sexual Offences) has seen new officers join the BCU, however the remit on Safeguarding is now larger than before, so comparisons around total officer numbers would be misleading at this stage.
- x) It is also fair to say that Enfield has benefited greatly of late from additional resources posted to the borough on a long-term basis, from the Territorial Support Group, the Violent Crime Taskforce, armed officers and mounted branch and dog patrols.

Following Neil's update the following questions/comments were raised:

- Challenges faced since the merge on 9<sup>th</sup> January were discussed and various questions were raised.
- With regards to vacancies and the timescales for filling these Neil advised that conversations were currently taking place on how data will be presented across all 12 BCU's and it was hoped that this would be available shortly.
- Discussions took place regarding Section 60's and how and when these were used.
- Information was provided on the local CAPE meetings. These are an opportunity for members of the public, Police Neighbourhood Teams and Councillors to come together to discuss any issues and concerns in the ward, talk about crime figures and set priorities. All information regarding the CAPE meetings can be found on the MET Police website.
- Members agreed that it was very important for the Neighbourhood Police Officers to attend the CAPE meetings as they provided the perfect opportunity to hear from residents what was going on in their wards as well as sharing ideas and good practice.
- Inspector Erica Crawshaw said that in terms of the CAPE meetings Neighbourhood Officers were expected to attend and if this was not happening it should be flagged up. She went on to say that it was important for the CAPEs to be reflective of local communities, therefore if that meant changing the time that the meetings were held to allow for



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better attendance than so be it. It may also be worth looking at the frequency of the meetings to allow for enough time between each one for action to be taken on any issues raised. Each CAPE is individual and should therefore be set up in a way that works best for the ward.

- Residents were also encouraged to attend their local Ward Forum meetings which again were attended by Councillors and the Police. All meeting dates are advertised on the council website at [www.enfield.go.uk](http://www.enfield.go.uk).

The Chair thanked Neil and Erica for their update and said that he looked forward to receiving future updates as the North Area BCU progressed.

### **1052. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 JANUARY 2019**

AGREED the minutes of the meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

### **1053. WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19**

NOTED and agreed the Work Programme 2018/19

### **1054. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

**NOTED** that this had been the last meeting of the Panel for the 2018/19 Municipal Year. The dates of future meetings will be agreed at the meeting of Annual Council on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

The Chair thanked Members for their attendance on the Panel over the past year and also thanked officers and the Police for their continued support and guidance on issues which was very much appreciated. He also thanked the Youth Parliament Representatives and members of the public for their regular attendance and engagement too.

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