

London Borough of Enfield

Crime Scrutiny Panel - 13th September 2022

Subject: Safer Estates Team

Cabinet Member: N/A

Executive Director: N/A (Police report)

Purpose of Report

To provide an update on the Safer Estates Team including information on the impact of the resource.

Relevance to the Council Plan

Strong, healthy and safe communities.

Background

The Council has contracted with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime previously and the current contract was signed in 2019 and extended under S92 agreement to the end of March 2023. It allows for the provision of 15 additional Police Constables and 1 Police Sergeant.

Attached as appendix one is a report containing information about the activities of the team and their impact. The report also highlights some recent examples of good work linked to SSCB priority crime types.

Main Considerations for the Panel

Neighbourhood officer abstraction rates are high. The Safer Estates Team are protected from abstractions, except in extreme circumstances, in which case the Council is not charged.

The team works exclusively on the Council Housing Estates, areas which are more densely populated than the rest of the borough and therefore disproportionately contribute towards the overall crime and ASB rates for the borough.

Crime across the priority estates increased by 20%. This represents a total increase of 99 offences (20/21-21/22).

The increase in crime across priority estates (20% increase 20/21-21/22) is concerning, particularly when compared to an overall increase of 5.1% across the borough overall in the same period. However, these areas disproportionately contribute to the overall borough average. The five priority estates are located in

the East of the borough where there is a greater density of population and higher levels of crime and ASB are reported.

A 30% reduction in burglary in priority estates (compared to a 0.7% reduction overall across the borough) is a positive indicator of impact.

An increase in drug offences should be interpreted as an indicator of the proactivity of the team as these offences are discovered by officers. Drug crime has been identified as a major driver for violent crime and ASB, not just on the estates but in the wider community. The effects of a small number of individuals can have a detrimental effect on the community and local residents and also adversely affects some vulnerable young people. The team target this crime type proactively, through Stop and Search and warrants.

ASB across the priority estates reduced by 27.9%.

This reduction is less than the overall 35.9% reduction across the borough. However, these areas disproportionately contribute to the overall borough average. The five priority estates are located in the East of the borough where there is a greater density of population and higher levels of crime and ASB are reported.

Four out of five priority estates recorded a reduction in the number of ASB calls in the past 12 months when compared to the previous year. A reduction of 27.9% equates to 94 less reports of ASB across the estates.

Conclusions

The report demonstrates that the team have contributed a significant number of patrols and proactive interventions in the reporting period. Their work is directly linked to SSCB priority crime types and is of benefit to local residents and council ASB officers, who they work closely with.

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Appendices