

London Borough of Enfield

Crime Scrutiny Panel - Wednesday 1 March 2023

Subject: Community Law Enforcement Team

Cabinet Member: Cllr Gina Needs

Executive Director: Sarah Cary

Purpose of Report

1. To inform the panel and discuss the introduction of a new team.

Relevance to the Council Plan

2. The creation of this new team will help to enhance a strong healthy community with new team of officers to help tackle crime and anti-social behaviour, working closely with the police. The work will support the priorities of the Safer and Stronger Communities Board (SSCB). This is a direct respond to the ASB, crime and local environment issues that matter most to residents. The visible presence of the team while tackling crime and ASB will offer reassurance to support and protect vulnerable residents. They will provide a level of safety within our parks and open spaces for residents to enjoy. Cleaner and safer streets will improve levels of resident satisfaction and will make our high streets more appealing.

Background

3. One of the Council's priority is to sustain safe, healthy and confident communities where people can be free of crime and the fear of crime. With the lack of a highly visible authoritative presents, be it the police or others there is a fear of crime.

The team will consist of 50 and will be introduced in three phases with 17 posts being filled in 2023/2024. The uniformed officers will be patrolling streets and housing estates in the borough. The team will be supporting the MPS and protecting residents from anti-social behaviour crime providing consistency and expertise to tackle persistent issues; particularly in known hotspots in the borough.

Intelligence gathered will be channelled to other services that the Enforcement Officers will work closely with, including the Enviro Crime Team (street scene issues), Highway Officers (damage to footways), Community Enforcement, Private Rented Sector Licensing team to pass on issues of poorly managed properties and Planning Enforcement to refer unauthorised developments and antisocial behaviour to the ASB team. Referrals processes established by the Safer Stronger Communities Board (SSCB) for resident's personal issues can be used to deal with drug abuse and hate crime for example.

Main Considerations for the Panel

4. To consider the positive impact that this team will have on the day to day life of residents and businesses and potential challenges.

Conclusions

5. All Ward based officers will work closely with the local dedicated Police officers to ensure our officers are a core part of the community safety infrastructure across the borough. In co-ordination with MPS the increase in high visibility patrols will reduce levels of drug dealing, robbery and violent offences. By sharing intelligence and conducting joint patrols where necessary our staff will provide daily re-assurance to residents that the Council is responding to the issues that concern them most.

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Appendices – Presentation on creation of the new team.