

JOINT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held at the Council Offices, Narborough

WEDNESDAY, 13 DECEMBER 2023

Present:-

Blaby District Council representatives:

Cllr. Nick Brown (Chairman)	Cllr. Antony Moseley
Cllr. Nick Chapman	Cllr. Tracey Shepherd
Cllr. Luke Cousin	Cllr. Neil Wright
Cllr. Janet Forey	

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council representatives:

Cllr. Chris Lambert (Chairman)	Cllr. Claire Harris
Cllr. Surtees (Vice-Chairman)	Cllr. Ann Pendlebury
Cllr Paul Williams (Vice-Chairman)	Cllr. Anna Weightman

Also in attendance:-

Cllr. Les Phillimore and Cllr. Michael Mullaney – Joint Chairs of the Community Safety Partnership.

Insp. Mat Allingham and Insp. Neil Whittle – Leicestershire Police

Officers present:-

Caroline Harbour	- Environmental Health, Housing, Net Zero & Community Services Group Manager
Sharon Stacey	- Director Community Services (HBBC)
Rebecca Holcroft	- Community Services Manager
Rachel Burgess	- Community Services and Safeguarding Manager (HBBC)
Rebecca Owen	- Democratic Services Manager
Sandeep Tiensa	- Senior Democratic Services & Scrutiny Officer
Nicole Cramp	- Democratic & Scrutiny Services Officer
Isaac Thomas	- Democracy Support Officer

Apologies:-

Cllr. Roy Denney, Cllr. Susan Findlay, Cllr. Matt Tomeo, Cllr. Maureen Cook, Cllr. David Cope, Cllr. Joyce Crooks, Cllr. Cathie Gibbens and Cllr. James Moore

180. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

No disclosures were received.

181. BLABY AND HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH JOINT SCRUTINY UPDATE 2023

The Joint Committee was provided with an update on the three priorities of the Community Safety Strategy 2023-26, the serious violence duty, areas of focus, successful initiatives, performance of the partnership, crime, anti-social behaviour and fire statistics, and current challenges. Representatives of Leicestershire Police were in attendance to answer questions.

During discussion and in response to questions, the following points were raised:

- Working with perpetrators of domestic violence – funding for this initiative has now ended.
- The remit of Martyn's Law (which is currently in draft bill stage).
- Crime statistics and the changes in the way some crimes are recorded.
- Fire and safety checks – which have risen to 5th nationally on the number of checks completed.
- Street-vibe and how it is assessed on where the groups will be held. They are currently being held in Hinckley, but can moved to where the need is.
- 2022/23 and this year has seen a period of community tensions including the unrest in East Leicester, war in Ukraine and pro-Palestine protests at sites in Blaby District. As shown earlier in the report, whilst hate crimes have significantly decreased in 2023/24, the ongoing Hamas/Israel conflict has led to a rise in anti-Semitic and Islamophobic incidents nationally and it is expected that this will be reflected in continued tension and rise in hate crimes locally.
- Engagement with schools regarding child sexual exploitation.
- Fraud and the number of incidents that target older, vulnerable people. There are lots of preventative initiatives which are carried out all year round, working with Trading Standards and other agencies highlighting how to keep safe.

The Police Inspectors also provided an update to changes in the local service. For the Hinckley and Blaby Neighbourhood Policing Area (NPA) this means that there is now one Inspector for Blaby District (Inspector Mat Allingham) and one Inspector for Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Inspector Neil Whittle). The NPA remains as one NPA with both Inspectors covering for each other for leave and absence.

Members thanked Officers and representatives from the Police for attending the meeting.

DECISIONS

1. That the successes and challenges of the Community Safety Partnership be noted, along with the key proactive initiatives and campaigns that have been undertaken by the Joint Community Safety Partnership Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
2. That the Partnership continues to provide the joint Scrutiny Committee with annual Community Safety Partnership update reports.
3. That the positive work of the Community Safety Partnership to ensure compliance with the Serious Violence Duty be noted.

Reason:

This is the annual report from the Blaby and Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership (CSP) as required by the terms of reference of the CSP.

182. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 6:30pm on Monday 2nd December 2024 at Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council .

THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 6.28 P.M.