

Report of the Strategic Director – Environment and Sport to the meeting of Bradford West Area Committee to be held on 12 November 2014

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Subject: Neighbourhood Team Support Hub

Summary statement:

The report provides the Area Committee with an update of the Neighbourhood Team Support Hub and how this approach has made improvements to integrated working between the Council, Police and partners across the District.

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Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Corporate



Suzan Hemingway, City Solicitor

1. SUMMARY

The report provides provide the Area Committee with an update of the Neighbourhood Team Support Hub and how this approach has made improvements to integrated working between the Council, Police and partners across the District.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In November 2013 Bradford Policing District was formed bringing all policing in Bradford under a single Police Commander. This involved the amalgamation of Bradford South Police Division and Airedale & North Bradford Police Division.
- 2.2 Within Bradford District there are 6 Partnership Working Areas (PWA's) five of which mirror the parliamentary constituency boundaries. The sixth area is a specific team to cover the regeneration area of Bradford city centre. The staffing within each of those areas has been assessed using a wards need based assessment tool and there is a commitment to maintain local officers in the communities into which they are firmly embedded.
- 2.3 The new police operating model has strengthened ward based working by focussing on problem solving activities and improved ward based tactical assessments through Ward Officer/Partnership Team meetings and improved tasking and recording of actions agreed by partner agencies.
- 2.4 The new model galvanised some of the direction to new policing arrangements and during December 2013 a District wide Safer Communities Review was undertaken. The review highlighted opportunities to align operational and strategic responses to reducing crime and reoffending and improving community safety outcomes.
- 2.5 This shared ambition has taken the shape in the form of co-located, integrated Neighbourhood Team Support Hub that was launched in May 2014. The staff working within the Neighbourhood Team Support Hub include; co-located Council and Police ASB Teams, Licensing staff and Hate Crime Co-ordinators. In addition Crime Reduction Officers, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators, Restorative Justice Hub, Victims Support Champion, Volunteer Co-ordinator, Volunteers, NPT Co-ordinators and police analysts have also moved to the Jacob's Well Hub. The Council's Domestic Violence Team is currently co-locating with Police Domestic Violence team staff at Trafalgar House.
- 2.6 Since the launch of the hub significant improvements have been made to the analytical product which is produced every 6 weeks that supports partnership activities at a ward level. The tactical assessment details crime and problem solving occurrences. These assessments are currently police only data, and in order to develop tailored responses to the issues that matter most to local people we are scoping opportunities to include a wide range of 'partnership' data, intelligence and anecdotal local information to be captured in one document and shared at ward level.
- 2.7 The Neighbourhood Support Team Hub can respond to emerging issues and trends, providing a single point of contact for the collation of intelligence and local knowledge which can be used to target resources. A good example of this is in July 2014, a Nuisance Off Road Motorcycle Team of six Police Officers was

created to deal with these incidents of off road motorcycles and quad bikes. Since the creation of this team, they have taken 94 motorcycles/quad bikes of the road and have issued 90 Section 59 Warnings under the Road Traffic Act for the anti-social use of vehicles. This has made an immediate impact on calls for service in this area, which had continued to increase, but is now showing a 1.8% reduction in calls for service so far this year.

- 2.8 The ASB Team is made up of 5.5 Police ASB staff covering each of the 5 Constituency areas, with 2 Council ASB members of staff focussing on preparing court files and higher level interventions and 1 Council ASB officer covering the City Centre. Dealing with ASB requires an effective multi agency case management approach, and robust offender management which is best dealt with at the local level, by working with our partners effectively and efficiently.
- 2.9 The ASB Team continues to work as a team, sharing specialist knowledge and expertise whilst maintaining strong links with the partnership working areas and Area Teams. Work has been carried out across the district in relation to the forthcoming ASB legislation and the impact this will have and the opportunities it will provide to tackle some of the ASB challenges facing the district.

The tables below details the ASB interventions since the launch of the hub in May 2014 compared to the same reporting period last year;

May – September 2013	
Yellow Letters	88
Red Letters	69
ABC	19
ASBO	4

May – September 2014	
Yellow Letters	263
ABC	29
Final Warning	17
ASBO	10

The figures above show a significant increase in the ‘non statutory intervention’ lower level and statutory enforcement since the hub went live in May 2014. The figures support the approach that the focus of more effective working needs to be targeted on closer working between partners at the local level.

- 2.10 The Restorative Justice (RJ) Hub sits within the Neighbourhood Team Support Hub and is a pioneering new service developing restorative and victim centred approaches to ASB cases (including quad bikes, neighbour nuisance and environmental concerns), conditional cautioning and ‘post court’ work with Probation, Youth Offending Team and local prisons. The RJ Hub includes the NRP (Neighbourhood Resolution Panel) Co-ordinator and soon to be appointed ASB Victim Champion both of whom are funded by Bradford Community Safety Partnership. The RJ Co-ordinator manages the RJ Hub and the development of restorative approaches across the district. The NRP Project supports 70+ volunteers and in July 2014 received national recognition winning the Howard League for Penal Reform Award. The RJ Hub provides a seamless service to victims and witnesses and compliments the work of the problem solving activities within the Neighbourhood Team Support Hub. The work undertaken by this project has formed a blue print for all Community Safety Partnerships in West Yorkshire who now fund pre-court activity under the banner of ‘NRP’.
- 2.11 In November 2014 a member of the Fire and Rescue Service will spend one day a week at the Hub and from January 2014 the Fire and Rescue Service Community Liaison Officer will work full time. This will strengthen the tactical data which is

captured at ward level and collaborative problem solving.

- 2.12 The Neighbourhood Support Team Hub places Bradford in a strong position to integrate and share systems, data and intelligence at ward, area and district level to identify emerging trends and priorities. Additionally to do the predictive analysis to support prevention and early intervention approaches that longer term can have the greatest impact and outcomes for local people. By working better together, there are further benefits to be realised particularly in relation to cross district crimes such as burglary, CSE and human trafficking.

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

None.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

There are no financial implications for the Area Committee arising from this report.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

There are no significant risks arising from this report.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

This work relates directly to the Local Government Act 2000 and to the Duty of Wellbeing placed upon the Council to promote and improve the well-being of the District.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 LINKS TO WEST AREA COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN.

The Neighbourhood Team Support Hub will allow the Area Committee to further address local priorities.

7.2 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

There are no Equality and Diversity implications apparent.

7.3 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no sustainability implications apparent

7.4 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

No specific impacts.

7.5 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

Better coordination of district wide support will have the potential to improve community safety by identifying local priorities and co-ordinating collective responses to crime and the causes of crime.

7.6 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

There are no Human Rights Act implications arising from this report.

7.7 TRADE UNION

There are no trade union implications arising from this report.

7.8 WARD IMPLICATIONS

The information in this report is relevant to all wards in the district.

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

There are no not for publication documents.

9. OPTIONS

- 9.1 Bradford West Area Committee may determine to adopt the recommendations outlined in this report or propose alternative recommendations for consideration.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 That Bradford West Area Committee notes the report and considers how the Area Committee can work with the Neighbourhood Team Support Hub to continue to improve community safety for neighbourhoods and communities.

11. APPENDICES

None.

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.