



Cabinet
12 March 2018

**Report from the Strategic Director
of Regeneration and Environmental
Services**

Met Patrol Plus Performance Review

Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision:	Key
Open or Part/Fully Exempt:	Open
No. of Appendices:	Two
Background Papers:	None
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1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This paper outlines a review to date for the council funded 12 Met Patrol Plus s92 officers' known as the Partnership Tasking Team, deployed to prioritise and police the Safer Brent Partnership priorities and support wider Police Tactical Tasking Coordination Group borough priorities.
- 1.2 The first year review of the Partnership Tasking Team programme has shown great successes around our Safer Brent Partnership priorities, especially for those who have seen an increase trend in activity, namely Anti-Social Behaviour, Gangs and Violence with Injury and Reoffending. There has been a development journey undertaken by the team to increase their knowledge and competence in tackling other hidden crime types such as domestic, sexual abuse and child sexual exploitation; to ensure that all our priorities are tackled robustly to make Brent a safer place for all.

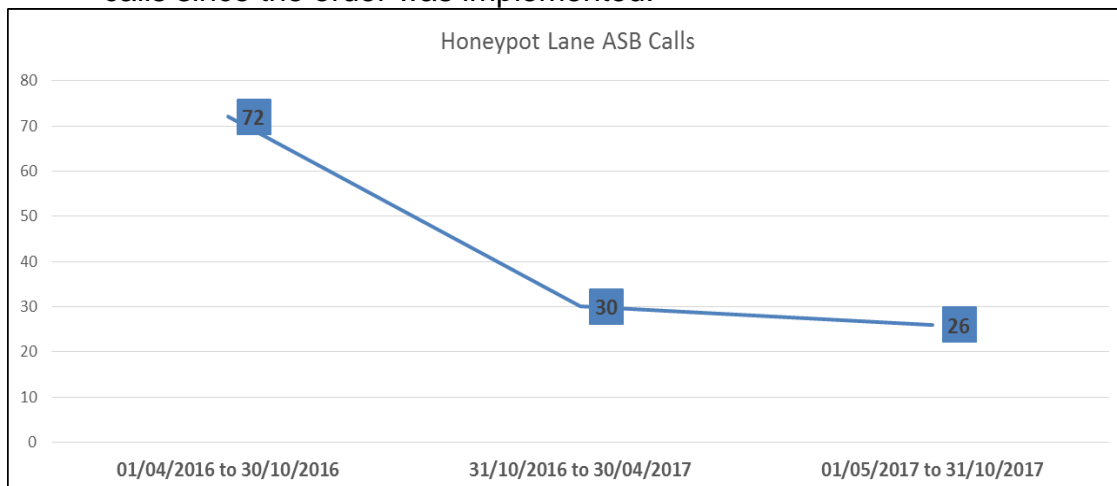
2.0 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 That Cabinet review the Partnership Tasking Team's activities and discuss future funding for this resource post 31 March 2019.

3.0 Detail

Anti-Social Behaviour

- 3.1 The Partnership Tasking Team (PTT) to date have recorded 794 incidents related to Anti-Social Behaviour.
- 3.2 Over the first four quarters to date Anti-Social Behaviour has attributed to on average 52% of the PTT's activity which is consistent with the volume of work required in these hotspot areas and the ongoing enforcement of Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) which expires in 2020. Quarter 3 also shows little or no enforcement under the PSPO as incidents of violent crime and robberies had increased in Brent, realigning the Partnership Tasking Team priorities to assist the borough policing tactics. In addition current analysis shows the demand for casual labour decreases in the winter months as the main identified cohort return to their country of origin,
- 3.3 The PTT have enforced the Honeypot Lane PSPO weekly which was implemented to tackle long term nuisance drivers attributed to people looking for casual work. This has resulted in increased rough sleeping in Brent's parks, additional levels of street drinking, and an increase in criminal damage in the area. Enforcement related data has shown a steady decline since the targeted enforcement with numerous PSPO warnings issued and over £600 recovered in Fixed Penalty Notices. There have also been 4 legal prosecutions for non-payment of the fines supporting our commitment to ensure all action is taken.
- 3.4 The chart below emphasises the reduction to Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) calls since the order was implemented.



- 3.5 From November 2017 to January 2018 there have only be 4 ASB calls to the police relating to nuisance attributed to the Honeypot Lane PSPO but there have been increased incidents of nuisance with those loitering in the area which the intention of seeking casual labour, resulting in the Police using Dispersal powers to move individuals away from the area.
- 3.6 All Individuals enforced under the PSPO are managed at the monthly Local Joint Action Groups with ASB Localities Officers currently developing referral

pathways with the Works Right Centre (registered charity specialising in supporting EU nationals) in Brent.

- 3.7 Similarly Brent enacted a PSPO to prohibit street drinking borough wide in October 2017, following a 6 month pilot in April 2017 to tackle street drinking under a PSPO. To date the PTT have issued over 100 PSPO Warnings, 21 Fixed Penalty Notices and 4 cases which have result in prosecution at the courts for non-payment of the fines.
- 3.8 Brent Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams also assist with enforcing the PSPO orders, however due to the re-allocation in those Police team resources, they have done so in a very limited capacity therefore the PTT have really shown extra value in this respect. There are also current plans at the Council's Enforcement Practitioners Group to develop a council pool of enforcement.
- 3.9 The PTT have also supported ongoing enforcement activity for Anti-Social Behaviour attributed with shisha bars leading to recent Closures under the ASB Legislation and youth disorder at Brent Libraries, triaging individuals identified to children in services for offender management through their schools.

Gangs

- 3.11 Over the first four quarters Gangs have attributed to on average 34% of the PTT activity whereby they have responded to 559 Gang related incidents/ proactive deployment. Analysis has shown emerging gangs in Kingsbury, Wembley, Neasden, Harlesden and Willesden, often controlling the open drug markets. These areas are also the same as our ASB hotspots.
- 3.12 The approach taken by the PTT has been to robustly monitor these areas, identifying individuals who are engaged in such activity. There has been use of Community Protection Warnings and Notices under the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 to address the offending behaviour of these individuals, whilst also building up an intelligence profile of persistent offenders who control the drug markets for targeted Criminal Behaviour Orders. These individuals have been linked to high level ASB and are part of emerging gangs in the borough and are now the main problem profile in Brent. Often the groups are not on the gang matrix as this evidences some of our more established gangs. Further to the concerns above there is more intelligence that gangs are developing and now increasingly operating county lines (drug lines across the country).
- 3.13 The PTT support all monthly enforcement and partner operations planned through the Local Joint Action Groups as well as the Offender Management Programme where required.
- 3.14 All identified perpetrators are managed through these forums ensuring that tools and powers available to Policing, under the ASB legislation, landlord enforcement and support interventions are implemented proportionately.
- 3.15 There have also been targeted gang related operations undertaken by the PTT in Harlesden and South Kilburn, with successful arrests for drug dealing, carrying knives and most notably loaded firearms recovered in the South Kilburn estate in August 2017, just before the Notting Hill Carnival.

Child Sexual Exploitation

- 3.16 Since April 2017, the PTT have evidenced an increased learning around this priority, helping to identifying and safeguard vulnerable children as well as aiding disruption of such exploitation. This can be seen through their quarter on quarter increased activity.
- 3.17 Child Sexual Exploitation cases are discussed at a monthly Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) panel which is attended by the Community Safety Manager. Daily cases which are identified through the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) are then referred to the daily Integrated Risk Management Meetings (IRM). Activities are consequentially tasked to the Police Child Sexual Exploitation Team and the PTT play a central role assisting them with some of the enquiries which come from MASE or MASH and they are regularly used as an extra resource to assist the Police Child Sexual Exploitation Team in disruption and intelligence gathering.
- 3.18 There is still much work to be done with this priority and going forward it has been agreed that the PTT will also be integral in assisting the Police Child Sexual Exploitation Team in approaching identified licensed venues under 'Operation Make Safe', to raise awareness with businesses on the risks of Child Sexual Exploitation. Helping them develop internal processes to quickly identify such behaviour and report any concerns to the appropriate service for further investigations.
- 3.19 It has also been recently agreed that they will be a priority resource for the Police Child Sexual Exploitation team in responding to Child Abduction Notices in the Borough.

Reducing Reoffending

- 3.19 Over the first four quarters to date Reducing Reoffending priority has attributed to, on average, 6% of the PTT activity. The third quarter saw a peak in this activity at 11% due to additional assistance needed by the probation service to deal with high risk offenders who were in breach of orders relating to our priorities. Activity has also included undertaking stop and search of known drug dealers and habitual knife carriers to help enhance deterrence mechanisms in hotspot locations.
- 3.20 Established links developed through the Integrated Risk Management meetings and the Youth Offending Service has strengthened the monitoring of known offenders on Court orders. The activity has also been enhanced by the Integrated Management Offender Strategic Lead who attends these meetings and developing pathways for the PTT to be more integral to this process, highlighting how the PTT have really become a part of the wider Community Protection service and priorities.

- 3.21 The PTT fully supports intelligence to monitor bail conditions for most prolific reoffenders which has seen some offenders recalled to prison following arrests by the PTT for breaches.

Violence with Injury Non-DA (Non Gang)

- 3.22 Over the first four quarters to date Violence with Injury has attributed to, on average 2% of the PTT activity. This percentage largely relates to assault, and Actual Bodily Harm activity. The PTT regularly support police operations at the Borough Tactical Tasking Coordination Group monitoring priority areas which are the same as our Gang and ASB hot spots. We are also confident that a large proportion of this activity has been categorised under 'Gangs' activity by the PTT as many knife carriers are also gang members engaged in violent crime.
- 3.23 The PTT regularly support weapon sweeps in vulnerable locations such as the south Kilburn estate and more recently in Gladstone Park to address incidents of knife related robberies with hunting knives and other knives seized on numerous occasions. Much of this deployment also overlays with Gangs related outcomes.
- 3.24 The PTT are often deployed around Wembley Stadium, the Arena and shisha venues within the borough to ensure public order is maintained and incidents of violent disorder are addressed quickly whilst also supporting closure applications for venues that meet the threshold.
- 3.25 Recent figures published in Brent have seen an increase in violent crime and the police have informed the Council of plans to increase stop and search tactics in the Borough which the PTT have supported.
- 3.26 There is also an obvious correlation between this priority ASB and Reduced Reoffending which further accounts for low recorded figures in this area, with recordings appearing elsewhere.

Reducing Domestic and Sexual Abuse

- 3.27 Links have been further strengthened between the Police lead for Domestic Abuse and the PTT. The PTT have supported with targeted domestic abuse arrests of outstanding perpetrators and over the first four quarters, reducing Domestic and Sexual Abuse has attributed to, on average 5% of the PTT activity. The last 2 quarters to date saw an increase in activity of 6% and 10% respectively which has been largely due to active brothels being investigated by the PTT. Outcomes to date have seen 23 suspected brothels have been visited in the last 2 quarters and 28 brothel warnings issued. Positive interventions are also a priority for our PTT therefore brothel visits also form welfare visits for any vulnerable individuals found in the premises with referrals to relevant agencies where required.
- 3.28 Domestic and Sexual Abuse can be sometimes considered as crimes of hidden harm which are not always visible. The PTT have gained increased awareness of vulnerable locations in the borough, where women are often exploited or prevalence of sex working evident, and this has resulted in increased enforcement action in the last two quarters.

Burglary Residential

- 3.29 Over the first four quarters to date Residential Burglary has attributed to, on average less than 1% of the PTT activity. Brent saw a spike a burglary offences in quarter 3 which was linked to two high profile offenders who have been recently arrested and charged by the Crown Prosecution Service.
- 3.30 Brent Police have a targeted work plan for the roll out of Smart Water, whereby the Safer Brent Partnership will be updated with current positions in the roll out to assess where the PTT can support where and when required, as we see burglary figures steadily increase.
- 3.31 Specific communication awareness campaigns around burglary is also being developed jointly by Brent Police and the Community Safety Partnership and the PTT will work closely with the local Police Safer Neighbourhood Team to increase patrols across neighbourhoods which have seen an increase in residential burglary.

Reducing Extremism Hatred and Tolerance

- 3.32 Over the first four quarters Reducing Extremism Hated and Tolerance have attributed to on average, 2% of the PTT activity. Brent currently doesn't have incidence of high volume in this area but there is ongoing work to improve our community cohesion in the Borough through the PTT engaging in community assurance patrols.

4.0 Performance Analysis

- 4.1 The use of the PTT in the first year has been integral to identifying offenders and areas for targeted and sustained action. There has been a greater intelligence picture gathered around our hidden crime types such as Child Sexual Exploitation, Domestic and off-street sex working, where much awareness raising and partnership from the business community was needed.
- 4.2 We have also been able to evidence a direct reduction in calls and demand to the police and Council, where the PTT have been used as a targeted resource to tackle emerging problems. An example of two areas where this has worked well is the gang activity in Chapter Road and Wembley High Road, showing a reduced call out rate by 55% and 8% respectively, as detailed in Appendix 1.
- 4.3 Going forward the PTT will increase their application of the tools and powers under the ASB Act, such as Closures and Criminal Behaviour Orders. There are plans to further strengthen links with the Neighbourhood and Town Centre Managers for more support and buy-in from residents and businesses, to tackle our priority areas holistically, moving to a community solution and resolution.
- 4.4 One such joint initiative which is currently being planned with the Harlesden Neighbourhood and Town Centre Manager and partners, is a 'call to action' in the Harlesden Ward. This will entail having core days of activity to address the increase in violent crime, drug activity, sex workers and persistent environmental offences in the area. This approach is in line with the current thinking of contextual safeguarding, responding to the external risks in the

neighbourhood and utilising the Problem Analysis triangle tool (Victim, Offender, Location) to ensure an evidence led and coordinated approach is undertaken. This operation also aligns to wider borough Policing plans for extra targeted action.

- 4.5 The flexibility in being able to task these officers quickly against our priorities, 7 days a week across unsociable hours has proven to be an advantage. This is a very unique opportunity to the Council and existing service delivery in the borough to enhance our commitment to the community to ensure a Safer Brent. With the declining resources of the Metropolitan Police the PTT are integral to maintaining and restoring public confidence in line with our 2020 vision. The combined tasking approach has also led to increased early identification of individuals coming to notice and more noticeably increased public confidence that areas of concern are now policed 7 days a week, up until the early hours of the morning. This has also resulted in decreased reporting to the Council and Police.
- 4.6 It is also worth noting that the tasking matrix for PTT officers focuses at priority areas to address on a bi-weekly basis. There is a realisation that not all priorities can be addressed at the same time by only 12 police officers and that local policing is continually dealing with ongoing issues. The tasking of these officers can also be revised and reallocated to respond to crisis in the borough and emerging trends. The team however have learnt about our priorities in a very short space of time and really showed excellent outcomes during that initial 6 month learning process.
- 4.7 An overview of the PTT performance to date across all priorities can be seen in Appendix 2, highlighting the shift and response to emerging trends and needs.

5.0 Financial Implications

- 5.1 Funding has been approved and allocated until March 2019 using central council revenue funds. The annual salary costs for the Met Plus Programme 2017/18 is £0.411m which rises to £0.415m for 2018/19.
- 5.2 If the programme continues in 2019/20 onwards the annual salary costs for the programme currently in place are projected to increase in line with annual salary increases. The Council would have to indicate if they will be renewing the Met Plus programme by 30 September 2018.

6.0 Legal Implications

- 6.1 Section 92 of the Police Act 1996 (as amended by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011) gives a local authority the power to make grants to a police force whose police area falls wholly or partly within the borough of Brent, either unconditionally or with the agreement of the Chief Officer of Police, with conditions.
- 6.2 Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the council has a duty when exercising its functions to have “due regard” to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act and advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not.

This is the public sector equality duty. The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civic partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.”

7.0 Equality Implications

7.1 None

8.0 Consultation with Ward Members and Stakeholders

8.1 Key stakeholders and members have been updated throughout the proposal for and implementation of this Partnership Tasking Team resource. Members were invited to a ‘Safer Brent’ member’s session in December 2017 to provide an overview of all related issues and priorities included the tasking, utilisation and outcomes of the Partnership Tasking Team.

9.0 Human Resources/Property Implications (if appropriate)

9.1 None

10.0 Staffing and Accommodation Implications

10.1 The PTT is still being managed jointly between the PTT Police Sergeants and the ASB and Crime Manager with the support of the Community Safety Team Manager both within the Community Protection Service.

10.2 The PTT were co-located at the Civic Centre in January 2018 due to police infrastructure delays and this will increase and further enhance joined up working with relevant Council services.

Report sign off:

AMAR DAVE

Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environmental Services