

	<p align="center"><b>Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee</b> 15 January 2019</p>
	<p align="center"><b>Report from Community Protection and Public Health</b></p>
<p align="center"><b>Knife Crime Task Group Scoping Paper</b></p>	

<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All
<b>Key or Non-Key Decision:</b>	N/A
<b>Open or Part/Fully Exempt:</b> (If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)	
<b>No. of Appendices:</b>	2
<b>Background Papers:</b>	0
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## 1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To enable members of the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee to set up a members' scrutiny task group to review knife crime in Brent

## 2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members of the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee to discuss and agree the contents of this report and scoping paper (appendix A)
- 2.2 Members of the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee to agree to set up a task group with the terms of reference in appendix B.

## 3.0 Detail

- 3.1 Under its terms of reference, the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee can review or scrutinise Community Safety. The committee is the Crime and Disorder Committee for the purposes of section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006. This means it can review or scrutinise decisions made, or

actions taken, by responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions and to make reports or recommendations to Full Council with respect to these functions.

- 3.2 The Crime and Disorder Committee can investigate the work undertaken by Community Safety Partnerships as a whole, rather than individual agencies.<sup>1</sup> The task group will produce a written report with recommendations for the Community Safety Partnership for Full Council. This recommendation-making function is an important one that overview and scrutiny has in a local authority. It's considered good practice that recommendations are SMART (specific, measurable, agreed, realistic and timed) and limited in number. In addition, information about likely recommendations will be shared and discussed with the Cabinet member for the area prior to being made.
- 3.3 The scope of this task group is to gain a better understanding of knife crime in Brent, and how interventions can reduce knife crime.
- 3.4 The task group will gather and question evidence and consider it along with relevant quantitative and qualitative data, gaining a comprehensive view. The evidence gathering sessions will be set out once the task group has been established.
- 3.5 Membership of the task group is drawn from non-executive members.

#### **4.0 Financial Implications**

- 11.1 There are currently no financial implications but the task group may recommend commissioning services not currently commissioned, or extending services currently commissioned which will have financial implications.
- 11.2 The MOPAC London Crime Prevention Fund contribution for 2019-2021 will decrease by £80,000 per year from April 2019. A proposal has gone to MOPAC to reduce current programmes and to cut the Community MARAC coordination provision in order to match future funding levels.

#### **12.0 Legal Implications**

- 12.1 There are no legal implications.

#### **13.0 Equality Implications**

- 13.1 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.

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<sup>1</sup> Pulling it together, Centre for Public Scrutiny 2012

13.2 The protected characteristic is defined in the Act as: Age, Disability, Gender reassignment, Pregnancy and maternity, Race (including ethnic or national origins, colour or nationality), Religion or belief, Sex and Sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership are also a protected characteristic for the purposes of the duty to eliminate discrimination. The previous public sector equalities duties only covered race, disability and gender.

13.3 All commissioned services collate data relating to equality as part of the programme of work including gender, disability, sexuality, ethnicity, and age (with particular interest in young victims and perpetrators). The commissioned services are monitored on their ability to deliver effective services to specialist BME cohorts, and to link in with other local specialist partners to facilitate this.

#### **14.0 Consultation with Ward Members and Stakeholders**

14.1 There has been several consultation meetings with stakeholders, community members and lead members around the issues related to knife crime in recent months.

#### **15.0 Human Resources/Property Implications (if appropriate)**

15.1 None.

**Report sign off:**

**Peter Gadsdon**

Director of Performance, Policy and Partnerships