

Social Inclusion and Community Safety Policy and Accountability Committee Agenda

Wednesday 1 February 2023 at 7.00 pm

Main Hall (1st Floor) - 3 Shortlands, Hammersmith, W6 8DA

Watch the meeting live: [youtube.com/hammersmithandfulham](https://www.youtube.com/hammersmithandfulham)

MEMBERSHIP

Administration	Opposition
Councillor Nikos Souslous (Chair) Councillor Omid Miri Councillor Trey Campbell-Simon Councillor Sally Taylor	Councillor Andrew Dinsmore

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This meeting is open to the public and press. The building has disabled access.

Members of the public are welcome to attend but spaces are limited. If you would like to attend, please contact: bathsheba.mall@lbhf.gov.uk

Date Issued: 24 January 2023

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1 February 2023

Item

Pages

1. APOLOGIES

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

If a Councillor has a disclosable pecuniary interest in a particular item, whether or not it is entered in the Authority's register of interests, or any other significant interest which they consider should be declared in the public interest, they should declare the existence and, unless it is a sensitive interest as defined in the Member Code of Conduct, the nature of the interest at the commencement of the consideration of that item or as soon as it becomes apparent.

At meetings where members of the public are allowed to be in attendance and speak, any Councillor with a disclosable pecuniary interest or other significant interest may also make representations, give evidence or answer questions about the matter. The Councillor must then withdraw immediately from the meeting before the matter is discussed and any vote taken.

Where Members of the public are not allowed to be in attendance and speak, then the Councillor with a disclosable pecuniary interest should withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is under consideration. Councillors who have declared other significant interests should also withdraw from the meeting if they consider their continued participation in the matter would not be reasonable in the circumstances and may give rise to a perception of a conflict of interest.

Councillors are not obliged to withdraw from the meeting where a dispensation to that effect has been obtained from the Standards Committee.

3. MINUTES

4 - 18

(a) To approve as an accurate record and the Chair to sign the minutes of the meeting of the Social Inclusion and Community Safety PAC held on Tuesday, 22 November 2022; and

(b) To note the outstanding actions.

4. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TEAM 19 - 39

This report presents annual performance data and achievements since the formation of the service in April 2021.

5. PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS 40 - 62

This report describes the application of Public Space Protection Orders and how they should focus on identified problem behaviours rather than targeting specific individuals, properties or objects.

6. HARMLESS HEXAGONS 63

This briefing outlines how police and partners are using practical evidence and academic research to target the areas of the Borough most at risk of violent crime.

7. 2023 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 64 - 84

This report sets out proposals for the 2023 Medium Term Financial Strategy for the Policy and Oversight Board to consider.

8. WORK PROGRAMME

The committee to discuss future items for inclusion in the work programme.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 21 March 2023

Agenda Item 3

London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Social Inclusion and Community Safety Policy and Accountability Committee Draft Minutes



Tuesday 22 November 2022

PRESENT

Committee members: Councillors Nikos Souslous (Chair), Omid Miri, Sally Taylor and Andrew Dinsmore

Other Councillors: Emma Apthorp, Mayor and Lead Member for Women and Girls (T); Rebecca Harvey, Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion and Community Safety; and Patricia Quigley, Lead Member for Inclusive Community Engagement and Co-production (T)

Officers: Mohammed Basith, Law Enforcement Manager; Matthew Hooper, Chief Officer for Safer Neighbourhoods; Gemma Lightfoot, Gangs Violence and Exploitation Unit Manager; Caterina Giammarresi, Victims Programme Coordinator; Beth Morgan, Community Safety Manager; Neil Thurlow, Assistant Director of Community Safety; Elliot Williams-Fletcher, Gangs, Violence and Exploitation Unit Analyst

Guests: Michael Defoe, Chief Executive Officer, Harrow Club; Laura Dix, Senior Service Manager, Advance; Sarah Lumgair, Operations Manager, People Arise Now; Vanessa McCain, Founder & Director, People Arise Now; Martina Palmer, Interim Head of Services, Refuge (T); Charles Rigby, Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Violence Intervention Project; Jane Smith, Lucas Ark; Sharon Tomlin, Community Organiser, Old Oak, Sobus; Dr Akima Thomas, Clinical Director, Women and Girls Network

(T) – Attendance by Teams

The meeting was livestreamed.

Please note: *The minutes of this meeting address areas that may be difficult for some people, if the issues raised affect you please go to [Violence Against Women and Girls \(VAWG\)](#) / [LBHF](#) for further advice and information.*

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Trey Campbell-Simon.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 July 2022 were agreed.

4. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TEAM

This was a standing item and Mo Basith provided an update with data and completed actions arising from previous meeting held on July 2022, highlighting key areas of performance in undertaking frontline and visible community support. Key highlights were provided in the main report which included performance figures and the high visibility and engagement of Law Enforcement Team (LET) officers and their care and regard for the safety of H&F residents. During quarter two, the LET conducted over 23,806 patrols, an average of over 250 per day at hot spots and areas of concern, received 1433 service requests from residents and businesses were investigated and resolved. LET officers issued 505 fixed penalty notices for issues such as fly tipping littering and highways obstruction. Over five and a half thousand Patrols had been undertaken on housing land and in addition approximately 4000 hours of reassurance patrols were conducted on highways and in district centres with particular emphasis on the Shepherd's Bush and Hammersmith Broadway areas. The LET had also conducted 1154 weapons sweep during their patrols the from July 2022 to September 2022.

Areas of growing demand stemmed from anti-social behaviour (ASB) in parks (appendix 1), much of which was diffused on the scene with LET officers actively engaging with residents in ward areas such as White City and Shepherds Bush. Some of the highlighted completed actions included:

- LET had reached out to every ward councillor and offered site visits, and most had taken up the offer to meet with their local ward LET officer, local meetings, engagement, attending the tenants and residents association meetings;
- LET contact details had been posted at the Monk Street housing office, as requested; and
- LET had engaged with the youth council to explore concerns and identify areas for improvement.

Neil Thurlow commended the work of the LET which had supported several high profile events such as the Queens cortege as it passed through Hammersmith, bank holiday weekend, and Remembrance Day weekend. The two way communication and dialogue between LET officers and residents was essential.

Councillor Omid Miri welcomed the performance update, actions and commended the work undertaken. With reference to Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), a breakdown of LET officers by gender was requested, and information about specific training has been given in relation to VAWG, as with mental health training. Mo Basith explained that there were few female LET officers however support had been sought from the council's equalities leads to actively tackle the underrepresentation of women in the team and a new female recruit would be joining the team shortly. It was confirmed that all LET officers had undertaken VAWG training.

Councillor Miri asked how officers sought to identify and engage with women and girls in fear of violence and who might need assistance, noting that there were many in the meeting who could offer advice and guidance about this. Mo Basith described an incident where LET officers had supported a drunk female and remained with her until a family member arrived. LET patrols were highly targeted, recognising areas of need and how this correlated to specific events such as the end of a Fulham football club training session, or entertainment areas in the evening.

Councillor Andrew Dinsmore referred to paragraph 8 of the report and the weapons sweep which had recovered 1154 weapons including 5 knives. He welcomed this and further asked about the efficiency of the sweeps and how this could be improved. Mo Basith responded that weapons sweeps were part of patrolling and although more weapons had recently been found it would be good to see this improved. Every weapon recovered amplified the level of safety that residents would benefit from. A gathering at Bishops Park recently had been dispersed and hidden weapons had later been found in the park so this was regarded as a positive result. Referring to paragraph 15 of the report, Councillor Dinsmore sought clarification about the 1089 ASB patrols, of which 60% required no further action. Mo Basith explained that the 60% figure covered incidents where LET officers had arrived on the scene to find that there was no ASB taking place, or that it had ceased. However, the patrols continued to return to the site and monitor. With regards to paragraph 15b, up to 33% of requests indicated engagement with an individual or group, with 16% classified as no action required. Mo Basith clarified that the remaining 7% may be a dispersal or another task following an engagement with a resident.

Highlighting an issue raised at the July meeting of the committee, it was recognised that there were increased rates of violent crime in London and that part of the LET officers role was to corroborate the finding of weapons or mugging incidents as professional witnesses. Councillor Dinsmore enquired if the LET would benefit from more police support or if officers felt that they were sufficiently well equipped with resources and training to undertake these roles. Mo Basith believed that support from the police and the training were adequate and given that LET officers also operated as a deterrent, a continuous uniformed presence was a benefit to residents who could feel safer. Timing and locating patrols in high footfall areas meant that officers were well placed to actively respond.

Councillor Nikos Souslous referred to paragraph 19 of the report on LET surgeries and sought further information about how these were delivered. Mo Basith explained that the surgeries would be held at Shepherd's Bush and Fulham libraries on the first, second and third Monday of each month and attended by local ward LET officers.

The surgeries would be advertised on social media, in the libraries, and on the council website. It was noted that some ward councillor surgeries had sought the support of LET officers to ensure the safety of members. Councillor Souslous encouraged the LET officers to reach out to members with the offer of walkabouts and site visits, and potentially attend surgeries where that would be appropriate. Officers welcomed this, subject to the availability of ward LET officers and shift patterns. The local ward knowledge of LET officers would be an invaluable support to members.

An ongoing consultation on responsible dog ownership was referred to by Councillor Souslous who sought further information. Neil Thurlow explained that this related to public space protection orders (PSPO) similar to the borough wide restrictions on street drinking. There was also an option to implement localised amplification of important space protection orders and one that was currently being consulted on was a borough wide dog control order. This was launched around 18 November and would run until mid-January 2023 and the engagement aimed to include a range of views. Work was being undertaken with the communications team to promote the consultation and to highlight what a PSPO consisted of in terms of the range of prohibitions and what this would mean for dog owners. An analysis of the data and community responses would then be evaluated to inform a range of recommendations for Councillor Rebecca Harvey to consider. To date, about 150 responses had been received, and subject to the level of support, work would then begin to apply for and implement the PSPO.

ACTION

LET Enforcement Manager to provide a figure for the number of female LET officers.

RESOLVED

That the LET performance updated was noted.

5. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE GANGS, VIOLENCE AND EXPLOITATION UNIT

The Gangs, Violence and Exploitation Unit – Gemma Lightfoot

The Chair welcomed Gemma Lightfoot and colleagues from voluntary sector, Michael Defoe and Charlie Rigby. Gemma Lightfoot briefly described the remit of the Gangs Violence and Exploitation Unit (GVEU) established in 2020, responding to increased rates of violent crime and with a primary focus on serious youth crime working with young people between the ages of 10 to 25 years in the borough. The team's staffing structure included a dedicated data analyst, two anti-social behaviour (ASB) co-ordinators and four outreach workers. Outreach support work aligned with a need for enforcement through injunctions and behaviour orders, and this work was underpinned by proactive and reactive criminal network analysis.

The breadth and depth of the GVEU remit was set out in the report and emphasised the value and importance of early intervention in addition to enforcement, as indicated by key performance indicators across the community (not just young people). The primary aim was to reduce violent crime committed by young people.

Key data highlights were set out in paragraph 26 and 28 of the report and in addition, included:

- Outreach work with 1500 young people
- 251 Norton classified domestic violence assault of injuries or murder offences committed by young people aged between 10-24 years, October 2021 to September 2022
- Following three unrelated murders in 2019, there had not been a murder recorded in the borough since February 2021 (paragraph 25)

Reported in paragraph 30 of the report, data on serious injuries caused by youth violence explicitly demonstrated that this was a difficult period of post-pandemic recovery. The pandemic had greatly impacted crime figures and it was important to understand this in the broader context of the Unit's operational work. Paragraph 34 of the report detailed the development work undertaken to produce a vulnerability tracker, collaborating with youth justice colleagues, police and colleagues in children's services. There was a clear correlation between vulnerable young people, and gangs and exploitation linked violence. The tracker allowed the GVEU to implement early interventions and preventative work with young people at the earliest opportunity.

A key success was a bid to the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), MOPAC (Mayors Office for Policing and Crime). The funding would support targeted interventions in South Fulham as there were serious concerns about youth crime in the area. Community empowerment to utilise the Council's new Sands End Arts & Community Centre (SEACC) was welcomed by parents of young people in the area with coffee mornings that offered a safe space to meet and talk. The funding also supported a late night youth project on Friday evenings, based at Sands End Youth Club and delivered by The Harrow Club.

The totality of the programme delivered in Sands End showcased the value of preventative work and investment to achieve the dual outcomes of protecting young people and developing a safe and supportive community environment through a range of projects, including one that had successfully channelled and nurtured the musical and creative interests of young people. Due to the success of the project, an additional £25k was awarded by the VRU. It was acknowledged that listening to and engaging with young people was critical in successfully delivering interventions. Completed and future initiatives also included:

- A half term residential break
- Advice and guidance to vulnerable young people and their families, in advance of the Notting Hill Carnival (the first time the event had run since the pandemic)
- A project with the Lyceum Gym
- A youth club in White City
- The Fearless project, with Crimestoppers (the project had led to another successful funding bid which was allocated to support the council's Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) work)
- Gloves not guns - to deliver two sport and dance activities in White City

The GVEU recognised the importance working in collaboration with young people, families and the wider community to address violent crime and the sector wide impact of this, particularly in light of future legislative changes in relation to serious violence.

The Harrow Club – Michael Defoe

Michael Defoe commended the work of the GVEU and outlined the work of The Harrow Club, a charity that worked with young people to address serious youth crime and violence and based in both H&F and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC). Early intervention work was instrumental in preventing serious violence which proactively succeeded in helping to reduce serious youth crime, as exemplified by the work at the Sands End Arts & Community Centre and the late night youth club based there. This was critical project in stemming the flow of serious youth crime and helped to divert young people from the potentially life changing repercussions of a violence dominated environment. Targeted mentoring was a fundamental part of this, recognising that interventions could not be delivered in isolation. Much of this was possible through collaborative and partnership work with GVEU outreach officers and partners such as the Violence Intervention Project (VIP), sharing collective responsibility for engaging with young people that were at risk of being vulnerable to joining a gang or being exploited.

The Violence Intervention Project – Charles Rigby

Charles Rigby described the beginnings of VIP, triggered by the 2007 fatal stabbing of Kodjo Yenga, a young refugee from Congo, in Hammersmith Grove. What followed was a prolonged period of outreach work which eventually identified a need for a more therapeutic intervention to working with young people. The charity was built around the notion that “shame is the catalyst of violence”. Young people expressed acts of violence as being rooted in disrespect or feeling violated but ultimately this was about being made to feel small and resorting to violence in order to release those emotions. VIP was eventually established in 2017, predicated on utilising therapeutic elements, with initial funding agreed by the then Director of Children’s Services, Steve Miley, and additional funding later provided by the Mayor of London. A team was built to offer clinical supervision on a weekly basis in either practice development or direct supervision and had led to the coining of the term “shame informed practice”. Charles Rigby emphasised the importance of working with other boroughs given the cross borough links with young people gravitating from neighbouring areas and reiterated the value of collaborative partnership working, avoiding siloed practices.

There was a key concern about adolescents reaching their twenties and to move them away from street based gang related behaviour. However, systemic trauma and damage often manifested itself through substance misuse, gambling addiction or suicidal ideation. Moving forward, the charity was keen to secure future funding for over 18s and partner with other organisations to support young people and encourage them away from a gangs based lifestyle.

Councillor Andrew Dinsmore thanked the organisations for their commitment and hard work. He described his recent court experience in attending the trial of person who had attacked him. At aged 21 years, this individual had a history of 26

convictions and lacked literacy skills. It was noted that the work of VIP and The Harrow Club had a life-changing impact on diverting young people from a life of violence. Councillor Dinsmore asked about the handling of intelligence data and how this informed police led operations and the work of the police generally. Gemma Lighthouse explained that intelligence was communicated to the police whom they worked closely with, as evidenced by the Fearless campaign. Charles Rigby explained that information was shared sensitively but it was acknowledged that young people wanted to share intelligence to prevent violence or criminal activities, and this had led to operations to close county lines or the legislative closure of properties.

Councillor Dinsmore referred to paragraph 60 of the report and the concerns highlighted about areas such as South Fulham and White City. Expanding on this, Gemma Lighthouse explained that £68k of funds from the VRU for capacity building required an area specific focus. The localities were identified where there had been evidence of a clear pattern of serious youth violence and intelligence that linked to the exploitation of young people. The value of the council's work and enhanced response had been evidenced in successful collaborative work with the police and other council departments.

Councillor Omid Miri sought further information about the VIP's therapeutic work with children and young people who had been traumatised by their experiences, and referenced the definition of a "thug", as a "traumatised human unable to grieve" as coined by James Gilligan, psychiatrist and author. Gemma Lightfoot acknowledged the impact of violence on a young persons mental health. The GVEU aimed to appoint a mental health practitioner and offer this as an option for those who did not want to access more conventional mental health services. Councillor Miri observed that there was a fine line between socialisation and criminal behaviour and queried whether repeated approaches by LET officers could trigger further trauma and alienation. In response Gemma Lightfoot explained that detached outreach workers engaged with young people to build trust. A potential target could be exploited and taken advantage and groups like VIP offered an alternative and safer route for engagement. The Harrow Club outreach workers had all undertaken trauma informed training and had worked with many young people throughout the pandemic through detached outreach to encourage them and engage with them positively to build trust.

Building trusted relationships was fundamental to successful collaborative work. Commenting on the value of community policing, Charles Rigby observed that a strong community relationship with the police was likely to encourage greater trust. Young people who had experienced difficulties with the police would be less likely to have that trust and therefore turn to those seeking to exploit them. Councillor Souslous highlighted the activities of People Arise Now, where a football game had been organised for young people in Sutton with the local police force as a positive example. Gemma Lightfoot commented that just before the meeting started she agreed with People Arise Now to host a similar event in Hammersmith & Fulham. Councillor Miri welcomed the approach, with LET engagement activities on the Bayonne estate, in Fulham Reach, a known ASB area, which he attended being good examples of positive community policing or mentorship.

Councillor Souslous asked each of the speakers what their proudest achievements were, what would they do if they were provided unlimited resources, and what did they feel that the council could improve on in the context of this work. Charles Rigby felt that it had been a significant achievement to secure funding from MOPAC and that unlimited funding would secure the future of all third sector organisations working in this area. Gemma Lightfoot responded that it was a significant achievement to work with a group of young men in South Fulham and although it was difficult to evidence the outcomes, the intervention of GVEU had positively altered the life courses of these young people and their families. Unlimited funding alongside long-term planning and continued commitment to the Unit's aims would allow this work to carry on, delivering commissioned projects from with enhanced capacity from having a larger team. Councillor Souslous emphasised that the Council was proud of the work of the GVEU and was committed to supporting its work.

Due to technical difficulties, Councillor Emma Apthorp's comments and question were read out to the committee. Councillor Apthorp welcomed the funding to projects such as those tackling Violence Against Women and Girls and highlighted the importance of recognising the consequences of gender-based violence in the context of youth crime. Councillor Apthorp asked about the impact of tracking serious youth crime and sought reassurance about respecting the privacy of young people. Gemma Lightfoot responded that intelligence was entered into a "vulnerability tracker" which adhered to GDPR requirements and was distinct from a "gang violence matrix", identifying those that might be vulnerable to gang violence and exploitation. It offered clearer insights into what practitioners or outreach workers could do to support young people.

Councillor Dinsmore asked to what extent the glorification of violence in film, music and in the media impacted on young people's perceptions about violence, touching on the concept of shame referenced by Charles Rigby. There was a recognition that the narrative arc in films such as Die Hard and Lethal Weapon reflected the human predisposition towards violence, although this was "Hollywood violence" and more extreme. The impact on individuals who had experienced trauma, abuse or neglect was amplified as aspects of it such as shame mirrored their life experiences and reality. The perpetuation of violence came as much from first hand experiences as from the influence of the media, but the latter was not the only root cause. Michael Defoe touched on the influence of Drill and rap music, as a reflection of the poor homelife experience of some young people who then might use violence as means to achieving fulfilment or gaining control, as they saw no other alternative but to perpetuate what was portrayed in unfiltered arts and social mediums. Gemma Lightfoot acknowledged that there was an element of glorifying violence and recounted the experiences of young people in H&F who had seen the success of Drill music artists from RBKC and whose music contained serious threats to each other. The council had worked in partnership with the police to address this through successfully implementing criminal behaviour orders and recognised the work of Rebel Records, where creating music was not predicated on encouraging violence.

Councillor Souslous thanked Councillor Dinsmore for his petition campaigning against the sale of machetes on Amazon and which had already received over 125k signatures.

RESOLVED

That the report was noted.

6. **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS**

Council's strategy on Violence Against Women and Girls – Beth Morgan

Councillor Nikos Souslous welcome Beth Morgan and a range of organisations who kindly contributed to the discussion. The council's response to Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) has been a key administration commitment and 2021 saw the appointment of Annabel Moores, Violence Against Women and Girls Lead followed by the publication of the council's coproduced VAWG strategy 2022-25 in March 2022 setting out a five year action plan (included in the agenda pack). A fundamental aspect of the work was that it adopted a co-ordinated community response incorporating multiple agency support involving all partners and not just the council in tackling offences. Focusing on the three key elements of refuge and safe accommodation, commissioning of domestic abuse support services (Angelou Partnership) and survivor consultation (Women and Girls Network) the approach emphasised collaborative engagement between partners in addition to placing survivor engagement at the heart of the commissioning process. Performance monitoring data was appended to the report.

Beth Morgan also announced that since the publication of the agenda the Greater London Authority Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Fund had verbally confirmed funding in H&F for 2023/24.

Consideration of the report by the Committee had been timed to coincide with the annual, international 16 days of activism event which would run from 25 November – 10 December 2022. This aimed to highlight gender-based violence, and this year also overlapped with the commencement of the men's football World Cup. High profile football tournaments and similar events unfortunately often also recorded a spike in domestic abuse offenses. Local events to mark the 16 days of activism had been scheduled and a final list would shortly be confirmed. These included a workshop on allyship and bystander intervention looking at the role of the community in tackling abuse against women and girls, particularly in the public realm. Webinars for practitioners were also planned which aimed to raise awareness of harmful practices, the "Ask Angela" scheme was being further promoted with licensed premises across the borough and the council was also hosting an event in solidarity with women in Iran. A communications campaign to raise awareness about VAWG services was also being implemented.

Advance – Laura Dix

Laura Dix outlined the work of the organisation, established in 1998, with their main offices located in H&F. The two key aims of the charity were to support women who had experienced domestic abuse and who also had experience of navigating the criminal justice system, often there was a crossover with women going through both experiences. The Angelou Partnership worked as a consortium of organisations, which included Advance, to collectively support women and girls who experienced

domestic violence and abuse (DVA). Advance consisted of independent domestic violence advisors who worked with women aged 13 plus. Typically, advisors worked with individuals for about 3-6 months, walking alongside the person during what was potentially the most challenging time in their lives and complemented by specialist advisors providing support on mental health and substance misuse. The consortium consisted of a range of partners with different areas of expertise and the aim was to offer provision according to need. Solace Women's Aid supported women and girls who had experienced sexual violence, Galop provided advocacy and casework support for LGBT+ people who experienced abuse and violence. Al-Hasaniya, was a Moroccan Women's Centre serving the health, welfare, educational and cultural needs of Moroccan and Arabic-speaking women and their families, and IKWRO, Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation, worked to combat discrimination and violence against women and girls.

Laura Dix described the referral service offered and how the organisation could be contacted by women or practitioners, with access to tailored support across the consortium based on need, signposted and supported in accessing provision. An increase in domestic abuse cases had been observed as increasing throughout the period of the pandemic with significant casework pressures arising from waiting lists with mental health being a related factor and demand for therapeutic support which was oversubscribed. The cost of living crisis was also having a significant impact and an impediment as women struggled to meet the cost of public transport to attend advice centres, one solution for which was online provision to improve accessibility.

Women and Girls Network – Dr Akima Thomas

Dr Akima Thomas outlined the work of the WGN, which was currently responsible for conducting a consultation, details of which had been previously circulated to the committee and commended by Councillor Souslous. Based in H&F and established for 32 years the organisation delivered a London-wide, integrated provision of services which included individual and group therapeutic services. This also included a specialist sexual violence advisory team, and a West London Rape Crises service, which was open to all survivors of sexual violence. In addition to these core services, Dr Thomas commended the council for commissioning the organisation to develop the consultation which intended to support survivors by developing an independent advisory panel to include the voices of vulnerable and marginalised communities. A better understanding of the survivors' experience could then help shape future provision. An added layer of accountability and transparency would also strengthen policy and commissioning decisions. The opportunity to create greater equity by including the survivors' voice and doing so at a strategic level was a bold approach, which also facilitated an intersectional exploration of those communities and women who did not come forward to access survivor and VAWG services.

Acknowledging the inherent difficulties in navigating the criminal justice system, Councillor Andrew Dinsmore commended the work and asked contributors if they had observed any improvement in the past 12-14 years. Dr Thomas responded that any improvement had been negated by the pandemic and further deteriorated as a consequence. Survivors of sexual violence currently waited for about 5 years for a court date which was described as horrendous. A significant amount of work and resources were required to improve police and Crown Prosecution Service support, and, despite changes to the law, any therapeutic notes still required disclosure as

the case proceeded through the courts. Laura Dix explained that it was hard for women to disclose sexual DVA, and difficult to ascertain risk from family members due to coercion. Experiences were disclosed as a result of developing trust which was fragile. There was much work to be done at a societal level and a longer term approach was required to embed, develop and sustain services. Recognising the potentially devastating consequences for survivors when a trial collapsed, Laura Dix added her personal view that jurors be offered training on understanding DVA.

Beth Morgan added that barriers included the common and sometimes mistaken perception that sexual abuse was perpetrated by a stranger rather than a family member, a narrative that made it harder for a woman to disclose sexual and violent abuse. In terms of holding perpetrators to account, it was explained that operational groups consisting of multiagency representatives did view accessibility to the criminal justice system and retain oversight of the system. H&F had also commissioned the Impact project, a co-located project working with women who were engaging with the criminal justice system in relation to DVA court cases. Training was also offered to police officers as part of the project to help them to understand the complexities. Looking forward, the intention was to grow the project by working with perpetrators and undertake early prevention work.

Councillor Miri thanked the organisations for the work being undertaken and observed that while it was obviously right that VAWG focused on women and girls, he asked what the long term solution would be to prevent DVA from occurring, for example, by offering education for young people or outreach work in schools and communities, and how cultural barriers could be overcome. Dr Thomas replied that this was a broad and difficult question to answer, however, it linked to understanding the roots of violence, the impact of social inequality and coercive power, and how the community could respond to this through either legislative sanctions, or education by raising awareness and preventative work, both of which were key. Societal change in terms of addressing the gender power imbalance was required at a basic level and needed to be tackled with resources. The lack of progress in the criminal justice system was frustrating but some fundamental societal changes were required to improve equity.

Laura Dix concurred with Dr Thomas's view and stated that a multipronged approach centred around prevention was important in tackling the social narrative in popular culture and the media around "possessing" a partner. She advocated the need for raising awareness in schools as one way of tackling this at source. The work undertaken by WGN and similar organisations was very hard, and whilst the commendations, support and acknowledgement of the great results achieved in supporting women were welcome, these were gendered crimes rooted in inequality and prevention was the key.

Beth Morgan agreed that gendered-based prevention work was fundamental, together with health focused work, requiring a community coordinated response with zero tolerance of gender based violence. Changing challenging behaviour and defining the role of men as allies was gaining traction, together with bystander intervention as there were small actions that communities could collectively undertake to positively intervene. Anticipated specialist project work with young

people was about early intervention so that challenging behaviour traits could be addressed early on before issues escalated.

Sarah Lumgair described the work of People Arise Now with those who have experienced DVA and one of the barriers highlighted has been the need to recount their experiences on multiple occasions to multiple people and she asked if there was a way to limit this to one initial statement that could be shared across services. Dr Thomas concurred that this would be the ideal but recognised the limitations of this as each service operated with different remits. For example, a survivor may present at WGN initially, and an advisor would collect and capture information about their case, which might not have been reported so that there was a potential safeguarding issue to consider. As the person moved to counselling services, Dr Thomas hoped that a second retelling did not fundamentally re-traumatise the individual and might even be beneficial for some, at a therapeutic level. One of the ways in which a survivor could tell their story was not about interrogating the truth of their experience and what had happened but was more reflective. The difficulty was that not all services were equipped to respond appropriately.

Laura Dix agreed and continued that one of the benefits of the Angelou Partnership was oversight from a range of organisation collaborating within the partnership with one “front door” access to all of the organisations using one referral form. This was not the case previously where an individual might have had to approach one organisation, been assessed for an hour, and then referred on to another more suitable service and then have to retell their story again. A person now received a short, initial assessment and then be referred to the most appropriate services. The Angelou Partnership was relatively unique in offering this innovative and forward thinking approach. Advance was often contacted by women who sought a letter of support about their circumstances from a GP, family court or social housing service and this was provided based on the notes of their particular case history. Beth Morgan concurred and recognised that as service providers, the complexities of some systems were an added burden that could be improved upon by removing barriers through simplifying organisational structures and processes, supporting a woman through their journey.

Councillor Souslous welcomed the comments, acknowledging that the removal of barriers to ease access to services, and to reduce the impact and trauma as consequence of a woman having to retell their story was an important priority. Councillor Rebecca Harvey recounted her experience of the advice sector, where individuals were provided with a letter explaining the reason why they had sought advice or support and outlining what had been offered to them as next steps. This was valuable as it empowered the person to take ownership of the systems they were navigating.

A further question from Sarah Lumgair sought to understand whether restorative justice was facilitated by any of the organisations, particularly where a person needed support in navigating the criminal justice system. Beth Morgan responded that a fuller response to this question would be more helpful and offered to follow up after the meeting.

Councillor Dinsmore was interested to understand what challenging or misogynistic behaviour in school age pupils looked like and the preventative measures could be implemented to counteract this. Beth Morgan explained there was a new initiative being rolled out in schools led by Children's Services called the Bambu project. Funded by the VRU, details about the two year project were provided, to be delivered by Domestic Violence Intervention Project and Rise Mutual and that further information about this could be provided.

Councillor Souslous asked the organisations what achievements they were most proud of, what they might do if offered the resources and what could the council do more of to assist. Dr Thomas responded that the establishment of an independent advisory panel was their greatest achievement. It represented a healing arc, beginning with a woman entering a service and realising the ambitions of empowerment and co-production. The testimony of survivors could support other survivors, raising awareness for better resources and access to services, greater capacity, more training and specialisms such as the Indigo project supporting survivors with mental health and complex needs. A more holistic approach was sought encompassing group work and therapy to support survivors in services that could be colocated long term, moving them forward from surviving trauma to thriving. Dr Thomas commended H&F for the work undertaken to date, but more commitment was needed that extended beyond scope of investment with a greater focus on VAWG, both in terms of allyship and accountability, and prevention work.

Laura Dix described their biggest achievement as having staff across the Angelou Partnership uniting in response to the pandemic to support survivors, supporting women who were "locked" up in their own homes, hearing difficult stories and still working and supporting each other as a team, and as part of the consortium partnership. More resourcing and investment were needed to support community based prevention work, and to support women the first time that they disclosed their trauma. The right response from the community then would access the right support from services. The inclusion of the item on the agenda was commended and there was encouragement for this focus to continue.

From a local authority perspective, Beth Morgan was most proud of how VAWG had become a key priority across the organisation, extending it beyond a community safety issue and encompassing other services such as children's and environment (housing) and she hoped that this would continue. Offering refuge and safe accommodation was key and her vision for utilising unlimited resources was to see the provision of more self-contained and accessible housing provision.

Due to technical issues Martina Palmer's contribution was communicated by Caterina Giammarresi. Refuge provided DVA support through the Damascus refuge provision, supporting women with children who were fleeing their homes. Crises accommodation was provided to support them initially and to enable them to move onto living independently. The achievement that they were most proud of was to give women a voice, to empower them to be at the forefront of developing survivor services. This not only reflected the way in which provision was delivered but also informed Crises Intervention support and wider lobbying campaigns. Refuge's most recent campaign had successfully lobbied for a change in law making it illegal to threaten to share intimate images, a serious issue in DVA relationships. This had

been supported by coproduction work with survivors, amplifying their concerns and voices. In terms of future work, Martina Palmer echoed the comments of other contributors regarding the need for greater resources and access to safe and suitable accommodation nationally. Access to employment opportunities to ensure independence was another issue and also linked to housing, making it difficult for women to move forward. This, combined meeting the different needs of children that were also affected meant that women remained in refuges for longer because there was no where for them to move onto. Addressing mental health needs post pandemic had become harder as there was extensive waiting time to access therapeutic support services.

Councillor Souslous apologised sincerely to contributors who had joined online for the technical difficulties experienced and invited them to provide any further comments or questions which could be responded to following the meeting. Councillor Patricia Quigley sought further information and clarification regarding the responsible dog ownership PSPO (public space protection order) consultation and why an “easy read” version of the consultation document was not offered, to be provided following the meeting.

Councillor Souslous thanked all contributors for their attendance and participation and the following actions were noted:

ACTIONS

1. For the Community Safety Manager to share details about restorative justice facilitators and how this provision was delivered;
2. For the Community Safety Manger to share information about a new Children’s Services initiative tackling challenging or misogynistic behaviours in schools; and
3. With regards to Agenda Item 4, Annual Performance Report for the Law Enforcement Team, the Assistant Director for Community Safety to provide a response as to why an easy read document was not offered as part of the PSPO consultation.

RESOLVED

That report and actions were noted.

7. WORK PROGRAMME

Committees discussed suggested items for the next meeting which included:

- The council’s Medium Term Financial Strategy;
- To scrutinise the police and their contribution to supporting local communities, and the community organisations they work in partnership with to achieve this;
- Mental Health services in the context of the two items discussed (GVEU and DVA), although it was recognised that this fell within the remit of the Health, Inclusion and Social Care Policy and Accountability;
- The impact of the cost of living on community safety, although it was recognised that this was a key cross cutting theme being tackled across the council; and

- To achieve insights into causal factors of social inclusion by considering the work and contributions of community and faith leaders in helping to prevent crime.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

24 January 2023*.

*(*this date was later amended to 1 February 2023)*

Meeting started: 7pm
Meeting ended: 9.44pm

Chair

Contact officer: Bathsheba Mall
 Committee Co-ordinator
 Governance and Scrutiny
 ☎: 07776672816
 E-mail: bathsheba.mall@lbhf.gov.uk

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

Report to: Social Inclusion and Community Safety Policy and Accountability Committee

Date: 01/02/2023

Subject: Annual Performance Report for the Law Enforcement Team

Report author: Neil Thurlow, Assistant Director of Community Safety and
Mohammed Basith, Law Enforcement Manager

Responsible Director: Matthew Hooper, Chief Officer - Safer Neighbourhoods &
Regulatory Services, Environment Department

SUMMARY

1. This report provides PAC with an update following the previous meeting focusing on work of the Law Enforcement Team between October and December 2022.
2. There are no decisions required from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

For the group to note and comment on the report.

Wards Affected: All

Our Values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F Values
Building shared prosperity	A cleaner, greener, safer borough increases opportunities for all
Creating a compassionate council	Working with our communities the LET is the front face of the council for many and the service offers help, support and advice for all ensuring that everyone's problems are addressed
Doing things with residents, not to them	Residents are concerned around environmental crime, ASB and this affects how they feel and perceive the boroughs safety. Residents safety and perceptions of safety are key objectives that the LET work towards addressing
Being ruthlessly financially efficient	We have brought together several services to create a larger singular service with a wider range of powers
Taking pride in H&F	The LET works to improve the local environment creating a cleaner, greener borough
Rising to the challenge of the climate	The service uses only electric vehicles

and ecological emergency	and the default for staff is to walk, with vehicles being used for specific matters and between taskings only.
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Background Papers Used in Preparing This Report

None

Service background

3. In November 2022, the Law Enforcement Team (LET) presented performance data and achievements since the formation of the service in April 2021. The LET sits within the Community Safety Unit and was formed following the amalgamation of several teams - Parks Police, Housing Wardens, Highways Enforcement and Street scene enforcement – creating one singular enforcement provision.

Service performance since the previous PAC meeting

4. Since October 2022 to date, the LET has continued to deliver a highly visible front-line service 24/7, and this report provides further details of the work LET officers have undertaken. This includes a total of 23,863 patrols - an average of 259 per day – with officers working to investigate and resolve service requests, monitor sites following incidents or to inspect locations following referrals for a range of issues from both internal or external partners and teams.
5. For the period of this report the LET team have received 1524 service requests from residents and businesses, which have been investigated and resolved. The vast majority of requests are acknowledged and tasked within hours of being received, as the LET inbox is monitored 24/7.
6. During this period LET officers resolved most of the service requests without the need for enforcement however there are a number of more complex cases which require constant investigation, monitoring and enforcement activity which can take upwards from 21 to 28 days where legal processes are followed.
7. For the three months of this report the LET officers issued a total of 517 fixed penalty notices for issues such as fly-tipping, littering and highway obstruction.
8. The Team continues to show a high visibility presence in all the housing blocks and parks throughout the borough, having completed 5,956 patrols in housing land, equating to 1,742 hours and 1,117 patrol hours in parks.
9. In addition, 3,807 hours of reassurance patrols have taken place in all highways and district centres, with particular emphasis at Shepherds Bush and Hammersmith Broadway over the same period.

10. Keeping our residents safe remains a high priority for the Team, and as such, the LET officers have conducted 864 weapons sweeps during their patrols. They have found and removed ten weapons from the streets over the past three months.

ASB patrols and work

11. Patrols to identify and reduce ASB continue to be at the forefront of all LET officers at all times and in all areas of the borough. During this period the LET received 159 Service requests to attend and address relating to ASB.
12. The types of ASB vary but particular focus has been spent in and around:
13. Ashcroft Square – officers have been patrolling a minimum three times a day to identify, address and problem solve ASB concerns that are being reported through to the service, members and partners relating to groups congregating, concerns re drug and alcohol misuse alongside graffiti.
14. Shepherds Bush Green and Operation Hex. In conjunction with the Met Police Operation Hex has been launched in Shepherds Bush Green and surrounding streets of Caxton Village. Utilising partial closure powers, under the ASB Police and Crime Act the Police have additional powers to address specific crimes and ASB. The LET is working in conjunction with Police on this, as well as with our wider Community Safety partners undertaking a minimum of three patrols a day – both alone and with the SNT, undertaking weapon sweeps and providing reassurance patrols.
15. With the residents of Caxton Square a meeting was held in December 2022 to hear their concerns, discuss joint solutions and an action plan was agreed. Working with residents in this area, and with the closure powers, we have seen an immediate improvement to the locality with reduced ASB and increased enforcement and we are committed to continuing this work to ensure that Caxton Village, and Shepherds Bush Green, sees sustained improvements to benefit the whole community.
16. Alongside these wider programmes of work the LET have delivered immediate, focused and concentrated patrols to address ASB in and around areas such as Margravine cemetery - where individuals have been reported causing a nuisance - outside West London College (following the Brazilian elections), and within our estates patrolling housing blocks to identify and address a range of ASB.
17. Seasonal changes also contribute to where ASB takes place as, due to seasonal weather changes inappropriate behaviour moves from the outside spaces into more enclosed and secluded areas to protect those present from the elements.

ASB demand management and work returns

18. Reports of ASB to the service show that most demand for LET intervention is almost equally split between the three areas (North, Central and South).

19. Whilst the volume of demand is, generally, spread across the borough where there are specific locations with high levels of ASB these are added to the priority patrols list which see officers visit at least once per shift in the daytime and the Night teams focus on these by conducting patrols at different times each evening.
20. This enables the team to deliver a comprehensive ASB monitoring and patrol regime which helps to proactively tackle issues taking place at any site 24 hours a day. The sites on the LET priority patrols list remain until there is a significant reduction in ASB and more importantly, residents are satisfied that the issue has been resolved.

ASB patrols and outcomes per month

Month	Number of patrols	Number of actions taken
October	1,589	386
November	1,970	697
December	1,267	364

21. Decembers decrease was caused by several factors outside of the services control most notably adverse weather and transport industrial action which impacted on our officers abilities to travel into work.

Broader Service Updates - The following paragraphs highlight additional workstreams and some key achievements

Identifying and supporting our homeless community:

22. Our work with our homeless and rough sleeping communities and partner agencies continues and, over the colder months has increased.
23. LET officers identified at the end of the summer, 14 rough sleepers bedding down in our parks and open spaces. The LET has seen referrals made for all of these people to our Street Outreach Teams and, at the time of writing there were no rough sleepers bedding down in these areas.
24. The LET have also supported the activation of the Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) between 07 December 2022 to 19 December 2022 which was implemented due to the adverse weather conditions. During the SWEP, LET and Outreach teams conducted welfare checks and encouraged all known rough sleepers to access the emergency beds and temporary accommodation which were made available.
25. LET officers assisted the Rough Sleeper Team by visiting all areas in the borough to undertake the annual rough sleeper count. Following this, the team received written feedback from the Homeless Link verifier who was there to make sure the staff followed the rules, who said: "I was particularly impressed by the input from the LET, who provided two uniformed staff. Their specialist, well-equipped vehicle enabled some off-road areas to be checked quickly and safely. Their staff were enthusiastic and knowledgeable."

LET Prosecutions

26. The LET is working with the Council's Legal team and will start listing cases for prosecution due to unpaid Fixed Penalty notices for littering and fly-tipping cases. The use of FPNs provides the opportunity for an offender to discharge their liability for prosecution by accepting and paying a set amount.
27. Whilst there are no formal grounds for appeal against a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) as it allows the recipient to discharge liability and avoid prosecution. If the offender believes an FPN was issued incorrectly, they can submit their complaint to the FPN administrator in writing or by email at FPNadministrator@lbhf.gov.uk . The FPN administrator assesses each representation and checks whether the issuing LET officer has followed the correct procedure. They will also investigate whether the FPN was issued in accordance with the appropriate policies and the law. Following the arbitration, a response is then sent to the individual upholding or rejecting the representation.
28. Should anyone disagree with the FPN administrator's investigation outcome that an offence has been committed, the matter will be dealt with formal prosecution through the Magistrates courts. On receiving evidence, it will then be up to the court to determine whether an offence was committed, and the alleged perpetrator will have an opportunity to present their case in court. Partner support

Partner support

29. The LET Team continue to support external partners and council services. Some of the highlights from the past month include:

Adult social care

30. In December LET Night Team staff assisted an LBHF Careline worker by conducting visits. LET staff visited and assisted a 99-year-old resident who fell on the floor and was not able to stand up alone. She was unfortunately immobile for an hour and although she was not injured by the fall, staff worked with Careline to call an ambulance to have her assessed.
31. A second matter saw the LET assist an elderly female resident who fell on her bathroom floor. LET staff couldn't safely lift the female due to the injuries she had sustained during the fall. They instead made her comfortable by bringing pillows, covering her with a duvet and put some pads under her legs so she wasn't in contact with the cold floor. LET staff stayed until the arrival of the Ambulance Service and handed over to them as the paramedics stated the resident would be admitted to hospital. Finally, an elderly female resident, in her 90s was found on her bedroom floor. LET officers managed to get the lady back on her feet and leave her seated on the edge of her bed as she had requested. LET officers remained onsite until the resident was happy for them to leave.
32. LET officers stayed in constant contact with CareLine staff and conveyed details and information between them and the paramedics and only left when it was deemed appropriate to do so.
33. In addition to responding to incidents it's important that the LET have a presence to our most vulnerable. As such the LET Night team continually visit

Sheltered Housing blocks and attended the sheltered housing forums (as requested) to provide feedback of the work taking place at these locations.

Crime prevention and detection

- 34. Alerting police to vehicle crime and placing crime prevention literature in the area to raise awareness amongst residents.
- 35. Good partnership working between the Police and LET to disperse a large gathering (150+) of teenagers on Fulham Road which was commended by the local Police Sergeant
- 36. LET officers dispersed over 250 youngsters who congregated at Shepherds Bush Green following an online promotion.
- 37. Attending Crime Prevention surgeries throughout the borough and regular joint patrols with Police colleagues to tackle ASB.

Supporting the councils Emergency Planning response

- 38. The LET is often on site to incidents first and they undertake work to support the councils emergency planning processes. The officers have been trained to understand and undertake the work of the Local Authority Liaison Officer (LALO) supporting the councils command and control function at that immediate point of need.
- 39. Examples of how the LET have supported this approach are as follows:
- 40. Assisting the Police to man cordons on Putney Bridge and Bishops Park following reports of attempted suicide. LET are also frequently the first onsite during road traffic accidents and there have been several incidents at all times of the day where LET staff have created cordons and sterile areas so Police and ambulance workers can administer aid. LET were also onsite to assist on North End Road following the fatal collision between a cyclist and a heavy goods vehicle. LET officers also assisted following the high-speed pursuit which resulted in a vehicle crashing into a business in the Fulham area.
- 41. LET staff assisted an elderly resident who had an accident in his car in the Fulham Area. As they were first onsite, they assisted the male by seating him in their vehicle and calling his insurance company on his behalf. They were informed that a recovery truck would take three hours and as such, dropped the male home after he insisted, he did not need medical attention. They liaised with the recovery driver and were onsite when he arrived. After assisting with traffic marshalling duties, the vehicle was recovered and LET staff conducted a welfare check on the resident the following day to ensure he was well.
- 42. First onsite following reports of fallen tree due to high winds which led to the LET officers rerouting traffic and liaising with the Duty Silver and relaying information of the damage caused and required remedial actions.

Resident feedback

- 43. It is really important to the service and council as a whole that we receive feedback from residents. With feedback the service can evolve and improve further, and, for staff, feedback provides them with direct understanding of how their interactions made someone feel.
- 44. The LET team have received very positive feedback over the past quarter and December has seen the highest level of compliments received by the team since it started.
- 45. These compliments also mention the excellent service received in regard officers work, approach, professionalism, engagement, and support, often citing the LET officers as great ambassadors for the council.

Updates on actions assigned in the November PAC:

- 46. There are currently six female LET officers spread amongst the North, Central, South and Night Teams.
- 47. Following the most recent round of recruitment we were successful in hiring two more female members of staff which, by mid-February will see us have eight females working as Law Enforcement Officers..
- 48. We are committed to ensuring that the work of the LET is attractive to female candidates and welcome more female applications.

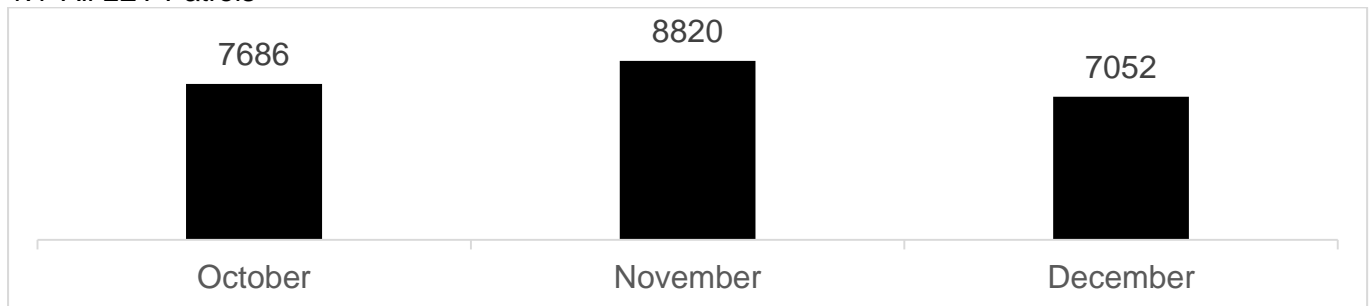
List of Appendices

- 49. LET Performance Data (**Appendix 1**)
- 50. Supplementary information (**Appendix 2**)

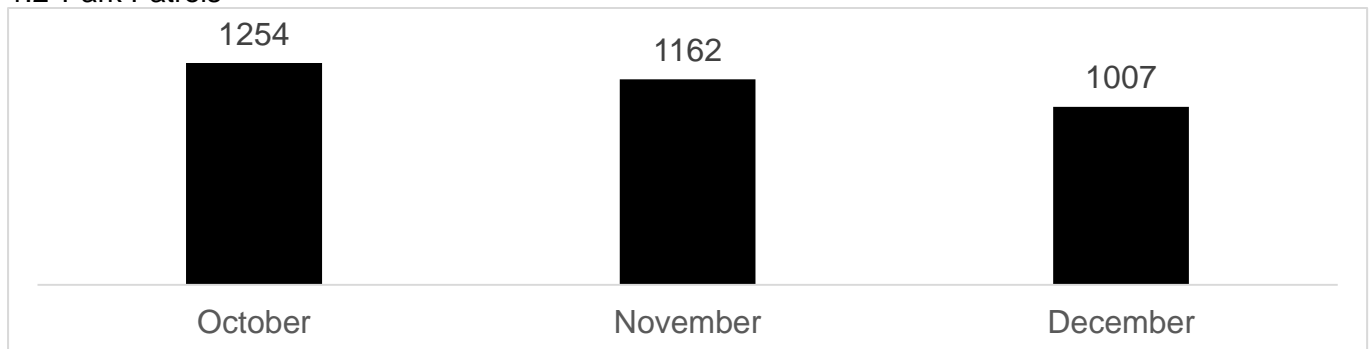
Appendix 1 LET Performance Data

2022/2023	Q1, Q2 & Q3	Q3
Total Investigations	4712	1524
Total FPNs issued	1302	517
Patrols in HRA estates and/or blocks	20456	5956
Patrol hours in parks	4397	1117
Patrol hours in estates and/or blocks	5886	1742
Patrol hours in public realm	12238	3807
Weapon sweeps	3072	864

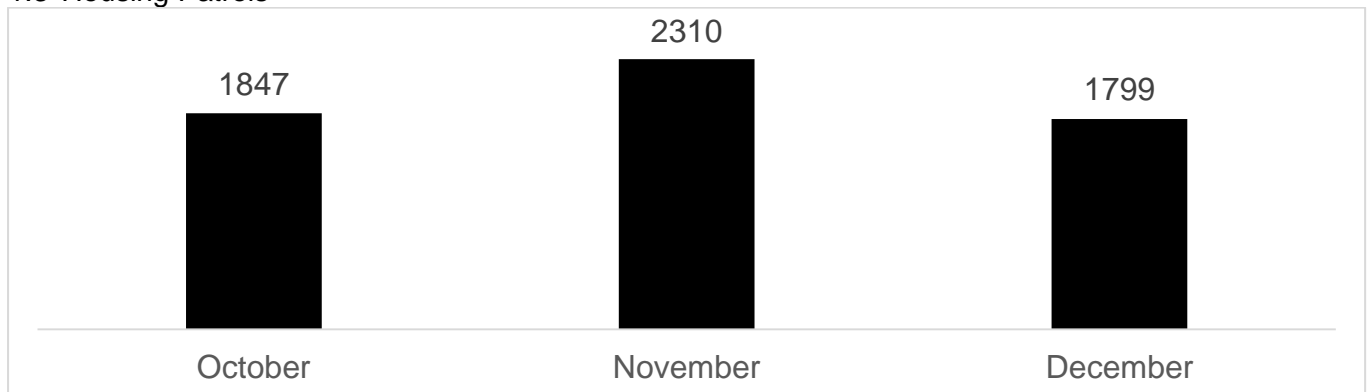
1.1 All LET Patrols



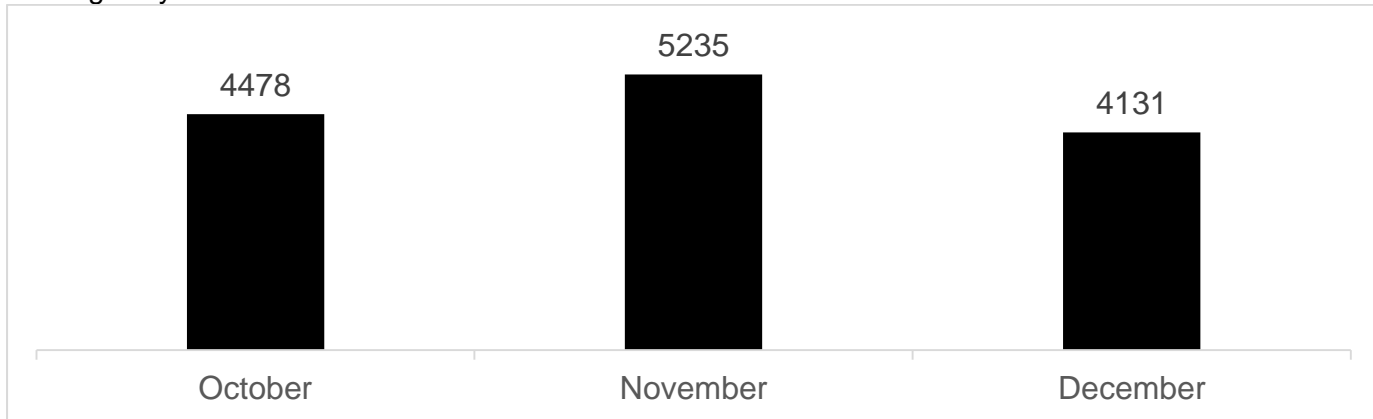
1.2 Park Patrols



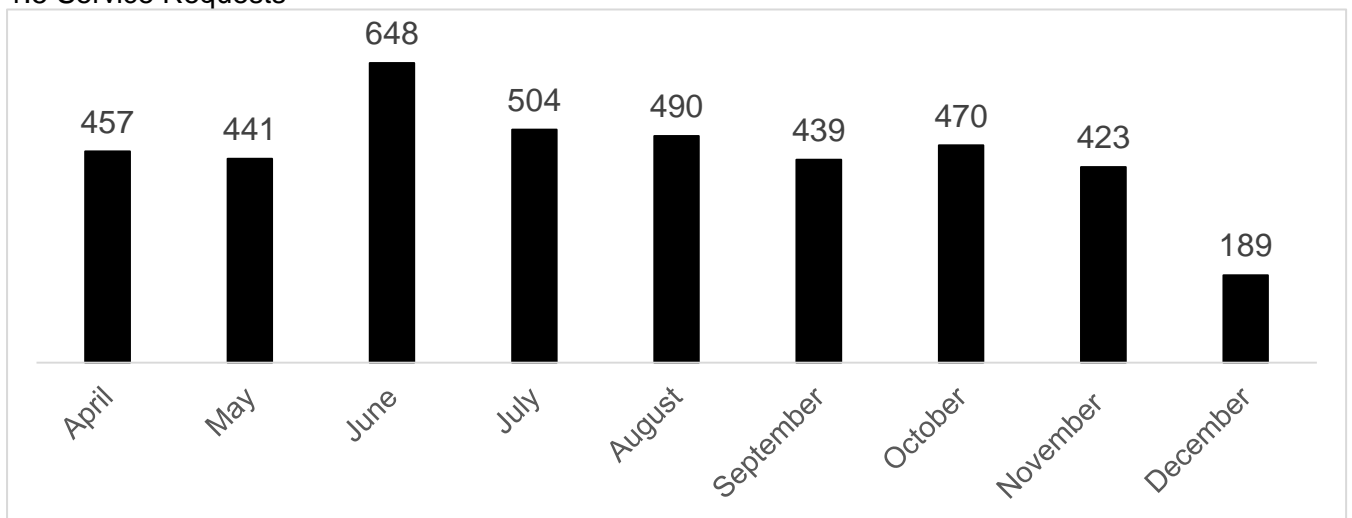
1.3 Housing Patrols



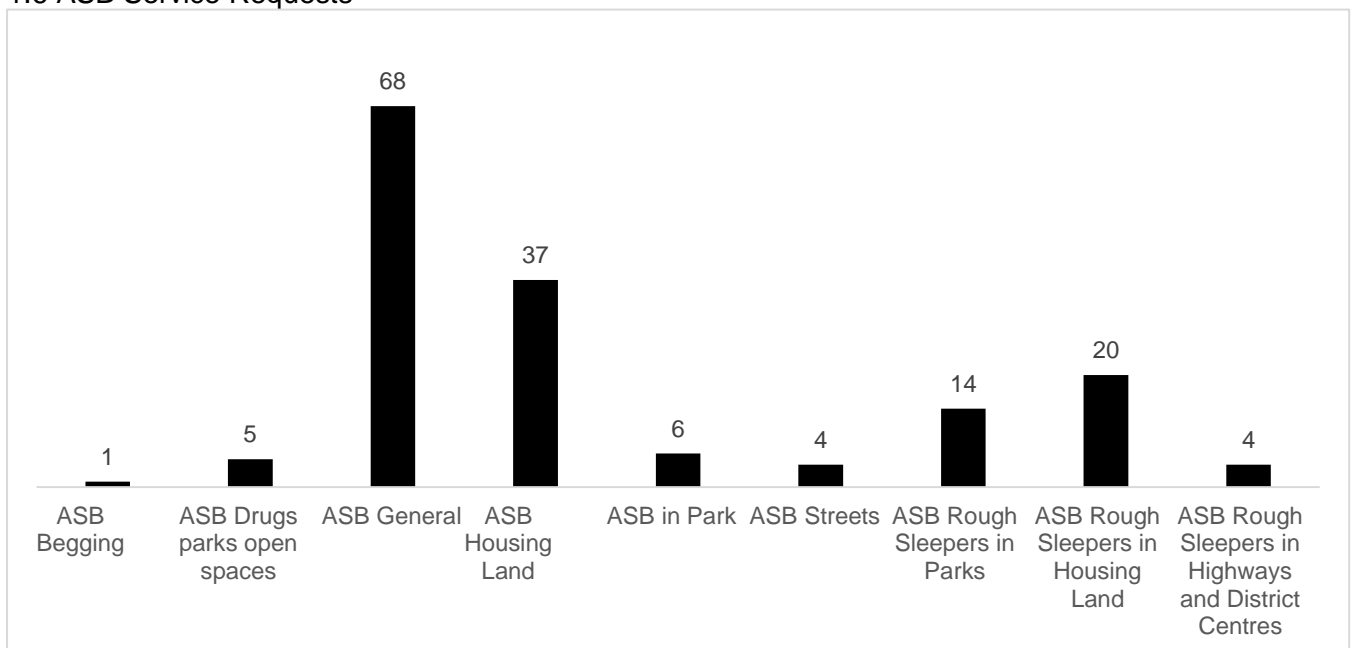
1.4 Highway and District Centre Patrols



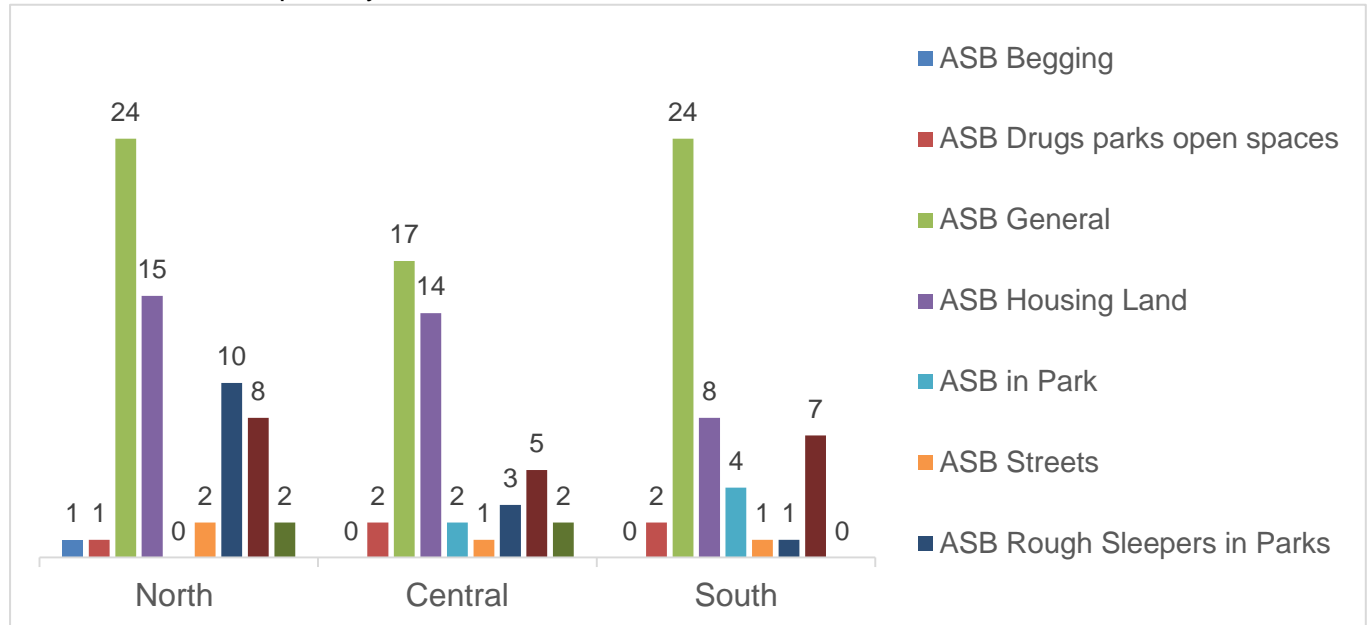
1.5 Service Requests



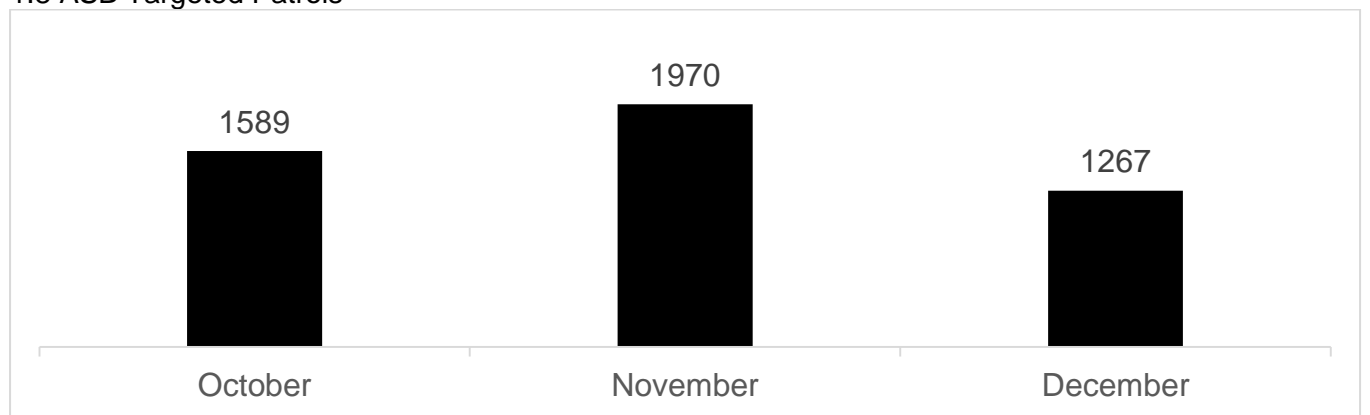
1.6 ASB Service Requests



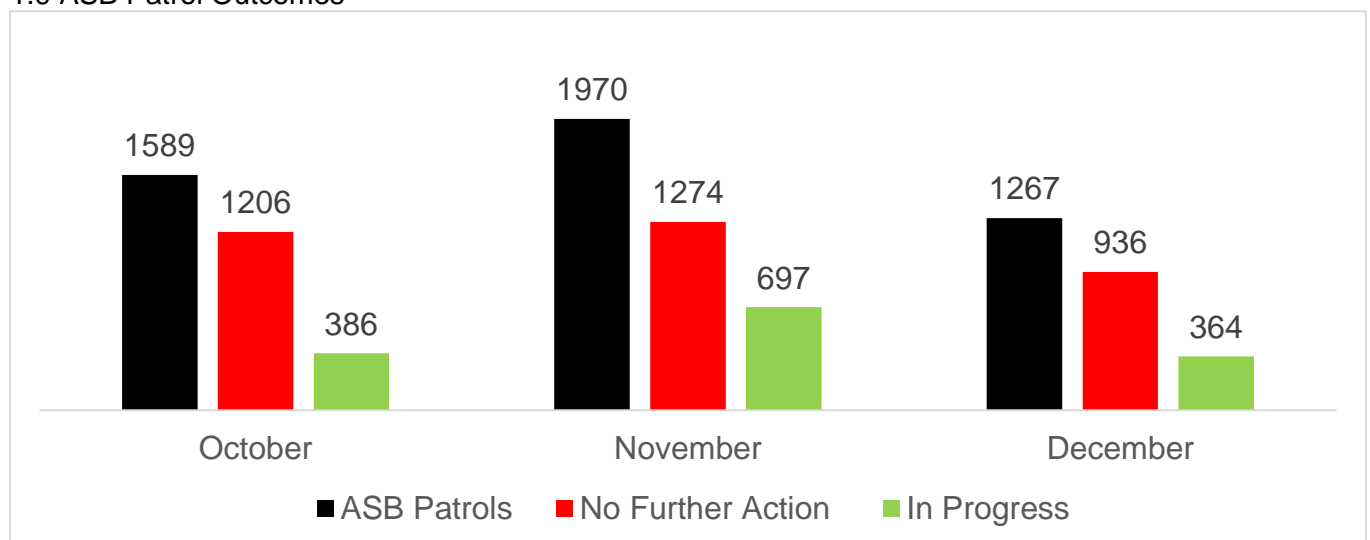
1.7 ASB Service Request by Location



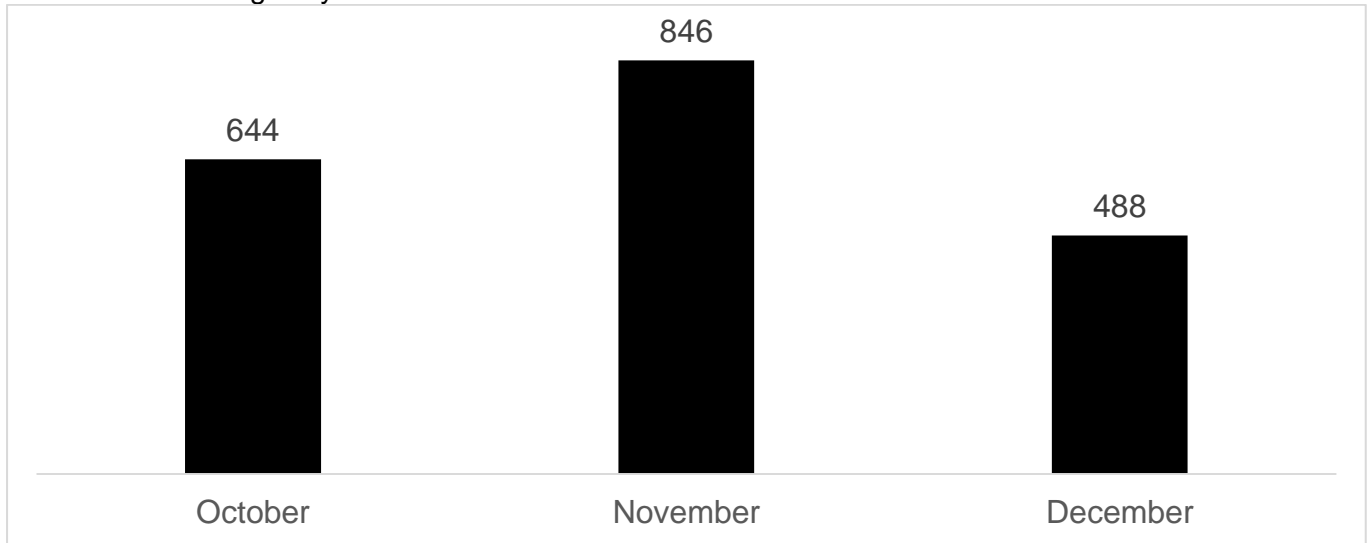
1.8 ASB Targeted Patrols



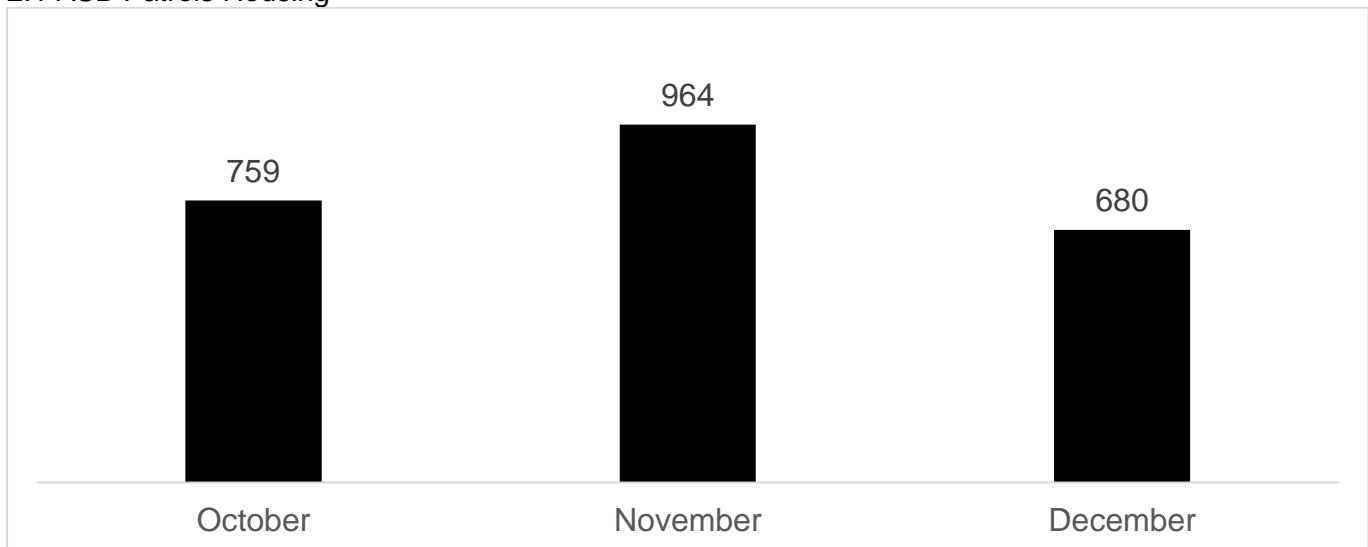
1.9 ASB Patrol Outcomes



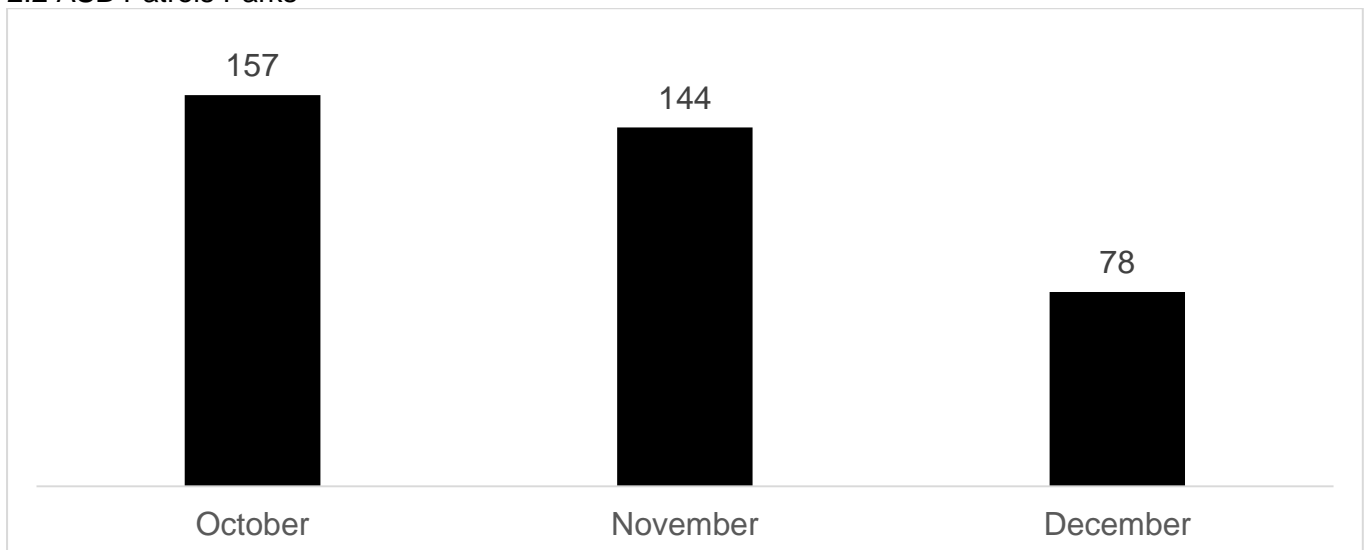
2.0 ASB Patrols Highways and District Centres



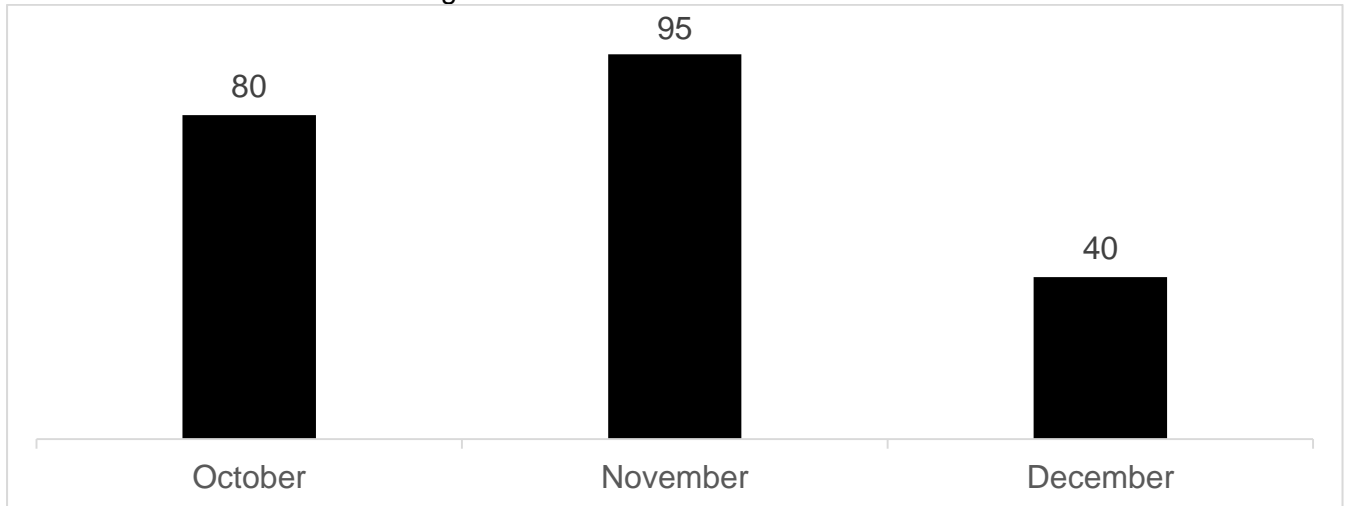
2.1 ASB Patrols Housing



2.2 ASB Patrols Parks



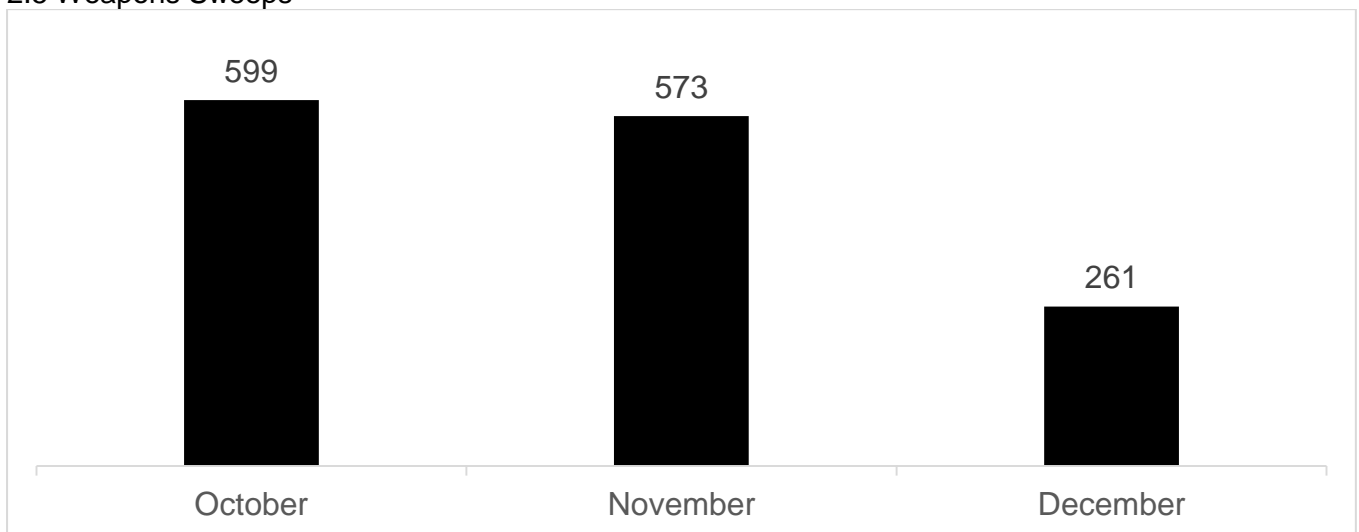
2.3 ASB Drink / Alcohol Monitoring & Interventions



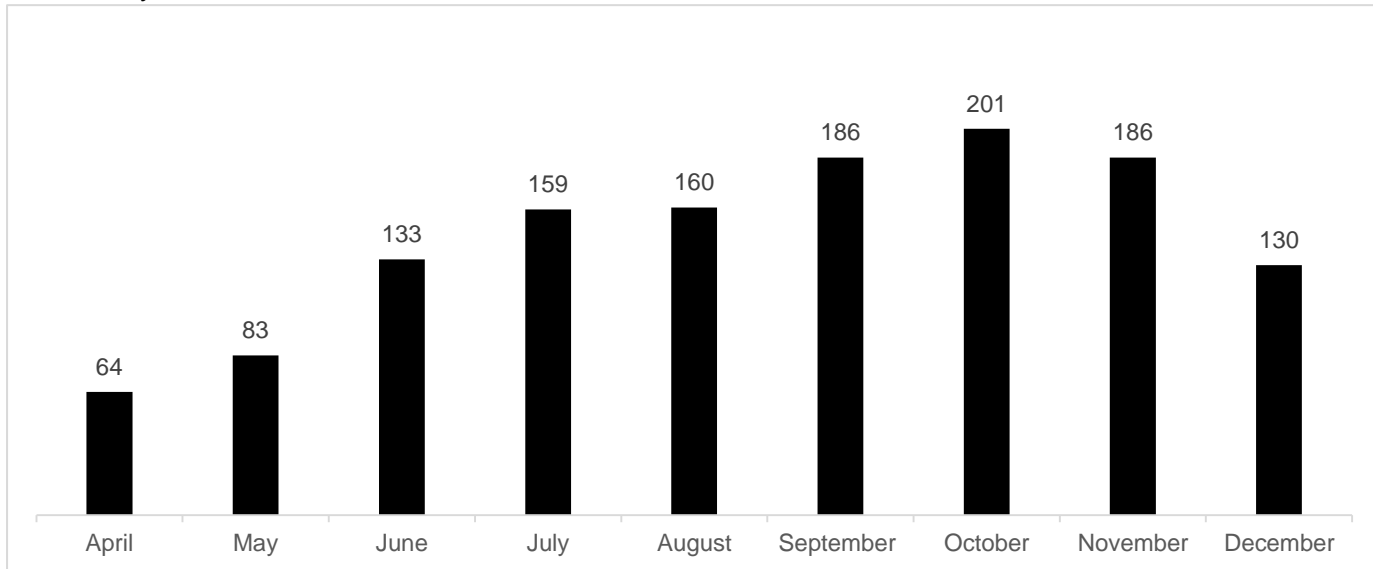
2.4 ASB Drugs Monitoring & Interventions



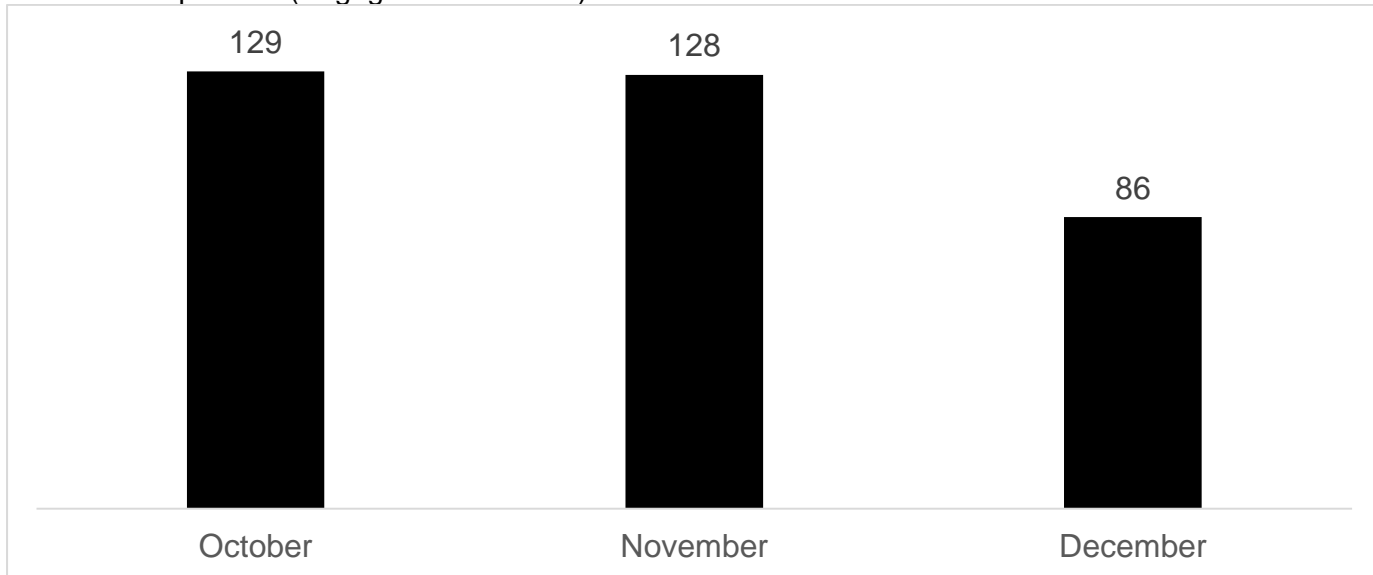
2.5 Weapons Sweeps



2.6 FPN by Month

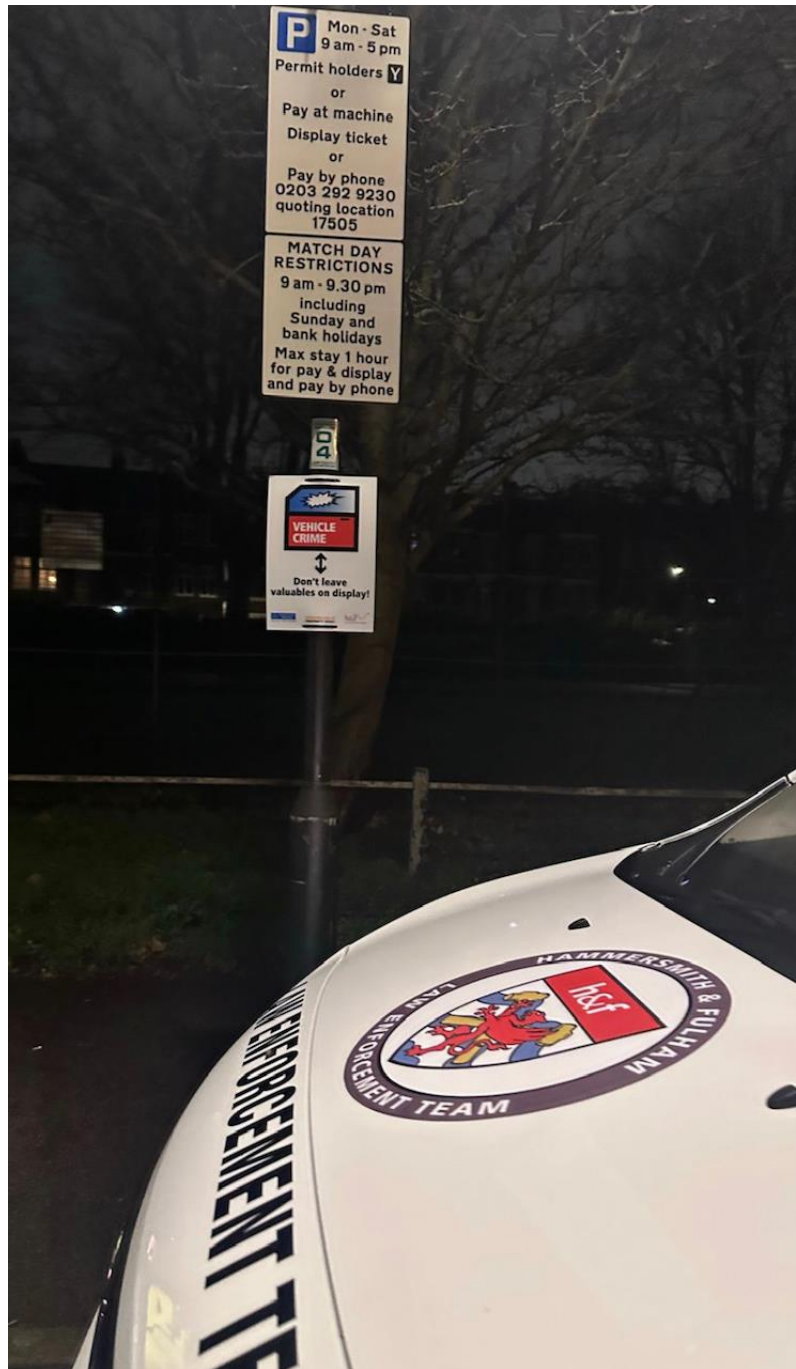


2.7 Street Population (Engagement/Referral)

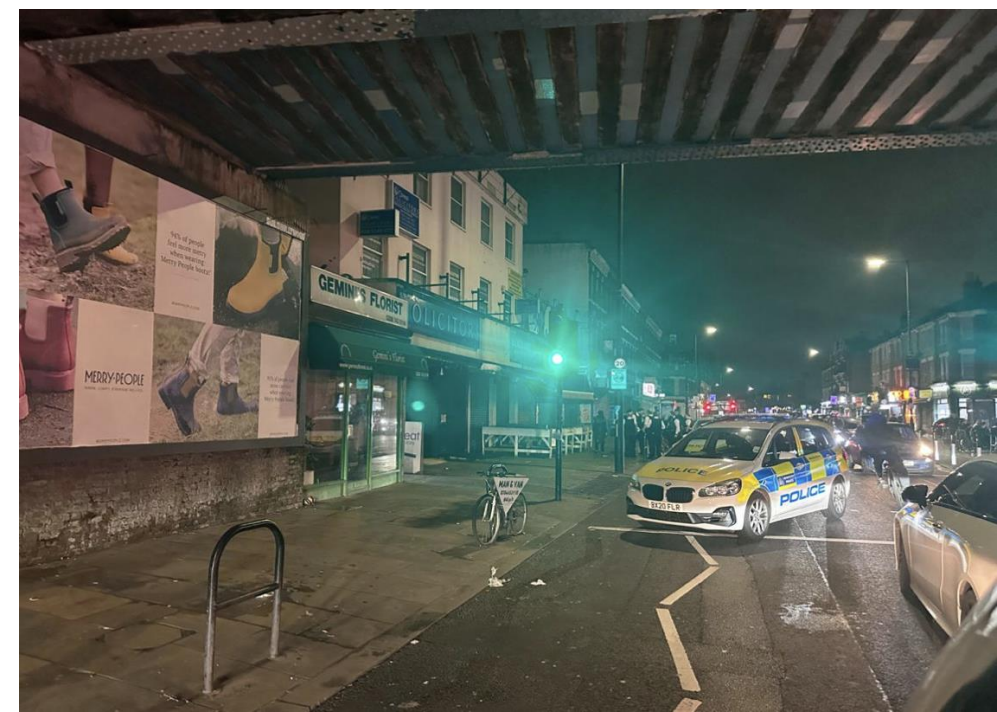
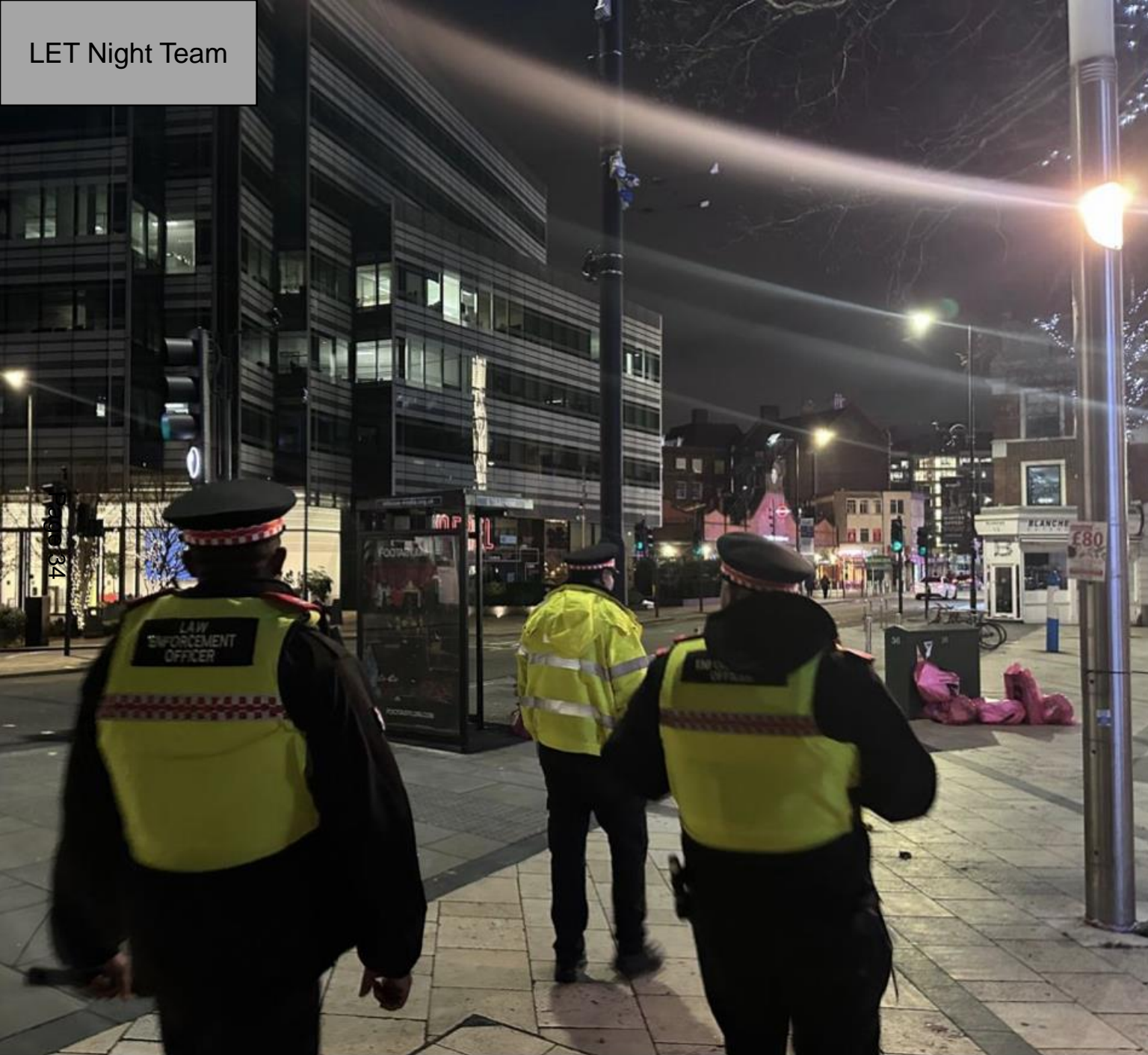




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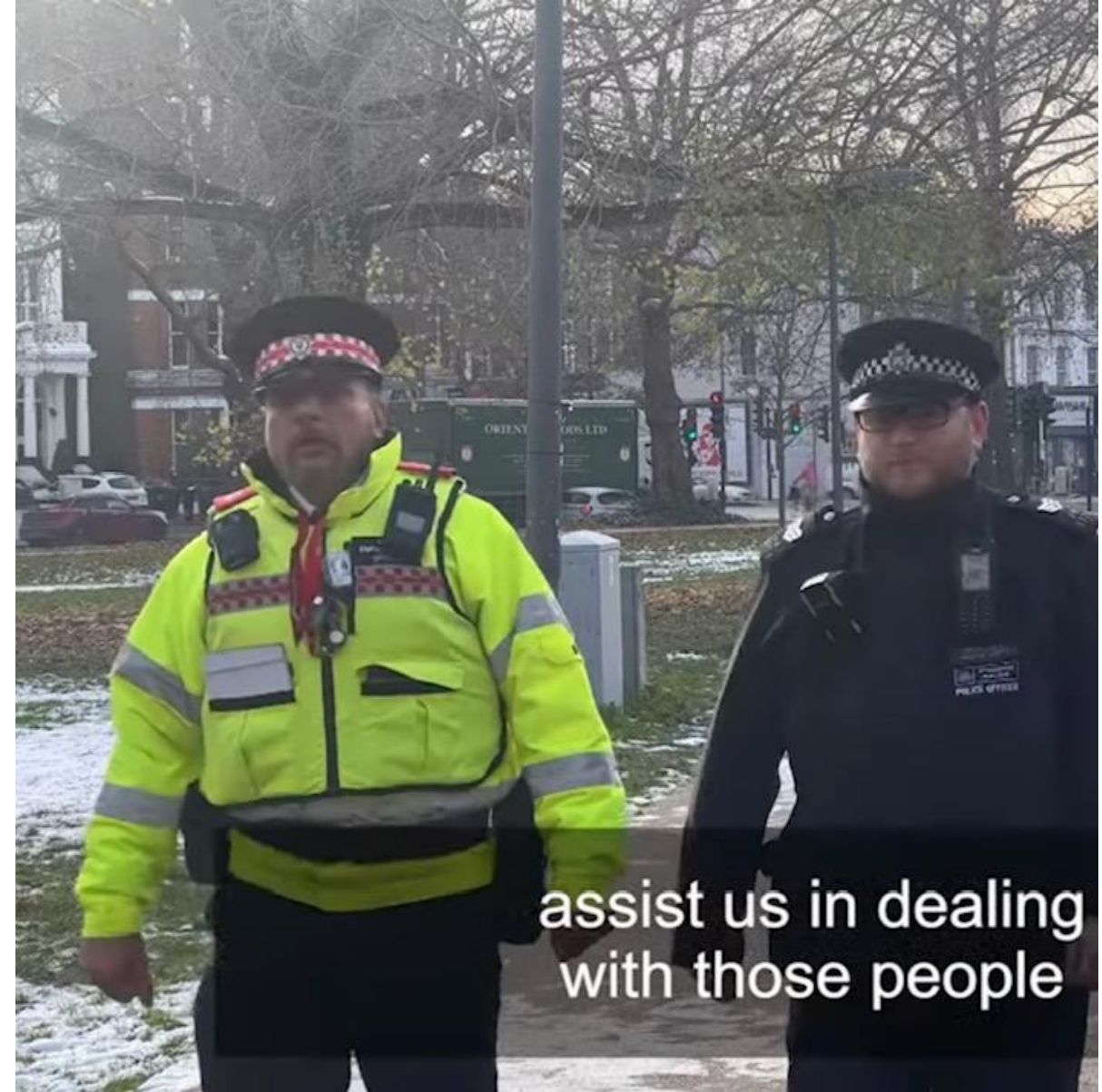


LET Night Team









assist us in dealing
with those people



Staff Star Awards



Agenda Item 5

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

Report to: Social Inclusion and Community Safety Policy and Accountability Committee

Date: 01/02/2023

Subject: Public Space Protection Orders

Report author: Charis Champness, Service Transformation Lead in the Community Safety Unit

Responsible Director: Bram Kainth, Strategic Director of Environment

SUMMARY

This report provides PAC Members the opportunity to scrutinise the council's conduct in relation to Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs). Specifically, two PSPOs relating to (1) Responsible Dog Ownership and (2) Motorised Vehicles along the Thames Path.

There are no decisions required from this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. For the Committee to note and comment on the report

Wards Affected: All

Our Values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F Values
Building shared prosperity	PSPOs reduce anti-social behaviour and contribute to the council's commitment to tackling anti-social behaviour and cuckooing. Drafting, co-producing, and implementing PSPOs also contributes to the council's commitment to designing out crime.
Creating a compassionate council	PSPOs are created to protect residents in the borough by reducing anti-social behaviour. It is a way of providing affirmative action in response to residents' concerns and allows for visible changes to be made.
Doing things with local residents, not to them	The PSPO process has a thorough consultation process in which residents have the opportunity to help shape and influence the work by expressing their views. The responses from the consultation form part of the evidence base informing thinking

	and decision making on how the final PSPO may be implemented.
Being ruthlessly financially efficient	The Police, and the Council's Law Enforcement Team have the ability and delegated authority to enforce the PSPOs. This provides opportunities to stop offences which would cost the council money to address.
Taking pride in H&F	PSPOs aim to reduce anti-social behaviour in the borough. We know that ASB impacts negatively on perceptions of an area so, by addressing the ASB in a consistent and visible manner we will be able to deliver a safer borough for all.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

What is a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)?

1. The Anti-Social Behavior (ASB), Crime and Policing Act 2014 introduced a set of streamlined tools to address ASB and the impact that this behavior can have on individuals and communities. Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) are one of these tools. Through the provisions of the Act, Local Authorities have the authority to draft and implement a PSPO providing certain criteria and legal tests are met.
2. PSPOs differ from other tools as they are council led and are designed to either prohibit certain activities, or require that people do certain things when engaging in certain activities, within a defined public area.
3. PSPOs should focus on an identified problem behaviour rather than targeting specific individuals, properties or objects (i.e. a PSPO cannot ban a particular object from a particular area, only the use of that object in a particular area). A breach of a PSPO is an offence and authorised officers can issue a fixed penalty notice to those who do not comply.
4. Section 59 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 states that local authorities may introduce PSPOs where certain statutory criteria are met. PSPOs are intended to deal with a nuisance or problems in a specific area that is detrimental to the quality of life of local communities, or is likely to have such an effect, by imposing conditions on the use of that area which apply to everyone.
5. The threshold for introducing a PSPO is that the effect, or likely effect, of such activities is, or is likely to be, of a persistent and continuing nature; is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable; and justifies the restrictions imposed by the notice. Please see **Appendix 1** for guidance on PSPOs.

Viability and Considerations for PSPOs in H&F

6. The introduction of new PSPOs enables agencies to tackle anti-social behaviour. Police Officers, Police Community Support Officers, the Council's Law Enforcement Officers and other authorised personnel would be able to issue Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) to people who continue to break these rules.

7. Home Office guidance on introducing a PSPO states that it should target the specific problem behaviour that is having a detrimental impact on the quality of life of the local community rather than everyday socialising. If H&F decide to introduce PSPOs, we must determine the following:
 - Appropriate scope of the order
 - The geographical area to be covered by the restrictions
 - Any potential impact of the proposal
 - How each of the restrictions meet the legal test
8. Determining Geography

The council must ensure that the area for the PSPO is proportionate to the problem and activities should only be restricted where necessary. This is determined by gathering evidence through other departments in the council including CCTV, Parks, Housing etc. as well as external agencies such as the Police.
9. Practical considerations before implementing a PSPO

There are multiple tools that can be used to tackle anti-social behaviour, so it is important to ensure a PSPO is the most appropriate tool. A PSPO is also resource intensive to introduce. It is important that the requirements for the legislation are met and that the PSPO can be enforced. Other options have been considered as part of a wider enforcement plan. Other ASB powers such as Community Protection Warnings (CPW's) or Community Protection Notices (CPN's) could be used instead of, or alongside, a PSPO.
10. Determining prohibitions

The prohibitions included as part of any order need to be clear and easy to understand, so they can withstand any scrutiny placed upon them. The prohibitions also need to be fair and considered and ultimately have a good likelihood of having a positive impact upon the problem.

It is recommended that Police Officers, Police Community Support Officers, and Law Enforcement Officers are authorised to enforce the order initially.
11. Equality Impact Assessments

The Equality Act 2010 requires local authorities to have due regard when undertaking its work to consider how it may impact upon certain groups within the borough. An Equality Impact Assessment is essential to show how the PSPOs may impact upon groups with protected characteristics. This helps to demonstrate transparency in the process.
12. Challenging a PSPO

A PSPO can be challenged on multiple grounds under the Act. This may be in relation to the prohibitions that are set or around the process that was followed. A challenge must be made within 6 weeks and must be made by someone who lives, works or regularly visits the area. The PSPO can also be challenged by judicial review within three months. A PSPO can be made for a maximum of 3 years and can be extended if there is sufficient evidence, and an evaluation is undertaken.

Process of introducing a PSPO

13. Feedback from residents, councillors, partners and others who have a stake or interest in the borough is collated and used to inform whether a Local Authority could and/or should, look to introduce a PSPO. Research is then done into the size of the issue being reported and evidence is gathered.

14. A draft of the order and consultation questions are created and signed off by the Lead cabinet member. The consultation is launched on the Council's platform [H&F Have Your Say \(lbhf.gov.uk\)](https://www.lbhf.gov.uk). There is no minimum timescale but following good practice and to enable us to advertise and reach out to residents we maintain that the consultation should go out for no less than 3-4 weeks. This allows residents enough time to give feedback through the consultation. This also allows time for relevant departments and external partners to give their feedback and comments.
15. Once the consultation closes the responses are analysed and used to inform the decisions of the prohibitions moving forward. An equality impact assessment is completed, and a new order is drafted based on the consultation.
16. A summary report is approved by the Environment department, the Senior Leadership team and then a decision paper is given to the lead Cabinet Member for approval and sign off. The Cabinet Members decision is then published, and a 3-day call-in period held before the decision can be legally implemented.
17. The finalised Order is then co-signed by both the Local Authority and Metropolitan Police prior to the official sealing being undertaken by the Local Authority legal team.
18. The sealed order is then published on the council's website and a range of broader publicity is undertaken to ensure that residents are aware that the PSPO is now live. This publicity includes, but is not restricted by, use of social media, online communications, media coverage, localised letter drops (for non-borough wider PSPOs), installation of signage as well as front facing, in person engagement via the LET, the Police and others as appropriate.
19. We are aiming for the documentation to be completed and to pass through sign off internally in late February and to be signed off by the lead Cabinet Member at the start of March, thus beginning the official sign off from police and legal. Overall aiming to launch both PSPOs in April.

Current PSPOs

20. In Hammersmith & Fulham there are currently 4 PSPOs that are active and enforceable. These are:
 - Borough wide ban on alcohol consumption [Alcohol consumption in public spaces public spaces protection order | LBHF](#)
 - Hammersmith town centre ban on amplified noise [Hammersmith Town Centre public spaces protection order \(PSPO\) | LBHF](#)
 - Shepherds Bush ban on amplified noise [Shepherds Bush public spaces protection order \(PSPO\) | LBHF](#)
 - White City ban on amplified noise [White City public spaces protection order \(PSPO\) | LBHF](#)
21. At the time of drafting the report there are two PSPOs open for public consultation. These are Responsible Dog Ownership and Prohibiting the use of electronic and motorised vehicles along the Thames Path PSPO.
22. Information on the Responsible Dog Ownership PSPO begins below with that of Thames Path starting on paragraph 38.

Consultation 1 - Responsible Dog Ownership PSPO:

23. The LET, parks officers and police respond to resident concerns, and report issues they have encountered, in regard to poor behaviour of dogs.
24. These concerns, from both the public and council officers, have focused on dogs not on leads, aggressive dogs with excessive barking/intimidation, dog fouling and dogs approaching children in an uncontrolled manner.
25. With these concerns being raised a PSPO is recommended for the council to enforce rules against those who do not manage their dogs appropriately and, where appropriate to protect others. The PSPO does not seek to take inappropriate action against those who look after their dogs and clean up after them rather to educate and enforce against those who do not.
26. Throughout 2022 there were a total of 229 reports from residents related to dogs and the LET dealt with, and attended, a combined 345 dog related incidents. These incidents vary from dog fouling to reports of dangerous dogs. A PSPO is needed to give us the power to act on those occasions.
27. In October 2020 the previous Dog Control PSPO expired. Since October 2020, dog ownership has increased nationally and locally which has seen increased numbers of concerns raised to the organisation with 345 incidents noted to the LET as referenced in paragraph 26, above.
28. With the numbers of incidents rising it is important that the council responds to these concerns and, as such, the Dog Control PSPO, and its related proposed conditions, will provide additional tools and powers which will support responsible dog ownership and provide greater enforcement opportunities against those who act irresponsibly.
29. The Dog Control PSPO consultation runs between 18 November and 15 January 2023.
30. The consultation seeks views on the proposed prohibitions:
 - **A 'dog exclusion' order**, which would enable authorised officers to stop dogs from entering certain areas including children's playgrounds, sports courts, multi-use games areas, marked pitches where games are in-play and dog free areas in parks. We've developed a list of areas that we think are most appropriate following conversations with colleagues and 'Friends Of' parks groups. Our consultation will seek views on these proposed areas and if there are any others that residents/park users think should be included/excluded.
 - **A 'dogs on leads' order**, which would enable authorised officers to stop people from exercising dogs off-leads in certain areas, such as wildlife conservation areas and cemeteries. We've developed a list of areas that we think are most appropriate following conversations with colleagues and 'Friends Of' parks groups.
 - **A 'dogs on leads by direction' order**, which would enable authorised officers the power to request that dogs be put on leads in certain areas where they are not under the appropriate control of their owner, or where they are causing damage or acting aggressively.
 - **A 'specified maximum' order**, which would enable authorised officers to issue penalties to those walking more than the maximum number of dogs at any one time. As part of our consultation, we are seeking residents' views on what they feel is a safe specified maximum. The limit is not set by legislation or guidance. Many local authorities across the nation have come to the conclusion that 4 dogs

- is the appropriate number. The National Association of Pet Sitters and Dog Walkers (NARPS) also suggests walking a maximum of 4 dogs at a time.
- **A ‘dog fouling’ order** which would enable authorised officers to fine those that do not clean up after their dog.
 - **A ‘poop scoop and/or disposable bag’ order**, this would enable authorised officers to ask dog walkers to produce a clean-up bag which would be used to remove the faeces from the land on request.
31. As of 05/01/2023 there were 798 responses. Once the consultation has closed, we will look to analyse the results and progress forward depending on the outcomes.
32. Details of the PSPO can be found here - [Responsible Dog Ownership - Public Space Protection Order | H&F Have Your Say \(lbhf.gov.uk\)](#)
- Please see **Appendix 2 and 3** for a copy of the consultation questions and a copy of the draft order
33. As part of the democratic processes within which the councils work is governed residents have the right to lodge a petition against such proposals.
34. Whilst any petition needs to meet certain criteria to be heard at full council we are aware that one has been lodged, and at the time of writing remains open, in regard this proposed PSPO.
35. The petition was created during the consultation process, and it seeks to lobby against all proposed prohibitions within the PSPO.
36. As of 06/01/2023 there were 187 verified signatures but this remains an open and ongoing process.

Prohibiting the use of electronic and motorised vehicles along the Thames Path PSPO:

37. The Community Safety Unit has been asked to explore the feasibility of a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) to ban the riding/use of E-bikes and E-scooters and other certain electric modes of transport on the Thames Path in the borough of Hammersmith & Fulham. This is in response to concerns raised by residents such people feeling unsafe due to the speed of some people riding, driving, and cycling, obstructions in public walkways, and reports of incidents such as collisions.
38. *E-scooters and e-bikes are a form of electric powered vehicles. An E-scooter is a battery powered scooter that is ridden standing up. An E-bike is a bike that can be powered by electricity as well as propelled by pedals.*
39. A consultation is closing on the 29th of January looking into introducing a PSPO along the length of the Thames Path (between the entry and exit points of Hammersmith and Fulham’s boundaries) and we are seeking resident’s views to introduce a new order for the next 3 years.
40. We are seeking views on the following prohibitions:
- No person shall ride/cycle/use an E-scooter or E-bike, and we are also seeking residents views on whether the following should be included within the prohibitions:

- Segways
 - Mopeds
 - Quad bicycles
 - Hoverboards
 - No person shall recklessly ride a pedal bike in such a way that jeopardises safety along the Thames Path
41. Alongside this we are seeking to consult on when this PSPO would be enforceable from three options - between 08:00-20:00 (7 days a week), 24 hours a day (7 days a week) or something else – the latter option allowing residents to tell us when they see the issues and when they think prohibitions would be most impactful
42. As of 05/01/2023 there were 368 responses. Once the consultation has closed, we will look to analyse the results and progress forward depending on the outcomes.
43. Details of the PSPO can be found here - [Public Space Protection Order – Prohibiting the use of electronic and motorised vehicles along the Thames Path | H&F Have Your Say \(lbhf.gov.uk\)](#) Please see **Appendix 4 and 5** for a copy of the consultation questions and a copy of the draft order
44. The Thames Path PSPO consultation is running between 09 December and 29 January 2023

Next steps

45. Once both consultations close at the end of January the lead officers will analyse all responses and use these to inform which recommendations are made on any prohibition(s) for either order.
46. In line with council governance a summary report will be sent to the Environment Departmental Management Team followed by the councils Senior Leadership Team w/c 20/02/23.
47. A decision paper is given to the lead Cabinet Member for Community Safety for consideration. If the decision is approved it is then published, and a 3-day call-in period held before the decision can be legally implemented.
48. The finalised Order is then co-signed by both the Local Authority and Metropolitan Police prior to the official sealing being undertaken by the Local Authority legal team.

List of Appendices

Appendix 1 – Local Government Association Public Space Protection Order guidance:



10.21 PSPO
guidance_06_1.pdf

Appendix 2 – Consultation guidance and questions

PSPO Dog Consultation:

To help keep our parks safe and pleasant for all we're consulting on whether we should introduce certain rules around dogs in our parks and open spaces.

PSPOs are aimed at ensuring public spaces can be enjoyed free from anti-social behaviour. They are not about stopping the responsible use of public spaces - but they do provide councils with a tool to tackle persistent issues that are damaging their communities.

The vast majority of dog owners act responsibly and keep their dogs under control. However, the council continues to receive concerns from residents about the behaviour of some dogs and irresponsible dog owners.

In response to this, the Council is launching a consultation to ask residents their opinions about a variety of dog control related issues. The feedback from the consultation will help to shape and inform whether the council introduces a dog control public space protection order (PSPO). In our consultation we have proposed a number of potential prohibitions which have been designed to be as simple as possible, giving clarity and outlining expectations. Assistance dog users may be exempt from such prohibitions and we welcome their input on this matter.

We want to ensure that well behaved dogs can be walked or exercised freely off lead in all large parks. Therefore the majority of our parks and open space have areas where a dog is able to exercise freely off a lead. This promotes healthy exercise for dogs and takes into consideration the needs of the borough's dog owners and the welfare of dogs.

The council are proposing a Dog Control PSPO which will cover:

1. A 'dog exclusion' order, which would enable authorised officers to stop dogs from entering certain areas including children's playgrounds, sports courts, multi-use games areas and marked pitches (where games are in-play) and dog free areas in parks.
2. A 'dogs on leads' order, which would enable authorised officers to stop people from exercising dogs off-leads in certain areas, such as wildlife conservation areas and cemeteries.
3. A 'dogs on leads by direction' order, which would grant authorised officers the power to request that dogs be put on leads where they are not under the appropriate control of their owner, or where they are causing damage or acting aggressively.
4. A 'specified maximum' order, which would enable authorised officers to issue penalties to those walking more than the maximum number of dogs at any one time.
5. A 'dog fouling' order which would enable authorised officers to fine those that do not clean up after their dog.
6. A 'poop scoop and/or disposable bag' order, this would enable authorised officers to ask dog walkers to produce a clean-up bag which would be used to remove the faeces from the land on request.

How would the PSPO be enforced?

If the person in charge of a dog fails to comply with the requirements of the order following a warning from an authorised council or police officer, they will be issued with £100 Fixed Penalty Notice and taken to court if the fine is not paid within the specified timeframe. A person guilty of an offence is liable on summary conviction to a fine unless:

1. They have the consent from the owner, occupier or person in charge of the land, not to comply with the order
2. They have a reasonable excuse for failing to comply, or
3. They fall within one of the other exemptions within the order

How long would the PSPO last for?

We are proposing that the PSPO lasts for three years at which point we would decide whether to renew it in consultation with residents.

Have your say and what happens next?

We are currently reviewing our rules around dog control and would like to hear your views on any aspects of the PSPO we are proposing.

We want to ensure that the PSPO is proportionate and so we are asking for your feedback to see whether you think these restrictions are needed.

To have your say, please click [here](#) to complete our consultation form.

Please share your thoughts before the consultation closes on Sunday 8th January 2023.

For any queries, please contact us at csu@lbhf.gov.uk.

Consultation Questions:

Q No.	Question	Answer Options
P1.	What is your name?	
P2.	What is your email address?	
P3.	Do you live or work in Hammersmith and Fulham?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I live in the area• I work in the area• I live and work in the area
P4.	If you neither work or live in Hammersmith & Fulham, how often do you visit the borough?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More than 4 times a week• 1-3 times per week• 1 time in the last month• 1 time 3-6 months• Not within the last year• N/A
1.	Are you a dog owner?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes (go to 1a)• No• Previously owned a dog (go to 1a)• Thinking of getting a dog
1a.	Are you/were you an assistance dog user? An assistance dog is trained to support disabled people and people with medical	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes• No

	conditions in a variety of ways.	
2.	To what extent do you feel dog fouling is an issue in H&F?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 being a large problem • 1 being not a problem
3.	To what extent do you feel dogs being out of control of their owners is a problem in H&F?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 being a large problem • 1 being not a problem
4.	<p>Do you support the introduction of a new order introducing 'dog exclusion' areas?</p> <p><i>Dog exclusion areas are areas of our parks where dogs will not be allowed to enter.</i></p> <p><i>We are proposing the following dog exclusion areas:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>All children's play areas</i> • <i>All fenced sporting areas</i> • <i>All fenced war memorial areas</i> • <i>All no dog areas within the following parks and open spaces.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Wendell Park - School zone</i> • <i>Cathnor Park - Picnic area</i> • <i>Godolphin Road Open Space - Pond area</i> • <i>Ravenscourt Park - Picnic area, Walled garden, Fenced area around the lake, & Wildlife area</i> • <i>Furnivall Gardens - Walled Garden</i> • <i>St Pauls Garden - Fenced picnic area</i> • <i>Rowberry Mead Open Space</i> • <i>Eel Brook Common - Fenced picnic area & Fenced flower garden</i> • <i>Bishops Park - Fenced picnic area & pond area</i> • <i>Hurlingham Park - Rose garden</i> • <i>All grounds of Fulham Palace</i> • <i>South Park - Pond area</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • Maybe • No • Unsure
4a.	If maybe, no, or unsure, why?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue • I want somewhere else to be included (free text box for elaboration) • I want somewhere to be excluded (free text box for elaboration)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue • Other (free text box for elaboration)
5.	<p>Do you support the introduction of a new order introducing 'dogs on leads only' areas?</p> <p><i>'Dogs on leads only' areas are areas of our parks where dogs must be on a lead.</i></p> <p><i>We are proposing the following 'dogs on lead only' areas:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>All cemeteries and churchyards under the administrative control of H&F (including North Sheen Cemetery and Mortlake Cemetery)</i> • <i>All Wildlife Conservation Areas:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Wormwood Scrubs Wildlife Areas</i> • <i>Bishop's Park Wildlife Area</i> • <i>All Café/Tea Houses</i> • <i>All Outdoor Gyms</i> • <i>The following areas within parks and open spaces:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Wormwood Scrubs - Forest Schools</i> ▪ <i>Hammersmith Park - Japanese Garden</i> ▪ <i>Wendell Park - Picnic area</i> ▪ <i>Cathnor Park - Forest School</i> ▪ <i>Shepherd's Bush Green - former toilet block area</i> ▪ <i>Brook Green - Picnic area</i> ▪ <i>St Pauls Garden - Forest School</i> ▪ <i>Marcus Garvey Area - Forest School</i> ▪ <i>Westcroft Square</i> ▪ <i>Bayonne Road Open Space</i> ▪ <i>Normand Park - Community garden & bowling green garden</i> ▪ <i>Frank Banfield Park - Community garden</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • Maybe • No • Unsure

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Bishops Park - Event area & moat garden</i> ▪ <i>Sir William Powell Almshouses</i> ▪ <i>Loris Gardens</i> ▪ <i>South Park - Community centre & market garden</i> ▪ <i>Vicarage Gardens</i> ▪ <i>William Parnell Park - Community garden</i> 	
5a.	If maybe, no, or unsure, why?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue • I want somewhere else to be included (free text box for elaboration) • I want somewhere to be excluded (free text box for elaboration) • I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue • Other (free text box for elaboration)
6.	<p>Do you support the introduction of a new order regarding 'dogs on leads by direction'?</p> <p><i>This order will grant authorised officers the power to request that dogs be put on leads where they are not under the appropriate control of their owner, or where they are causing damage or acting aggressively.</i></p> <p><i>Officers would have the power to request this in all public areas in H&F.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • Maybe • No • Unsure
6a.	If maybe, no, or unsure, why?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue • I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue • Other (free text box for elaboration)
7.	<p>Do you support the introduction of a new order regarding the specified maximum of dogs that someone is responsible for?</p> <p><i>This order will introduce a rule which means that only a certain number of dogs can be walked by any one person, at any one time. Officers could issue fines to anyone walking more than the specified maximum.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • Maybe • No • Unsure

	<i>This would apply in all public areas in H&F.</i>	
7a.	If maybe, no, or unsure, why?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue • I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue • Other (free text box for elaboration)
7b.	<p>How many dogs do you feel can be safely walked at any one time?</p> <p><i>Your answer to this will inform the specified maximum number of dogs referenced in question 7.</i></p>	<p>Drop down numbers 1-5. Other option (free text box).</p>
8.	<p>Do you support the introduction of the new order regarding dog fouling?</p> <p><i>This order will grant authorised officers the power to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) to anyone walking a dog who allows the dog to foul.</i></p> <p><i>Officers would have this power in all public areas in H&F.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • Maybe • No • Unsure
8a..	If maybe, no, or unsure, why?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue • I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue • Other (free text box for elaboration)I don't believe the proposed rules go far enough to tackle these issues.
9..	<p>Do you support the introduction of the new order regarding poop scoop and/or disposable bags?</p> <p><i>This order will grant authorised officers the power to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) to anyone walking a dog who is not carrying a poop scoop and/or disposable bags.</i></p> <p><i>Officers would have this power in all public areas in H&F.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • Maybe • No • Unsure

9a.	If maybe, no, or unsure, why?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think the proposed rule is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue • I don't believe the proposed rule goes far enough to tackle this issue • Other (free text box for elaboration)
10.	Overall, do you support the introduction of a new responsible dog ownership PSPO?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • Maybe • No • Unsure
10a.	If maybe, no, or unsure, why?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think the proposed rules are too strict and aren't proportionate to the issue • I want something/somewhere else to be included (free text box for elaboration) • I want something/somewhere to be excluded (free text box for elaboration) • I don't believe the proposed rules go far enough to tackle these issues

Closing Text

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey.

The results will help us to influence the new PSPO in Hammersmith & Fulham. The final decision will be published on the council website.

You can now close your browser.

Appendix 3 – PSPO Draft:

Public Spaces Protection Order
LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM
Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham Responsible Dog Ownership Public Spaces Protection Order 2022

The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham, in exercise of its powers under sections [59](#) and [72](#) of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 ("the Act") and all other enabling powers, hereby makes the following order:

1. This Order comes into force on "" and ends on "" unless extended by further Orders under the Council's statutory powers.
2. This Order applies to the public spaces described in the Schedules to this Order ("the restricted areas").
3. The Council is satisfied that the two conditions below have been met, in that -
 - i. activities carried on in the restricted area as described below have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or it is likely that these activities will be carried on in the public place and they will have such an effect;
 - ii. the effect, or likely effect, of the activities is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature, is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and justifies the restrictions imposed by the Order.
4. The effect of the Order is to impose the following prohibitions and/or requirements in the restricted areas at all times:

(I) EXCLUSION

(1) A person in charge of a dog is prohibited from taking that dog onto, or permitting the dog to enter or to remain on land within the restricted area referred to in **Schedule 1** of this Order unless -

- (a) that person has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to that person failing to do so; or
- (c) is subject to the exemptions listed in **Schedule 1**.

(2) For the purposes of this article —

A person who habitually has a dog in their possession is taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog.

(II) LEADS

(1) A person in charge of a dog, at any time, must keep the dog on a lead in the restricted area detailed in **Schedule 2** of this Order unless -

- (a) that person has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to that person failing to do so.

(2) For the purposes of this article —

a person who habitually has a dog in their possession is taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog.

(III) DOGS ON LEADS AS DIRECTED


(1) A person in charge of a dog, at any time, must put and keep the dog on a lead when directed to do so in the restricted area detailed in **Schedule 3** of this Order unless —

- (a) that person has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to that person failing to do so.

(2) For the purposes of this article —

- (i) a person who habitually has a dog in their possession is taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog;
- (ii) An authorised officer of the Authority may only give a direction under this article to put and keep a dog on a lead if such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance or behaviour by the dog likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person or the worrying or disturbance of any other animal or bird on any land to which this article applies.

(IV) SPECIFIED MAXIMUM

(1) A person in charge of more than one dog, at any time, must not take more than  dogs in the restricted area detailed in **Schedule 4** of this Order unless —

- (a) that person has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to that person failing to do so.

(2) For the purposes of this article —

a person who habitually has a dog in their possession is taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of

(V) FOULING

(1) If a dog defecates at any time on land in the restricted area detailed in **Schedule 5** of this Order and the person who is in charge of the dog at the time fails to remove the faeces from the land forthwith, that person shall be guilty of an offence unless -

- (a) that person has a reasonable excuse for failing doing so; or
- (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to that person failing to do so; or
- (c) is subject to the exemptions listed in Schedule 5.

(2) For the purposes of this article —

a person who habitually has a dog in their possession is taken to be in charge of the dog at any time unless at that time some other person is in charge of the dog.

(VI) CLEAN-UP SCOOP and/or BAG REQUIREMENT

(1) A person in charge of a dog, at any time, must be able to produce a poop scoop and/or disposable bags which would be used to remove the faeces from the land on the request of an authorised officer and do so in the restricted area detailed in **Schedule 6** of this Order unless –

- (d) that person has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
- (e) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to that person failing to do so.

Penalty

Any person who fails without reasonable excuse to comply with any of the requirements or prohibitions at Articles 4 (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) and (v) in this Order shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 (currently £1,000) on the standard scale.

Fixed Penalty

Police Officers, Police Community Support Officers, the council's Law Enforcement Officers and other authorised personnel can issue Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) to people who continue to break these rules. A person committing an offence will have 14 days to pay the fixed penalty of £100 (or £60 if paid within 7 days), failing which they may be prosecuted.

Appeals

Any challenge to this Order must be made at the High Court by an interested person within 6 weeks of it being made. An interested person is someone who lives in, regularly works in or visits the restricted area. This means that only those who are directly affected by the restrictions have the right to challenge. The right to challenge also exists where an order is varied by the Council.

Interested persons can challenge the validity of the Order on two grounds: that the Council did not have the power to make the Order or to include particular prohibitions or requirements; or that one of the requirements of the legislation, for instance consultation, has not been complied with.

When an application is made, the High Court can decide to suspend the operation Of the Order pending the Court's decision, in part or in whole. The High Court can uphold, quash or vary the Order.

Appendix 4 – Consultation guidance and questions

Public Space Protection Order – Prohibiting the use of electronic and motorised vehicles along the Thames Path

Residents have reported safety concerns along the Thames Path due to e-scooters and e-bikes. Some residents report feeling unsafe due to the speed of these vehicles, concerns around the obstructions in public walkways, and collisions.

We want pedestrians to feel safe when taking walks and travelling along the Thames Path.

What are we proposing:

We are considering introducing a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) to prohibit the riding of e-scooters and e-bikes and other motorised vehicles along the Thames Path and/or prohibit motorised vehicles from rising over a certain speed.

E-scooters and e-bikes are a form of electric powered vehicles. An E-scooter is a battery powered scooter that is ridden standing up. An E-bike is a bike that can be powered by electricity as well as propelled by pedals

This would allow Police Officers and Law Enforcement Officers to issue fines to people who use these vehicles or speed along the Thames Path.

PSPOs are designed to help keep our public spaces safe and pleasant for all and only apply to public spaces/areas.

We are seeking residents' views on whether the riding of e-scooters and e-bikes should be restricted along the Thames Path. The restrictions would apply along the flowing stretch:



We are also seeking residents' views on whether the following should be included within the prohibitions:

- Segways
- Mopeds
- Quad bicycles
- Hoverboards

We would like your feedback on whether these prohibitions should apply between 8am-8pm (7 days a week), 24 hours a day (7 days a week) or something else.

These rules wouldn't apply to mobility scooters or other mobility aids.

How would the PSPO be enforced?

If a person fails to comply with the requirements of the order following a warning from an authorised council or police officer, they will be issued with £100 Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) and taken to court if the fine is not paid within the specified timeframe. A person guilty of an offence is liable on summary conviction to a fine unless:

1. They have the consent from the owner, occupier or person in charge of the land, not to comply with the order
2. They have a reasonable excuse for failing to comply

How long would the PSPO last for?

If we introduce a PSPO the prohibitions will last for three years. After three years we will consult with residents again and decide whether or not to renew the order.

Have your say and what happens next?

We would like to hear your views on whether or not we should introduce a PSPO, so we can ensure any prohibitions are proportionate.

To have your say, please click [here](#) to complete our consultation form.

Please share your thoughts before the consultation closes on **XX** 2022.

For any queries, please contact us at csu@lbhf.gov.uk.

Consultation Questions

Q No.	Question	Answer Options
P1.	What is your name?	
P2.	What is your email address?	
P3.	Do you live or work in Hammersmith and Fulham?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I live in the area • I work in the area • I live and work in the area • None of the above
P4.	If you neither work nor live in Hammersmith & Fulham, how often do you visit the borough?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 4 times a week • 1-3 times per week • 1 time in the last month • 1 time 3-6 months • Not within the last year • N/A
1.	Do you believe that vehicles (including e-scooters and e-bikes) and other forms of transport being irresponsibly ridden reduces safety on the Thames Path?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • Maybe • No (if no go to any other comments, final question) • Unsure
2.	Do you support the introduction of a PSPO prohibiting the use of E-scooters and E-bikes down the Thames Path?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • Maybe • No • Unsure
2a.	If No, Unsure or Maybe why?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think only E-scooters should be included • I think only E-bikes should be included • I don't think a PSPO is needed • Other (free text)
3.	Which of the following do you feel should also be included in a possible PSPO? (Tick all that apply)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Segways • Mopeds • Quad bicycles • Hoverboards • None • Other (please expand)
4.	Do you support the introduction of a PSPO prohibiting the reckless riding of pedal bikes in such a way that jeopardises safety along the Thames Path?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • Maybe • No • Unsure
4a.	If No, Unsure or Maybe why?	Free text box
5.	Do you believe the proposed exclusion areas are sufficient?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • Maybe • No • Unsure
5a.	If No, Unsure or Maybe why?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think the proposed area is too strict and isn't proportionate to the issue • I don't believe the proposed area goes far enough to tackle this issue • Other (free text box for elaboration)
6.	When do you think any prohibitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between 8am-8pm, 7 days

	should apply?	a week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 hours a day, 7 days a week • Other (free text box for elaboration)
7.	Do you have any other comments?	Free text box

Closing Text

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey.

The results will help us to decide whether to introduce a PSPO along the Thames Path. The final decision will be published on the council website.

You may now close your browser.

Appendix 5 – Draft PSPO Order:

Public Spaces Protection Order
LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM
Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014
London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham Council
Prohibition of E-scooter, E-bikes, & Pedal Cycles
Public Spaces Protection Order 2022

This Order is made by The Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham, exercising its powers under sections [59](#), [64](#) and [72](#) of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 ("the Act") and all other enabling powers. The Council is satisfied that the two conditions below have been met, in that -

- i. activities carried on in the restricted area as described below have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or it is likely that these activities will be carried on in the public place and they will have such an effect;
- ii. the effect, or likely effect, of the activities is, or is likely to be, of a persistent or continuing nature, is, or is likely to be, such as to make the activities unreasonable, and justifies the restrictions imposed by the Order.

This Order applies to the areas shaded on the attached maps.

A. RESTRICTIONS

- 1) No person shall ride/cycle/use an E-scooter or E-bike, or use other motorised vehicles listed in **Schedule 1** along the Thames Path (shown on the attached map) unless -
 - that person has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
 - the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to that person failing to do so
- 2) No person shall recklessly ride a pedal bike in such a way that jeopardises safety along the Thames Path unless -

- that person has a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
- the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to that person failing to do so

B. PERIOD FOR WHICH THE ORDER HAS EFFECT

This Order comes into force at 00:00 hrs on [] and ends on [] unless extended by further Orders under the Council's statutory powers.

At any point before the expiry of this period the Council can review and vary the terms of the Order. As well as varying the Order the Council can also seek to discharge it at any time subject to their being reasonable grounds to support a decision.

C. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER

Section 67 Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 states:

1. It is an offence for a person without reasonable excuse:
 - a) To do anything that the person is prohibited from doing by a public spaces protection order, or
 - b) To fail to comply with a requirement to which a person is subject under a public spaces protection order.
2. A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine.

Fixed Penalty

Police Officers, Police Community Support Officers, the council's Law Enforcement Officers and other authorised personnel can issue Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) to people who continue to break these rules. A person committing an offence will have 14 days to pay the fixed penalty of £100 (or £60 if paid within 7 days), failing which they may be prosecuted.

Appeals

Any challenge to this Order must be made at the High Court by an interested person within 6 weeks of it being made. An interested person is someone who lives in, regularly works in or visits the restricted area. This means that only those who are directly affected by the restrictions have the right to challenge. The right to challenge also exists where an order is varied by the Council.

Interested persons can challenge the validity of the Order on two grounds: that the Council did not have the power to make the Order or to include particular prohibitions or requirements; or that one of the requirements of the legislation, for instance consultation, has not been complied with.

When an application is made, the High Court can decide to suspend the operation Of the Order pending the Court's decision, in part or in whole. The High Court can uphold, quash or vary the Order.

Exemptions

Nothing in this order applies to a Disabled person who uses a mobility scooter for access reasons.

RESTRICTED AREAS

The Thames Path within the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham. Please see map below:



Schedule 1:

- Segways
- Quad bicycles
- Hoverboards

Harmful Hexagons

A summary briefing on the use of geospatial mapping to target violent crime reduction in Hammersmith & Fulham

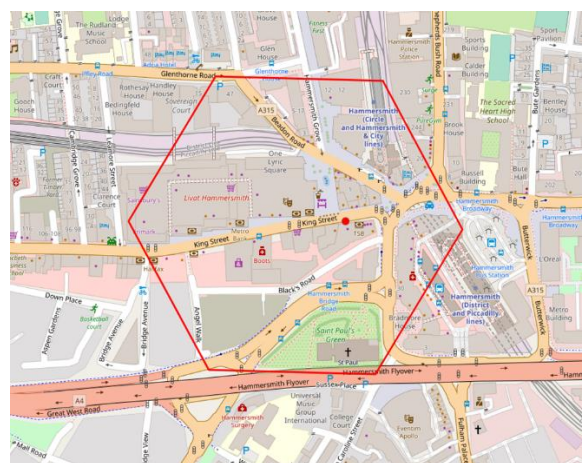
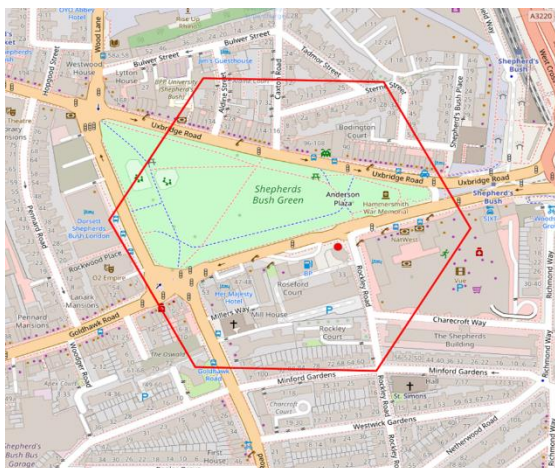
A/Supt Knight, Hammersmith & Fulham Neighbourhood Team.

This briefing outlines how police and partners are using practical evidence and academic research to target the areas of the Borough most at risk of violent crime.

In targeting crime, police use 'hot spot' policing tactics, focussing on streets and places where crime is recorded or where the public most fear a crime occurring. These are mapped routinely and inform police and partner decisions in regard to the allocation of resources into those areas. The hot spots also feature heavily in the work of neighbourhood problem solving, ensuring not only that scarce police and other resources are allocated most effectively but also that this targeting delivers value for money in both preventing and detecting crime and ASB.

Operation Nightingale is a three year Home Office supported project that uses these hot spots and geospatial mapping software to identify targeted areas for increased activity. As part of the evaluation process, control areas have also been identified in other parts of London, of the same size, where normal policing activity will be monitored and compared to the enhanced activity areas.

Two hexagon activity zones have been created in the Borough, in Shepherds Bush and Hammersmith Broadway. The hexagon shape used sits within lower super output areas of wards to mark boundaries for activity within the software tools (because it can be easily mapped and evaluated as an area) is shown below:



The presentation that supports this briefing note will demonstrate how these areas are being policed differently and how targeting in this way can deliver crime reduction and improve confidence.

Agenda Item 7

London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Report to: Social Inclusion and Community Safety Policy & Accountability Committee

Date: 1 February 2023

Subject: 2023 Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)

Report author: Andre Mark, Head of Finance (Strategic Planning and Investment)
Kellie Gooch, Head of Finance (Environment)

Responsible Director: Sukvinder Kalsi, Director of Finance
Bram Kainth, Strategic Director of Environment

SUMMARY

Cabinet will present their revenue budget and Council Tax proposals to Budget Council on 23 February 2023. In the face of worsening economic conditions and tightening financial constraints, the budget protects council services, particularly those that support the poorest and most vulnerable in society.

The London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham (LBHF) is unique in providing free breakfasts to school children, abolishing home care charges, establishing a local Law Enforcement Team to keep our streets safe and clean, maintaining weekly bin collections across the borough, and stopping the use of bailiffs to collect Council Tax debt. Despite unprecedented levels of inflation eroding council spending power, the budget protects these key services.

The cost-of-living crisis is affecting residents across the borough. With rising inflation, energy bills, and food costs many residents will be struggling to get by, and in need of additional support. This is why the budget includes new provisions of nearly a million pounds to help tackle the increasing cost of living.

The Local Government Finance Act 1992 obliges the council to set a balanced budget, and this is what is proposed. Government resource assumptions that are used to calculate Government grant for LBHF, model the council increasing Council Tax by 2.99% in 2023/24. Over the last eight years, the council has cut or frozen Council Tax five times, with the Band D charge has reducing by 10% in real terms. As a result, Council Tax in LBHF is 35% lower than the London average. The council proposes to apply the 2.99% increase for 2023/24.

The government has modelled an adult social care precept since 2016/17. Government funding modelling assumes that this has been applied every year since its inception despite LBHF choosing to apply it for only two of the past eight years. Due to the continued high levels of demand and inflationary pressures in the social care market and the government's continued failure to propose a long-term funding solution to social care funding, the council proposes to apply the 2% adult social care levy for 2023/24.

This report sets out the budget proposals for the services covered by this Policy and Accountability Committee (PAC). An update is also provided on any proposed changes in fees and charges in the budget.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Policy and Accountability Committee (PAC) considers the budget proposals and makes recommendations to Cabinet as appropriate.
 2. That the PAC considers the proposed changes to fees and charges and makes recommendations as appropriate.
-

Wards Affected: All

Our values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F values
Being ruthlessly financially efficient	We need to always confirm that spend fits our council's priorities; challenge how much needs to be spent; and achieve results within agreed budgets. Finance is everyone's business and every penny counts.
Creating a compassionate council	As the Council's resources have been reduced, we have protected the services on which the most vulnerable residents rely. This budget continues all our previous policies to support residents and also proposes new spending on care packages for disabled children and additional resources to help residents through the cost-of-living crisis.
Building shared prosperity	A significant proportion of services are delivered in partnership with local and national companies, and this will continue to promote all business sectors to the benefit of residents. In addition, there will be increased investment in the Industrial Strategy Delivery and the development and promotion of the STEAM sector strategy.
Doing things with residents, not to them	The use of co-production across the Council is embedded and all service matters are developed with the engagement of residents. The Council is continuing the REAP Programme to improve residents' access to the services.
Taking pride in H&F	The budget proposals include significant investment in public realm services especially waste collection, street cleaning and open/park spaces. Our new waste contract includes provisions to tackle fly-tipping and collection of food waste.
Rising to the challenge of the climate and	The Council has established a Climate Change Team and the Team has developed a Climate and Ecology Strategy (and is making a significant contribution to the international

Our values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F values
ecological emergency	and national policy debates). It is also securing grants from national programmes to help with improvements of the thermal efficiency of Council properties and homes).

Background Papers Used in Preparing This Report

None

DETAILED ANALYSIS

The Budget Requirement and Gap

1. The gross General Fund budget¹ rolled forward from 2022/23 to 2023/24 is £539.6m of which a **net budget requirement of £166.6m** is funded from council resources (such as Council Tax and business rates) and general government grant.

Table 1 – Budget rolled forward from 2022/23

2022/23 Budgeted Expenditure	£m
Housing benefit payments	91.2
Social care and public health	118.1
Children's services	123.6
Economy	49.4
Environment (includes parking)	108.1
Corporate (Finance, Resources and council wide)	49.2
Gross budgeted expenditure	539.6
Less:	
Specific government grants (including housing benefits and dedicated schools grant)	(239.8)
Fees and charges	(68.0)
Contributions (e.g. health)	(47.0)
Other income (e.g. investment interest, rentals, and recharges)	(18.2)
Budget requirement rolled forward from 2022/23	166.6

2. The budget proposals for 2023/24, and forecast to 2026/27, are summarised in Table 2. A balanced budget is projected for 2023/24 based on several key assumptions regarding resources and expenditure.

¹ Figures exclude capital charges and internal service level agreements. These have a net nil impact on the budget.

Table 2 – Budget summary

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Base budget	166.6	164.9	163.2	161.5
Pay and price inflation	13.6	21.6	27.6	33.6
Additional pay inflation (on-going effect of award in 2022/23)	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8
Additional investment in key services and priorities	10.7	16.7	22.7	28.7
Contribution to cost-of-living support (one-off) / Council Tax support scheme	0.9	0	0	0
Increase in the net cost of borrowing	0.6	1.0	1.0	1.0
Concessionary fares demand	(2.2)	1.1	3.1	3.1
Recognition of current income projection	(2.0)	(2.0)	(2.0)	(2.0)
Income from investment of cash balances (one off in 23/24)	(5.0)	0	0	0
Employee budget management	(2.5)	(2.5)	(2.5)	(2.5)
Reversal of employers National Insurance Contributions (1.25%)	(1.3)	(1.3)	(1.3)	(1.3)
Efficiencies and Savings Proposals	(2.9)	(4.0)	(4.8)	(5.5)
Contribution to contingencies	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3
Gross budget requirement	185.6	204.7	216.2	225.8
General grants	(53.0)	(54.1)	(54.7)	(55.2)
Locally retained business rates	(59.4)	(59.5)	(60.7)	(61.9)
Council Tax (4.99% increase in year 1 assumed then freeze)	(73.3)	(73.9)	(74.6)	(75.2)
Gross budget gap – cumulative	0.0	17.1	26.1	33.2

Budget assumptions

Inflation

3. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for October 2022 is 11.1%, its highest level for 40 years, in part due to the recovery from the pandemic, the impact of Brexit and recent global events such as the invasion of Ukraine. The Office of Budget Responsibility is forecasting inflation of 7.4% during 2023 which will impact both Hammersmith and

Fulham staff costs and suppliers. The 2023/24 budget includes a **£13.6m provision for inflation**. This allows for:

- Contract and external services inflation of £7.6m.
 - £6.0m provision for a 2023/24 pay award (this equates to a 5.0% pay award)
 - Beyond 2023/24, headroom of £8m per annum is modelled for future inflation in 2024/25 and a further £6m in 2025/26 and 2026/27.
4. The on-going impact of the pay award from April 2022 will cost £3.8m (this was funded from the one-off use of policy contingencies in 2022/23).
 5. In September 2022, a previously agreed 1.25% increase in employers' National Insurance Contributions was withdrawn by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with effect from the 6th of November. The impact of this for the council is a reversal of the £1.3m set aside in the MTFS from 2023/24.
 6. A reduction of £2.5m is proposed on our employee spend (this is 2% of total estimated spend and represents about 40 posts). It is expected that this will be managed through natural turnover, management of recruitment and review of the use of agency staff. It is not expected that this will require any voluntary or compulsory redundancies.

Fees and Charges

7. For **fees and charges** levied by the council, the inflation assumption is:
 - They are frozen for Adult Social Care, Children's Services and Housing in line with administration policy.
 - Commercial services that are charged on a for-profit basis, will be reviewed on an ongoing basis in response to market conditions and changed as appropriate, with due authorisations according to the Council constitution.
 - Parking charges and fines are to be set in line with transport policy objectives and not considered as part of the budget process.
 - A standard uplift of 10% is applied for other non-commercial and non-parking fees. The RPI indication for October 2022 was 14.2%.
 - The exceptions to these assumptions for this committee are attached in **Appendix 1**.

Other Measures

8. In addition, further short-term contributions of £2.2m are expected to arise from lower than budgeted contributions to the concessionary fares (freedom pass) scheme. This is due to the impact of passenger usage on public transport in response to the pandemic and changes to ways of working. This is not expected to continue beyond 2023/24 as demand is forecast to return to pre pandemic levels and fares increase.
9. A further one-off saving £5.0m relating to income from investing cash balances as favourable interest rates is assumed (cash balances are expected to be a minimum of £250m during 2023/24 and lower than current levels of more than £300m). This income will be used to balance the budget in 2023/24 and is not expected to continue beyond 2023/24.

Government Grant Funding

10. **General government grant funding** of £53.0m is forecast for 2023/24. This is an increase of £7.8m from 2022/23, however historically, government funding has reduced by £48m from 2010/11 to 2023/24, which represents in real terms a cut of 56%. £5.1m of the increase is not new money but compensation for the government decision not to increase business rates. The level of compensation is linked to the standard CPI rate of inflation. The Revenue Support Grant has increased by £2.2m.
11. No grant allocations are confirmed beyond 2023/24 following the government decision to announce a single year local government finance settlement (LGFS). The lack of future certainty continues to undermine effective medium-term financial planning and the risk of future funding reform and levelling up remains.
12. Ringfenced grants, which can only be used for a specific purpose, are currently forecast to have increased by £3.245m from 2022/23 to 2023/24. This forecast will be updated as further announcements are confirmed. It is assumed that such grants will have a neutral impact on the budget requirement as they will be matched against spend commitments, particularly given the current inflation risks.
13. The 'services grant' which was first allocated in 2022/23 has reduced by over 44% in 2023/24. For modelling purposes the future grant forecast assumes that the services grant will be reduced for future years also. The future of the new homes bonus grant scheme is also uncertain, and the council's allocation has reduced by 43% in 2023/24 compared to 2022/23 and by 77% compared to 2021/22.
14. As part of the LGFS, the government calculated that Hammersmith & Fulham spending power will increase by 9.5% in 2023/24. The government spending power calculation also assumes that authorities will increase Council Tax (including the adult social care precept) by 4.99% and that business rates collection is not adversely impacted by rating appeals or lower collection rates experienced during the Covid-19 pandemic. Taking these into account the Hammersmith & Fulham calculation is that spending power has increased by 2.5%

Council Tax

15. The Council is proud to have the third lowest Council Tax in the country, and to have cut or frozen Council Tax in five of the last eight years. LBHF also has one of the most progressive Council Tax support schemes in the country, with almost half of residents not paying the full amount, and those least able to pay facing no charge at all.
16. The current major national fiscal conditions of high inflation and interest rates have made a Council Tax increase in 2023/24 unavoidable and a 2.99% increase in the LBHF element of Council Tax is proposed. This level of Council Tax increase reflects the assumption that has been made by the government in the Autumn Statement on the 17 November by the Chancellor and assumed in the funding settlement for local authorities. The additional income will fund increasing costs and support investment in, and protect, key services for residents and strengthen future financial resilience. The

increase is equivalent to £25 for 2023/24 (at Band D). The Council Tax charge for LBHF is the third lowest in the country and 35% below the London average charge.

17. The council is also proposing to levy a 2% adult social care precept (again in line with government funding assumptions). The increase is equivalent to £16 per annum for 2023/24 (at Band D) and will be used to support Adult Social Care services. The continued delay in the national review of the funding of adult social care is a major concern and the government is continuing with its strategy of using an adult social care precept (since 2016/17). In the first years of the levy, the council were determined not to apply the levy despite the fact the council's funding from the government was modelled on the assumption that it would. Due to the continued high levels of inflation and instability in the social care market, the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the government's continued failure to propose a long-term funding solution to social care funding, the council accepted the need for a 3% adult social care levy for 2021/22 but it was not applied in 2022/23.
18. As set out in table 4 below, it is estimated that 47% of residents will not be required to pay the full increase (as they will be supported through the single person household discounts, Council Tax support and exemptions).
19. Due to the anticipated impact of Covid-19 the budgeted Council Tax collection rate reduced from 97.5% in 2020/21 to 97% in 2021/22 and 2022/23. A 97% collection rate is modelled for 2023/24. For years beyond 2023/24 a tax freeze is modelled with the tax base increasing in line with trend data for increases in dwelling numbers.

Table 4: Liability for Council Tax at October 2022

Total dwellings in the borough	93,165
Reductions:	
Exemptions (mainly students, includes care leavers and vacant properties)	(3,871)
Council Tax support claimants (elderly & working age on low income)	(10,143)
Single person discount (25% discount)	(29,505)
Dwellings liable for 100% of Council Tax	49,646
	53%

Business Rates

20. The current estimate for business rates assumes that the business rates income will be the minimum guaranteed within the business rates retention system (the safety net threshold). The government have confirmed that they will compensate local authorities for all changes they make to the business rates system.
21. The forecast assumes that LBHF will receive the minimum amount guaranteed, the safety net threshold, by government. This is £59.4m for 2023/24. For years beyond 2023/24 a 2% inflationary increase to the safety net is modelled.
22. As part of the Autumn Statement the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that a new temporary 50% business rates relief will apply for eligible retail, hospitality and leisure properties. In addition, a new 100% improvement relief will be available where

eligible improvements increase rateable value. There will also be a business rates freeze in 2023/24 (no increase in line with the multiplier). Local authorities will be compensated by the government for the resultant loss of income from these measures.

Investment, savings and risks

23. There are no proposed investments (increasing the available budget) or savings (reducing the available budget) for the services covered by this PAC.

Investment

24. Across the Council, additional investment of £10.7m is being provided following the budget setting and review process, as summarised in Tables 5 and 6.

Table 5: 2023/24 Investment Proposals

Proposal	£'m
Social Care (including hospital discharge and demographic growth)	4.1
Waste collection (fly tipping and food waste)	1.7
Free breakfasts (and extension for secondary schools)/Out of term support	1.7
Homelessness services (temporary accommodation)	0.9
Disabled children care packages/Care leavers and family hubs	0.5
Other policy priorities	1.3
Other unavoidable pressures (loss of advertising income, audit fees)	0.5
	10.7

Table 6: Categorisation of investment proposals

Analysis of Investment	£m
Increase in demand / demographic growth	6.9
Resident priority	2.4
Budget pressure	1.0
Government related/Other Public Bodies	0.4
Total	10.7

25. A provision of £0.9m has been set aside to support residents on the cost-of-living pressures and to consider further developing the Council Tax support scheme for those least able to afford Council Tax.

Savings and Income Generation

26. After ten years of austerity, it is increasingly difficult to identify and deliver substantive savings. However, further savings are necessary if the financial challenge of real terms government funding cuts, unfunded burdens, inflation, and demand and growth

pressures is to be met and the council has been able to find these. In the future, the council must consider all available options to operate within the funding available to it.

27. The proposed savings for the Council (including additional income) for 2023/24 are set out in Table 7.

Table 7: 2023/24 firm savings and additional income

Proposal	£m
Improving commissioning of children's services	(0.7)
Greater use of digital technologies to improve support and services in social care (e.g. timely return of equipment)	(0.5)
Working with NHS to improve hospital discharge and independent living)	(0.4)
Resident Engagement and Access Programme	(0.2)
Lower waste tonnages (impact of awareness programmes)	(0.2)
Joint commissioning of extra care services	(0.2)
Other (mainly social care procurement, Direct Payments)	(0.7)
Total savings	(2.9)

28. The savings proposals are categorised by type in Table 8.

Table 8: Categorisation of 2023/24 savings

Savings categories	£m
Commercialisation / income	(0.1)
Procurement / commissioning	(0.9)
Service reconfiguration	(1.5)
Service rationalisation/budget reduced in line with spend	(0.2)
Prevention	(0.2)
Total savings	(2.9)

Risk and financial resilience

29. An updated reserves strategy and action plan will be included within the suite of finance reports presented to Budget Council.
30. The current reserves forecast is set out in Table 9 and models a fall in overall general fund reserves and balances to £76.1m by 2027/28. This assumes a balanced budget is set each year with no further call on reserves.

Table 9 – Reserves and general balances - cash flow forecast to 2027/28

	April 2023 £m	April 2024 £m	April 2025 £m	April 2026 £m	April 2027 £m
Opening Balances					
General balance (recommended range £19m - £25m)	23.3	23.3	23.3	23.3	23.3

	April 2023 £m	April 2024 £m	April 2025 £m	April 2026 £m	April 2027 £m
Opening Balances					
Earmarked reserves – unrestricted	41.7	40.7	43.2	43.2	43.2
Earmarked reserves – restricted	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5
Sub-total	72.5	71.5	74.0	74.0	74.0
Covid related	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Total	74.8	73.6	76.1	76.1	76.1
<i>Developer contributions</i>	46.0				

31. The Covid-19 pandemic has emphasised that councils need an adequate safety net to manage increased levels of financial risk. The experience of several councils over recent years, including Thurrock, Croydon, and Bexley in London, has shown the difficulties that can arise when reserves are not maintained at a sufficient level. The Council's reserve forecast includes a general balance of £23.3m at the start of 2023/24 which represents 4.3% (equivalent to 16 days spend) of the Council's gross spend of £539.6m. The Director of Finance has recommended that the optimal range for the general balance is between £19m and £25m.

Key Risks

32. The key financial risks that face the Council have been identified. Other substantive risks include:
- The Covid-19 recovery and addressing pent-up demand
 - An upturn in inflation post Brexit and Covid-19
 - Higher pay inflation particularly given current labour shortages
 - The stabilisation and restoration of Hammersmith Bridge, with the Council incurring revenue and capital costs at risk until government funding is confirmed
 - The future impact on London of the government's 'levelling-up' agenda and wider local government finance reform (such as business rates)
 - The impact of the wider economy on major council development projects and future contributions from developers
 - The impact of, and costs of, tackling climate change
 - The challenge of identifying further significant future savings that balance the budget over the longer-term.

Departmental risks for the services covered by this PAC are set out in Appendix 2.

33. Reserves are also a key enabler for future service transformation. The financial challenge facing the council will require investment to deliver future efficiencies to enable the council to balance the budget in future years.

Comments of the Strategic Director of Environment on the Budget Proposals

Strategic service context

34. The Environment department is responsible for the delivery of a wide range of universal services to the residents of Hammersmith & Fulham including:
- Safer Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services - Community Safety, Regulatory Services, Building Control, Technical Support
 - Public Realm - Climate Change, Highways, Transport, Parking, Street Environment Services,
 - Leisure, Sport and Culture - Libraries, Parks, Cemeteries, Leisure Centres, Sports Bookings, Events and Filming; and
 - Resident Services - Customer Services, Benefits and Revenues.
35. The Environment department continues to review and challenge current service delivery models and budgets, to ensure that services are effective and efficient, and reflect the council's priorities. Some notable examples are:
- Actively working with the council's Contract Assurance Board to reprocure and review some of our major external service contracts. For example, selecting a new waste and street cleansing contractor following a full reprocurement process on the open market (£15m annual contract value), that both protects current service levels and also provides for new services (such as food waste collections).
 - Securing the continuation of a reduced waste disposal fee for recycling (saving £0.3m annually), and insourcing the sports bookings service.
 - Maximising external income. Targeting £12m in commercial income from a broad range of services, including commercial waste, highways, sports bookings and leisure centres, building control, events, filming and markets.
 - Tackling crime and antisocial behaviour through the Law Enforcement Team and Gangs Unit, at no extra cost to residents (£2.2m annual funding from secured developer contributions)
 - Tackling the Climate Change emergency by securing the biggest grant awarded to date by The Office of Zero Emission Vehicles for the installation of more than 2,000 electric vehicle charging points across the borough (£4.2m)
 - Implementing the council's ethical debt policy to support those unable to pay their council tax, helping them get into a position where they can pay rather than sending in bailiffs.
 - Continuing our programmes of service improvement. For example, investing in technology to improve resident experience and access to our services (notably via the Resident Experience and Access Programme which will save more than £0.8m per year while improving residents' access to key council services) and restructuring a number of services such as environmental health and regulatory services.

36. As well as maximising efficiency from current service budgets, the Environment department is helping to mitigate the significant medium-term financial challenges faced by the council by minimising the need for new budget growth.

Financial Performance

37. The Environment department continues to have a strong financial management record including reacting to in-year spending pressures as necessary. Spending in 2021/22 was under budget (£0.067m underspend compared to the budget, excluding Parking services), allowing for a positive contribution to council balances. For 2022/23 the department is facing financial challenges relating to the cost-of-living crisis (particularly relating to high inflation on external contracts and rising energy costs), and also relating to vital works on Hammersmith Bridge to ensure the bridge can be reopened to traffic at the earliest opportunity (works being undertaken at risk as funding has not yet been confirmed by the Department for Transport). Officers are working hard to balance the year-end outturn in line with budget (forecast overspend of 6% at month 6). It is expected that the cost-of-living crisis will continue to have a major impact on both the demand for the department's services and its budget in 2023/24.

Budget 2023/24

38. The Environment department revenue budget for 2023/24 is summarised at directorate level in the table below.

Table 10 – Environment department budget 2023/24

Service	Expenditure £000	Income £000	Net Budget £000
Safer Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services	17,740	(8,673)	9,067
Public Realm	50,606	(9,302)	41,303
Leisure, Sport and Culture	10,262	(4,059)	6,203
Resident Services	17,824	(6,874)	10,950
Total	96,431	(28,908)	67,523

39. The net budget is £67.523m and will ensure the continued investment of resources in key services for residents. In particular, the following matters should be noted:
- additional investment of £1.7m will be made in the new waste and street cleansing contract, following expiration of the existing contract. Service costs have increased due to a number of factors, including inflationary pressures on all operational costs, extra resource requirements from additional services (such as food waste collections) and growth in the number of properties in the borough (meaning increased waste collection requirements). None of the existing services residents currently enjoy will be lost in the new contract, and at least weekly bin collections will be maintained.
 - contractual inflation on externally provided services has been allowed for in the budget (£1.4m in total). It should be noted that inflation is continuing to rise at unprecedented levels, and so a significant budget risk exists in relation to this for

2023/24. The council will continue to work with contractors and suppliers to minimise any adverse impact and secure agreement to temporarily vary contract conditions where possible.

- savings of £0.5m will contribute to the setting of a balanced budget for the council. These are intended to preserve and improve front line services and will be delivered through the transformation and reconfiguration of services, procurement savings and increased income generation.

Environment fees and charges

40. The Environment department provides an extensive range of services to local businesses and residents that are chargeable, such as commercial waste, building control, licensing, and leisure centres. The department is proposing the recommended council inflationary uplift of up to 10% on fees and charges from April 2023, except for the fees and charges relevant to this PAC set out in Appendix 1. Statutory charges which the department cannot influence, will be set according to the relevant statute. Where proposed changes require consultation under statute, this will be undertaken, as necessary.

Equality Implications

41. A final Equality Impact Analysis (EIA), which assesses the impacts on equality of the main items in the budget proposals will be reported to Budget Council in February 2023.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT**

No.	Description of Background Papers	Name/Ext. of holder of file/copy	Department/ Location
1.	None		

List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Fees & charges not increasing at the standard rate

Appendix 2 – Risks

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Fee Description	2022/23 Charge (£)	2023/24 Charge (£)	Proposed Variation (£)	Proposed Variation (%)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2022/23 (£)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2023/24 (£)	Reason For Variation Not At Standard Rate
Stray Dog Statutory Fee	£25.00	£25.00	£0.00	➡ 0%	£0	£0	Prescribed by statute. Not budgeted to get any income (very low level)

PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING - House of Multiple Occupancy (HMO) Licences

Fee Description	2022/23 Charge (£)	2023/24 Charge (£)	Proposed Variation (£)	Proposed Variation (%)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2022/23 (£)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2023/24 (£)	Reason For Variation Not At Standard Rate
<u>Mandatory HMO Licence</u>					£991,000	£1,005,000	Existing 5 year scheme. Fees set to recover service costs. Current charge is considered adequate
HMO Licence Fee (Standard 5 year licence)	£1,300.00	£1,300.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Additional Charge per Habitable Room	£160.00	£160.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
HMO Licence Fee (Reduced 2 year licence)	£1,300.00	£1,300.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Additional Charge per Habitable Room	£160.00	£160.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
<u>Non-mandatory HMO Licence</u>							
Additional Licence	£560.00	£560.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Selective Licence	£560.00	£560.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Note - Discounts are applied to HMO Licences as follows: • £80 discount where the licence holder and/or the manager is a member of an accredited landlord body such as NLA, RLA or LLAS • £50 discount where the licence holder has signed up to the Hammersmith & Fulham Landlords Charter (You can sign up to the landlord's rental charter as part of the application process) N.B. Only one discount is applied per licence - the greater in value is applied							
<u>Additional Costs</u>							
Penalty Charge Notice for non-compliance with a Remedial Notice	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			

Fee Description	2022/23 Charge (£)	2023/24 Charge (£)	Proposed Variation (£)	Proposed Variation (%)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2022/23 (£)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2023/24 (£)	Reason For Variation Not At Standard Rate
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LICENSING

Fee Description	2022/23 Charge (£)	2023/24 Charge (£)	Proposed Variation (£)	Proposed Variation (%)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2022/23 (£)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2023/24 (£)	Reason For Variation Not At Standard Rate			
ANIMAL LICENCES - Part A Application Fees										
Animal Boarding Establishments - dogs & cats (NEW)	£520.10	£530.50	£10.40	↑ 2%			For Part A, Council can only charge the fees set by City of London			
Animal Boarding Establishments - dogs & cats (RENEWAL)	£383.70	£391.40	£7.65	↑ 2%						
Dog breeding kennels (NEW)	£528.45	£539.00	£10.55	↑ 2%						
Dog breeding kennels (RENEWAL)	£384.85	£392.50	£7.70	↑ 2%						
Dog breeding - Domestic (NEW)	£449.80	£458.80	£9.00	↑ 2%						
Dog breeding - Domestic (RENEWAL)	£308.25	£314.40	£6.15	↑ 2%						
Animal Boarding Establishments - single species (NEW)	£441.45	£450.30	£8.85	↑ 2%						
Animal Boarding Establishments - single species - renewal	£308.25	£314.40	£6.15	↑ 2%						
Dangerous Wild Animals (NEW - Commercial)	£528.45	£539.00	£10.55	↑ 2%						
Dangerous Wild Animals (RENEWAL - Commercial)	£386.90	£394.60	£7.75	↑ 2%						
Dangerous Wild Animals (NEW - Domestic)	£449.80	£458.80	£9.00	↑ 2%						
Dangerous Wild Animals (RENEWAL - Domestic)	£308.25	£314.40	£6.15	↑ 2%						
Performing Animals (NEW)	£359.65	£366.80	£7.20	↑ 2%						
Performing Animals (RENEWAL)	£294.70	£300.60	£5.90	↑ 2%						
Pet Sales (NEW)	£520.10	£530.50	£10.40	↑ 2%						
Pet Sales (RENEWAL)	£384.85	£392.50	£7.70	↑ 2%						
Riding Establishments (based on 1 - 21 horses)	£692.05	£705.90	£13.85	↑ 2%						
Home Boarders/day-care (up to 6 dogs)	£344.95	£351.80	£6.90	↑ 2%						
Home Boarders/day-care (up to 6 dogs) renewal	£245.40	£250.30	£4.90	↑ 2%						
Dog Day Care (NEW)	£344.95	£351.80	£6.90	↑ 2%						
Dog Day Care (RENEWAL)	£308.25	£314.40	£6.15	↑ 2%						
EXPLOSIVES LICENCES - Licence to store explosives where a minimum separation distance of greater than 0 metres is prescribed:										
New Licence										
A) One year duration	£185.00	£185.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
B) Two year duration	£243.00	£243.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
C) Three year duration	£304.00	£304.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
D) Four year duration	£374.00	£374.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
E) Five year duration	£423.00	£423.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
Licence Renewal										
A) One year duration	£86.00	£86.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
B) Two year duration	£147.00	£147.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
C) Three year duration	£206.00	£206.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
D) Four year duration	£266.00	£266.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
E) Five year duration	£326.00	£326.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
EXPLOSIVES LICENCES - Licence to store explosives where no minimum separation distance or a 0 metres minimum separation distance is prescribed:										
New Licence										
A) One year duration	£109.00	£109.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
B) Two year duration	£141.00	£141.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
C) Three year duration	£173.00	£173.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
D) Four year duration	£206.00	£206.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
E) Five year duration	£238.00	£238.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
Licence Renewal										
A) One year duration	£54.00	£54.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
B) Two year duration	£86.00	£86.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
C) Three year duration	£120.00	£120.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
D) Four year duration	£152.00	£152.00	£0.00	→ 0%						
E) Five year duration	£185.00	£185.00	£0.00	→ 0%						

Fee Description	2022/23 Charge (£)	2023/24 Charge (£)	Proposed Variation (£)	Proposed Variation (%)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2022/23 (£)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2023/24 (£)	Reason For Variation Not At Standard Rate
ALCOHOL AND DRUGS LICENSES - Based on rateable values of properties					£585,400	£598,000	Statutory fees
Schedule 2 - Premises Licences and Club Premises Certificates							
A - No rateable value to £4300	£100.00	£100.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
B - £4301 to £33,000	£190.00	£190.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
C - £33,001 to £87,000	£315.00	£315.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
D - £87,001 to £125,000	£450.00	£450.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
E - £125,001 and above	£635.00	£635.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
*Multiplier applied to premises used exclusively or primarily for the supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises (Bands D & E only)							
Rateable Value Band D - £87,001 to £125,000 (x2)	£900.00	£900.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Rateable Value Band E - £125,001 and above (x3)	£1,905.00	£1,905.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Schedule 3 - Additional Fee for New Application and Variation for Large Scale Events							
5,000 to 9,999	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
10,000 to 14,999	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
15,000 to 19,999	£4,000.00	£4,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
20,000 to 29,999	£8,000.00	£8,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
30,000 to 39,999	£16,000.00	£16,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
40,000 to 49,999	£24,000.00	£24,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
50,000 to 59,999	£32,000.00	£32,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
60,000 to 69,999	£40,000.00	£40,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
70,000 to 79,999	£48,000.00	£48,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
80,000 to 89,999	£56,000.00	£56,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
90,000 and over	£64,000.00	£64,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Schedule 4 - Variation Fee in Transition							
Rateable Value Band A	£20.00	£20.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Rateable Value Band B	£60.00	£60.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Rateable Value Band C	£80.00	£80.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Rateable Value Band D	£100.00	£100.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Rateable Value Band E	£120.00	£120.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Schedule 5 - Annual Fee							
Rateable Value Band A	£70.00	£70.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Rateable Value Band B	£180.00	£180.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Rateable Value Band C	£295.00	£295.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Rateable Value Band D*	£320.00	£320.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Rateable Value Band E*	£350.00	£350.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
*Annual charge multiplier applied to premises used exclusively or primarily for the supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises (Bands D&E only)							
Rateable Value Band D (x2)	£640.00	£640.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Rateable Value Band E (x3)	£1,050.00	£1,050.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Additional Annual Fees for Large Scale Events							
5,000 to 9,999	£500.00	£500.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
10,000 to 14,999	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
15,000 to 19,999	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
20,000 to 29,999	£4,000.00	£4,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
30,000 to 39,999	£8,000.00	£8,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
40,000 to 49,999	£12,000.00	£12,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
50,000 to 59,999	£16,000.00	£16,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
60,000 to 69,999	£20,000.00	£20,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
70,000 to 79,999	£24,000.00	£24,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
80,000 to 89,999	£28,000.00	£28,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
90,000 and over	£32,000.00	£32,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Schedule 6 - Permitted Temporary Activities, Personal Licences and Miscellaneous							
section 25 (theft, loss, etc. of premises licence or summary)	£10.50	£10.50	£0.00	➡ 0%			
section 29 (application for a provisional statement where premises being built, etc.)	£315.00	£315.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
section 33 (notification of change of name or address)	£10.50	£10.50	£0.00	➡ 0%			
section 37 (application to vary licence to specify individual as premises supervisor)	£23.00	£23.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
section 42 (application for transfer of premises licence)	£23.00	£23.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
section 47 (interim authority notice following death etc. of licence holder)	£23.00	£23.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
section 79 (theft, loss etc. of certificate or summary)	£10.50	£10.50	£0.00	➡ 0%			
section 82 (notification of change of name or alteration of rules of club)	£10.50	£10.50	£0.00	➡ 0%			
section 83(1) or (2) (change of relevant registered address of club)	£10.50	£10.50	£0.00	➡ 0%			
section 100 (temporary event notice)	£21.00	£21.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
section 110 (theft, loss etc. of temporary event notice)	£10.50	£10.50	£0.00	➡ 0%			
section 117 (application for a grant or renewal of personal licence)	£37.00	£37.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
section 126 (theft, loss etc. of personal licence)	£10.50	£10.50	£0.00	➡ 0%			
section 127 (duty to notify change of name or address)	£10.50	£10.50	£0.00	➡ 0%			
section 178 (right of freeholder etc. to be notified of licensing matters)	£21.00	£21.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Schedule 7 - Additional Premises fees							
D (x2) Main Fee	£900.00	£900.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
D (x2) Annual Charge	£640.00	£640.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
E (x3) Main Fee	£1,905.00	£1,905.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
E (x3) Annual Charge	£1,050.00	£1,050.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Schedule 8 - Temporary Events							
Temporary Event Notice	£21.00	£21.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Theft, loss etc. of personal licence	£10.50	£10.50	£0.00	➡ 0%			

Fee Description	2022/23 Charge (£)	2023/24 Charge (£)	Proposed Variation (£)	Proposed Variation (%)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2022/23 (£)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2023/24 (£)	Reason For Variation Not At Standard Rate
GAMBLING PREMISES LICENSES							
APPLICATIONS (PART A)							
Adult Gaming Centre							
Provisional Statement	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
New Grant	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Variation	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Family Entertainment Centre (++)							
Provisional Statement	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
New Grant	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Fees							
Copy of a licence	£25.00	£25.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Minor changes	£50.00	£50.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
ANNUAL FEES (PART B)							
Family Entertainment Centre (++)							
Annual	£750.00	£750.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Seasonal – per month	£150.00	£150.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
GAMBLING REGULATION - PERMITS							
Prize Gaming Permit							
New	£300.00	£300.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Existing operator conversion	£100.00	£100.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Renewal	£300.00	£300.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
New name	£25.00	£25.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Copy	£15.00	£15.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Family Entertainment Centre Permit							
New	£300.00	£300.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Existing operator conversion	£100.00	£100.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Renewal	£300.00	£300.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
New name	£25.00	£25.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Copy	£15.00	£15.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Licensed Premises Notification (New)	£50.00	£50.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Licensed Premises Permit							
New	£150.00	£150.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Annual Fee	£50.00	£50.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Existing operator conversion	£100.00	£100.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
New name	£25.00	£25.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Copy	£15.00	£15.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Transfer	£25.00	£25.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Variation	£100.00	£100.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Club Gaming Permit							
New	£200.00	£200.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Annual Fee	£50.00	£50.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Existing operator conversion	£100.00	£100.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Copy	£15.00	£15.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Variation	£100.00	£100.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Club Machine Permit							
New	£200.00	£200.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Annual Fee	£50.00	£50.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Existing operator conversion	£100.00	£100.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Copy	£15.00	£15.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Variation	£100.00	£100.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Small Society Lottery Registration							
New	£40.00	£40.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			
Annual Fee	£20.00	£20.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			

Fee Description	2022/23 Charge (£)	2023/24 Charge (£)	Proposed Variation (£)	Proposed Variation (%)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2022/23 (£)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2023/24 (£)	Reason For Variation Not At Standard Rate
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STREET TRADING

Fee Description	2022/23 Charge (£)	2023/24 Charge (£)	Proposed Variation (£)	Proposed Variation (%)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2022/23 (£)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2023/24 (£)	Reason For Variation Not At Standard Rate
Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) - Contravention of street trading licence or temporary licence fine (LLAA01) <i>(The max. fine of court proceedings is £1,000)</i>	£100.00	£100.00	£0.00	➡ 0%	£0	£0	Statutory charges per the London Local Authorities Act. Income is not budgeted for
Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) - Unlicensed street trading (LLAA02) <i>(The max. fine of court proceedings is £1,000)</i>	£150.00	£150.00	£0.00	➡ 0%			

Fee Description	2022/23 Charge (£)	2023/24 Charge (£)	Proposed Variation (£)	Proposed Variation (%)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2022/23 (£)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2023/24 (£)	Reason For Variation Not At Standard Rate
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STREET SCENE ENFORCEMENT

Fee Description	2022/23 Charge (£)	2023/24 Charge (£)	Proposed Variation (£)	Proposed Variation (%)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2022/23 (£)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2023/24 (£)	Reason For Variation Not At Standard Rate
Fixed Penalty Notices (Fly-tipping)	£40-£400	£40-£400	➡ 0%	0%	£0	£0	Income is not budgeted for

Fee Description	2022/23 Charge (£)	2023/24 Charge (£)	Proposed Variation (£)	Proposed Variation (%)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2022/23 (£)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2023/24 (£)	Reason For Variation Not At Standard Rate
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BUILDING CONTROL

Fee Description	2022/23 Charge (£)	2023/24 Charge (£)	Proposed Variation (£)	Proposed Variation (%)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2022/23 (£)	Total Estimated Income Stream for 2023/24 (£)	Reason For Variation Not At Standard Rate
a) Domestic extensions and loft conversions to single dwellings					£550,000	£550,000	Fees set to recover service costs only, as prescribed by the (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 2010. Current charges are considered adequate
10m ² and under	624.40	624.40	0.00	→ 0.0%			
40m ² and under	926.40	926.40	0.00	→ 0.0%			
60m ² and under	1235.30	1235.30	0.00	→ 0.0%			
Over 60m ²	Individually assessed fee quote	Individually assessed fee quote					
b) Detached garages/ carports							
40m ² and under	307.90	307.90	0.00	→ 0.0%			
Over 40m ²	Individually assessed fee quote	Individually assessed fee quote					
c) Replacement windows carried out on its own (not part of a larger project) and not installed under a Competent Persons Scheme							
Up to 5 windows	201.40	201.40	0.00	→ 0.0%			
Up to 10 windows	402.80	402.80	0.00	→ 0.0%			
Every additional 5 windows	201.40	201.40	0.00	→ 0.0%			
d) Underpinning							
Up to 10m	1007.10	1007.10	0.00	→ 0.0%			
Over 10m in length	Individually assessed fee quote	Individually assessed fee quote					
e) Domestic Basement Extensions							
10m ²	1007.10	1007.10	0.00	→ 0.0%			
10-40m ²	1678.50	1678.50	0.00	→ 0.0%			
40-60m ²	2215.50	2215.50	0.00	→ 0.0%			
Over 60m ²	Individually assessed fee quote	Individually assessed fee quote					
f) Domestic Electrical Wiring carried out on its own (not part of a larger project) and not installed under a Competent Person Scheme							
Per dwelling	268.60	268.60	0.00	→ 0.0%			
Flats (DOMF)							
1-10	805.60	805.60	0.00	→ 0.0%			
11 flats and over	Individually assessed fee quote	Individually assessed fee quote					
Houses (up to 300m2) (DOMH)							
1	973.50	973.50	0.00	→ 0.0%			
2	1779.10	1779.10	0.00	→ 0.0%			
3	2584.70	2584.70	0.00	→ 0.0%			
4	3390.30	3390.30	0.00	→ 0.0%			
5	4195.90	4195.90	0.00	→ 0.0%			
6	5001.50	5001.50	0.00	→ 0.0%			
7	5807.20	5807.20	0.00	→ 0.0%			
8	6612.70	6612.70	0.00	→ 0.0%			
9	7418.40	7418.40	0.00	→ 0.0%			
10	8224.00	8224.00	0.00	→ 0.0%			
11 houses and over	Individually assessed fee quote	Individually assessed fee quote					
K) Other Work: Estimated cost of Building Work (excluding VAT) (£)							
0 - 2,000	306.20	306.20	0.00	→ 0.0%			
2,001 - 5,000	512.40	512.40	0.00	→ 0.0%			
5,001 - 6,000	538.90	538.90	0.00	→ 0.0%			
6,001 - 7,000	565.60	565.60	0.00	→ 0.0%			
7,001 - 8,000	592.20	592.20	0.00	→ 0.0%			
8,001 - 9,000	618.80	618.80	0.00	→ 0.0%			
9,001 - 10,000	645.40	645.40	0.00	→ 0.0%			
10,001 - 11,000	672.10	672.10	0.00	→ 0.0%			
11,001 - 12,000	698.60	698.60	0.00	→ 0.0%			
12,001 - 13,000	725.30	725.30	0.00	→ 0.0%			
13,001 - 14,000	751.90	751.90	0.00	→ 0.0%			
14,001 - 15,000	778.50	778.50	0.00	→ 0.0%			
15,001 - 16,000	805.10	805.10	0.00	→ 0.0%			
16,001 - 17,000	831.80	831.80	0.00	→ 0.0%			
17,001 - 18,000	858.30	858.30	0.00	→ 0.0%			
18,001 - 19,000	885.00	885.00	0.00	→ 0.0%			
19,001 - 20,000	911.60	911.60	0.00	→ 0.0%			
20,001 - 21,000	931.60	931.60	0.00	→ 0.0%			
21,000 - 100,000	Net Building Notice fee of £945.55 plus £20 for every £1,000 (or part thereof) times 1.224 (VAT not applicable)	Net Building Notice fee of £945.55 plus £20 for every £1,000 (or part thereof) times 1.224 (VAT not applicable)	0.00	→ 0.0%			
100,001 and over	Individually assessed fee quote	Individually assessed fee quote					

Department & Division	Short Description of Risk	Mitigation
All divisions	Potential national public finance pressures impacting specific grant funded services (such as Prevent)	Plan for projects that can be scaled to match funding as far as possible
All divisions	Continued pressure on service demand and income due to the cost of living crisis	Continue to signpost residents to cost of living support. Closely monitor income performance, taking remedial action in year as required
All divisions	Ongoing pressure and challenges to secure funding for the Corporate Business Plan objectives (including those related to Safer Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services)	Continue to explore funding opportunities, both internally and externally to the council. Manage within existing resources as far as possible