

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

COUNCIL MEETING – 29 JANUARY 2014

Question by: Mr Rowan Ree

To: The Deputy Leader of the Council

QUESTION

“The Council will be aware of residents’ concerns about the consistent levels of crime affecting Ravenscourt Road. Will the Council agree to install temporary CCTV while carrying out a full review of the problem and working with local residents to agree a better way forward? “

ANSWER

Cutting crime is this Council’s number one priority and as soon as I was made aware of the issues raised in your question and indeed a later motion on this Council’s agenda, I immediately tasked officers to look into it. The MET police crime analyst has done research into Ravenscourt Road over the last 6 months and reported back the following:

- there have been 10 offences recorded on Ravenscourt Road since September 2013; 1 in September, 2 in October, 5 in November, 1 in December and 1 this January to date
- offences are a mixture of vehicle crime, theft, burglary, with a single possession of cannabis offence and 1 GBH offence recorded
- in terms of full year data for the period up to which the crime figures have been made publicly available, there were 26 recorded crimes in Ravenscourt Road in December 2012 against 28 total offences in the same period the previous year
- the Safer Neighbourhood Team are indeed aware of the concerns raised and residents raised this issue at the Neighbourhood Watch meeting in November 2013, particularly raising the issue of possible CCTV
- the spike of crime in November consisted of criminal damage to motor vehicles where a number of cars were damaged in the area at the same time and that is believed by the police to have been by one group behaving clearly criminally on the Halloween weekend.

We already have one H&F CCTV Camera (camera 101) sited at the junction of Ravenscourt Road and King Street, which can pan round to capture Ravenscourt Road

towards the tube station and there are also further cameras as part of TfL's property on the tube station.

The area community safety officer is aware of the assault on 4 October against one of our civil enforcement officers which is being dealt with by the police.

One crime is too many crimes but given the relatively low level of crime compared to other streets in the borough this would not normally warrant a CCTV installation. However I am more than happy to look at deploying some of our covert equipment on a short term basis in order to give residents the protection that they want.