

Decision Maker: Executive and Resources PDS Committee

Date: 3rd January 2013

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: BRIEF UPDATES FROM PDS CHAIRMEN

Contact Officer: Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager
Tel: 020 8461 7743 E-mail: graham.walton@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Mark Bowen, Director of Resources

Ward: N/A

1. Reason for report

1.1 This report provides a brief update from PDS Committee Chairmen on the recent work of their committees - an update from Cllr Douglas Auld, Chairman of the Public Protection and Safety PDS Committee is attached as appendix 1.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

The Committee is asked to note the updates provided by PDS Committee Chairmen.

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy: One of the roles of PDS Committees is to scrutinise proposals coming before executive bodies for decision – this supports the Excellent Council BBB priority.
 2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No Cost
 2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Democratic Services
 4. Total current budget for this head: £320,320 (2012/13 controllable budget)
 5. Source of funding: Existing revenue budget.
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): There are 8 posts (7.22 fte) in the Democratic Services Team.
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Preparing this report takes less than one hour of staff time per meeting.
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: None
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable: This report does not involve an executive decision.
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): This report is intended primarily for the benefit of members of the Committee.
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? No
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: N/A

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 One of the roles of the Executive and Resources PDS Committee is to provide a lead on policy development and scrutiny issues and to coordinate the work of all the Policy Development and Scrutiny (PDS) Committees. As part of each meeting the Committee receives a brief update from other PDS Committee chairmen of the work being carried out by their respective Committees. In the past this was an oral report, but more recently the Committee has asked PDS Chairmen to provide a short written summary for circulation before the meeting.
- 3.2 Since this Committee's last meeting on 21st November, only the Public Protection and Safety PDS Committee and the Care Services PDS Committee have held meetings, on 27th November and 4th December 2012 respectively.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Policy/Financial/Legal/Personnel
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	None

Public Protection & Safety PDS Committee

The Public Protection & Safety PDS Met on the 27th November, when the following matters were addressed:-

The Chairman reported on a meeting which had taken place at the Bethlem Royal Hospital on the 20th November, attended by the interim Chief Executive and the Medical Director of the Hospital and Cllrs. Carr, Stevens and Auld, the Chief Executive, the Director of Environment and Supt. Oakley from Bromley Police. The discussions centred on a number of concerns relating to security at the hospital, training of staff in security measures and a possible increase in the number of high security patients. The interim Chief Executive who is only recently in post agreed to consider all of these matters and further agreed to attend the next meeting of the PDS on the 22nd January to give an update.

The Borough Commander, Ch.Supt. Roberts reported on the successful outcome of a number of specific police operations adding that one of the main priorities remaining was to address the high number of burglaries. The figures had recently improved but remained higher than earlier in the year. The Ch. Supt. confirmed that whereas in Oct. 2010 the establishment numbers for officers and PCSOs in Bromley had been 483 and 111 respectively these had now been reduced to 451 and 80. The Committee expressed concern at the latter numbers. There was also discussion regarding all police vehicles in the Borough being based at Bromley.

It was noted that the PP&S budget had been shown as balanced at the end of September.

Reports were received on:-

- * The Summer Diversionary Activities and on YOT NEET (Not in Education Employment or Training)
- * Tackling Gangs in Bromley - this indicated that no gangs as such had been identified in the Borough and identified the measures which may be considered necessary for that to continue.
- * Community Payback Update. This was a short informative report stating the in July 2012, Serco had won the contract to operate this scheme with the London Probation Trust as a sub-contractor. The new management procedures would be 'rolled out' between October and February 2013.
- * The Committee noted the Enforcement Activity which had taken place between 1/4/12 and 30/9/12.

Cllr Douglas Auld
Chairman, Public Protection & Safety PDS Committee