

Updates from PDS Chairmen

Care Services PDS Committee 23rd June 2015

The main debate centred on item 8c Direct Care (learning disabilities) contract award. There were 20 questions to the Portfolio holder from carers and support staff and a statement from the union.

There were 2 annual reports one on fostering and one on adoption, the portfolio plan and the 2014/15 outturn budget and the monitoring of the 2015/2016 budget.

I would also draw your attention to the information items the virtual school report [children who are looked after] which will be discussed at Education and the transfer of Health Visitors to the Local Authority.

**Cllr Judi Ellis
Chairman, Care Services PDS Committee**

Public Protection & Safety PDS Committee 30th June 2015

The Public Protection & Safety (PP&S) PDS met on 30 June 2015. David Tait, Chief Inspector and Deputy Borough Commander, gave a presentation based on MOPAC (Mayor of London Office for Policing and Crime) data. This was followed by a thorough scrutiny session from Members on issues including burglary, public disorder and 'violence with injury' crimes in the Borough's town centres. Chief Inspector Tait also gave a separate briefing on gangs in Bromley, including details of the Bromley Gangs and Serious Youth Violence Strategic Board. He agreed that a Councillor representative could attend the Board meetings to act as a 'link' between Police and Bromley Council.

The PP&S Portfolio Holder (PH) gave a presentation to outline her priorities for the 2015-16 municipal year. Members were asked to agree the Public Protection Portfolio Plan for the year. It was agreed that the priorities would be to:

- Tackle night-time anti-social behaviour through a joint Council-Police initiative to tackle violence, nuisance and disorder
- Take action against rogue traders

- Tackle the sale of age-restricted products (especially alcohol and tobacco), though test purchase operations
- Inspect 100% of high-risk food businesses
- Provide the CCTV monitoring service for town centres and other key areas

A Members' visit to the refurbished Orpington Fire Station has been arranged for Saturday 11 July.

A joint PDS meeting with the General Purposes & Licensing Committee to discuss the Council's licensing policy and its impact on crime and public disorder has been arranged for Tuesday 14 July.

Over the course of the year, the Chairman wants to look at Operation Crystal, Drugs / Substance Mis-use (in a joint meeting with Social Care PDS), CCTV, and Trading Standards and Food Safety following reorganisation and reduced budgets.

On Saturday 23 May, the Chairman joined the PP&S PH, Chairman of the Safer Neighbourhood Board and other Board Members in interviewing members of the public in Bromley High Street using a prepared questionnaire to canvass opinion about crime in Bromley Borough. This exercise was continued at the Big O Festival in Priory Gardens, Orpington, on Saturday 4 July.

The Chairman took part as an observer in the Major Incident / Emergency Planning exercise on Sunday 21 June. She and Cllr Kate Lymer were able to observe proceedings and suggest possible good practice for the future.

On 23 June, the Chairman attended the Safer Neighbourhood Board AGM and meeting where it was agreed to grant monies for various bids to make Bromley safer.

Cllr Alexa Michael
Chairman, Public Protection & Safety PDS Committee