

*PART A

Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting: 16 June 2016
Report of: Committee and Scrutiny Officer
Title: Community Safety Partnership Task Group Membership 2016/17

1.0 **SUMMARY**

1.1 Overview and Scrutiny Committee is required to agree the membership of the Community Safety Partnership Task Group.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee agrees the maximum number of members for the Community Safety Partnership Task Group.

2.2 that Overview and Scrutiny Committee agrees the names of those Councillors appointed to the Community Safety Partnership Task Group.

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Report approved by: Carol Chen, Head of Democracy and Governance

3.0 **DETAILED PROPOSAL**

Background

3.1 The Community Safety Partnership Task Group is a permanent Task Group reporting to Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Council has a statutory duty to scrutinise the crime and disorder partnership, known in Watford as the Community Safety Partnership.

- 3.2 The appointment of the Task Group's membership is delegated to Overview and Scrutiny Committee; however the Chair is elected at the Task Group's first meeting. The Chair will be expected to attend Overview and Scrutiny Committee, if they are not already a member of that committee, and provide an update on the Task Group's work.
- 3.3 The Community Safety Partnership Task Group does not have to be politically balanced and is open to all non-Executive Councillors. Substitutions are not usually permitted on Task Groups; however an exception is made for Community Safety Partnership Task Group as it is not carrying out an ongoing review. Meetings are generally open to the public and the date, agenda and minutes are published on the Council's website.
- 3.4 In 2015/16 the Community Safety Partnership Task Group comprised the following seven non-executive Councillors –
- Councillor Seamus Williams (Chair)
 - Councillor Sohail Bashir
 - Councillor Stephen Bolton
 - Councillor Rabi Martins
 - Councillor Binita Mehta
 - Councillor Mo Mills
- 3.5 **Committee Membership 2016/17**
- Following the elections on 5 May 2016, the Democratic Services Manager emailed the political groups on the council for nominations to all committees. She included the Community Safety Partnership Task Group and noted that the membership would be agreed by Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.6 The following Members were listed for membership of the Task Group –
- Councillor Stephen Bolton
 - Councillor Aga Dychton
 - Councillor Amanda Grimston
 - Councillor Rabi Martins
 - Councillor Jagtar Singh Dhindsa
 - Councillor Matt Turmaine
- 3.7 As the Task Group can have up to seven members, on 1 June 2016 the Committee and Scrutiny Officer emailed all non-executive councillors seeking any further expressions of interest in the Task Group. At the time of publication there has been one response, which was from Councillor Stephen Cavinder expressing an interest. Any further updates will be provided at the meeting.

3.8 Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the appropriate number of Members for the Task Group and agree the membership for the Community Safety Partnership Task Group, based on the information in paragraph 3.7 and any updates provided at the meeting. It is recommended that Task Groups comprise no more than five Councillors, however for the last few years it has been agreed by Overview and Scrutiny Committee that the Community Safety Partnership Task Group comprises seven Councillors.

3.9 The Task Group's Chair will be elected at the first meeting on Thursday 13 October 2016.

3.10 **Work Programme**

The timetable of meetings for 2016/17 agreed at Annual Council on 24 May 2016 indicates three meetings, which are

- Thursday 13 October 2016
- Thursday 26 January 2017 (if required)
- Wednesday 22 March 2017

3.11 The first meeting, in October is likely to carry out a six month review of the Community Safety Partnership's Plan. The third meeting in March would usually carry out an annual review of the current year's plan and consider the draft plan for the new year. Further discussions will need to take place with relevant officers and the Task Group to confirm the full work programme for the year

4.0 **IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 **Financial**

4.1.1 The Head of Finance comments that any costs arising out of the task group can be contained within existing budgets.

4.2 **Legal Issues (Monitoring Officer)**

4.2.1 The Head of Democracy and Governance comments that there are no legal implications in this report.

Appendices

None

Background Papers

Responses from the political groups

File Reference

None