

## Suggestions for topics to be scrutinised – evaluation table

A Member/Officer suggesting a topic for scrutiny must complete this table as fully as possible. Completed tables will be presented to Overview & Scrutiny for consideration.

<b>Proposer: Cllr Malcolm Meerabux</b>	
<p><b>Topic recommended for scrutiny:</b></p> <p><i>Please include as much detail as is available about the specific issues and areas which should be included/excluded from the review. Should the focus be on past performance, future policy or both?</i></p>	<p>Meeting with and involving tenants and residents associations in identifying community safety issues is about better community engagement, early intervention and enforcement in order to build safe, secure and vibrant communities. This involvement can also be done through eg Q &amp; A sessions, open ended written requests, face to face sessions, which could contribute to building key objectives and short and long term strategies for safer communities.</p> <p>This involvement could mean:</p> <p>Assisting with identifying <a href="#">anti-social behaviour</a> eg littering, speeding when, where and frequency and type as well as ‘prevention measures’ eg <a href="#">CCTV cameras</a> where to position them, how to make the best use of Safety Neighbourhood teams in a collaborative way with groups.</p> <p>Exploring the level of cooperation and communication between local Police, the community and hard to reach groups.</p> <p>Outlining the actions that need to be taken on addressing residents’ priorities, as well as asking the community to look at opportunities for getting more involved in designing and delivering services in their area.</p> <p>This work will help to build stronger and safer communities where people live together, respect each other and have a shared vision for their neighbourhood leading to community confidence, engagement and cohesion.</p>

	<p>Local people and other data suggest that we need to continue to focus on finding ways WBC can effectively intervene in making our communities safer.</p> <p>Working on places that are experiencing problems or are at risk of experiencing problems.</p> <p>It is about being safe and feeling safe, by addressing locally identified priorities in relation to policing and community safety.</p>
<p><b>Why have you recommended this topic for scrutiny?</b></p>	<p>I would hope that this topic would lead to an enhancement in the quality of lives for our residents and if necessary recommend action.</p> <p>Community safety should be at the heart of everything we do. It's one of the more easily demonstrable ways of showing that we are involved in our communities and sends a clear message that we are supportive and are on their side. It also offers a window to examine development partnership opportunities through collaborative work with a variety of organisations.</p>
<p><b>What are the specific outcomes you wish to see from the review?</b></p>	<p>To ascertain if current strategies are working effectively and if not, to find how best to support or adjust local approaches when dealing with community safety partnerships issues.</p> <p>To assist in identifying the community safety issues which matter most to communities where they live, work, study and visit.</p> <p>Creating safer areas through symbiotic workings with the police, local authority, county council, primary care trust, police authority and fire authority in order to develop and implement a community safety strategy designed to reduce crime and disorder within their local authority area.</p> <p>Integral to all these outcomes will be cross cutting themes such as community engagement, equality and diversity and reassurance of vulnerable people.</p>

<b>Does the proposed item meet the following criteria?</b>	
<p>It must affect a group or community of people</p>	<p>Tenants and residents associations to be consulted to bring about a positive impact on reducing crime, the fear of crime and by working alongside local communities may bring a sense of safety for all.</p> <p>The primary purpose is to make our areas a safer place to live, work and visit. Everyone has a right to feel safe as they go about their daily lives and this can be achieved by encouraging groups to play their part in tackling issues of crime and disorder.</p>
<p>It must relate to a service, event or issue in which the council has a significant stake</p>	<p>Safer Watford Campaigns &amp; One Watford which is the local strategic partnership for the town which is allied to Watford Community Safety Partnership.</p>
<p>It must not have been a topic of scrutiny within the last 12 months</p> <p><i>There will be exceptions to this arising from notified changing circumstances. Scrutiny will also maintain an interest in the progress of recommendations and issues arising from past reports.</i></p>	
<p>It must not be an issue, such as planning or licensing, which is dealt with by another council committee</p>	

<p><b>Does the topic meet the council's priorities?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improve the health of the town and enhance its heritage Yes</li> <li>2. Enhance the town's 'clean &amp; green' environment Yes</li> <li>3. Enhance the town's sustainability Yes</li> <li>4. Enhance the town's economic prosperity and potential Yes</li> <li>5. Supporting individuals and the community Yes</li> <li>6. Securing an efficient, effective, value for money council</li> <li>7. Influence and partnership delivery Yes</li> </ul>
<p><b>Are you aware of any limitations of time or other constraints which need to be taken into account?</b></p> <p><i>Factors to consider are forthcoming milestones, demands on the relevant service area and member availability</i></p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>Does the topic involve a Council partner or other outside body?</b></p>	<p>Community safety is not the responsibility of any one agency but involves a number of different bodies apart from tenants and residents associations eg the Police, PCSOs, HCC, WBC, Fire and Rescue Service, Primary Care Trust, the Anti Social Behaviour Unit, WCHT, Watford &amp; Three Rivers PCT, Neighbourhood Watch Organisations, partnership Protected Areas, the Probationary Service.</p>
<p><b>Please complete the 'sign off' section at the end of this document</b></p>	

**The following section to be completed by Democratic Services**

**Consultation with relevant Heads of Service**

*(this section to be completed by Democratic Services)*

*It is important to ensure that the relevant service can support a review by providing the necessary documents and attending meetings as necessary. The Head of Service's comments should be obtained before the request to hold a review is put to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.*

Has the relevant Head of Service been consulted?

*Yes/no (if no, please give reason)*

Is this a topic which the service department(s) is able to support.

*Include HoS comments here*

When was the last time this service was the subject of a scrutiny review?

*Include date if known*

**Sign off****Councillor/Officer****Date****Head of Service****date****Cllr Malcolm Meerabux****10<sup>th</sup> May 2012**