

## PART A

**Report to:** Community Safety Partnership Task Group  
**Date of meeting:** 3 December 2013  
**Report of:** Committee and Scrutiny Support Officer  
**Title:** Results of Community Safety Engagement Work

### 1.0 SUMMARY

1.1 This report provides the Task Group with the results of the Community Safety Engagement questionnaire which was undertaken earlier in 2013.

### 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Task Group notes the results of the survey.

2.2 That the Task Group considers any actions arising.

**Contact Officer:**

For further information on this report please contact: Jodie Kloss, Committee and Scrutiny Support Officer  
telephone extension: 8376 email: [legalanddemocratic@watford.gov.uk](mailto:legalanddemocratic@watford.gov.uk)

**Report approved by:** Head of Democracy and Governance

### 3.0 **BACKGROUND**

3.1 At the meeting on 31 January 2013 the Task Group considered scrutiny suggestions by Members for the Community Safety Partnership Task Group. One of the suggestions, made by Councillor Meerabux, related to how community groups engaged on community safety issues.

3.2 The Task Group agreed that they wished to circulate three questionnaires covering the areas in Councillor Meerabux's suggestion. Questionnaires were sent to all councillors, local residents' associations and community groups and Police officers from the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

3.3 The response rate to the three surveys was as follows:  
Residents' and community groups: 27  
Councillors: 20  
Police: 20

### 4.0 **FINDINGS**

4.1 Some key findings to highlight are:

- 58% of community groups know who to contact to raise concerns about community safety
- Councillors found that casework, residents' association meetings and other neighbourhood meetings were the most effective ways of engaging with local residents on community safety issues.
- 95% of councillors felt that communication between residents and authorities about community safety could be improved.
- For the Police, the most effective engagement strategies were community events and beat surgeries

### 5.0 **IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 **Legal Issues** (Monitoring Officer)

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

5.2 **Financial implications**

5.2.1 The Director of Finance comments there are no financial implications to the recommendations contained in this report.

#### Appendices

**Appendix 1** – Report of survey responses

#### Background Papers

No papers were used in the preparation of this report.

#### File Reference

None