

*PART A

Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date of meeting: 25 June 2014
Report of: Committee and Scrutiny Officer
Title: Community Safety Partnership Task Group Membership

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 membership of the 2014/15 Community Safety Partnership Task Group.

Contact Officer:

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Committee and Scrutiny Officer
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Report approved by: Jason McKenzie, Legal and Democratic Section Head

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. The Task Group's draft work programme is attached as Appendix 1 and will be discussed at the Task Group's first meeting.

3.2 At a recent meeting of the Constitution Working Party, Members were asked to consider agreeing a consistent approach to the Council's three permanent scrutiny panels, Budget Panel, Outsourced Services Scrutiny Panel and Community Safety Partnership Task Group. Officers had suggested that the membership of the three panels and the Chairs should be appointed at Annual Council.

- 3.3 Following discussion about the recommendations, the Working Party agreed that no changes should be made to the arrangements for the Community Safety Partnership Task Group and the membership should continue to be agreed by Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The appointment of the Chair would continue to be elected at the Task Group's first meeting.
- 3.4 The Community Safety Partnership Task Group does not have to be politically balanced and is open to all non-Executive Councillors. No substitutions are permitted on Task Groups. Meetings are generally open to the public and the details are published on the Council's website.
- 3.5 In 2013/14 the Community Safety Partnership Task Group comprised the following seven non-executive Councillors –
- Councillor Asif Khan (Chair)
 - Councillor Jeanette Aron
 - Councillor Anne Joynes
 - Councillor Ann Lovejoy
 - Councillor Rabi Martins
 - Councillor Kelly McLeod
 - Councillor Malcolm Meerabux
- 3.6 Committee Membership 2014/15
- Following the Borough elections on 22 May 2014, the Democratic Services Manager wrote to all Group Leaders and Group Secretaries with details of the politically balanced and non-politically balanced committees. The letter was sent prior to the Constitution Working Party meeting. The letter made reference to the recommendations to the Working Party and requested nominations for the Community Safety Partnership Task Group. In response to the letter, the Liberal Democrat and Labour Groups named their representatives. As the nominations have already been put forward, the Committee and Scrutiny Officer has not emailed all non-executive councillors asking if they have an interest in participating in the Task Group.
- 3.7 The Members nominated for a place on the Community Safety Partnership Task group are as follows –
- Councillor Jeanette Aron
 - Councillor Stephen Bolton
 - Councillor Rabi Martins
 - Councillor Kelly McLeod
 - Councillor Mo Mills
 - Councillor Seamus Williams
- 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.
- 3.9 The Task Group's Chair will be elected at the first meeting on Tuesday 22 July 2014.

4.0 **IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 **Financial**

4.1.1 The Director of Finance comments that it is anticipated that any costs arising out of this study can be accommodated 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

Appendix 1 – Community Safety Partnership Task Group’s draft work programme

Background Papers

Labour and Liberal Democrat committee nomination papers

File Reference

None