

\*PART A

**Report to:** Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
**Date of meeting:** 18 June 2015  
**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 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.

**Contact Officer:**

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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.

3.3 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.

3.4 In 2014/15 the Community Safety Partnership Task Group comprised the following seven non-executive Councillors –

- Councillor Kelly McLeod (Chair)
- Councillor Jeanette Aron
- Councillor Stephen Bolton
- Councillor Rabi Martins
- Councillor Binita Mehta
- Councillor Mo Mills
- Councillor Seamus Williams

3.5 Committee Membership 2015/16

On 29 May 2015 the Committee and Scrutiny Officer emailed all non-executive members asking them to advise her if they were interested in participating in the Task Group. A reminder was then sent on 5 June 2015 as only two responses had been received. As at the date of publication of the agenda six responses have been received, as set out in paragraph 3.7.

3.6 The Committee and Scrutiny Officer was aware that the Labour Group had provided the Democratic Services Manager with the names of four Councillors that the Group wished to nominate for the Task Group. In the email of 29 May and 5 June she had asked Councillors to confirm their interest.

3.7 The following Members, listed in order of response, have asked to be considered for membership of the Task Group –

- Councillor Stephen Bolton
- Councillor Rabi Martins
- Councillor Binita Mehta
- Councillor Sohail Bashir
- Councillor Seamus Williams
- Councillor Mo Mills

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 Wednesday 23 September 2015.

### 3.10 Work Programme

For 2015/16 it has been agreed that there will be two meetings, as set out in the timetable of meetings agreed at Annual Council on 20 May 2015. The first meeting, in September, will carry out a six month review of the Community Safety Partnership's Plan. The second meeting, in March, will carry out an annual review of the 2015/16 Plan and consider the draft Plan for 2016/17. The Task Group's draft work programme is attached as Appendix 1 and will be discussed at the Task Group's first meeting.

## 4.0 **IMPLICATIONS**

### 4.1 **Financial**

4.1.1 The Director of Finance comments that any costs arising out of the task group 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

Emails from the Committee and Scrutiny Officer to all non-executive Councillors and responses

### File Reference

None