

# COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

## REPORT

**Subject:** IVOLT Subgroup Update

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### 1. Brief Update

- 1.1 The IVOLT (Victim, Offender, Location, Time) meets on a monthly basis. The IVOLT is chaired by the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) and looks at emerging trends, joint operations, geographical hotspots, demographics, licensing and other issues effecting Community Safety. The information used to monitor these topics is supplied from the Metropolitan police, London Fire Brigade and the Council.
- 1.2 The Metropolitan police supply data of who has been calling to report anti-social behaviour reporting on the higher frequency callers and their locations.
- 1.3 The London Fire Brigade supply data of fires that have been deliberately started across the borough
- 1.4 The Council supplies data from case files around individuals/ incidents.
- 1.5 For every issue raised including repeat victims/ complainants of anti-social behaviour a strategic action plan is decided on by the panel to resolve these issues using joined up resources from the partnership. This includes looking at what services need to be accessed by any given cohort to assist in their wellbeing.
- 1.6 This group is also responsible for monitoring and responding to all reported Community Triggers.

### 2. Key Challenge(s)

- 2.1 To address complex needs of complainants of anti-social behaviour including victims and perpetrators.

- 2.2 To reduce the number of calls received by police and Council to ease the pressure on services and the public purse.
- 2.3 To supply/ receive accurate data and to use this data in an informative and proactive way rather than reactive.
- 2.4 To ensure we are capturing all repeat callers and victims and that all can access our services.
- 2.5 To increase the reporting of anti-social behaviour and crime including hate crime.
- 2.6 To monitor MOPAC priorities, Non Domestic Violence With Injury, Robbery and Vehicle Crime
- 2.7 To improve and enhance customer satisfaction.

### **3. Emerging Trends**

- 3.1 The number of repeat callers is reducing following partnership action plans put in place. This is especially true now that we are working closer with mental health services including a mental health police SPOC. - Currently repeat callers for ASB to police are very low and the last few months have seen an average of 0-2 callers. This is the best in our BCU and very good compared to the rest of London as a result of the problem-solving work done by the IVOLT and participants.
- 3.2 Police continue to allocate resources to address gang activity and youth violence and work with the Council to use civil enforcement such as injunctions and closure orders to manage behaviour and mitigate risks to Community Safety. We also have further closure orders and eviction proceedings planned for addresses associated with gang/ criminal activity.
- 3.3 Police and Council continue to work together to address unlicensed music events. Council have recently met with police to refine our Standard Operating Procedures to improve this process including ensuring the correct contact details are in both the Met police control room and the LBBB control room to strengthen communications and intel sharing around UME's.
- 3.4 LBBB continue to participate in regular meetings with police and colleagues from Redbridge and Havering local authorities to address local priorities and issues in our BCU. This includes the new partnership meeting to discuss youth violence and share any relevant intelligence which currently meets 3 times a week.
- 3.5 Police have secured further funding for operations in and around Barking to address ASB and Crime, with a particular focus on violent crime, (particularly Robbery offences) and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG).
- 3.6 Police continue to work in partnership with LBBB for joint operations to address ASB and crime in town centres.
- 3.7 The IVOLT has identified new hot spot areas for ASB and crime and are deploying resources accordingly to address these reports.

- 3.8 The police Environmental Visual Audit for Barking Town Centre has been completed and supplied to LBBB with appropriate recommendations to reduce ASB and crime in Barking Town Centre. A problem-solving group chaired by Enforcement and Community Safety has been formed and attendees include police, Community Safety, Parking, Regulatory Services, Lighting, My Place, Community Solutions, Be First, Public Realm and relevant commissioned services and voluntary sector to look at implementing any recommended actions from this report as detailed below.
- 3.9 The new police Barking town centre team started in December 2021 consisting of 1 Inspector, 3 Sergeants and 21 PCs. This team are working closely with Community Safety to improve the safety of Barking town centre and have already had a large impact making multiple arrests and stop and searches. Community Safety and the Barking town centre police team continue to run joint operations to target crime trends. The next one is planned on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022 under Op Yamhill and targeting Robberies.
- 3.10 Now that the new police Barking town centre team are operational it has allowed for resources from police and LBBB to be deployed to other areas of our borough increasing our ability to address ASB and crime in other locales. We are again completing a joint operation between Community Safety and police, including drug dogs, a Heathway tube station.
- 3.11 Licensing from both LBBB and Met police have been updating on any actions taken against licensed premises, updating on upcoming events in the borough and any forthcoming license applications.
- 3.12 Street Space Activation at Barking Station Parade was a pilot scheme commissioned to look at perceptions of safety and ASB with the aim to help people feel safer and happier in public spaces. This was funded by LBBB LCPF MOPAC money and implementation and delivery was monitored and supported by IVOLT.
- 3.13 The use of the new Metropolitan police initiative to issue early warning ASB notices to anybody found to be behaving in an anti-social manor has been re started by Metropolitan Police. These warning notices serve as an early intervention tool and can be issued by police officers and Council officers. There is a shared database between LBBB and police of anybody coming to notice via this method and a process is in place to ensure anybody who comes to notice twice gets a joint visit from police and Council to address their behaviour and what possible consequences could be as well as offering support and engagement with relevant services and partners if required. This project is now up and running again with both police and Community Safety Enforcement Officers issuing tickets and sharing relevant information.
- 3.14 LBBB PSPO's in Barking Town Centre, Heathway and Broad Street, Dagenham have been renewed and new orders are now in place.
- 3.15 LBBB Community Safety Enforcement Officers whose remit includes patrolling our PSPO areas (Barking Town Centre, Heathway and Broad Street), being a high visual presence and to engage with community particularly in areas where we have reports of anti-social behaviour have been patrolling with police at least once a week. Our Public Space ASB Caseworker has been leading on this work which has led to repeat offenders being identified and issued with Fixed Penalty Notices

and Community Protection Warnings/ Notices allowing us as a partnership to manage their behaviour. It has also led to a huge increase in our intelligence around repeat offenders and their associations enabling us as a partnership to be able to form more robust action plans to both help vulnerable individuals and provide better protection and safety to the public.

- 3.16 The ASB team pilot is now an established team and after 6 months with 1 Manager and 7 ASB officers to further improve our Community Safety offer to our residents both in the public space and at addresses regardless of tenure. So far, the team have improved our response time to complaints of ASB to 1.5 days on average, providing a dedicated service including one point of contact and has improved the customer journey for complainants of ASB.
- 3.17 Our funded police team, 'Crime and Enforcement Taskforce', have a new 3-year agreement with MOPAC until March 2025. This funded police team can continue its great work in responding to and concentrating on Council taskings for ASB and Community Safety which are allocated and discussed at a weekly meeting.
- 3.18 Community Pay Back Team are now liaising with Community Safety to identify areas within the borough that could benefit from cleaning, painting and general improvement to help deter anti-social behaviour and crime. The railway crossings near St Awdry's walk have already been highlighted and work begun.
- 3.19 The IVOLT group are monitoring the development and delivery of the Safe Haven Scheme. The scheme will work with residents to identify unsafe spaces to support the implementation of safe spaces with local businesses across the borough. Consultation is currently underway.

#### **Police Environmental Visual Audits**

- 3.20 Environmental Visual Audits (EVA) are used by the Police alongside other agencies to identify problems in the area such as litter, graffiti, vandalism, and fly-tipping and make recommendations for crime reduction and improvement.
- 3.21 In July 2021, walkabouts took place in Barking Town Centre with Police and Council officers.
- 3.22 The Council received 3 reports from the Police with wide ranging recommendations for crime and disorder reduction, covering the areas of Barking Train Station / Station Parade, Wakering service road to rear of the shops, East Street / London Road. Included was a set of cross cutting licensing recommendations which relate to all areas.

#### **Barking Town Centre Problem-Solving Group**

- 3.23 In September 2021, the Community Safety Partnership developed a Barking Town Centre Problem Solving Group to pick up the recommendations from the Police EVA and to capture existing work across the partnership.
- 3.24 The meeting was chaired by the Operational Director for Enforcement and Community Safety, Andy Opie and a range of services in attendance including Parking, Licensing, BeFirst, ComSol, Community Safety and the Police.

- 3.25 Following the initial meeting, a Barking Town Centre Action Plan was created to capture both the work underway and planned work across the partnership (Appendix A) which highlights the tasks, action owners, timescales, and updates from each of the service areas about progress or issues.
- 3.26 Positive feedback was shared at the meeting about the things we can do right now including licensing work, existing development projects, enforcement patrols, uplifting of trees.
- 3.27 The CCTV audit is also feeding into this work and new public space surveillance locations for Barking Town Centre have been identified. These installations will be included in the upgrade work of the surveillance service.
- 3.28 Concerns were shared at the meeting about areas of private land ownership and areas which are ear-marked for longer term development. Other concerns included that some of the planned work such as the Train Station Activation Project, were reliant upon external funding from Government.
- 3.29 There were discussions about how to measure success, for example using crime data but feedback from businesses and residents will be important
- 3.30 The Group met again in January 2022 to further develop the action plan and agree a detailed set of actions to be taken forward, including joint licensing and trading standards work, lighting & CCTV, further enforcement signage, targeted patrols at London Road Car Park and a new Policing Team for the Town Centre with a significant resource uplift comprising 1 inspector, 3 sergeants and 27 PCs.