

**Safer Neighbourhoods
and Active Communities
Scrutiny Board**

**Thursday 2 August, 2018 at 5.30pm
in Committee Room 1
at the Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

Agenda

(Open to Public and Press)

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Members to declare:-
 - (a) any interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting;
 - (b) the existence and nature of any political Party Whip on any matter to be considered at the meeting.
3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 5 June, 2018 as a correct record.
4. Anti-Social Behaviour, Community Safety and Crime in Sandwell.

Date of next meeting – 4 October, 2018

J Britton
Chief Executive

Sandwell Council House
Freeth Street
Oldbury
West Midlands

Distribution:

Councillors Ahmed (Chair);

Councillors Crompton and Hevican (Vice-Chairs);

Councillors Allcock, Chidley, Hadley, M Y Hussain, M Hussain, S Jones, Phillips and White.

Co-opted Member:-

Mr M Babb

Agenda prepared by Alex Goddard
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Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board**Apologies for Absence**

The Board will receive any apologies for absence from the members of the Board.

Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board

Declaration of Interests

Members to declare:-

- (a) any interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting;
- (b) the existence and nature of any political Party Whip on any matter to be considered at the meeting.

Minutes of the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board

**5th June, 2018 at 5.00pm
at Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

Present: Councillor Ahmed (Chair);
Councillor Hevican (Vice-Chair);
Councillors Allcock, Chidley, M Y Hussain, M Hussain
and White.

Apologies: Councillors Crompton, Hadley and Phillips.

In attendance: Dr Alison Knight (Executive Director - Neighbourhoods);
Alan Caddick (Director – Housing and Communities).

6/18 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd March, 2018 be approved as a correct record.

7/18 Work Programme 2018-19

The Council's Executive Director – Neighbourhoods and Director – Housing and Communities attended the meeting and provided the Board with an overview of the Neighbourhoods directorate and areas of key activity in support of the ambitions contained within Vision 2030.

The Directorate was involved on several key initiatives and projects that directly supported a number of ambitions, especially Town Plans, the Commonwealth Games and the Cultural Strategy.

From the comments and questions by members of the Scrutiny Board the following responses were made and issues highlighted:-

- The Council was actively engaged in house-building programmes, however where tenants transferred from other Council-owned stock the right to buy transferred with them so they did not have to wait five years before exercising the right to buy on these properties. However, the price of the properties reflected the cost to the Council.

- Previous Government proposals to make Councils sell the most valuable 5% of their properties were not currently progressing.
- The Housing Allocations Policy was being reviewed and it was proposed to bring it to the Scrutiny Board for consideration prior to any decision being made by Cabinet.
- The Council had recently adopted a revised Anti-Social Behaviour Policy; the implementation of this could form the basis of scene-setting for more detailed work around anti-social behaviour, community safety and crime prevention.

The Board also considered suggestions received from members of the public that related to its terms of reference. Aspects of the concerns raised in these would be considered throughout the proposed work programme for the Board.

Members commented upon the future of the digital autopsy service in Sandwell. As this topic was not within the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board's terms of reference this would be raised with the relevant Director.

The Board thanked officers for attending the meeting.

Resolved:-

- (1) that the following items be included in a draft work programme for the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board:-
 - (a) Culture Strategy;
 - (b) Housing Allocations Policy;
 - (c) Legacy of the Commonwealth Games;
 - (d) Third Sector Compact;
 - (e) Anti-Social Behaviour, Community Safety and Crime Prevention (including implementation of the Anti-Social Behaviour Policy and the West Bromwich Public Space Protection Order);
- (2) that the Director – Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chair of the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board determine the best dates for the items to be

included on the work programme to ensure efficiency and timeliness;

- (3) that subject to (2) above, the completed work programme be submitted to the Budget and Corporate Scrutiny Management Board for approval.

(Meeting ended at 5.48pm)

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| Contact Officer: Alex Goddard Democratic Services Unit 0121 569 3178 |
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REPORT TO SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS AND ACTIVE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY BOARD

02 August 2018

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| Subject: | Anti-Social Behaviour, Community Safety and Crime in Sandwell |
| Cabinet Portfolio: | Councillor Elaine Costigan - Cabinet Member for Public Health and Protection |
| Director: | Director - Housing and Communities - Alan Caddick |
| Contribution towards Vision 2030: |  |
| Contact Officer(s): | Alex Goddard, Scrutiny Officer alexander_goddard@sandwell.gov.uk |

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board:

1. consider and comment upon the information presented on anti-social behaviour, community safety and crime in Sandwell.
2. determine if there are specific areas within the topics presented that it wishes to review in more detail.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 At its meeting on 5 June, 2018 the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board considered its work programme for the 2018-19 municipal year. It was agreed to hold a meeting themed around the connected topics of anti-social behaviour, community safety and crime.
- 1.2 Officers will attend the meeting to present information on these topics, answer questions from councillors and contribute to the Scrutiny Board's discussion.

2 IMPLICATIONS FOR SANDWELL'S VISION

- 2.1 Tackling anti-social behaviour and crime, and improving community safety, contributes to making Sandwell a community where our families have high aspirations and where we pride ourselves on equality of opportunity and on our adaptability and resilience.
- 2.2 The partnership's approach to tackling anti-social behaviour, community safety and crime directly supports the ambition to build our communities on mutual respect and taking care of each other, supported by all the agencies that ensure we feel safe and protected in our homes and local neighbourhoods.
- 2.3 The partnership working that is fundamental to tackling anti-social behaviour, community safety and crime contributes to Sandwell having a national reputation for getting things done, where all local partners are focused on what really matters in people's lives and communities.

3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 Officers will present detailed information to the meeting on several issues and initiatives relating to anti-social behaviour, community safety and crime.

4 THE CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 Information on the following topics will be presented to the meeting:-
 - implementation of Anti-Social Behaviour Policy;
 - implementation of West Bromwich Public Space Protection Order;
 - overview of initiatives around crime prevention;
 - vehicle-based anti-social behaviour – update.

5 CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)

- 5.1 Anti-social behaviour, community safety and crime related topics were raised by the public as items for consideration by the Scrutiny Board through the public consultation exercise carried out by the Overview and Scrutiny function of the Council.

6 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 6.1 If the Scrutiny Board does not consider the information presented to it then potential recommendations and actions to improve services would be missed.

7 STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no specific strategic resources implications arising from this report.

8 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 In relation to the topics presented, the council and its partners will operate within the legislative framework of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 and the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

9 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 No equality impact assessment is required for this report.

10 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 10.1 No data protection impact assessment is required for this report.

11 CRIME AND DISORDER AND RISK ASSESSMENT

- 11.1 The information presented at the meeting will address crime and disorder matters in detail.

12 SUSTAINABILITY OF PROPOSALS

- 12.1 There are no specific sustainability issues associated with this report.

13 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOCIAL VALUE)

- 13.1 Addressing crime and anti-social behaviour is key to improving wellbeing and strengthening a sense of safety amongst our communities.

14 IMPACT ON ANY COUNCIL MANAGED PROPERTY OR LAND

- 14.1 Crime and anti-social behaviour can impact on property or land managed by the Council

15 CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 15.1 The Board is invited to consider the information presented to it and determine if there are more specific areas of interest that it would like to review in further detail.

16 BACKGROUND PAPERS

16.1 None.

17 APPENDICES

None.

Alan Caddick
Director – Housing and Communities