

# Merton Council Overview and Scrutiny Commission



Date: 28 March 2017

Time: 7.15 pm

Venue: Committee rooms C, D & E - Merton Civic Centre, London Road, Morden  
SM4 5DX

## AGENDA

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2	Declarations of pecuniary interest	
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**This is a public meeting – members of the public are very welcome to attend.  
The meeting room will be open to members of the public from 7.00 p.m.**

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## Overview and Scrutiny Commission membership

### Councillors:

Peter Southgate (Chair)  
Peter McCabe  
Hamish Badenoch  
Mike Brunt  
John Dehaney  
Abigail Jones  
Sally Kenny  
Dennis Pearce  
Oonagh Moulton  
David Williams

### Substitute Members:

Agatha Mary Akyigyina  
Michael Bull  
Suzanne Grocott  
Joan Henry  
John Sargeant

### Co-opted Representatives

Mansoor Ahmad, Parent Governor  
Representative - Primary Sector  
Helen Forbes, Parent Governor  
Representative - Secondary and Special  
Sector  
Colin Powell, Church of England diocese

### Note on declarations of interest

Members are advised to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting. If a pecuniary interest is declared they should withdraw from the meeting room during the whole of the consideration of that matter and must not participate in any vote on that matter. If members consider they should not participate because of a non-pecuniary interest which may give rise to a perception of bias, they should declare this, withdraw and not participate in consideration of the item. For further advice please speak with the Assistant Director of Corporate Governance.

### What is Overview and Scrutiny?

Overview and Scrutiny describes the way Merton's scrutiny councillors hold the Council's Executive (the Cabinet) to account to make sure that they take the right decisions for the Borough. Scrutiny panels also carry out reviews of Council services or issues to identify ways the Council can improve or develop new policy to meet the needs of local people. From May 2008, the Overview & Scrutiny Commission and Panels have been restructured and the Panels renamed to reflect the Local Area Agreement strategic themes.

Scrutiny's work falls into four broad areas:

- ⇒ **Call-in:** If three (non-executive) councillors feel that a decision made by the Cabinet is inappropriate they can 'call the decision in' after it has been made to prevent the decision taking immediate effect. They can then interview the Cabinet Member or Council Officers and make recommendations to the decision-maker suggesting improvements.
- ⇒ **Policy Reviews:** The panels carry out detailed, evidence-based assessments of Council services or issues that affect the lives of local people. At the end of the review the panels issue a report setting out their findings and recommendations for improvement and present it to Cabinet and other partner agencies. During the reviews, panels will gather information, evidence and opinions from Council officers, external bodies and organisations and members of the public to help them understand the key issues relating to the review topic.
- ⇒ **One-Off Reviews:** Panels often want to have a quick, one-off review of a topic and will ask Council officers to come and speak to them about a particular service or issue before making recommendations to the Cabinet.
- ⇒ **Scrutiny of Council Documents:** Panels also examine key Council documents, such as the budget, the Business Plan and the Best Value Performance Plan.

Scrutiny panels need the help of local people, partners and community groups to make sure that Merton delivers effective services. If you think there is something that scrutiny should look at, or have views on current reviews being carried out by scrutiny, let us know.

For more information, please contact the Scrutiny Team on 020 8545 3864 or by e-mail on [scrutiny@merton.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@merton.gov.uk). Alternatively, visit [www.merton.gov.uk/scrutiny](http://www.merton.gov.uk/scrutiny)

# Agenda Item 3

All minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting of the committee/panel. To find out the date of the next meeting please check the calendar of events at your local library or online at [www.merton.gov.uk/committee](http://www.merton.gov.uk/committee).

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION

7 MARCH 2017

(7.15 pm - 8.55 pm)

PRESENT: Councillors Peter Southgate (in the Chair), Peter McCabe, Hamish Badenoch, John Dehaney, Abigail Jones, Sally Kenny, Dennis Pearce, Oonagh Moulton, David Williams and Mike Brunt

Co-opted Members Mansoor Ahmad and Helen Forbes

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Edith Macauley MBE (Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Engagement and Equalities)

Sophie Ellis (Assistant Director of Business Improvement), Evereth Willis, Kris Witherington (Consultation & Community Engagement Manager) and Julia Regan (Head of Democracy Services)

### 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

Apologies were received from co-opted member Colin Powell.

### 2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST (Agenda Item 2)

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

### 3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Agenda Item 3)

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

### 4 CABINET RESPONSE TO THE SHARED AND OUTSOURCED SERVICES SCRUTINY TASK GROUP (Agenda Item 5)

Commission members expressed disappointment at the changes proposed by the Corporate Management Team (CMT) in relation to recommendations 2 and 5. Members regarded CMT's proposals as a dilution of the task group's intentions and stressed that during its deliberations, the task group had already modified its recommendations in response to representations made by the Chief Executive and Cabinet Member for Finance.

The Assistant Director of Business Improvement, Sophie Ellis, said that CMT had asked her to convey its thanks to the task group for a comprehensive report that provided insight into the challenges facing the authority.

Sophie Ellis explained that CMT's intentions in proposing an amended approach to recommendation 2 had been to avoid developing a process-driven template that might stifle innovation and creativity. CMT thought that the provision of questions and

guidance to be addressed in a flexible template would be more likely to deliver the outcome that the task group wanted. In relation to recommendation 5, CMT had been unsure that a mandatory appraisal objective would deliver the desired result, which, as the report had stated, needed to ensure the right skills and information was available to managers. With this in mind an alternative proposal had been put forward that centred on the leadership development programme and the improved TOM (target operating model) process.

The Chair said that the Commission would be inviting the Chief Executive to attend its meeting on 7 July 2017 to present a report as outlined in recommendation 7 of the task group's report. He added that the Commission would continue to monitor delivery of the action plan on a six monthly basis, as is usual with task group reports.

## 5 EQUALITY AND COMMUNITY COHESION STRATEGY 2017-20 (Agenda Item 4)

The Equality and Community Cohesion Officer, Evereth Willis, outlined the content of the new draft equality and community cohesion strategy and the associated action plan. Councillor Edith Macauley, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Equalities and Engagement, described the consultation process that had been undertaken and said that the draft document had been brought to the Commission as part of the consultation process. She said that she would welcome any additional points and comments that Commission members wished to make.

In response to a question, Evereth Willis said that the action plan was shorter than the plan for the previous strategy and that each action was linked to a service plan, therefore she was confident that the plan would be deliverable. The action plan will be monitored by a corporate group lead by the Director of Children, Schools and Families and will also be brought to the Commission annually.

Commission members commented that they were pleased to see specific actions and performance measures set out in the action plan, though there were notable gaps in the draft. Evereth Willis assured members that the gaps would be plugged in the final document and that the action plan would be a "live document" that would be actively used by the council and its partners.

Commission members discussed whether the aim of narrowing the gap between the east and the west of the borough would ever be achievable and urged officers to focus on improving the life chances of the most deprived communities.

In response to a question Evereth Willis undertook to find out the position on earmarked reserves in relation to apprenticeships and report back to Commission members. ACTION: Equality and Community Cohesion Officer

RESOLVED: the Commission requested that the following changes be made to the draft strategy:

- To amend objective 2, key activity point 5 “ continue to raise the issue of step free access at train stations such as Motspur Park and Raynes Park stations as opportunities arise” to include Wimbledon Park station because the same issues apply;
- To add more detail on the work planned in relation to hate crime – objective 5, key activity point 1;
- That the action plan should be fully populated with performance measures.

6 FINANCIAL MONITORING TASK GROUP - MINUTES OF MEETING ON 20 FEBRUARY (Agenda Item 6)

Councillor Hamish Badenoch, Chair of the Financial Monitoring Task Group, drew the Commission’s attention to the task group’s discussion of the budgets for unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) and no recourse to public funds (NRPF) which highlighted that the shortfall in government grant was not being addressed in setting the budget for these areas.

RESOLVED: to note the minutes of the meeting of the financial monitoring task group held on 20 February 2017.

7 REVIEW OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR CO-OPTED MEMBERS (Agenda Item 7)

The Chair introduced this report and proposed that the Commission should seek expert speakers on particular subjects as they arise rather than recruiting a voluntary co-opted member as it would be unlikely for one person to be able to cover all aspects of the Commission’s terms of reference. There was general agreement to this proposal and it was agreed that experts could include people from community organisations or service users who could add value to a meeting.

Councillor Dennis Pearce, Chair of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel, added that the Panel had taken a similar approach and its experience had been that a long lead-in time to find expert speakers was desirable and therefore advised planning several meetings ahead.

RESOLVED: to consider requirements for expert witnesses as part of the Commission’s topic workshop on 23 May. The Head of Democracy Services will include suggestions in the agenda pack for this meeting.

ACTION: Head of Democracy Services

8 DISCUSSION OF QUESTIONS FOR THE BOROUGH COMMANDER (Agenda Item 8)

RESOLVED to ask the Acting Borough Commander the following questions at the Commission’s meeting on 28 March:

- Against a framework proposal for 12 forces to cover the 32 Greater London boroughs, what are the options under consideration for a sub-regional

amalgamation of police forces to include Merton and where have proposals got to?

- What are the planned arrangements for the deployment of dedicated ward officers in Merton and how close are they to implementation borough wide?
- How is the new ward model working and how is it impacted by reductions in the total number of police officers?
- The Acting Borough Commander is asked to comment on recent spikes in domestic burglary and theft of motor cycles (especially mopeds) and bicycles
- Could the Acting Borough Commander ensure that officers' shifts match local events in the borough that need policing support – such as Armed Forces Day. How could the Council assist in ensuring police awareness of such events?
- What is the remit of school police officers and what do they do?
- What is the trend in Merton for internet based crime i.e. identity theft, on line scams, how is it recorded and how should residents report such crimes?

## 9 WORK PROGRAMME (Agenda Item 9)

RESOLVED to agree the proposed work programme for the Commission's meeting on 28 March 2017 with the following changes:

- addition of a presentation on the proposed local authority property company so that the Commission would have an opportunity to input and comment prior to this being taken to Council;
- deferral to 7 July 2017 of the report from Safer Merton (on violence against women and girls, services for women in refuges, and anti-social behaviour).

## 10 CONSULTATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (Agenda Item 10)

The Community Engagement Manager, Kris Witherington, introduced the report that had been provided in response to a request made at Council on 23 November 2016.

Kris Witherington said that implementation of the Get Involved Strategy, a joint approach to community engagement by the council and its partners, had become more challenging in recent years due to rapid organisational change, new government guidance and increased public expectations particularly in regard to digital communication. The council's Community Engagement team (2FTE) advises services on best practice, maintains the consultation infrastructure and delivers corporate consultation activity.

Kris Witherington provided additional information in response to questions:

- the Gunning principals are not a statutory requirement but rather a set of standards used by the courts in assessing whether consultations were appropriate

- officers take advice from the Consultation and Engagement Team and from the South London Legal Partnership to determine whether a consultation is legally required
- there is dialogue with faith organisations, including through the Faith and Belief Forum. Merton Voluntary Service Council has a database that can be used to assist communication and consultation.
- some Community Forums have greater attendance than others and attendance will also vary according to topicality of issues
- Community Forums are a valuable mechanism for community engagement but other mechanisms should also be deployed
- the new residents survey will provide a new baseline but there will be some comparability with previous surveys . It may be possible to carry these out jointly with neighbouring boroughs in future
- the council's online portal is used for partner organisations too, for example it currently hosts the boundary review plus a consultation by Transport for London
- the use of e-petitions has decreased significantly in Merton, probably due to increased use of national petitions

RESOLVED: to thank Kris Witherington for the report and additional information provided.

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## **Committee:** Overview and Scrutiny Commission

**Date:** 28 March 2017

## **Subject:** Crime and policing in Merton

Lead officer: Chief Superintendent Steve Wallace, Acting Borough Commander

Lead member: Councillor Peter Southgate, Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Commission

Contact officer: Julia Regan, Head of Democracy Services,  
[julia.regan@merton.gov.uk](mailto:julia.regan@merton.gov.uk), 0208 545 3864

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### **Recommendations:**

- A. That the Overview and Scrutiny Commission discuss and comment on the responses to its questions (see Appendix A) and the crime data provided by the Acting Borough Commander (see Appendix B) and ask other questions as appropriate.
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## **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1. The Acting Borough Commander has been invited to attend the Overview and Scrutiny Commission meeting to give a brief overview of any changes since he attended previously in September 2016 and to address the questions identified by Commission members in section 2 below. His responses are set out in Appendix A.
- 1.2. He was also requested to provide crime data in the same format as that provided previously. This is set out in Appendix B.

## **2 DETAILS**

- 2.1. The Acting Borough Commander has been asked to provide an overview of any changes since the last meeting and anything he wished to draw to the Commission's attention.
- 2.2. Commission members also identified a number of questions (at their meeting on 7 March 2017) they would like to discuss with the Acting Borough Commander. These were emailed in advance of the meeting so that the Acting Borough Commander could prepare his answers
- 2.3. The questions are:
- a. Against a framework proposal for 12 forces to cover the 32 Greater London boroughs, what are the options under consideration for a regional amalgamation of police forces to include Merton and where have proposals got to?
  - b. What are the planned arrangements for the deployment of dedicated ward officers in Merton and how close are they to implementation borough wide?
  - c. How is the new ward model working and how is it impacted by reductions in the total number of police officers?

- d. The Acting Borough Commander is asked to comment on recent spikes in domestic burglary and theft of motor cycles (especially mopeds) and bicycles
  - e. Could the Acting Borough Commander ensure that officers' shifts match local events in the borough that need policing support – such as Armed Forces Day. How could the Council assist in ensuring police awareness of such events?
  - f. What is the remit of school police officers and what do they do?
  - g. What is the trend in Merton for internet based crime i.e. identity theft, on line scams, how is it recorded and how should residents report such crimes?
- 2.4. The Acting Borough Commander's responses to these questions are set out in Appendix A.

### **3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

Commission members may choose to ask questions about other aspects of policing in Merton.

### **4 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED**

- 4.1. Not applicable.

### **5 TIMETABLE**

- 5.1. Not applicable.

### **6 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1. There are no property or resource implications at this time.

### **7 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1. None for the purposes of this report.

### **8 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1. None for the purposes of this report.

### **9 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1. None for the purposes of this report.

### **10 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

None for the purpose of this report.

### **11 APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT**

Appendix A – Acting Borough Commander's response to questions posed by members of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission

Appendix B – crime data for Merton and surrounding boroughs

### **12 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 12.1. None

## **Appendix A:**

### Acting Borough Commander's response to questions posed by members of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission

- **Against a framework proposal for 12 forces to cover the 32 Greater London boroughs, what are the options under consideration for a regional amalgamation of police forces to include Merton and where have proposals got to ?**

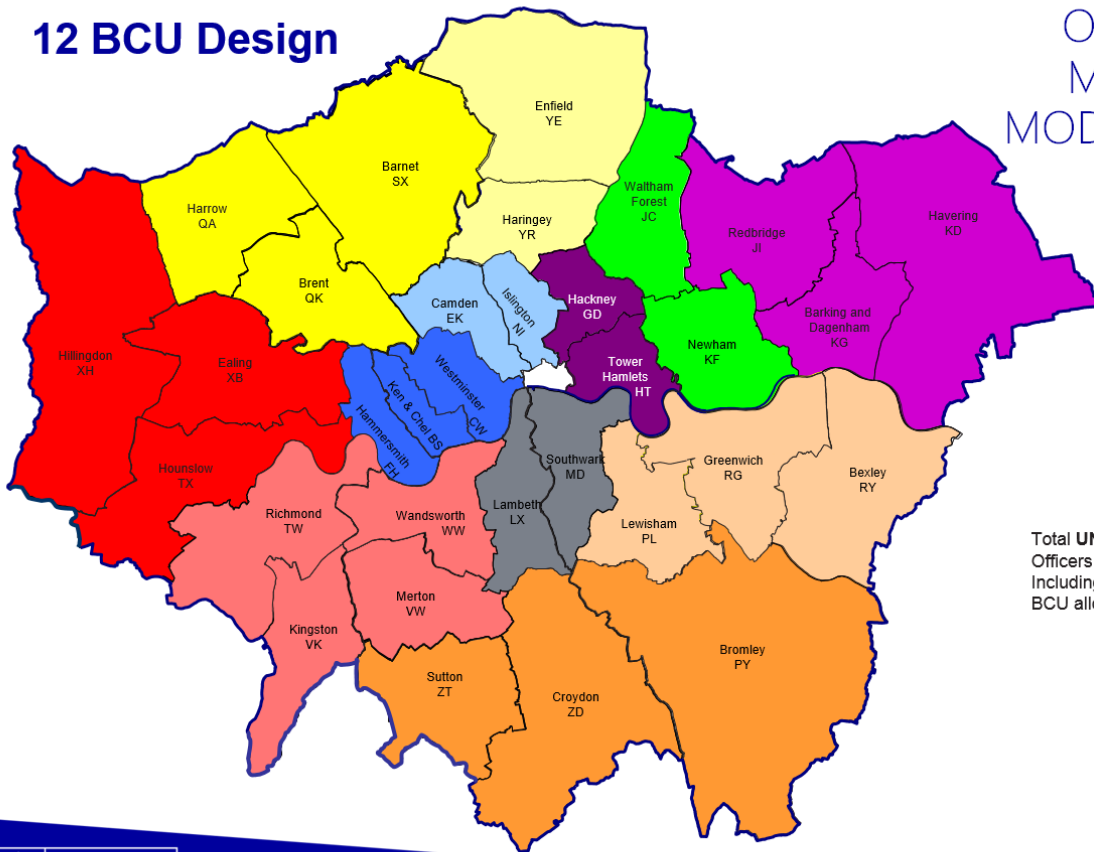
Currently the MPS are testing the new BOCU model, started in January 2017 with the testing of Basic Command Units (BCUs) in two areas - bringing together Barking and Dagenham, Redbridge and Havering boroughs, and Camden and Islington boroughs as pathfinder sites. This testing will be reviewed and we await any further developments in the phased implementation process.

The proposed mergers and who Merton may be merged with to form the new BCU (no final decisions have been made) are currently Kingston, Richmond and Wandsworth. Local consultation and briefings have begun and Mr Wallace, Deputy Assistant Commissioner Mark Simmons and Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime Sophie Linden met with Ged Curran on 28<sup>th</sup> February for consultation.

So at this stage no further information is available on the proposal whilst testing takes place on the pathfinder Boroughs.

## 12 BCU Design

ONE  
MET  
MODEL 2020



Total UNFUNDED  
Officers in 2020  
Including SCO17  
BCU allocation



- **What are the planned arrangements for the deployment of dedicated ward officers in Merton and how close are they to implementation borough wide?**

40 dedicated ward officers - two per ward, an increase of 100 %. Anticipate all will be in post by May 2017. Realigned from current neighbourhood officer strength. Remaining neighbourhood officers will continue to target neighbourhood crime until we move to the BCU model and revised working practices.

- **How is the new ward model working and how is it impacted by reductions in the total number of police officers?**

The new ward model has not changed yet and is part of the wider Met Change programme.

Total Neighbourhood police officer target strength remains the same as it has been over the past few years, and won't change until we move to the BCU model. We have selected a second dedicated ward officer for each ward who should all be in post by May 2017. This allows some continuity during the transition period to the BCU model.

The remaining neighbourhood officers will be amalgamated into three problem solving teams of one sergeant and 10 constables, split between the three neighbourhood areas. Their focus

will be to target neighbourhood crime and those neighbourhood priorities agreed by the Safer Neighbourhood Board. In addition we will maintain our small Borough Tasking Team for proactive work. Their focus will be the MOPAC priorities and locally agreed police priorities of house burglary and theft of motor vehicle - specifically mopeds and moped associated crime.

- **The Acting Borough Commander is asked to comment on recent spikes in domestic burglary and theft of motor cycles (especially mopeds) and bicycles**

**Domestic burglary**

Verbal update from C/Supt Wallace

**Motor cycles / mopeds**

Operation Venice – Verbal update from C/Supt Wallace

**Pedal cycles**

**Theft of pedal cycles – FYTD – 16/3/17 – Increase 26%**

	Offences	Vol. Change	SDs	SDs Vol. Change	SD Rate	Change (ppt)
Merton	375	84.0	13	3.0	3.5%	0.0
<b>Ward Name</b>						
Trinity	59	24.0	1	-1.0	1.7%	-4.0
Dundonald	42	13.0	1	0.0	2.4%	-1.1
Colliers Wood	39	11.0	1	1.0	2.6%	2.6
Hillside	29	9.0	2	1.0	6.9%	1.9
Abbey	24	3.0	0	0.0	0.0%	0.0
Figge's Marsh	23	9.0	3	3.0	13.0%	13.0
Merton Park	23	2.0	2	2.0	8.7%	8.7
Cricket Green	22	12.0	2	1.0	9.1%	-0.9
Raynes Park	20	4.0	0	0.0	0.0%	0.0
Wimbledon Park	17	0.0	0	0.0	0.0%	0.0
Village	14	-3.0	0	0.0	0.0%	0.0
Ravensbury	12	5.0	0	0.0	0.0%	0.0
Graveney	10	5.0	0	-1.0	0.0%	-20.0
West Barnes	9	1.0	1	1.0	11.1%	11.1
Lavender Fields	8	0.0	0	-2.0	0.0%	-25.0
St Helier	7	-5.0	0	0.0	0.0%	0.0
Cannon Hill	6	-5.0	0	0.0	0.0%	0.0
Longthornton	5	4.0	0	0.0	0.0%	0.0
Pollards Hill	5	-5.0	0	-1.0	0.0%	-10.0
Lower Morden	1	0.0	0	-1.0	0.0%	-100.0

- **Could the Acting Borough Commander ensure that officers' shifts match local events in the borough that need policing support – such as Armed Forces Day. How could the Council assist in ensuring police awareness of such events?**

The council can assist by notifying police as soon as is reasonable of any known event – However police Regulations dictate that officers are given a shift rota published a year in advance so known events are placed into the roster, such as Notting Hill Carnival, November firework period, New Year's Eve and such like where demand is at it greatest for both local events and those within London, tis should only be changed as an exigency of duty or the officers request. That said DWO are generally exempt from being deployed other than their ward so should be available to accommodate local known events. Potential issues arise where events may fall on a Bank Holiday, due to the financial constraints imposed on the service no NPT officers are rostered to work on Bank holidays. To my knowledge there has not been an issue supporting events such as Armed forces day with a police presence.

- **What is the remit of school police officers and what do they do?**

There are currently 1 sergeant and 8 constables deployed within the safer schools partnership – Three of these posts are fully funded. Additional activities that they carry out such as regular weapon screening arch Ops, & involvement in the running of other youth diversion projects, such as the Youth PI Boot Camps & Boxing Clubs on this Borough.

Minimum requirements for the role of a Safer Schools Officer (SSO) are to:

- Provide visible and familiar contact with assigned school(s) at priority times as agreed with the school.
- Be a point of contact between school(s) and police.
- Advise Head Teacher(s) and their staff on policing issues.
- Provide regular briefing updates to school staff on policing issues.
- Establish and maintain a student ward panel to set school policing priorities.
- Conduct crime investigations and facilitate those of their colleagues.
- Work in partnership with the school(s) to ensure a correct balance between engagement and enforcement, pursuing a restorative approach where appropriate.
- Make pupil referrals to VPC and partnership agencies as necessary, for the purpose of safeguarding the child's welfare and/or diverting them from criminal activity/ASB.
- Participate, as appropriate, in multi-agency case conferences within and outside the school environment for students coming to notice.
- Gather intelligence in relation to pupil behaviour linked or potentially linked to crime or ASB.
- Share information with school staff, fellow SSOs and the local Dedicated Ward Officer (DWO) in accordance with information sharing agreements
- Perform regular uniform patrols in the vicinity of the school(s) to address, truancy, ASB and crime, working with STTs and SNTs as required, particularly on after school patrols.
- Perform weapons sweeps of identified hotspots within and outside the school boundaries
- Deliver MPS key messages to pupils around general policing themes of crime prevention and personal safety, and facilitate delivery on more specialist themes (eg. SC&O1 Joint Enterprise, SC&O8 Decisions & Consequences, SC&O19 Op Makepeace)
- Assist other schools not in a Safer Schools Partnership as required.

- Regularly liaise with local primary schools and SNT officers with responsibility for local primary schools to deliver early intervention and improve trust and confidence in the police.
- Assist with the running of Senior VPC evenings
- Where appropriate, run a Junior VPC unit
- **What is the trend in Merton for internet based crime i.e. identity theft, on line scams, how is it recorded and how should residents report such crimes?**

Action Fraud is the national reporting centre for fraud and internet crime. Action Fraud takes reports relating to the vast majority of fraud types, with a very few exceptions.

It also takes reports of cyber crime. This is not limited to fraud-related or financial cyber crime, however there must be an element of computer hacking/misuse involved to gain access to the victims computer / twitter / facebook accounts etc.

Action Fraud is “owned” by the National Fraud Authority (NFA), an Executive Agency in the Home Office. The NFA is responsible for coordinating the work of the UK’s counter fraud community. The Action Fraud service works in support of the police services of the UK in recording all types of fraud in order to develop a national understanding of fraud, and how to prevent and reduce victimisation in the future.

In most instances you can safely refer anyone with a fraud crime to report to Action Fraud, the national fraud and internet crime reporting centre. This applies to anyone who has been a victim of fraud, or an attempted fraud, or internet crime. Action Fraud also accepts information reports where people have been in a situation where fraud could have occurred but didn’t. **The most convenient way for people to report is online at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or if they require more support then specialist advisors are available on 0300 123 2040.**

Police will deploy if there is a “call for service” i.e. a suspect is committing now or has recently committed a fraud, or there is a known *local* offender within the MPS, or the victim is vulnerable

The following offences are **NOT** dealt with by Action Fraud and will be recorded as per MPS Crime Reporting policy

- Making off without payments (petrol drive outs) and any other form of ‘bilking’, i.e. running off without paying for a taxi or running out of a restaurant without paying for your food/drinks bill.
- Forgery or use of drug prescriptions
- Other forgery
- Possession of false documents
- Forgery - of vehicle/driver records
- Preserved other Fraud & repealed fraud (pre 2006 Act)



- Make/supply articles for use in fraud
- Possess articles for fraud

All of the reports Action Fraud records are transferred securely each day to the NFIB Know Fraud database where they will be analysed together with all other fraud data being received nationally. Where there is either actionable intelligence or viable lines of enquiry, intelligence packages will be sent out to police forces to investigate.

Data is not retained by MPS but obtainable from Action Fraud and Office of National Statistics

### **Statistics**

**Table E9: Fraud offences referred to National Fraud Intelligence Bureau by Action Fraud by police force area, English regions and Wales, year ending September 2015 compared with year ending September 2016**

Area Name	Oct '15 to Sep '16	Number of offences - percentage change from previous year
Metropolitan Police	38,306	4
		-11

Next release date - 27 April 2017

#### **Fraud stats for: Greater London -**

The statistics on the map represent crime and information reports submitted over the last five months. The counties and regions are based on data that has been submitted and analysed

**Cheque, Plastic Card and Online Bank Accounts (not PSP)** 4318

**Other Fraud (not covered elsewhere)** 3174

**Application Fraud (excluding Mortgages)** 2039

**Online Shopping and Auctions** 1953

**Telecom Industry Fraud (Misuse of Contracts)** 1739

Appendix B – crime data for Merton and neighbouring boroughs

# MPS Daily Dashboard

Last Refresh Date: 20 March 2017

Select BCU \ Borough  
 Merton

## Offences & SDs

Reporting Period Ending: 19 March 2017

Crime Category	Sub Category	Target	Offences Previous R12	Offences Current R12	Offences % Change	SDs Previous R12	SDs Current R12	SD Rate - Previous R12	SD Rate - Current R12	
TNO	TNO - State		790	863	9.2%	603	631	76.3%	73.1%	●
	TNO - Victim		12,099	12,338	2.0%	1,783	1,766	14.7%	14.3%	●
	TNO - Unknown		17	18	5.9%	4	7	23.5%	38.9%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>12,906</b>	<b>13,219</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>2,390</b>	<b>2,404</b>	<b>18.5%</b>	<b>18.2%</b>	●
Burglary	Burglary in a Dwelling		886	1,019	15.0%	69	69	7.8%	6.8%	●
	Burglary in Other Buildings		516	421	-18.4%	43	48	8.3%	11.4%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>1,402</b>	<b>1,440</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	<b>8.1%</b>	●
Criminal Damage	<b>Total</b>		<b>1,436</b>	<b>1,370</b>	<b>-4.6%</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>12.2%</b>	<b>13.3%</b>	●
Robbery	Business Property		29	22	-24.1%	8	6	27.6%	27.3%	●
	Personal Property		233	267	14.6%	19	32	8.2%	12.0%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>262</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>10.3%</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>10.3%</b>	<b>13.1%</b>	●
Robbery - Mobile Phone	<b>Total</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>10.0%</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>19.1%</b>	●
Theft and Handling	Theft From M/V		928	947	2.0%	17	17	1.8%	1.8%	●
	Theft/Taking of M/V		431	702	62.9%	36	52	8.4%	7.4%	●
	Theft Person		271	232	-14.4%	3	1	1.1%	0.4%	●
	Other Theft & Handling		3,073	3,124	1.7%	457	434	14.9%	13.9%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>4,703</b>	<b>5,005</b>	<b>6.4%</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>10.9%</b>	<b>10.1%</b>	●
Theft Person - Mobile Phone	<b>Total</b>		<b>144</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>-33.3%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	●
VWI	VWI - Domestic Abuse		474	484	2.1%	183	190	38.6%	39.3%	●
	VWI - Non Domestic Abuse		882	856	-2.9%	236	226	26.8%	26.4%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>1,356</b>	<b>1,340</b>	<b>-1.2%</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>30.9%</b>	<b>31.0%</b>	●
Domestic Abuse	<b>Total</b>		<b>1,469</b>	<b>1,410</b>	<b>-4.0%</b>	<b>509</b>	<b>509</b>	<b>34.6%</b>	<b>36.1%</b>	●
Sexual Offences	Rape		115	106	-7.8%	13	12	11.3%	11.3%	●
	Other Sexual		194	183	-5.7%	44	32	22.7%	17.5%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>309</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>-6.5%</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>18.4%</b>	<b>15.2%</b>	●
Total Gun Crime	<b>Total</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>16.7%</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>20.8%</b>	<b>25.0%</b>	●
Lethal-barrelled Gun Discharges	<b>Total</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-75.0%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	●
Total Knife Crime	<b>Total</b>		<b>148</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>16.2%</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>19.6%</b>	<b>25.0%</b>	●
Knife Injury Victims (U25 Non DA)	<b>Total</b>		<b>29</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>-3.4%</b>					

## MOPAC 7 Crime

Reporting Period Ending: 19 March 2017

MOPAC 7 Crime Type	FY 11/12 Offences	Current R12 Offences	% Change	FY 11/12 SD Rate	Current R12 SD Rate
MOPAC 7	7,746	6,320	-18.4%	11.1%	13.0%
Burglary	2,232	1,440	-35.5%	6.4%	8.1%
Criminal Damage	1,637	1,370	-16.3%	13.0%	13.3%
Robbery	677	289	-57.3%	12.0%	13.1%
Theft From Motor Vehicle	1,445	947	-34.5%	1.7%	1.8%
Theft Of Motor Vehicle	431	702	62.9%	4.9%	7.4%
Theft From Person	272	232	-14.7%	5.1%	0.4%
Violence With Injury	1,052	1,340	27.4%	34.3%	31.0%

## I & S Calls and ASB

Reporting Period Ending: 19 March 2017

	Previous R12	Current R12	Change %
ASB Calls	4,214	4,392	4.2%
ASB Repeat Callers	107	94	-12.1%
I Calls In Target	90.2%	90.2%	●
S Calls In Target	84.9%	83.0%	●

# MPS Daily Dashboard

Last Refresh Date: 20 March 2017

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## Offences & SDs

Reporting Period Ending: 19 March 2017

Crime Category	Sub Category	Target	Offences Previous R12	Offences Current R12	Offences % Change	SDs Previous R12	SDs Current R12	SD Rate - Previous R12	SD Rate - Current R12	
TNO	TNO - State		2,431	2,621	7.8%	1,876	1,923	77.2%	73.4%	●
	TNO - Victim		26,526	27,992	5.5%	3,811	3,543	14.4%	12.7%	●
	TNO - Unknown		46	41	-10.9%	7	7	15.2%	17.1%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>29,003</b>	<b>30,654</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>5,694</b>	<b>5,473</b>	<b>19.6%</b>	<b>17.9%</b>	●
Burglary	Burglary in a Dwelling		1,729	1,829	5.8%	100	86	5.8%	4.7%	●
	Burglary in Other Buildings		918	893	-2.7%	95	124	10.3%	13.9%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>2,647</b>	<b>2,722</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>7.4%</b>	<b>7.7%</b>	●
Criminal Damage	<b>Total</b>		<b>3,117</b>	<b>3,298</b>	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>13.5%</b>	<b>12.7%</b>	●
Robbery	Business Property		84	83	-1.2%	25	12	29.8%	14.5%	●
	Personal Property		650	1,202	84.9%	105	132	16.2%	11.0%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>734</b>	<b>1,285</b>	<b>75.1%</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>17.7%</b>	<b>11.2%</b>	●
Robbery - Mobile Phone	<b>Total</b>		<b>274</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>88.3%</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>21.2%</b>	<b>12.4%</b>	●
Theft and Handling	Theft From M/V		1,995	1,973	-1.1%	40	23	2.0%	1.2%	●
	Theft/Taking of M/V		904	1,100	21.7%	84	84	9.3%	7.6%	●
	Theft Person		532	581	9.2%	15	19	2.8%	3.3%	●
	Other Theft & Handling		6,015	5,950	-1.1%	832	614	13.8%	10.3%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>9,446</b>	<b>9,604</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>971</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>10.3%</b>	<b>7.7%</b>	●
Theft Person - Mobile Phone	<b>Total</b>		<b>331</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>-10.3%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>22.6%</b>	●
VWI	VWI - Domestic Abuse		1,235	1,308	5.9%	500	499	40.5%	38.1%	●
	VWI - Non Domestic Abuse		2,177	2,330	7.0%	594	517	27.3%	22.2%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>3,412</b>	<b>3,638</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>1,094</b>	<b>1,016</b>	<b>32.1%</b>	<b>27.9%</b>	●
Domestic Abuse	<b>Total</b>		<b>3,821</b>	<b>3,895</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>1,105</b>	<b>1,056</b>	<b>28.9%</b>	<b>27.1%</b>	●
Sexual Offences	Rape		304	335	10.2%	54	56	17.8%	16.7%	●
	Other Sexual		435	478	9.9%	67	85	15.4%	17.8%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>739</b>	<b>813</b>	<b>10.0%</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>16.4%</b>	<b>17.3%</b>	●
Total Gun Crime	<b>Total</b>		<b>81</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>29.6%</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>30.9%</b>	<b>18.1%</b>	●
Lethal-barrelled Gun Discharges	<b>Total</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>-12.5%</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>75.0%</b>	<b>57.1%</b>	●
Total Knife Crime	<b>Total</b>		<b>339</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>93.8%</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>28.9%</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	●
Knife Injury Victims (U25 Non DA)	<b>Total</b>		<b>61</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>63.9%</b>					

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## MOPAC 7 Crime

Reporting Period Ending: 19 March 2017

MOPAC 7 Crime Type	FY 11/12 Offences	Current R12 Offences	% Change	FY 11/12 SD Rate	Current R12 SD Rate
MOPAC 7	17,333	14,597	-15.8%	13.7%	13.1%
Burglary	4,492	2,722	-39.4%	11.8%	7.7%
Criminal Damage	3,544	3,298	-6.9%	13.5%	12.7%
Robbery	1,834	1,285	-29.9%	15.4%	11.2%
Theft From Motor Vehicle	2,871	1,973	-31.3%	1.5%	1.2%
Theft Of Motor Vehicle	995	1,100	10.6%	5.9%	7.6%
Theft From Person	795	581	-26.9%	4.0%	3.3%
Violence With Injury	2,802	3,638	29.8%	33.8%	27.9%

## I & S Calls and ASB

Reporting Period Ending: 19 March 2017

	Previous R12	Current R12	Change %
ASB Calls	8,818	10,359	17.5%
ASB Repeat Callers	198	232	17.2%
I Calls In Target	94.6%	91.5%	●
S Calls In Target	94.9%	89.7%	●

# MPS Daily Dashboard

Last Refresh Date: 20 March 2017

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 Kingston upon Thames

## Offences & SDs

Reporting Period Ending: 19 March 2017

Crime Category	Sub Category	Target	Offences Previous R12	Offences Current R12	Offences % Change	SDs Previous R12	SDs Current R12	SD Rate - Previous R12	SD Rate - Current R12	
TNO	TNO - State		1,200	996	-17.0%	1,000	816	83.3%	81.9%	●
	TNO - Victim		8,992	9,511	5.8%	1,688	1,439	18.8%	15.1%	●
	TNO - Unknown		5	9	80.0%	2	5	40.0%	55.6%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>10,197</b>	<b>10,516</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>2,690</b>	<b>2,260</b>	<b>26.4%</b>	<b>21.5%</b>	●
Burglary	Burglary in a Dwelling		503	718	42.7%	31	48	6.2%	6.7%	●
	Burglary in Other Buildings		380	305	-19.7%	37	25	9.7%	8.2%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>883</b>	<b>1,023</b>	<b>15.9%</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>7.7%</b>	<b>7.1%</b>	●
Criminal Damage	<b>Total</b>		<b>1,036</b>	<b>1,050</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>16.9%</b>	<b>14.0%</b>	●
Robbery	Business Property		15	9	-40.0%	2	5	13.3%	55.6%	●
	Personal Property		105	109	3.8%	24	12	22.9%	11.0%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>120</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>21.7%</b>	<b>14.4%</b>	●
Robbery - Mobile Phone	<b>Total</b>		<b>42</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>-19.0%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>16.7%</b>	<b>11.8%</b>	●
Theft and Handling	Theft From M/V		476	471	-1.1%	10	9	2.1%	1.9%	●
	Theft/Taking of M/V		164	272	65.9%	14	15	8.5%	5.5%	●
	Theft Person		406	382	-5.9%	5	8	1.2%	2.1%	●
	Other Theft & Handling		2,616	2,763	5.6%	534	449	20.4%	16.3%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>3,662</b>	<b>3,888</b>	<b>6.2%</b>	<b>563</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>15.4%</b>	<b>12.4%</b>	●
Theft Person - Mobile Phone	<b>Total</b>		<b>184</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>-11.4%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	●
VWI	VWI - Domestic Abuse		340	326	-4.1%	185	141	54.4%	43.3%	●
	VWI - Non Domestic Abuse		734	805	9.7%	257	218	35.0%	27.1%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>1,074</b>	<b>1,131</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>41.2%</b>	<b>31.7%</b>	●
Domestic Abuse	<b>Total</b>		<b>1,040</b>	<b>1,023</b>	<b>-1.6%</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>42.4%</b>	<b>37.0%</b>	●
Sexual Offences	Rape		69	98	42.0%	6	10	8.7%	10.2%	●
	Other Sexual		168	167	-0.6%	37	31	22.0%	18.6%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>237</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>11.8%</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>18.1%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>	●
Total Gun Crime	<b>Total</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>-35.7%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>21.4%</b>	<b>11.1%</b>	●
Lethal-barrelled Gun Discharges	<b>Total</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-100.0%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	●
Total Knife Crime	<b>Total</b>		<b>53</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>45.3%</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>58.5%</b>	<b>37.7%</b>	●
Knife Injury Victims (U25 Non DA)	<b>Total</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>380.0%</b>					

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## MOPAC 7 Crime

Reporting Period Ending: 19 March 2017

MOPAC 7 Crime Type	FY 11/12 Offences	Current R12 Offences	% Change	FY 11/12 SD Rate	Current R12 SD Rate
MOPAC 7	5,239	4,447	-15.1%	14.0%	14.1%
Burglary	1,323	1,023	-22.7%	7.1%	7.1%
Criminal Damage	1,176	1,050	-10.7%	14.5%	14.0%
Robbery	248	118	-52.4%	18.5%	14.4%
Theft From Motor Vehicle	743	471	-36.6%	4.4%	1.9%
Theft Of Motor Vehicle	162	272	67.9%	11.7%	5.5%
Theft From Person	448	382	-14.7%	2.2%	2.1%
Violence With Injury	1,139	1,131	-0.7%	32.0%	31.7%

## I & S Calls and ASB

Reporting Period Ending: 19 March 2017

	Previous R12	Current R12	Change %
ASB Calls	3,990	4,224	5.9%
ASB Repeat Callers	101	80	-20.8%
I Calls In Target	91.4%	89.4%	●
S Calls In Target	90.7%	84.7%	●

# MPS Daily Dashboard

Last Refresh Date: 20 March 2017

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## Offences & SDs

Reporting Period Ending: 19 March 2017

Crime Category	Sub Category	Target	Offences Previous R12	Offences Current R12	Offences % Change	SDs Previous R12	SDs Current R12	SD Rate - Previous R12	SD Rate - Current R12	
TNO	TNO - State		683	647	-5.3%	509	430	74.5%	66.5%	●
	TNO - Victim		10,074	11,018	9.4%	1,527	1,269	15.2%	11.5%	●
	TNO - Unknown		7	17	142.9%	0	5	0.0%	29.4%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>10,764</b>	<b>11,682</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>2,036</b>	<b>1,704</b>	<b>18.9%</b>	<b>14.6%</b>	●
Burglary	Burglary in a Dwelling		716	807	12.7%	60	52	8.4%	6.4%	●
	Burglary in Other Buildings		625	672	7.5%	47	33	7.5%	4.9%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>1,341</b>	<b>1,479</b>	<b>10.3%</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	●
Criminal Damage	<b>Total</b>		<b>1,100</b>	<b>1,192</b>	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>13.5%</b>	<b>10.5%</b>	●
Robbery	Business Property		13	11	-15.4%	4	2	30.8%	18.2%	●
	Personal Property		135	106	-21.5%	27	21	20.0%	19.8%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>148</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>-20.9%</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>20.9%</b>	<b>19.7%</b>	●
Robbery - Mobile Phone	<b>Total</b>		<b>138</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>-73.2%</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>79.0%</b>	<b>24.3%</b>	●
Theft and Handling	Theft From M/V		873	1,005	15.1%	15	8	1.7%	0.8%	●
	Theft/Taking of M/V		402	573	42.5%	35	36	8.7%	6.3%	●
	Theft Person		209	204	-2.4%	9	1	4.3%	0.5%	●
	Other Theft & Handling		2,798	3,091	10.5%	418	300	14.9%	9.7%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>4,282</b>	<b>4,873</b>	<b>13.8%</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>11.1%</b>	<b>7.1%</b>	●
Theft Person - Mobile Phone	<b>Total</b>		<b>85</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>-4.7%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	●
VWI	VWI - Domestic Abuse		315	298	-5.4%	138	111	43.8%	37.2%	●
	VWI - Non Domestic Abuse		595	597	0.3%	165	183	27.7%	30.7%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>910</b>	<b>895</b>	<b>-1.6%</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>33.3%</b>	<b>32.8%</b>	●
Domestic Abuse	<b>Total</b>		<b>1,058</b>	<b>1,089</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>40.4%</b>	<b>33.8%</b>	●
Sexual Offences	Rape		65	110	69.2%	9	7	13.8%	6.4%	●
	Other Sexual		179	206	15.1%	54	33	30.2%	16.0%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>244</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>29.5%</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>25.8%</b>	<b>12.7%</b>	●
Total Gun Crime	<b>Total</b>		<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>-21.1%</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>21.1%</b>	<b>20.0%</b>	●
Lethal-barrelled Gun Discharges	<b>Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>50.0%</b>	●
Total Knife Crime	<b>Total</b>		<b>77</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>35.1%</b>	<b>40.3%</b>	●
Knife Injury Victims (U25 Non DA)	<b>Total</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>30.0%</b>					●

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## MOPAC 7 Crime

Reporting Period Ending: 19 March 2017

MOPAC 7 Crime Type	FY 11/12 Offences	Current R12 Offences	% Change	FY 11/12 SD Rate	Current R12 SD Rate
MOPAC 7	6,191	5,465	-11.7%	11.3%	10.5%
Burglary	2,026	1,479	-27.0%	7.7%	5.7%
Criminal Damage	1,396	1,192	-14.6%	10.8%	10.5%
Robbery	226	117	-48.2%	18.6%	19.7%
Theft From Motor Vehicle	1,294	1,005	-22.3%	3.2%	0.8%
Theft Of Motor Vehicle	322	573	78.0%	5.3%	6.3%
Theft From Person	195	204	4.6%	3.1%	0.5%
Violence With Injury	732	895	22.3%	38.7%	32.8%

## I & S Calls and ASB

Reporting Period Ending: 19 March 2017

	Previous R12	Current R12	Change %
ASB Calls	3,716	4,137	11.3%
ASB Repeat Callers	63	85	34.9%
I Calls In Target	89.7%	86.2%	●
S Calls In Target	88.3%	81.2%	●

# MPS Daily Dashboard

Last Refresh Date: 20 March 2017

Select BCU \ Borough  
 Sutton

## Offences & SDs

Reporting Period Ending: 19 March 2017

Crime Category	Sub Category	Target	Offences Previous R12	Offences Current R12	Offences % Change	SDs Previous R12	SDs Current R12	SD Rate - Previous R12	SD Rate - Current R12	
TNO	TNO - State		837	819	-2.2%	622	599	74.3%	73.1%	●
	TNO - Victim		10,158	10,160	0.0%	1,700	1,628	16.7%	16.0%	●
	TNO - Unknown		17	8	-52.9%	3	2	17.6%	25.0%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>11,012</b>	<b>10,987</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>	<b>2,325</b>	<b>2,229</b>	<b>21.1%</b>	<b>20.3%</b>	●
Burglary	Burglary in a Dwelling		654	733	12.1%	42	24	6.4%	3.3%	●
	Burglary in Other Buildings		633	458	-27.6%	47	40	7.4%	8.7%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>1,287</b>	<b>1,191</b>	<b>-7.5%</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	●
Criminal Damage	<b>Total</b>		<b>1,316</b>	<b>1,277</b>	<b>-3.0%</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>13.6%</b>	<b>13.0%</b>	●
Robbery	Business Property		22	19	-13.6%	7	5	31.8%	26.3%	●
	Personal Property		139	159	14.4%	26	19	18.7%	11.9%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>161</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>20.5%</b>	<b>13.5%</b>	●
Robbery - Mobile Phone	<b>Total</b>		<b>40</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>22.5%</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>25.0%</b>	<b>20.4%</b>	●
Theft and Handling	Theft From M/V		733	687	-6.3%	17	13	2.3%	1.9%	●
	Theft/Taking of M/V		252	408	61.9%	28	34	11.1%	8.3%	●
	Theft Person		157	153	-2.5%	3	1	1.9%	0.7%	●
	Other Theft & Handling		2,309	2,277	-1.4%	494	455	21.4%	20.0%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>3,451</b>	<b>3,525</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>15.7%</b>	<b>14.3%</b>	●
Theft Person - Mobile Phone	<b>Total</b>		<b>60</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>-16.7%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	●
VWI	VWI - Domestic Abuse		457	462	1.1%	189	177	41.4%	38.3%	●
	VWI - Non Domestic Abuse		800	808	1.0%	228	212	28.5%	26.2%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>1,257</b>	<b>1,270</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>33.2%</b>	<b>30.6%</b>	●
Domestic Abuse	<b>Total</b>		<b>1,394</b>	<b>1,327</b>	<b>-4.8%</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>36.0%</b>	<b>34.7%</b>	●
Sexual Offences	Rape		97	113	16.5%	9	18	9.3%	15.9%	●
	Other Sexual		180	202	12.2%	27	43	15.0%	21.3%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>277</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>13.7%</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>13.0%</b>	<b>19.4%</b>	●
Total Gun Crime	<b>Total</b>		<b>40</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>22.5%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>20.0%</b>	<b>16.3%</b>	●
Lethal-barrelled Gun Discharges	<b>Total</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-33.3%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	●
Total Knife Crime	<b>Total</b>		<b>128</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>-16.4%</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>34.4%</b>	<b>20.6%</b>	●
Knife Injury Victims (U25 Non DA)	<b>Total</b>		<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>5.3%</b>					

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## MOPAC 7 Crime

Reporting Period Ending: 19 March 2017

MOPAC 7 Crime Type	FY 11/12 Offences	Current R12 Offences	% Change	FY 11/12 SD Rate	Current R12 SD Rate
MOPAC 7	6,210	5,164	-16.8%	12.4%	13.4%
Burglary	1,559	1,191	-23.6%	6.9%	5.4%
Criminal Damage	1,621	1,277	-21.2%	12.0%	13.0%
Robbery	319	178	-44.2%	20.4%	13.5%
Theft From Motor Vehicle	1,264	687	-45.6%	1.6%	1.9%
Theft Of Motor Vehicle	278	408	46.8%	7.9%	8.3%
Theft From Person	180	153	-15.0%	3.9%	0.7%
Violence With Injury	989	1,270	28.4%	35.6%	30.6%

## I & S Calls and ASB

Reporting Period Ending: 19 March 2017

	Previous R12	Current R12	Change %
ASB Calls	3,373	3,624	7.4%
ASB Repeat Callers	58	57	-1.7%
I Calls In Target	94.1%	94.6%	●
S Calls In Target	91.7%	91.0%	●

# MPS Daily Dashboard

Last Refresh Date: 20 March 2017

Select BCU \ Borough  
 Wandsworth

## Offences & SDs

Reporting Period Ending: 19 March 2017

Crime Category	Sub Category	Target	Offences Previous R12	Offences Current R12	Offences % Change	SDs Previous R12	SDs Current R12	SD Rate - Previous R12	SD Rate - Current R12	
TNO	TNO - State		1,430	1,503	5.1%	993	1,144	69.4%	76.1%	●
	TNO - Victim		21,923	23,106	5.4%	2,743	2,472	12.5%	10.7%	●
	TNO - Unknown		12	19	58.3%	2	3	16.7%	15.8%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>23,365</b>	<b>24,628</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>3,738</b>	<b>3,619</b>	<b>16.0%</b>	<b>14.7%</b>	●
Burglary	Burglary in a Dwelling		1,249	1,373	9.9%	57	65	4.6%	4.7%	●
	Burglary in Other Buildings		1,123	903	-19.6%	105	81	9.3%	9.0%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>2,372</b>	<b>2,276</b>	<b>-4.0%</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>6.4%</b>	●
Criminal Damage	<b>Total</b>		<b>1,852</b>	<b>1,945</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>13.9%</b>	<b>10.7%</b>	●
Robbery	Business Property		62	67	8.1%	15	15	24.2%	22.4%	●
	Personal Property		446	544	22.0%	27	61	6.1%	11.2%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>508</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>20.3%</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>8.3%</b>	<b>12.4%</b>	●
Robbery - Mobile Phone	<b>Total</b>		<b>170</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>5.9%</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>12.9%</b>	<b>12.2%</b>	●
Theft and Handling	Theft From M/V		1,738	2,415	39.0%	23	31	1.3%	1.3%	●
	Theft/Taking of M/V		945	1,334	41.2%	64	72	6.8%	5.4%	●
	Theft Person		689	664	-3.6%	9	15	1.3%	2.3%	●
	Other Theft & Handling		6,282	6,473	3.0%	677	650	10.8%	10.0%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>9,654</b>	<b>10,886</b>	<b>12.8%</b>	<b>773</b>	<b>768</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	<b>7.1%</b>	●
Theft Person - Mobile Phone	<b>Total</b>		<b>337</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>-5.3%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	●
VWI	VWI - Domestic Abuse		739	611	-17.3%	239	210	32.3%	34.4%	●
	VWI - Non Domestic Abuse		1,591	1,490	-6.3%	492	361	30.9%	24.2%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>2,330</b>	<b>2,101</b>	<b>-9.8%</b>	<b>731</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>31.4%</b>	<b>27.2%</b>	●
Domestic Abuse	<b>Total</b>		<b>2,192</b>	<b>2,106</b>	<b>-3.9%</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>26.6%</b>	<b>30.1%</b>	●
Sexual Offences	Rape		178	255	43.3%	13	26	7.3%	10.2%	●
	Other Sexual		422	441	4.5%	64	65	15.2%	14.7%	●
	<b>Total</b>		<b>600</b>	<b>696</b>	<b>16.0%</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>12.8%</b>	<b>13.1%</b>	●
Total Gun Crime	<b>Total</b>		<b>38</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>231.6%</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>23.7%</b>	<b>15.1%</b>	●
Lethal-barrelled Gun Discharges	<b>Total</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>16.7%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>50.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	●
Total Knife Crime	<b>Total</b>		<b>235</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>20.4%</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>26.4%</b>	<b>20.8%</b>	●
Knife Injury Victims (U25 Non DA)	<b>Total</b>		<b>43</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>-16.3%</b>					

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## MOPAC 7 Crime

Reporting Period Ending: 19 March 2017

MOPAC 7 Crime Type	FY 11/12 Offences	Current R12 Offences	% Change	FY 11/12 SD Rate	Current R12 SD Rate
MOPAC 7	13,181	11,346	-13.9%	12.5%	9.9%
Burglary	3,146	2,276	-27.7%	14.0%	6.4%
Criminal Damage	2,269	1,945	-14.3%	11.7%	10.7%
Robbery	1,214	611	-49.7%	17.2%	12.4%
Theft From Motor Vehicle	3,274	2,415	-26.2%	2.7%	1.3%
Theft Of Motor Vehicle	952	1,334	40.1%	8.6%	5.4%
Theft From Person	813	664	-18.3%	6.4%	2.3%
Violence With Injury	1,513	2,101	38.9%	33.9%	27.2%

## I & S Calls and ASB

Reporting Period Ending: 19 March 2017

	Previous R12	Current R12	Change %
ASB Calls	6,445	6,937	7.6%
ASB Repeat Callers	161	139	-13.7%
I Calls In Target	91.2%	88.8%	●
S Calls In Target	85.1%	77.4%	●



# IN-HOUSE

---

## Merton's Local Authority Property Company (LAPC)



# COMPANY PURPOSE



Page 24

## To generate income for the council

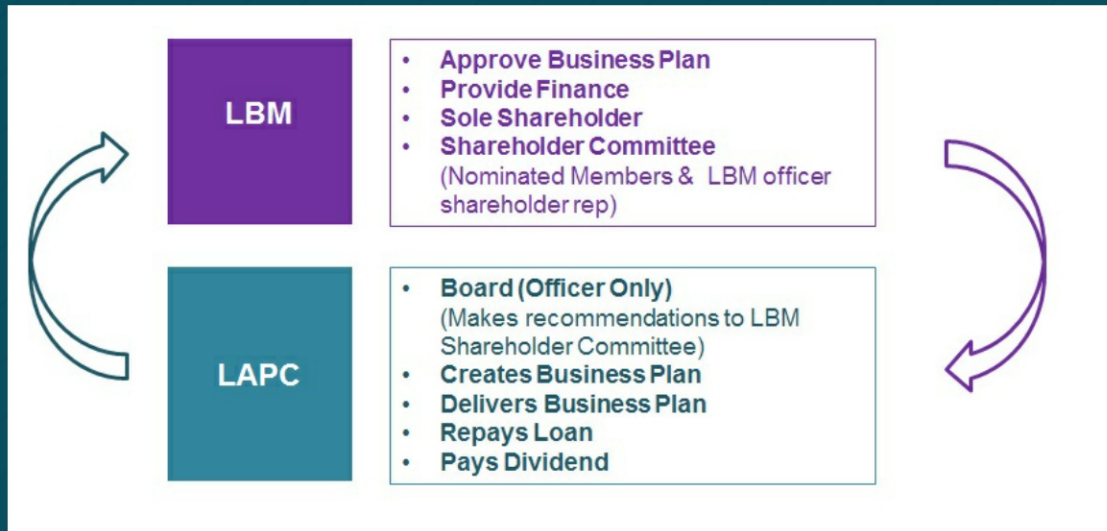
£400,000 income per year (from years 4-30)

LBM profit from loan arrangement  
LBM savings via staff secondments  
Dividends returned to the council

# FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE



Page 25

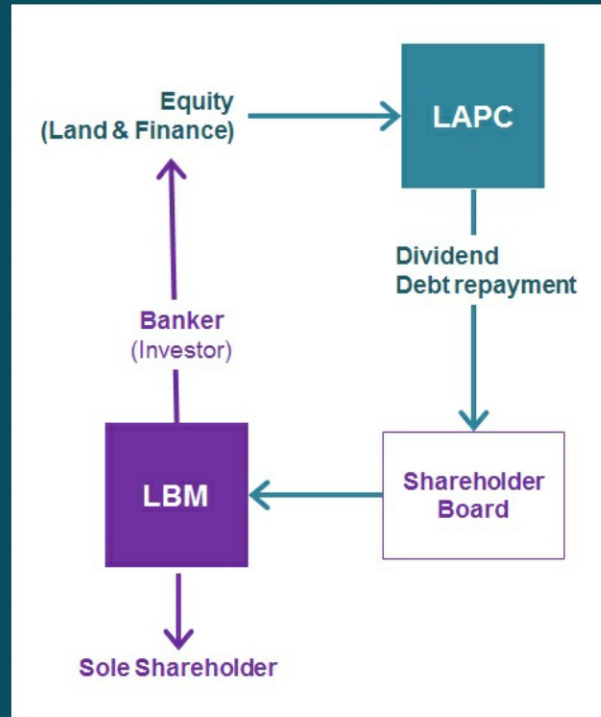


**Wholly owned by LBM.**  
**Cabinet sub-group is the sole shareholder.**

# FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE



Page 26



**Flow of finance and income back to LBM**

# A PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY FOR MERTON

Page 27

The council is required to achieve the best value from its land and property assets.  
(s123 of the Local Government Act 1972)

This is currently achieved through the disposal of these assets for capital receipts. Capital receipts are returned to the capital fund. Cant be spent on services.

Sites are marketed and sold on a freehold or long-leasehold basis.

The LAPC will turn capital receipts into a long-term revenue income stream for the council.  
(taking pressure off the general fund and Council Tax)



# A PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY FOR MERTON

Page 28

The purpose of the LAPC is to:

Generate the most advantageous revenue return for the council

The company will develop housing for private rent, private sale and as required through planning policy, deliver affordable housing units (via a Housing Association)

The company can also develop other types of property (commercial / industrial etc)

The LAPC's primary focus will be housing development.



# A PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY FOR MERTON



Advice from PwC and BBP regeneration on the best financial and development model for Merton.

Over 100 local authorities have already established companies. (Ealing, Newham, Enfield, Barking, Croydon)

Merton Council's LAPC recognises that the council no longer has a housing revenue account.

Merton Council HAS to establish a stand-alone company to develop housing.

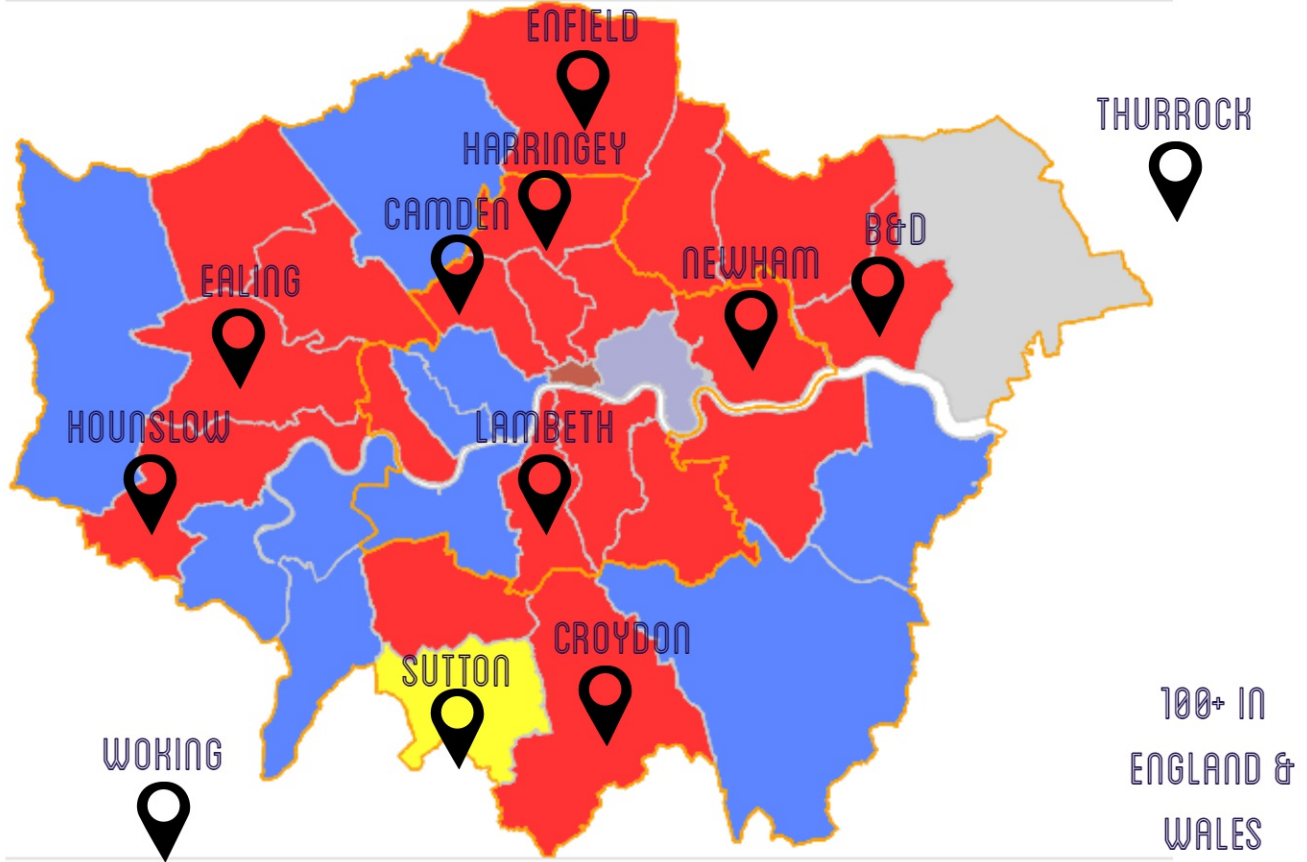
**BBP** Regeneration  
Appraisal • Strategy • Delivery

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# LONDON COUNCIL PROPERTY COMPANIES

Page 30





# FUTURE PROSPECTS FOR THE LAPC

*Elm Nursery*

*Raleigh Gdns*

*Canons Place*

*Farm Road*

*Morden*

*Wimbledon*

Page  
31

The company will initially deliver c77 units on 4 sites.

We will consider all of the council's remaining property assets as opportunities to maximise returns to the Council, including major opportunities in Morden and Wimbledon.

These opportunities will be developed in future year's business plans and approved by the shareholder board (Cabinet sub-group)



# HOUSING MARKET

Strong and growing market  
in London, for private  
rented accommodation  
(PRS)

Page 32

Target market:

*Generation  
Rent*



Isn't profit better off in the  
public sector's pocket  
rather than with private  
landlords?



Information Sources:  
DCLG / PWC / Housing White Paper

# SO HOW WILL WE DO IT?



1. Identify site opportunities across the borough's land and property assets.



2. Utilising PWCs financial model and market advice to determine the viability of each site and the potential return to the council.



3. Implement a strong procurement plan to achieve best value in construction, delivery and ongoing management costs.



4. Work with registered providers (RPs) at an early stage to maximise amount of affordable housing



5. Maximise grant funding opportunities into each scheme to maximise amount of affordable housing delivered.



6. Strong project management by LAPC to minimise risk, achieve best value and therefore maximise returns.

# CAPITAL VS REVENUE



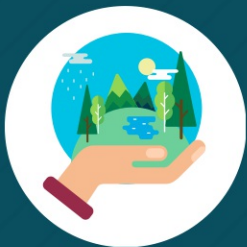
**Generate revenue for Merton Council**

**Revenue c£400k p/a for yrs 4-30  
(Total: £17m rev + £52m asset rev)**

**vs**

**Capital receipt of £8.41m (once).  
(0.55% interest = £46,300 p/a)**

... and also demonstrating,



**Regeneration & investing in  
our communities**

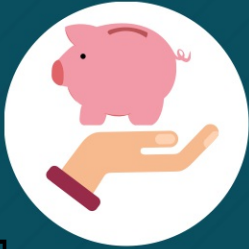


**Contribution to local  
housing supply**



**Strong and bold  
local leadership**

# THE PROPOSITION



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## Finance & Governance

LBM is the sole shareholder & investor

Income to LBM via LAPC loan  
repayments  
(rate difference of 3.5% - 6.3% profit)

Income to LBM via dividends (Y15+)

CIL & Council Tax income is accelerated

# THE PROPOSITION



## Invest & Return

£25m investment

£17m profit to LBM  
over 30 years  
(revenue)

Disposal value  
(of assets once built)  
£ 52m



## Housing Supply

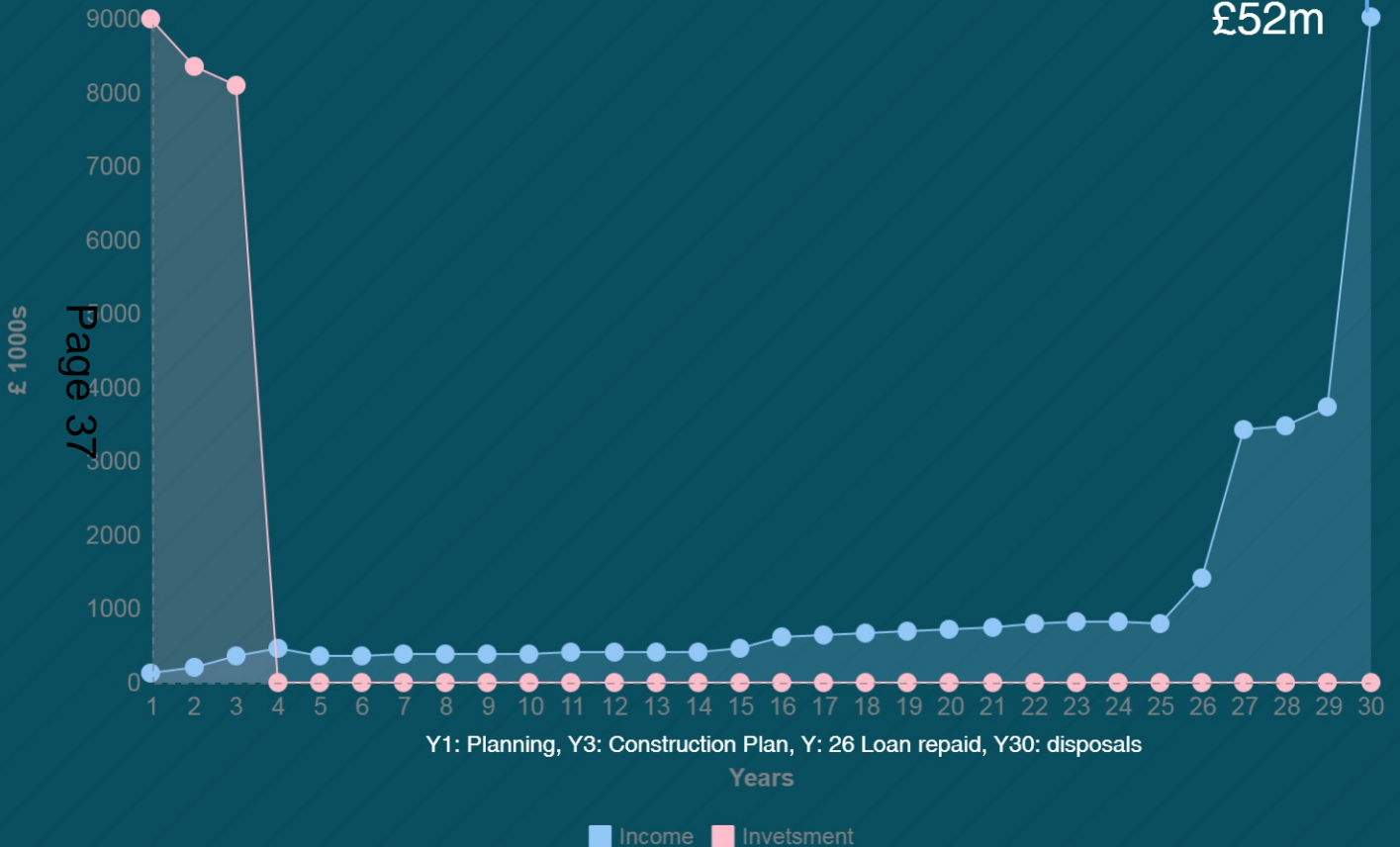
77 units (initially)

20 affordable (26%)  
(policy compliant)

Occupation by 2019 and  
pipeline 1000+

Company can consider  
Temporary Accommodation  
subject to business plan

# ZOOMED INCOME PROFILE TO LBM



# THE PROPOSITION



## Legislation

Not at risk of  
contravening 2015  
Ministerial Statement

LAPC is commercial,  
not LA or RP

LBM has no HRA.  
We cant build ourselves

White Paper PRS role



## Expertise

Strong housing  
management experience

Strong development  
director experience

Strong capital  
contracting experience

In-house design /  
planning / capital project  
management



## Delivery Options

LAPC Design & Build

Joint Ventures with a  
partner = less risk, but  
less reward and less  
control

JV options are allowed for  
in the mems+arts of LAPC  
for larger scale projects

Sell off sites post completion  
(revenue gain)



# THE PROPOSITION



## Risk Management

Strong project management (in-house)

Site values enhanced after planning

Built assets worth more than the debt

Option to sell (foregoing revenue)

Developers & Councils now do this for £££



## The Sites

Farm Rd (9)

Elm Nursery (24)

Raleigh Gardens (22)

Canons Place (22)



## The Future Sites

Worsfold House (100)

Leatherhead (200)

Whatley Avenue (20)

Morden Regen (600-800+)

Chaucer Centre (40)



Establishing a Local Authority Property Company (LAPC) is one of the biggest opportunities we have to generate additional revenue for Merton Council.

---

## Turning capital into revenue

**£400,000**

income per year to LBM  
from loan financing and rents

**77**

homes  
(first phase)

**20**

affordable units  
(policy compliant)

**£17m**

overall  
revenue income

**£52m**

resale value  
of the housing



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## **Committee:** Overview and Scrutiny Commission

**Date:** 28 March 2017

**Subject:** Draft Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2016/17

Lead officer: Julia Regan, Head of Democracy Services

Lead member: Councillor Peter Southgate, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission

Contact officer: Julia Regan; Julia.regan@merton.gov.uk; 020 8545 3864

---

### **Recommendations:**

- A. That, subject to any changes agreed by the Commission at its meeting on 28 March, the Commission approves the Annual Report to be presented to Council at its meeting on 12 July 2017.
- 

### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 Members are invited to consider and agree any changes it wishes to make to the draft Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2016/17.

### **2. DETAILS**

- 2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission is required to produce an Annual Report outlining the work of the Overview and Scrutiny function over the course of the municipal year.
- 2.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission is asked to consider the draft report, identify any changes it wishes to make and approve the Annual Report to be presented to Council at its meeting on 12 July 2017 in order to update all Members on the delivery and outcomes of the scrutiny annual work programme for 2016/17.

### **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 3.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission is required to produce an annual report outlining the work of the Overview and Scrutiny function over the course of the municipal year to present to the full Council. The Commission would be in breach of the constitution if it did not do this.

### **4. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED**

- 4.1 The Chairs of each of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels have been consulted on the draft text relating to the undertaken by that Panel.

### **5. TIMETABLE**

- 5.1 Any additions/amendments as agreed by the Commission at its meeting on 28 March 2017 will be included in the final version of the Annual Report to be presented to full Council at its meeting on 12 July 2017.

## **6. FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 There are none specific to this report. Scrutiny work involves consideration of the financial, resource and property implications of any recommendations to Cabinet, including specific financial, resource and property implications.

## **7. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 Overview and Scrutiny operates within the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, Health and Social Care Act 2001 and Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
- 7.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission is required by the council's constitution to produce an Annual Report outlining the work of Overview and Scrutiny during the municipal year.

## **8. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 It is a fundamental aim of Overview and Scrutiny to ensure that there is full and equal access to the democratic process through public involvement and engagement.
- 8.2 The reviews involve work to consult local residents, community and voluntary sector groups; businesses, hard to reach groups etc and the views and evidence gathered are fed into the review.
- 8.3 Scrutiny work involves the consideration of the human rights, equalities and community cohesion issues relating to the topic being scrutinised. Scrutiny work also needs to assess the implications of any recommendations made to Cabinet, including specific human rights, equalities and community cohesion implications.

## **9. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 In line with the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the Police and Justice Act 2006, all Council departments must have regard to the impact of services on crime, including anti-social behaviour and drugs. Scrutiny review reports will therefore highlight any implications arising from the reviews relating to crime and disorder as necessary.

## **10. RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 Scrutiny work involves the consideration of the risk management and health and safety implications relating to the topic being scrutinised. Scrutiny work also needs to assess the implications of any recommendations made to Cabinet, including specific risk management and health and safety implications.

## **11. APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT**

- 11.1 Appendix 1 - draft Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2016/17

## **12. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 12.1 None



# Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2016/17

London Borough of Merton

# Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2016/17

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## **Foreword**

**To follow**

**Councillor Peter Southgate  
Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Commission**

## What is overview and scrutiny?

Overview and Scrutiny was introduced by the Local Government Act 2000. Merton operates a Leader and Cabinet model, where the Cabinet makes the executive decisions of the authority on behalf of local residents.

Overview and Scrutiny's main roles are:

- holding the Cabinet to account
- improving and developing council policies
- examining decisions before they are implemented
- engaging with members of the public
- monitoring performance of the council and its partners

Scrutiny can look into services provided by other agencies and other matters of importance to the people of the borough. Scrutiny has legal powers to monitor and hold to account local health services (Health and Social Care Act 2001) and to scrutinise crime reduction and community safety issues (Police and Justice Act 2006).

### **Principles**

Overview and Scrutiny at Merton is:

- open to the public
- informed by methodically gathered evidence
- based on careful deliberation and discussion
- conducted in an appropriate manner

### **How Overview and Scrutiny works in Merton**

Merton Council has an Overview and Scrutiny Commission, which acts as a coordinating body supporting three Overview and Scrutiny Panels with individual areas of responsibility:

- Children and Young People
- Healthier Communities and Older People
- Sustainable Communities

Commission and Panel meetings take place throughout the year and members of the public are welcome to attend. Dates, agendas and minutes for these meetings can be found on the council website: <http://www.merton.gov.uk/council/committee.htm>.

More information about Scrutiny at Merton can be found at <http://www.merton.gov.uk/scrutiny.htm> or by phoning the scrutiny team on 020 8545 3864 or emailing [scrutiny@merton.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@merton.gov.uk).

## Scrutiny achievements 2016-2017

We were very pleased that so many members of the public and local organisations have again been involved in scrutiny this year, sending in suggestions of issues to scrutinise, attending meetings and taking part in task group reviews. For example:

- Abbotsbury school council asked scrutiny to look at loneliness and social isolation of older people. This is now the focus of an in-depth task group review. Councillors also visited the school and were given a long and comprehensive list of suggestions on how to tackle the issue;
- A local resident shared their experience of living as a tenant of the social housing provider Circle Housing. This enabled scrutiny councillors to ask challenging questions of the service provider and subsequently to meet the provider to discuss individual issues raised through councillor casework;
- A local resident attended a scrutiny meeting to suggest the development of a website to advertise vacancies in local care homes. As a result the Head of Adult Social Care is now working with the resident to determine if the suggestion is feasible;
- Merton and Lambeth Citizens Advice, Faith in Action and Merton Centre for Independent Living attended a scrutiny meeting to discuss the impact that welfare reform is having and how to mitigate this;
- Muslim Women in Morden made a representation to the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel about the negative effect the Prevent agenda is having on the local Muslim community. As a result, there have been discussions about how the Muslim Women in Morden could work with the Children, Schools and Families Department to support its Prevent training for headteachers.

This year we have consciously increased our use of external advisers in order to be able to provide more rigorous challenge. Advisers included the Independent Chair of the Merton Safeguarding Children's Board, the Head of Young People's Services at The Who Cares? Trust (now called Become), an investment management expert from Henley Investment Management and the Operations Manager from Age UK Merton.

Councillors have scrutinised many topical issues of concern to local residents, for example by getting involved at each stage of the development of a new leisure centre, including monitoring the appointment of relevant experts, understanding how the Centre will relate to other local community providers, checking how residents are being consulted on the development and reviewing designs from first concept stage.

Three in-depth task group reviews have been carried out, details of which can be found under the relevant Panel headings:

- Supporting vulnerable young people into employment – Children and Young People Panel
- Loneliness - Healthier Communities and Older People Panel
- Air quality - Sustainable Communities Panel

## **Overview and Scrutiny Commission**

The Overview and Scrutiny Commission is responsible for the scrutiny of cross cutting and strategic issues, crime and disorder and issues relating to the council's "corporate capacity". The Commission acts as a coordinating body in supporting the three Overview and Scrutiny Panels and has responsibility for developing and keeping scrutiny under review.

## **Scrutiny reviews**

### Shared and outsourced services

Two task group reviews last year examined how different models of service delivery work and made recommendations to stimulate a more consistent and rigorous approach to selecting delivery models and challenging officers on the most appropriate model for each service. The recommendations have been accepted by the Council's Cabinet and implementation is now being monitored by the Commission.

## **Strategic issues and pre-decision scrutiny**

The Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive attended to set out their priorities for 2016/17 and the financial challenges facing the council. The Commission asked them questions on issues including the new leisure centre, waste services, Crossrail 2, the council's efficiency programme and Merton's ambition to be the best council in London. The Leader undertook to continue to take up issues of poor performance with Circle Housing Merton Priory (now Clarion).

The Commission commented on the annual report from Merton Partnership and requested additional information on the findings and outcome of the apprenticeship review as well as the number of affordable homes that have been provided in the borough.

Changes were made to the new equality and community cohesion strategy in response to the Commission's comments on the draft strategy – to add more detail on hate crime and to include Motspur Park and Raynes Park stations in the list of those requiring step-free access, as well as fully populating the strategy with performance measures.

The Commission discussed the content and process followed for the public consultation on the level of council tax. At a later meeting it examined the council's partnership approach to consultation and community engagement.

The Commission received a presentation setting out the functions and activity levels of the planning enforcement service. As a result of a request by the Commission, this information has now been shared with all councillors, residents associations and community forums.

Updates on the customer contact programme have been received at critical points in the project. The Commission was pleased with the increased level of use of online services but disappointed that there had not been more progress with the programme.

The Chief Executive of Merton Voluntary Service Council attended in November 2016 to discuss the voluntary sector and volunteering strategy. The Commission endorsed the strategy's direction of travel and made some comments on the draft that would be taken into account in producing the final document. (check with John Dimmer)

*Presentation on proposals to set up a local authority property company – enable members to understand the financial aspects prior to it being brought to a meeting of Council.*

#### **Scrutiny of crime and disorder**

The Commission has examined crime data and was pleased that crime rates continue to remain low in Merton and are on a par or better than most neighbouring boroughs. It has asked the Acting Borough Commander questions on a wide range of issues including hate crime, traffic speed enforcement, borough wide controlled drinking zone and the deployment of police officers within the borough. It has welcomed progress made with the implementation of new CCTV equipment and its success in assisting the police to prosecute crime

*Update after March 28 meeting*

The Commission welcomed the work being done by Merton Centre for Independent Living to identify, measure and draw attention to the problem of disability hate crime. It was assured that the Safer and Strong Partnership Board, comprising the Council, Police and partner organisations, would receive and respond to the report.

The Commission heard from the Probation Service and the London Community Rehabilitation Companies about how low, medium and high risk offenders are managed locally and requested an update to show the progress being made.

*Discussion of the Mayor of London's policing priorities with Merton's Assembly Member.....*

## Call-in

Four call-in requests were received by the Commission in 2016/17:

### South London Waste Partnership – waste collection

Further to pre decision scrutiny on this issue by the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel, in August 2016 the Commission reviewed Cabinet's decision to appoint Veolia ES (UK) Ltd to provide waste collection and related environment services. The call-in signatories and invited witnesses raised considerations relating to consultation processes, the introduction of wheeled bins, fortnightly residual waste collection, workforce terms and conditions. The Commission voted to uphold Cabinet's decision and agreed to ask Cabinet to ensure that all residents were informed of forthcoming changes, and that Cabinet should continue to take steps to ensure that all residents take pride in a litter free environment.

### South London Waste Partnership – parks maintenance

Further to pre decision scrutiny on this issue by the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel, in August 2016 the Commission reviewed Cabinet's decision to appoint The Landscape Group Ltd (now idverde) as Preferred Bidder to provide parks maintenance and related services. The call-in signatories and invited witnesses raised concerns on the level of public consultation, terms and conditions of staff and the potential impact on Friends' Groups. The Commission voted to uphold Cabinet's decision .

### Harris Secondary School – required site approvals

Further to pre decision scrutiny on this issue by the Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel, in August 2016 the Commission reviewed Cabinet's decision relating to the proposed site for a new secondary school in the borough. The Commission heard concerns regarding the proposed location and the impact that this would have on a neighbouring primary school and on other local services. The Commission also heard concerns about whether the site was sufficient for delivery of a full curriculum. These concerns were addressed by officers and the Commission voted unanimously to uphold Cabinet's decision.

### Introduction of a diesel surcharge

Further to pre decision scrutiny on this issue by the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel, in December 2016 the Commission reviewed Cabinet's decision to introduce a surcharge for all diesel vehicles that have a resident, business or trade parking permit. It agreed on the need to reduce air pollution, accepted that diesel vehicles are a major cause of this and discussed whether the levy would change behaviour. Members expressed concern at the quantum level of the surcharge and the short lead-in time for its introduction. The Commission voted to uphold Cabinet's decision.

Subsequently, the cabinet member responsible for implementation agreed to change the phasing in from £100 in 2017/18, £125 in 2018/19 and £150 in 2019/20

To: £90 in 2017/18, £115 in 2018/19 and £150 in 2019/20

## **Finance and performance monitoring**

The financial monitoring sub-group has continued to monitor quarterly financial management reports. In particular, it has scrutinised the forecast overspend, capital programme and lack of progress on achieving savings in some service areas. It has scrutinised a number of areas in depth including transport services, savings achieved by the customer contact programme, overspend in the greenspaces budget, estate management and the budgets for supported lodging/housing, unaccompanied asylum seeking children and no recourse to public funds.

## **Scrutiny of the budget**

The draft business plan, medium term financial strategy and proposed budget savings proposals were examined in detail, alongside equality impact assessments for each of the savings.

The Commission made a recommendation to Cabinet in November 2016 asking it to bring forward savings proposals wherever possible in order to address the predicted funding gap from 2017/18 onwards. It also asked Cabinet to consider a number of options to address the gap, including reviewing the application of earmarked reserves and the level of council tax. In response, Cabinet has brought forward a number of savings proposals and these were subsequently accepted by Council.

## Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel

**Areas of responsibility:** scrutiny of issues relating to children and young people. This includes education, children's social care, child protection and youth services.

### **Councillor Dennis Pearce, Panel Chair:**

"This year has seen the Panel continue to focus on the work of the Children, Schools and Families Department and additionally to scrutinise the work of its partners such as the Central London Community Healthcare NHS Trust and colleagues in the Council's housing department. I'm particularly pleased that the Panel has received a number of representations from external witnesses this year which has provided us with additional insights to our work."

## Scrutiny reviews

**Routes into employment for vulnerable cohorts:** working closely with colleagues in all departments in the Council as well as Merton's Economic Wellbeing Group, the task group brought its work to fruition this year with a final report which has been accepted by Cabinet. Recommendations focus on the use of work tasters/work experiences and apprenticeships with these being offered through the Council's contractors and other services providers. The Panel will receive an action plan at its meeting in June 2017 and continue to monitor progress against this.

**Rapporteur scrutiny review of user voice:** following positive feedback in the scrutiny member survey, the decision was taken to pilot a new form of scrutiny review based on a rapporteur model. This involves an individual member looking in-depth at an issue supported by the scrutiny team. A trial is happening through the Children and Young People Panel with a member examining how looked after children and young people are able to express their wishes and feelings and participate in decisions that affect their lives. A report is anticipated in June 2017. In addition to consulting with officers and looking at how other councils ensure the participation of looked after children in services, children and young people are participating in the review through the Children in Care Council.

**Online strategies in schools:** completed in July 2015, this task group focused on how to keep Merton's young people safe online. The Panel continued to monitor the implementation of the task group's recommendations with progress against all being reported in October 2016.

## Strategic issues and pre-decision scrutiny

**Harris Wimbledon Secondary School:** members were given the opportunity to scrutinise the proposed site for the school prior to this gaining Cabinet approval.



Members focused on the anticipated growth in demand for secondary schools places, how the proposed location has been selected, how the impact on the existing users of the site will be ameliorated and how the development of the new school will be funded. The Panel made a reference to Cabinet requesting that the new school be developed to ensure all its pupils gain the same advantage enjoyed by children at other secondary schools in Merton.

**School Provision:** the Panel has continued to review provision of sufficient school places which is one of the Council's key statutory duties. Members were reassured that surplus places are in line with the Audit Commission's advice taking into account rising birth rate projections. Performance monitoring data is being revised to assist the Panel in achieving on-going scrutiny of this provision.

**Safeguarding:** members were given the opportunity to question the independent chair of the Merton Safeguarding Children Board and the Acting Borough Commander about safeguarding provision for Merton's children and young people. This focused on strengths, areas for review during the coming period, work with schools, action to address knife crime, domestic abuse, mental health issues and substance misuse.

**Health and wellbeing:** with the support of the community health provider, (Central London Healthcare NHS Trust), the Panel looked at how the Council is giving children and young people in Merton the best start in life by improving access to child mental health services, achieving school readiness, increasing the rate of immunisations and tackling childhood obesity. Members focused on the quality of information being used to promote immunisations, the role of parents in their children's health and how community venues are being used to achieve outreach.

**Schools Annual Report:** members received their detailed annual schools report giving them the opportunity to focus on attainment for all key stages as well as at foundation stage and for post 16. Members noted the need to retain their focus on children on SEN support as well as looked after children.

**Corporate Parenting:** **TBC (to be featured at the meeting on 21 March 2017)**

### Performance monitoring

This year the Panel appointed a lead member for performance monitoring (Councillor Mike Brunt). In July, Councillor Brunt and other members participated in a performance monitoring workshop. Supported by officers, this gave members the opportunity to look at the basket of performance measures in detail and to improve their understanding of each measure. The performance lead and relevant officers now meet before every Panel meeting allowing for in-depth discussion and to highlight points to be raised with the Panel. Measures are being identified to be the focus of a deep dive.

## External representations

Resulting from the scrutiny topic suggestion process, the Panel has received a number of external representations this year which has given additional insight to its work. The scrutiny team has proactively encouraged those making topic suggestions to attend the relevant Panel meeting to make a representation.

### **Muslim Women in Morden**

Nuzhat Ali of the Muslim Women in Morden attended the Panel's meeting on safeguarding and spoke powerfully about the negative effect of the *Prevent* strategy on the Muslim families and children in Merton. As a result of attending the Panel, how the Muslim Women in Morden group might be able to help inform the delivery of *Prevent* training for schools is being explored. *"Being heard is critical for positive community engagement, especially in relation to issues that are not considered by statutory bodies; such as the detrimental impact that Prevent and the widespread islamophobic narrative has on the mental health of children and families. The opportunity to present to the Scrutiny panel was a start - raising awareness with the Council of actions required"*, said Ms Ali.

### **Priory Primary School**

Jane White, Headteacher of Priory Primary School, attended the Panel meeting at which the schools annual report was presented. This gave her the opportunity to highlight, on behalf of all schools in the borough, the difficulties faced in recruiting and retaining teachers. The Panel welcomed the representation and resolved to consider recruitment and retention of key workers as part of the topic selection process for 2017/2018. **Quote requested from Jane White.**

## Financial monitoring

The Panel scrutinised the proposed budget for 2017/2018 in November 2016 and January 2017 including receiving reports from the Directors of Corporate Services and Children, Schools and Families. The Panel focused on funding for schools maintenance, the effect cost savings will have on staff stability, SEND transport costs and how the costs of the new Harris Wimbledon School will be funded.

## Call-in

No call-in requests were received by the Panel in 2016/17.

## Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel

This Panel has responsibility for the scrutiny of issues relating to health, public health and adult social care. This includes promoting good health and healthy lifestyles, mental health issues, and reducing health inequalities for people of all ages.

Councillor Peter McCabe said *“The significant changes taking place in local public services highlights the important role of overview and scrutiny. As local councillors with connections to our communities we understand the impact that the closure or significant change to a health service can have on local people. This strengthens our resolve to hold decision makers to account. Scrutiny also provide an opportunity for local people to come along and have their voices heard.”*

## Responding to local issues

### Merton Improving Access to Psychological Therapies Service

The Chair of the Panel received anecdotal evidence about difficulties accessing this service. In June, Merton Clinical Commissioning Group and the Director of Addaction, the service provider came along to present their performance data. They admitted that this newly established service was experiencing challenges and an improvement plan had been put in place. The Panel considered the progress in November and were satisfied that improvements were being made.

### Wilson walk in Centre

Dr Andrew Murray, Chair of Merton Clinical Commissioning Group attended the Panel to discuss plans to close a GP surgery and walk in health centre resulting in dispersal of patients to local surgeries. The Panel expressed concern about the capacity at local surgeries to deal with the additional patients. MCCG said additional funding had been made available to support the change. The Panel were reassured that these changes would not result in longer waiting times as a raft of new measures would support access to primary care.

Care in the community for older people and support when they are released from hospital.

The Interim Head of Adult Social Care attended the Panel and highlighted that the service is currently meeting need, however finding suitable support for people when they leave hospital is more challenging during busy periods such as when there is a local flu outbreak. A local resident who had suggested the panel consider this topic attended the meeting. They asked the council to consider setting up a website in which council checked care homes can upload details of short term room availability.

Councillors asked the Head of Adult Social Care to meet with the resident to discuss the proposal in more detail and determine if it is feasible. The Panel will receive a further update in due course.

## **Financial Monitoring**

### Merton Public Health Budget – 2016/17

The Panel scrutinised savings within the public health budget and expressed concern about de-commissioning the handy man service as it can prevent hazards in older people's homes preventing distress, falls and hospital admissions.

Panel members also had the same concerns regarding the Live-Well re-procurement which will in turn lead to reductions in smoking cessation services. The Panel moved a motion panel to support the public health budget except for the cuts to the handy man service. The department provided a response to the Panel stating that public health services in Merton and across the country are moving away from individual interventions to population-based approaches. Also, a local handyman service provided by Age UK Merton will still be available to meet local need.

### Impact of welfare reform

The Panel hosted a session looking at the impact of the changes to the welfare benefits system since 2010. The purpose of this session was to understand the impact at the local level and consider how the council and its partners can provide support. Given the cross cutting nature of the issue, members of the Sustainable Communities Panel were invited to attend. Local organisations, Faith in Action, Citizens Advice and Merton Centre for Independent Living attended to give an overview of the issues from their perspective. After a wide ranging discussion, Panel Members resolved to ask council officers and Citizens Advice to support Faith in Action in calculating the added value of their work, to look at possible venues for the drop in sessions and look at the feasibility of sending benefits advisors to Faith in Action drop in sessions.

## **Scrutiny of key partners**

### Merton Clinical Commissioning Group – Update on current priorities.

At the first meeting of the municipal year the Chair of MCCG attended the Panel to give an update on the latest priorities, issues and challenges. The Panel asked a number of questions including how MCCG is tackling their deficit, how the prevention agenda is being imbedded in health services. The Panel also urged MCCG to lobby government for more resources for the health sector.

## Epsom and St Helier University NHS Trust – Update on current priorities

The Chief Executive of Epsom and St Helier, informed the panel of the significant challenges caused by the current buildings which are old, expensive to maintain and not fit for purpose. Despite this the Standard Hospital Mortality Rate still placed the Trust in the best quartile in the country. The Panel emphasised strongly that they want to see a new St Helier hospital on the same site. The Chief Executive said this will be determined by the outcome of the Sustainability and Transformation Plans.

### Scrutiny reviews

#### Activities within Learning Disability Day Centres

The Panel held a one day mini review looking at the range of activities provided for people in learning disability day centres. The review found that the current day centre service is supported and appreciated by service users and carers. However budget savings had an impact on the range and frequency of activities that are provided. The task group asked the Panel to ask for more detailed scrutiny on sources of external funding that can help to sustain activities in day centres and also to look more widely at the health services available for this group. Both recommendations were agreed.

#### Preventing Diabetes in the South Asian community Task Group

In September the Panel received the final report arising from the Preventing Diabetes in the South Asian Community task group. Recommendations included ensuring existing services are culturally appropriate and working with voluntary and community sector organisations to share consistent messages. The Panel reviewed the Department action plan setting out how they will implement the recommendations. Panel members thanked officers for their work so far and looked forward to receiving a further update in twelve months time.

#### Childhood Immunisations in the 0-5 age group

In 2013 a scrutiny task group review was commissioned to look at improving immunisation rates in the 0-5 age group . NHS England along with our public health team attended the meeting to discuss the progress with this work. The Panel were informed that immunisations rates have improved in Merton and an local partnership was now in place.

#### South West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Chair and Vice Chair of this Panel represent the council on the South West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The committee is scrutinising the main provisions within the Sustainability and Transformation Plans within the South West London footprint. This process is still in the very early stages and meetings have been held in October 2016 and January 2017. We have made

clear our strong opposition to any attempt to remove accident and emergency and maternity services from St Helier hospital.

## Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel

**Areas of responsibility:** scrutiny of issues relating to housing, environmental sustainability, culture, enterprise and skills, libraries and transport.

### **Councillor Abby Jones, Panel Chair:**

“This year the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel has covered a breadth of subjects across our remit which has kept us extremely busy. During this municipal year the Panel has focused extensively on housing in the borough. We have scrutinised Merton’s leading social landlord, *Circle Housing*, during its merger with *Affinity Sutton* to encourage it to remain focused on repairs and regeneration during a period of change. Additionally, against a backdrop of over 40,000 deaths in the UK attributed each year to exposure to outside air pollution, the Panel has scrutinised the emission levy prior to Cabinet approval and established a task group to consider other measures the Council can apply to improve air quality in the borough. We are grateful to officers in Community & Housing and Environment & Regeneration teams for supporting the Panel over the last year”.

## Scrutiny reviews

### **Commercial Services Task Group**

The final report of the commercial services task group was presented to the Panel in November 2016. The task group put forward ways to embed a commercially-based approach across the Council as well as ambitious recommendations on ways to generate income. These include exploring opportunities to develop a private sector joint venture and looking at innovative technologies such as installing a multi-purpose street lighting system. Cabinet accepted the group’s recommendations and the Panel received an action plan in February 2017. This set out how the department will respond to the task group’s recommendations over the next 12 months which will be monitored by the Panel.

### **Air Quality Task Group**

In September 2016, the Panel commissioned a task group to look at how to improve air quality in Merton. This is very timely as it coincides with the review of the Merton Air Quality Action Plan. The task group will focus on the role of the planning system, reducing pollution at construction sites as well as how to make effective use of monitoring and enforcement. The task group will also consider strategic leadership to improve air quality across south west London. The review will be completed and presented to the Panel in September 2017.

### **Housing Supply Task Group**

Completed in September 2015, this task group focused on how to increase the supply of affordable housing in Merton. The Panel continued to monitor the

implementation of the task group's recommendations with good progress against all being reported in January. Additionally, the Panel agreed that the recommendation on overcrowding should be reviewed.

### Strategic issues and pre-decision scrutiny

The Panel has undertaken pre-decision scrutiny on a range of strategic issues and Council priorities. These include:

**South London Waste Partnership (procurement of waste collection and related environmental services):** the Panel scrutinised the procurement process for the waste collection and related environment services immediately before the final tender stage and the report to Cabinet. This included consideration of the findings of the wheeled bin resident trial and draft service charters. The Panel made a reference to Cabinet asking for the period of 'Preferred Bidder fine tuning' to be used to determine how many households will experience significant difficulty in storage and/or presentation of wheeled bins for regular emptying.

**Emissions Levy:** prior to consideration by Cabinet, the Panel reviewed proposals for the application of an emission levy through a surcharge on resident parking permits. Members were asked to comment on the principle of imposing a levy on the most polluting vehicles and gave their views on how this should be communicated to residents. The Panel's advice led to the levy having a phased implementation.

**Resurgence and the collapse of the Circle Group structure:** members scrutinised the proposal to collapse all nine Circle Housing organisations into one to become Circle 33 resulting in the loss of the local governance board to be replaced by a local community panel.

**Automatic Number Plate Recognition:** having monitored the performance of this new system since its installation at the beginning of the municipal year, the Panel took the opportunity to look at this in greater depth specifically focusing on how issues with its operation are being addressed. Members were provided with much more detail about the system and heard how officers are working with the operator to optimise performance.

**Shared service expansion (environmental health, trading standards and licensing):** members were given the opportunity to examine the proposal to expand the existing regulatory shared service. The Panel focused on Merton's role in hosting the service, TUPE and the development of the ICT system that will underpin the expanded service.

### Performance monitoring

The Panel regularly undertakes a performance monitoring role by reviewing outcomes against agreed key targets (Key Performance Indicators) and by receiving more detailed performance updates on key services:



**Circle Housing Merton Priory (CHMP):** Circle is the social housing provider to which the Council's housing stock was transferred in 2010. It has attended the Sustainable Communities Panel on two occasions during this municipal year to separately answer member questions regarding the then proposed merger with Affinity Sutton and to address members' concerns regarding repairs and regeneration. On the former occasion, the CEOs of both Circle and Affinity Sutton attended. On the latter occasion, the Director of Housing as well as the heads of the repairs and regeneration services attended. In both instances, members provided initial questions in advance to which the responses provided were included in the agenda pack. This enabled Panel members to ask more detailed and in depth questions at the meeting and focus on performance issues.

**Libraries and Heritage Service Annual Report:** members noted that again, the performance of this service is very high (and demonstrated by benchmarking against similar services delivered by other councils). As a result they questioned if performance indicators should be revised upward but it was agreed that this wouldn't be possible with a new service model forthcoming.



**Town regeneration:** members received a presentation updating them on progress achieved with all five town centre regeneration areas (Wimbledon, Raynes Park, Morden, Mitcham and Colliers Wood). This included consideration of public consultation activity as well as the potential impact of Crossrail2.

**Merton Adult Education:** an update report was provided to the Panel on the operation of the service in its first year following the implementation of a new commissioning model. Members focused on how the service is providing appropriate progression for all learners, community learning provision within the context of a national fall in demand and how provision for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities is being successfully provided in-house.

**Public Transport Liaison Committee (PTLC):** the Panel has requested a meeting of the PTLC be convened which will happen in May 2017. This will enable local people to meet Council staff, representatives from Transport for London and other transport operators and to have their say on what is being done to improve transport in Merton.

## Financial monitoring

The Panel scrutinised the proposed budget for 2017/2018 in November 2016 and January 2017, including receiving reports from the Directors of Corporate Services, Community and Housing and Environment and Regeneration. The Panel recommended to Cabinet that two Environment and Regeneration cost savings proposals be brought forward and that the cessation of building control letters be



reconsidered. All these recommendations have been accepted by Cabinet and an alternative saving is being considered to replace the cessation of building control letters.

<b>Call-in</b>
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The Panel has heard three call-ins during this municipal year:

<b>Call-in</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
Land at 111 – 127 The Broadway SW19 (know as P4)	Not to refer the decision back to Cabinet and therefore the decision was upheld and took immediate effect.
Belvedere Road and Belvedere Grove Experimental Width Restriction Review	Not to refer the decision back to the Cabinet Member and therefore the decision was upheld and took immediate effect. The Panel also resolved to make a reference to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environment and Housing to consider the implementation of physical changes such as signage similar to the type already in place in other parts of the borough and improved junction treatment over an appropriate timescale so that the impact can be assessed when the next traffic volume survey is carried out in 24 months.
Emissions Levy – Statutory Consultation	Not to refer the decision back to Cabinet and therefore the decision was upheld and took immediate effect.

## Get involved

The involvement of local residents, community organisations and partners is an important part of the scrutiny process and councillors are committed to responding to the views and concerns of residents.

Getting involved in scrutiny is one of the best ways to influence decision making at the council, as councillors will hear your experiences first hand. There are a number of ways you can get involved in the work of scrutiny at the council:

### Suggesting an issue for scrutiny

The council's website contains an online form which can be used to make suggestions on issues and topics for future scrutiny:

<http://www.merton.gov.uk/council/scrutiny/scrutiny-getinvolved.htm>

Suggestions may also be made in writing, by email or by phone to the Scrutiny Team – contact details overleaf.

All suggestions received will be discussed by the relevant scrutiny Panel and the person who made the suggestion will be contacted to let them know what has happened to it.

### Attending meetings

All scrutiny meetings are open to the public except where confidential information has to be discussed. A list of meeting dates and agenda items can be found on the council's website. <http://www.merton.gov.uk/council/committee.htm>

If you would like to attend a meeting simply come along to the meeting venue or, if you want more information, contact the Scrutiny Team – details overleaf.

### Providing information and views

Members of the public can send in written views or speak on issues that are under discussion at the Overview and Scrutiny Commission or one of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels.

Information on current task group reviews and any deadlines for submission on information can be found on <http://www.merton.gov.uk/scrutiny> or by contacting the Scrutiny Team – details overleaf.

## Contact the Scrutiny Team

The Scrutiny Team provides independent and professional support and advice to the Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission and the three standing Overview and Scrutiny Panels.

You can contact the Scrutiny Team using one of the following methods: -

In writing:

Scrutiny Team  
Corporate Services  
Merton Civic Centre  
London Road  
Morden  
Surrey SM4 5DX

By emailing:

[scrutiny@merton.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@merton.gov.uk)

By phoning:

Julia Regan – Head of Democracy Services  
020 8545 3864

Stella Akintan –Scrutiny Officer  
020 8545 3390

Annette Wiles – Scrutiny Officer  
020 8545 4035

For further information about overview and scrutiny at Merton please access our web pages using the following address <http://www.merton.gov.uk/scrutiny>

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**Committee:** Overview and Scrutiny Commission

**Date:** 28 March 2017

**Wards:** All

**Subject:** Planning the Commission's 2017/18 work programme

**Lead officer:** Julia Regan, Head of Democracy Services

**Lead member:** Councillor Peter Southgate, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission

**Contact officer:** Julia Regan; Julia.regan@merton.gov.uk; 020 8545 3864

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## **Recommendations:**

- A. That the Commission reviews its 2016/17 work programme (set out in the appendix), identifying what worked well, what worked less well and what the Commission would like to do differently next year;
  - B. That the Commission suggests items for inclusion in the 2017/18 work programme – both agenda items and potential task group review topics;
  - C. That the Commission re-establishes the financial monitoring task group and makes recommendations regarding its work programme;
  - D. That the Commission advises on agenda items for its meeting on 6 July 2017.
- 

## **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 To enable the Commission to plan its work programme for the forthcoming municipal year and, in particular, to agree agenda items for the first meeting of the municipal year.

## **2. DETAILS**

### Identifying issues for the 2017/18 work programme

- 2.1 The scrutiny officers are currently gathering suggestions for issues to scrutinise, either as Commission agenda items or task group reviews. Suggestions are being sought from members of the public, councillors and partner organisations including the Police, NHS and Merton Voluntary Service Council. The council's departmental management teams have been consulted in order to identify forthcoming issues on which the Commission could contribute to the policymaking process.
- 2.2 The Commission is therefore invited to suggest items for inclusion in the 2017/18 work programme – both agenda items and potential task group review topics.
- 2.3 All the suggestions received will be discussed at the Commission's topic workshop on 23 May 2017. As in previous years, participants will be asked to prioritise the suggestions using criteria so that the issues chosen relate to:
  - the Council's strategic priorities;
  - services that are underperforming;
  - issues of public interest or concern;
  - issues where scrutiny could make a difference

### Financial monitoring scrutiny task group

2.4 In previous years the Commission has established a financial monitoring task group to lead on the scrutiny of financial monitoring information on behalf of the Commission, with the following terms of reference:

- to carry out scrutiny of the Council's financial monitoring information on behalf of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission;
- to advise on other agenda items as requested by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission;
- to report minutes of its meetings back to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission;
- to send via the Commission any recommendations or references to Cabinet, Council or other decision making bodies.

2.5 The task group has met four times a year to enable the financial monitoring information to be examined on a quarterly basis. The meetings are held in public and the agenda and minutes are published on the Council's website.

2.6 It is recommended that the Commission agrees to re-establish the task group for 2017/18. The Commission would then formally appoint members at its meeting on 6 July 2017.

### Planning the first meeting of the 2017/18 municipal year

2.7 A note of the workshop discussion and draft work programme will be reported to the first meeting of the Commission in the new municipal year. The Commission will be requested to discuss this draft and agree any changes that it wishes to make.

2.8 Last year the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive attended the first meeting of the municipal year to outline their priorities and challenges for the year ahead. The Merton Partnership annual report was also presented at that meeting so that members could ask the Leader and Chief Executive questions on issues arising from the report.

2.9 The Commission also received an analysis of the Members' annual scrutiny survey and a scrutiny improvement plan at its July meeting last year.

2.10 One of the recommendations of the shared and outsourced services task group was that "the Overview and Scrutiny Commission should invite the Chief Executive to present a report annually to set out how challenge has been embedded, what choices have been made by service managers on models of service delivery, what changes resulted from the challenge process and what options were rejected and why".

2.11 The Commission is reminded that it has:

- deferred a report from Safer Merton (on violence against women and girls, services for women in refuges, anti-social behaviour and related matters) from March to July 2017.
- agreed to take an update report on the customer contact programme at its July meeting or refer the matter to the financial monitoring task group

2.12 It is therefore recommended that the Commission should include the following items on the agenda for the meeting on 6 July:

- Priorities and challenges for 2017/18 – Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive
- Merton Partnership Annual Report - Head of Policy, Strategy & Partnerships

- Embedding challenge in models of service delivery – Chief Executive
- Violence against women and girls, services for women in refuges, anti-social behaviour and related matters – Safer Merton
- Customer contact programme – update report (or refer for consideration by financial monitoring task group)
- Analysis of Members’ annual scrutiny survey – Head of Democracy Services

2.13 The Commission is asked to advise on any other items that it would be helpful to include on the agenda for its 6 July meeting.

### **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

3.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission can select topics for scrutiny review and for other scrutiny work as it sees fit, taking into account views and suggestions from officers, partner organisations and the public.

### **4. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED**

Scrutiny topic suggestions are being sought from members of the public, councillors, council officers and partner organisations including the police, NHS and Merton Voluntary Service Council.

### **5. FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 None for the purposes of this report.

### **6. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are none specific to this report.

### **7. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 It is a fundamental aim of the scrutiny process to ensure that there is full and equal access to the democratic process through public involvement and engaging with local partners in scrutiny reviews. Furthermore, the outcomes of reviews are intended to benefit all sections of the local community.

### **8. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 The Police and Justice Act 2006 requires every Council to have a scrutiny committee with the power to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken by the Council and the other responsible authorities in the exercise of their crime and disorder functions. The other responsible authorities are the police, the police authority (Metropolitan Police Authority), the fire and rescue authority and the NHS (Merton Clinical Commissioning Group and local NHS Trusts).

8.2 In Merton the responsible committee is the Overview and Scrutiny Commission.

8.3 Under the 2006 Act, the responsible committee is required to “meet to review or scrutinise decisions made, or action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions, no less than once every twelve months”. In doing so, it may require the attendance of officers from the Council, the police and co-operating authorities.

### **9. RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 None relating to this report.

- 10. APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT**
- 10.1 2016/17 work programme
- 11. BACKGROUND PAPERS**
- 11.1 None



# Overview and Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2016/17



This table sets out the Overview and Scrutiny Commission's Work Programme for 2016/17 that was agreed by the Commission at its meeting on 7 July 2016. This work programme will be considered at every meeting of the Commission to enable it to respond to issues of concern and incorporate reviews or to comment upon pre-decision items ahead of their consideration by Cabinet/Council.

The work programme table shows items on a meeting by meeting basis, identifying the issue under review, the nature of the scrutiny (pre decision, policy development, issue specific, performance monitoring, partnership related) and the intended outcomes. The last page provides information on items on the Council's Forward Plan that relate to the portfolio of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission so that these can be added to the work programme should the Commission wish to.

The Overview and Scrutiny Commission has specific responsibilities regarding budget and financial performance scrutiny and performance monitoring which it has delegated to the financial monitoring task group – agendas and minutes are published on the Council's website.

## **Scrutiny Support**

For further information on the work programme of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission please contact: -  
Julia Regan, Head of Democracy Services, 0208 545 3864, [Julia.regan@merton.gov.uk](mailto:Julia.regan@merton.gov.uk)

**Meeting date – 7 July 2016**

<b>Scrutiny category</b>	<b>Item/Issue</b>	<b>How</b>	<b>Lead Member/ Lead Officer</b>	<b>Intended Outcomes</b>
Holding the executive to account	Leader and Chief Executive – vision, key priorities & challenges for 2016/17	Presentation	Leader of the Council Ged Curran, Chief Executive	Context for Commission’s work programme
	Merton Partnership annual report	Report	Chief Executive John Dimmer, Head of Policy, Strategy & Partnerships	Context for Commission’s work programme
Scrutiny of crime and disorder	Rehabilitation Strategies	Report	Neil Thurlow, Community Safety Manager	Progress report plus discussion with National Probation Service and MTC Novo
	Discussion of questions to ask Borough Commander at the next meeting			
Scrutiny reviews	Report of the Shared and Outsourced Services Scrutiny Task Group	Report	Cllr Peter Southgate Julia Regan	To agree final report and recommendations
	Analysis of Members’ annual scrutiny survey 2016	Report	Cllr Peter Southgate Julia Regan	Discuss findings and agree action plan for 2016/17
	Overview and Scrutiny Commission work programme 2016/17	Report	Cllr Peter Southgate Julia Regan	To agree work programme and task group reviews

**Meeting date – 20 September 2016**

<b>Scrutiny category</b>	<b>Item/Issue</b>	<b>How</b>	<b>Lead Member/ Lead Officer</b>	<b>Intended Outcomes</b>
Scrutiny of crime and disorder	Borough Commander	Report and in-depth discussion	Borough Commander	Update on policing issues
	Disability hate crime	Report from Merton CIL	Merton Centre for Independent Living	To identify how Commission can support work on hate crime
Holding the executive to account	Customer contact programme	Update Report	Sophie Ellis, Assistant Director of Business Improvement	Progress report for comment
	Council tax consultation	Report on background to the consultation	Paul Evans, Assistant Director of Corporate Governance	Item in response to discussion at Council on 14.09.16
Scrutiny reviews	Financial monitoring task group	Minutes of meetings on 5 and 26 July	Cllr Hamish Badenoch Julia Regan	Financial monitoring task group

**Meeting date – 15 November 2016**

<b>Scrutiny category</b>	<b>Item/Issue</b>	<b>How</b>	<b>Lead Member/ Lead Officer</b>	<b>Intended Outcomes</b>
Budget scrutiny	Business Plan 2017/21 - information pertaining to round one of budget scrutiny	Report	Cllr Mark Allison Caroline Holland, Director of Corporate Services	To send comments to Cabinet budget meeting 14 December
Pre decision scrutiny	Voluntary sector and volunteering strategy	Draft report	John Dimmer, Head of Policy, Strategy & Partnerships	To comment on draft strategy
Holding the executive to account	CCTV	Report	John Hill, Head of Public Protection	Progress report on new CCTV system
	Enforcement	Report to provide update on enforcement action taken, with focus on Planning	James McGinlay, Head of Sustainable Communities	To comment on enforcement issues & identify any further action for scrutiny

**Meeting date – 26 January 2017 – scrutiny of the budget**

<b>Scrutiny category</b>	<b>Item/Issue</b>	<b>How</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>	<b>Member/Lead</b>	<b>Intended Outcomes</b>
Budget scrutiny	Business Plan 2017/21	Report – common pack for Panels and Commission	Cllr Mark Allison, Cabinet Member for Finance Caroline Holland, Director of Corporate Services		To report to Cabinet on budget scrutiny round 2
	Business Plan update - latest info from Cabinet 16 January (if any)	Report	Cllr Mark Allison, Cabinet Member for Finance Caroline Holland, Director of Corporate Services		To report to Cabinet on budget scrutiny round 2
Scrutiny reviews	Financial monitoring task group	Minutes of meeting	Cllr Hamish Badenoch Julia Regan		To note minutes of meeting held on 10.11.16

**Meeting date – 7 March 2017**

<b>Scrutiny category</b>	<b>Item/Issue</b>	<b>How</b>	<b>Lead Member/Lead Officer</b>	<b>Intended Outcomes</b>
Holding the executive to account	Consultation	Report	Kris Witherington, Consultation & Engagement Manager	To respond to reference from Council
Pre decision scrutiny	Equality and Community Cohesion Strategy 2017-20	Draft report	Evereth Willis, Equality and Community Cohesion Officer	To comment on draft strategy
Scrutiny reviews	Financial monitoring task group	Minutes of meeting	Cllr Hamish Badenoch	To note minutes of meeting held on 20.02.17
	Shared and outsourced services task group	Cabinet response and action plan	Sophie Ellis, Assistant Director of Business Improvement	To receive Cabinet response and action plan
	Review of arrangements for co-opted members	Report	Cllr Peter Southgate Julia Regan	To agree future arrangements for co-opted members
Scrutiny of crime and disorder	Discussion of questions for the Borough Commander	Discussion	Cllr Peter Southgate Julia Regan	Discussion to plan line of questioning for meeting on 28 March

Note – scrutiny of the immunisation action plan has been transferred to the Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel – Commission members will be invited to join the meeting

**Meeting date – 28 March 2017**

<b>Scrutiny category</b>	<b>Item/Issue</b>	<b>How</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>	<b>Member/Lead</b>	<b>Intended Outcomes</b>
Scrutiny of crime and disorder	Mayor of London's policing priorities	Report	London Assembly Member		To discuss and comment on policing priorities
	Borough Commander	Report and in-depth discussion	Borough Commander		Update on policing issues
Holding the executive to account	Violence against women and girls	Update report	John Hill, Head of Public Protection		To discuss and comment on progress
	Services for women and children in refuges	Report	John Hill, Head of Public Protection		To discuss and comment on policy and service delivery issues
	Anti-social behaviour	Report plus data	Neil Thurlow, Community Safety Manager		Update report
Performance management	Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report	Report	Cllr Peter Southgate Julia Regan		To approve and forward to Council
	Planning the Commission's 2017/18 work programme	Report	Cllr Peter Southgate		

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**Note - Carry forward items:**

Customer contact programme update – July meeting of Commission or Financial Monitoring Task Group

Safer Merton report on violence against women and girls, services for women in refuges, anti-social behaviour and related matters was deferred from 28 March meeting

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