

# Merton Council

## Joint Consultative Committee with Ethnic Minority Organisations Agenda

### Councillors:

Edith Macauley MBE (Chair), Marsie Skeete, Fidelis Gadzama, Abdul Latif (Vice-Chair), Charlie Chirico

**Substitute Members:** Adam Bush, Joan Henry

### Ethnic Minority Organisations

African Educational Cultural & Health Organisation (AECHO)

Deputy

Ahmadiyya Muslim Association

Asian Diabetic Support & Awareness Group

Asian Elderly Group of Merton

Asian Youth Association

Bangladeshi Association of Merton

Deputy

Bengali Association of Merton

Deputy

Bengali Women's Association of Merton

British Muslim Association of Merton

Ethnic Minority Centre

Euro Bangla Federation

Deputy

London South West Chinese Community Association

Merton African Organisation

Merton Somali Community

Merton Unity Network

Mitcham Filipino British Association

Deputy

Morden Citizen's Advice Bureau

Pakistan Cultural Association of Merton & Wandsworth

Pakistan Welfare Association

Deputy

Positive Network

South London Somali Community Association

South London Tamil Welfare Group

Victim Support Merton and Sutton

Wimbledon Mosque

Revd Mrs H Neale

Mr A. Hadi

Mrs N. Shah

Mr M S Sheikh

Mr T Hassan

Mr. N. Islam

Mr J Choudhury

Mr M Rahman

Mrs M Ahmed

Mr B. Afridi

Mrs Sabitri Ray/Mr A Savage

Dr Z Haque

Mr Q Anwar

Ms L Saltoon

Mr C J Lusack

Mr A. Ali

Ms P Anderson

Ms A Colquhoun

Ms C Batallones

Ms J Gillies

Mr M A Shah

Mr S U Sheikh

Mr Rizvi

Ms G Salmon

Mr A Musse

Dr P Arumugaraasah

Mr A Morgan-Thorne

Mr Z KhanAdam Bush

**Date: Wednesday 21 September 2016**

**Time: 7.15 pm**

**Venue: Council chamber - Merton Civic Centre, London Road, Morden SM4 5DX**

This is a public meeting and attendance by the public is encouraged and welcomed. For more information about the agenda please contact [diversity@merton.gov.uk](mailto:diversity@merton.gov.uk) or telephone [020 8545 4637](tel:02085454637). All Press contacts: [press@merton.gov.uk](mailto:press@merton.gov.uk), 020 8545 3181

# Joint Consultative Committee with Ethnic Minority Organisations Agenda

## 21 September 2016

- |   |  |         |
|---|--|---------|
| 1 | Declarations of Interest   |         |
| 2 | Apologies for absence  |         |
| 3 | Minutes of the previous meeting  | 1 - 6   |
| 4 | Matters arising  |         |
| 5 | Public Health update - Dr Dagmar Zuener, Director of Public Health, LBM                          | 7 - 12  |
| 6 | Community Drug & Recovery Service (CDARS) - Abayeh Savage, Information and Advice Officer, CDARS | 13 - 22 |
| 7 | Refresh of the Equality Strategy - Evereth Willis, Equality and Community Cohesion Officer, LBM  | 23 - 24 |
| 8 | Safer Neighbourhood Board update - Abayeh Savage   | 25 - 26 |
| 9 | Any other business   |         |

### 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.

# Agenda Item 3

JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE WITH ETHNIC MINORITY  
ORGANISATIONS  
7 JUNE 2016

PRESENT Councillors Edith Macauley (in the Chair), Fidelis Gadzama, Marsie Skeete, Charlie Chirico, Adam Bush

Rev Mrs H Neale, MR Rizvi, Councillor Akyigyina, Mr Hadi, Mr B Afridi, Rev. Copeland, Rev Wakefield, Councillor Joan Henry, Mrs S Kumararajah, Mr John Dimmer, Ms Evereth Willis, PC Matt Bryan, DCI Nicola Church, Sgt Vere Bower

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Agenda Item 1)

None

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 2)

Apologies were received from Mr J Hall, Mr S Sheikh, Ms Colquhoun, Councillor Latif and Mr Savage.

3 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (Agenda Item 3)

The minutes were agreed.

4 MATTERS ARISING (Agenda Item 4)

There were no matters arising.

5 OPERATION FAIRWAY - COUNTER TERRORISM THREAT AWARENESS - PC MATT BRYAN (Agenda Item 5)

P.C. Matt Bryan informed the meeting that he delivers Counter Terrorism awareness briefings to businesses and local organisations.

He will be presenting to licensed premises, the All England Tennis Club and Military Cadets in advance of Armed Forces Day and is willing to deliver to other organisations as required.

The current threat level is substantial.

The video 'Operation Fairway' was shown. The film shows a shopping centre being attacked and looks at the role various people played and examines how the attack could have been avoided.

## 6 POLICE UPDATE - SGT VERE BOWER (Agenda Item 6)

Sargent Vere Bower presented a Police update report. He informed the meeting that Crime overall is up by 6.1% compared to the previous twelve months.

Much of the rise in reports of domestic violence can be explained by changes in recording standards and how violent crime is classified.

He also reported that Hate Crime incidents have increased across the Metropolitan Police Service and training has been delivered to all officers around the reporting of disability hate crime and its impact.

There are on-going problems between the organised crime groups from the Tamil Community in Mitcham.

Also Motor vehicle crime is on the increase.

### **Questions**

What is Islamophobic? Sgt Vere replied that it is any crime where the victim is a Muslim and thinks that they were assaulted because of their faith.

How are the police working with voluntary organisations to tackle violence in the Tamil community? Sgt Vere replied that a large population of young males have been congregating at different locations in the evening and engaging in anti-social behaviour. The young people have been visited at home and given warnings. The Police are targeting people who continue to congregate outside the Off Licence and Betting shop.

What are the Police doing about the issues brought over from Sri Lanka? There was an appeal for the Police to work closely with the Tamil community.

Sgt Vere informed the meeting that Mitcham is the focus for Tamil males who come from across London. A Tamil forum has been launched at Mitcham.

Councillor Gadzama suggested that the Islamophobic crime should not be separated.

Rev Wakefield informed the meeting that the Safer Neighbourhood Board is working with the Police to tackle the issues of concern locally. The MP for Mitcham and

Morden has had community meetings when issues have arisen. Rev Wakefield urged the members to give other contacts if they have them.

Sgt Vere explained that a tactic used by the Police is to visit the young men in their homes to deliver the notices. This has more effect because often their parents do not know what they are involved in.

Councillor Skeete said that in her ward the community is concerned about young people riding mopeds and causing a nuisance. She asked how the problem could be curbed.

Detective Chief Inspector (DCI) Church replied that across the south west cluster there had been a 300% increase in moped theft. There are operations to target thieves and in the last two weeks there has been a decrease. DCI Church clarified that a prolific Wandsworth thief has recently been charged with 20 thefts but was not given a custodial sentence.

DCI Church informed the meeting that the Borough Commander met with the Judiciary to explain the impact of thieves not being given custodial sentences. Following discussion Councillors Macauley and Chirico clarified that the Magistrates have to follow sentencing guidelines. Numerous factors are taken into consideration but if the defendant has no previous convictions it is unlikely that a custodial sentence will be given.

Councillor Akyigyina suggested that the Police need to gain people's trust and should engage with local people to encourage them to join the forum in Mitcham.

Sarva suggested that violence starts at home and parents also need advice and support and need to be involved.

Rev Copeland asked what is being done to educate parents and families to combat anti-social behaviour. Sgt Vere replied that his tactic was to speak to the young people in front of their parents and explain the impact of their behaviour on local people. Most of the youths are in university or at college and their parents were unaware of their behaviour outside the home.

### **Independent Advisory Group (IAG)**

DCI Nicola Church informed the meeting that the IAG is being refreshed and needs to be more representative. The IAG is a forum for the Police and community representatives to discuss issues of concern and meets 3 or 4 times a year. The IAG acts as a critical friend to advise the borough's police and is particularly helpful for critical incidents.

Rev Copeland expressed an interest to join the IAG. Rev Wakefield suggested that Hannah Neale as the chair of BAME Voice should be invited to join the group.

7 VOLUNTARY SECTOR AND VOLUNTEERING STRATEGY - AMJAD AGIL,  
POLICY, STRATEGY AND PARTNERSHIPS OFFICER, LBM (Agenda Item 7)

John Dimmer informed the meeting that the Voluntary Sector and Volunteering strategy is being refreshed. A steering group chaired by Simon Williams comprising partner agencies such as MVSC is overseeing the development of the strategy.

The group will meet monthly and provide a draft strategy by November 2016 to allow recommendations to be considered as part of the budget setting priorities for 2017/18 and beyond.

Mr Dimmer advised that Merton has a vibrant voluntary sector and high volunteering levels. The strategy is being developed in challenging times and needs to consider factors such as the Social Value Act and the impact of cuts.

An engagement plan is in place to identify priorities and issues for consideration. Mr Dimmer informed the meeting that there is an opportunity for the JCC to raise issues for the steering group to consider. He asked the JCC how it wants to be engaged in the process.

Councillor Akyigyina asked what will be different as people already work together. Mr Dimmer replied that the JCC could consider where the funding cuts will be and how the support from the council is changing.

The Social Value Act is not used well in Merton, e.g. working with local labour – favouring local organisations. He stated that Merton can learn from best practice. There is a risk that if you don't consider alternative actions the sector will diminish at a time when the partnership wants it to expand.

Rev Neale advised Mr Dimmer that money is an issue as funding is made available to larger organisations and smaller ones are being squeezed out. She suggested that this is an area that needs to be looked at.

Rev Copeland said that more information is needed on what the options being considered are. How do you help larger agencies to include small ones as part of their bidding? He added that it is important to be involved in cuts discussions because of local need.

Councillor Macauley asked the JCC representatives to give suggestions to John Dimmer.

8 SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD BOARD UPDATE - ABAYEH SAVAGE (Agenda Item 8)

The report was noted.

9 EQUALITY STRATEGY UPDATE - EVERETH WILLIS, EQUALITY AND COMMUNITY COHESION OFFICER,LBM (Agenda Item 9)

Evereth Willis updated the meeting on the progress made to implement the Equality Strategy 2013-17. She also informed the meeting that the strategy was being refreshed and would be combined with the community cohesion strategy.

The new strategy will be signed off by council in February. Ms Willis asked the JCC to consider the priorities that should be included in the refreshed strategy.

10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda Item 10)

None.

This page is intentionally left blank



# Public Health in Merton

## Overview for the Joint Consultative Committee with Ethnic Minorities

September 2016

Dr Dagmar Zeuner, Director of Public Health, LBM





# What is Public Health

- Science and art of protecting and improving population health & reducing inequalities through concerted efforts of society:
  - Population perspective – not just service users or eligible clients
  - Prevention & treatment
  - Improving health of the poorest fastest
  - Addressing the social, economical and environmental impacts on health
- PH in LA – main duties:
  - Leadership for health incl HWB AK1
  - commissioning specified range of PH services (incl CYP; drug & alcohol misuse, sexual health; healthy lifestyles)
  - commissioning support for NHS (influence on CCG budget of 200M)
  - health protection oversight (screening, immunisation, infection control, emergency planning)
- PH in LA – main resources:
  - Humble budget and small specialist team
  - However: whole council, partners and community

**Slide 2**

---

**AK1**

explicit about advise to council function.....?  
Amanda Killoran, 05/09/16

# Public Health in Merton

- Overall health is improving and compares well with other boroughs BUT
  - E/W inequalities
    - Social, economic and health indicators poorer in E
    - Growing ethnic diversity and younger age structure
  - Big prevention/healthy lifestyle opportunities
    - Smoking, poor diet, lack of exercise, alcohol misuse
  - Ensuring all children have the best start in life
    - Ready for school
    - Emotional wellbeing
    - Family/parental health & wellbeing
  - Challenge of aging population with multiple long-term conditions
    - Mental & physical health problems; dementia; social isolation

# Public Health priorities

- East Merton (reduce E/W inequalities, blueprint for service transformation)
  - Locality based preventative service model, social prescribing
  - Wilson health & community campus development
  - Childhood obesity
- Collaborative commissioning for better outcomes
  - Children & Young people; vol sector (within the council)
  - Community mental health and drug & alcohol misuse (LA and CCG)
  - Sexual health (across London LAs)
- Embedding health outcomes across all council business (and partners)
  - Health in All Policies
  - Healthy work place
  - Growth and regeneration
  - Dementia friendly Merton

# Questions

- What you always wanted to know...
- How can we work together

?





## Integrated Substance Misuse Recovery Partnership

### Merton Drug and Alcohol Services Launch Event



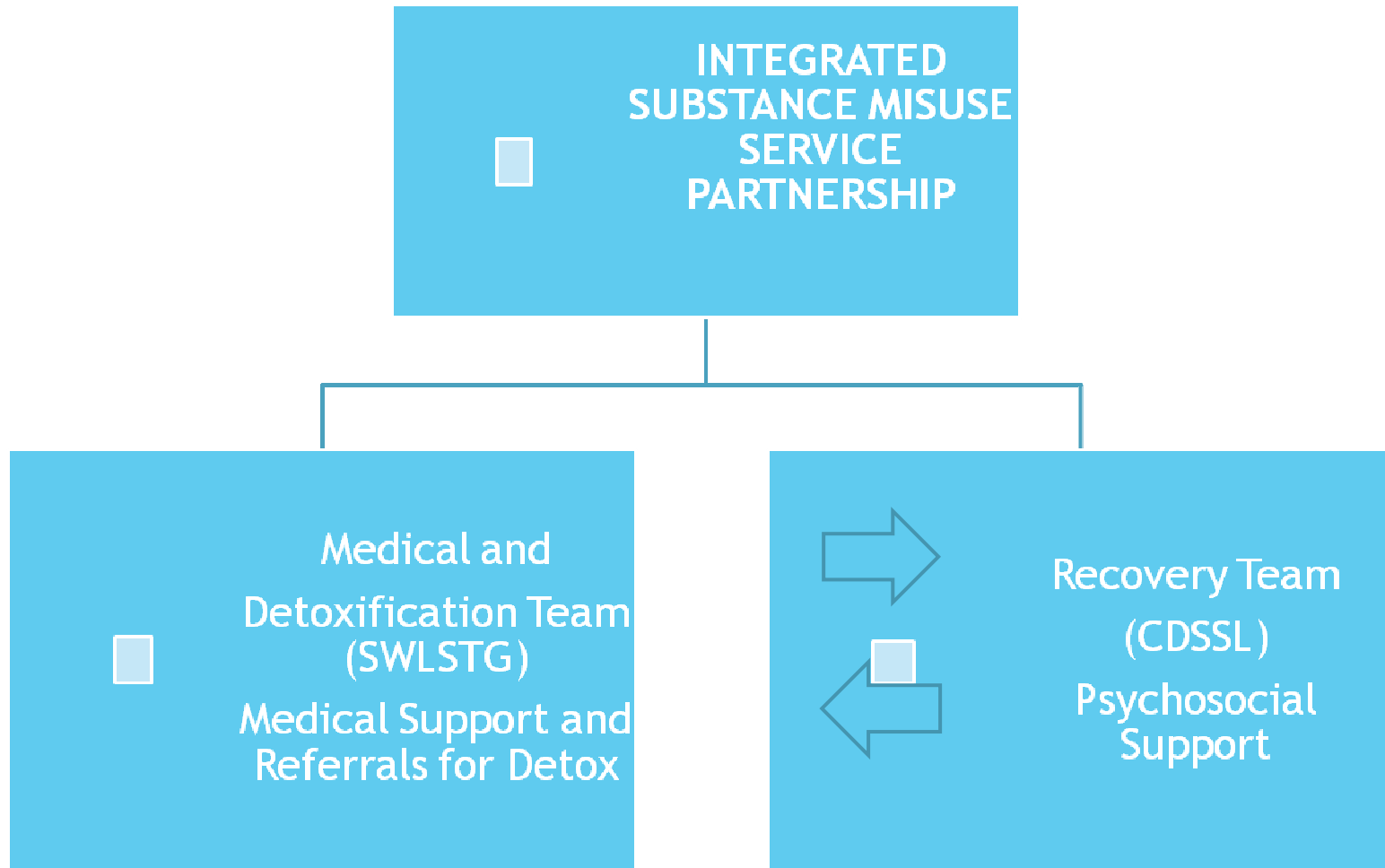
*Franco Toma*  
*CDSSL Managing Director*  
*10<sup>th</sup> October 2013*

# Priorities in Merton

- ▶ Develop Tier 2 and Tier 3 Services for Polish and Eastern European People with an Alcohol Problem
- ▶ Develop Tier 2 and Tier 3 Services for Tamil Ethnic Group with an Alcohol Problem
- ▶ Decrease Street Drinking
- ▶ Establish links with local GPs Surgeries and have opioid specialist counsellors in local GP surgeries
- ▶ Develop a parental substance misuse work programme for drug or alcohol using clients living with children
- ▶ Develop stronger links with Mash and have a worker at MASH once a week



# How do we work together as a Partnership ?



### Stage 1

To support service users to reach abstinence from substances and alcohol use, by offering an integrated package of care individually designed for each clients needs

### Stage 2 and Aftercare

To support service users to become full functional members of the local community, and to achieve their individual aspirations and goals

# Reviewed Process for Assessment and allocations

- ▶ On referrals, clients passed over to the specialist worker
- ▶ The specialist worker will contact the client and will assess the client within five working days
- ▶ The specialist worker will start the clinical work in most cases on the same day of the assessment
- ▶ Results:
- ▶ Total waiting time from referral to start of clinical work a maximum of five working days

# OUTREACH SERVICES

## ENGAGING AND RE-ENGAGING CLIENTS INTO TREATMENT

- ▶ WORKING OUT OF ST GEORGES HOSPITAL ( offering clients with substance misuse issues treatment)
- ▶ STREET OUTREACH ( providing support to street homeless including food donations)
- ▶ HOME VISITS
- ▶ CLIENT ESCORTS
- ▶ SALVATION ARMY SUPPORTING HOMELESS PEOPLE WITH SUBSTANCE MISUSE ISSUES

# STAGE 1 SERVICES

## PSYCHOSOCIAL TREATMENT TO PRIMARY DRUG AND ALCOHOL USERS

### ALCOHOL SERVICES

- CONTROLLED DRINKING GROUP (for non-dependent, hazardous/harmful drinkers)
- PREPERATION FOR DETOX GROUP (Men's and Women's Group for individuals preparing for an inpatient or community detox from alcohol)
- ASSESSMENTS
- INDIVIDUAL KEYWORKING
- COUNSELLING SESSIONS FOR CLIENTS WITH COMPLEX NEEDS

### DRUGS SERVICES

- OPIATE SPECISLIST
- CANNABIS SPECIALIST
- STIMULATE SPECIALIST
- LEGAL HIGHS SPECIALIST
- OPIATE PREPERATION FOR DETOX GROUP
- HARM REDUCTION/NEEDLE EXCHANGE
- BBV TESTING (post and pre counselling)
- 121 KEYWORKING/ COUNSELLING

# STAGE 2 SERVICES

## HEALTH AND WELL BEING

### AFTERCARE

- ▶ MAINTAINING SOBRIETY GROUP
- ▶ UNDERSTANDING 12 STEP RECOVERY GROUP
- ▶ COUNSELLING/KEYWORK
- ▶ RECOVERY CHAMPIONS
- ▶ EDUCATION AND TRAINING SUPPORT

### A PROGRAMME FOR LIFE

- ▶ NUTRITION AND HEALTHY LIVING
- ▶ IMPROVING HEALTH AND LIVES GROUP
- ▶ YOGA CLASS
- ▶ MINDFULNESS
- ▶ DEBT AND FINANCE MANAGEMENT
- ▶ STOP SMOKING SESSIONS
- ▶ HOUSING AND BENEFITS GUIDANCE
- ▶ EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTHY DAY TRIPS

## Main elements and aspirations of services

To provide an:

- ▶ *Integrated, holistic, psychosocial and medical, whole family system approach service.*
- ▶ *Full support to service users, presenting with substance and or alcohol misuse problem, residents in the borough and their carers and family members.*
- ▶ *Based on the concept of recovery capital and strong aftercare.*
- ▶ *Support to service users and their families to achieve full functionality and full integration in the local community.*

# BAME

- ▶ BAME Link Officer
- ▶ Acts as a main point of contact for providing services on issues affecting the lives of BAME and Eastern European Communities (Polish)
- ▶ Ensures BAME Communities issues on substance misuse are mainstreamed into the Drug and Alcohol Strategy
- ▶ Provides information, advice, help, support and representation at tribunals to BAME clients on issue on benefit (JSA,ESA,PIP, EEA, Disability ) Housing, Education, Employment and Training.
- ▶ Provides support and advice to BAME Organisations, Statutory/Non Statutory Organisations
- ▶ Raising awareness on the Impact Of Drug Misuse and non prescribed drugs for BAME users, families, parents and carers.



**Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) with Ethnic Minorities**

**21 September 2016**

**SUBJECT:** Refresh of the Equality Strategy

**LEAD CONTACT:** Evereth Willis, Merton Council  
([Evereth.willis@merton.gov.uk](mailto:Evereth.willis@merton.gov.uk) /020 8545 4637)

**POSITION:** Equality and Community Cohesion Officer

**ORGANISATION:** Merton Council

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** That the JCC:

1. Notes the timeline for refreshing the strategy
2. Contributes to the developing the equality objectives

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

The Council's Community Cohesion Strategy 2012-15 has expired and the Equality Strategy 2013-17 will expire in March 2017. The Equality Act 2010 requires the council to publish equality objectives every four years to demonstrate how it will meet the Public Sector Equality Duty.

It has been agreed to combine the two strategies and perhaps focus on less outcomes.

### **2. Background:**

- 2.1. Merton's current Equality Strategy will expire at the end of March 2017. The Equality Act 2010 introduced the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) which requires the local authority, when exercising its functions, to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between persons who share a "protected characteristic" and those who do not. "Protected characteristics" are; age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 2.2. The Equality Act 2010 also requires the council to publish equality objectives every four years to demonstrate how it will meet the PSED. The current strategy has the following five objectives:
  - Tackling Inequality
  - Service Access
  - Improving Engagement
  - Promoting Community Cohesion
  - Workforce Development

- 2.3. The refreshed strategy needs to meet legislative requirements to publish equality objectives every four years. The Council's Community Cohesion Strategy 2012-15 has also expired. Due to the similarities between the two strategies, going forward it has been decided to combine them into one document.
- 2.4. A more streamlined strategy and implementation plan will be produced. Objectives will be developed through consultation with departments and stakeholders.

#### **Next steps**

- 2.5 The JCC is invited to comment on the proposal to develop a refreshed equality strategy (combining community cohesion considerations) and contribute to the development of equality objectives.

### **3. Structure**

- 3.1. The refreshed strategy will outline 5-10 objectives. Each objective will have 2 or 3 equalities outcomes that are linked to departmental service plans. This approach enables equalities outcomes to be aligned with departmental service plans.

### **4. Governance**

- 4.1. The strategy will be monitored by the Corporate Equality Steering Group, Corporate Management Team, Departmental Management Teams and an annual update given to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission

### **5. Equality Analysis**

- 5.1 The strategy will outline the Equality Analysis process to embed it in our decision- making and change management processes.

### **6. Consultation:**

- 6.1. Consultation will include internal and external stakeholders.

### **7. Timescales**

- 7.1. A draft strategy will be produced by 31 October and public consultation will take place from 1 November to 16 December. A draft strategy will be considered by Cabinet on 16 January 2017. The final document will be presented to Council for adoption on 7 February 2017. The new strategy will be launched and publicised in April 2017.

### **8. Appendices**

- Appendix I – Equality Strategy 2013-17  
[https://www.merton.gov.uk/equality\\_strategy\\_2013-17\\_final\\_v2.pdf](https://www.merton.gov.uk/equality_strategy_2013-17_final_v2.pdf)
- Appendix II – Community Cohesion Strategy 2012-15  
[https://www.merton.gov.uk/120612\\_community\\_cohesion\\_strategy\\_v13.pdf](https://www.merton.gov.uk/120612_community_cohesion_strategy_v13.pdf)

## Report for the JCC on the Safer Neighbourhood Board 31/08/2016

### **Face the People**

This is a public meeting where the Chief Executive (Senior Councillors) and Borough Commander has the opportunity to respond to any concerns or suggestions the public may have on crime and community safety in Merton. Each Borough must at least hold one such meeting, regrettably Merton never had one.

Detective Chief Superintendent Stuart Macleod, Borough Commander is to retire this year. His retirement is a cruel reminder that all good things in life must come to end. Stuart is a friendly and approachable Commander with a great understanding of Merton's dynamics. He will be greatly missed.

The irony is that Stuart will not be available to respond to our concerns on crimes and policing at such meeting expected in the very near future. Personally, I have always been a critic of MOPAC7 at the expense of other crimes.

Recently, we have witnessed a surge in hate crimes particularly after the EU Referendum 23/06/2016. So many hate incidents against ethnic minorities were brought to my attention which were ultimately passed on to the Police.

The latest figures on hate crimes have not been encouraging. For the past year disability hate crime went up by 120%, faith crime 20.6%, rape by 87.3%, racist and religious by 34.0% etc. There has also been a surge in gang/knife crime among young people, we have recently witnessed three such serious crimes in Merton.

Domestic abuse is still under reported according to the British Crime Survey. I urge you to continue reporting as any increase in reporting is positive as our people are getting confident in dealing with the issue.

We are also faced with terrorism, extremism and radicalism and the Borough Commander at the last did remind us of complacency and requested that I quote "everyone be the eyes and ears" and ensure this message is passed onto the community members we represent.

### **SNB Funding 2016/17**

We had 5 bids totalling £46,454 against available amount of £22,000 allocated for projects meeting the funding criteria. None of the bids submitted were successful. I understand MOPAC have recently sent a detailed feedback. I am disappointed and would comment upon sight of each of the bids at and after the next SNB meeting.

ABAYEH SAVAGE (JCC Representative to SNB)

31/08/2016.

This page is intentionally left blank