Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee			
Title	Invitation to Lewisham's police and fire commanders		
Contributor	Scrutiny Manager	Item	3
Class	Part 1(open)	3 February 2015	

1. Purpose

1.1 At its meeting on 15 July 2014, when deciding on the work programme for the 2014/15 year, the Committee agreed to invite the borough police and fire commanders to its meeting on 3 February 2015.

1.2 This paper provides background information about the invitation as well as some of the most recent publicly available performance data for the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) and London Fire Brigade (LFB) in Lewisham.

2. Recommendations

The Select Committee is asked to:

- note the contents of the report
- direct questions to the borough police and fire commanders at the meeting on 3 February.

3. Policy context

3.1 The Mayor of London (through his Police and Crime Plan (2013-16)) has set a 20/20/20, 20/20/20 challenge for the MPS to:

- Cut crime by 20%
- Boost public confidence by 20%
- Cut costs by 20%
- Reduce court delays by 20%
- Increase compliance with community sentences by 20%
- Reduce reoffending by young people leaving custody by 20%

3.2 There are seven key neighbourhood crimes which the MPS will be required to reduce by 20% by 2016:

- Violence with injury
- Robbery
- Burglary
- Theft of a motor vehicle
- Theft from a motor vehicle
- Theft from the person
- Vandalism (criminal damage)

3.3   To meet the challenge, the MPS is delivering a series of organisational changes, including the rationalisation of its estate and a new model for local policing as well as a series of strategic reviews of support services. In Lewisham, these changes led to the closure of Brockley and Sydenham Police stations, the creation of police contact points and the reorganisation of local policing teams into neighbourhood clusters.

3.4   Lewisham's Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership is called the Safer Lewisham Partnership (SLP). Partners include local representatives of the MPS and LFB and other key partners. Collectively, they are responsible for monitoring local issues and drawing up plans to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour. The Committee has previously received information from the Head of Crime Reduction and Supporting People about the Partnership Plan and areas of priority in Lewisham. The Plan incorporates the MOPAC priorities, but also sets local issues for action. The SLP agreed the following priorities for 2014/15:

- Volume crime – 'routine' crime that affects the majority of victims, such as burglary, robbery and motor vehicle crime.
- Violent crime, with focus on violence against women and girls and serious youth violence
- Tackling anti-social behaviour

3.5   The SLP report to Committee on 10 September 2014 set out performance against the Lewisham priorities. A further update on the Safer Lewisham Partnership is due at the Committee's meeting on 10 March 2015.

3.6   The fifth London Fire Safety plan was adopted by the London Fire Brigade in early 2014 following a period of consultation. The draft plan set out proposals to close two fire stations in Lewisham, reduce numbers of fire fighters and redeploy some pumping equipment. The adopted version of the plan retained New Cross fire station, but Downham fire station was closed in Spring 2014.

3.7   The fifth London Safety Plan committed to LFB to focusing resources on preventing fires and avoiding unnecessary callouts. It also retained the commitment to maintain attendance times. The target for average attendance times in London is six minutes for a first fire engine and eight minutes for a second fire engine (when required).

3.7   The Committee is responsible for fulfilling all the Council's Overview and Scrutiny functions in relation to crime and disorder as set out in the Police and Justice Act 2006. This includes the power to:

- review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by responsible authorities of their crime and disorder function and to make reports or recommendations to the local authority or the Executive with respect to the discharge of those functions
- the Committee may also make reports or recommendations with respect to any local crime and disorder matter in relation to a member of the authority.

3.8   Lewisham's sustainable communities strategy sets out the borough's intention to be *safer* – where people feel safe and live free from crime, anti-social behaviour and

abuse and *healthy, active and enjoyable* – where people can actively participate in maintaining and improving their health and well-being. The content of this report is in line with these aims.

4. Background

4.1 Emergency services review

At its meeting on 25 February 2013, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee resolved to carry out a review of emergency services in Lewisham. Each select committee carried out scrutiny of different aspects of the borough's emergency services. Committees considered evidence from a range of partner organisations, including:

- housing providers
- the London Ambulance Service
- Lewisham and Greenwich NHS trust
- Lewisham Clinical Commissioning group
- the London Fire Brigade
- Metropolitan Police Service in Lewisham.

4.2 In May 2013 the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee invited borough fire commander John Turner to answer questions about the local impact of the proposals in the fifth London safety plan. It was noted that:

- The LFB had been tasked with reducing its budget by £34.1m. This followed substantial reductions in funding in previous years.
- The LFB had been given a set budget with which to plan and deliver services. The draft fifth London safety plan set out how the LFB might deliver services to Londoners in the most efficient way with that reduced sum of money.
- The LFB maintained its objective of responding to fires within set times. This commitment meant that on average, a first fire engine should be at the scene of a fire within six minutes and a second fire engine (if required) should be at the scene of a fire within eight minutes.
- At the time, average response times for Lewisham were: 4:47 minutes for first fire engine and 6:03 minutes for a second fire engine.
- Modelling carried out for the draft plan indicated that, should the plan be implemented, the London wide average attendance times would be 5:36 minutes for a first fire engine and 6:38 minutes for a second fire engine.
- In Lewisham the times would be 5:18 minutes and 6:15 minutes. (Average attendance times for wards were circulated at the meeting and subsequently made available to Members).
- The draft fifth London safety plan proposed reducing the number of fire stations in London from 112 to 100. Two of the stations proposed for closure were in Lewisham (Downham and New Cross).
- It was also proposed to reduce the number of managers and fire fighters.
- Consultation was being carried out on the proposals.
- The changes placed a greater emphasis on work to prevent fires.
- The LFB strongly supported the implementation of increased fire safety standards and the use of sprinkler systems.
- More work would be done to involve partners in identifying issues, dealing with problems and supporting those most at risk from fire.

4.3 Michael Gallagher, Deputy Borough Police Commander attended the Committee in July 2013 to provide an update on the local policing, the key points to note were:

- Satisfaction levels in Lewisham had shown a marked improvement in the past five years. Satisfaction with local policing was at 78%, up from 52% in 2007.
- However, confidence was currently at 55%, which was low in comparison to other areas.
- The high level of satisfaction in comparison to low levels of confidence indicated that citizens' interactions with the police were positive, but the general feeling in the area about the police's ability to deal with crime was low.
- Satisfaction with policing against key crime types was also measured. The increased focus on burglary might help to improve satisfaction and confidence.
- The quality of local stop and search practices was recognised as being good. The number of searches in comparison to the number of arrests was also good, in proportion to comparable forces. Indicating that the tactics being used by officers were effective.
- Stop and search figures were susceptible to seasonal fluctuations, but they were under constant review.

Changes to safer neighbourhood teams

- There would be three policing 'clusters' in Lewisham, each would comprise of six wards.
- In the existing model officers in safer neighbourhood teams could be moved to other areas, based on local demands.
- Under the new system one officer per ward would be tied to that ward. All others would work in the ward – but might be moved to other areas in the cluster depending on operational requirements.
- Sergeants would deploy officers within the cluster in order to make policing resources more flexible, effective and efficient.
- The area inspector would balance cluster priorities with borough and ward priorities.
- Inspectors would be held accountable for issues in their area.
- Plans may be altered as they were brought in to operation.
- Safer neighbourhood teams would make three promises to wards – these would be SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, time-bound) objectives which were simple, easy to monitor and straightforward to implement.
- SMART objectives would include things like street briefings, meetings, patrols and increased focus on particular crimes.
- Ward panels would remain the same. Ward priorities would feed into cluster priorities.
- There would not be enough police to police every ward all of the time.
- With the extra police available at neighbourhood level, there would be an enhanced role for ward inspectors
- The major crimes unit would still deal with the most serious crimes, but more detection and investigation would happen in neighbourhoods.

Emergency response

- Emergency response teams had a target of 15 minutes for urgent calls and 90 minutes for less urgent calls.
- Emergency calls would remain with those teams but other work currently carried out by emergency response teams would be distributed to other teams. This would include non-urgent detention of suspects and attending minor incidents.
- The number of neighbourhood officers would increase to 129 by 2016, up from 36 in 2007.
- Lewisham was due to have 116 officers in place by 16th September 2013.
- A major recruitment drive was taking place to bring the Lewisham force up to strength.
- A majority of the officers being recruited were drawn from London.

Closure of stations

- Brockley station had already been closed.
- The station had very low foot fall. It was unviable to keep it open for such a small number of visitors.
- Catford Hill station was currently being used as a deployment base. A 24 hour front desk would be opened to the public to serve local people and to replace the services lost at Sydenham station.
- Catford Hill would be a fully operational 24 hour base but it would have no cells and no CID office.
- Catford Hill was a 20 minute walk from Sydenham so it could still serve residents in the south of the borough.
- The local force had no budget for new builds. Any money being allocated for new buildings would be in the form of PFI, which came with its own issues.
- No detailed information was yet available about the contact points being planned for the borough – further information could be made available at future meetings.

4.4 Russell Nyman, Police Borough Commander attended the Committee's meeting on 3 September 2013, the following key points were noted about the local policing model:

- The roll out of the Local Policing Model (LPM) would increase the number of police officers working in the borough.
- The LPM would ensure that officers were accountable for issues from beginning to end. New ways of working would prevent officers from passing their responsibilities on to others, as was sometimes presently the case.
- Shift patterns would change to ensure that there would be wider coverage – including at weekends.
- The MPS had made a commitment that victims of crime would be able to make an appointment with a police officer. Lewisham officers would be required to carry out these appointments.
- There would be one dedicated police officer and one police community support officer for each ward.
- The aim of the LPM was to improve the policing.
- Police officers in the borough would be assigned to three different policing 'clusters' each cluster would contain six wards.

- Current plans for deployment of officers in the clusters was as follows:
    - North cluster – 41 officers
    - South cluster – 41 officers
    - Central cluster – 46 officers
- The central cluster included more officers because this area covered the town centres.
- An inspector for each policing cluster would be accountable for policing priorities and issues in their area.

4.5 Following consideration of the evidence gathered by its select committees, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee made a series of recommendations to the Council and to partner organisations. The Committee asked that the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee revisit a number of the recommendations made in the final report, as follows:

- The decision to close Downham Fire Station leaves some residents, schools and businesses in Lewisham subject to unacceptable average attendance times, and at greater risk. An annual update should be provided by the borough commander on London Fire Brigade targets and performance in the borough.
- The Safer Lewisham Partnership and the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee should annually review if the MPS is on target to achieve the objective of providing 647 police officers in Lewisham by 2015.
- The work of Safer Neighbourhood Teams should be reported to the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee annually, as part of the Safer Lewisham Partnership update.
- Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee should continue to annually review performance information from the Metropolitan Police Service in Lewisham. The information provided to the Committee should include response time performance.

4.6 The borough Police and Fire commanders have been invited to the meeting on 3 February.

4.7 Information from appendix 1 is taken from the London Fire Brigade's incident mapping site. It sets out the most recent publicly available performance information for the fire brigade in Lewisham. The crime figures and confidence data in appendix 2 is taken from the MPS website and the London data store.

6.   Legal implications

6.1 There are no specific legal implications arising as a result of the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

7.   Further implications

At this stage there are no specific financial, environmental or equalities implications to consider.

Background documents

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee minutes 08/05/13
http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=5678

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee minutes 29/07/13
http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=6128

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee minutes 03/09/13
http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=6428

Overview and Scrutiny Committee 14/10/13
http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=119&MId=2917&Ver=4

Emergency Services Review 2013
http://tinyurl.com/oj8d3hz

For further information please contact Timothy Andrew, Scrutiny Manager on 02083147916.

Appendix 1

Incident Mapping text view: All Incidents, Jan 14 - Dec 14

You are in > **London** > Lewisham

Wards in Lewisham

Ward ▲	Count/times	
Bellingham	157	⊕
Blackheath	153	⊕
Brockley	235	⊕
Catford South	116	⊕
Crofton Park	135	⊕
Downham	161	⊕
Evelyn	289	⊕
Forest Hill	198	⊕
Grove Park	168	⊕
Ladywell	139	⊕
Lee Green	118	⊕
Lewisham Central	400	⊕
New Cross	250	⊕
Perry Vale	199	⊕
Rushey Green	228	⊕
Sydenham	156	⊕
Telegraph Hill	162	⊕
Whitefoot	140	⊕

Nearby boroughs

Borough ▲	Count/times
Bromley	2862
Croydon	3606
Greenwich	2691
Lewisham	**3413**
Southwark	4386
Tower Hamlets	4241

Incidents in Lewisham

Data type	Count/times
All Incidents	3413
Fires (Primary)	354
Fires (Secondary)	268
Deliberate Fires (Primary)	55
Deliberate Fires (Secondary)	89
Automatic Fire Alarms	1094
False Alarms (Good Intent)	405
False Alarms (Malicious)	85
Road Traffic Collisions	124
Shut in lift releases	134
Arrival time (1st Fire Engine Arrival)	5 Min 17 Sec
Arrival time (2nd Fire Engine Arrival)	7 Min 10 Sec

Last three months (rolling year) trend

Area	October	November	December
Lewisham	3524	3528	3413
London Average	2951	2917	2883

Annual count/times

Area	2012/13	2013/14
Lewisham	3634	3563
London Average	3174	3091

Ward ▲	Count/times
Bellingham	157
All Incidents	157
Fires (Primary)	19
Fires (Secondary)	23
Deliberate Fires (Primary)	7
Deliberate Fires (Secondary)	6
Automatic Fire Alarms	27
False Alarms (Good Intent)	25
False Alarms (Malicious)	3
Road Traffic Collisions	10
Shut in lift releases	4
Arrival time (1st Fire Engine Arrival)	6 Min 24 Sec
Arrival time (2nd Fire Engine Arrival)	7 Min 32 Sec

Downham	161
All Incidents	161
Fires (Primary)	17
Fires (Secondary)	21
Deliberate Fires (Primary)	3
Deliberate Fires (Secondary)	9
Automatic Fire Alarms	54
False Alarms (Good Intent)	25
False Alarms (Malicious)	3
Road Traffic Collisions	7
Shut in lift releases	0
Arrival time (1st Fire Engine Arrival)	7 Min 12 Sec
Arrival time (2nd Fire Engine Arrival)	8 Min 29 Sec

Grove Park	168
All Incidents	168
Fires (Primary)	14
Fires (Secondary)	20
Deliberate Fires (Primary)	4
Deliberate Fires (Secondary)	5
Automatic Fire Alarms	51
False Alarms (Good Intent)	22
False Alarms (Malicious)	2
Road Traffic Collisions	9
Shut in lift releases	4
Arrival time (1st Fire Engine Arrival)	6 Min 23 Sec
Arrival time (2nd Fire Engine Arrival)	7 Min 53 Sec

Sydenham	156
All Incidents	156
Fires (Primary)	19
Fires (Secondary)	5
Deliberate Fires (Primary)	1
Deliberate Fires (Secondary)	1
Automatic Fire Alarms	36
False Alarms (Good Intent)	25
False Alarms (Malicious)	2
Road Traffic Collisions	8
Shut in lift releases	7
Arrival time (1st Fire Engine Arrival)	6 Min 02 Sec
Arrival time (2nd Fire Engine Arrival)	8 Min 03 Sec

Whitefoot	140	⊖
All Incidents	140	
Fires (Primary)	18	
Fires (Secondary)	21	
Deliberate Fires (Primary)	5	
Deliberate Fires (Secondary)	5	
Automatic Fire Alarms	34	
False Alarms (Good Intent)	18	
False Alarms (Malicious)	3	
Road Traffic Collisions	6	
Shut in lift releases	1	
Arrival time (1st Fire Engine Arrival)	7 Min 10 Sec	
Arrival time (2nd Fire Engine Arrival)	8 Min 09 Sec	

Latest Crime Figures for Lewisham

Metropolitan Police online http://tinyurl.com/p92t5s4

Number of Offences	12 months to December 14 (year)		12 months to December 13 (year)	
	Lewisham	Met Total	Lewisham	Met Total
Total Crimes	21,755	700,221	22,867	710,691
Homicide	4	94	4	109
Violence Against the Person (Total)	6,976	186,767	6,021	148,104
Rape	226	4,943	170	3,795
Other Sexual	342	8,855	272	6,972
Robbery (Total)	797	22,597	1,287	30,002
Robbery (Person)	739	20,944	1,172	27,961
Robbery (Business)	58	1,653	115	2,041
Burglary (Total)	2,333	76,354	3,303	87,681
Burglary Residential	1,649	49,082	2,537	56,610
Burglary Non-Residential	684	27,272	766	31,071
Gun Crime	71	1,601	118	1,736
Motor Vehicle Crime	2,088	74,432	2,343	84,672
Domestic Crime	2,546	64,554	2,136	52,660
Racist & Religious Hate Crime	353	11,430	318	9,370
Homophobic Crime	50	1,481	62	1,101
Anti-Semitic Crime	0	358	1	162
Islamophobic Crime	13	611	17	549

Neighbourhood Confidence and Crime Comparator

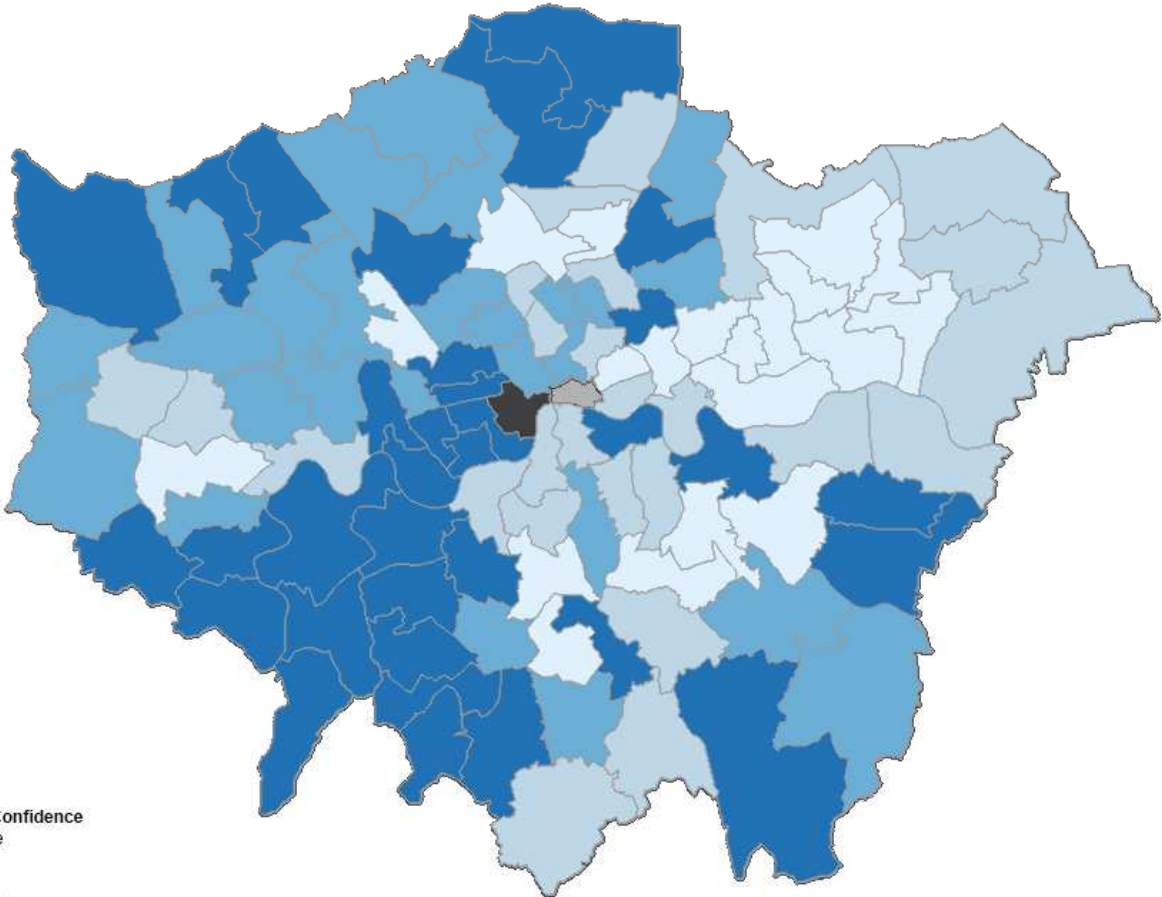(data for: October 2012 - September 2014)

Neighbourhood Tool | Background | Profiles | Help | Feedback

Show results in a table

Lewisham ▼
Select a Neighbourhood ▼

Please click on the map or use the drop down list (above) to select a Neighbourhood

CONFIDENCE %　　　　　　　　　　　**CRIME RATE**

Overview	Engagement	Other	Other	
Confidence	Understanding	Fair treatment	Communication	TNO
Sample Size	Dealing	ASB	Policing presence	MOPAC 7
	Friendly	Safety	Wellbeing	

MAYOR OF LONDON

OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

GLA INTELLIGENCE UNIT

Neighbourhood Confidence
- Highest Quartile
- (London)
- Lowest Quartile