

## NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF SCRUTINY PANEL 1- HATE CRIME

Monday, 6 February 2012

**COUNCILLORS PRESENT:** Councillor Brendan Glynane (Chair), Councillors Tony Ansell and Beverley Mennell

**Officers**

Bill Edwards	Neighbourhoods, Licensing and Support Team Leader
Debbie Ferguson	Safer Stronger Partnership Manager
Tracy Tiff	Overview and Scrutiny Officer
Joanne Birkin	Democratic Services Officer

#### 1. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence from the meeting was received from Councillor Dennis Meredith.

#### 2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2012 were approved and signed by the Chair.

#### 3. DEPUTATIONS/PUBLIC ADDRESSES

There were none.

#### 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING)

There were none.

#### 5. CHAIR'S DRAFT REPORT.

The Scrutiny Panel considered the Chair's draft report.

The main points of discussion were as follows: -

- That the inclusion of details of intervention needed to be incorporated into the management of the hate crime process, as intervention details would not be known at reporting stage.
- The Hate Crime Champion should be included in the reporting process and the approach to Partners concerning the most effective way of ensuring hate crime reporting across Agencies.
- Annual refresher training on Hate Crime should be for relevant frontline staff only.
- The draft recommendation on the issues regarding taxis and private hire vehicles is an operational matter and therefore will be pursued by officers

**AGREED**

- (1) That the recommendations of the final report be confirmed as attached as Annex 1 to the minutes.
- (2) That the report of Scrutiny Panel 1 (Hate Crime) be presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2012. The report will then be presented to Cabinet at its meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2012.

The meeting concluded at 6:25 pm

## Recommendations to Cabinet

- 6.1 That Scrutiny Panel 1, Hate Crime, recommends to Cabinet:
- 6.1.1 That details of intervention be incorporated into the case management of the hate crime process.
- 6.1.2 That Cabinet instructs Officers to publish an Annual Report of Hate Crime Reporting. The Annual Report should include:
- Overview of reported hate crime over the 12 month period
  - Information and statistics around the incidents of hate crime.
  - Map of hot spots of incidents of hate crime
- 6.1.3 That the Council's Awareness Training on the reporting of Hate Crime be an integral part of the Councillor Induction Programme and refresher training be programmed into Councillor Development Programme on an annual basis.
- 6.1.4 That the Council's Awareness Training on the reporting of Hate Crime be an integral part of the Staff Induction Programme. Cabinet instructs that annual refresher training is held for all relevant front line staff.
- 6.1.5 That Northampton Borough Council appoints a Councillor as a Hate Crime Reporting Champion.
- 6.1.6 That the Leader of the Council, together with the Councillor Hate Crime Reporting Champion, approaches Partners regarding the most effective way of ensuring hate crime reporting across Agencies.
- 6.1.7 That the Councillor Champion contacts the Keep Safe Group regarding potential opportunities where the Key Safe Group could work with the Council and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 6.1.8 That to increase awareness in communities of hate crime/incidents and how to report, alternative methods of publicising reporting of hate crime mechanisms be introduced, such as, being included at events held at public locations, information provided to various community groups and organisations, details in the local media.
- 6.1.9 That in May 2013 a case study be prepared on the process and effectiveness of the changes that have been made to Hate Crime reporting.
- 6.1.10 That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as part of its monitoring regime, reviews the progress and impact of this report after six months.