

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Your attendance is requested at a meeting to be held in The Jeffrey Room,
The Guildhall, St. Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE on
Monday, 10 November 2014 commencing at 6:00pm

D Kennedy
Chief Executive

If you need any advice or information regarding this agenda please phone Tracy Tiff, Scrutiny Officer, telephone 01604 837408 (direct dial), email ttiff@northampton.gov.uk who will be able to assist with your enquiry. For further information regarding **Overview & Scrutiny Committee** please visit the website www.northampton.gov.uk/scrutiny

Members of the Committee

Chair	Councillor Jamie Lane
Deputy-Chair	Councillor Brian W Sargeant
Committee Members	Councillor Tony Ansell Councillor Rufia Ashraf Councillor Michael Ford Councillor Brendan Glynane Councillor Elizabeth Gowen Councillor Anna S King Councillor Phil Larratt Councillor Matthew Lynch Councillor Nilesh Ramesh Parekh Councillor Suresh Patel Councillor Sivaramen Subbarayan Councillor Winston Strachan

Calendar of meetings

Date	Room
26 January 2015 6:00 pm 23 March	All meetings to be held in the Jeffrey Room at the Guildhall unless otherwise stated

Northampton Borough Council Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Agenda

Item No and Time	Title	Pages	Action required
1 6:00pm	Apologies		Members to note any apologies and substitutions
2	Minutes	1 - 5	Members to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2014.
3	Deputations/Public Addresses		<p>The Chair to note public address requests.</p> <p>The public can speak on any agenda item for a maximum of three minutes per speaker per item. You are not required to register your intention to speak in advance but should arrive at the meeting a few minutes early, complete a Public Address Protocol and notify the Scrutiny Officer of your intention to speak.</p>
4	Declarations of Interest (Including Whipping)		Members to state any interests.
5 6:05pm-6:50pm	Monitoring of the implementation of the accepted recommendations contained in the Overview and Scrutiny reports:		
5 (a) 6:05pm	Serious Acquisitive Crime, Violent Crime and Community Safety	6 - 19	
5 (b) 6:20pm	Improving the Town's Parks	20 - 40	
5 (c) 6:25pm	Infrastructure Requirements and S106 Agreements	41 - 45	
6 6:50pm	Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Performance	46 - 51	The Chair of the CSP to provide a progress report on the levels of performance.
7 7:10pm	Performance Management Scrutiny		<p>The Overview and Scrutiny Committee to undertake performance management scrutiny:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESC01 Total bins/boxes

Northampton Borough Overview & Scrutiny Committee

			<p>missed in period</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESC02 missed bins corrected within 24 hrs of notification
8 7:25pm – 7:35pm	Scrutiny Panels		The Overview and Scrutiny Committee to receive a progress report from the three Scrutiny Panels.
8 (a)	Scrutiny Panel 1 - Interpersonal Violence	52 - 53	
8 (b)	Scrutiny Panel 2 - Poverty in the Town	54	
8 (c)	Scrutiny Panel 3 - Keep Northampton Tidy	55 - 56	
9 7:35pm	Overview and Scrutiny Reporting and Monitoring Working Group	57 - 60	The Committee to approve the Terms of Reference of the Overview and Scrutiny Reporting and Monitoring Working Group for 2014/2015.
10 7:40pm	Report back from NBC's representative to NCC's Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee		Councillor Matt Lynch to provide an update on the work of NCC's Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee.
11 7:45pm	Potential future pre decision scrutiny	61 - 64	The Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider any potential issues for future pre decision scrutiny.
12 7:50pm	Urgent Items		This issue is for business that by reasons of the special circumstances to be specified, the Chair is of the opinion is of sufficient urgency to consider. Members or Officers that wish to raise urgent items are to inform the Chair in advance.

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Monday, 8 September 2014

COUNCILLORS PRESENT:	Councillor Lane (Chair), Councillors Brian Sargeant (Vice Chair), Councillors Tony Ansell, Rufia Ashraf (substitute for Joy Capstick), Mick Ford, Elizabeth Gowen, Phil Larratt, Lee Mason, Suresh Patel and Winston Strachan	
	Councillor Mary Markham Councillor Tim Hadland	Cabinet Member (Housing) Cabinet Member (Planning, Enterprise and Regeneration)
Officers	Glenn Hammons Phil Morrison Tim Bruce Tracy Tiff Nicola Brindley	Head of Corporate Finance Assistant Head of Finance Interim Asset Strategy and Technical Services Manager Scrutiny Officer Democratic Services Officer
Observer	Tom Appleyard	

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Sivaramen Subbarayan, Nilesh Ramesh Parekh, Anna King and Joy Capstick.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2014 were agreed as a true record.

3. DEPUTATIONS/PUBLIC ADDRESSES

There were none.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING)

Councillor Jamie Lane declared an interest in item 6 as a member of the Planning Committee.

Councillor Mick Ford declared an interest in item 6 as a member of the Planning Committee.

Councillor Lee Mason declared an interest in item 6 as a member of the Planning Committee and Item 5 as a member of the ALMO Shadow Board.

Councillor Suresh Patel declared an interest in Item 10 as a Northamptonshire County Council Cabinet Member for Adult Care Services.

5. ALMO

Glen Hammons, Head of Corporate Finance, addressed the Committee and presented a briefing with regards to the ALMO and how the Housing Revenue finances worked into the General Housing Fund. There was also an introduction on Northampton Partnership Homes and the forthcoming changes.

Phil Morrison presented a report and in response to a question confirmed that the CCTV monitoring costs were included in the figures. He confirmed that the General Fund changes were reviewed annually and audited by external auditors. The level of charges was set by the Chief Finance Officer.

Northamptonshire Partnership Homes were managing the HRA account and the General Fund Account.

Agreed: That the report be noted.

6. NORTHAMPTON BUS TERMINAL

Councillor Tim Hadland addressed the Committee and confirmed that there had been a delay in installing the permanent barriers but this work was due to start in the week commencing 22nd September and the sandbags be removed. The heating and cooling system would be installed in October and the extension and end panels for the Drapery would be installed in the next few weeks. Victoria Street toilets would be presented to the Planning Committee on the 13th September and installed thereafter as well as extending and widening the shelters in Victoria Street.

In response to a question, Councillor Hadland confirmed the installation of the heating and cooling system should be minimal disruption to the public.

Councillor Phil Larratt confirmed that he represented the south of the town and was pleased to hear that the shelters would have ends on them but wanted clarification on whether they were full or half ends and he had also received complaints from his constituents about the amount of time they had to spend on the bus before they were able to be let off. There needed to be a drop off point sooner.

Councillor Tim Hadland confirmed that there were footpath restrictions but would make the shelters as big as possible. They would review different solutions for a new drop off point for his constituents and would keep Councillor Phil Larratt informed of the progress.

In response to a question, Councillor Tim Hadland confirmed that planning consent was required for the toilets in Victoria Street and the length of the shelters would be double the length they were now.

Councillor Tony Ansell noted that there had been a smashed window in the bus station and there did not seem to be any maintenance carried out on the building. He considered that it was badly thought out from start to finish and had created a lot of criticism and hoped the railway station did not follow suit.

Councillor Tim Hadland confirmed that any large change would encounter teething problems and comments. The demolition on the Greyfriars site would start soon and would progress on the development of Northampton. In response to a question, Councillor Tim Hadland confirmed the sequence of the lights in the area had been designed to keep the buses moving although some people would cross the road regardless.

Councillor Jamie Lane confirmed that Northamptonshire Police had sent a letter to the Committee in response to queries raised at the previous meeting and he informed of the key points contained within the letter which had suggested an ANPR camera be situated at the bottom of the Drapery which would issue fixed penalty notices to drivers to stop them driving up there.

Councillor Phil Larratt suggested that S106 monies could be used to purchase a camera for the bottom of the Drapery and on St Giles Square to stop people going the wrong way.

Agreed: That the report be noted.

7. NBC OWNED STREET LIGHTING

Councillor Mary Markham, Cabinet Member for Housing, presented a report on NBC owned street lighting and confirmed that all the work had been completed and they had reviewed all lights even those on adopted roads. Work was ongoing with Balfour Betty and they had a business plan in place for the maintenance of the lights.

Councillor Phil Larratt thanked Councillor Mary Markham and staff for their work. He was pleased that they had identified 359 lights owned by NBC.

In response to a question from Councillor Phil Larratt, Tim Bruce, Interim Asset Strategy and Technical Manager confirmed that they had walked the estates and temporary marked the lampposts which were NBC owned. They used a numbering system and put an aluminium strip on it with an ID number. They would use a GIS system to identify where the lamppost was and deal with it. They would investigate as to whether they could bring some of the lights up to an adoptable standard and then ask NCC to maintain them.

Councillor Phil Larratt confirmed that there was scope for the number of lights to be reduced by using modern and brighter lights which would still provide adequate lighting.

Tim Bruce confirmed that he would circulate the report of where the lampposts were to the members. They would be in the public domain although there was no timetable for that as yet.

In response to a question from Councillor Winston Strachan, Tim Bruce confirmed that some roads on the estate had not been adopted and would ensure that the roads and lights were in the strategy although it might take some years to deliver.

He confirmed that garage sites needed good lighting and if the demand for garages were high then the lighting would go with them. He confirmed that they were unable to identify how many NBC lights were switched off by NCC.

Agreed: The report be noted and the document detailing the location of NBC street lighting be circulated to the Committee.

8. SCRUTINY PANELS

8.A SCRUTINY PANEL 1 - IMPACT OF THE WELFARE REFORM ACT

Councillor Lee Mason presented a report on the Welfare Reform Act which was due to be received by Cabinet on 12 November 2014. She confirmed that there had been a considerable impact on people as their expenses had increased while their wages had not. They had received more telephone enquiries and the Discretionary Housing Payments had helped elevate some problems. Some people were unable to move as there were not

enough two bedroom properties and there were also school issues. Some people had lost their benefits and had to wait up to a year to get them reinstated.

They had received evidence from local voluntary organisations on the reforms and had dedicated resources to help people do things online. The Universal Credit would be reviewed in the future and there were concerns with delays and the Department of Work and Pensions. There had been an increase by four times for people going to a food bank and the need increased during the summer holidays. Evidence had been shared with the Poverty Panel.

Councillor Jamie Lane confirmed that he and Councillor Lee Mason would present the report to Cabinet.

Agreed: That the report be approved and presented to Cabinet at its meeting on 12th November 2014.

9. SCRUTINY PANEL 1 -INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE

Councillor Jamie Lane confirmed that Scrutiny Panel 1 was still at the early evidence stage and would meet next week, on the 18th September. The work of the Panel would conclude in March 2015.

Agreed: That the update be noted.

10. SCRUTINY PANEL 2 - POVERTY IN THE TOWN

Councillor Elizabeth Gowen confirmed that they were gathering evidence and at the next meeting would be devising the core questions to be put to the key expert advisors at future meetings.

Agreed: That the update be noted.

11. SCRUTINY PANEL 3 - KEEP NORTHAMPTON TIDY

Councillor Tony Ansell confirmed that their next meeting would be on 17th September 2014 in the Court Room at 6pm. He acknowledged the success of the "Report It" App. He had joined people in the town on a walkabout clean up and had found a large number of cigarette butts. He confirmed that the litter pickers were doing an excellent job and 86 fixed penalty notices were given out last year. Site visits would be carried out with similar towns e.g. Peterborough and Walsall. There had been 2.6 million incidents of fly tipping nationally and half of them were reported to be in alleyways.

Agreed: That the update be noted.

12. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY REPORTING AND MONITORING WORKING GROUP

Councillor Jamie Lane confirmed that the membership of the Working Group would be kept the same although Councillor Brian Sargeant would also be added. They were now meeting on 2nd October at 5.30pm to set the terms of reference of the Working Group for 2014/2015.

13. REPORT BACK FROM NBC'S REPRESENTATIVE TO NCC'S HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The briefing paper was noted.

It was agreed that Councillor Lee Mason would attend the next meeting if she was available to.

14. POTENTIAL FUTURE PRE DECISION SCRUTINY

There were none.

15. URGENT ITEMS

There were none.

The meeting concluded at 7:12 pm

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

ACTION PLAN: SCRUTINY PANEL 1

Recommendations from Scrutiny Panel (1 – Serious Acquisitive Crime, Violent Crime and Community Safety) completed in April 2013.

Proposed dates for monitoring implementation of accepted recommendations

Report received by Cabinet	Response received by Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Monitoring activity	Monitoring complete
17 July 2013	7 April 2014	10 November 2014	

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Recommendation 1: A funding pot is identified to provide target hardening for properties that are located within hot spot areas.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by:	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Funding bid made to PCC's 'Local Solutions' funding pot	Community Safety Manager	Officer time, funding agreed	April 2014	Completed – funding pot of £25k granted for 2014/15. In addition to this £50k pot for 'Weeks of Action' activity agreed.

Recommendation 2: Northampton Borough Council ensures active engagement with the Troubled Families Agenda.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Inter-departmental group established, and engagement/activity taking place	Debbie Ferguson	Officer time	October 2013	Completed - regular data updates received and shared. Flagging process in place on internal systems. Group meets on quarterly basis
Recommendation 3: Prior to any physical works being undertaken, consideration to long-term maintenance is given and resources identified				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Incorporate future maintenance into project planning	All officers	Officer time & budget to support proposals	October 2013 & ongoing	Completed - Now forms part of all project planning
Recommendation 4: Councillors are issued with regular updated information on the demographics of their wards.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
All Councillors to be given access to the 'Northamptonshire	Community Safety Data Analyst	Officer time	May 2015	Pages currently being worked on. Training on use of system will be provided to all Councillors. In the interim

Analysis' system				Councillors can access crime data for their area on the Northants Police website
Recommendation 5: Obsolete signs in place around the Council's housing stock are removed and all relevant signage is in situ and is clearly visible.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Review all existing signage	Housing	Officer time	October 2013	Completed - There are no issues highlighted at present, all signage is relevant and appropriate. Regular reviews form part of an ongoing process.
Recommendation 6: An enhanced and responsive maintenance service is implemented in "hotspot" areas.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Establish approach/process	Housing	Existing budget	October 2013	Ongoing - This approach has been broadened to provide a borough-wide enhanced service to victims of crime, thereby ensuring that tenants who do not live in hot spot locations are not disadvantaged. Incorporated in Decent Homes work. Links with CSP 'Weeks of Action'. Direct referrals to Property Maintenance for target

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				hardening of high risk domestic violence victims properties.
Recommendation 7: A funding pot is identified to provide target hardening on Council properties that are located within hot spot areas				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Target Hardening approach to be agreed and implemented for NBC Housing areas	Housing, supported by Community Safety	Budget to support initiative	April 2014	Outstanding - Target Hardening scheme will be progressed by Housing for 2014/15 in partnership with Community Safety.
Recommendation 8: It is ensured that when land or buildings is transferred, it is stipulated that the land must be cleared and properly secured.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Requirement for security of land is implemented	Planning/Regeneration	Officer time	October 2013	Completed - If land is sold it can include positive obligations to fence, but it will be difficult to enforce. It is even more difficult (unless land is 'transferred' under a lease) to enforce obligations for land clearance and keeping land clear. Therefore, it may prove difficult to enforce any positive obligations attached to a sale of land. Due to this each case

				is monitored and dealt with on a case by case basis.
Recommendation 9: Consideration is given to utilising unused open spaces in residential areas across the town for public use.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Process for assessing open spaces is put in place.	Planning/Regeneration	Officer time	October 2014	Completed - Site audits are carried out on any unused open space to determine if appropriate for public use.
Recommendation 10: Planning continues to work with and seek advice and guidance from the Police Architectural Liaison Officer to ensure new developments meet 'Design out Crime' standards.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Formalise working arrangements between Planning and Police ALO	Planning/Police	Officer time	October 2013	Completed – Been in place since 2006. Planning continue to work closely with the Police Architectural Liaison Officer on new developments in the Borough and this will continue. Officer spends one day a week at NBC.

Recommendation 11: Clarification is given on the role of the Neighbourhood Wardens. This information is disseminated to ward Councillors.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Information distributed to Councillors	Environmental Health Manager	Officer time	April 2014	Completed – information distributed to Councillors
Recommendation 12: Neighbourhood Wardens undertake annual refresher training on crime prevention matters.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Refresher training for Wardens completed	Environmental Health Manager	Officer time	April 2014	Completed – refresher training on various topics taken place and will now become part of an ongoing programme. Accreditation training took place for newer wardens in early October 2014.
Recommendation 13: An on-going professional training and development plan, with specific focus on crime prevention and community safety, for Neighbourhood Wardens is produced and implemented				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
As per recommendation 12	As per recommendation 12	As per recommendation 12	As per recommendation 12	As per recommendation 12

Recommendation 14: Following completion of projects in hotspot locations, an exit plan is developed outlining support and maintenance post project, in order that the positive results are maintained.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Process is put in place	Community Safety Team	Mainstream funding within existing budgets	October 2013	Completed - This forms part of the core process for Community Safety Partnership activity when delivering projects.
Recommendation 15: On-going maintenance budgets are included with any environmental improvements such as fencing.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Mainstream budgets identified	Community Safety Team	Mainstream funding within existing budgets	October 2013	Completed - This forms part of the core process for Community Safety Partnership activity when delivering projects.

Recommendation 16: A directory for young people is developed that provides information on services and facilities available to young people.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Directory for professionals developed	NCC	Officer time	April 2014	Completed- Northamptonshire County Council Community Safety Team have developed a directory that links in with the Troubled Families agenda.

Recommendation 17 There is timelier sharing of data from Accident and Emergency with the Community Safety Partnership. This means weekly highlight reports and full details on a monthly basis.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Data sharing process between agencies agreed	Public Health	Officer time	April 2014	Completed – weekly highlight data being provided to CS Data Analyst and reports provided to relevant officers. Partners have agreed to quarterly and annual detailed reports.

Recommendation 18 A mechanism is introduced to ensure that the Health and Wellbeing Board can provide information and feedback to the Community Safety Partnership (CSP).				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Mechanism in place	Health & Wellbeing Board	Officer time	April 2014	Outstanding
1. Recommendation 19: Membership of the CSP be revisited to ensure that it includes all relevant Agencies and service areas, including the Voluntary Sector.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
CSP Membership reviewed and updated	Community Safety Partnership Chair/Community Safety Partnership Manager	Officer time	April 2014	Completed – membership has been reviewed and updated to include relevant agencies both strategically and operationally

Recommendation 20 When training/education around crime prevention issues is undertaken, consideration is always be given to the audience and the trainer is mindful to use appropriate language that is universally understood.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Approach towards	Community Safety Partnership	Officer time	April 2014	Completed – flagged with all

training/education to be agreed				partner agencies and approach agreed
Recommendation 21 Information systems between the Police and local Councillors are reviewed and further developed.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Information exchange is further developed and implemented	Community Safety Partnership & Police	Officer time	April 2014	Completed - Briefings to local councillors on crime issues and local information is available on request from local Safer Communities Policing Teams. Crime data is available on police website Access to the 'Northamptonshire Analysis' system, with training in its use is being arranged for April/May 2015 for all Councillors.
Recommendation 22: Support is given to the Intensive Community Engagement programme hosted by Northamptonshire Police.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Intensive Community Engagement project is supported by NBC	Police / relevant NBC dept	Officer time and existing budget	April 2014 & ongoing	Completed and ongoing – NBC officers are supporting programmes as and when

officers				implemented. Currently supporting Blackthorn project.
Recommendation 23 Formal links between Enterprise Management Services (EMS) and Northampton Borough Council are developed around situational crime to ensure faster information sharing and faster responses to dealing with service issues, therefore resulting in a positive outcome for the community.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Process for information sharing and response to issues implemented	Community Safety Manager / ESP Unit	Officer time	April 2014	Completed - Links have been established through Environmental Services Partnership Unit. Excellent support provided for CSP 'Weeks of Action'
Recommendation 24 Residents Associations, Community Groups and Forums are encouraged to use open spaces which in turn will assist in community development and ownership of their local areas.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Consultation process for Forums & Community Groups in place	Community Forums	Officer time	April 2014	Completed - See recommendation 9. Any consultation with Residents Associations, Community Groups and Forums are being progressed by the Partnerships and Communities

				team.
Recommendation 25: A programme of works on the priority locations identified by Northampton Borough Council is built into the Community Pay Back Initiative.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Process agreed to ensure delivery of projects	Community Safety / Probation	Officer time & CSP funding to support projects	April 2014	Completed – agreed process in place between Probation and NBC, Community Safety
Recommendation 26 A copy of this report is provided to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Northamptonshire.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Provide copy of report to PCC	Overview & Scrutiny Officer	Officer time	April 2014	Completed - copy of report has been sent to the Police and Crime Commissioner

Recommendations to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee				
Recommendation 27 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee be asked to consider the inclusion of a Scrutiny Review of Interpersonal Violence in its Work Programme for 2013/2014.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
The Overview and Scrutiny Work Programming event 2013 agreed that it was not timely for this review to take place in 2013/204 – it was forwarded the O&S Work Programming event 2014 and a Scrutiny Review was included onto the O&S Work Programme for 2014/2015	Included within the O&S Work Programme 2014/2015 – Scrutiny Panel 1 (Interpersonal violence)	-	The Review will be completed and have reported to the O&S Committee by March 2015	Review commenced
Recommendation 28: The Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as part of its monitoring regime, reviews the impact of this report in six months' time.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed

Included onto the O&S Monitoring Work Programme 2014/2015	Added to the O&S Monitoring Work Programme - Overview and Scrutiny Committee	n/a	Monitoring to take place in November 2014	
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NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

ACTION PLAN: SCRUTINY PANEL 1

Recommendations from Scrutiny Panel (1 – Improving the Town’s parks) completed in January 2014.

Proposed dates for monitoring implementation of accepted recommendations

Report received by Cabinet	Response received by Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Monitoring activity	Monitoring complete
12 March 2014	7 April 2014	10 November 2014	

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Recommendation 1: Communication with Friends Groups is enhanced by improved links with Northampton Borough Council’s webpage and Groups’ webpages, coupled with improved communications with Enterprise Management Services (EMS); such as the of maintenance schedules for parks.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by:	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
To improve communications with Friends Groups by improving links with NBC and Groups’ webpages. Improve	The Community Development Officer/Manager will update the NBC website for the Park Management Committees / Groups / Friends Of, etc, and will including links to individual sites.	NBC Website NBC Officer Time Park Management Committees	Ongoing	Completed

communication links with EMS regarding the maintenance schedules for parks	Enterprise Managed Services (EMS) work to their contractual specification, which is output based, so there isn't any schedules except the seasonal change overs from grass cutting, shrub pruning, pitch maintenance, etc.	EMS contractual obligations	Ongoing	Completed
<p>Recommendation 2: A programme of community events is produced in association with all stakeholders, published on the Council's webpage and promoted to the community.</p>				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
To produce a programme of community events in association with all stakeholders to be published on the Council's webpage and promoted to the community.	The formation of the Parks Management Committees enables all users to be aware of future events on individual parks and promote them through their own groups to their local communities; including the use of their own individual websites. NBC Events will promote big events through the Council's website.	Management Committees NBC Officer Time NBC Website Individual Group Websites	Ongoing	Completed

Recommendation 3: Information relating to facilities available in the town's parks is accessible on the Council's webpage.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Review the facilities in the town's parks and ensure the information is accessible on the Council's webpages.	The Parks Management Committees make their own decisions on the facilities within their own local parks. These are then promoted in the same way as in recommendation 2. Abington Park , Becketts Park, Delapre Park, The Racecourse – updated on the Council's web pages www.northampton.gov.uk/parks	Parks Management Committees NBC Officer Time NBC Website Individual Group Websites	Ongoing	Completed
Recommendation 4: A uniform on-line booking process for sports pitches and events is introduced.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Implement an improved booking process for NBC's Parks and Open spaces.	Access to booking the parks facilities has been made easier by introducing online and over the phone card payments.	NLT Staff Time NBC Officer Time	Ongoing	Completed

Recommendation 5: The town's parks are clearly identifiable on Internet search engines, such as Google, and highlighted as points of interest on satellite navigation software, such as Garmin and Tom Tom.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Ensure the towns parks are identified on internet search sites.	Search engines, such as Google, are locating the parks, if searched for. The information on the webpages are kept up to date as recommendations 1 & 2	NBC Officer Time NBC Website Individual Group Websites	Ongoing	Completed
Recommendation 6: Obsolete signs, in place around the town's parks, are removed and all relevant signage and visitor information is in situ clearly visible.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Remove obsolete signs around the town's parks. Review visitor signage around the parks.	Park Management Committees are now identifying obsolete signs and requesting new or additional signs through the Community Development Officer/Manager and the Council's Partnership Unit	Park Management Committees NBC Officer Time	Ongoing	There is an ongoing plan to install welcome signs at all the town's parks and where ever else is practical, interpretation boards to be installed that identify features of the Park.

Recommendation 7: The Highways Agency and the Highways Authority is asked to update its brown tourist signage that details points of interest across the town; specifically ensuring that signage for the town's parks is clear.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
NCC Highways to be asked to update its brown tourist signs and also to increase the number of brown tourist signs to point visitors to local parks that are currently not sign posted	Park Management Committees / Groups / Friends Of, to identify areas where they would like to see brown tourist signs located. This needs to be discussed at their meetings and feedback given to the Community Development Officer/Manager	Park Management Committees NBC Officer Time NCC Highways (Funding Required)	2015	
Recommendation 8: The Scheme "Dog Watch" organised by Northamptonshire Police is promoted.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Promote the scheme "Dog Watch" Issue or fit "Dog Fouling" signs at	Park Management Committees to discuss at their local meetings on how each Committee wishes to take this action forward with the Police.	Park Management Committees / Groups / Friends Of NBC Officer Time		

parks that request them.	<p>Community Development Officer/Manager to take forward their actions</p> <p>The NBC Partnership Unit has recently fitted or given a number of dog fouling signs to Park Management Committees, who have requested them.</p>			
Recommendation 9: Cabinet is asked to ensure that where appropriate, initiatives and ideas from parks are monitored in order for them to be mirrored in others.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Cabinet is asked to ensure initiatives and ideas are mirrored in other parks	<p>The newly formed Park Management Committees all meet twice a year to discuss each other's achievements / initiatives / ideas, etc.</p> <p>Community Development Officer/Manager to take forward their suggestions.</p>	<p>Park Management Committees</p> <p>NBC Officer Time</p>		Completed

Recommendation 10: Appropriate sources of funding are identified for the restoration and contingency of scheduled monuments.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Identify funding for the restoration and contingency of scheduled monuments.				
Recommendation 11: Lighting and footpaths are well maintained in the town's parks and upgraded where necessary.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Assess lighting/footpaths in the towns parks Maintain as necessary	Most of the footpaths in the parks have recently been surveyed by NBC. There have been a large number of repairs carried out in 2013/14. The NBC Partnership Unit is responsible for the upkeep of the parks internal footpaths that belong to NBC (some of the internal footpaths are NCC). A	Park Management Committees / Groups / Friends Of NBC Officer Time		

	<p>set budget is set aside each year for the maintenance and repairs. The budget is limited, so priority must be given to footpaths that have become a potential hazard.</p> <p>The above also applies to the lighting in the parks – So belong to NBC and some belong to NCC. The ownership is normally established as and when a fault is reported by the Park Management Committee or member of the public.</p>			
Recommendation 12: Footpaths are installed in the town's smaller parks to improve disabled access.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Install footpaths in the towns smaller parks to improve disabled access	There is a set budget for maintenance and repairs to the NBC owned footpaths in the parks. There isn't a budget for new footpaths. To introduce new footpaths in to parks funding would have to be sourced. Park Management	Park Management Committees / Groups / Friends Of NBC Officer Time (Funding Required)		

	Committees / Groups / Friends Of, would need to seek grants with the help of the Community Development Officer/Manager.			
Recommendation 13: Responsibility for the bridle way that runs through West Hunsbury Country Park is clarified.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Find out who is responsible for the maintenance of the bridle way that runs through West Hunsbury Country Park	The bridle ways through the park belong to NCC (HW14, HW15 & HW13) – This can also be seen on NCC’s interactive mapping at http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/Pages/HomePage.aspx	N/A	N/A	N/A
Recommendation 14: The mowing schedule for West Hunsbury Country Park and Cherry Orchard, Hardingstone, clearly states that the whole area is not to be mowed, only the informal walkways.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Review the mowing schedule for West Hunsbury Country Park, Cherry	EMS cut the grass normally from February to September, but this is dependent on the seasonal weather, as the grass	NBC Officer Time (Funding Required)		

Orchard and Hardingstone	cutting could be slightly extended or shortened. However, the EMS contract is output based and the contractors will only cut the grass when it has reached a certain length. There would be a cost to NBC should we increase the frequency of grass cutting outside of the scope of the contract. The contract is monitored by the Partnership Unit.			
Recommendation 15: The pond in Ecton Brook Pocket Park is cleaned out and the condition of other water features in the town's parks is assessed and appropriate action taken.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Review the pond in Ecton Brook Pocket Park and assess the condition of other water features in the town's parks and ensure appropriate action	Funding needs to be sourced to task Asset Management with the job to find a surveyor / consultant to carry out the necessary tests and work, if required.	NBC Officer Time (Funding Required)		

is taken.				
Recommendation 16: Where present in the town's parks, hard standing tennis courts are refurbished				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Refurbish the hard standing tennis courts where present in the towns parks	All the parks tennis courts have been refurbished this financial year (2014/15).	Partnership Unit Asset Management	June 2014	Completed Abington, Kingsthorpe Rec, Racecourse, Becketts Park
Recommendation 17 Where possible, litter and dog bins are located side by side in the town's parks.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Locate litter and dog bins side by side in the towns parks	When new litterbins are required at park locations, every effort should be made to locate them near dog bins, where practicable. Example, a play area will need a litterbin, but it would not be practicable to put a dog waste bin next to it. The dog waste bin	Park Management Committees / Groups / Friends Of NBC Officer Time (Funding Required)		

	would need to be near the park exit. It would not be cost effective to have an additional litterbin just to meet this requirement. The requests from the Park Management Committees / Groups / Friends Of would normally go through the NBC Partnership Unit.			
Recommendation 18 Bins with lids/slots are installed in some parks, such as West Hunsbury Country Park, to prevent wildlife accessing the contents of the bins.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
In relevant parks install bins with lids/slots	All litterbins that are now purchased are closed top and normally have a cigarette tray on the top. To purchase and install a litterbin costs approximately £500. EMS will only replace a litterbin, at their cost, if it has been damaged beyond repair. Funding would be required to replace any litterbins that are not damaged. Replacements for damaged litterbins are normally done	EMS Partnership Unit (Funding Required)		Enterprise to be advised that when new or replacement bins are installed they should be the Derby type.

	directly by EMS. Additional litterbin requests are managed through the NBC Partnership Unit.			
Recommendation 19: Picnic areas and permanent hard standings for BBQs are installed in some of the town's parks, together with litter bins and measures to prevent fire and damage.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
<p>Install picnic areas and permanent hard standings for BBQs</p> <p>Install litter bins and measures to prevent fire and damage</p>	<p>The matter has been discussed by Park Management Committees. Some trial sites have been suggested, however not all practical due to constraints on land use. Suitable trial sites to be identified by Park Rangers over winter 2014/15 and trial to commence in Spring 2015 with a view to wider installation</p>	<p>NBC Officer time</p> <p>Materials (slabs, bins and fire protection measures)</p>	<p>Sites to be identified by 31 March 2015 for installation during April.</p> <p>Trial to be carried out April – July</p> <p>Decision about further installation during summer 2015</p>	<p>Identification of trial sites</p> <p>Installation of slabs and bins</p> <p>Completion and evaluation of trial</p> <p>Decision on whether to install areas on a wider basis.</p>

Recommendation 20 A set standards for the provision of toilet facilities within the town's parks is introduced.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Identify the set standard for the provision of toilet facilities within the town's parks.	<p>EMS are contracted to clean and maintain a cleansing standard, as per contractual agreement.</p> <p>NBC Asset Management are responsible for maintaining the infrastructure of the buildings, fixtures and fittings, etc.</p> <p>The Partnership Unit is responsible for the monitoring of the contractors cleansing.</p>	<p>EMS</p> <p>NBC Officer Time</p>		
Recommendation 21 The opening times of the toilet facilities within the town's parks are advertised.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Advertise the opening times of the toilet facilities within the town's parks	There are only three public toilets in the town's parks. Two at Abington Park and one in Delapre Abbey. The one in Delapre Abbey is managed by			Abington Park toilets

	<p>the Friends Of Delapre Abbey.</p> <p>One of the two toilets in Abington Park, near the play area, is 24 hours. The other toilets in Abington Park are near the bowling greens, which has seasonal opening hours.</p> <p>Partnership Unit are currently revising these hours and once agreed will arrange for opening times to be erected at both locations.</p>			
Recommendation 22: A funding pot is identified to be allocated to Community Groups that maintain toilets within their local park.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Allocate funding to Community Groups to maintain toilets within their local park	Racecourse toilets, within the Pavilion are being made available to the public, being co-ordinated by the Umbrella Fair Organisation, utilising Volunteers	Umbrella Fair Organisation	End of November 2014	FODA took over the toilet facilities at Delapre Abbey

Recommendation 23 In order to make contact with the Park Rangers easier, a central office, located close to the town's Parks, or the provision of regular advertised surgeries in the park is provided.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Display of contact information for Park Rangers Provision of regular surgeries Investigation into development of suitable Park Ranger Office	Notice boards with Ranger contact numbers have been installed at Abington Park and numbers provided on information boards at other parks. Rangers have begun a programme of regular surgeries and dog walker cafes around parks, details are advertised in parks and on NBC website. To date no suitable location of park ranger officer has been found	Notice boards Officer time	Boards in place Surgeries etc ongoing	Provision of boards. Organisation and publicity of surgeries
Recommendation 24 Administrative support is provided for the Park Rangers to enable them to spend more time in the town's parks.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Develop measures to allow Rangers to	Rangers have been provided	Officer time	Initial measures in	Analysis of ranger working patterns to be completed in

maximise the amount of time spent on parks	<p>with remote access to emails.</p> <p>Measures to allow remote website access are being investigated.</p> <p>Tasks undertaken have been streamlined to minimise time required to be spent in office.</p> <p>Team meetings are often held in parks.</p>		<p>place Spring 2014</p> <p>Further work to streamline processes is ongoing</p>	Spring 2015.
Recommendation 25: Contact details and a report of the activities of the Park Rangers are published on the Council's webpage and promoted to all stakeholders.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Website content updated to include Ranger Contact details, information about their roles and reports of activities	Content on website updated by Rangers and Departmental web author	Officer time	By end Nov 2014	Website content updated and kept under review.

Recommendation 26 The role of the Park Ranger is clarified and details disseminated to all stakeholders.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Information on Ranger role to be added to website and shared with Park Management Committees	Details of Ranger role added to website and rangers attend management committees to give report on activities	NBC officer time	Web content to be updated by end Nov 2014 Reports to committees ongoing	Website content updated and kept under review.
<p>Recommendation 27 The key roles of the Park Management Committees includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Producing, implementing and maintaining Management and Action Plans • Park management • Monitoring role • Organising events and activities • Oversee the maintenance of parks • Provide support to voluntary groups • To seek and maintain funding for the parks, where appropriate, work with Friends Groups in securing external funding • Promoting of the park and its facilities • Create Strategies for the local management of the parks, linking to the Council's wider policies and strategies • Debating issues, such as how volunteers in the town's park can work alongside the maintenance contract • A listening role • Intelligence gathering <p>The Scrutiny Panel highlights the need for meaningful and outcome driven terms of reference for the Park Management Committees and has produced a draft terms of reference, as attached at Appendix (i) for Cabinet's consideration.</p>				

Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
	Each of the Park Management Committees have used the draft terms of reference as a starting point to agree their own Terms of Reference, all match very closely to appendix (i)	NBC Officer time		
Recommendation 28: In addition to Park Management Committees, an annual Park Forum is held.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
	A meeting has been held with the Cabinet Member, Cllr Hallam and the Chairs of the Park Management Committees to discuss common problems and strategic issues across the parks. These meetings will be held twice yearly.			Meeting held, to continue to be held twice a year.
Recommendation 29: Membership of the Park Management Committees consists of around ten members, typically drawn from representatives from:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friends Groups • Ward Councillor(s) • Parish Council representatives where appropriate • Park User Group representatives and individuals that manage areas of parks • Park users • Park personnel 				

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people representatives • Representatives from Agencies • Representative from Enterprise Management Services (EMS); for example, Manager/Team Leader • Representative from Northampton Borough Council • Representatives from Sports Clubs • Residents' Associations 				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
	<p>Across the Park Management Committees representation of the above groups is starting to be established.</p> <p>The police are attending meetings which is proving useful. Unfortunately Amey have yet to attend any of the parks meetings.</p>	Input from the organisations listed above		Attendance at the meetings continues to be good, a number of partners and stakeholders are attending with an interest in the parks.
Recommendation to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee				
Recommendation 30: The Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as part of its monitoring regime, reviews the impact of this report in six months' time.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Included onto the O&S Monitoring Work Programme 2014/2015	Added to the O&S Monitoring Work Programme - Overview and Scrutiny Committee	n/a	Monitoring to take place in November 2014	

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

ACTION PLAN: SCRUTINY PANEL 3

Recommendations from Scrutiny Panel (3 – Infrastructure Requirements and Section 106 Agreements) completed in June 2013

Proposed dates for monitoring implementation of accepted recommendations

Report received by Cabinet	Response received by Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Monitoring activity	Monitoring complete
17 July 2013	7 April 2014	10 November 2014	

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Recommendation 1: The Scrutiny Panel formally informs Cabinet that it is satisfied that the infrastructure requirements are identified in the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy Infrastructure Delivery Plan up to 2026.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by:	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
The report of the O&S Committee was submitted to Cabinet in July 2013 informing it of recommendation 1.	Reported to Cabinet - 17 July 2013	n/a	Reported; 17 July 2013	Complete

Recommendation 2: Infrastructure cannot be totally funded through Section 106 Agreements or Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). Cabinet investigates other funding sources to meet the funding gap of £439.6 million.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
An infrastructure funding gap of £150.7m has been identified across West Northamptonshire, (Northampton Borough contributes £44m to this overall figure). Active funding approach required.	Infrastructure Steering Group consisting of senior Officers representing West Northamptonshire Councils with a remit to report direct to individual Borough/District Councils Cabinets in respect of strategic infrastructure issues.	Officer resources in place. Funding requires ongoing awareness and application of opportunities that arise.	Ongoing	
Recommendation 3: It is ensured that the North West Bypass is fully funded and built, when required, to serve new developments and that appropriate arrangements are agreed with South Northants Council and Daventry District Council to ensure funding CIL infrastructure is given priority across the partnership.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Requires: Adoption of CIL	Infrastructure Steering Group and Charge Setting Working	Phase 1 developer provide (A428 to	2014	

charging schedules. Agreed governance and spending remit operating across the Charging Authorities of West Northamptonshire	Group Planning and Development Management Teams within West Northamptonshire, as appropriate, including NCC (Highways).	Grange Farm) £11.3m* Phase 2 developer/NCC (Grange Farm to A5199) £16.3m* *Figures as contained in 2013 IDP update.	2021	
Recommendation 4: Section 106 Agreements and CIL contribute to improvements to the Strategic Highways Network via the A45/M1 Growth Management Strategies.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Memorandum of Understanding drawn up to be signed off by West Northamptonshire Councils and the Highways Agency.	Memorandum drawn up through Transport Officers Steering Group. NCC acts as banker/project manager. Programme Board acts as project sponsor.	£12.4m scheme Circa £1.8 m contributions achieved to date	2015/16 delivery of first scheme.	
Recommendation 5: Cabinet satisfies itself that the introduction of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) will not have an adverse impact on the				

provision of affordable housing; whilst recognising that the existing S106 Policy allows for flexibility in accordance with Government Policy.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
CIL Examination will assess viability in respect of the proposed CIL charging rates.	Charging Authorities of NBC/DDC and SNC	Existing Officer resources. CIL receipts from 2015/16 onwards.	April 2015	
Recommendation 6: Cabinet recognises that the introduction of CIL will have corporate implications and these must be identified and addressed.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Working Groups set up to oversee implementation and collection of CIL, comprising West Northamptonshire	Charge Setting Working Group to drive forward implementation of CIL Collection Group to take forward the collection of CIL receipts.	Charge Setting Working Group officer resource in place. Collection Group will draw on existing council resources	April 2015 for implementation.	

council officers.		including revenues and benefits in respect of collection.		
Recommendation to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee				
Recommendation 7: The Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as part of its monitoring regime, reviews the impact of this report in six months' time.				
Action	Implementation/responsibility by	Resources required/available	Target date	Achievement/Completed
Included onto the O&S Monitoring Work Programme 2014/2015	Added to the O&S Monitoring Work Programme - Overview and Scrutiny Committee	n/a	Monitoring to take place in November 2014	

Northampton Borough Council Overview and Scrutiny



Overview and Scrutiny Committee

10 November 2014

Briefing Note – Crime & Disorder, Overview & Scrutiny

Summary

On the 3 February 2011 it was agreed that as part of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee role, that in meeting their responsibilities under the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009, a bi annual report from the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) would be provided. The report would focus on the levels of CSP performance and whether crime has increased in the light of reduced resources, and if so what measures have been taken to meet any shortfall in performance. The report was to advise the Committee of work undertaken, thereby informing Overview and Scrutiny of further review or scrutiny that may be required.

Community Safety Partnership – Performance Overview

The CSP continue to prioritise issues that are most likely to affect people in their day to day lives, including violent crime, anti-social behaviour, domestic burglary and vehicle crime, ensuring that our town and communities are safe places in which to live and enjoy themselves.

Performance overall has been mixed for the first 6 months of 2014/15, continuing to achieve reductions in some crime types but seeing reduced performance in others. The partnership continues to see good reductions in Serious Acquisitive Crime (SAC). There is a small reduction in recorded Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), and victim satisfaction for the ASB Unit is exceeding targets, but there has been a small increase in reported criminal damage. However, overall crime and specifically violent crime have seen increases.

Actual Performance – April 2014 to September 2014

Overall crime has seen an increase in the first 6 months of 4.7% taking the CSP off target for this priority.

Overall crime is used as a proxy measure for crime relating to drugs and alcohol misuse. There's been an increase of 4.7% (+771 crimes) from the baseline in all

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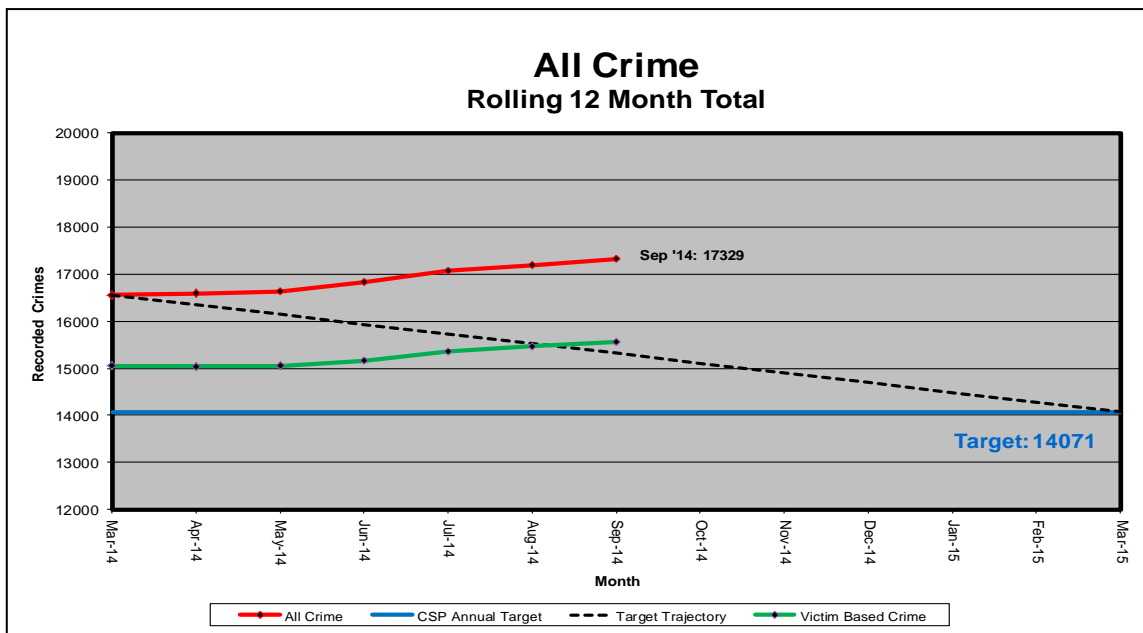
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Northampton Borough Council Overview and Scrutiny

crime. When comparing September 2013 to 2014, there has been a decrease of 6.0%. There have been increases in six of the crime types (table below) from the 2013/14 baseline figures, particularly vehicle interference and all sexual offences, increasing by 28.7% & 21.0% respectively. The largest reduction continues to be theft from person, which has reduced to -22.6% (-129 crimes).

Victim based crime has been shown in the graph below, to illustrate the changes in crime which closer aligns with CSP work, and the symptoms of alcohol & drug abuse. This crime group has also seen an increase of 3.4% (+512 crimes). Comparative performance for the last 12 months shows a 7.1% reduction.

Other Victim Based Crime Types (12 Month Rolling Total)		
Crime Type	% Change 2014-15	Vol Change 2014-15
ARSON	-7.6%	-7
NON-DOMESTIC BURGLARY	-1.7%	-19
CRIMINAL DAMAGE	2.6%	66
ALL SEXUAL OFFENCES	21.0%	65
ROBBERY	2.7%	9
SHOPLIFTING	-2.7%	-51
VEHICLE INTERFERENCE	28.7%	29
CYCLE THEFT	7.3%	35
THEFT FROM PERSON	-22.6%	-129
ALL OTHER THEFT OFFENCES	1.5%	31



Northampton has seen a 25.1% increase in **violence offences** (+731) from the baseline. This increase can be seen across all sectors. There has been a 15.4%

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increase in violence against the person in comparison to September last year (+487). Assault with & without injury accounted for 87% of violence offences in September. It is important to note that the recording method for violent crime was reviewed and changed in April 2014. This has in part contributed towards the increases seen, and is reflected nationally.

Serious Acquisitive Crime has continued on a downward trend, reducing by 8.5% from the baseline (-251 crimes). There has been a 27.4% reduction in SAC when comparing September this year to last year. The CSP remains on target to reach a 16% reduction from the 2013/14 baseline. Of the four crime types, there have been good reductions from the baseline for three. Theft of motor vehicle has seen the largest percentage decrease of -16.3% (-48 crimes), but domestic burglary has seen the largest volume decrease of -138 crimes (-11.8%). Similar reductions can be seen across all sectors. In relation to Police wards Weston (+8.0%), Old Duston (+7.3%) & Nene Valley (+6.1%) have seen the highest percentage increases from the baseline. The most significant percentage decreases can be seen in St James (-34.5%), Lumbertubs (-23.79%) & Headlands (-21.4%).

The CSP aims to reduce actual **Anti-Social Behaviour**, improve public perception of community safety and improve victim satisfaction. Performance of these objectives is monitored using a suite of measures utilising data from Police recorded incidents and crimes, Public Perception Surveys, Victim Satisfaction Surveys and NBC case management systems.

ASB has seen a mixed performance. Police recorded ASB has reduced by -0.5% (-77 crimes). Both environmental and personal ASB continue to reduce from the baseline by -7.7% and -5.1% respectively. Nuisance ASB has increased by 5.2% across all sectors. Criminal damage has increased slightly by 2.6% from the baseline (1.5% last month). In relation to case management by the ASB Unit, 100% of those contacted were satisfied with the service they received.

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Crime Type	2013/14 Baseline	2014/15 Target Reduction	Performance as at 30/09/2014
All crime	16,558 recorded crimes	15%	4.7% increase, +771 crimes from baseline
Violent Crime (including domestic abuse)	2913 recorded crimes	9%	25.1% increase, + 731 crimes from baseline
Serious Acquisitive Crime	2946 recorded crimes	16%	8.5% reduction, -251 crimes from baseline
Criminal Damage	2562 recorded crimes	5%	2.6% increase, +66 crimes from baseline
Anti-social behaviour incidents	15,226 recorded crimes	5%	0.5% reduction, -77 crimes from baseline

Specific pieces of work taking place to address issues of Community Safety and Crime and Disorder are:

- Priority location work in relation to serious acquisitive crime and target hardening for victims of burglary. Main areas for focus are Blackthorn, The Mounts/Abington Square, Spring Boroughs/Semilong, Spencer/St James. .
- Three Partnership 'Weeks of Action' focusing on crime, anti-social behaviour and environmental issues have already been held. These weeks have resulted in over 1,100 face to face interactions with local residents, 147 Home Fire Safety Checks and the removal of over 34 tonnes of waste.
- Community Payback have undertaken 8 specific projects and also supported work during all three 'Weeks of Action'.
- Specific multi-agency focused work on alcohol related violent crime. Closer working between Police, NBC and NGH looking at frequent flyers.
- Development of Alcohol Outreach project for street drinkers and rough sleepers in partnership with the Bridge Project.
- Target Hardening of properties at risk of burglary continues. As at 30/09/2014 75 properties have had improved security measures implemented
- Target hardening for victims of Domestic Abuse being provided. As at 30/09/2014, 46 victims have received security improvements to their home.
- Street Football continues in hot spot locations, with 13 weekly 2 hour sessions

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Northampton Borough Council Overview and Scrutiny

taking place.

- School Pastors have been launched at Northampton Academy, with regular patrols taking place on Thursdays' and pastoral support being provided as and when required.
- Castle Community Hub has been re-opened (formerly known as Community Café), headed up by the local Police Sector, NBC Wardens and Housing. To date over 150 residents have utilised the resource.
- Killing with Kindness campaign continues, raising awareness around street begging issues, and encouraging people to donate to local charities who provide support for this group.
- Specific events held at University of Northampton and Northampton College, providing crime prevention and personal safety advice, support and guidance to students. Security marking of property was also undertaken.
- Implementation of a Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) in Kingsthorpe/St David's.
- Work on anti-social behaviour cases continues with 4 orders being secured to date.
- Junior Warden's scheme continues, with a further 2 primary schools taking part and one planned for January.
- Fifth year of Best Bar None - 20 licensed premises achieved accredited status this year.
- Funding has been allocated to domestic abuse support agencies to provide counselling and support for victims, perpetrators and their families.

Partnership Weeks of Action

Partnership Weeks of Action continue to be a key delivery model in priority locations. Five priority locations have been identified by the CSP as high in Serious Acquisitive Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour. The areas also mirror the authority's hotspots for fly-tipping and other social disorder.

During the weeks a number of coordinated partnership activities take place across each of the areas which included:

- Crime prevention advice and home security advice
- Rubbish removal and community clean-up activities
- Community Payback carrying out landscaping improvements and other clean-up activities

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- Fire Service carrying out Home Fire Safety checks and fitting smoke alarms
- Target hardening and home security improvements by Care & Repair
- Housing enforcement activity
- Police enforcement activity
- Community and Youth engagement/activity

Conclusion

The Community Safety Partnership is seeing mixed results against the targets compared to 2013/14 performance. Good reductions in Serious Acquisitive Crime continue, with excellent partnership work to further improve this. There are issues around increases in overall crime and specifically violent crime, but it is felt that the change in national recording has contributed towards this. Nevertheless, the CSP do take this increase seriously, and are looking at all factors to ensure an effective multi-agency approach is taken in addressing the matter.

Brief Author: Debbie Ferguson, Community Safety Partnership Manager on behalf of Leader of the Council, Cllr David Mackintosh – November 2014

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NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

10 November 2014

BRIEFING NOTE:

SCRUTINY PANEL 1 – INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Since the last meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, two further evidence gathering meetings of the Scrutiny Panel have taken place.

2 UPDATE

- 2.1 At the meeting of the Scrutiny Panel held on 18 September 2014, the Panel confirmed its core questions to be put to expert advisors and set its schedule of site visits, which includes a visit to Women's Aid and a Refuge, observing a MARAC conference and a visit to the Sunflower Centre.

- 2.2 Further background papers were received by the Scrutiny Panel:

- Various published reports and information from a number of Government Organisations, Groups and Academics
- Australian White Ribbon Campaign and the No Way Project
- Statistical data

- 2.3 At the meeting held on 23 October 2014, the Scrutiny Panel received a collective response to its core questions from:

- The Leader of the Council, Northampton Borough Council (NBC), the Chair, Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and the Cabinet Member (Housing), NBC

- 2.4 Further evidence gathering meetings of the Scrutiny Panel are scheduled, the next meeting will be held on 4 December 2014.

- 2.5 It is envisaged that the review will conclude in March 2015; with the report of the Scrutiny Panel presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting scheduled for 23 March 2015.

3 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 That the update is noted.

Author: Tracy Tiff, Scrutiny Officer, on behalf of Councillor Jamie Lane , Chair, Scrutiny Panel 1 – Interpersonal Violence

24 October 2014



**NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

10 November 2014

BRIEFING NOTE:

SCRUTINY PANEL 2 - POVERTY IN THE TOWN

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Since the last meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, a further evidence gathering meeting of the Scrutiny Panel has taken place.

2 UPDATE

- 2.1 At the meeting of the Scrutiny Panel held on 11 September 2014, Councillors received a number of key research papers, together with details of relevant legislation:

- Child Poverty Act 2010
- Child Poverty Strategy 2014-2017

- 2.2 The Chair of Scrutiny Panel 1 (Impact of the Welfare Reform Act) presented the final report of this review to the meeting; highlighting relevant key findings and conclusions.

- 2.3 The Scrutiny Panel confirmed its list of core questions that it will put to a variety of key expert advisors.

- 2.4 Further evidence gathering meetings of the Scrutiny Panel are scheduled. The next meeting will be held on 19 November 2014.

- 2.5 It is envisaged that the review will conclude in March 2015; with the report of the Scrutiny Panel presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting scheduled for 23 March 2015.

3 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the update is noted.

Author: Tracy Tiff, Scrutiny Officer, on behalf of Councillor Elizabeth Gowen, Chair, Scrutiny Panel 2 – Poverty in the Town

12 September 2014



NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

10 NOVEMBER 2014

BRIEFING NOTE:

SCRUTINY PANEL 3 – KEEP NORTHAMPTON TIDY

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Since the last meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, two evidence gathering meetings of the Scrutiny Panel have taken place.

2 UPDATE

- 2.1 At the meeting held on 17 September 2014, the Chairman confirmed the list of core questions that he would put to expert advisors and set its schedule of site visits to Peterborough and Market Harborough. The Scrutiny Panel agreed that it would undertake a walkabout of Northampton. An informative presentation on the "[Report It](#)" app. was given to the meeting. A briefing paper detailing relevant Planning Legislation in respect of littering and fly tipping was received.
- 2.2 At the meeting held on 22 October 2014, the Scrutiny Panel received a response to its core questions from:
- The Cabinet Member (Environment) (NBC)
 - The Environmental Services Manager (Environmental Protection) and Neighbourhood Wardens, NBC
- 2.3 A briefing note detailing best practice elsewhere was also received by the Scrutiny Panel.
- 2.4 The Chairman of the Scrutiny Panel undertook a walkabout of Northampton on Tuesday, 21 October 2014. There is a site visit to Peterborough and Market Harborough scheduled for Tuesday, 28 October 2014. The findings from the site visits will be reported to a future meeting of the Scrutiny Panel.
- 2.5 Further evidence gathering meetings of the Scrutiny Panel are scheduled, the next meeting will be held on 26 November 2014.

2.6 It is envisaged that the review will conclude in March 2015; with the report of the Scrutiny Panel presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting scheduled for 23 March 2015.

3 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 That the update is noted.



NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

10 November 2014

BRIEFING NOTE: REPORTING AND MONITORING WORKING GROUP

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee set up the Reporting and Monitoring Working Group to:

- Review the revenue budget proposals and the Council's medium term financial plans.
- Recommend a short list to Overview and Scrutiny for detailed consideration.
- Consider suggestions from the public and other Councillors for items to be included in the short list for scrutiny.

1.2 Membership of the Working Group comprises Councillor Jamie Lane (Chair); Councillors Brendan Glynane, Nilesh Parekh, Suresh Patel, Brian Sargeant and Sivaramen Subbarayan.

1.3 At the first meeting of the Working Group on 2 October 2014, Councillors agreed the Terms of Reference; a copy is attached at Appendix A for the Committee's approval.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 A similar Working Group met in previous years with comparable Terms of Reference. Overview and Scrutiny found it helpful for a small Working Group of Councillors to take a brief overview of all the budget proposals and bring a small selection to the Committee for detailed scrutiny.

2.2 Based on the selection of items short listed by the Working Group,

relevant Directors and Heads of Services will then be asked to attend a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 26 January 2015 to answer the questions that the Working Group has put forward on the selected proposals.

- 2.3 The budget item historically led to lengthy debate on all items whether large or small, controversial or not, and this approach, used in recent years, has helped Overview and Scrutiny to focus on key areas.
- 2.4 As appropriate, the Chair of the Reporting and Monitoring Working Group will provide written updates of the progress of the Group to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

3 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee approves the Terms of Reference of the Reporting and Monitoring Working Group, as attached at Appendix A.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

REPORTING AND MONITORING WORKING GROUP

Terms of Reference for 2014/15

1. Purpose/Objectives of the Review

The purpose of the Working Group is:

- To review the revenue budget proposals and the Council's medium term financial plans.
- To recommend a short list to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for detailed consideration.
- To consider suggestions from the public and other Councillors for items to be included in the short list for scrutiny.

2. Outcomes Required

- The production of a short list of revenue budget items for closer consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- To reflect the medium term approach being taken to financial planning.

3. Timetable

2 October 2014	Agree Terms of Reference
5 January 2015	Budget Review
26 January 2015	Report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

4. Responsible Officers

Lead Officer - Glenn Hammons, Head of Finance and Chief Finance Officer
Phil Morrison, Assistant Head of Finance

Co-Ordinator - Tracy Tiff, Scrutiny Officer

5. Resources and Budget

Glenn Hammons, Head of Finance and Chief Finance Office, and Phil Morrison, Assistant Head of Finance, to provide internal advice.

6. Final report presented by:

Presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 26 January 2015.

7. Monitoring procedure

Continuous, ongoing monitoring process by means of updates to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.



Northampton Borough Council

(Section 5 & 9 of The Local Authorities – (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012)

Decision Maker: [Cabinet](#)

Directorate:	Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning
Report of:	Director of Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning
Public or Private	PUBLIC
Expected Date of Decision:	12 November 2014
Title of Expected Decision	Community Infrastructure Levy
Record of the expected decision to be made:	<p>🔑 Cabinet is expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the responses made to the public consultation exercise for the Draft Charging Schedule. • Determine the way forward in respect of the introduction of CIL within West Northamptonshire.

Directorate:	Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning
Report of:	Director of Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning
Public or Private	PUBLIC
Expected Date of Decision:	12 November 2014
Title of Expected Decision	Houses in Multiple Occupation Interim Planning Policy

Where indicated a decision or part of a decision may be made in Private – details regarding this can be found by [clicking here](#). Anyone wishing to make representations that this matter should be discussed in public, should do so by not later than 12 Calendar Days prior to the meeting, using the details below:
 The Monitoring Officer c/o The Guildhall, St Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE or
 email: democraticservices@northampton.gov.uk

	Statement
Record of the expected decision to be made:	<p>🔑 Cabinet is expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the responses made to the public consultation exercise • Approve any proposed changes to the Interim Panning Policy Statement • Approve the adoption of the Statement

Directorate:	Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning
Report of:	Director of Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning
Public or Private	PUBLIC
Expected Date of Decision:	12 November 2014
Title of Expected Decision	Disposal of land at Westbridge Depot
Record of the expected decision to be made:	<p>🔑 To seek authority in principle to the grant of contractually binding agreements to sell or grant long leases of land and property within Westbridge Depot.</p>

Directorate:	Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning
Report of:	Director of Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning
Public or Private	PUBLIC
Expected Date of Decision:	12 November 2014
Title of Expected Decision	Strategic acquisition of Town Centre property
Record of the expected decision to be made:	<p>🔑 To seek authority in principle to purchase property.</p>

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Directorate:	Chief Executive
Report of:	Chief Executive
Public or Private	PUBLIC
Expected Date of Decision:	12 November 2014
Title of Expected Decision	Asset Management Strategy
Record of the expected decision to be made:	🔑 To approve the Housing Asset Management Strategy

Directorate:	Chief Executive
Report of:	Chief Executive
Public or Private	PUBLIC
Expected Date of Decision:	12 November 2014
Title of Expected Decision	ALMO set up- Approval of the Management Agreement
Record of the expected decision to be made:	🔑 To approve the Management Agreement that details the relationship between Northampton Borough Council and Northampton Partnership Homes in anticipation of NPH going live on 5 th January 2015.

Directorate:	Chief Executive
Report of:	Chief Executive
Public or Private	PUBLIC
Expected Date of Decision:	12 November 2014

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Title of Expected Decision	Finance and Performance Report to 30th September 2014
Record of the expected decision to be made:	☞ That Cabinet review the report and appendices and take appropriate action for any issues identified or recommended.

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