

Subject: Police and Crime Committee Work Programme

Report to: Police and Crime Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 20 September 2018

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

1.1 This report sets out progress on the Police and Crime Committee's work programme.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the Committee notes the progress on its work programme, as set out in the report.**
- 2.2 **That the Committee delegates authority to its Chairman, in consultation with the party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, to agree an Annual Report summarising the work of the Committee over the past year.**

3. Background

- 3.1 The Committee's work programme is intended to enable the Committee to effectively fulfil its roles of holding the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) to account and investigating issues of importance to policing and crime reduction in London. The Committee's work involves a range of activities, including formal meetings with MOPAC, the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) and other stakeholders, site visits, written consultations and round table meetings.
- 3.2 The Committee will usually meet twice a month. One of the monthly meetings is usually to hold a question and answer (Q&A) session with the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime. The Commissioner of the MPS has been invited to these meetings. The Committee will primarily use Q&A meetings to investigate topical issues and review MPS performance, including consideration of MOPAC's approach to holding the MPS to account.
- 3.3 The Committee's other monthly meeting is used to consider a particular topic or aspect of policing and crime in greater detail. These investigations will be conducted either by the full Committee or working groups. Working groups will have delegated authority to prepare reports on the Committee's behalf in consultation with party Group Lead Members. Full reports will be approved and published by the full Committee.

4. Issues for Consideration

- 4.1 The work programme has been designed to proactively examine issues of interest but also allows for flexibility to respond to topical issues and for the Committee to react to MOPAC's work programme. Topics will be added to the timetable for Q&A meetings as they arise.
- 4.2 The remainder of the Committee's meetings in the 2018/19 Assembly year are set out below.

| Month | Q&A Session | Thematic Topic |
|----------------------|--|--|
| October 2018 | Thursday, 4 October 2018 Wednesday, 31 October 2018 (second Q&A) – Q&A with the Victims' Commissioner | Tuesday, 16 October 2018 Volume crime |
| November 2018 | Thursday, 29 November 2018 (second meeting in November) | Monday, 19 November 2018 at 2pm (changed from 14 November at 10am) |
| December 2018 | No Q&A | Wednesday, 12 December 2018 |
| January 2019 | Thursday, 10 January 2019 | Wednesday, 23 January 2019 |
| February 2019 | Wednesday, 6 February 2019 | Wednesday, 13 February 2019 |
| March 2019 | Wednesday, 6 March 2019 | Wednesday, 20 March 2019 |

Tackling the rise of violent crime in London

- 4.3 On 15 May 2018, the Committee agreed that its initial priority for the 2018/19 Assembly year would be to undertake a scrutiny investigation on tackling the rise of violent crime in London, reflecting the deep concern that Londoners have for this issue. The Committee allocated its thematic meeting slots in May, June and July 2018 to undertake work on that scrutiny. The Committee will use this meeting to hold a discussion on the emerging findings from that investigation. The report at **Agenda Item 5** gives more information on this matter.

Volume crime

- 4.4 In the year to July 2018, the seven most common crimes in London—such as burglary, car theft and robbery—made up nearly half of all recorded crime.¹ The most commonly recorded 'volume' crime in the capital is burglary. The number of these crimes has been rising in recent years, in line with

¹ From June 2017 to May 2018, MOPAC's priority crime types accounted for 45.0% of all crime recorded by the Met. Source: MOPAC, Report to the Police and Crime Committee, 4 July 2018

most other crimes and with comparable force areas. At the same time, the MPS's sanction detection rates are falling.

- 4.5 The current Police and Crime Plan puts in place a new system of agreeing local priorities to tackle these types of crime at a borough level. In addition to having sexual violence, domestic abuse, child sexual exploitation, weapon-based crime, hate crime and antisocial behaviour as mandatory priorities, each borough is expected to choose two local priority crimes based on local knowledge, crime data and police intelligence.²
- 4.6 The Committee is planning to look at the early impact of boroughs prioritising certain volume crimes. It also hopes to look at the impact that changes to the reporting and investigation of volume crime have had on victims, the public, and the police themselves; and how MOPAC and other stakeholders can better enable the MPS to tackle volume crime, for example in partnership with victims and communities. It is proposed to use the Committee's thematic meeting slot on 16 October 2018 to support the Committee's scrutiny investigation of this topic. At its meeting on 5 September 2018, the Committee delegated authority to the Chairman, in consultation with party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, to agree the terms of reference and scoping for this investigation.

Site visits

- 4.7 From time to time the Committee undertakes site visits to support its work. The Committee undertook a site visit to Birmingham on 7 September 2018 to observe Birmingham's model for tackling violent crime. The Committee met with the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner and his team, West Midlands Police, community representatives and students, to talk about the causes of violence and potential solutions. The report at **Agenda Item 4** gives more information on this matter.

Police and Crime Committee Annual Report

- 4.8 The Committee undertook a great deal of work in the 2017/18 Assembly year, which was summarised in the work programme report to the Committee's meeting on 21 March 2017. Last year, the Committee produced an Annual Report of its work in 2016/17 and it is proposed to produce a short report this year summarising the Committee's work in 2017/18, which can be sent to stakeholders. It is recommended that the Committee delegate's authority to the Chairman in consultation with the party Group Lead Members and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, to agree the report.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Committee has the power to do what is recommended in this report.

² MOPAC, [A Safer City for All Londoners: Police and Crime Plan 2017-2021](#), March 2017

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications to the Greater London Authority arising from this report.

List of appendices to this report: None

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| Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 |
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| List of Background Papers: None |
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