

**MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE COMMITTEE  
HELD ON  
TUESDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2021**

**THIS MEETING WAS LIVE STREAMED AND CAN BE VIEWED HERE:**

<https://youtu.be/-pHoLwqTb08>

**Chair:** Cllr Clare Potter in the Chair

**Councillors in Attendance:** Cllr Ajay Chauhan, Cllr Humaira Garasia, Cllr Clare Joseph, Cllr M Can Ozsen, Cllr Penny Wrout, Cllr Steve Race and Cllr Vincent Stops

**Apologies:** Cllrs Hanson and Rathbone.

**Officers in Attendance:** Rabiya Khatun (Governance Services Officer)  
Gerry McCarthy (Head of Community Safety, Enforcement and Business Regulation)  
Josephine Sterakides (Senior Lawyer - Public Realm and Litigation)

**Also in attendance:** Cllr Susan Fajana-Thomas

**1. Apologies for Absence**

- 1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Rathbone and Hanson
- 1.2 Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Race.
- 1.3 Councillors Spence and Bell joined the meeting remotely at 19.00 hours.

**2. Declarations of Interest - Members to declare as appropriate**

- 2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

**3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

- 3.1 **RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the previous meetings held on 29 June 2021 be agreed as a correct record of the proceedings.

## Matters Arising

The Head of Community Safety, Enforcement and Business Regulation reported that the Local Authority's resources had been diverted to respond to Covid-19, which had impacted on food safety inspections. There were 450 inspections overdue, 280 inspections completed in June 2021 and further inspections due to be completed in March 2022.

Head of Community Safety, Enforcement and Business Regulation reported that the closure of the courts had affected the Service's prosecutions. Since the courts had reopened, high priority had been given to CPS cases with delays continuing in the Council's prosecutions such as anti-social behaviour and fly tipping. There had been a few cases that had proceeded to the courts and warrants were still being granted to enter properties. Members noted the backlog in prosecutions since Covid-19 and requested that the Chair liaise with the Cabinet Member for Community Safety, LGA, and the Mayor's Officer about making representations to the Ministry of Justice about addressing the delays in hearing Council prosecutions at courts. The Chair indicated that an update would be provided at the next meeting.

### 4. Annual Performance Report Of The Noise Service 2020

4.1 The Head of Community Safety, Enforcement and Business Regulation introduced the item setting out the annual performance report in relation to noise nuisance for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January-31<sup>st</sup> December 2020. An update was provided on the volume of noise complaints, a breakdown of the individual types of noise within the Service's workload, including Temporary Event Notices.

4.2 The key areas were highlighted:

- There had been a rise in residential noise as more people remained home during the pandemic;
- Fix My Street had been adapted after the system had been affected by the Council's cyber attack;
- Temporary Event Notices (TEN) continued to place significant demand on existing resources. Representations were being made to increase the fees for a TEN application due to the additional work it generated;
- Since June 2021 there had been a rise in Temporary Event Notice applications following a significant fall during the Covid-19 restrictions;
- There were no statistics for October 2020 due to the cyber attack;
- A rise in noise emanating from construction sites.

4.3 Following the introduction, Members asked a number of questions relating to the report and the Head of Community Safety, Enforcement and Business Regulation replied:

- The Head of Community Safety, Enforcement and Business Regulation would discuss with the Chair of Licensing Committee the proposal of producing a public schedule of the TEN applications received for each ward within Hackney;
- The service had two teams of officers to meet the demands of the outside hours service and to follow up residents' complaints on the day of the complaint. Calls were triaged and there was also an online system to report noise nuisance with sufficient resources in place. Members could email any cases that required action;
- With regard to the issues raised about the out of hours service, Head of Community Safety, Enforcement and Business Regulation indicated that he would provide statistics on the number of calls answered and not answered over a period of approximately seven months at the next meeting;

**ACTION:** Head of Community Safety, Enforcement and Business Regulation to provide statistics on the out of hours calls service

- With regard to construction noise following approval of S61, the Head of Community Safety, Enforcement and Business Regulation stated that the Council had 28 days to make a decision and that consent was automatically granted after 28 days. Companies were required to notify residents of the length and dates of the work and noted a Member's concern that construction noise impacted on residents living in areas building more new developments such as Hoxton; and
- Residents could report any issues on the Fix My Street, which was now a fully developed reporting system.

**RESOLVED:**

**The content of the Annual Performance Report was noted together with the level and the scope of work being carried out to meet the requirements of the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)**

**5. Annual Report Of Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) 2020, previously Designated Public Public Places (DPPO)**

5.1 The Head of Community Safety, Enforcement and Business Regulation introduced the report setting out the Borough-wide Designated Public Place Order (DPPO). He explained that the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 automatically transitioned the DPPO into a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) on 20 October 2017 and that this was required to be reviewed every three years. The PSPO expired on 19 October 2020.

5.2 The following key areas within the report were highlighted:

- Alcohol related anti-social behaviour;
- Summary of street drinking calls; and
- The Council had an outreach team and programmes, and had created a Street User Officer post to support street drinkers living on the streets.

5.3 The Head of Community Safety, Enforcement and Business Regulation referred to data included within the report and advised that 93 calls were made to the Police for street drinking in 2020 and that this figure had risen from the previous year due to the impact of Covid-19.

5.4 Following the introduction, Members asked a number of questions relating to the report and the Head of Community Safety, Enforcement and Business Regulation replied:

- There was no visible trend of the people living on the streets being issued with Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN). People living on the streets had many issues and the primary issue was mental health;
- Officers and security had been deployed to London Fields seven days a week since May and many FPNs had been issued for anti-social behaviour. Uniformed officers also assisted and the aim was to be visible and reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour. There had also been additional waste collection to reduce litter;
- Going forward the PSPO had been recommended to Cabinet for approval; and
- Hackney Central Project was working in partnership with the Police and Royal Mail to address the persistent issues in the Narrow Way, Church Road gardens and Gillett Square in Dalston.

ACTION: Head of Community Safety, Enforcement and Business Regulation to email an update regarding the issues in the Narrow Way, Church Road gardens and Gillett Square in Dalston and to be circulated to Members.

5.5 The Chair thanked the Head of Community Safety, Enforcement and Business Regulation and his team for their work

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Annual Performance Report of PSPO be noted.**

**6. Draft Work Programme**

6.1 The Committee noted the Draft Work Programme 2021/22 as set out in the agenda pack.

6.2 Cllr Stops indicated that action was necessary to clear the streets of vegetation and requested that an officer be invited to discuss this issue. The

Chair requested that Cllr Stops put his concerns in writing and she would raise the issue with Mr Cunningham.

- 6.3 Cllr Wrouth asked if an alternative date in January 2022 could be found for the meeting on 15 December

**RESOLVED:**

**That the draft work programme be noted.**

**7. Any Other Business That The Chair Considers Urgent**

- 7.1 There was no other urgent business.

**End of Meeting.**

**Duration of the meeting:** 18:30 - 19.45

**Contact:**

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