



Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission 23rd January 2023 Item 4 – Policing of Drug Use	Item No 4
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Outline

As part of its continued work on building trust and confidence and inclusive policing, the Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission is keen to hear about the approach to the policing of drug use in the borough.

The Commission sees the discussion as timely given that Hackney has been involved in the ADDER Accelerator programme of work which has impacted on the policing of drug use and the pathways that exist between the criminal justice system and community substance use treatment.

It is also timely given the Government's white paper on tougher consequences for the possession of drugs, which if successful and becomes law carries the risk of further marginalising vulnerable residents and the over policing of vulnerable communities.

Discussion

To review the local approach to the policing of low level drug use, including the pathways that exist between the criminal justice system and community substance use treatment.

Particular focus to be given to:

- The approach to policing low level drug use in Hackney
- How effective the approach is and how consistently it is used across communities
- The governance structures and decision making processes in place related to the approaches to drug use in the borough

Report(s)

To support this discussion the following written submissions were included for background information:

- Item 4a. Presentation from Metropolitan Police Central East Borough Command Unit (***to follow***)
- Item 4b. Report from Public Health, Hackney Council (***attached***)
- Item 4c. Presentation from SWIM (***attached***)

Invited Attendees

- Councillor Susan Fajana Thomas, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Regulatory Services
- Councillor Chris Kennedy, Cabinet Member for Health, Adult Social Care, Voluntary Sector and Culture
- Chris Lovitt, Deputy Director of Public Health, City of London & Hackney Council
- Andrew Trathen, Public Health Consultant, Hackney Council
- Simon Young, Public Health Systems Coordinator, Hackney Council
- Interim Borough Commander Dan Rutland, Metropolitan Police Central East Borough Command Unit (Hackney & Tower Hamlets)
- Chief Inspector Sean Lyons, Metropolitan Police Central East Borough Command Unit (Hackney & Tower Hamlets)
- Peter Merrifield, Chief Executive, SWIM
- Eoin Bolger, Head of Regional Operations, Turning Point
- Piers Adamson, Senior Operations Manager (City & Hackney), Turning Point

Action

Members are asked to consider the written submissions and ask questions of those in attendance.