

Cabinet – 13 December 2023

Recommendations from Scrutiny Overview Committee - Policing within Walsall.

Portfolios: Councillor Perry - Deputy Leader and Resilient Communities
Councillor Murphy - Street Pride
Councillor Ferguson - Internal Services

Wards: All

Key decision: No

Forward plan: No

1. Aim

To receive a recommendation from the Scrutiny Overview Committee made on 28 September 2023 regarding Policing in Walsall.

2. Recommendations

That Cabinet: -

- a. Identify potential opportunities to improve collaboration between Walsall Council and West Midlands Police to improve road safety and reduce road harm in the Borough.
- b. Consider the feasibility of co-locating the Council's community protection teams alongside West Midlands Police to increase co-operative working.

3. Report detail – know

At its meeting of on the 28 September 2023, the Scrutiny Overview Committee received a report on Policing within Walsall, including the establishment of the 'Local Policing Areas model', across West Midlands Police.

Members welcomed statistics relating to arrests, intelligence submissions, expired bail and response times which all reflected improved performance. Chief Superintendent Dolby elaborated on the importance of partnership working to produce visions of change and to design approaches for achieving these. Road safety and tackling road harm was identified as an area in which partnership working could be improved and community involvement could be an important part of this. The Chief Superintendent highlighted the need to 'design out' rather than 'enforce out' some highways risks. Civil injunctions conducted in partnership with organisations such as social housing providers were a useful tool and West Midlands Police consider it beneficial to co-locate in the Civic Centre with the community protection team. This would help to further strengthen working relationships and provide increased opportunities for collaboration and multi-agency working. This would further improve performance and outcomes for residents.

4. Decide

Cabinet could choose to:

1. undertake the recommendation as set out;
2. reject them;
3. choose to receive a report in more depth at a future Cabinet meeting.

5. Respond

Following the decision of Cabinet, the Scrutiny Overview Committee will be advised of the outcome of their recommendation.

6. Review

Subject to the decision of Cabinet further reports at Scrutiny Overview Committee meetings or Cabinet meetings may be required.

Background papers

None

Author

Nikki Gough

Democratic Services Officer

☎ 01922 65 4767

✉ Nikki.gough@walsall.gov.uk