

Croydon Council

For General Release

REPORT TO:	COUNCIL 24 MARCH 2014
AGENDA ITEM NO:	10
SUBJECT:	RESPONSES TO PETITIONS PRESENTED TO COUNCIL ON 27 JANUARY 2014
LEAD OFFICER:	Julie Belvir, Director of Democratic and Legal Services
WARDS:	ALL
CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT: This report is prepared in keeping with paragraph 3.22 of the Council Procedure Rules at Part 4A of the Constitution.	

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 The Council is asked to note the response to the petition presented by Councillors at its last ordinary meeting as detailed in paragraph 4 of the report.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 This report details Cabinet Member response to the petition presented to Council on 27 January 2014. All Members have the opportunity to ask questions on the responses to any of the petitions.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Part 4A of the Constitution allows Councillors to present petitions to meetings of the Full Council.
- 3.2 The Constitution requires a response to that petition to be presented at this meeting.
- 3.3 A period of up to ten minutes is permitted for questions on the response to the petition.

4. RESPONSES TO PETITIONS

- 4.1 Petitions presented to the Council meeting on 27 January 2014, and the relevant Cabinet Member response, as follows:

4.2 A petition presented by **Councillor Paul Scott** on behalf of residents: opposed to the secondary school build at the Arena site.

4.3 **Response from Councillor Tim Pollard, Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Learning.**

The amount of MOL at the Arena site, including the Country Park is 505,900m². There is no proposed use of any of this land for the Arena Secondary School project. The total proposed use of MOL amounts to 0.456% of the total MOL which is an identical land take as the current arrangement.

There is a proposal to extend facilities at Croydon Harriers and the Arena Office as valuable community facilities. Other improvements to the area include improvements to the tram stop, car parking and the provision of a MUGA which will be available to the community. A commitment was made from the first proposal of this project that it would strengthen community facilities and improve local enjoyment of the area. The need to improve safety and access for the local community has also been a key theme of consultation, as has the strengthening of valuable community resources.

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- The area proposed to be *built upon* (for extending Croydon Harriers and the Arena Office) is 56.8m² or 0.00011228% of the total.
- The proposed car park is = 4,865sqm or 0.96165% of the total proposed MOL use.
- The proposed MUGA is 1,800m² or 0.36271% of the total proposed MOL use.

4.4 A petition presented by **Councillor Simon Hall** and **Councillor Carole Bonner** on behalf of residents: “We, the undersigned, wish to see the numbers of local police in Fieldway and New Addington increased, and with higher visibility, so as to tackle the real issues facing our community. Further, especially in the light of the arson at the Co-Op during the riots and the Gary Hayward tragedy, not to mention the need to make Central Parade feel safer so that more people feel safe to shop there, we call on the Council to improve the CCTV in the Central Parade area as a matter of urgency, including by using some of the post-riot money allocated.”

4.5 **Response from Councillor Simon Hoar, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Public Protection**

With the implementation of the Local Policing Model on 07 October 2013, the number of officers allocated to Neighbourhood Policing has increased. New Addington and Fieldway fall within the South East Neighbourhood, which has five teams allocated. The Neighbourhood has an overall workforce of 1 Inspector, 4 Sergeants, 24 Constables and 10 PCSO's.

The Neighbourhood shift pattern has been changed to reflect policing demand, and on each day there is coverage from 0700 - 2300hrs. This is provided by three shifts: 0700 - 1500hrs, 1200 - 2200hrs and 1400 - 2300hrs, one of the Neighbourhood Teams being on each of these shifts each day. As a consequence of this, there is an increased number of Neighbourhood officers available at the busier afternoon and evening times. To provide an indication of the sort of Neighbourhood officer numbers available at the peak demand time, there would be 1 sergeant and up to 10 constables and 4 PCSO's. Of course they continue to be supported by Emergency Response Teams, Uniform Tasking Unit, Crime Squad and all the other teams who collectively police Croydon.

In recognition of community priorities, Inspector Claire Robbins, the South Neighbourhood Lead, has set the New Addington and Fieldway locations as a Neighbourhood Priority, with particular focus on the Central Parade and Wayside areas. This provides dedicated taskings to these areas each day, as part of an on-going problem solving programme to reduce crime and ASB. In this way we aim to maximise availability of the South East Neighbourhood Officers to these locations.

Our own performance monitoring regimes show a greater number of officers deployed to New Addington and Fieldway since October 2013, and an indication of decreasing crime. There has been a 22% reduction in the MOPAC 7 crime types in New Addington, for FYTD 2013/14, compared to FYTD 2012/13, equating to 81 fewer victims of crime. Similarly there has been a 15% reduction in the MOPAC 7 crime types in Fieldway for the same period, equating to 54 fewer victims. (MOPAC 7 crime types are : Burglary, Criminal Damage, Theft of and from motor vehicles, Theft Person, Robbery and Violence with Injury)

We will continue to prioritise visibility and early intervention for emerging crime and ASB issues, to sustain the crime reductions and improve community confidence in our policing service.

The Council has recently invested heavily in the CCTV infrastructure whereby we now have a new control room with modern equipment prolonging the life of our CCTV provision for many years to come. We will continue to upgrade the existing cameras as well as including investing in better re-deployable CCTV and covert equipment. For example, the Council has recently invested £34,000 in new CCTV equipment that can be deployed anywhere in the Borough as the need arises. Much of this equipment can now link directly to the new control room so can be closely monitored and the fact that it can be moved to different locations provides a much more flexible response to meet changing needs. These redeployable units are used in New Addington frequently to supplement the existing fixed cameras and will continue to be used as needs are identified.

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: Petitions presented Cllr Winborn and Cllr Ryan