

Thurrock: An ambitious and collaborative community which is proud of its heritage and excited by its diverse opportunities and future

# Hidden and Extreme Harms Prevention Committee

The meeting will be held at **7.00 pm** on **22 June 2023**

**Committee Room 2, Civic Offices, New Road, Grays, Essex, RM17 6SL**

## Membership:

Councillors Gary Collins (Chair), Daniel Chukwu (Vice-Chair), Augustine Ononaji, Graham Snell and Cici Manwa

## Substitutes:

Councillors Qaisar Abbas, Georgette Polley and Sue Shinnick

## Agenda

Open to Public and Press

	<b>Page</b>
<b>1 Apologies for Absence</b>	
<b>2 Minutes</b>	<b>5 - 6</b>
To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Hidden and Extreme Harms Prevention Committee held on 21 February 2023.	
<b>3 Items of Urgent Business</b>	
To receive additional items that the Chair is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency, in accordance with Section 100B (4) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972.	
<b>4 Declarations of Interest</b>	
<b>5 Terms of Reference</b>	<b>7 - 8</b>
<b>6 Work Programme</b>	<b>9 - 10</b>

**Queries regarding this Agenda or notification of apologies:**

Please contact Rhiannon Whiteley, Senior Democratic Services Officer by sending an email to [Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk](mailto:Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk)

Agenda published on: **14 June 2023**

## **Information for members of the public and councillors**

### **Access to Information and Meetings**

#### **Advice Regarding Public Attendance at Meetings**

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- You should connect to TBC-GUEST
- Enter the password **Thurrock** to connect to/join the Wi-Fi network.
- A Terms & Conditions page should appear and you have to accept these before you can begin using Wi-Fi. Some devices require you to access your browser to bring up the Terms & Conditions page, which you must accept.

The ICT department can offer support for council owned devices only.

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Members of the Council should ensure that their device is sufficiently charged, although a limited number of charging points will be available in Members Services.

To view any “exempt” information that may be included on the agenda for this meeting, Councillors should:

- Access the modern.gov app
- Enter your username and password

# DECLARING INTERESTS FLOWCHART – QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF

Breaching those parts identified as a pecuniary interest is potentially a criminal offence

## Helpful Reminders for Members

- *Is your register of interests up to date?*
- *In particular have you declared to the Monitoring Officer all disclosable pecuniary interests?*
- *Have you checked the register to ensure that they have been recorded correctly?*

## When should you declare an interest *at a meeting*?

- **What matters are being discussed at the meeting?** (including Council, Cabinet, Committees, Subs, Joint Committees and Joint Subs); or
- If you are a Cabinet Member making decisions other than in Cabinet **what matter is before you for single member decision?**



Does the business to be transacted at the meeting

- relate to; or
- likely to affect

any of your registered interests and in particular any of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interests?

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests shall include your interests or those of:

- your spouse or civil partner's
- a person you are living with as husband/ wife
- a person you are living with as if you were civil partners

where you are aware that this other person has the interest.

A detailed description of a disclosable pecuniary interest is included in the Members Code of Conduct at Chapter 7 of the Constitution. **Please seek advice from the Monitoring Officer about disclosable pecuniary interests.**

**What is a Non-Pecuniary interest?** – this is an interest which is not pecuniary (as defined) but is nonetheless so significant that a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard to be so significant that it would materially impact upon your judgement of the public interest.

### Pecuniary

If the interest is not already in the register you must (unless the interest has been agreed by the Monitoring Officer to be sensitive) disclose the existence and nature of the interest to the meeting

If the Interest is not entered in the register and is not the subject of a pending notification you must within 28 days notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest for inclusion in the register

Unless you have received dispensation upon previous application from the Monitoring Officer, you must:

- Not participate or participate further in any discussion of the matter at a meeting;
- Not participate in any vote or further vote taken at the meeting; and
- leave the room while the item is being considered/voted upon

If you are a Cabinet Member you may make arrangements for the matter to be dealt with by a third person but take no further steps

### Non- pecuniary

Declare the nature and extent of your interest including enough detail to allow a member of the public to understand its nature



You may participate and vote in the usual way but you should seek advice on Predetermination and Bias from the Monitoring Officer.

## Our Vision and Priorities for Thurrock

An ambitious and collaborative community which is proud of its heritage and excited by its diverse opportunities and future.

1. **People** – a borough where people of all ages are proud to work and play, live and stay
  - High quality, consistent and accessible public services which are right first time
  - Build on our partnerships with statutory, community, voluntary and faith groups to work together to improve health and wellbeing
  - Communities are empowered to make choices and be safer and stronger together
  
2. **Place** – a heritage-rich borough which is ambitious for its future
  - Roads, houses and public spaces that connect people and places
  - Clean environments that everyone has reason to take pride in
  - Fewer public buildings with better services
  
3. **Prosperity** – a borough which enables everyone to achieve their aspirations
  - Attractive opportunities for businesses and investors to enhance the local economy
  - Vocational and academic education, skills and job opportunities for all
  - Commercial, entrepreneurial and connected public services

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Hidden and Extreme Harms Prevention Committee held on 21 February 2023 at 7.00 pm

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**Present:** Councillors Gary Collins (Chair), Qaisar Abbas, Shane Ralph and Sue Shinnick

**Apologies:** Councillor Daniel Chukwu

**In attendance:** Michelle Cunningham, Thurrock Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Manager  
Michael Dineen, Assistant Director Counter-Fraud, Community Safety and Resilience  
Fiona Pallett, Child Exploitation and Gangs Lead  
Janet Simon, Assistant Director Children's Social Care and Early Help  
Lucy Tricker, Senior Democratic Services Officer  
  
Detective Sergeant (DS) Russ Chamberlain, Operation Raptor Team, Essex Police

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Before the start of the meeting, all present were advised that the meeting was being recorded and live-streamed, with the recording to be made available on-line.

### **20. Minutes**

The minutes of the Hidden and Extreme Harms Prevention Committee meeting held on 15 December 2022 were approved as a true and correct record.

### **21. Items of Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

### **22. Declarations of Interest**

There were no interests declared.

### **23. Operation Overwatch: Verbal Update**

The Committee agreed to go into exempt session under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, due to information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation, or prosecution of crime.

*The Committee moved into exempt session at 7.02pm*

*DS Chamberlain left the meeting at 7.17pm.*

**24. Knife Crime and Young People: Verbal Update**

The Committee agreed to go into exempt session under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, due to information that is likely to reveal the identity of an individual, and information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation, or prosecution of crime.

*The Committee agreed to continue in exempt session at 7.18pm*

*The Committee left exempt session at 8.04pm*

**25. Work Programme**

The Chair thanked officers for their hard work throughout the municipal year, and this was echoed by Councillor Abbas. Councillor Abbas requested further updates on Prevent, due to the new government recommendations, in 2023/24.

**The meeting finished at 8.05 pm**

Approved as a true and correct record

**CHAIR**

**DATE**

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact  
Democratic Services at [Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk](mailto:Direct.Democracy@thurrock.gov.uk)**



<b>5. Hidden and Extreme Harms Prevention Committee</b>	
<b>Appointed by:</b>  The Council under section 102 of the Local Government Act 1972	<b>Number of Elected Members:</b>  Six
<b>Chair and Vice-Chair appointed by:</b>  The Council	<b>Political Proportionality:</b>  The elected Members shall be appointed in accordance with Political Proportionality
<b>Quorum:</b>  Three elected Members	<b>Co-opted Members to be appointed by Council:</b>  None
<b>Functions determined by Council:</b>	
<p><b>1. Purpose:</b></p> <p>1.1 The Committee exists to ensure that all elements of the Council work together to ensure that the Council is fulfilling its duties regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Prevent and Counter Extremism</li> <li>(b) Human Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery</li> <li>(c) Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children</li> <li>(d) Tackling criminal gang associations</li> </ul> <p>1.2 The Committee will serve to aid elected members to drive the improvement of the services involved forward including by interacting with partners and stakeholders.</p> <p><b>2. Objectives:</b></p> <p>2.1 To promote the role of all councillors and support the Council to promote Prevent objectives through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Ensuring that other elected members are fully briefed on key work in Prevent and how it will affect other portfolio areas</li> <li>(b) Provide a steer on reaching difficult decisions on those issues that involve competing public interests or may prove contentious in an area</li> <li>(c) Encouraging open discussion and transparent decision-making</li> <li>(d) Ensuring prevent priorities are reflected in the work of the Local Authority</li> </ul> <p>2.2 To provide scrutiny and challenge of Prevent delivery.</p> <p>2.3 To promote the role of all councillors and support the Council to engage with the national strategy and work in respect of Human Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery and to tackle criminal gang associations.</p> <p>2.4 To support the Corporate Parenting Committee in the Councils management and care of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Receiving effective 'preventative' and qualitative information in order to hold senior officers to account in relation to meeting the needs and improving the outcomes of UASC.</li> </ul>	

(b) Overseeing the strategy for UASC and ensuring that the various elements within it are being delivered in a holistic and comprehensive way by all responsible.

- 2.5 To bring together members/officers/representatives of partner agencies with relevant responsibilities, with the Chair having discretion to extend invitations to attend meetings of the Committee as appropriate.
- 2.6 To make recommendations to the relevant executive decision-maker where responsibility for that particular function rests with the executive
- 2.7 To report to the relevant scrutiny committee any matter which it believes that committee should give consideration to.
- 2.8 The Committee shall be responsible for setting its own work programme, taking into account the wishes and preferences of the members of the Committee, together with any suggestions from Officers of the Council for particular topics to be considered.

**Matters reserved for decision:**

There are no specific matters reserved to this committee.

The reason for this is that the role and function of the committee is to review and monitor the council's role in relation to the three areas set out in 1.1. This involves the participation of members on a cross political group committee. However, any specific actions the committee might identify as necessary would be executive functions and need to be taken by a cabinet decision-maker, in accordance with cabinet responsibility for functions.

**Functions determined by Statute:**

None.

# Work Programme

**Committee:** Hidden and Extreme Harms Prevention Committee

**Year:** 2023/24

**Dates of Meetings:** 22 June 2023, 3 October 2023, 14 December 2023, 20 February 2024

Topic	Lead Officer	Requested by Officer/Member
<b>22 June 2023</b>		
Terms of Reference	Democratic Services Officer	Officers
Work Programme	Democratic Services Officer	Standard Item
<b>3 October 2023</b>		
SERICC Attendance and Presentation	Sheila Coates/Michelle Cunningham	Members
Work Programme	Democratic Services Officer	Standard Item
<b>14 December 2023</b>		
Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers: Annual Update Report	Daniel Jones	Members
Work Programme	Democratic Services Officer	Standard Item
<b>20 February 2024</b>		
Work Programme	Democratic Services Officer	Standard Item

# Work Programme

To be added to the Work Programme

Prevent Update – Michelle Cunningham

Clerk: Rhiannon Whiteley

Updated: 10 May 2023