

ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 9
17 November 2020	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Rob Hill, Assistant Director Community Safety	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Irene Walsh, Cabinet Member for Communities	
Contact Officer(s):	Rob Hill, Assistant Director, Community Safety	Tel. 07815558081

PROPOSAL FOR TASK AND FINISH GROUP TO EXAMINE ISSUES WITH CAR CRUISING IN PETERBOROUGH

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: Rob Hill, Assistant Director: Community Safety	Deadline date: n/a
<p>It is recommended that the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agree to the formation of a time-limited cross-party scrutiny task and finish group 2. Agree the Terms of Reference for the proposed task and finish group 3. Agree that the outcomes of the task and finish group should be presented back to the Committee at the relevant meeting 4. Makes any initial nominations from the scrutiny committee members to join the task and finish group 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 At the Full Council meeting of 21 October 2020, a motion presented by Cllr Coles was agreed requesting the formation of a task and finish group to examine issues relating to car cruises in Peterborough.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 This report sets out the proposed detail for the task and finish group agreed at Full Council on 21 October, to focus on issues relating to car cruises and identify actions to prevent or mitigate the impact.

2.2 This report is for Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No. Part 3, Section 4 – Overview & Scrutiny functions, paragraph No 2 Functions determine by the Council

3. Neighbourhood and Community Support (including cohesion and community safety)

Also Functions determined by Statute:

To review and scrutinise crime and disorder matters, including acting as the Council's crime and disorder committee in accordance with Sections 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006.

3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	n/a
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4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 At the Full Council meeting on 21 October, a motion presented by Cllr Coles was agreed in which it was noted that:

“For some time, Councillors representing wards across Peterborough have received several complaints from residents about the anti-social behaviour of car cruisers, drift racers and drivers performing stunts and tricks on local roads and in car parks. The council appreciates that static car meets are a popular event and many local residents enjoy showing off their cars to fellow enthusiasts.

However, most of these meets are not organised with prior notice to the landowner - the organisers of these events do not seek or obtain authority to hold these events on Council owned or private land, they often occupy central locations in the middle of residential areas and there are no controls on who attends. A small number of people participating take part in dangerous or reckless use of their car, which can lead to criminal damage of roads, other vehicles and surrounding property. Some drivers also risk injuring themselves, other road users, cyclists and pedestrians as they do not have full control of their vehicles. Driving in this way can also be used as a form of intimidation, either to other road users or the community. Loud noise from engines and music, and deliberately creating large amounts of exhaust or tyre smoke can also take place and continue through to the early hours, disturbing residents’ rest.

4.2 Many councils around the country have taken action to ban car cruising, racing and stunt driving. There are many good examples showing how to initiate city-wide action that prevents these anti-social incursions into quiet residential areas.”

The agreed motion stated that the council resolves to instruct the relevant scrutiny committee to form a cross-party Task and Finish group to investigate these matters with terms of reference that include:

- Inviting Cambridgeshire Constabulary to appoint a representative to join the group.
- Ensuring that all available powers are utilised to prevent unauthorised, anti-social, dangerous car meets from taking place or continuing,
- Exploring what other legislative powers may be obtained to help address this issue,
- Working with organisers to facilitate, where possible, safe events for static car meets that are lawful and non-disruptive to our residents,
- Providing advice and support to private landowners in the defence and protection of their property

4.3 The Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee is therefore asked to agree to the formation of the task and finish group.

5. CONSULTATION

5.1 Not applicable

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

6.1 It is anticipated that the Committee will agree to the formation of a time-limited cross-party scrutiny task and finish group. This will inform the approach the council will take to prevent or mitigate the impact of car cruises.

7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

7.1 The recommendations set out in this report follow agreement made at Full Council

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 n/a

9. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

9.1 There are no immediate financial implications that arise as a result of this work. Any financial implications that do arise through the work of the task and finish group will be set out in the group's final report.

Legal Implications

9.2 There are no immediate legal implications that arise as a result of this work. Any legal implications that do arise through the work of the task and finish group will be set out in the group's final report.

Equalities Implications

9.3 There are no immediate equality implications that arise as a result of this work. Any legal implications that do arise through the work of the task and finish group will be set out in the group's final report.

Rural Implications

9.4 There are no immediate rural implications that arise as a result of this work. Any rural implications that do arise through the work of the task and finish group will be set out in the group's final report.

Carbon Impact Assessment

9.5 A Carbon Impact Assessment will be completed to accompany the full report from the task and finish group that will be presented back to the Scrutiny Committee.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1 None

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix 1 – Draft Terms of Reference

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