

**REPORT FOR: OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Date of Meeting:	27 June 2017
Subject:	Community Safety, Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation Strategy
Responsible Officer:	Alex Dewsnap, Divisional Director, Strategic Commissioning
Scrutiny Lead Member area:	Cllr Jeff Anderson – Community and Regeneration Policy Lead Cllr Manji Kara – Community and Regeneration Performance Lead
Exempt:	No
Wards affected:	All
Enclosures:	Appendix A - Community Safety, Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation Strategy Appendix B - Annual Crime Report

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report sets out the strategic vision of Harrow's Community Safety Partnership in the Annual Community Safety, Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation Strategy for 2017-2020.

Recommendations:

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the Strategy and forward relevant comments to Cabinet for consideration.

Section 2 – Report

Introduction

All Community Safety Partnerships are required by law to conduct an annual assessment of crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and reoffending within the borough. This is known as the Strategic Assessment. The Strategic Assessment is then used to produce the partnership's Community Safety Strategy. The last Community Safety Strategy was published in 2016 and is refreshed on an annual basis. However, with a new Mayor of London in office, the priorities from the previous Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) "7 crimes" have changed significantly¹, which involves the replacement of the previous Mayor's crime targets in favour of a thematic approach which gives local areas greater control of local police priorities.

This Community Safety and Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation (VVE) Strategy sets out the Council's vision for tackling community safety in Harrow and takes into account the recommendations from the Home Office led Ending Gang and Youth Violence peer review in 2015, which addressed the issue of gang and youth violence locally. Furthermore, given that there is now a new strategic approach from the Mayor to policing and crime, there are clear synergies with the VVE agenda in general and also with domestic and sexual violence under the '*Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls*' theme. This Strategy will therefore include our vision for Domestic and Sexual Violence.

The following high volume crimes have been prioritised following a significant increase in these areas and in agreement with MOPAC:

1. *Burglary*
2. *Non-domestic violence with injury*
3. *Anti-social behaviour (ASB)*

¹ MOPAC 7 crimes are: Violence with injury; Robbery; Burglary; Theft of a motor vehicle; Theft from a motor vehicle; Theft from a person; Criminal damage

The Strategy also has a strong focus on the following aspects of high harm crime which reinforce the commitment to tackle violence, vulnerability and exploitation in the Borough. This also firmly echoes the current Mayor's priorities, and includes a renewed focus on tackling Youth Violence. The following areas are seen as priorities in Harrow:

1. *Youth violence and knife crime (including gang crime, and Child Sexual Exploitation)*
2. *Domestic and sexual abuse*
3. *Drug and alcohol misuse (including tackling the supply of illegal substances, and targeted support for ex-prisoners)*
4. *Extremism and hate crime*

In addition to this we have considered commitments within the forthcoming **Safeguarding Adults Strategic Plan 2017-20** and the **Review of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in Harrow**, in order to ensure a consistent and joined up approach across the Council.

Legal Implications

This strategy is to be considered by Overview and Scrutiny Committee before referral to Cabinet, with ultimate approval reserved to Council as set out in the Council's Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as amended by the Police and Crime Act 2009, requires that Crime and Disorder Partnership be set up, and the formulation of the strategy is required under Section 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

The plan, formulated with the relevant partner agencies, must address

- (a) a strategy for the reduction of re offending, crime and disorder and for combating substance misuse in the area
- (b) the priorities identified in the strategy for the previous year
- (c) steps necessary for responsible authorities to implement the strategy and meet priorities
- (d) How resources should be allocated to implement the strategy and meet priorities
- (e) steps for each responsible authority to take to measure its success to implement strategies and meet priorities
- (f) steps strategy group proposes to comply with community engagement obligations, considering the extent that people in the area can assist in reducing re offending, crime and disorder and substance misuse, and publicising that partnership plan.

Section 17 of the Act imposes a duty on the Council when exercising its functions to have due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to prevent, crime and disorder, misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances and re offending.

Financial Implications

All councils have received funding under the MOPAC London Crime Prevention Fund (LCPF) to tackle priorities in the new London Police and

Crime Plan. Harrow has been allocated £266,525 in year 1, and £186,376 in year 2 (after a 30% MOPAC top slice), which provides the authority with a combined 2 year allocation of £452,628. As part of this, the service have approved funding aimed at a programme of Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation projects which will help us respond to the gangs peer review, and the rise in youth violence that we are seeing in the Borough. There will be no impact upon existing service budgets.

Performance Issues

In delivering this Strategy, we are in the process of drafting a themed Delivery Plan which will oversee projects that will contribute to the strategic objectives outlined in the paper, including all of the MOPAC funded projects agreed for the 2017/18 and 2018/19 financial years. The Delivery Plan will include specific actions and measures with greater clarity of ownership of projects across the partnership. In light of our renewed focus in the Strategy we are now reviewing our current governance arrangements and are in the process of developing a process which will be better aligned to ensuring the effective implementation of the Delivery Plan.

Environmental Impact

There are no specific environmental issues associated with this report at this stage.

Risk Management Implications

There are none specific to this report.

Risk included on Directorate risk register? No

Separate risk register in place? Yes

Equalities implications

No; equality implications may have to be considered on implementation of the recommendations.

Council Priorities

The Council's vision:

Working Together to Make a Difference for Harrow

This Strategy relates to the corporate priorities of:

- Protect the most vulnerable and support families

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Dawn Calvert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the* Chief Financial Officer
Date:15 th June 2017		
Name: ...Sharon Clarke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the* Monitoring Officer
Date: ...14 th June 2017.....		

Ward Councillors notified:	NO – relevant to all wards
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Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Shumaila Dar, Policy Officer, tel. 020 8424 1820

Background Papers: The Community Safety, Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation Strategy for 2017-2020 and the Annual Crime Report 2015/16 (both appendices to this report)