
REPORT FOR: CABINET

Date of Meeting:	13 July 2017
Subject:	Community Safety, Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation Strategy
Key Decision:	Yes
Responsible Officer:	Alex Dewsnap, Divisional Director of Strategic Commissioning
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Varsha Parmar, Portfolio Holder for Public Health, Equality and Community Safety
Exempt:	No
Decision subject to Call-in:	No, as the decision is reserved to Council
Wards affected:	All
Enclosures:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Community Safety, Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation Strategy2. Annual Crime Report3. Reference from Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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.

Recommendation:

Cabinet is requested to:

- 1) Recommend endorsement and adoption of the Community Safety Strategy 2017-2020 to Council; and
- 2) Authorise the Portfolio Holder for Public Health, Equality & Community Safety to make minor amendments to the draft report, in conjunction with Harrow Community Safety Partnership, Safer Harrow, for presentation to Harrow Full Council meeting in September 2017.

Reason: To endorse the Safer Harrow Partnership's Community Safety Strategy 2017-2020 and adopt it as Harrow Council's Community Safety Plan.

Section 2 – Report

Introductory paragraph

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 in post, 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 two substantial reviews; the Home Office led Ending Gang and Youth Violence peer review in 2015 and the Local Assessment Process (LAP) in 2016, 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 the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC):

1. *Burglary*
2. *Non-domestic violence with injury*

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

3. *Anti-social behaviour (ASB)*

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*

Options considered

No other option has been considered as it is a statutory requirement for Council to produce an Annual Community Safety Plan. The new Strategy has been updated to reflect changes in the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime priorities.

Risk Management Implications

There are none specific to this report.

Legal Implications

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as amended by the Police and Crime Act 2009 requires that the Partnership be set up, and the formulation of the strategy is required under s6 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.

S17 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 gives us a combined 2 year allocation of £452,628. As part of this, we 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.

All other activities will be met within existing budgets.

Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty

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 June 2017		
Name: Sharon Clarke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: 14 June 2017		

Ward Councillors notified:	NO, as it impacts on all Wards
EqIA carried out:	YES
EqIA cleared by:	Alex Dewsnap – DETG Chair, Resources & Commercial Directorate

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Shumaila Dar, Policy Office, x.2820
Shumaila.dar@harrow.gov.uk

Background Papers: EqIA

Call-In Waived by the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee	NOT APPLICABLE <i>[Call-in does not apply as the decision is reserved to Council]</i>
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