

1.	SUBJECT	SCRUTINY REVIEW ON PREVENTING YOUTH CRIME – Draft Scope
2.	COMMITTEE	Overview & Scrutiny
3.	CHALLENGE PANEL MEMBERS	<p>Cllr Sachin Shah – Co-chair Cllr Janet Mote – Co-chair Cllr - TBC Cllr – TBC Cllr – TBC Cllr - TBC Young person – TBC Young person - TBC</p>
4.	AIMS/ OBJECTIVES/ OUTCOMES	<p>Aim</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose of the review is to investigate how we might use all of the Council’s policies and strategies to contribute to reducing youth crime and anti-social behaviour in a more ‘Public Health approach’ to Youth Crime. <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To understand how a ‘Public Health approach’ can contribute to reducing youth violence, to identify changes we could make to Council policies and strategies so they contribute to the reduction in youth crime and ASB To understand what the drivers are behind the rise in youth crime in Harrow To understand the profile of young offenders and victims of youth crime and ASB in Harrow To understand what the impact of the tri-borough BCU model is having on the resources available to the local police to put into tackling this agenda To inform the re-commissioning of the Council’s London Crime Prevention Fund projects and the refresh of the VVE strategy To safeguard young people in care from knife carrying/crime and from gang culture To investigate the links between Knife crime, gangs and child sexual exploitation To investigate the better use of intelligence to target key people to stop youth violence and deter involvement
5.	MEASURES OF SUCCESS OF REVIEW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy changes are agreed Young people report feeling safer Youth crime reduces in the borough
6.	SCOPE	<p>The following Council policies and strategies will be in scope of the review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning policies Regeneration strategy Enforcement strategy Gambling policy Licensing policy Housing strategy Public health policy around drugs and alcohol Children’s mental health <p>Evidence sources for the literature review will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Police and YOT data Think tank research on drivers of youth crime and the Public Health approach This is Harrow – young people’s needs analysis LCPF project data and monitoring <p>Witnesses will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young Harrow Foundation Police Council Officers and Portfolio Holders responsible for the identified policies and strategies Representative from the Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime and/or London Assembly
(1)	SERVICE PRIORITIES	<p>Choose from the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build a Better Harrow Be more business-like and business-friendly Protecting the Vulnerable
(2)	SPONSOR	Paul Hewitt

(3)	ACCOUNTABLE MANAGER	Rachel Gapp / Alex Dewsnap
(4)	SUPPORT OFFICER	Richard Le Brun
(5)	ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT	Shumaila Dar - Policy Team.
(6)	EXTERNAL INPUT	Co-opt 1 or 2 young people onto the review team in consultation with Young Harrow Foundation
(7)	METHODOLOGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literature Review • Site visits to Ignite and Synergy • Challenge panel with Policy and Strategy owners
(8)	EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS	The Challenge Panels will consider, during the course of its work, how equality implications have been taken into account in current policy and practice and consider the possible implications of any changes it recommends. In undertaking the Challenge Panels, members and officers will consider their practices and how it can ensure all relevant stakeholders in the borough to have their voices heard.
(9)	ASSUMPTIONS/ CONSTRAINTS	
(10)	SECTION 17 IMPLICATIONS	N/A
(11)	TIMESCALE	<p><i>Option 1</i></p> <p>1 November 2018 – O&S meeting and sign-off November – First scrutiny review group meeting November – Officers prepare Desk Research November – Field Visits December – Officers to prepare briefing for Challenge Panels December - January – Challenge Panels January – Officers to prepare final draft Scrutiny Report January – Scrutiny Report to be sent to members for comments 1st Feb – Final Scrutiny Report submitted to O&S 12th Feb – Final Scrutiny Report presented to O&S 7th March 2019 – Final Scrutiny Report goes to Cabinet Briefing 1st April 2019 – Final Scrutiny Report deadline for Cabinet</p> <p><i>Option 2 if slippage:</i></p> <p>1 November 2018 – O&S meeting and sign-off November – First scrutiny review group meeting November – Officers prepare Desk Research November – December – Field Visits January – Officers to prepare briefing for Challenge Panels January - February – Challenge Panels February – March – Officers to prepare final draft Scrutiny Report March – Report to be sent to members for comments 29th March 2019 – Final Scrutiny Report submitted to O&S 9th April 2019 – Final Scrutiny Report presented to O&S 22nd April 2019 – Final Scrutiny Report goes to Cabinet Briefing 23rd May 2019 – Final Scrutiny Report presented to Cabinet</p>
(12)	RESOURCE COMMITMENTS	Policy team will provide a briefing and administrative support to the Challenge Panels. The Policy team will report recommendations to O&S; officers from the appropriate Service Area – Community Protection and Children’s services will provide a response to Cabinet and take forward any recommendations agreed by Cabinet.
(13)	REPORT AUTHOR	Shumaila Dar
(14)	REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS	<p>Outline of formal reporting process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relevant Divisional Director(s) and Portfolio Holder(s) will be consulted in the drafting of the final report and recommendations • Report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee • Report referred to Cabinet • Officer response to Cabinet
(15)	FOLLOW UP ARRANGEMENTS (proposals)	It is anticipated that Cabinet would consider any recommendations made (alongside the officers’ response) at the Cabinet meeting in [insert month], and responded to in [insert month].

Background

The following is taken from the Key Strategic Issues for Scrutiny Work Programme

CRIME & ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

The Harrow Resident Survey 2017 asked: *'if the Council could fix one thing that's wrong with Harrow, what should it be?'* The top response was safety, tackling crime and ASB, which was raised by 20% of residents. In the same survey, from a pre-defined list of services, residents said that levels of crime and ASB was both the most important issue to them (34% of responses) and the issue that needs most improving (28% of responses) in the borough. This is also one of the top issues appearing in the local press, which additionally includes references to the closure of police stations.

The Metropolitan Police Service has recently announced changes to the way local policing is delivered in London through the introduction of new Borough Command Units (BCUs). Harrow police services will merge with those in Barnet and Brent to form the North West BCU, which is expected to go live in November 2018. The move will combine core policing functions of neighbourhoods, emergency response, CID and safeguarding. There are local concerns about police resources being diverted from the borough. More than 300 people have signed a petition to the Mayor London for the tri-borough merger to be blocked. The merger of Borough Commands and policing numbers generally are some of the top issues that have been raised with the London Assembly Member for Brent & Harrow.

The Strategic Assessment 2018 shows that overall crime levels in London are increasing. Whilst this is the case for Harrow, the borough continues to have the lowest crime rate in London. Aggravated burglary may be an emerging threat as offences are rising. Fear of crime in Harrow is reducing in areas associated with increasing levels of crime. Towards the end of 2017 there has been decline in some elements of resident confidence in policing, however Harrow benchmarks well for police reliability and treating people fairly. There is good performance in relation to ASB although there are hotspots where levels remain relatively high. The rate of non-domestic related violent crime continues to be higher in the neighbourhoods also associated with higher levels of ambulance attendances to night time violence and areas associated with the evening and night time economy. Violent crime continues to rise with increases recorded in both violence with injury and violence without injury. The proportion of knife crime that results in injury is increasing particularly for under 25s. At least 46 children and young people within Harrow suffered knife crime injuries in the past 12 months.

Rates of gang flagged offences are low but resident concern is rising. There has been a slight reduction in the level of domestic abuse in Harrow, however domestic abuse with injury, repeat victims and the proportion of the victims who are women is rising. Drug crime may be an emerging risk as Harrow's relatively lower levels are rising, while neighbouring boroughs are showing significant reductions. There have been significant increases in Faith Hate crime.

Despite Harrow being one of the safest boroughs in London, crime remains a top concern amongst residents. Harrow's Community Safety and Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation Strategy for 2017-2021 sets out the Community Safety Partnership's (Safer Harrow) commitment for crime reduction. The Delivery Plan has a strong focus on both high volume crime (burglary, non-domestic violence with injury, ASB) and high harm crime (youth violence and knife crime, domestic and sexual abuse, substance misuse, extremism and hate crime) which echoes the current Mayor's priorities, and includes a renewed focus on ASB and Youth Violence.

Following the Lammy Review into the over-representation of black and minority ethnic individuals in the Criminal Justice System, scrutiny may wish to explore the link between youth violence and ethnicity. There is also an opportunity for scrutiny to take a particular focus on mental health, poverty, attainment, and special educational needs as a driver for crime.

There is a lot of debate at the moment about what we can learn from the public health model that originated in the US and has reduced youth violence over the past decade in Glasgow. It works on the assumption that violence is preventable and therefore a collaborative, multi-agency approach to prevention working alongside policing and enforcement will have a greater impact than enforcement alone.

In September, the Mayor of London announced plans to establish a new Violence Reduction Unit of specialists in health, police and local government to lead and deliver a long-term public health approach to tackling the causes of violent crime. The new unit will improve co-ordination between the Metropolitan Police, local authorities, youth services, health services, criminal justice agencies and City Hall as part of the new enhanced partnership, backed up by the unit. It will also build on what works and share best practice. The Mayor has directed an initial £500,000 towards establishing the Violence Reduction Unit. The ultimate aim is to divert young people away from criminal activity, by supporting the vulnerable at an early stage and giving young Londoners better life opportunities.

The Major has also produced a Knife Crime Strategy launched a new £45 million Young Londoners Fund and each borough also has a local knife crime action plan.

There are several options for scrutiny reviews in this area.

- This could include reviewing the effectiveness of the new BCU model one year on from implementation in Harrow i.e. in year 2 of the work programme.
- The effectiveness of enforcement activity on ASB,
- Other options would be to explore the link between youth violence and ethnicity, or to focus on reviewing the drivers for crime in the borough, looking at the links to mental health, poverty, attainment, and special educational needs.