

Meeting:	Cabinet
Date:	18 September 2008
Subject:	Community Safety Partnership Plan Priorities 2008-2011
Key Decision:	Yes
Responsible Officer:	John Edwards, Divisional Director, Environmental Services
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr Susan Hall, Deputy Leader and Environment Services and Community Safety Portfolio Holder.
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Community Safety Partnership Plan Priorities 2008-2011 (Appendix 1)

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

Following agreement of the Community Safety Partnership Plan Priorities 2008-2011 by the Safer Harrow Management Group (SHMG) on 17 June 2008 and consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 29 July 2008, Cabinet are requested to consider and agree the draft Community Safety Partnership Plan Priorities for 2008-2011 (Appendix 1). Following Cabinet agreement that the plan is recommended for agreement by full Council.

Recommendations: (To Council)

That the draft Community Safety Partnership Plan Priorities for 2008-2011 be approved.

Reason: It is a statutory requirement for the Community Safety Partnership Plan and Priorities to be refreshed and published annually.

Section 2

2.0. Background

- 2.1 The Safer Harrow Partnership (CDRP) is committed to working together to make Harrow a safer place to live, work and visit.
- 2.2 Crime, disorder, drugs and anti-social behaviour can have a significant impact on the lives of our residents. Historically in Harrow there has been a wide gap between residents' perceptions of crime and the police crime statistics. Harrow is a low crime borough and for each of the last three years has contributed less than 2% of London's overall total crime rate. Harrow has had either the lowest or second lowest crime rate in London during this time (based upon crimes per 1000 of the population) and is also below the national average.
- 2.3 Main priority crimes such as Robbery, Burglary, Car Crime and Assaults have either reduced dramatically or remained stable during the 2005-2008 Crime and Drugs Reduction Strategy period. Encouragingly, public perceptions have also improved significantly during this period with the level of crime no longer being the top priority for improvement although it remains the most important issue for residents in terms of importance. Although reducing crime and anti-social behaviour remains a top priority of the public, together with clean streets, the effect of crime on peoples lives has reduced, According to the annual MORI survey suite of questions, residents recognise that crime levels are reducing, although perceptions remain a key issue, residents feel safer in their neighbourhood, in their home and after dark. Perceptions of anti social behaviour have reduced significantly with the only negative direction of travel in the suite being rubbish and litter.
- 2.4 Safer Neighbourhoods Policing Reassurance Teams and Safer Transport Teams are fully operational, working with the Council and partners to reduce crime, improve the street scene and provide greater reassurance to the public. Moreover, new partnership initiatives such as 'Weeks of Action' are making an immediate impact on crime and the street scene as well as improving resident perceptions of quality of life.
- 2.5 Options considered - that Cabinet agree to recommend or not recommend the plan - with reasons for so doing.

Section 3

3.0. Why a change is needed

- 3.1 From 1 August the legislative framework for Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) in England changed. From this date, the previous duties of CDRPs to produce triennial audits and strategies is

replaced by an annual strategic assessment and partnership plan containing three yearly objectives. The objectives must be revised annually using the strategic assessment and complies with regulations known as 'minimum standards' to reflect the minimum requirements for an effective CDRP.

- 3.2 Following statutory consultation and engagement with the Residents Panel and hard to reach groups e.g. young people, the following priorities have been agreed in the plan and a responsible strategic lead appointed for each priority as follows:

3.3 Community Safety Plan 2008-2011 Priorities

1. **Fear of Crime, Reassurance & Communications** (Andrew Hadfield, Harrow Council and Will Goddard, Harrow Police).
Aim: Communication with the community and partners will provide active involvement, celebrate diversity, achievement and success
1. **Serious Acquisitive Crime/Violent Crime** (Richard Walton, Harrow Police Borough Commander)
Aim: To reduce victimisation and increase detections in these crime types
2. **Young People and Crime Transitions Group** (Richard Segalov, Manager)
Aim: To prevent offending, reduce re-offending by young people and to protect the community from harm.
3. **Domestic Violence and Abuse** (Gail Hancock, Children's Services, Head of Service Safeguarding, Family Placement and Support, Children's Services)
Aim: To raise awareness of domestic violence and abuse, encourage reporting with the overall aim of reducing the level of such offences and providing support to victims/survivors
4. **ASB, Environmental and Criminal Damage** (Director of Environment – John Edwards)
Aim: To reduce ASB, Environmental and Criminal Damage.
5. **Drugs and Alcohol** (Drugs Action Team Manager – Lizzie Reid)
Aim: To increase the number accessing specialist substance misuse treatment services
6. **Hate Race Crime/Community Tension Monitoring** (Director of Community and Cultural Services – Javed Khan and Chair of Hate Crime Forum – Arpita Dutt).
Aim: Improve Community Cohesion through enhanced reporting of race hate crime, preventing victimisation, community tension and prevention of violent extremism.

3.4 Consultation

As part of the strategic assessment and partnership plan priority setting, the Safer Harrow Management Group has consulted widely on crime, disorder, drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour problems in the Borough.

Extensive consultation on the plan has been undertaken involving stakeholder groups and forums e.g. Hate Crime Forum, Domestic Violence Forum, Residents Panel, Young People Groups. These groups and stakeholders have taken an active part in leading on the development of the plan and priorities and consulted with their own groups and stakeholders, including hard to reach groups e.g. BME, traveller groups, LGBT, Young People.

The consultation and feedback from these groups and forums is recorded in minutes of their meetings and is generally very supportive of the priorities. In addition, the Council conducted a Residents' Panel Survey involving over 700 residents that is statistically representative of the borough population. The survey evidenced significant support for the priorities with the vast majority of responses agreeing/strongly agreeing with the priorities.

Following consultation, no changes made to the draft priorities by the Safer Harrow Management Group.

Following agreement and recommendation of the plan by Cabinet to full Council a final draft version of the plan will be published on the Harrow Internet and Intranet websites. In addition to the web, the priorities will also be publicised in the Harrow People and Arrow magazines.

Section 4

4.0. Implications of the Recommendation

4.1 Resources and costs

It has been agreed by the Harrow Strategic Partnership to continue funding of the Plan through the Area based Grant (what was previously the Safer and Stronger Communities fund) for 2008-09 at the same level as 2007-08. The Safer Harrow Management Group agreed that as the HSP decision is for one year only, they will maintain the existing funding plan agreed for 2008-2009 to provide continuity for the projects and funding so long as they still remain aligned with the Safer Harrow and LAA priorities.

4.2 Community Safety (s17 Crime & Disorder Act 1998)

The content of the report and recommendations address the need for partner agencies to work together to develop and implement strategies to tackle crime and disorder, ASB and fear of crime. The report makes direct recommendations relating to partnership working arrangements and activities that should be co-ordinated across agencies and implementation

of these recommendations will serve to underpin the delivery of crime reduction strategy priorities, delivery of LAA stretch targets and PSA crime and drugs objectives and as such directly support Section 17 key objectives.

4.3 Equalities impact

The implementation of the Plan will not target or exclude any person or businesses on the basis of ethnicity or any other factor.

However, there are potential adverse impacts identified by an Equality Impact Assessment of the plan, affecting traveller groups, young people and young Somali and Muslim Groups. An action plan has been produced following the assessment, to monitor and address any adverse impacts. As part of the ongoing consultation any impacts will be recorded, assessed and included as part of the evaluation of the Plan's priority objectives and will be regularly monitored by the strategic leads for each priority theme and the Safer Harrow Management Group.

Within the Plan all officers and partner agencies must have regard to:

- (a) The Councils Corporate Policy on Racial Equality at all times in undertaking their duties and in the investigation of complaints, inspections and contravention's of legislation and the gathering of evidence in relation to these must be carried out in accordance with this policy.
- (b) The provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998 at all times in undertaking their duties and in the investigation of complaints, inspections and contravention's of legislation and the gathering of evidence in relation to these must be carried out in accordance with this Act. The enforcement decision making process should have regard to the Checklist for Human Rights Convention Rights
- (c) The provisions of the Data Protection Act 1998 at all times in undertaking their duties and in the investigation of complaints, inspections and contravention's of legislation and the gathering of evidence in relation to these must be carried out in accordance with this Act.

The provision of a Plan also supports the delivery of equalities issues associated with fear of crime, such as reassurance of vulnerable communities and consultation with hard to reach groups. Implementation of the recommendations will serve to support delivery against the key equalities issues identified.

4.4 Legal comments

The Plan has been produced in compliance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and Crime and Disorder Act Review 2007 that places a duty on responsible authorities i.e. Local Authority, Police, Fire Service and Primary Care Trust and Greater London Authority to tackle crime, ASB, behaviour adversely affecting the environment and substance misuse at a local level.

4.5 Financial Implications

The report is not seeking additional financial resources at this time and there are no financial implications relating to this report.

4.6 Performance Issues

The plan will have a direct impact on the HM Government National Indicator set for Safer and Stronger Communities, in particular LAA stretched indicators for Anti-Social Behaviour, Fear of Crime, Burglary, Domestic Violence, Preventing Violent Extremism and the National Public Service Agreements for crime and drugs.

Includes Flagship Actions i.e. Deliver cleaner streets, better environmental services and keep crime low.

Supports the 'Weeks of Action' initiative – working with our partners, particularly the Police to prevent and reduce crime in specified locations across the Borough, providing reassurance to residents and improving quality of life.

Supports the Joint Agency Tasking and Co-ordination Group (JATCG) – compliant with the Police National Intelligence Model (NIM) and CDA Review National Standards for Intelligence Led Business Process and Information Sharing guidance. Meets monthly to share information and set joint partnership objectives for reducing crime, drugs and associated problems in hot-spot areas and monitoring of crime reduction initiatives e.g. alley-gating projects and CCTV.

It will also influence the achievement of measures related to the environment and environmental cleanliness, including the place survey.

The 2007/08 end of year ASB, Fear of Crime and Burglary stretch indicators performance is as follows:

Stretched Indicators		2007/08 Target	2007/08 Actual
1	Number of residential burglary where victim is over 75 years	251	190
2	Reduction in the number of non-residential burglary in the borough	651	754
3	Proportion of adults saying they are in fear of being a victim of crime	35.67%	34.45%
4	% of residents who consider suite of ASB as a 'fairly' or 'very big' problem	44.56%	33.1%

The new LAA stretch indicators for Preventing Violent Extremism are measured using an annual self-assessment that will not be available until the end of the 2008/09 reporting period. Similarly, the 2008/09 LAA Domestic Violence stretch target is subject to an annual re-refresh and therefore also not reported at this time.

4.7 Risk Implications

It is anticipated that further funding will be made available to support the plan in future years from the Area Based Grant (LAA). However, external funding will no longer be ring fenced and therefore similar allocations of funding achieved in previous years as granted by the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund cannot be guaranteed.

Therefore in future years this funding has to be accounted for within the core LAA funding if the plan is to be successfully delivered.

Individual risk assessments of the projects and activity contained in the action plans supporting the priorities have been undertaken by the strategic leads.

Section 5 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Jennifer Hydari	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 15/7/2008		
Name: Helen White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: 15/7/2008		

Section 6 – Performance Officer Clearance

Name: Tom Whiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Assistant Chief Executive
Date: 21 August 2008		

Section 6 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Ian Pearce, Senior Professional, Crime Reduction Team Leader, Community Safety Services Ext 6285

Background Papers:

1. Delivering Safer Communities:
A guide to effective partnership working (Home Office 2007)

2. Safer Harrow Management Group Council & Police Strategic Assessment 2007 (Harrow Website)
3. Community Safety Partnership Plan Priority Action Plans 2008/2009 (Harrow Website)
4. Residents Panel priority responses 2008 (Harrow Website)
5. National Indicators for Local authorities and Local Authority Partnerships (HM Government, DCLG 2007)
6. Equality Impact Assessment 4 September 2008