

CRIME AND DISORDER OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Subject Heading:

**Havering Community Safety
Partnership Plan 2018/19 Refresh**

SLT Lead:

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Policy context:

Our vision, 'Havering – making a Greater London', is about embracing the best of what Havering has to offer, and how we as a borough can play an active role in the success of the whole of London. Our vision is focused around the borough's communities, places, opportunities and connections. The Council has a statutory duty under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to produce an annual analysis of crime and disorder in the area, which will then be used to create a strategy to reduce these. This is relevant to our vision by ensuring the safety of our communities, and creating safer places; thereby improving opportunities for individuals and businesses.

Financial summary:

There are no financial implications arising from this report which is for information only. The expectation is that the financial implications associated with delivering the plan will be contained within existing resources.

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Communities making Havering
Places making Havering
Opportunities making Havering
Connections making Havering

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SUMMARY

The Council has a statutory duty under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to produce an annually refreshed community safety plan. This report briefs the Committee on the steps taken to refresh the Havering Community Safety Partnership Plan 2017/18-2019/20, to take into account the findings of the most recent Strategic Assessment Process and developments regionally and nationally which affect Community Safety work. A summary of new actions is provided in the 'report detail' section below.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee note the Community Safety Partnership Plan 2018/19 refresh contained at Appendix 1, which was approved by Havering Community Safety Partnership in April 2018.

REPORT DETAIL

Developments behind the refresh and additional actions

1.The 2017 Strategic Assessment found no reason to alter the Partnership's existing themed priorities; *protecting vulnerable individuals; supporting the most prolific and high harm offenders; creating safer locations*; and the cross cutting theme of *community engagement and public confidence*. There were however particular developments which were significant enough to warrant new actions in the plan.

2.The Mayor of London released his Police and Crime Plan and Knife Crime Strategy in 2017, and the new Violence Against Women and Girls strategy in March 2018. These documents set the direction for Community Safety work across London and for our partners in the Metropolitan Police; therefore the Havering Community Safety Partnership Plan has been refreshed to acknowledge these strategies. Funding from the Mayor's office is also likely to be based on local projects being aligned with the Mayor's strategy, so this is another important reason to ensure we incorporate direction set by City Hall.

Domestic Abuse / Violence Against Women and Girls (Section 1 of Action Plan)

3. Work to tackle violence against women and girls (along with all other situations which fall into the definition of domestic abuse) has led to a feeling amongst professionals locally that provisions for perpetrators could be improved, and that services can be developed through a perpetrator panel to either assist those who accept their flaws in committing acts of domestic abuse and wish to seek help; or to co-ordinate efforts to disrupt and deter those who refuse to change, and persistently cause misery for those closest to them.

4. The Homelessness Reduction Act, coming into force in April 2018, will require a local authority to assess the circumstances of any individual presenting as homeless, which could lead to an increase in the number of individuals applying for support. It is important for departments involved in safeguarding domestic abuse victims to ensure that they receive the support they need, regardless of any potential increase in applicants for housing support. An action has therefore been set for us to assess the impact of the legislation locally once it comes into force.

5. Modern day slavery is an issue which has been increasing in prominence nationally in recent years, with a drive from the Government and police forces to raise awareness amongst the general public and professionals who may encounter victims who have been trafficked; either from outside the UK or within it. Victims are made to carry out various types of work against their will, often with a threat of violence against themselves or their family. In 2016 the most commonly reported type of exploitation in adult victims was forced labour (44% of victims) followed by sexual exploitation (37%)¹. For this reason, the action to develop a modern day slavery working group has been placed under the VAWG heading; however any work carried out to tackle modern slavery will be done so with consideration of all types forced work; the acts of trafficking; and the criminal groups behind these.

Serious Group Violence (Section 2)

6. The monthly SGV Panel has grown in strength since being restarted in summer 2017, aided by the intelligence collated by the *CSE and Gangs Analyst*. This has been acknowledged in the refreshed plan, with an action to develop association charts of groups which operate in Havering.

7. The SGV strategy will also be re-launched, and actions will be carried out alongside other members of the *London Heads of Community Safety* group to tackle county line gangs, which distribute drugs out of London to provincial towns.

Burglary (Section 5)

8. The Metropolitan Police have been tackling burglary with a dedicated operation across the tri-borough area, and as offending patterns are not differentiated by boroughs neither should the support offered by local authorities; therefore development of a tri-borough acquisitive crime group will be supported.

9. The *Neighbourhood Watch* scheme will be reviewed and an operating procedure devised to assist with improving information flow throughout the year. In addition to this, the concept of local crime prevention groups will be expanded to include *street watch*, and *allotment watch*; which both fall outside the remit of existing schemes

¹ [HM Government 2017 UK Annual Report on Modern Slavery](#)

yet offer an opportunity for information to be gathered, and community led action to deter crime.

Violence With Injury (Section 6)

10. The majority of existing actions in this section of the plan relate to increasing safety in the night time economy, which generates a significant amount of our non-domestic violence with injury crime. Although the subject of child sexual exploitation could be placed in the *protecting vulnerable people* theme in section 1; the other actions in section 6 relate to building links with town centre business, and as there have been cases when hotels in other areas have been used to facilitate exploitation it is important that the Community Safety Partnerships Officer's connections with businesses are used to increase awareness in hotel staff of signs to look out for which may suggest that a room is being used to facilitate crime.

11. A new action to *work with the Portman group to develop town centre safe havens* aims to bring together existing services to offer increased co-ordination which will further reduce the impact of the night-time economy on emergency services.

Fire Safety Working Group (Section 7)

12. Over the previous year the *Tasking Enforcement Group* has developed into an effective multi-agency method of establishing linked or persistent sources of anti-social behaviour and environmental crime. Inclusion of data from colleagues at London Fire Brigade has led to several issues being brought to the group's attention and subsequent action to manage fire risks. It has been decided that this area of work is significant enough to warrant its own working group; therefore the *Fire Safety Working Group* has been formed. This group will meet quarterly and use data to establish areas receiving multiple calls to fires, or locations representing an increased risk if a fire was to break out (such as hoarders); and put measures in place to manage these factors.

13. The group has been added to the HCSP organogram in Appendix 6 of the plan.

Cross-cutting ASB reduction (Section 8)

14. An action has been added to this section to consider options for developing further Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) to tackle issues impacting on quality of life across the borough. This follows on from the successful implementation of a PSPO in Romford Town Centre which prohibits anti-social drinking. The tool can potentially be used to tackle a range of issues; subject to consultation with affected parties, and support from the Metropolitan Police.

15. Other new actions acknowledge work taking place with the Home Office as one of a small number of *Local Alcohol Action Areas* nationally; developing the *Best Bar None* scheme and seeking funding for this; and co-ordinating monthly action nights to tackle drugs and knives in the night-time economy. The intention is to then evidence the positive work in the night-time economy to apply for Purple Flag status.

Performance Monitoring

16.Existing performance measures, as detailed in the HCSP Performance Report will be used to monitor numerical targets.

17.The furthest-right column of the action plan has been used in the refreshed document to list the reason for including or continuing with each area of work. The background colour of red, amber, or green denotes how the officer responsible for this area of work perceives that progress is being made against the objective. The majority of actions set last year have seen good progression made (green), with only two areas experiencing amber progress. These are due to the delay in the Mayor's Officer releasing their VAWG strategy which meant it would have been unwise to produce our local strategy (Section 1.A); and issues with the information sharing agreement which is necessary to share data with town centre partners, such as photos of people banned from pubs or clubs (Section 6.C).

Appendix

- 1 Havering Community Safety Partnership Plan 2017/18 to 2019/20 (2018/19 Refresh)
- 2 Community Safety Partnership, Partnership Plan Equalities Impact Assessment 2018

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

There are no financial implications arising from this report which is for information only. Delivery of the Havering Community Safety Partnership Plan will have financial implications but the expectation is that this will be from within existing resources and where this is not possible it will be raised through the appropriate channels.

Legal implications and risks: There are no apparent legal implications from noting the content of the Plan.

Human Resources implications and risks:

There are no HR implications or risks arising directly that impact on the Councils workforce as this report is for information only. Delivery of the Havering Community Safety Partnership Plan will have HR implications but the expectation is that these will be from within existing resources.

Equalities implications and risks:

The Equalities Impact Assessment for the plan itself is included as a background document. While hate crime is likely to impact on certain protected characteristics,

it is also known that under-reporting exists; therefore actions are in place to develop links with groups in order to increase confidence and tackle this.

The Community Safety Partnership Plan is a broad overarching document and there are individual action plans concerning separate areas of work. The *Serious Group Violence and knife crime strategy* was completed in 2017 and an EIA exists. The *violence against women and girls strategy* is currently in draft format and due to be launched later this year; and the local strategy concerning *hate crime* is in the process of being refreshed. For each of these strategies an equality impact assessment will be completed, and these assessments will contain specific details on work to address inequalities which may exist; tackle discrimination; and encourage good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Aspects of the Community Safety Plan will target crimes against vulnerable victims, such as against elderly victims, or youth violence; and by doing so will look to address inequalities which exist in this sense of the term.