

CRIME AND DISORDER OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Subject Heading:	Violence Reduction Unit Action Plan update
SLT Lead:	Barry Francis Director of Neighbourhoods
Report Author and contact details:	Chris Stannett Community Safety Officer (IOM & SGV) chris.stannett@havering.gov.uk 01708434916
Policy context:	The report provides a summary of the Havering Violence Reduction Action Plan
Financial summary:	There are no direct financial implications arising from this report

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

Communities making Havering	[x]
Places making Havering	[x]
Opportunities making Havering	[]
Connections making Havering	[]

SUMMARY

The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) requires each local authority to produce a Violence Reduction Action Plan. The plan is refreshed annually and performance is reported quarterly to the Havering Community Safety Partnership

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Crime and Disorder Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the contents of the report.

REPORT DETAIL

MOPAC has requested that every London Borough completes an Action Plan on how it was going to address knife crime in its own Borough.

The Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) have worked closely with each of the 32 London boroughs to galvanise good practice and partnership through local Community Safety Partnership Violence Reduction Action Plans. Supported by the police, these plans have moved from a focus on limited enforcement objectives to a much more expansive public health remit exploring issues around vulnerability, exploitation, and safeguarding.

The VRU with the Metropolitan Police and boroughs, devised a single action plan template for London to ensure consistency and a range of actions that support a public health approach to violence reduction. This enables each Community Safety Partnership to tailor its violence reduction work to the local violence profile, needs of communities and local service best practice.

The VRU and Havering Council has reviewed the template in both 2020 and 2021 to ensure that the actions remain up-to-date and have a focus on violence, vulnerability and a public health multi-agency approach.

The plan contains 7 different themes each with a set of mandatory actions as well as a menu of optional actions, the majority of which Havering has adopted.

The 7 themes are as follows:

1. **Governance**- this provides an oversight of the leadership and governance of violence locally, detailing the senior leadership structure as well as collaboration between Community Safety Partnership, Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards and the Health and Wellbeing Board, to support a public health approach to reduce violence
2. **Analysis and Enforcement**- understanding of how analysis and local enforcement tactics are used to disrupt violence locally, including the Strategic Needs Assessment, monthly tasking meetings and using Information Sharing to Tackle Violence (ISTV) and wider public health data.
3. **Reducing Access to Weapons**- how partners are working jointly to minimise access including using Trading Standard initiatives and weapons sweeps
4. **Safeguarding and Educating Young people**- the most detailed section within the plan that contains actions that include focussing on reducing exclusions, support

for children in care and care leavers, working with parents and carers and ensuring schools are safe and inclusive spaces.

5. **Working with Communities and Neighbourhoods to Reduce Violence**- ensuring that local delivery works closely with communities to reduce violence including VCS.
6. **Supporting Victims of Violence and Vulnerability**- ensuring co-ordinated referral and support to victims and those who are vulnerable.
7. **Positive Diversion from Violence**- recognising that children and young people should be offered interventions which help them before or to move away from criminality

The full Havering Violence Reduction Unit Action Plan is included as Appendix 1.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report which is for information only.

Legal implications and risks:

There are no apparent legal implications in noting the content of the Plan.

Human Resources implications and risks:

There are no specific Human Resource implications or risks arising directly from this report.

Equalities implications and risks:

This report relates to information requested by the committee rather than policy. There are no direct equalities implications or risks associated with this report.

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have 'due regard' to:

- (i) The need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (ii) The need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- (iii) Foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'Protected characteristics' are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnerships, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex/gender, and sexual orientation.

The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants.