

Notice of KEY Executive Decision

Subject Heading:	<i>Violence Reduction Unit Action Plan</i>
Cabinet Member:	<i>Cllr Viddy Persaud</i>
SLT Lead:	<i>Barry Francis- Director of Neighbourhoods</i>
Report Author and contact details:	<p><i>Chris Stannett</i> Community Safety: Serious Group Violence & IOM Chris.stannett@havering.gov.uk 01708434916</p>
Policy context:	<i>The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory duty on Local Authorities and other statutory partners to develop a Community Safety Plan to tackle crime and disorder. The Violence Reduction Action Plan is a priority action within the current Community Safety Plan.</i>
Financial summary:	<i>There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.</i>
Reason decision is Key	<i>The impact of violence and knife crime has Significant effect on two or more Wards</i>
Date notice given of intended decision:	<i>11th November 2021</i>

Key Executive Decision

Relevant OSC:	<i>Crime and Disorder</i>
Is it an urgent decision?	<i>No</i>
Is this decision exempt from being called-in?	<i>No</i>

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

Communities making Havering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Places making Havering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Opportunities making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>
Connections making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>

Key Executive Decision

Part A – Report seeking decision

DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION

The MOPAC Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) requires each Local Authority to develop a Violence Reduction Action Plan. The Havering Community Safety Partnership has developed the VRU Action Plan in conjunction with the Police and other statutory partners. MOPAC requires sign-off of the final VRU Action Plan by the Leader of the Council, Chief Executive Officer and the Borough Commander by the 10th December.

The HCSP requests approval for the attached VRU Plan.

AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

Part 3 [(Responsibility for Functions)] Section 2 of the Council's Constitution:

The Leader of the Council is responsible for arranging for the exercise of all executive functions and may exercise any Executive functions personally provided notice is given to the Proper Officer.

This decision is made in accordance with Part 3, section 2.5 paragraph (bb) of the Constitution.

"To approve all Community Safety Partnership Strategies arising under the Crime and Disorder Act or other related legislation."

STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Violence reduction is a key priority for the Havering Community Safety Partnership. Tackling violence requires a multi-agency response and a comprehensive programme of work. The Action Plan has identified 7 key themes which include:

- 1. Governance*
- 2. Analysis and Enforcement*
- 3. Reducing Access to Weapons*
- 4. Safeguarding and Educating Children and Young People*
- 5. Working with Communities and Neighbourhoods to reduce Violence*
- 6. Supporting Victims of Violence and Vulnerable*
- 7. Positive Diversion from Violence*

Failure to submit an Action Plan to MOPAC will impact on access to future funding from the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU).

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Failure to submit an action plan will impact on access to future funds.

Key Executive Decision

PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION

The VRU Action Plan has been discussed and approved by the Havering Community Safety Partnership on the 27th October 2021. It is further reviewed on a quarterly basis by the panel. The VRU Action Plan has been discussed and approved by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) Meeting on the 16th November 2021 and is due to go to the Theme board on the 29th November. For consideration by Crime and Disorder, Overview and Scrutiny on the 9th December 2021.

NAME AND JOB TITLE OF STAFF MEMBER ADVISING THE DECISION-MAKER

Name: Chris Stannett

Designation: Community Safety Officer



Signature:

Date: 16/11/2021

Part B - Assessment of implications and risks

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

This Action Plan is in line with the Crime & Disorder Act 1998, Police and Justice Act 2006 and The Crime and Disorder Regulations 2011. The Council and other statutory partners including Health have a responsibility under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to address crime and disorder within the borough, with a statutory obligation to produce a Community Safety Plan.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Failure to submit an action plan will impact on access to future funds.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS (AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS WHERE RELEVANT)

There are no HR implications to this decision

EQUALITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

There are no direct equalities implications or risks associated with this action plan. A full equalities impact assessment was conducted in relation to the Serious group violence and knife crime strategy 2019-22

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.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The EIA conducted in 2017 did not include considerations of health and wellbeing which have since been introduced as a health in all policies approach. As a result an additional rapid review has been undertaken to consider wider health and wellbeing considerations.

The Violence Reduction Unit Action Plan contributes to improving health and wellbeing. The impact of violence and knife crime impacts on those engaged in violence and the wider community.

For those who become engaged in serious violence during childhood and adolescence, this not only has serious and immediate health consequences, which can lead to mental ill health and physical harms, but other correlating factors such as disengagement from education and learning and involvement in the criminal justice system can have long-term impacts on social determinants of health and wellbeing. By diverting children and young people away from serious violence, there is greater potential to avoid those negative consequences. For those who do come in contact with the criminal justice system, the Probation Service bespoke licensing conditions include opportunities for training, employment, education and housing and improved personal wellbeing.

For the wider community affected by knife crime; families, peer groups and affected neighbourhoods, failing to tackle serious violence can impact on mental and emotional wellbeing. Other strategies and programmes of work are in place to respond to these issues.

It is yet unknown to what extent the experiences of the pandemic may have contributed to those underlying risk factors and early trauma that can increase the likelihood of a child/young person becoming involved in violence. This will be monitored going forward

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix 1. Havering Violence Reduction Action Plan

Appendix 2. MOPAC VRU Briefing Note

Appendix 3 Serious Group Violence and Knife Crime EIA 2017-2021

Key Executive Decision

Part C – Record of decision

I have made this executive decision in accordance with my authority as the Leader of the Council and in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

Decision

Proposal agreed

Delete as applicable

Details of decision maker

Signed



Name: Cllr Damian White

Cabinet Portfolio held: Leader of Havering Council

CMT Member title:

Head of Service title

Other manager title:

Date: Thursday 9th December 2021

Lodging this notice

The signed decision notice must be delivered to the proper officer, Debra Marlow, Principal Committee Officer in Democratic Services, in the Town Hall.

For use by Committee Administration

This notice was lodged with me on _____

Signed _____