

## Notice of Non-Key Executive Decision

<b>Subject Heading:</b>	Permission to Undertake the annual Community Safety Survey
<b>Decision Maker:</b>	<i>Helen Oakerbee</i>
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	<i>Cllr Barry Mugglestone</i>
<b>ELT Lead:</b>	<i>Helen Oakerbee</i>
<b>Report Author and contact details:</b>	<i>Kerry Wright - Senior Community Safety Officer</i> <a href="mailto:kerry.wright@havering.gov.uk">kerry.wright@havering.gov.uk</a> 01708 433 826
<b>Policy context:</b>	The Council has a statutory duty under the crime and disorder act 1998 to produce a annually refreshed community safety plan
<b>Financial summary:</b>	There are no direct financial implications or risks associated with the annual Community Safety Survey.  The implementation of the Community Safety Plan is funded by a mixture of core council budget and MOPAC grant, and will continue to be delivered within these resources
<b>Relevant Overview &amp; Scrutiny Sub Committee:</b>	<i>Places Overview and Scrutiny</i>
<b>Is this decision exempt from being called-in?</b>	<i>The decision will be exempt from call in as it is a Non key Decision</i>

**Non-key Executive Decision**

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

People - Supporting our residents to stay safe and well X

Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy X

Resources - Enabling a resident-focused and resilient Council

## **Part A – Report seeking decision**

### **DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION**

For the reasons set out in this response, the Director of Planning and Public Protection is recommended to:

To give formal approval to proceed with the Community Safety Annual Survey, which is a critical tool in shaping our strategic direction and ensuring our work remains responsive to local needs.

The survey will be conducted on line via the Council's consultation tool, Citizen Space, and will be live for a period of 8 weeks. It is proposed to launch the survey at the end of June / Beginning of July.

### **AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE**

The Council's Constitution states the following regarding consultations under delegated powers for Strategic Directors

#### **6. Consultations**

6.1 To respond to consultations in relation to any matter affecting their directorate.

6.2 To launch / commission any consultation (statutory or otherwise) in relation to any matter affecting their directorate. BUT PROVIDED that all consultation (response, initiation, launch, etc.) shall be discussed with the relevant Cabinet Member.

Functions sub-delegated from Strategic Director of Place to Director of Planning and Public Protection on 3 April 2024.

### **STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

#### **The Crime and Disorder Act 1998**

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 gave local authorities and the police a duty to work together to develop crime and disorder audits and implement reduction strategies.

Section 5 of the Act sets out that the Council and the Police have joint responsibility for preventing and reducing crime and disorder in the area. They are 'responsible

## **Non-key Executive Decision**

authorities' and have a duty to co-operate through a Community Safety Partnership (CSP).

The 'responsible authorities' have responsibility, under Section 6 of the Act, for formulating and implementing 'a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in the area'. Before formulating the Strategy, the responsible authorities shall carry out, taking due account of the knowledge and experience of persons in the area, a review of the levels and patterns of crime and disorder in the area and of the level and patterns of the misuse of drugs in the area.' This is known as the Strategic Assessment.

Section 17 of the Act place a duty on the local authority to "Without prejudice to any other obligation imposed upon it, it shall be the duty of each authority ... to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment) and the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area" and re-offending in its area and (d) serious violence in its area".

The Community Safety Annual Survey, last delivered in April 2024, has already provided valuable insights into resident perceptions of crime, anti-social behaviour, and community safety priorities. These findings will directly inform the development of the CSP priorities for 2026–2029, ensuring that our future strategy is grounded in robust, community-led evidence.

The survey results will be triangulated with data from the Annual Strategic Assessment and partner intelligence to identify emerging trends, assess the impact of current interventions, and shape targeted actions across key themes such as violence reduction, youth engagement, and environmental crime.

Approval to continue this work will enable us to maintain a strong evidence base and deliver a strategy that reflects the lived experiences and concerns of our communities.

The Community Safety Annual Survey is instrumental in capturing resident perceptions around crime, anti-social behaviour, and local safety priorities. It directly supports our strategic aim of improving public confidence and informing targeted interventions. The approval will enable us to continue this vital engagement work and maintain alignment with statutory responsibilities and partnership objectives.

### **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

To not conduct an annual survey however this will result in us being in breach of our statutory duties under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

### **PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION**

**Non-key Executive Decision**

**None as this is a statutory responsibility**

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

Name: Kerry Wright

Designation: Senior Community Safety Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kerry Wright', is written over a light blue grid background.

Signature:

Date: 01/07/25

## **Part B - Assessment of implications and risks**

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

#### **The Crime and Disorder Act 1998**

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 gave local authorities and the police a duty to work together to develop crime and disorder audits and implement reduction strategies.

Section 5 of the Act sets out that the Council and the Police have joint responsibility for preventing and reducing crime and disorder in the area. They are 'responsible authorities' and have a duty to co-operate through a Community Safety Partnership (CSP).

The 'responsible authorities' have responsibility, under Section 6 of the Act, for formulating and implementing 'a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in the area'. 'Before formulating the Strategy, the responsible authorities shall carry out, taking due account of the knowledge and experience of persons in the area, a review of the levels and patterns of crime and disorder in the area and of the level and patterns of the misuse of drugs in the area.' This is known as the Strategic Assessment.

Section 17 of the Act place a duty on the local authority to "Without prejudice to any other obligation imposed upon it, it shall be the duty of each authority ... to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment) and the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area".

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

There are no direct financial implications or risks associated with the annual Community Safety Survey.

The implementation of the Community Safety Plan is funded by a mixture of core council budget and MOPAC grant and will continue to be delivered within these resources.

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

The recommendations made in this report do not appear to give rise to any identifiable HR risks or implications that would affect either the Council or its workforce.

### **EQUALITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

## **Non-key Executive Decision**

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 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) The need to foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

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

The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement, and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. Additionally, the Council is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents with regard to socio-economic and health determinants.

An EHIA (Equality and Health Impact Assessment) has not been completed and is not required for this decision.

The Council seeks to ensure equality, inclusion, and dignity for all.

There are not equalities and social inclusion implications and risks associated with this decision.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

There is no real impact expected from the work around the survey.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

## **APPENDICES**

**Non-key Executive Decision**

**Part C – Record of decision**

I have made this executive decision in accordance with authority delegated to me by the Leader of the Council and in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

**Decision**

Proposal agreed

**Details of decision maker**

Signed 

Name: Helen Oakerbee, Director of Planning and Public Protection

Date: 1 July 2025

**Lodging this notice**

The signed decision notice must be delivered to Committee Services, in the Town Hall.

**For use by Committee Administration**

This notice was lodged with me on \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_