

Report for: Community Safety Partnership – 27th February 2019

Title: Young People at Risk Strategy

Lead Officer: Hugh Smith, Policy & Equalities Officer

1. Summary

1.1 In March the Cabinet of Haringey Council will consider a Young People at Risk Strategy, the overarching objective of which is to reduce serious youth violence in the borough.

1.2 The strategy reflects the Labour administration's priority to "divert young people away from criminality", as noted in the Leader's introduction to the Borough Plan.

1.3 The strategy is being brought forward at a time when Central and London government have adopted new approaches to tackling youth violence and there are opportunities to learn from other localities that have been successful, including Glasgow and Hackney.

1.4 The Young People at Risk Strategy is informed by extensive engagement with young people and with partners, the Godwin Lawson Foundation Report on Youth at Risk, a Needs Assessment based on local data, a review of the literature and evidence base on youth safety, and the Scrutiny Review on Disproportionality in the Youth Justice System.

1.5 The strategy sets out:

- i. A long term strategic approach to reducing and preventing youth violence, based on a public health model
- ii. Strategic priorities over the next four years (2019-23)

1.6 The strategy is supported by:

- i. A comprehensive overview of the risk and protective factors associated with serious youth violence and their prevalence among young people, families, and communities in Haringey
- ii. An action plan for short-term and medium-term activity

1.7 The strategy's public health approach views young people as having degrees of risk for involvement in violence. Risk factors such as neglect, substance use, and school exclusion can make young people more vulnerable to involvement in violent crime. In parallel, protective factors such as safe communities, supportive families, and high attainment in school can help keep young people safe. In order to mitigate risk factors and build protective ones, the strategy sets out five key outcomes to be achieved over ten years, supported by priority areas in which to focus partnership activity.

2. Outcomes

2.1 The strategy sets out outcomes to be met over its ten-year lifespan, each supported by four-year priorities.

2.2 Outcome 1: Safe communities with positive things for young people to do, where there are strong role models and trust in institutions.

- i. Priority 1: Youth Provision
- ii. Priority 2: Strong Role Models
- iii. Priority 3: Building Trust in Institutions

2.3 Outcome 2: Positive family environments, low levels of family stress, good parenting; and young people able to develop strong, healthy relationships with peers and trusted adults

- i. Priority 1: Support for Parents
- ii. Priority 2: Early Help
- iii. Priority 3: Addressing Family Risk
- iv. Priority 4: Youth Homelessness
- v. Priority 5: Peer Relationships

2.4 Outcome 3: Confident, happy and resilient young people who are able to cope with negative experiences, setbacks, and stress

- i. Priority 1: Developing and Embedding the THRIVE approach
- ii. Priority 2: Getting advice: Signposting; self-management; one off support
- iii. Priority 3: Getting help: Goals focused, evidence informed and outcomes focused interventions
- iv. Priority 4: Getting more help: extensive treatment
- v. Priority 5: Getting risk support: risk management and crisis response

2.5 Outcome 4: Young people thriving in school, with positive aspirations for the future and access to employment and training opportunities to get there

- i. Priority 1: Early Learning
- ii. Priority 2: Addressing under-achievement in education
- iii. Priority 3: Reducing exclusions and improving Alternative Provision
- iv. Priority 4: Employment

2.6 Outcome 5: Young people are protected from exploitation and from experience of serious youth violence

- i. Priority 1: Diversion from the Criminal Justice System
- ii. Priority 2: Keeping Deadly Weapons off Our Streets
- iii. Priority 3: Protecting and Educating Young People
- iv. Priority 4: Targeting Lawbreakers
- v. Priority 5: Offering Ways Out of Crime
- vi. Priority 6: Standing with Communities, Neighbourhoods, and Families against Knife Crime
- vii. Priority 7: Supporting Victims of Violent Crime

2.7 Priorities 2-7 under Outcome 5 are fully integrated with the North Area Violence Reduction Plan. The additional Priority 1 reflects a manifesto commitment and Borough Plan priority to ensure that fewer children enter the criminal justice system.

3. Whole Systems Approach

3.1 The strategy takes a whole systems approach to youth violence and adopts a public health model. This means involving all partners and the community in a collective long-term effort to target those most at risk of involvement in youth violence while building the resilience of

all young people in Haringey.

3.2 Achieving the five outcomes of this strategy for all our young people requires a collective, consistent and coordinated approach from all of our partners. At present, the deep levels of commitment and good practice taking place are not achieving the required level of impact, because we are not yet working together effectively enough. We need the following to achieve a step change in prevention:

- i. A shared vision and strategy for tackling youth violence
- ii. Shared governance and accountability for delivery
- iii. A partnership where everyone's role is valued and maximised
- iv. A shared and coordinated approach
- v. A skilled and confident workforce, across the whole partnership

4. Action Plan

4.1 An Action Plan that sets out how the Council and partners will work towards the identified outcomes, priorities, and whole systems approach is attached.

5. Governance

5.1 Delivery of the strategy is dependent on clear accountability and strong, multi-agency governance, and this work will be overseen by and report into each of four statutory and strategic partnership boards, symbolising the approach (safety; wellbeing; safeguarding; diversion) being taken to responding to the issues of serious youth violence: the Community Safety Partnership (co-chaired by the Lead Member for Communities and the Borough Commander), the Health and Wellbeing Board (chaired by the Lead Member for Adults and Health), the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (chaired independently) and the Youth Justice Board (chaired by the Director of Children's Services).

5.2 Any decisions for individual organisations will continue to be made by those individual organisations as there is no delegation of functions to the structure described above. The Director of Children's Services will chair an executive comprising senior leaders from the Council, the Metropolitan Police Service, Haringey CCG, Homes for Haringey, and Haringey schools. The executive group will have overall responsibility for delivering cross-cutting programmes and for periodic review and refresh of the strategy and action plans, ensuring all aspects of the Strategy continue to be supported in their delivery.

6. Questions for the Community Safety Partnership

6.1 What are the roles of community safety partners in achieving the outcomes and priorities outlined above?

6.2 How can CSP support the delivery of the strategy?

6.3 What role does the CSP wish to play in the governance of the strategy?

6.4 Are current partnership arrangements sufficient for successful delivery of the strategy?