

**Title: Haringey Community Safety Priority Setting – December 2020**

**Report**

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**Ward(s) affected: All Wards**

**Report for Key/**

**Non Key Decision: Non key-decision**

**1. Describe the issue under consideration**

- 1.1 This briefing note details information about the Haringey Community Safety priority setting process for 2021/22. This is similar to the 2020/21 process, to be finalised by March 2021.
- 1.2 As part of the Mayor's Police and Crime Plan, MOPAC have committed to setting local policing priorities across the capital in conjunction with borough leaders and police. Setting the priorities in this way ensures local issues, as determined by Community Safety Partnerships, are focused on. MOPAC is committed to refreshing the local borough priorities on an annual basis.
- 1.3 Alongside the local priorities are London wide policing priorities on mandatory high-harm crimes: sexual violence, domestic abuse, child sexual exploitation, weapon-based crime and hate crime.
- 1.4 MOPAC have noted that, for the offences chosen as a priority by boroughs, in the majority of those areas there has been an improvement in offending when compared with Boroughs not focusing on the same crime types locally. This suggests the local problem-solving approach does have an impact.
- 1.5 Last year, data showed that both violence (Robbery; Non-Domestic Violence with Injury) and burglary were trends on the rise and should be considered actively by boroughs when setting local priorities. As a result, many Boroughs chose a violence measure and/or burglary as a priority. Alongside this, MOPAC ensured that anti-social behaviour remained a local borough priority across London.

**2 Cabinet Member Introduction**

- 2.1 **Priority Setting:** We have seen welcome reductions in violence with injury, robbery and serious youth violence (SYV) victims during the last eight months, which compare favourably with the London average. However it is crucial that we continue to focus on these priority areas going forward as VWI and robbery

continue to be a significant challenge for the North Area Basic Command Unit and Haringey remains one of the largest contributors to these offences.

- 2.2 **Mayors Community Engagement Action Plan:** I am encouraged by the development of the Mayors Engagement Action Plan. Further work will be undertaken over the coming weeks to ensure this reflects the historical context in Haringey and allows for transparent and clear representation across all of our communities in Haringey.
- 2.3 **Prevention and Diversion:** In terms of prevention and diversion activities we have also seen the recent launch of Op Alliance based at Wood Green Custody Centre. Op Alliance is aimed at working with young people aged between 10 and 18-years-old in custody with a clear objective to divert them away from crime and reoffending. The initiative has been formed through a partnership between the Met Police and charities Oasis Hadley and The Children's Society, as well as Haringey and Enfield Council Children Service. It will see four youth outreach workers embedded in Wood Green Custody Suite until March 2021, with the aim to build on the partnerships and continue this programme longer-term.
- 2.4 **Domestic Abuse.** I am also concerned about the effects of lockdown on Domestic Abuse during 2020. There are several factors which may have contributed to the increased risks we have seen this year, including the impact of the lockdown and the additional barriers to reporting. This included self-isolation and restricted movement, which means that survivors were trapped at home for prolonged periods of time with their perpetrators and that they were less likely to be able to safely contact others or call for help.

Burgoyne Road Refuge has been purchased and discussions are ongoing, updates to follow early 2021

- 2.5 **Hate Crime:** Compared to the same point last year racist and religious hate crime has seen increases both in Haringey and across London. Again, this is a worrying trend which is attributed to several factors, including the pandemic, reaction to BLM protests and Brexit. It is of concern that this could become more prevalent as we head into 2021.

### 3 Recommendations

- 3.1 Haringey's agreed local priorities for 2020/21 are Violence with Injury (Non-Domestic) and Personal Robbery. Whilst some positive improvements have been noted in Violence with Injury (Non-Domestic) (-11%) and Personal Robbery (-30%), both of these remain significant challenges for the borough. The seriousness of such incidents continues to also remain high, with levels of injury sustained often being significant.
- 3.2 The volume of recorded crime has reduced significantly since March 2020, in Haringey and across London. Some crime types have experienced reductions in excess of 30% during this period.

- 3.3 As each phase lockdown easing was implemented, crime levels have generally increased once again, however, they remain below previous baseline levels in most cases.
- 3.4 Nonetheless, Haringey experiences over 1,600 violent crimes per year and almost 1,700 robberies, equating to one of each of these offences approximately every 5 hours, throughout the year.
- 3.5 Due to these factors, it is recommended that Violence with Injury (Non-Domestic) and Personal Robbery remain key local priorities for Haringey, along with the basket of high harm crimes (sexual violence, domestic abuse, child sexual exploitation, weapon-based crime and hate crime) and anti-social behaviour. These priorities would also support a number of ongoing workstreams in Haringey, including the Community Safety Strategy, the Young People at Risk strategy, the Borough Plan and the North Area Violence Reduction Group (NAVRG).

#### **4 Reasons for decision**

n/a

#### **5 Alternative options considered**

n/a

#### **6 Background information**

- 6.1 Haringey has a signed agreement with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime to contribute to tackling the Mayor's priority crimes. This is allocated across five areas: Drug treatment intervention to reduce reoffending; Integrated Offender Management; an integrated Gang Exit Programme; Advocacy and support to victims of domestic violence; Cross-borough support to ASB victims and witnesses (Haringey and Enfield).
- 6.2 Quarterly returns are required which give considerable detail about our expenditure and performance to date. Haringey has an excellent reputation for compliance on both fronts.
- 6.3 Performance monitoring occurs in between Community Safety Partnership board meetings and attendance includes the holders of KPIs, the budget holders and statutory partners such as the police.

#### **7 Contribution to strategic outcomes**

- 7.1 This work contributes to the Mayor of London's Policing and Crime Strategy, Haringey's Borough Plan Priority 3 (Place) and the Haringey Community Safety Strategy. It will also help to deliver on Haringey's Borough Plan, Young People at Risk strategy, as well as the North Area Violence Reduction Group (NAVRG).
- 7.2 Officers and partners work strategically across related work areas and boards such as Youth Offending, Safeguarding Children and Adults, Health and Wellbeing, Regeneration, Community Gold, Early Help and the Community Safety Strategy.

- 8 Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)**  
n/a

**Finance and Procurement**

The continued funding may provide opportunities to build on existing workstreams, as well as pursuing new opportunities. Quarterly returns are required which give considerable detail about our expenditure and performance to date. Haringey has an excellent reputation for compliance on both fronts.

**Legal**

n/a

**Equality**

There is an inherent impact on equalities of much of our community safety work and this is presented and discussed at the Community Safety Partnership meetings. This includes the peak age of offending being between 16 and 24; a disproportionately high volume of identified gang members being young black males (mostly of African-Caribbean origin) (approx. 80%); the impact of domestic and sexual violence on women and girls; high concentrations of crime occurring in areas of deprivation; and vulnerable individuals and communities becoming victims of hate crime.

This report considers the areas of challenge in direct correlation with the impact on victims, especially vulnerable victims. In this respect, significant attention is being given to the disproportionate impact.

- 9 Use of Appendices**  
1 - Haringey Community Safety Priority Setting December 2020 (Slide Deck)
- 10 Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**