

Meeting: Safer Communities Executive Board

Date: 7 May 2009

Report Title: Safer Communities Action Plan 2009/10

Report of: Claire Kowalska, Community Safety Strategic Manager

Purpose

To present the Safer Communities Action Plan for 2009/10.

Summary

The following report summarises the high-level activity relating to the delivery of the Safer Communities objectives and targets for the coming year. The priorities are drawn from the 3-year Partnership Plan priorities and the latest annual strategic and needs' assessments. Individual action plans for each priority area will be available on the website from May 2009.

Legal/Financial Implications

The funding to deliver this Plan derives from the Area-Based Grant, external funds and some mainstream resources.

Front-line service delivery e.g. for youth crime prevention, treatment provision and the ASBAT service continue to suffer from either short-term or uncertain funding levels.

There are robust processes in place for the management of these funds via the Safer Communities Service and Performance Management Group.

At the time of writing, the aligned police fund (Basic Command Unit Fund) had not been officially confirmed. This fund is due to commission a significant number of prevention projects for 2009/10.

Recommendations

That board members note the activity and progress over the coming year in support of key national indicators.

For more information contact

Name: Claire Kowalska
Title: Community Safety Manager

1. Background

- 1.1 The attached Action Plan covers key actions under the responsibility of Safer and Stronger Communities Service for the coming financial year and will be monitored regularly.
- 1.2 Partnership plans for the delivery of specific priorities have also been prepared and include priority areas such as violence, acquisitive crime and anti-social behaviour. These have been prepared by individual boards on the basis of evaluation, data and current knowledge and will all be available on the website from May 2009.

2. Key objectives 2009-10

- 2.1 The high-level priorities and outcomes for the coming year which support our Local Area Agreement (LAA) are:
 - To measurably improve perceptions of how the Council and Police deal with crime and ASB in the local area and increase confidence in the partnership
 - To prevent and reduce serious priority crime (acquisitive crime, violent crime, domestic and gender-based violence)
 - To prevent and reduce persistent and serious anti-social behaviour (ASB)
 - To reduce re-offending through co-ordination and resettlement services (esp. of non-statutory offenders)
 - To reduce the number of children and young people involved in crime and disorder
 - To safeguard children and young people from harm through identification and referral
 - To support young people at risk of offending and invest in proven youth diversion and parenting programmes
 - To reduce the harm caused through drug and alcohol misuse
 - To ensure that the borough is prepared for emergencies and has all necessary business continuity plans in place
- 2.2 This activity supports the current LAA improvement targets under the responsibility of this board which are:
 - NI 15 – serious violent crime rate
 - NI 16 – serious acquisitive crime rate
 - NI 21 – perceptions of how police and local authority deal with crime and ASB locally
 - NI 35 – preventing violent extremism
 - NI 40 – drug users into effective treatment
 - NI 111 – preventing entrants into the youth justice system

Each of these targets is owned by a specific, partnership board and progress is regularly measured.

3. Strategic overlaps

3.1 In addition, the following areas have been identified as common across two or more teams within the Service and will be subject to intensified joint working in the year ahead:

- Targeted community engagement and involvement
- Specialised, strategic commissioning
- Project and performance management
- Strengthening data, intelligence and analysis to identify unmet priorities and need; and to target interventions more precisely
- Co-ordinating communications and marketing around priorities
- Strengthening area-based working and problem-solving
- Preventing and diverting young people from offending, disorder and substance misuse through proven projects and support
- Co-ordinating support to the 18-25 age group (currently falling through the provision gap)
- Increasing awareness and action to reduce re-offending