



Haringey Council

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

On 14th September 2009

Report Title: Safer and Stronger Communities Action Plan

Report of: Cabinet Member, Enforcement and Safer Communities

Contact Officer: Claire Kowalska, Community Safety Manager. Tel: 020 8489 6949

Wards(s) affected: All

Report for: **N/A**

1. Purpose of the report (That is, the decision required)

1.1. To inform Overview and Scrutiny of the high-level actions to meet strategic priorities and objectives. A progress update at the end of Q1 is also included.

2. Introduction by Cabinet Member (if necessary)

2.1. N/A

3. State link(s) with Council Plan Priorities and actions and /or other Strategies:

3.1. Addressing the prevention and reduction of crime, the fear of crime, the harm caused by drugs and alcohol and anti-social behaviour are all key parts of the cleaner, greener and safer priority. Collectively, these remain top priorities for residents.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1. That the Committee note the adoption of the problem-solving model and arrangements for robust and regular monitoring of performance against actions and targets
- 4.2 That the Committee note progress against targets and actions at the end of Q1

5. Reason for recommendation(s)

<p>5.1. To confirm the delivery work of Safer and Stronger Communities as evidence-led and intelligence-led and to highlight progress and issues since the start of the financial year</p>
<p>6. Other options considered (N/A)</p>
<p>7. Summary</p> <p>The following report outlines the high-level activity relating to the delivery of Safer Communities objectives and targets for 2009/10. The priorities are drawn from the current three year Safer for All strategy and the final year of Haringey's Local Area Agreement.</p>
<p>8. Chief Financial Officer Comments (N/A)</p> <p>All planned actions are deliverable within agreed and existing budgets, primarily through the Area Based Grant. See point 13 below for longer-term implications</p>
<p>9. Head of Legal Services Comments (N/A)</p> <p>There are no legal comments or implications</p>
<p>10. Head of Procurement Comments – [Required for Procurement Committee]</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>11. Equalities & Community Cohesion Comments</p> <p>People from black and ethnic minority communities have a disproportionately high risk of becoming a victim of crime. In addition, women and older people tend to suffer from higher levels of anxiety about crime. There are several actions which directly address this and these include: Mapping with targeted interventions of the most vulnerable locations in the borough; an increase in outreach to young people by Victim Support; development of the third party reporting process for hate crime; delivery of the Preventing Violent Extremism agenda; increased response by the YOS to ethnic changes in their caseload; additional support with resettlement for non-statutory offenders</p>
<p>12. Consultation</p> <p>The adoption of the action plan and approach has been subject to consultation with a range of partners and was endorsed by the Safer Communities Executive Board. The development of individual projects has been subject to extensive public consultation.</p>
<p>13. Service Financial Comments</p> <p>A high proportion of the Safer Communities Service is funded externally and through the Area-Based Grant (ABG). This leaves the Service without the security of stable and ongoing funding. Reductions on external grants (e.g. National Treatment Agency funds</p>

for drug treatment services) result in some areas of work being particularly vulnerable.

14. Use of appendices /Tables and photographs

14.1 Appendix 1 Service Integrated Action Plan is attached

15. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

15.1. Background papers are as follows:

Cutting Crime: Home Office Strategy 2008-2011

Safer for All Strategy 2008-2011

National Drug Strategy 2008-2011

16. Background

16.1 The attached Action Plan covers objectives and actions agreed by partners and endorsed by the Safer Communities Executive. Actions relate to the responsibilities and objectives in the Local Area Agreement and the Safer for All Strategy 2008-2011. Partnership plans for the delivery of specific priorities also exist and include areas such as violence, substance misuse, acquisitive crime and anti-social behaviour. All plans have been prepared on the basis of previous monitoring, annual strategic assessments and data analysis, and current knowledge.

17. High-level objectives (2009/10)

17.1 The following objectives drive the work of the partnership and supporting activity is noted on the attached plan:

- Improve perceptions of responses to crime and ASB, increasing confidence in the local criminal justice agencies
- Prevent and reduce serious priority crime (acquisitive crime, domestic violence, other serious violence, persistent and serious anti-social behaviour)
- Reduce and prevent the number of children and young people involved in and affected by crime
- Reduce the harm caused through drug and alcohol misuse
- Ensure that the borough is prepared for emergencies
- Reduce adult repeat re-offending with a focus on non-statutory cases (ie those with prison sentences of 12 months or under)

17.2 These objectives support the current LAA improvement priorities as listed below:

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

Stretch target: Increase the number of sanctioned detections and reduce the number of repeat victims of domestic violence

18. **Progress to date (Q1 April – June 2009)**

18.1 There have been notable successes in the following areas:

- Despite the economic downturn, overall acquisitive crime is currently on target
- There has been a reduction in the number of first time entrants entering the youth justice system and performance is on a favourable trend in the face of a demanding target
- The number of drug users in effective treatment has shown an increase of 12% on the original 07/08 baseline
- Performance to reduce repeat victimisation and increase sanctioned detections for victims of domestic violence has been consistently positive and is now set to meet the stretch target

18.2 Issues requiring increased monitoring are:

- Most serious violent crime is currently challenging due to a resurgence of youth-related violence. Some of this is due to the comparison with a favourable period last year and to the re-classification of objects perceived, intimidated or used. However, there are genuine concerns about this trend which are being met by intensified problem-solving, re-prioritisation of resources and closer partnership and inter-disciplinary work
- Although acquisitive crime is performing well overall, challenges remain in sustaining reductions in residential burglary and robbery over time. An experienced and strong partnership group is keeping on top of these crime areas and sophisticated mapping is enabling us to target resources, campaigns and interventions more effectively.

19. **Performance monitoring and Problem-solving**

19.1 The SCEB has its own performance monitoring group which meets regularly to consider changes in performance, performance against targets, review finances and address any slippage or problems with project delivery.

19.2 The problem-solving model has been in existence for many years but few partnerships have fully embraced the methodology. The approach has been developed in Haringey since the beginning of the Safer for All Strategy 2008-2011 and training is ongoing. Problems are identified and analysed through the partnership groups and/or the 7 area-based working groups. Where issues cannot be resolved at the local level or require significant support or resources, the documented issue is escalated to one of the three neighbourhood zones or to the Safer Communities Performance Management Group for resolution. The board agreed to allocate a specific sum for 09/10 to address important problems that support the strategic objectives and action

plans as they arise. Evidence and intelligence must be provided. This allocation is being used effectively so far to help overcome performance issues around residential burglary, youth violence, prevention messages and to design out persistent anti-social behaviour.