

Report for: Cabinet. Tuesday 7th February 2023.

Title: Community Safety Strategy & Hate Crime Strategy development 2023 - 2027

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Ward(s) affected: All wards

**Report for Key/
Non-Key Decision:** Key

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 There are two issues under consideration for the Cabinet which relate to the development of the Community Safety Strategy (2023-2027) and the development of the Hate Crime Strategy (2023-2027).
- 1.2 Approval is being sought to begin a period of formal engagement on the six key priority areas that will inform the new Community Safety Strategy and the five key objectives that will inform the new Hate Crime Strategy. Both of the above priorities and objectives were co-designed with the community during a two-week informal pre-engagement period.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That Cabinet authorises the necessary engagement process as set out in 6.2-6.3, which, for both strategies will be for a period of twelve weeks from the date of the Cabinet decision.
- 2.2 That Cabinet notes that the initial development of both Strategies has been informed by:
 - 2.2.1 Community Safety Strategic Needs Assessment 2022-23, (Appendix 3)
 - 2.2.2 Pre-engagement on the priorities of the strategy which took place between 5th-18th December 2022.
 - 2.2.3 Feedback from residents, businesses, and stakeholders during the Wood Green Voices engagement that took place in November 2022.

3. Reasons for decision

- 3.1 Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Council is required to put in place a Community Safety Strategy. As a partnership document listed in the Constitution as part of the Council's Policy Framework, the Crime and Disorder Reduction (community safety) Strategy ("Community Safety Strategy") is reserved for final approval by full Council subject to recommendation by Cabinet.
- 3.2 The co-production of a Hate Crime Strategy for Haringey runs in congruence with applying a zero-tolerance approach to any form of hate and discrimination. Alongside this, hate crime is included as a key theme in Haringey's Corporate Delivery Plan 2023.
- 3.3 The Community Safety Strategy will provide for the overarching Community Safety priorities aligned to key council strategies such as the Corporate Delivery Plan (2023-27) Young People at Risk strategy (2019-29) and the proposed Hate Crime Strategy (2023-27).
 - 3.3.1. Both strategies are likely to be published in the summer of 2023 and in order to make most effective use of the engagement period with the public, both strategies although separate, will be developed at the same time.

4. Alternative options considered

- 4.1 Not developing a Community Safety Strategy is not an option, as it is a legal requirement as highlighted in 3.1.
- 4.2 With regard to the development of the Hate Crime Strategy, the alternative option would be not to have a strategy. This is not recommended as it is recognised the most effective way to coordinate this work is to deliver an agreed set of ambitions under a structured partnership strategy with an adjoining annual action plan.
 - 4.2.1 Without any agreed responsibility or monitoring by officers including any formal Governance would increase the risk of the work dissipating and would not allow for the effective protection of victims.

5. Background information

- 5.1 For background information relating to the development plan for both Strategies please refer to Appendix 1 Community Safety Strategy development plan and Appendix 2 for the Hate Crime Strategy development plan.
- 5.2 As stated in 3.3.1. permission is being sought to begin a period of engagement for the Community Safety Strategy and Hate Crime Strategy. Both strategies while separate from one another, will be linked through partnership work on adjoining themes, such as, building trust and confidence, exploitation, reducing victims of crime and reducing reoffending.

5.3 No single agency can effectively tackle the priorities set out in the Community Safety Strategy and the Hate Crime Strategy. Members of the Community Safety Partnership, such as the Police, Council, Third Sector organisations and Health are recommended to work together to formulate and develop the work set out in both strategies. This will be done via contribution towards the engagement, allowing for opportunities for participation from communities they serve.

5.3.1 Respective roles of partners involved in the ongoing developments of the strategies should be clearly set out to ensure that our cohesive response to Community Safety and Hate Crime is well co-ordinated and partners are held accountable for actions set out in Strategy Action Plans.

6. Engagement

6.1 The engagement will be carried out using the principles contained in the Governments Code of Practice on Consultations (published in 2012 and updated in 2018). This includes:

Consultation must be:

- Clear and concise
- Have a purpose
- Should be informative
- Only part of a process of engagement
- Last for a proportionate amount of time
- Targeted
- Take into account of the groups being consulted
- Agreed before publication
- Facilitate security
- Results published in a timely fashion
- Not launched during a local or national election period.

6.2 The engagement will consist of:

- Self-completion surveys
- Face-to-face surveys or interviews
- Through the council's website as well as other digital media
- Briefings and workshops will be organised to include internal, external stakeholders, community groups, young people, residents' groups etc.

6.2.1. Additionally, engagement documents and links to surveys will be provided at Housing Customer Service Desk and will be placed in the Haringey People Magazine.

- 6.3 The twelve-week engagement will be formed from the six key priorities identified in the Community Safety pre-engagement exercise and the five key objectives identified in the Hate Crime pre-engagement exercise.
- 6.4 The initial period of pre-engagement highlighted strong consensus with the six identified priority outcomes of the Community Safety Strategy as well as the five key objectives of working together to tackle hate crime.
- 6.5 Subject to formal engagement, the aims and objectives of the Community Safety Strategy will be on improving the quality of life of residents, stakeholders, businesses, and visitors to the borough by focussing partnership action and resources on six identified Community Safety outcome areas:
1. Violence and high harm crimes- (including serious youth violence, online abuse, stalking and harassment)
 2. Violence against women and girls
 3. Exploitation (including child sexual exploitation, child criminal exploitation, County Lines, trafficking, Hate Crime, extremism and modern slavery)
 4. Improving Public confidence
 5. Reducing victims of crime and anti-social behaviour
 6. Reducing Reoffending
- 6.6 The aims of the Hate Crime Strategy will reflect the Council's commitment to creating an environment where hate crime is not tolerated but challenged, reported, and dealt with appropriately. The five key objectives identified during the two-week pre-engagement are as follows:
1. Raising awareness of hate crime and incidents amongst local communities, partners, schools and Haringey staff.
 2. Improve support for victims and witnesses of hate crime.
 3. To increase the reporting of hate incidents and crime via promotion of third-party reporting mechanisms.
 4. Consulting with residents and community groups to build our understanding of hate crime to help tackle the problem.
 5. Take a multi-agency approach working alongside the police, CCTV and Anti-social Behaviour team to tackle hate crime via problem solving, gathering evidence, and scrutinising cases where necessary.
- 6.7 In addition to the above, a zero-tolerance approach to tackling hate crime, was presented and agreed as a non-key decision at Community Safety Partnership in October 2022.

6.8 In order to allow the Council to hear from as many stakeholders as possible, the development of both strategies on those key identified priorities and objectives will also be subject to a further twelve-week period of extensive engagement and engagement with partners across the system. This will include engagement with community groups with Haringey residents and businesses and Haringey staff and partners. This will ensure that the outcomes that the Community Safety Partnership seeks to achieve through both strategies will reflect both the data and what we have heard through this engagement activity. A comprehensive engagement and communication plan will be developed with partners to support this engagement and strategy development

6.9 The cost of engagement is estimated to be in the region of £3000-£5000 and will be met from existing Community Safety Budgets.

7. Contribution to strategic outcomes:

- Haringey Deal 2022-2026
- Haringey Corporate Delivery Plan (2023- 2027)
- Young People at Risk Strategy (2019-2029)
- VAWG Strategy (2019-2029)
- Combating Drugs Strategy (in development)
- Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy (in development)
- Haringey Annual Prevent Delivery Plan

7.1 Our vision for all residents and businesses in Haringey in respect to Community Safety and Hate Crime is summarised in the below priorities from the Haringey Labour Party Manifesto 2022 – 2026:

- **Protecting our Residents:**
It is important that we all feel safe on the streets of Haringey and in our homes. That is the minimum requirement of a good society.
- **Community Safety and ASB:**
Living and working in areas where anti-social behaviour is rife can have a devastating effect on communities and individual lives. Every Haringey resident has the right to enjoy their local area in comfort and safety.
- **A Culturally Rich Borough:**
Haringey is a welcoming borough for everyone who wants to live and work here.

8. Statutory Officers comments

8.1 Finance

8.1.1 This report is for Cabinet to approve the recommendations as set out in para 2 of this report. There are no direct financial implications arising from the strategy. The financial impact from subsidiary plans and commissioning decisions will be assessed individually as they arise.

8.2 Procurement

8.2.1 There are no direct procurement decisions arising from the strategy. Subsidiary plans and commissioning decisions will be assessed individually as they arise.

9. Legal & Governance

9.1 The Head of Legal Services has been consulted in the preparation of this report and comments as follows:

Sections 5 and 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 as amended, require local authorities, in partnership with the Police and other members of the Community Safety Partnership, to formulate and implement a Community Safety Strategy for their area. The strategy sets out how the partnership will (i) reduce crime and disorder, including antisocial behaviour and other detrimental behaviour, (ii) combat the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances, (iii) reduce reoffending (iv) prevent people from becoming involved in serious violence and (v) reduce instances of serious violence.

The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 (“the Regulations”) require the Council to consult with persons who represent the interests of as many groups of persons within the area as is reasonable, and persons who represent the interests of groups or persons within the area likely to be particularly affected by the implementation of the strategy. The engagement arrangements must include at least one public meeting

The principles that guide any lawful consultation are that (i) it has to be at a time when proposals are still at a formative stage, (ii) the Council has to give sufficient reasons for any proposal to permit an intelligent consideration and response, (iii) adequate time has to be given for consideration and response. and (iv) the product of consultation has to be conscientiously taken into account in finalising and approving the Strategy.

9.2 The proposed engagement process for both strategies complies with the Regulations and the guiding principles.

9.3 In accordance with the Local Government (Functions and Responsibilities) Regulations 2000, the Community Safety Strategy cannot be approved solely by the Executive, but requires final approval by Full Council. Article 4.01 of the constitution reserves approval of the Community Safety Strategy to Full Council. The Hate Crime Strategy does not require Full Council approval.

10. Equality

- 10.1 Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 sets out the new public sector equality duty replacing the previous duties in relation to race, sex and disability and extending the duty to all the protected characteristics (race, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, pregnancy or maternity, marriage or civil partnership and gender reassignment). The public sector equality duty requires public authorities to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 10.2 A full Equalities Impact Assessment of the ways in which the Strategies relates to individuals and groups who share protected characteristics will be undertaken as part of the twelve-week formal engagement period and will be attached as an appendix to the final strategy documents which will come back to Cabinet for approval in the summer of 2023.

11. Use of Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Community Safety Strategy Development Plan 2023-2027, Pre-Engagement Outcomes.
- Appendix 2 – Hate Crime Strategy Development Plan 2023-2027, Pre-Engagement Outcomes.
- Appendix 3 – Haringey Strategic Assessment 2022-23.
- Appendix 4 – GANTT Chart Community Safety & Hate Crime.

12. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- N/A.