



Haringey Council

Agenda item: 8

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

On 26th October 2009

Report Title: Community Safety Half-year Performance Report (2009/10)	
Report of: Cabinet Member, Enforcement and Safer Communities	
Contact Officer: Jean Croot, Head of Safer and Stronger Communities Service Tel: 020 8489 6934 Claire Kowalska, Community Safety Manager. Tel: 020 8489 6949	
Wards(s) affected: All	Report for: N/A
1. Purpose of the report To inform Overview and Scrutiny Committee of performance year-to-date (April – September 09) against the key community safety targets	
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. Creating a Better Haringey: cleaner, greener and safer, by addressing the prevention and reduction of crime, the fear of crime, the harm caused by drugs and alcohol and anti-social behaviour.	
4. Recommendations 4.1. That the Committee note current performance and the mitigating actions to address the areas of concern. 4.2 That the Committee note ongoing arrangements for the performance management of targets under the responsibility of the Safer Communities Partnership under the	

Local Area Agreement (LAA)
<p>5. Reason for recommendation(s)</p> <p>5.1. To reassure the Committee that regular monitoring and robust, swift responses are underway in relation to the priorities of both the HSP and local residents.</p>
<p>6. Other options considered (N/A)</p>
<p>7. Summary – See purpose of the report above</p>
<p>8. Chief Financial Officer Comments (N/A)</p> <p>There was insufficient time to secure comments from the CFO directly, due to only very recently being able to access the data. However, all planned actions are deliverable within agreed and existing budgets, primarily through the Area Based Grant.</p>
<p>9. Head of Legal Services Comments (N/A)</p> <p>Time was insufficient to secure legal comment, due to only very recently being able to access the data, but there are no areas of obvious concern from a legal perspective</p>
<p>10. Head of Procurement Comments – [Required for Procurement Committee] N/A</p>
<p>11. Equalities & Community Cohesion Comments</p> <p>People from black and ethnic minority communities, and young people, 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: Targeted interventions of the most vulnerable streets and houses 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>A Scrutiny Review of support to victims is currently underway in the borough.</p>
<p>12. Consultation</p> <p>All issues relating to performance are shared and discussed with the multi-agency PMG and the members of the executive theme board</p>
<p>13. Service Financial Comments</p> <p>A high proportion of the Safer Communities Service is funded externally and through the</p>

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

14. Use of appendices /Tables and photographs

A system-generated traffic light chart will accompany these reports in future. This is a new system which has been subject to changes in Q2, hence is not attached this time.

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 Safer Communities Partnership is responsible for a number of key targets under the Local Area Agreement (LAA). These are:

- NI 15 – serious violent crime
- NI 16 – serious acquisitive crime
- NI 21 - perception of how well the police and local authority deal with crime and anti-social behaviour in the local area
- NI 35 - preventing violent extremism
- N 40 - numbers into effective drug treatment
- NI 111 – reduction in young people (aged 10-17) entering the youth justice system

16.2 In addition, there are two stretch targets that expire in March 2010: Reduction in repeat victimisation for domestic violence (and increased detections); reduction in personal robbery. There is also a locally agreed target to increase support to young victims.

16.3 The multi-agency Performance Management Group (PMG) regularly monitors these and related targets, such as hospital admissions for alcohol-related problems and the preparedness of the borough for emergencies.

16.4 Q2 has seen some notable successes, such as the decrease in personal robbery and in the number of young people entering the youth justice system, despite the economic downturn. There are, however, some considerable challenges this year as outlined in paragraph 18 below. Foremost among these is the outbreak and continuation of gang-related violence in young adults in the borough and across neighbouring borders. There has also been an increase in organised gang related shootings involving the Kurdish-Turkish communities. These crimes are measured separately from NI 15. While reported knife-related crime has dropped this quarter, gun crime has seen substantial increases linked to the above. These issues are being dealt with on a daily basis through intensive problem-solving and a multi-agency action plan and are monitored closely by the PMG.

17. Key highlights and successes from Q1 and Q2 in 2009/10

- 17.1 Overall recorded crime continues to fall in Haringey. It is down by 8% year-on-year and by 2% so far this year compared with last year.
- 17.2 Performance against acquisitive crime has been strong, despite the economic downturn, and is on target (NI 16). Personal robbery is showing a 5% decrease (503 against a target of 569) compared with this time last year. This crime predominantly affects young people with 75% of perpetrators aged 12 – 19 years and victims of a similar profile. Seasonal prevention messages and continuing work to change behaviour (e.g. fitting door locks and using them; not leaving valuables in cars etc.) remain a focus.
- 17.3 Perceptions of how well the Council and Police deal with crime and anti-social behaviour are measured annually in the Place Survey (NI 21). However, Haringey has delivered an exceptional package of interventions and has been highly commended by the Home Office for innovative practice. This includes highly successful parenting interventions, published court outcomes, Community Payback schemes, a street drinking review, recruitment of a Victim and Witness Support Officer for anti-social behaviour cases in the civil court, assistance into housing, treatment and employment through the Court Helpdesk and a forthcoming community safety newsletter focusing on confidence and achievement. In addition, anti-social behaviour issues of concern are being dealt with through local problem-solving groups e.g. ongoing disturbances outside Wickes; tackling dangerous dogs and strong action around crack house closures.
- 17.4 The programme to address violent extremism is developing steadily and Haringey is on track to achieve level 3 as per the agreed target (NI 35). We are currently at level 2 on the delivery scale. Training is being planned for front-line staff to support the main objectives of the programme. These entail challenging ideology; disrupting those who promote extremism; supporting individuals, who are vulnerable to recruitment; and addressing the grievances that ideologues are promoting.
- 17.5 Haringey is progressing well this year with the challenging target of preventing first time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17 (NI 111). Haringey has reduced the number to 170 during the first six months of the year against an annual target of no more than 423. This is, therefore, looking very positive. A key factor has been the YOS 'triage' project. Since August, 44 referrals have been made by trained YOS officers working in custody suites and 37 of the 44 young people were deemed suitable for an alternative intervention programme. Further intensive intervention programmes are running as part of the Challenge and Support scheme working with young people. It should, however, be noted that many of the young people engaged in gang-related crime are in the 18-24 age bracket with several over 18.
- 17.6 The original target for repeat victims of domestic violence had a flawed baseline which has now been renegotiated with the Home Office. The new target is an achievement of no more than 150 repeats recorded in the twelve months to March 2010. This is a rolling annual target and Haringey is currently averaging 114 repeats in the first six months of the year. This will be monitored closely, along with ensuring steady performance on the detection

rates. This target and the one below are subject to a performance reward grant.

- 17.7 The stretch target for personal robbery was based on projected figures that have already been exceeded, i.e. the target is to achieve no more than 1,557 offences by March 2010 (based on 3 annual reductions of 2.6%). As of 2008/09 Haringey's outturn was 997 or 36% (560 fewer) below target. Current performance is projected to easily exceed the target.

The most recent Police scorecard covering the period 1st April - 27th September 2009 reports a figure of 503 which puts Haringey on track to deliver this target. The Police do not publish a monthly performance report that meets the HSP reporting timescales.

- 17.8 The Emergency Planning and Business Continuity Team has been working hard to ensure that the borough responds appropriately to swine flu. NHS Haringey has been very appreciative of the support from the Council, and our work with social care providers was particularly praised by the Health Protection Agency. The borough Multi-Agency Flood Plan has been completing (awaiting CEMB approval) despite the additional pressures. Swine flu has created many opportunities to raise awareness of the need to plan for emergencies, and the team is working hard to ensure this message gets out to the community.

18. **Issues and areas of concern**

- 18.1 As previously stated, the number of recorded most serious violent crimes has been of utmost concern this financial year and remains the top priority (NI 15). At the end of Q2, Haringey had 250 recorded offences against a target of 169 and the trend is predicted to worsen in the short-term. A joint Haringey and Enfield addressing violence action plan is being delivered and monitored through the Operation Swift Gold Group. Intense and regular problem-solving is underway involving service departments and key partners. These officers are now identifying individual actions regarding the key named young people whose ages range from 15 – 24 years. Specialist mediation is also running with their parents and the Performance Management Group is considering committing additional resources to engagement programmes with the older age group. This will be an exceptionally challenging target to meet.
- 18.2 Performance data for the number of problematic drug users in effective treatment (i.e. treated and retained in treatment for at least 12 weeks) is published with a delay of four months (NI 40). The target for year end 2009/10 is to have at least 1,108 users in treatment. Whilst Haringey already has a rolling figure up to the end of May 09 of 1,012, the number of new clients has been declining. This follows a trend across London and all services that are commissioned by Haringey DAAT are reviewing their actions to address this. The trend is being monitored on a monthly basis.
- 18.3 Haringey missed its target to reduce the rate of admissions to hospital for alcohol-related problems in 2008/9 by 51 admissions (NI 39). Updates are received one quarter in arrears so the full half-year will not be available until December 2009. Q1 performance for 2009/10 was 433 admissions per 100,000 residents which was higher than in any quarter during 2008/09. It should be noted, however, that a large number of new admissions are the

result of long-term drinking and increased effort and investment has been made in assisting this cohort. Local analysis shows that the main causes of admission relate to mental health and behavioural disorders, and cardiovascular disease. The DAAT and partners have significantly increased interventions in Accident and Emergency wards, provision of detox facilities, the COSMIC service for families, outreach and social marketing campaigns. A further £100K from the Area-Based Grant and matched £60K from Haringey Primary Care Trust is being invested in overall alcohol harm reduction this year.

- 18.4 Victim Support Haringey has been commissioned to deliver a 5% increase in support to young victims of crime. This is done through liaison with schools, outreach and an increase in 1-2-1 sessions with the relevant young people. After a positive start in Q1 (increase in clients seen from 29 to 36), there has been a decline in Q2 (down to 21). Uncertain funding from Haringey's Children and Young People strand of the Area Based Grant resulted in a resignation. Continued funding to year end has now been approved but this work will have to be built up again. In addition, Victim Support is undergoing a national restructure involving clusters in London and the dissolution of the current Borough Manager's role. It is anticipated that new arrangements will be in place during December 2009 but service levels may be affected.

19. Monitoring and review

- 19.1 The Performance Management Group also oversees the financial and project delivery for all programmes within the Area Based Grant. All project leads report on a quarterly basis against agreed milestones and a spend plan, submitted at the start of the financial year.
- 19.2 In Q2, all projects were rated Green or Amber overall with three areas of delivery marked as Red. Victim Support youth engagement has already been mentioned. There has been considerable slippage in the recruitment of a CCTV Manager and the future of this position is under consideration. The problem-solving budget has been slow to spend with some invoices outstanding. The model has been highly successful in problem resolution and strengthening partnership working. Many problems have not required funding, simply a different way of working. There has also been an issue with the time required between bid submission and a decision by the Performance Management Group. This is being reviewed and improvements to governance are due to be agreed at the Performance Management Group meeting on 5th November.