

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee			
Title	DRAFT Safer Lewisham Plan 14-15		
Contributor	Executive Director for Community Services	Item	6
Class	Part 1 (Open)	Date	25 February 2014

## 1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 as amended by section 97 and 98 of the Police Reform Act 2002, places a requirement on Community Safety Partnerships (CSP), in Lewisham this is the Safer Lewisham Partnership, to develop a three year Crime and Disorder Strategy which sets out how crime and anti-social behaviour will be tackled – Safer Lewisham Strategy 2014-2017.

- An additional responsibility is also placed on Community Safety Partnerships to produce a Strategic Assessment to ensure emerging community safety trends are captured, and priorities are refreshed where necessary.
- The Annual Plan outlines the main priorities for the Safer Lewisham Partnership, which have been identified through the Strategic Assessment.
- The accompanying Strategic Action Plan sets out how the Partnership will work together over the next year to tackle crime and disorder priorities building on best practice around effective crime reduction and including clear objectives and outcomes to be achieved.

## 2. Policy Context

2.1 Lewisham's Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-20 set the Local Strategic Partnership a goal of making Lewisham the best place in London to live, work and learn. Delivering on this depends on our success in creating a climate where: ***'People feel safe and live free from crime, anti-social behaviour and abuse'***.

2.2 Through effective partnership working and effective engagement with communities the Safer Lewisham partner agencies will work together to ensure they achieve measurable reductions in a range of victim based offences. They aim to deliver services smartly and focus on outcomes that have a clear impact on the daily lives of our residents.

## 3. Recommendation

3.1 Members of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee are asked to note the content of the draft Safer Lewisham Plan and the progress made against the Plan.

## 4. Background

4.1 The annual report which is attached as an appendix to this report, is required under legislation and seeks to pull together all available information in relation to Crime and Disorder, and set priorities for the Partnership to deliver against. There are also Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime (MOPAC) priorities which need to be considered alongside local ones.

### 4.2 The MOPAC Challenge

The challenge set by the MOPAC for the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) up to 2016:

*'A Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) that becomes the UK's most effective, most efficient, most respected, even most loved police force'*

The 20/20/20, 20/20/20 Challenge promises to:

- Cut crime by 20%
- Boost public confidence by 20%
- Cut costs by 20%
- Reduce court delays by 20%
- Increase compliance with community sentences by 20%
- Reduce reoffending by young people leaving custody by 20%

4.3 MOPAC 7 - MOPAC'S target for the MPS is to cut 7 key "neighbourhood" crimes by 20% by 2016:

- Violence with injury
- Robbery
- Burglary
- Theft of a motor vehicle
- Theft from a motor vehicle
- Theft from the person
- Vandalism (criminal damage)

4.4 The aim is to achieve an aggregate Metropolitan Police-wide reduction in these offences of 20% down on average levels seen in 2008-12. The stretch target is to have these reduce by 20% based on 2011/12 figures.

4.5 In summary, MOPAC both sets broad crime-reduction priorities and funds a portion of service activity at borough level. However, there is still a statutory requirement for Community Safety Partnerships to produce the annual strategic assessment, the aim of which is to analyse problems in the borough and identify strategic priorities.

4.6 The challenge for Safer Lewisham Partnership is to align the existing statutory requirements with the new governance and funding reality, while reflecting local needs and feedback from residents.

- 4.7 In order to achieve this, the Safer Lewisham Partnership will be guided by the following overarching principles:

#### Maximum Victim Impact

The Safer Lewisham Partnership has listened to the views of residents and placed the needs and concerns of victims at the forefront of the plan. The priorities need to be able to impact on a high volume of offending whilst supporting the needs of the majority of residents. Throughout its work the SLP will continue to prioritise the needs of victims and ensure it is accountable to local citizens.

#### Intelligence Led Prioritisation of Local Issues

The selection of priority areas is based on a detailed analysis of current crime and disorder trends in the borough. However the assessment is not solely reliant on police recorded crime data and wherever possible the latter has been cross-referenced with data from a range of additional sources.

#### Strategic Relevance

The Safer Lewisham Plan is also designed to take into account new government legislation and also key changes in how services are commissioned.

### **5. Safer Lewisham Partnership Priorities for 14-15**

- 5.1 Working closely with MOPAC, informed by local data and in response to community concerns, the Safer Lewisham Partnership has identified the following priorities:

- The **First** priority will be to focus on reducing volume crime in Lewisham. Those crimes which account for the majority of the crime experienced in the borough each year. Targeting those known offenders in key locations across the borough will have a demonstrable effect on satisfaction and confidence of victims of these crimes. This also aligns with the MOPAC challenge, through intelligence-led efforts to reduce the 'MOPAC 7' crimes, as detailed in para 4.3.

- 5.2 In working to achieve a 20% reduction across these crime types, the SLP will seek to ensure that all public services work collaboratively and with voluntary groups and communities to prevent crime, support victims and reduce re-offending whilst improving confidence across all criminal justice agencies.

- 5.3 The **Second** priority will be to reduce key violent crime with particular focus on reducing 'Serious Youth Violence' (SYV) and 'Violence Against Women and Girls' (VAWG)

- The **Third** priority will be to ensure that the issue of greatest concern to residents, 'Anti-Social Behaviour' (ASB), is dealt with swiftly, proportionately and with the victim at the heart of the resolution.

## **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1 The SLP currently monitors the spend in relation to the MOPAC funding resource allocation for tackling emerging issues, and this data will be reviewed and agreed at the Performance and Delivery Board or the SLP as required.

## **7. Legal & Human Rights Implications**

- 7.1 The Council is under a number of statutory obligations to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the Council to formulate and implement a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder; the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 requires the Council as a local housing authority to have policies and procedures for dealing with anti-social behaviour and the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 places the Council under a duty to have, when carrying out its functions, due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between persons of different racial groups.
- 7.2 The Local Government Act 1999 places a duty on the local authorities to secure continuous improvement in the way its functions are exercised having regard to the combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
- 7.3 Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 empowers the local authority to do anything which it considers likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of all or any persons within the local authority's area.
- 7.4 These statutory duties amongst others feed into the Council's Safer Lewisham Strategy.

## **8. Equalities Implications**

- 8.1 Developing safe and secure communities is central to the work of the Council as a whole and in particular to the Community Services Directorate. Reducing and preventing crime, reducing fear of crime and supporting vulnerable communities is critical to the well-being of all our citizens.

## **9. Crime and Disorder Implications**

- 9.1 Section 17 places a duty on partners to do all they can to reasonably prevent crime and disorder in their area. The level of crime and its impact is influenced by the decisions and activities taken in the day-to-day of local bodies and organisations. The responsible authorities are required to provide a range of services in their community from policing, fire protection, planning, consumer and environmental protection, transport and highways. They each have a key statutory role in providing these services and, in carrying out their core activities, can significantly contribute to reducing crime and improving the quality of life in their area.

## 10. **Environmental Implications**

10.1 The Council's lead for this is an advisor to the SLP and makes representations as appropriate in relation to impact. Environmental services are consulted about all agreed activity before proceeding.

## 11. **Conclusion**

11.1 The SLP will continue to review its practice and that of the sub groups to ensure that all activity in relation to crime and disorder and drugs and alcohol is in line with the Sustainable Community Strategy, and the Safer Lewisham Strategy as well as having links to the children's and young persons' board and the health and wellbeing board.

*For further information on this report please contact Geeta Subramaniam Head of Crime Reduction & Supporting People, Directorate for Community Services on 020 8 314 9569*