

Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee			
Title	Safer Lewisham Plan 2014-15		
Contributor	Scrutiny Manager	Item	6
Class	Part 1 (Open)	15 July 2014	

## 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The Crime and Disorder Act (1998) as amended by the Police Reform Act (2002), places a requirement on Community Safety Partnerships (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. In Lewisham this is the Safer Lewisham Strategy (2014-2017).
- 1.2 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.
- 1.3 The annual plan (attached) outlines the main priorities for the Safer Lewisham Partnership, which have been identified through the strategic assessment.
- 1.4 The Committee is responsible for fulfilling the Council's Overview and Scrutiny functions in relation to crime and disorder as set out in the Police and Justice Act (2006). This includes the power to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by responsible authorities of their crime and disorder function and to make reports or recommendations to the local authority or the Executive with respect to the discharge of those functions.
- 1.5 Carrying out scrutiny of the Safer Lewisham Plan is one of the ways in which the Committee can fulfil its terms of reference.

## 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 this aim is dependent on the success of Lewisham's partners 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 have committed to working 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 residents.

### **3. Recommendation**

Members of the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee are asked to note the Safer Lewisham Plan (2014-15) and direct any questions about its content to officers in attendance at the meeting on 15 July. Members are also asked to agree to receive an update on progress against the plan at the Committee's meeting on 10 September 2014.

### **4. Background**

4.1 At its meeting on 25 February 2014, the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee considered the draft Safer Lewisham Plan. Following the adoption of the plan by the Safer Lewisham Partnership, the finalised plan is being presented to the Committee. A further update on mid-year progress is provisionally scheduled on the Committee's work plan for its meeting on 10 September 2014.

4.2 Safer Lewisham Partnership Priorities for 2014-15 are set out in the attached plan, these include:

- focusing on reducing volume crime;
- reducing key violent crime with particular focus on reducing 'Serious Youth Violence' (SYV) and 'Violence Against Women and Girls' (VAWG); and
- ensuring that 'Anti-Social Behaviour' (ASB), is dealt with swiftly, proportionately and with the victim at the heart of the resolution.

4.3 Full details about the Partnership's agreed priorities are in the plan.

### **5. Financial implications**

There are no financial implications arising as a result of the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

### **6. Legal implications**

6.1 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 Equality Act (2010) 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 groups.

6.2 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.

6.3 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. Equalities implications**

There are no equalities implications arising as a result of the implementation of the recommendation in this report.

## **8. Crime and disorder implications**

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.

### **Appendix:**

The Safer Lewisham Plan 2014-15.

*For further information about this report please contact Timothy Andrew (Scrutiny Manager) 02083147916*