

| <b>Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee</b> |  |                   |
|--|--|-------------------|
| Title  | Safer Lewisham Plan 2014/15 - 6 month update |                   |
| Contributor  | Executive Director for Community Services.   | Item 3            |
| Class  | Part 1 (open)                                | 10 September 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, 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 clear objectives and outcomes to be achieved.
  - This report summarises activity carried out by Lewisham Council in partnership with other agencies relevant to 'Safer' strand, most of which are part of the Safer Lewisham Partnership (SLP) governance arrangement.

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that Members of the Safer Stronger Select Committee note the report; and
- 2.2 Request a further end of year update and briefing on the 2015/16 Annual Plan and priority setting, in February / March 2015.

## 3. Priorities set for 2014/2015

- 3.1 Lewisham Council and the Safer Lewisham Partnership have a statutory obligation to analyse crime and disorder problems in the borough and agree priorities for a given financial year where the Partnership will focus most of its resources and activity.
- 3.2 The March 2014 meeting of the Safer Lewisham Partnership agreed the following priorities for 2014/15:
- Volume Crime – 'routine' crime that affects the majority of victims, such are burglary, robbery and motor vehicle crime.

- Violent Crime, with focus on Violence against Women and Girls and Serious Youth Violence
- Tackling Anti Social Behaviour (ASB)

#### **4. The MOPAC Challenge**

4.1 The challenge set by 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”

4.2 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.

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, or even 20% down on 2011/12 (stretch target).

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 nominate 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 of victims at the forefront of this plan while also ensuring that the priorities chosen are those that demonstrate the greatest impact on victims concerns. 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

Our selection of priority areas is based on a detailed analysis of current crime and disorder trends in the borough and has utilised a wide range of data sources. 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 sources.

### Strategic Relevance

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

## **5. Priority 1 – Volume Crime**

5.1 This priority focuses on 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 of:

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

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

5.3. Local Performance

5.4 Latest unverified crime to 15 August 2014 compared to 11/12, a baseline for MOPAC with Rolling 12 month crime statistics in Lewisham.

|                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Burglary :                 | - 17.80% |
| Criminal Damage :          | - 25.80% |
| Robbery :                  | - 37.90% |
| Theft From Motor Vehicle : | - 32.60% |
| Theft Of Motor Vehicle :   | - 26.70% |
| Theft From Person :        | -13.20%  |
| Violence with Injury :     | + 6.80%  |

5.5 The following activity has taken place to date in 2014/15 to support this objective:

- Neighbourhood Watch database refresh and ongoing management
- Youth Awareness Project – personal safety, knife crime, robbery, property marking: iPhones/iPads
- Home Security Project – supporting vulnerable residents to improve security of their premises
- ‘Street-a-Week’ - Joint working with SNT on hotspots (burglary focus)

- OP Neptune & Project 'Immobilise' / UV Marking of CRAVED<sup>1</sup> items, stolen goods, Responsible Retailer Agreements
- Work with specific communities about crime and safety (i.e. Vietnamese and Romanian communities)
- Scams targeting older and vulnerable people – work with Trading Standards, offer TrueCall call screening service to victims and vulnerable – Home Security Project
- Reassurance visits to vulnerable / repeat victims of burglary
- Supplying residents with advice and materials – personal safety alarms, burglar alarms, UV pens
- Public events presence - crime reduction, personal safety and home security advice - Lewisham People's Day, Police Open Day.
- Motor Vehicle Crime – SNT giving out number plate screws (SafePlate) to prevent number plate theft
- OP Ferris - Scrap Metal dealers joint working to prevent catalytic converter theft from vehicles
- Shoplifting Project – First Time Offenders borough wide, predominantly in Lewisham Shopping Centre – LBBAC
- Quarterly Multi-Agency Crime focus meetings to coordinate and drive tactical partnership activity
- OP Big Wing >> OP Condor – operation targeting gambling premises and associated problems -gaming machines, licensing etc
- Lewisham Businesses Crime Partnership – LBBAC – retailer radios rolled out in Deptford High Street, in addition to existing coverage in Lewisham Centre.
- Retailers signing up to Responsible Retailer Agreements, not selling super-strength alcohol ('Reduce the Strength' Campaign), responsible knife sales, second hand (potentially stolen) goods etc.
- Cycle Marking – Lewisham the top borough in London for Cycle Marking
- Community Clear-Up (cadets) – clear up front gardens for vulnerable people which helps prevent burglary

## **6. Priority 2 - Violence – with emphasis on violence against women and girls and serious youth violence**

### 6.1 Serious Youth Violence - SYV

Activity to address Serious Youth Violence has been a key priority for the Safer Lewisham Partnership for the past six years, The Serious Youth Violence Strategic Action Plan has been developed to significantly reduce both the existence of youth gangs in Lewisham and the violence associated with and attributed to these gangs and street violence.

### 6.2 Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

Lewisham Council has a long history of commitment to tackling domestic and sexual violence. This work is now supported by a comprehensive approach to tackling violence against women and girls through a systemic VAWG Plan. This first Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Plan for Lewisham has been

---

<sup>1</sup> Concealable, Removable, Available, Valuable, Enjoyable, and Disposable - <http://goo.gl/dSBtVc>

developed as a result of the excellent partnership work over the last few years with individuals, organisations and victims of violence.

### 6.3 Local Performance

The success of the partnership's efforts will be judged by reductions in the following linked offences:

- Serious Violence
- Violence with injury
- Domestic Violence and abuse.
- Rape and Sexual Violence.
- Sexual Exploitation with specific focus on children.

6.4 Currently available figures to 15 August 2014 show that "Violence with Injury" category has shown an increase from previous Rolling 12 Months of 12.3% or 2,451 incidents compared with 2,182 incidents.

6.5 The bulk of the increase in "Violence with Injury" is due to an increase in Domestic Violence reports. The Safer Lewisham Partnership has developed an array of interventions and services for victims, and it is often suggested that Domestic Violence is usually under-reported, so an increase in numbers could mean more victims are confident and willing to come forward.

6.6 The following activity has taken place to date in 2014/15 to support this objective:

- Girls / gangs / violence – Youth Offending Serving Girls & Gangs Workshop
- Ongoing YOS, Probation (CRC & NPS) and Trident (Met Police) work on prolific offenders
- SYV – historic reduction in Ending Gang and Youth Violence (EGYV) basket, knife crime showing a reduction
- Youth MARAC review by EGYV task force – Lewisham staff and processes received 'excellent' feedback
- Trident (Met Police) 'County Lines' project aimed at tackling cross-border drug trade and violence that mainly involved young people.
- Joint Enforcement – Trident, Lewisham Police,
- Screening of all prison releases into the borough, prison visits by Lewisham police, Council, Community Rehabilitation Company and National Probation Service officers to ensure a smooth transition from custody and community and an intelligence link to police enforcement activity where appropriate.
- Many cases of successful resettlement of Lewisham individuals wishing to leave gang lifestyle
- Training delivered by Crime Reduction's Serious Violence Officers to local Safeguarding Children's Board on safeguarding and violence
- YOS performance shows a historic low in caseload reoffending
- 'Parents Standing Together for Safer Lewisham' – conference held in partnership with Voluntary Sector to encourage public confidence, good parenting skills and ultimately reduce Serious Youth Violence.
- 'Safe Havens' work with Jimmy Mizen foundation
- Peace Bus – '10,000 hands' events designed to communicate responsible pro-community behaviour.

- Inter-generational Transport Project – older people get on the bus mixed with YP to provide positive role models.
- Summer Nights Lights project aimed at developing community resilience, a sense of confidence and ownership with ultimate goal of enabling the community to be confident in preventing ASB and SYV at an early stage.
- Domestic Abuse shows an increase London-wide. This could be due to an increase in the number of incidents. On the other hand it is known that Domestic Abuse is hugely under-reported by victims, so an increase in numbers could mean victims having increased confidence to come forward. It is impossible to determine the true reason for the increase with existing data at our disposal, so partnership focus remains on providing the best service to victims of Domestic Abuse in Lewisham who do come forward and report it.
- Community Gold Group – representation and community reassurance after serious incidents
- Domestic Violence Court – coordinating outcomes at court with support for victims
- Youth Awareness Workshops – raising awareness of personal safety and knife crime in schools across borough

## 7. ASB

7.1 The Safer Lewisham Partnership is committed to ensuring 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 finding a resolution.

### 7.2 Performance

The success of the partnership's efforts will be judged by reductions in the following linked offences:

- Police ASB CADS (Computerised Aided Dispatch)
- Incidents of Criminal Damage
- MOPAC 7 Component: Vandalism (criminal damage)

7.3 The following activity has taken place to date in 2014/15 to support this objective:

- ASB MARAC – over 35 cases met the threshold and came to conference, mainly vulnerable victims, remit of the MARAC is now widened to other complex ASB cases
- ASB and Policing legislation changes – 'Community Trigger' force from 20 October. Crime Reduction Officers developed a protocol for Community Trigger, in partnership with Registered Social Landlords.
- Multi-Agency work around licensing and problem premises
- Squatters, travellers, rogue landlords, drug warrants executed
- Noise Nuisance Caseworks
- CCTV monitoring/enforcement
- Neighbourhood Community Safety Service hold regular surgeries with residents in libraries, leisure centres, food banks, events and local assemblies

- SLP Bus – attends events and public spaces, where Police and NCSS staff offer crime prevention advice and property marking.
- Problem Solving Processes (PSP) in relation to street drinking, ASB and volume crime in specific areas
- ASB cases dealt with – Cases range from private sector housing issues, noise nuisance, harassment, abuse, environmental issues, safeguarding issues, neighbour disputes, mental health issues and vulnerable people.
- “Troubled Families Project” – involvement on the ASB component
- Dog Nuisance – RSPCA, Dog Days – chipping and responsible ownership, from 2016 all dogs need to be chipped.

## **8. Council Led Partnership Activity**

- 8.1 The Crime Reduction Service works closely with the Police, Probation, London Fire Brigade, Crown Prosecution Service, Health and other statutory and community partners to develop multi agency strategies to reduce crime and disorder and tackle anti social behaviour. The enforcement action undertaken by the Neighbourhood Community Safety Team, within the Crime Reduction Service primarily relates to anti-social behaviour as governed by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Anti Social Behaviour Act 2003 and the new ASB, Crime and Policing Act 2014. Issues dealt with often require a multi-agency approach; this team act as the main conduit between the Council and the Police and leads on multi agency problem solving actions plans to address identified problems as well as delivering the ASB casework management function on behalf of the Council.
- 8.2 The Crime Reduction Service also works closely with other enforcement functions within the Council, such as licensing, environmental health etc. In addition, the Service regularly supports the ASB team at Lewisham Homes and offers guidance and advice on ASB and Crime matters to a number of Housing Associations across the Borough. The Crime Reduction Service works on a wider remit context than just enforcement, delivering a number of strategies and community safety programmes on areas such as hate crime, reducing reoffending, violence against women and girls (VAWG), Serious Youth Violence (SYV), Counter Terrorism (Prevent) and acquisitive crime, and liaise closely with DAAT, Supporting People and YOS as many of the issues are interlinked.
- 8.3 The provision and management of CCTV also falls within the remit of the Crime Reduction Service. CCTV coverage for the Council and Lewisham Homes is managed by the CCTV Manager within this Service who oversees the two main contracts in delivering this work. Office Communication Systems (OCS) are contracted to operate and view the cameras on a 24hr service and Eurovia are contracted to fix and maintain the service of the physical infrastructure of the CCTV network throughout the Borough. Both of these contracts will run for a further three years.

## **9. Financial Implications**

- 9.1 The SLP currently monitors the spend in relation to the MOPAC funding Resource allocation in relation to tackling emerging issues are agreed will be tabled for agreement at the Performance and Delivery Board or the SLP as required.

## 10. **Legal Implications**

- 10.1 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 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.
- 10.2 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.
- 10.3 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.
- 10.4 These statutory duties amongst others feed into the Council's Safer Lewisham Strategy.

## 11. **Equalities Implications**

- 11.1 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.

## 12. **Crime and Disorder Implications**

- 12.1 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.

## 13. **Environmental Implications**

- 13.1 Key decisions made which may have environmental implications. The Council 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.



## 14. **Conclusion**

- 14.1 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 communities strategy, and the Safer Lewisham Strategy as well as having links to children's and young persons board and the health and wellbeing board.

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