

Safer, Stronger Select Committee			
Report Title	Safer Lewisham Plan 2015-16 - 6 month update		
Key Decision	No		Item No. 6
Ward	All		
Contributors	Executive Director for Community Services. Head of Crime Reduction and Supporting People.		
Class	Part 1	Date: 16 September 2015	

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.

Recommendations:

- It is recommended to note the report
- To request a further end of year update and to have sight into the 16/17 Annual Plan.

2. **Priorities set for 2015/2016**

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.

The March 2015 meeting of the Safer Lewisham Partnership agreed the following priorities:

- Reducing Volume Crime in Lewisham in line with the MOPAC 7 key Crimes Areas
- Reduce key violent crime. This priority will focus on both reducing 'Serious Violence' (SV) and also reducing violence under the various strands under the 'Violence Against Women and Girls' (VAWG) agenda
- Focus on a renewed multi-agency drive to tackle 'Anti Social Behaviour' (ASB) in all forms. Under the new ASB, Crime and Policing Bill, residential, commercial and public space ASB will be dealt with swiftly, proportionately and with the victim at the heart of finding a resolution

3. **The MOPAC Challenge**

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"

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%

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

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)

- 3.1 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 – this document – the aim of which is to analyse problems in the borough and nominate strategic priorities.
- 3.2 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.

- 3.3 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.

4. **Priority 1 – Reducing Volume Crime in Lewisham in line with the MOPAC 7 key Crimes Areas**

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:

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

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.

4.1 Local Performance

Latest unverified crime figures compared with Rolling 12 month crime statistics in Lewisham. - **MOPAC 7 Priority Crimes (to 24.08.15)**

	Target	R12 (previous)	Current R12	% change
MOPAC Priority Offences				
Burglary	-6.0	2,655	2,108	-20.6
Robbery (Total)	-2.0	955	830	-13.1
VWI	+12.0	2,463	2,677	+8.7
Theft From Person Offences	-2.0	625	538	-13.9
Theft/Taking Of MV Offences	-8.0	640	844	+31.9
Theft From MV Offences	-6.0	1,430	1534	+7.3
Criminal Damage Offences	-5.0	2,158	2,383	+10.4
MOPAC 7 Total	-6	10,926	10,914	-0.1

4.2 The following activity has taken place to date to support this objective:

- Operation Equinox has enabled a partnership approach to tackling violence and alcohol related violence.
- Continued work through Operation Neptune & Project 'Immobilise' / UV Marking of CRAVED¹ items, stolen goods, Responsible Retailer Agreements
- Scams targeting older and vulnerable people – work with Trading Standards, offer TrueCall call screening service to victims and vulnerable – Home Security Project
- Public events presence - crime reduction, personal safety and home security advice - Lewisham People's Day, Police Open Day.
- 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.
- Implementation of London's Integrated Offender Management approach to reduce repeat reoffending.
- Youth Awareness Programme – schools and clubs, Year 7s, aimed at prevention Personal Robbery, Knife Crime and ASB

5. Priority 2 - **Reduce key violent crime.** This priority will focus on both reducing 'Serious Violence' (SV) and also reducing violence under the various strands under the 'Violence Against Women and Girls' (VAWG) agenda.

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

5.1 Local Performance

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

- Serious youth Violence
- Violence with injury
- Domestic Violence and abuse.
- Rape and Sexual Violence.

5.2 **Violent Offences (non-domestic/sexual)**

Violence with Injury is increasing significantly across the capital and this rise is attributed both by the MPS and the Home Office to more robust recording practices (the Crime Survey for England and Wales which is not dependent on police reporting points to long term decreases). It is worth noting that London Ambulance Service records for Lewisham indicate a 15.6 % reduction in pick-ups from 1600 to 1384 over the last 12 months. It will be noted that the MPS target for VWI has been adjusted to a **12 per cent rise**. Lewisham's rise is within this factored increase.

Lewisham has lower levels per capita than most inner city boroughs in the capital and further analysis of trends indicate only a modest increase over the last 12 months, and shorter range indications of a slight fall.

The Serious Youth Violence (SYV) figures indicate a 12.5% reduction from 272 to 238. Knife Crime with injury where victims are under 25 years of age has increased from 63 to 71. London ambulance attendance to under 25 year olds with knife wound injuries show a reduction over a 12 month period from 47 to 40. Taken in the round these figures compare favourably with comparable inner city boroughs. When interpreting figures for age specific groups it is important to factor in the demographic profile of the borough. When this is done it will be seen that young people in Lewisham are actually less prone to victimisation than is commonly thought. The table below compares the SYV figures with the size of the population under the age of 19. Reducing knife crime is now a key MPS priority and has been reflected locally in a revamping of policing tactics locally and a pooling of resources with Youth MARAC YOS and Serious Violence Team. As part of the new approach enforcement and disruption operations will be scaled up and a greater range and volume of nominals targeted.

Borough	Geographic level	Male	Female	Persons	SYV rate (per 1000)
Tower Hamlets	Local Authority	35,200	34,200	69,377	4.61
Haringey	Local Authority	33,600	31,850	65,442	4.58
Islington	Local Authority	22,750	22,200	44,948	4.37
Hackney	Local Authority	33,150	32,300	65,340	4.07
Southwark	Local Authority	35,100	33,450	68,547	4.36
Lambeth	Local Authority	34,450	33,550	68,020	3.82
Westminster	Local Authority	22,950	21,700	44,624	3.52
Newham	Local Authority	45,550	45,150	90,693	3.61
Lewisham	Local Authority	37,200	35,850	73,042	3.25

5.3 Violence Against Women and Girls

Across the MPS there has been an increase in Domestic Violence with Injury offences (6.7%) – which stands in marked contrast to Lewisham’s small reduction (-1.3%) from 945 to 933 . Similarly, figures for rape and serious sexual offences show significant increases of 17% and 28% respectively. Lewisham by contrast has recorded increases of 12% for rape and a 24% rise in serious sexual offences. When considering these figures the concerns about low reporting rate for sexual violence should be kept in mind².

5.4 The following activity has taken place to date to support this objective:

- With new commissioning arrangements, (single service for support of VAWG), there are now more IDVAs working to support victims in Lewisham, and as a result, are supporting more victims.
 - Detailed Local Assessment Profile undertaken to understand the current landscape in relation to Serious Youth Violence.
 - Familial Abuse Worker - a specialist worker who specifically works with victims of domestic abuse between family members, as part of the new Athena Service in Lewisham
6. Focus on a renewed multi-agency drive to tackle ‘**Anti-Social Behaviour**’ (ASB) in all forms. Under the new ASB, Crime and Policing Bill, residential, commercial and public space ASB will be dealt with swiftly, proportionately and with the victim at the heart of finding a resolution

² The Stern report indicates non-reporting as high as 90%

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.

Performance

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

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

6.1 The following activity has taken place to date to support this objective:

- Implementation of the joint multi-faceted Crime, Enforcement and Regulation Service
- Multi-Agency work around licensing and problem premises
- Squatters, travellers, rogue landlords, drug warrants executed
- CCTV monitoring/enforcement
- 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.
- Problem Solving Process and Problem Orientated Partnerships focusing on ASB
- Implementation and use of the new ASB powers.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 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.

8. Legal & Human Rights Implications

- 8.1 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.

8.2 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.

8.3 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.

8.4 These statutory duties amongst others feed into the Council's Safer Lewisham Strategy.

9. **Equalities Implications**

9.1 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.

10. **Crime and Disorder Implications**

10.1 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.

11. **Environmental Implications**

11.1 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.

12. **Conclusion**

12.1 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 children's and young person's board and the health and wellbeing board.

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