

<b>Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee</b>			
Report Title	Safer Lewisham Plan 2017-2018		
Key Decision	No	Item No.	5
Ward	All		
Contributors	Head of Crime Reduction and Supporting People		
Class	Part 1	Date	8 March 2017

## 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.
- 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 outlines the main priorities for the Safer Lewisham Partnership, which have been identified through the Strategic Assessment.
- 1.4 A **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.
- 1.5 The current 3 year Strategy ends in 2017, and it is intended that Lewisham adopt the London Mayor's Police and Crime Plan for 2017-2021, with an annual plan focusing on Lewisham's specific issues year on year in both working towards London-wide outcomes as well as revising and refreshing annual outcomes for Lewisham.

## 2. Executive Summary

Due to the timing of the Committee a draft Plan has not been completed for circulation. Data will be provided through a presentation at the committee and a draft plan shared for comments.

### **3. Recommendations**

- 3.1 The Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee is recommended to:

Note the contents of the report.

Agree that progress made against the Plan should be reported to the Select Committee in September 2017 and then again in March 2018.

### **4. Background**

- 4.1 The annual report is required under legislation and seeks to pull together all available information in relation to Crime and Disorder and setting priorities for the Partnership to deliver against.

#### MOPAC Police and Crime Plan (PCP)

- 4.2 MOPAC released their new Police and Crime Plan in December 16 for consultation. The Safer Lewisham Partnership and Select Committee are in the process of completing its response to the consultation. The Final PCP will be in force from April 2017.

- 4.3 The Draft PCP identifies a number of key elements including:

- A better police service for London
- A better criminal justice service for London
- Keeping children and young people safe
- Tackling violence against women and girls
- Standing together against extremism, hatred and intolerance

- 4.4 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.

- 4.5 The challenge for Safer Lewisham Partnership is to align the existing statutory requirements with the new Police and Crime Plan, governance and funding reality, while reflecting local needs, feedback from residents and a fast changing landscape across many Criminal Justice Partners.

### **5. Safer Lewisham Partnership Priorities for 2016-17**

- 5.1 Priorities for 2016-17 were:

**Priority 1:** Peer on Peer abuse – under 25 year olds in relation to serious youth and group violence with particular focus on knife enabled crime, child sexual exploitation and domestic abuse.

**Priority 2:** All strands of violence against women and girls with particular focus on Domestic abuse, sexual abuse, and FGM. This includes male victims within the defined strands of human trafficking, sexual violence, prostitution, domestic violence, stalking, forced marriage, 'honour'-based violence and female genital mutilation (FGM).

**Priority 3:** Focus on work in relation to identified geographical hotspots, premises and people of interest and using regulatory and enforcement provisions across the partnership and community as appropriate. This includes business crime and community safety related issues that impact on local residents. This links with work under the strands of organised crime including drugs as a driver for violence, firearms, human trafficking, Child Sexual Exploitation, economic crime and cyber crime.

**Priority 4:** Better understand, responding, monitoring and reaching out to specified groups in relation to a multi-agency approach to hate crime.

## **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1 The SLP currently monitors spend in relation to the MOPAC funding. Resource allocation in relation to tackling emerging issues is agreed at 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 All appropriate services are consulted on agreed activity before proceeding where key decisions made may have environmental implications.

## **11. Conclusion**

- 11.1 The annual Plan 2017-18 will be agreed by the SLP in March 2017 and reviewed quarterly. 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 / MOPAC Police and Crime Plan 2017-2021 as well as having links to Children's and Young Persons Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board.

**If there are any queries on this report please contact Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney, Head of Crime Reduction & Supporting People, Community Services Directorate on 020 8314 9569.**