

<b>Safer, Stronger Select Committee</b>		
Report Title	<b>MOPAC - Police and Crime Plan 2017-2021</b>	
Key Decision	No	Item No. 6
Ward	All	
Contributors	Head of Crime Reduction and Supporting People.	
Class	Part 1	Date: 17 January 2017

## 1. Purpose of the Report

The London Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) have launched their consultation on the Police and Crime Plan 2017- 2021, which is a statutory requirement. Consultation on this draft runs for 12 weeks - from 1st December 2016 to 23rd February 2017. This report outlines the key elements of the draft Plan for the Committee to consider a response to MOPAC.

### Recommendations:

- It is recommended to note the report
- Members of committee to feed their views which can be submitted separately or collectively with the Safer Lewisham Partnerships response. Responses to the Head of Crime Reduction and Supporting People by the 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 17.
- To communicate widely to residents about the consultation for input which will be done via press and media in the coming weeks.

## 2. Background

The Mayor of London has noted the following:

- He is committed to ending the '**postcode lottery**' in public safety. This means that some people and places are more vulnerable to, and fearful of crime than others - so we will be focused on tackling particular, local problems, while making sure that all Londoners receive a high standard of service.
- As well as ensuring there are clear standards of service the public can expect from the police and the criminal justice service, the Mayor has identified three new London-wide commitments:
  - keeping children and young people safe
  - tackling violence against women and girls

- and standing together against extremism, hatred and intolerance

The draft Policing and Crime strategy includes measures to tackle these issues, as well as plans to crack down on knife crime and improve victims' services.

### **3 The Plan**

There are a number of key aspects to the Draft Plan which are worthy of note:

#### **3.1 The impact of crime is changing**

Vulnerability is becoming increasingly concentrated within certain places and amongst certain individuals. According to MOPAC's Vulnerable Localities Profile, the top 10 per cent of wards (63) are disproportionately impacted compared to other parts of London. To illustrate – on average, over 3 times more victims of burglary, robbery, sexual offences live in these top 10 per cent compared to the least vulnerable.

In these communities, deprivation, crime and vulnerability interact and limit the life chances of the individuals living there, creating an intergenerational cycle of criminality and harm.

Repeat victimisation is a key element of the crime landscape in London. Approximately one in ten crimes is committed against people who have been victims of crime in the previous year. Other crimes, such as domestic abuse, have higher levels of repeat victimisation – with four in five offences committed against repeat victims of domestic abuse.

#### **3.2 Expectations of policing and justice are changing**

The success of policing in London is dependent on the support of the public. Individuals who have trust and confidence in the police are more likely to cooperate with the police and comply with the law.

9 out of 10 Londoners agree that the MPS is an organisation they can trust, but there are significant demographic and socio-economic differences in the way some Londoners perceive the MPS. For example, those living in more deprived areas and black/ mixed respondents to MOPAC's Public Attitudes Survey report more negative views than the rest of the population. Young BAME Londoners hold less favourable opinions towards the police compared to the rest of the population.

A factor in this is likely to be the overrepresentation of BAME and young males within stop and search. If you are BAME in London you are 2.5 times more likely to be stopped than white individuals, rising to ten times more likely for vehicle stops. Evidence suggests that the quality of the interaction matters as much if not more than the volume of stops: if people perceive they are less likely to

receive a full explanation and less likely to report being treated with respect, than they are less likely to be satisfied.

### **3.3 Demands on the justice service are changing**

The criminal justice service has had to deal with significant cuts to funding at a time when caseloads are becoming more challenging and citizen expectations have risen (as a result of improving digital technology). London's victims are not served well by a justice service where:

- An average case takes nearly 173 days, from the date of offence to the conclusion of court proceedings;
- Approximately half of trials are classed as effective; (Ministry of Justice 2015/16 data);
- 1 in 4 cracked or ineffective trials are due to the prosecution ending the case; 2 in 5 of those cases are attributed to the victim or witness not attending or withdrawing (Ministry of Justice 2015/16 data);
- There was a backlog of over 7,000 cases waiting to be heard in London Crown Courts at the end of October 2016;
- Conviction rates in London are 6 per cent lower for hate crime (Crown Prosecution Service Hate Crime report 2015/16); 10 per cent lower for domestic abuse; 4 per cent lower for rape and 5 percent lower for sexual offences than the rest of England and Wales. (Crown Prosecution Service Violence Against Women and Girls report

### **3.4 Pressure on the MPS budget**

The Police and Crime Plan will be delivered at a time of severe and ongoing pressure on the MPS budget and on the wider public sector in London.

Between 2010 and 2015 the Police Grant was cut by 20% by the Government. This meant that the MPS needed to make £600 million of savings over the period, which was achieved by cutting 4,500 PCSOs and back-office staff, selling over 120 buildings and making cuts to other areas of policing. Despite the current Government claiming that future police funding has been protected, in reality the MPS still faces real-terms reductions in its budget and will need to make hundreds of millions of pounds in further savings over the next four years as a result.

This includes:

- Protecting London from Terrorism
- Tackling Serious and Organised Crime
- Being Prepared for Civil Emergencies
- Managing threats to public order and public safety
- Being prepared for cyber-emergency
- Tackling Child Sexual Abuse

MOPAC propose to:

- Bring the police closer to communities, providing a minimum of two dedicated Police Constables (PCs) and one Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) for every ward in London.
- End the inflexible 'MOPAC 7' targets set in the previous Mayor's Police and Crime Plan and agree annual crime and policing priorities at a local level, on volume crime, vulnerability and harm.
- Drive change in the MPS to improve its ability to protect vulnerable children and adults, in collaboration with statutory and voluntary sector partners.
- Invest in new technology and ways of working to keep police officers out on the front line and help them do their jobs more effectively.
- Encourage more female and BAME Londoners to join the MPS and build lasting, successful careers for all MPS officers and staff.
- Support the work of the Night Czar<sup>6</sup> to deliver a safe and enjoyable night time economy.
- Work together with the MPS, TfL, British Transport Police (BTP), City of London Police and other enforcement partners to keep our transport network and roads safe.
- Work with businesses to help protect them from crime, making our city a safer place to work and do business.

Neighbourhood policing is supported by a wide range of specialist, city-wide functions, all of which work together to keep London safe.

The MPS has vital responsibilities and resources to protect our city from major threats and support national security efforts, set out in the national Strategic Policing Requirement.

### **3.5 A better criminal justice service for London**

Criminal justice should be a service, not a system. The best interests of victims – the people it exists to serve – must be at its heart.

MOPAC outline thoughts for devolving greater powers over the justice service to the Mayor, which would enable us to make a bigger difference to the service provided to Londoners.

There are also proposals for plans to improve the treatment of victims, speed up the process of justice and address the career criminals whose persistent offending causes so much harm to Londoners.

This includes:

- A higher quality of service for Londoners
- Race, disproportionality and inequality in the criminal justice service
- Developing the service to improve outcomes for victims

- Reducing levels of repeat victimisation and repeat offending across London
- Putting London's needs first

MOPAC propose to:

- Appoint an independent Victims Commissioner for London and promote better outcomes for victims throughout the Criminal Justice Service.
- Roll out victim-centred restorative justice provision for London.
- Improve MPS file quality and ensure effective case handling between MPS and Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), including use of body-worn video evidence.
- Work together with the MPS and Courts to integrate services to support victims and witnesses of crime.
- Review compliance with the Victims Code of Practice across the Criminal Justice Service in London.
- Develop and deliver joint commissioning plans with the Ministry of Justice, the National Offender Management Service, prisons, the National Probation Service and the London Community Rehabilitation Company to improve "through the gate" services and so reduce reoffending.
- Press for devolution of criminal justice responsibilities for London from national government to the Mayor, to enable whole system change and improvement.

#### **4 Some Londoners are at higher risk of becoming victims of crime, or of being exploited by others to commit criminal acts.**

The Plan sets out proposals to drive efforts to tackle three issues of high concern and high harm across London.

- Keeping children and young people safe.
- Tackling violence against women and girls.
- Standing together against extremism, hatred and intolerance.

##### **4.1 Keeping children and young people safe**

Every child and young person in London should be able to grow and reach their potential free from the danger of crime and violence. While the majority of young Londoners continue to feel safe, there are a significant number who do not.

This includes:

- Protecting all young Londoners
- Taking action against knife crime, gangs and violence
- Drugs and alcohol
- Preventing young people from getting involved in crime
- Giving young offenders a better chance to turn their lives around

MOPAC propose to:

- Produce and implement a Knife Crime Strategy in the New Year, bringing police, partners and communities together to take tough action against this urgent problem facing young Londoners.
- Lead a new independent group of police leaders, child protection experts and academics to drive the oversight and change necessary to ensure that the lessons of the HMIC report are learned and that children in our city are not let down when they are most vulnerable.
- With NHS England, commission two Child Houses to provide investigative, medical and emotional support in one place to young victims of sexual violence.
- Review the MPS approach to gang crime, including the Gangs Matrix, and support the MPS to tackle gang crime, gun crime and knife crime more effectively in London.
- Work with the MPS and local authorities to reduce the arrest and charge rates of looked-after children.
- With London partners, seek to review custodial and community provision for children and young people to break the cycle of offending.

#### 4.2 **Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)**

Violence, abuse and harassment should not be part of everyday life for women and girls in our city. We want to challenge the culture of acceptance that this is just something that women and girls should have to tolerate, and make sure that real action happens when these offences occur.

This includes:

- Providing London leadership in tackling violence against women and girls
- Addressing the prevalence of domestic abuse and sexual violence in London
- Introducing a London-wide approach to prevention of violence against women and girls
- Protecting men and boys
- Encouraging victims to come forward

MOPAC propose to:

- Produce a refreshed London Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy.
- Lead a public campaign against the prevalence of violence, abuse and harassment of women and girls.
- Sustain current investment in Rape Crisis and Sexual Assault Referral Centre provision.
- Work with partner agencies to develop a new sexual violence service model which would better meet the needs of victims and survivors.
- Review the provision and funding of Independent Domestic Violence Advocates and Independent Sexual Violence Advisors.

- Work with the GLA and Local Authorities to improve availability of refuges and other safe accommodation for victims and survivors.
- Support the work of Transport for London, the MPS, the British Transport Police and City of London Police to tackle unwanted sexual behaviour on the transport system.
- Deliver a whole-school pilot for VAWG prevention.
- Commission new interventions aimed at the behaviour of perpetrators.

#### 4.3 **Standing together against extremism, hatred and intolerance**

London is famed as a city where people from every background and walk of life can live in freedom and tolerance. That tolerance and willingness to embrace difference is precious, and we are determined to protect it from those who would seek to undermine it.

This includes:

- Building cohesive and resilient communities
- Taking a zero tolerance approach against hate crime
- Improving reporting
- Strengthening early intervention and prevention
- Supporting victims
- A London-wide approach to counter-radicalisation
- Working alongside national efforts

MOPAC propose to:

- Work with MPS and CPS to take a zero tolerance approach against hate crime.
- Support the work of TfL, MPS Roads and Transport Policing Command, the British Transport Police and City of London Police to tackle hate crime on public transport to ensure London's transport system is a safe and welcoming environment for all those who wish to use it.
- Roll out the Hate Crime Victims' Advocates service across London, following a pilot scheme in Hackney and Westminster.
- Launch an Online Hate Crime Hub to provide a dedicated policing response to online offences.
- Ensure that the approach to safeguarding against radicalisation is in line with our city-wide approach to social integration.
- Work with the Deputy Mayor for Social Integration to support community cohesion and resilience.

#### 4.4 **Transforming services and managing the MPS budget**

The challenges that face the MPS are significant: Violence is increasing. Whilst some crimes continue to fall, new threats are emerging. Cyber-crime is on the increase. Terrorists continue to develop new tactics to try and attack.

At the same time, continued Government austerity means further savings from the MPS budget over the next four years, on top of the £600m already saved over the last four years.

This draft Plan describes how MOPAC propose to work with the MPS to ensure that, at a time of changing demand and decreasing funding, its officers, staff and volunteers have the resources, skills and support they need to protect our city from criminal threats, deliver a high quality universal service to all Londoners, intervene effectively with the most vulnerable victims of crime in our city and pursue the perpetrators

After years of cuts in police funding, pressures on the policing budget remain acute. Over the next four years, MOPAC anticipate having to make millions of pounds in additional savings from the MPS budget.

This includes:

- Technology
- Structure
- Making every pound count

#### 4.5 **MOPAC propose to oversee the MPS, fund services and deliver their commitments by:**

- Shared outcomes
- Tighter grip on performance and oversight
- Measuring the things that matter
- Working with partners
- Smarter commissioning
- Prevention and early intervention
- Devolution

### 5 **Consultation:**

MOPAC have set out a number of priority areas and areas for consideration which include:

- To what extent do you agree that the plan will make London a safer city for all?
- Do you think the priorities stated by the Mayor are the right ones? Thinking about the priorities - please provide any comments you have about the plan itself including anything you would add or change.



- Are the delivery plans and commitments clear and easy to understand? Please provide any comments you have about the delivery plans and commitments. Is there anything you would like to contribute regarding the approach MOPAC intend to take?
- Do you agree with the approach laid out in terms of how success of the plan will be measured? Please provide any comment you have about performance measurement of the police or criminal justice service.
- What do you think the Police and Crime Plan will achieve?
- What would you like to see more emphasis on?
- Is there anything else you think the Mayor should take into account when creating his plan?

## **6 Financial Implications**

The Safer Lewisham Partnership currently monitors the spend in relation to the MOPAC funding Resource allocation in relation to tackling emerging issues. There have been reductions in contributions made via the London Crime Prevention fund from MOPAC to Lewisham in 2017-2021. There may be opportunities to co commission and work with other boroughs and partners on aspects of this plan. The details of this will be determined in 2017.

## **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 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**

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**

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**

Key decisions made which may have environmental implications. Environmental services are consulted about all agreed activity before proceeding.

## **11 Conclusion**

MOPACs Plan has changed significantly from that of 2013-2017 with a greater focus on risk, harm and vulnerability. This matches the approach Lewisham has taken over the past 5 years. There are significant opportunities presented in the priorities within this Plan along with challenges of resources and deliverability. Lewisham have regular dialogue with MOPAC as a Borough but also as the Chair of the London Heads of Community Safety as the voice for London Local Authorities. This ongoing dialogue is essential in ensuring that the MOPAC Plan meets the needs of local residents whilst considering London wide opportunities.

*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*