


Non-Executive Report of the:  <b>Council</b>  23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2016	 <b>TOWER HAMLETS</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Stephen Halsey, Corporate Director Communities, Localities and Culture	<b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted
<b>Community Safety Partnership Plan Review and Extension</b>	

<b>Originating Officer(s)</b>	<b>Councillor Shiria Khatun, Cabinet Member for Community Safety</b>
<b>Wards affected</b>	All wards

### Summary

There is a legal requirement for each Community Safety Partnership (Safe & Cohesive CPDG in Tower Hamlets) to have a Community Safety Partnership Plan, historically known as a Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy. From a statutory perspective the responsibility to develop a CSP Plan lies with the Community Safety Partnership. To this extent it is not a council plan but a partnership one. However under the Council Constitution there is a requirement that the CSP Plan be approved by Full Council. This would include changes to the plan term.

In order to fulfil our other statutory duties, the CSP produces an annual Strategic Assessment. This was last undertaken in 2014/15 to enable it to review the current 3 year Plan at the end of year 2. The Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16 revised for Year 3 has been reviewed by the CSP Subgroup Chairs and agency leads from the responsible authorities (statutory partners), prior to discussion and subsequent approval by the CSP on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2015.

The current CSP Plan has a 3 year term, is due to expire on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 and was originally aligned to the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime's (MOPAC) Police and Crime Plan (PCP) 2013-16. However, it has been confirmed that the PCP is running for an additional year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 which is seen by MOPAC as a 'transitional year', to allow the new Mayor of London to develop and consult on a new MOPAC PCP to replace the previous Mayor's PCP.

The Tower Hamlets CSP recognises the importance of remaining aligned to the MOPAC priorities within the PCP for funding and policing purposes. The CSP have reviewed their current CSP Plan and have agreed as a partnership that they will extend the current CSP Plan by a year. This extension of the Plan's term will ensure it remains aligned to MOPAC's PCP and expires on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017. It will also enable it to conduct a public consultation on local community safety priorities in Summer 2016, so that it can produce a new CSP Plan which is aligned to the new MOPAC Police and Crime Plan (September 2016 onwards).

## **Recommendations:**

The Council is recommended to:

1. Note the content of the Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16 Revised for Year 3 (appendix 1)
2. Note the content of this report and the decision made under the relevant legislation by the CSP to extend its current CSP Plan by 1 year, so that it remains aligned with MOPAC's Police and Crime Plan 2013-16 and expires on 31.03.17
3. Agree the CSP's extension of its Plan term for a further year until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 for the reasons set out in the report.

## **1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS**

- 1.1 Full Council must adopt a Community Safety Partnership Plan in order to meet statutory requirements set by the Crime and Disorder Act (1998). The priorities and governance structure outlined in the Plan are based on the statutory strategic assessment exercise that was carried out by statutory partners to consider data on safety in the Borough. They have been agreed by the Community Safety Partnership in July 2015 to be the best model to deliver a safer and more cohesive community in Tower Hamlets. The Cabinet are asked to consider the reviewed Plan, along with the CSP decision to extend it by one year in order to remain aligned with MOPAC's Police and Crime Plan 2013-16 and satisfy itself that it can proceed to Full Council.

## **2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 2.1 It is a statutory responsibility for Community Safety Partnerships to produce a Community Safety Plan and the decision to set the term length including extending existing Plans lies with the Community Safety Partnership under the relevant legislation. There are therefore no alternative options to doing so without risking government censure, damaging key partner relationships and undermining community safety. The constitution determines that it is the role of Full Council to ratify that partnership plan which includes decisions to extend its term.

## **3. DETAILS OF REPORT**

### **Review of CSP Plan**

- 3.1 Appendix 1 of this briefing note is the Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013 – 16 Reviewed for Year 3.
- 3.2 The Community Safety Partnership reviewed the CSP Plan 2013-16 and agreed to include:
- Prostitution as a standalone priority, having separated it out from both Violence Against Women and Girls under Violence as well as some elements of it being previously addressed under Anti-Social Behaviour.
  - MOPAC 7 crimes are now a standalone priority, with particular crimes within this group previously been split across ASB, Violence and Property/Serious Acquisitive Crime CSP Plan Priorities.
- 3.3 The CSP also discussed the Preventing Violent Extremism agenda which currently sits under the Community Cohesion and Hate Crime Priority and whether it warranted being a standalone priority theme in the current CSP Plan. The decision was made by the CSP Co-chairs and the CSP that Prevent would remain within the existing Hate Crime and Community Cohesion CSP Priority Theme at this time. This would be reviewed based on the findings of the 2015 CSP Strategic Assessment, along with all other community safety issues in the borough.

- 3.4 The Prevent Board is a CSP Subgroup which is currently being restructured, so that it has a more strategic approach and appropriate level membership from across relevant partner agencies including the Home Office and SO15 and other key local partners. It has a Home Office approved annual Action Plan which identifies key priorities and actions for the borough to deliver with the Home Office Funding. The Board restructure is due to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015 following a director level workshop (scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> December) to develop the board strategically.
- 3.5 Full list of CSP Plan Priorities for 2015/16 are:
- Gangs and Serious Youth Violence
  - Anti-Social Behaviour and Arson
  - Drugs and Alcohol
  - Violence (inc. Domestic Violence & Violence Against Women and Girls)
  - Prostitution
  - Hate Crime and Cohesion(including Prevent)
  - Killed or Seriously Injured
  - Property/Serious Acquisitive Crime
- 3.6 Cross-cutting Priorities:
- Public Confidence and Victim Satisfaction
  - Reducing Re-offending
  - MOPAC 7

### **Extension to Term of CSP Plan 2013-16**

- 3.7 The CSP Plan is a partnership document, written and owned by the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) of which the Council is part. It is aligned to national government priorities and regional / local ones, particularly those within the Mayor of London's Office of Police and Crime (MOPAC) Police and Crime Plan (PCP) 2013-16 and those of the Executive Mayor of Tower Hamlets.
- 3.8 The current CSP Plan is specifically aligned to the MOPAC PCP as it contains and directs Police targets, partnership priorities and funding and partnership oversight by MOPAC, under the legislation relating to Police and Crime Commissioners.
- 3.9 Following a CSP request for clarification on the expiry date, MOPAC's Strategy Team confirmed that their current PCP will now expire on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.
- 3.10 The reason for it expiring in March 2017 and not 2016 is due to there being London Mayoral Elections scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> May 2016 and MOPAC is treating 2016/17 financial year as a 'transitional year'. After the London Mayoral Election, the new Mayor is likely to consult on their revised vision for the Police and Crime Plan for their term in office and this will take place between June and September 2016. MOPAC's Strategy Team envisage having a new

Police and Crime Plan in place around September, which Tower Hamlets CSP Plan would then need to be aligned to.

- 3.11 Under the Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2011, the Community Safety Partnership (Safe & Cohesive CPDG in Tower Hamlets) is required to have a Community Safety Partnership Plan, historically known as a Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy. Under the legislation, the power to set the term of the CSP Plan lies with the Community Safety Partnership. However under the Council Constitution, the CSP Plan and its term must be approved by Full Council.
- 3.12 The Tower Hamlets CSP recognises the importance of remaining aligned to the MOPAC priorities within the PCP for funding and policing purposes. The CSP have reviewed their current CSP Plan as per their statutory duty to do so annually.
- 3.13 On 8<sup>th</sup> September 2015 the CSP agreed as a partnership that they will extend their current CSP Plan, so that it remains aligned to MOPAC's PCP and expires on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.
- 3.14 The CSP were reminded that the power remained with the CSP to make this decision however, only Full Council could agree on behalf of the Council. A report on this decision to extend would need to be taken by the Council to Full Council.
- 3.15 The CSP agreed to support this report regarding its decision to extend the CSP's Plan by one year, and requests that Full Council endorses their extension to the term by one year.

#### **4. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

- 4.1 The report recommends Full Council note the content of the revised Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16 and the decision by the Community Safety Partnership to extend its current CSP Plan by a year to align with MOPAC's Police and Crime Plan 2013-16 expiring 31 March 2017.
- 4.2 There are no specific financial implications emanating from this report regarding Council funding. However, the report recognises the importance of the CSP Plan remaining aligned to MOPAC's Police and Crime Plan 2013-16 for funding and policing purposes. A total of £811,358 has been allocated from MOPAC for the financial year 2016/17 and as in previous years any carry forward of underspends will only be agreed in exceptional circumstances.

#### **5. LEGAL COMMENTS**

- 5.1 Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), formerly called Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs), were set up to coordinate action on crime and disorder at a local level. CSPs are under a duty to assess local community safety issues and draw up a partnership plan setting out their

priorities and planned responses. The Council is a “responsible authority” of the Community Safety Partnership by virtue of section 5(1) (a) of the 1998 Act.

- 5.2 Section 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory duty on responsible authorities to work together in formulating and implementing strategies to tackle local crime and disorder in their area.
- 5.3 Under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Council has a statutory duty to; do all that it reasonably can to reduce crime and disorder; produce (with the other responsible authorities) an annual Strategic Assessment which identifies crime and disorder priorities and implications in its area.
- 5.4 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 sets out the requirement for a framework for partnership working which includes duties for partners to cooperate with each other to take each other’s priorities into account:
  1. Section 10(1) of the 2011 Act requires Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) and the Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) (collectively referred to as elected local policing bodies in the 2011 Act) to have regard to the priorities of the responsible authorities making up the CSPs in the police area.
  2. Section 6(1A) of the 1998 Act, inserted by the 2011 Act, requires the responsible authorities to have regard to the police and crime objectives set out in the elected local policing body’s police and crime plan.
  3. Section 10(2) of the 2011 Act requires the elected local policing body and the responsible authorities to act in co-operation with each other in exercising their respective functions.
- 5.5 Therefore the recommendations in this report recognise the importance of continuous engagement with the partner organisations comprising the Community Safety Partnership and also provide evidence of the importance of coordinated and collaborative working. However, failure to adhere to published targets in the CSP Plan could lead to legal challenge which could also lead to reputational damage or environmental or economic risks. It is advantageous for the Tower Hamlets CSP to continue align with MOPAC priorities within the PCP for funding and policing purposes.

## **6. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS**

- 6.1 The Community Safety Partnership (Safe and Cohesion Community Plan Delivery Group) aims through its plan, to make Tower Hamlets a more cohesive place to live, work, study and visit. The work of the No Place For Hate Forum; Community Cohesion, Contingency Planning Tension Monitoring Group and the Preventing Violent Extremism Programme Board, all subgroups of the CSP aim to carry-out this important part of work for the Partnership. Hate Crime and Cohesion remain an important priority for the Partnership.

- 6.2 An initial Equalities Screening and full Equalities Analysis was produced as part of the original CSP Plan 2013-16 Report, which went through the Full Council approval process, culminating at Full Council on 26th March 2014. Recommendations were made for further considerations when supporting action plans are developed.

## **7. BEST VALUE (BV) IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 Whilst difficult to quantify there are potentially significant efficiency gains from working in partnership to reduce crime and disorder in the borough. The decision to extend by one year the Community Safety Plan 2013-16 which is a partnership document and brings together key crime and disorder reduction agencies, will ensure that we continue to work together as a partnership and share resources.

## **8. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT**

- 8.1 Extension of the Community Safety Plan 2013-16 so that the partnership remains aligned to MOPAC's Police and Crime Plan and the implementation of the CSP Plan is expected to have a positive effect on the environment by helping to reduce anti-social behaviour. This will then reduce the amount of criminal damage, graffiti, fly-tipping and fly-posting and other environmental crimes in the borough.

## **9. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 The Community Safety Plan sets out an overarching structure and framework of priorities within which management of risks will take place.

## **10. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 The decision to extend the current Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16 by one year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 will ensure that we continue to work in partnership to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and re-offending. It will also support the Mayors priorities helping to reduce fear of crime and contributing to relevant 'safer' related community plan commitments.

## **11. SAFEGUARDING IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 The Community Safety Partnership includes amongst its members the independent chairs of both the Safeguarding Adults and Safeguarding Children Boards. The current Chair of the Prevent Board along with both Co-Chairs of the Safeguarding Adults Board are also members of the CSP Board. These boards are seen as 'linked boards' to the CSP and have been included in the development process of the reviewed CSP Plan along with the decision by the CSP Members to extend it by a further year to remain aligned to MOPAC's Police and Crime Plan. There are no safeguarding risks identified in the report, only benefits for partner agencies across the CSP and both

Safeguarding Boards by working together at strategic and operational levels in the borough, to ensure community safety in all its forms.

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## **Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents**

### **Linked Report**

- None

### **Appendices**

- Appendix 1: CSP Plan 2013-16 reviewed for Year 3 (2015/16)
- Appendix 2 & 3: Equalities Considerations & Equalities Analysis: Initial Screening Document

### **Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)**

#### **List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report**

- None

### **Officer contact details for documents:**

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