OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 28 September 2016 at 6.00 p.m., Room C1, 1st Floor, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG

This meeting is open to the public to attend.

Members:

Chair: Councillor John Pierce	Scrutiny Lead for Law, Probity & Governance
Vice Chair: Councillor Abdul Mukit MBE	Scrutiny Lead for Resources
Councillor Mahbub Alam	
Councillor Amina Ali	
Councillor Abdul Asad	Scrutiny Lead for Communities, Localities & Culture
Councillor Julia Dockerill	Scrutiny Lead for Children's Services
Councillor Oliur Rahman	
Councillor Helal Uddin	
Councillor Clare Harrisson	Scrutiny Lead for Adult Health and Wellbeing

Co-opted Members:

Victoria Ekubia	(Roman Catholic Church Representative)
Dr Phillip Rice	(Church of England Representative)
1 Vacancy	(Parent Governor Representative)
1 Vacancy	(Parent Governor Representative)

Deputies:

Councillor Danny Hassell, Councillor Dave Chesterton, Councillor Ohid Ahmed, Councillor Gulam Kibria Choudhury, Councillor Peter Golds, Councillor Denise Jones, Councillor Md. Maium Miah and Councillor Andrew Wood

[The quorum for this body is 3 voting Members]

Contact for further enquiries:
David Knight, Democratic Services
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Web: http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee

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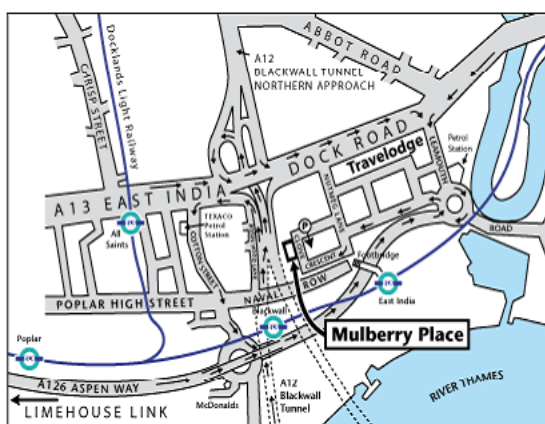
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SECTION ONE	WARD	PAGE NUMBER(S)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST**   1 - 4

To note any declarations of interest made by Members, including those restricting Members from voting on the questions detailed in Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992. See attached note from the Interim Monitoring Officer.

3. **UNRESTRICTED MINUTES**

To confirm as a correct record of the proceedings the unrestricted minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 1st September, 2016 – To Follow.

4. **UNRESTRICTED REPORTS 'CALLED IN'**

No decisions of the Mayor in Cabinet 6th September, 2016 in respect of unrestricted reports on the agenda were 'called in'.

5. **REQUESTS TO SUBMIT PETITIONS**

To receive any petitions (to be notified at the meeting).

6. **SCRUTINY SPOTLIGHT**

Nil items

7. **OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE QUERY AND ACTION LOG 2016/17**   All Wards   5 - 6

8. **FORTHCOMING DECISIONS**   All Wards

To follow.

9. **PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY OF UNRESTRICTED CABINET PAPERS**   All Wards

To consider and agree pre-decision scrutiny

questions/comments to be presented to Cabinet. With particular reference to the:

- Corporate Budget Monitoring - Month 4 (Q1 2016/17);
- Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) Update 2017-18 to 2019-20 (First stage in the review of the MTFP); and
- Transparency Commission Action Plan and Transparency Protocol.

(Time allocated – 50 minutes).

10. VERBAL UPDATES FROM SCRUTINY LEADS   All Wards

(Time allocated – 5 minutes each)

11. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

12. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

To consider any other unrestricted business that the Chair considers to be urgent.

13. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

In view of the contents of the remaining items on the agenda the Committee is recommended to adopt the following motion:

"That, under the provisions of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local

Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting for the consideration of the Section Two business on the grounds that it contains information defined as Exempt in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972."

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL SECTION (Pink Papers)

The exempt committee papers in the agenda will contain information, which is commercially, legally or personally sensitive and should not be divulged to third parties. If you do not wish to retain these papers after the meeting, please hand them to the Committee Officer present.

SECTION TWO

WARD   PAGE
NUMBER(S)

14. EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

Nil items

15. EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS 'CALLED IN'

No decisions of the Mayor in Cabinet 6th September, 2016 in respect of exempt/ confidential reports on the agenda were 'called in'.

16. PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY OF EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL) CABINET PAPERS

To consider and agree pre-decision scrutiny questions/comments to be presented to Cabinet.

(Time allocated 15 minutes).

17. ANY OTHER EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

To consider any other exempt/ confidential business that the Chair considers to be urgent.

Next Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Wednesday, 26 October 2016 at 6.00 p.m. to be held in Room C1, 1st Floor, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG

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DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS - NOTE FROM THE MONITORING OFFICER

This note is for guidance only. For further details please consult the Members' Code of Conduct at Part 5.1 of the Council's Constitution.

Please note that the question of whether a Member has an interest in any matter, and whether or not that interest is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, is for that Member to decide. Advice is available from officers as listed below but they cannot make the decision for the Member. If in doubt as to the nature of an interest it is advisable to seek advice **prior** to attending a meeting.

Interests and Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs)

You have an interest in any business of the authority where that business relates to or is likely to affect any of the persons, bodies or matters listed in section 4.1 (a) of the Code of Conduct; and might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial position of yourself, a member of your family or a person with whom you have a close association, to a greater extent than the majority of other council tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward affected.

You must notify the Monitoring Officer in writing of any such interest, for inclusion in the Register of Members' Interests which is available for public inspection and on the Council's Website.

Once you have recorded an interest in the Register, you are not then required to declare that interest at each meeting where the business is discussed, unless the interest is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI).

A DPI is defined in Regulations as a pecuniary interest of any of the descriptions listed at **Appendix A** overleaf. Please note that a Member's DPIs include his/her own relevant interests and also those of his/her spouse or civil partner; or a person with whom the Member is living as husband and wife; or a person with whom the Member is living as if they were civil partners; if the Member is aware that that other person has the interest.

Effect of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest on participation at meetings

Where you have a DPI in any business of the Council you must, unless you have obtained a dispensation from the authority's Monitoring Officer following consideration by the Dispensations Sub-Committee of the Standards Advisory Committee:-
   - not seek to improperly influence a decision about that business; and
   - not exercise executive functions in relation to that business.

If you are present at a meeting where that business is discussed, you must:-
   - Disclose to the meeting the existence and nature of the interest at the start of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent, if later; and
   - Leave the room (including any public viewing area) for the duration of consideration and decision on the item and not seek to influence the debate or decision

When declaring a DPI, Members should specify the nature of the interest and the agenda item to which the interest relates. This procedure is designed to assist the public's understanding of the meeting and to enable a full record to be made in the minutes of the meeting.

Where you have a DPI in any business of the authority which is not included in the Member's register of interests and you attend a meeting of the authority at which the business is considered, in addition to disclosing the interest to that meeting, you must also within 28 days notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest for inclusion in the Register.

Further advice

For further advice please contact:-
- Melanie Clay, Corporate Director, Law, Probity and Governance. Tel 020 7364 4800

APPENDIX A: Definition of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

(Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, Reg 2 and Schedule)

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vacation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by the Member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of the Member. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
Contracts	Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority— (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	Any tenancy where (to the Member's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and (b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.
Securities	Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where— (a) that body (to the Member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

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OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE QUERY AND ACTION LOG 2016/17

Meeting and agenda item	Question or request for action	Response or current status
17th August 2016 (request outside meeting)	Briefing on Community Trigger, and data on applications and outcomes.	This information has now been provided.
1st September 2016, Town Centre Report	The Scrutiny Review Report (P10 of the review report) identifies 41% of businesses in Tower Hamlets as others. Can officers provide a breakdown of what these are?	"Other2 category on NOMIS UK Business counts refer to: Membership organisations e.g. Trade Unions and other membership organisations. Repairs of computers, personal and household goods, e.g. computers, bike repairs. Other personal service activities e.g. hairdressers, beauty salons, tattoo parlours.
	Can Members obtain a copy of the Whitechapel Feasibility Study which is also looking at Retail Capacity Study	External consultants have been commissioned to produce this study and a first draft is near completion. It is envisaged that if everything goes to plan, the final study will be finalised and approved within the next few weeks. The study should therefore be available for the OSC to consider at their 26th October meeting.
1st September 2016, Integrated Employment Service	Provide details of: number of troubled families in Tower Hamlets; the number of people/families classified as working poor; and the number of people on zero hours contracts	• The target number of troubled families to be identified in the borough by 2020 is 3,660. • The number of troubled families that need to be identified this year are 2,020. • The number of troubled families that have already been identified is 1000. There is no clear definition of "working poor"; the following are the latest Government personal tax credit statistics from 2014/15 broken down by local authority area: • Total out of work families in Tower Hamlets: 9,500 • With children receiving Working Tax Credits and Child Care Credits:10,400 • With children receiving CTC only: 2,200 • Of which lone parents: 3,300 • With no children receiving WTC only: 1,400

		No local authority level data is published about the numbers of workers in the borough on zero hours contracts. ONS March 2016 national estimates based on the 2015 survey of businesses and the Labour Force Survey, estimates that in 2015 approximately 2.5% of workers (801,000) were on zero hours contracts, an increase of 15% from the previous year (697,000).Estimates for London in 2014 suggests there are some 70,000 workers on zero hours contracts.
1st September 2016, Budget	Provide a list of all Council property assets and how these are integrated within the budget	A comprehensive schedule of Council assets has been supplied by Financial Services.

Non-Executive Report of the: **Overview and Scrutiny Committee** 28th September 2016	TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Melanie Clay, Director of Law, Probity and Governance	**Classification:** Unrestricted
Overview and Scrutiny Toolkit 2016/17	

Originating Officer(s)	Mark Bursnell, Senior Strategy, Policy and Performance Officer
Wards affected	All wards

Summary

The purpose of the overview and scrutiny toolkit is to provide all those interested parties involved in scrutiny (such as councillors, officers, stakeholders and local people) with advice, guidance and practical examples of how overview and scrutiny works at Tower Hamlets Council and the positive impact it can have on enhancing the way the Council conducts its business. The toolkit is informed by the experience of scrutiny in Tower Hamlets and constructive examples of what has achieved by other local authorities.

The toolkit identifies a good practice approach on how to develop and implement effective scrutiny. This includes the selection of topics, managing the work programme, and using different types of scrutiny to best fit the topic being scrutinised. The toolkit also sets out the key roles played by councillors and officers in the scrutiny process and identifies the tools needed to carry out effective scrutiny. The toolkit will be refreshed annually to reflect lessons learnt over the year and good practice from other local authorities that can be applied to the Council's approach.

Recommendations:

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

1. Comment on the draft Overview and Scrutiny Toolkit 2016/17 (Attached in Appendix 1) prior to it being finalised.

1. **REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS**

1.1   The toolkit aims to be an easy to read document that brings together in one place all the relevant information on how to conduct scrutiny and assess the impact it has. As such it is a useful guide which will help stakeholders and the public better understand how scrutiny works and get involved in specific scrutiny activity.

2. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

2.1   The alternative options are to either reject the need for such a toolkit or, request that it is produced with a different format or content.

3. **DETAILS OF REPORT**

3.1   The Overview and Scrutiny Toolkit was requested by the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to provide guidance on how the scrutiny operates at the Council. The structure and content of the toolkit, draws on the Council's many years' experience of carrying out scrutiny activities and identifies best practice from other local authorities.

3.2   The toolkit is intended to be used and referred to by scrutiny practitioners and the members of the public alike. The opening sections of the toolkit explain what scrutiny is, the characteristics of effective scrutiny, its legal powers and how it fits within the Council's decision making structure. The following sections describe the role and functions of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and its sub-committees, the types of scrutiny practised by the Council and how the public can get involved.

3.3   The middle sections of the toolkit describe the roles and responsibilities of people involved in scrutiny at the Council (elected and co-opted members, Chairs and officers) and scrutiny's relationship with the Cabinet. The final sections cover the tools available to carry out effective scrutiny, the opportunities for leaning and development, communicating scrutiny and key contacts.

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

4.1   There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. The toolkit and its implementation are funded from existing resources.

5. **LEGAL COMMENTS**

5.1   The Council is required by section 9F of the Local Government Act 2000 to have an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and to have executive arrangements that ensure the committee has specified powers. Consistent with this obligation, Article 6 of the Council's Constitution provides that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee may consider any matter affecting the area or its inhabitants. The Committee may make reports and recommendations to

the Full Council or the Executive in connection with the discharge of any functions.

5.2 The Council is a best value authority within the meaning of Part 1 of the Local Government Act 1999. As a best value authority, the Council has an obligation under section 3 of the Local Government Act 1999 to "make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness" (the best value duty).

5.3 It is consistent with both these duties to introduce a toolkit.

5.4 When taking action, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (the public sector equality duty). Information relevant to this is in the One Tower Hamlets Section of the report.

6. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 The toolkit aims to raise public awareness of the scrutiny activity carried out by the Council and to increase public involvement in the topics chosen and investigated, so local people can better understand the positive benefits effective scrutiny delivers. The toolkit provides an opportunity for the wider community, including minority groups, to engage more closely with the scrutiny work undertaken by the Council and make outcomes more relevant to their needs and priorities.

7. BEST VALUE (BV) IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The toolkit provides an opportunity for the Council to focus its scrutiny activity into those areas where the outcomes will have the greatest impact. As such the toolkit will contribute to increasing public knowledge of how scrutiny works and the results it can achieve, with the same level of resources.

8. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

8.1 This report has no direct implications for a greener environment.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The toolkit clarifies how scrutiny works at the Council and the respective roles of Members and officers. Greater clarity should contribute towards mitigating risks to the Council in undertaking its scrutiny functions.

10. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The toolkit has no direct implications for crime and disorder in the borough.

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Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report
- [List any linked reports, for example those that went to other Committees on the same issue]
- State NONE if none.

Appendices
- OSC Toolkit 2016/17 [and state EXEMPT if necessary].
Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)
List of "Background Papers" used in the preparation of this report
List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.
- These must be sent to Democratic Services with the report
- State NONE if none.

Officer contact details for documents:
- [Or state N/A]

Overview & Scrutiny
TOOLKIT | 2016-17

DRAFT

TOWER HAMLETS

September 2016

Contents

Appendices

1. Introduction

1.1 This toolkit aims to provide councillors, officers, partners and local people with easy to use advice, guidance and examples on how to achieve effective scrutiny. It draws on the experience of scrutiny at Tower Hamlets Council over several years and national best practice.

1.2 The toolkit sets out guidance on how to carry out effective scrutiny, including the selection of topics, managing the work programme and using different scrutiny review formats. There are sections containing guidance for councillors and officers on their respective roles, as well as information on the tools needed to carry out effective scrutiny.

1.3 The toolkit will be reviewed annually to address lessons learnt over the year and to incorporate best practice from other local authorities. The overall aim of the toolkit is to enhance the scrutiny experience of Members and local residents, as well as to help maximise the impact of scrutiny.

2. What is overview and scrutiny?

2.1 Overview and Scrutiny provides a key check and balance function to ensure that the decisions of the Executive Mayor, Cabinet and Council are in the best interests of residents and that the Council is providing high quality services.

2.2 The scrutiny process provides non-executive councillors and co-opted members' opportunity to examine the services provided by the Council and partner agencies; to ask questions on how decisions are made; and to consider whether service improvements can be put in place. Members of all political parties can work together in a challenging and constructive way to propose improvements not only to the way the Council works, but also to other public services and the local area more generally.

3. What is effective scrutiny?

3.1 **Principles for good scrutiny**

The Centre for Public Scrutiny[1], a national body supporting scrutiny activity in public services, has developed four principles for good scrutiny, set out below.

1. provide critical friend challenge to executive policy makers and decision takers;

2. enable the voice and concerns of the public and its communities to be heard;

3. is carried out by independently minded Members who lead and own the scrutiny process; and

4. drive improvement in public services.

These principles underpin Tower Hamlets approach to conducting scrutiny.

3.2 **Effective scrutiny in practice**

Research on effective scrutiny in local authorities has identified the following good practices:

■ **Member-led work programme** in which councillors rather than officers decide the scrutiny agenda;

■ ensuring the **scrutiny process is clear** for all involved, for example, by developing and using a good practice guide for scrutiny members;

■ a **robust approach to topic** identification drawing on a wide range of sources;

■ **community involvement**, so that scrutiny can provide a forum for community debate;

■ a **wide range of techniques** used to undertake scrutiny activities. These might include site visits, informal brainstorming sessions and conferences, as well as the standard committee meeting format;

■ **evidence is gathered** from a wide and balanced range of sources, in order to develop a rounded and

comprehensive view of the issue or service being evaluated;

■ **tracking outcomes of scrutiny,** through the use of performance indicators and annual reporting;

■ carrying out **scrutiny reviews around themes** which are relevant to communities, such as community safety, rather than issues that are solely about Council services.

4. What are the legal powers of overview and scrutiny?

4.1 Overview and Scrutiny Committees (OSC) were established in English and Welsh local authorities by the Local Government Act 2000 and updated in the Localism Act 2011. The following key roles were set out for OSC:

■ holding the Executive to account;

■ scrutinising performance, policies, and decisions;

■ providing the role of an apolitical 'critical friend';

■ asking 'pre-decision' questions and comments and considering any decisions that are 'called in';

■ setting up time-limited working groups to look at issues in-depth through reviews and challenge sessions in order to assist policy development and public involvement, including scrutinising the Council's budget and budget preparation;

■ monitoring the decisions made by the Cabinet to make sure that they are robust and provide good value for money;

■ considering other issues of concern to local people, including services provided by other organisations;

■ reviewing and/or scrutinising decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any executive or non-executive functions, and reporting on them (including the Health Service and crime and disorder functions);

■ reporting to the Executive or the Council as appropriate on matters affecting the area of its inhabitants;

■ in certain cases, OSC may require the Executive to submit a report to the Council if it thinks that a key decision has been taken which was not published in advance.

5. How does scrutiny fit within the Council's decision making structure?

5.1 Tower Hamlets Council is made up of an elected Mayor and 45 Councillors. Full Council consists of the Mayor and all the Councillors. The Council makes major decisions including setting Council policy, the budget and council tax and considering any recommendations outside the budget and policy framework.

5.2 The Council appoints a number of committees to carry out specific functions including the regulatory committees (Planning and Licensing), the General Purposes Committee and a Standards Advisory Committee. Figure 1 outlines the Council's decision making structure and the role of OSC within this.

5.3 The Mayor is elected by the voters of the Borough, for a four (4) year term. The Mayor appoints and is supported by a Cabinet, who are responsible for most of the regular decisions of the Council. These decisions include preparing the budget and plans for the Council to consider, implementing and monitoring them and other key executive decisions. The Mayor and Cabinet have to take decisions in line with the budget and policy framework set by the Full Council. Any proposals outside this framework must be referred to Full Council to decide. The Mayor may also take decisions as Mayor's Executive Decisions and these are published on the website under the committee section: www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee

5.4   Any "key decision" taken by the Mayor
        and Cabinet (a decision that involves two
        or more wards or has significant funding
        implications) must be included in the
        Forthcoming Decision Plan. The plan is
        published 28 days before the decision is
        planned to be taken.

5.5   The role of OSC is to scrutinise the
        decisions of the Mayor and Cabinet,
        monitor performance and help develop
        policy. OSC can also consider and
        scrutinise other service providers, such as
        partner organisations that deliver services
        locally.

Figure 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

SUMMARY DECISION MAKING - STRUCTURE CHART

Note: Summary list not all Committees

External decision making and advisory groups that feed into Tower Hamlet's decision making

Many external organisations & bodies feed into the Council's decision making including partners, health services, police and fire etc.

Officer and other bodies

Cabinet Commisions or other bodies

Links from Advisory Bodies

Individual Mayoral Decisions

Officer Decisions

Cabinet

Budget and Policy Framework

Council

Audit Committee

Pensions Committee

Standars (Advisory) Committee

General Purposes Committee

Strategic Development Committee

Development Committee

Licensing Committee & (Subs)

Officer Decisions

Health and Wellbeing Board

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Housing Sub-Committee

Grants Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Scrutiny Panels, Inter Council Committees and other scrutiny work

Note: The Health and Wellbeing Board may also take Executive decisions

Executive and Non Executive Decisions

As a general rule, **Executive Decisions** are most decisions of the Council and are taken by the Mayor (e.g. at Cabinet) or Officers.

Non Executive Decisions are various issues specifically reserved for Council and its Committees such as the budget and Planning/Licensing applications.

Note: Some bodies omitted for clarity

KEY: Non-Executive Decision Making | Executive Decision Making | Scrutiny Bodies | Advisory Bodies

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keeps an open log of the status of the requests it has made.

6.3 **Scrutiny Lead Members portfolios**

Adults, Health & Wellbeing - covers the adult social care functions of the Council (including commissioning and housing-related support for vulnerable adults), and Public Health. This scrutiny lead member is also the chair of the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Children, Schools & Families - encompasses learning and achievement (for example, services for children and families from pre-birth, through their early years and to the end of secondary education); and the social work support provided to children and young people of the borough, including support for looked after children, children leaving care, children and young people with disabilities and support around mental health and adolescence.

Communities, Localities & Culture - includes services concerning culture, adult learning, leisure, community safety, and the public realm.

Development & Renewal - covers housing options, planning, building control, economic development, regeneration, sustainability, and the Council's own estate and assets. The scrutiny lead member in this area also chairs the Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee.

Resources - includes the Council's finance, procurement, human resources, ICT issues, customer access, revenues and benefits. The scrutiny lead member also chairs the Grants Scrutiny Sub-Committee.

Law, Probity & Governance - covers communications, complaints, information governance, corporate strategy and equality, electoral services and legal services. The lead member for this area is the OSC Chair.

6. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee

6.1 OSC is the principal Member body that holds executive decision makers to account. OSC meets monthly and consists of nine (9) elected Councillors, including the Chair and education co-opted representatives. These are parent governors and faith representatives from the Church of England, Roman Catholic and Muslim communities.

6.2 Some important changes have been made to the way in which OSC operates in 2016/17. The important function of scrutinising forthcoming executive decisions has been enhanced: the meeting dates of the OSC have been moved further in advance of Cabinet in order to allow greater time for consideration of pre-decision scrutiny questions, and therefore more substantive responses. In addition, pre-decision questions are a standing item and Members receive a list of both the items on the next Cabinet agenda, as well as all forthcoming Cabinet decisions published by the Council. The OSC now

whether or not they take account of local issues;

quality of services and whether or not local needs are met;

equality of access and chances of successful outcomes;

whether or not proposals meet the needs of local communities; and

whether or not delivery partners are achieving greater integration.

7. Overview and Scrutiny Sub Committees

7.1 As well as the OSC that covers most of the Council's functions and services, there are three sub-committees that deal with specific functions and responsibilities. Under the Terms of Reference for the OSC, it can appoint such sub-committees or scrutiny panels as the Committee considers appropriate from time to time to carry out individual reviews under the OSC work programme. The three (3) scrutiny sub-committees in Tower Hamlets are:

■ Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee

■ Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee

■ Grants Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee

7.2 Successive Health and Social Care Acts[2] gave councils responsibility for scrutinising local NHS trusts. Health scrutiny is therefore primarily outward focused (although it can scrutinise the Council's discharge of its health responsibilities and the Health and Wellbeing Board). Along with a distinct statutory basis, there is also specific government guidance which aims to focus scrutiny of health bodies on matters such as:

7.3 The Council's Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee terms of reference and membership are set out in the Constitution[3]. As well as its statutory obligations, the Sub-Committee also considers a work programme agreed by the OSC. The Scrutiny Lead for Adults Health and Wellbeing chairs the Health Scrutiny Sub Committee and must regularly report to the OSC on the work of the Committee.

7.4 The Sub-Committee has a role in ensuring local needs are considered by commissioners and service providers and ensuring patients are at the centre of service planning, design and delivery. The Sub-Committee meets at least five times per year, and its membership is determined by the OSC. Co-opted members of the Committee usually include representatives of relevant health stakeholders such as Healthwatch Tower Hamlets. Each year the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee undertakes at least one challenge session or review.

7.5 The Inner North East London Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (INEL JOSC) comprises of the London Boroughs of; Hackney, Newham, Tower Hamlets and City of London Corporation. The Committee's remit is to consider London wide and sub-regional NHS service developments and changes that impact all the authorities mentioned above. The Committee will meet as required and is established in accordance with section 245

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[2] See the Health and Social Care Act 2012, s.190; previously the Health and Social Care Act 2001 s.7-9, and the new National Health Service Act 2006, s.244-6.
[3] http://moderngov.towerhamlets.gov.uk/documents/s66405/Article%206%20Overview%20and%20Scrutiny%20Committee%20and%20Panels.pdf

of the NHS Act 2006 and Local Authority (Overview and Scrutiny Committees Health Scrutiny Functions) Regulations 2002. The Scrutiny Lead for Adults, Health & Wellbeing from Tower Hamlets is the Chair of INEL JOSC for 2016/17.

Grants Scrutiny Sub-Committee

7.6   This Sub-Committee has been set up as part of the implementation of the Council's Best Value Action Plan. The aim of the Grants Sub-Committee is to ensure that the overall objectives of the grant scheme are being met based on identified need, that a fair geographical distribution of funding is being proposed, and that the full range of community needs are being met. It aims to support an objective, fair, transparent and co-ordinated approach to grant funding across the Council, including but not restricted to the following:

■   overseeing the process and arrangements for awarding and administering grants and related procurement processes to ensure a strategic approach;

■   overseeing the processing arrangements for developing grants criteria and assessment methodology;

■   overseeing the monitoring, performance management and evaluation arrangements in relation to funded projects;

■   ensuring fairness and transparency in the grant awarding process; and

■   being mindful of the Council's objective to create an environment for a thriving Third Sector.

Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee

7.7   The Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee scrutinises housing functions within the borough, including working closely with registered providers and other key stakeholders. Its remit includes:

■   reviewing and/or scrutinising decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of the Council's housing functions;

■   advising the Mayor, DCLG Commissioners or Cabinet of key issues/questions arising in relation to housing reports due to be considered by the Mayor, DCLG Commissioners or Cabinet;

■   making reports and/or recommendations to the Full Council and/or the Mayor, DCLG Commissioners or Cabinet in connection with the discharge of housing functions;

■   organising an annual work programme, drawing on the knowledge and priorities of the Council, registered providers and other stakeholders, that will identify relevant topics or issues that can be properly scrutinised;

■   holding service providers to account, where recent performance fails to meet the recognised standard, by looking at relevant evidence and make recommendations for service improvements;

■   considering housing matters affecting the area or its inhabitants, including where these matters have been brought to the attention of the Sub-Committee by tenant and resident associations, or members of the general public.

8.   Types of scrutiny activity

8.1   There are several ways scrutiny can influence the decision making process, as well as carrying out effective scrutiny of decisions that have already been taken. These include the following:

Budget and Policy Framework items

8.2   The OSC has a mandatory consultation role on all items which are the responsibility of Full Council to agree, rather than the Executive, and these make up the Budget and Policy Framework which include the following:

- Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy

- Development Plan Documents and plans/alterations which together comprise the Development Plan.

- Licensing Authority Policy Statement

- Sustainable Community Strategy

- Housing Strategy

- Environmental Strategy

- Employment Strategy and Enterprise Strategy

- Waste Strategy

- Open Space Strategy

Budget

8.3   The OSC has a crucial role in budget scrutiny. This includes the annual allocation of financial resources to different services and projects, the treatment of risk, setting the council tax, and decisions relating to the control of the Council's borrowing, the control of its capital expenditure and the setting of virement limits.

Monitoring and Challenge

8.4   OSC will regularly monitor and examine reports on strategic performance progress in delivering the Strategic Plan and the financial position of the Council compared to the budget.

Pre-decision scrutiny of Cabinet business

8.5   Consideration of the Executive Forward Plan will allow OSC to highlight upcoming issues for its work programme, or for further activity by the relevant lead scrutiny Member. The OSC meets one week before Cabinet and has the opportunity to raise questions which it considers Cabinet should take into account in reaching its decisions. Questions are then submitted for consideration at the next Cabinet meeting. OSC Members receive the Cabinet papers on their initial despatch the week before the meeting.

Call-In of decisions

8.6   When a decision is made, OSC may hold the Executive to account for the discharge of its functions by examining, challenging and, if necessary requesting changes to an executive decision made, but not yet implemented. This power does not enable OSC to require that a decision is changed; it simply calls for additional consideration of the decision before it is implemented. After the Cabinet has announced its intention to make a decision, Members have five working days to consider that decision and advise on whether they wish to call it in (Appendix 1 explains the notice periods for decision making and the role of the Chair of OSC). If a decision is called-in, at the next OSC meeting the Committee hears from the Member(s) who called-in the decision and receives a response from the Cabinet member. The Committee then decides whether to confirm the original decision, or refer it back to the decision taker (Cabinet) and ask them to reconsider. Full information on call-in can be found at section 4.5 of the Overview and Scrutiny procedure rules of the Constitution (Appendix 2 sets out further detail how call-in works).

Spotlight Sessions

8.7   Many meetings feature "spotlight" sessions, where a particular policy area or portfolio is the focus, with the relevant Cabinet member, Council officers or partners in attendance to answer the Committee's questions.

Petitions

8.8   Petitions which include the names, addresses and signatures of at least 1,000 persons who live, work or study in the borough will trigger a debate at OSC. The Committee also consider requests for reviews on petitions.

Additional items

8.9   OSC may also consider additional items,

relevant to their functions, either by requesting to see an item at their next meeting or if an item is referred to the Committee for consideration by any other Member of the Council. In these cases, the Committee considers the item and makes a decision whether to report their findings and any recommendations back to the Mayor/Executive and/or Council

Reviews and Challenge Sessions

8.10 As part of its work programme, OSC includes issues and services for investigation via a review or challenge session. This work typically takes place outside of the committee's formal meetings. The annual scrutiny work programme needs to be flexible enough to allow some capacity to address new issues as they arise throughout the year to reflect the capacity that is available to support scrutiny's work.

Tracking progress of OSC recommendations

8.11 Throughout the year the Committee will review the progress in the implementation of its recommendations arising from reviews and challenge sessions. This enables the Committee to better understand the impact their work is having and also help address any issues that may have arisen in taking forward any recommendations.

OSC work programme

8.12 OSC and the scrutiny sub-committees agree their work programme at the beginning of the municipal year, taking into account the Cabinet's Forward Plan. A typical set of regular agenda items for the OSC comprises of the following:

Item	Timing
'Call in'	As and when these occur
Budget and Policy Framework items	See section 7 above
Strategic Performance reports and Budget Monitoring reports	Quarterly
Scrutiny Spotlights	Timetabled through the year
OSC Work Programme including the programme of topics for review and challenge sessions	Beginning of the municipal year and progress considered regularly
Tracking progress of previous OSC recommendations	Periodic reports on progress implementing previous scrutiny reviews
Pre-decision scrutiny	As and when these occur

8.13 The work programme is developed after consideration of key Council documents including issues highlighted through scrutiny's own work, such as the performance monitoring role, as well as specific reviews. The following criteria act as a guide in prioritising the selection of issues:

- a service or issue that requires significant improvement;

- a service or issue of poor or challenging performance;

- an area of national policy development that impacts, or has the potential to impact, on one or more sections of the community;

- an inspection is planned for the service where scrutiny would add value to Council and partner performance;

- a controversial or sensitive issue that would benefit from a risk-management approach and the pro-active engagement of partners and local communities.

8.14 OSC can review anything that impacts the local community, not just Council services. Reviews and challenge sessions enable Members to investigate particular issues in depth, and formulate recommendations on how to address them. Reviews tend to be a longer process, looking in detail at the context of an issues and take up to 6 months to complete while challenge sessions are shorter, more focussed, often one-off, sessions. Both types of work are best where Members work together regardless of political differences. Officers from the Corporate Strategy and Equality service provide support to Members to carry out these reviews.

8.15 Whilst review and challenge session work typically take place outside of formal Committee meetings, during 2015/16 OSC undertook its first Commission, which is a review where most of the evidence was undertaken at the actual OSC meetings. This may be a model used in future either by OSC or the sub-committees.

9. Public participation in scrutiny

9.1 There are four main ways local people can get involved with scrutiny in Tower Hamlets:

- attend OSC or one of its sub-committees, which are all public meetings and therefore open to any local resident who wishes to attend;

- give evidence to the OSC or one of its sub-committees, or a review or challenge session established by one of these committees, on any issue or matter that appears on an agenda or that is being scrutinised;

- apply to join OSC or one of its sub-committees as a co-opted member when a vacancy arises. All of the Council's scrutiny committees will now recruit co-opted members through an open competitive process;

- propose topics for scrutiny by one of the committees.

9.2 In terms of proposing topics for scrutiny, the Council is now actively seeking to encourage greater public participation in proposing topics for scrutiny. This will involve promoting the value of scrutiny to local people by encouraging them to use the Council's website to suggest relevant topics for review. These topics will be considered alongside proposals from councillors and a work programme developed.

10. Roles for people involved in scrutiny

Roles of members of scrutiny committees

10.1 Members on scrutiny committees have a collective and individual responsibility for ensuring scrutiny is member led. This includes:

- reading agenda reports and papers before a meeting takes place;

- raising relevant and timely questions at meetings;

- taking into account the views of residents, service users and local organisations in formulating an opinion on a particular issue or on the service being scrutinised;

- getting involved in activities that the committee has agreed to undertake outside of formal meetings.

10.2 Activities outside of formal meetings may include:

- visiting service providers in Tower Hamlets and elsewhere;

- attending a relevant seminar or conference to gain a better understanding of a particular issue;

- meeting with members of the public and local organisations to hear their views on a given issue;

- participating in training and development events organised by the Council.

10.3 These activities may take place in order to deepen understanding of the topics or services being scrutinised. It is expected that these activities will be undertaken by small groups of members with the support of officers, and will be reported back to the next available meeting of the relevant scrutiny committee to share findings and draw conclusions.

Skills and knowledge

10.4 An effective scrutiny committee member will use the following range of skills:

- knowledge of scrutiny's role in the working of the Council and its formal constitutional obligations;

- the ability to question assertively and effectively while supporting, where appropriate, witnesses and external representatives involved in scrutiny;

- the ability to evaluate and analyse evidence and information and

contribute towards framing relevant and workable recommendations;

- the ability to work collaboratively with officers, stakeholders and members of the public;

- the ability to take ownership of the outputs and outcomes of scrutiny;

- have sufficient time, energy and commitment to deal with the scrutiny role.

A proposed role description for an overview and scrutiny member is set out in Appendix 3.

Roles of Scrutiny Chairs

10.5 Chairs and vice-chairs of individual scrutiny committees should work together to promote effective scrutiny for their committee. Good chairing can contribute enormously to the overall success of scrutiny. The Chair is responsible for:

- providing leadership and direction to the scrutiny committee, review and challenge session;

- ensuring the business of the scrutiny committee, review and challenge session is managed efficiently and effectively and stays within its terms of reference;

- making the best use of resources, particularly of time, expertise and knowledge;

- promoting the role and effectiveness of scrutiny both within the Council and externally.

10.6 The Chair should encourage all scrutiny members to take an active role in scrutiny including taking part in any activity outside of formal meetings (for example, site visit, meetings with representatives of local organisations, and public consultation events).

10.7 The Chair should set the tone of the meeting, helping to ensure that scrutiny is a positive and friendly experience for

individuals or groups providing evidence or acting as witnesses. It is important for the Chair to work towards consensus and a balanced interpretation of the evidence presented. The Chair is responsible for developing constructive relationships with the appropriate Cabinet Member Leads and with senior officers in the services being scrutinised.

10.8 The Chair is also responsible for presenting reports and recommendations from the relevant scrutiny committee, or from a review or challenge session, to the appropriate body or person (for example, the Cabinet, an NHS trust board, or the executive board of a local registered housing provider) and for ensuring the implementation of recommendations are monitored.

Planning

10.9 Before each committee meeting, the Chair will be asked to approve an outline agenda and to comment on the order of items of business. The Chair should check that the agenda is not too long, that each item of business is allocated an approximate time slot and that the business, assuming normal circumstances, can be completed within the time available for the meeting. For complex items, the Chair has a specific responsibility to think in advance about what questions scrutiny might want to ask of officers, representatives from other organisations or members of the public who are presenting or talking to specific items of business. There are a number of ways of doing this:

- brainstorming at previous meetings (or at pre-meetings);

- committee members to discuss questions via email between meetings;

- Chair to draft and send to committee members for comments/changes.

10.10 The Chair may wish to hold a pre-meeting in order to develop a questioning strategy for the meeting. This can be useful for a

meeting that will consider a complex matter or when a high profile witness is due to attend. Pre-meetings can help to structure the sessions and make best use of time available, as well as allowing for more effective questioning as all Members will have a common understanding of what they wish to achieve.

Chairing scrutiny committee meetings

10.11 Planning is essential to successful chairing and so it is important that the Chair is well briefed before the start of the meeting and knows what they want to achieve from the meeting. When members of the public are present, it is helpful for the Chair to make some opening comments about how the meeting will be conducted and how the public will be able to contribute to the proceedings.

10.12 Recommendations are a key mechanism by which scrutiny can impact on decision making and/or securing improvements to services. The Chair is responsible for ensuring that scrutiny makes clear and practical recommendations for action to the Cabinet or others. The Chair should be mindful to ensure recommendations reflect, and are consistent with, the evidence that was considered and informed by the likely level of support these will receive from other Members. A detailed role description for an Overview and Scrutiny Chair is set out in Appendix 4.

Role of co-opted members

10.13 Non-councillors may be co-opted onto Overview and Scrutiny Committees and its sub-committees or associated groups. Co-opted members can be particularly helpful in representing community perspectives, contributing to providing a wider / balanced picture of an issue and encouraging public engagement. Co-opted members are expected to have the same level of knowledge as elected Members.

10.14 The OSC has five (5) statutory education co-opted positions (three (3) parent governors, the Roman Catholic Diocese and the Church of England Diocese. They are eligible to vote on matters relating to education and may speak but not vote on any other matters (i.e. non-educational).), There is also a further non-voting co-optee and which, in accordance with the Tower Hamlets Constitution, will be a Muslim representative and who can speak but is not eligible to vote on any matter. The Sub-Committees may also appoint co-opted members to help deliver their work programme. For example the Health Scrutiny Sub Committee appoints two representatives from Healthwatch Tower Hamlets. The Housing Scrutiny Sub Committee has appointed resident leaseholder and a tenant to the Committee and Grants Scrutiny Sub Committee is recruiting residents who have a good understanding of the grants process.

10.15 All co-opted members have the following roles and responsibilities:

- work in a consensual manner to ensure the effectiveness of Scrutiny;

- be objective, rigorous and resilient in challenging policy decisions;

- monitor the performance of the Council and contribute to the monitoring of partnerships;

- develop their relationship with other committee Councillors.

- actively participate in the work of committee and other scrutiny activity;

- engage with a range of local people and stakeholders to bring issues of concern to the attention of committee;

- use the role of the co-opted to connect the Council's OSC function with local groups including those hard to engage;

Officer roles

10.16 Scrutiny activity is supported by officers from different parts of the Council who have distinct roles. This includes; Democratic Services, Legal Services, Corporate Strategy and Equality Service and officers from the Council's directorates.

Democratic Services

10.17 Support activity directly related to the meetings of OSC or the sub-committees themselves. Their role includes collating and distributing agendas, preparing the meeting venue and taking and circulating the formal note or minutes of the meetings.

Corporate Strategy and Equality Service

10.18 In conjunction with the Chair, officers will carry out much of the work between formal meetings. Their role includes scoping individual scrutiny reviews, providing research, identifying relevant witnesses or spokespeople, obtaining evidence and drafting work programmes.

Officers from other Council directorates

10.19 Officers from directorates will be involved if the topic under review directly impacts on their service or addresses an issue relevant to the delivery or management of that service. As scrutiny aims to improve the performance of services and the customer experience of services, officers should work with the scrutiny process in an open and constructive way.

10.20 All officers have a duty to serve and give advice to Members and officers engaged in scrutiny activity; in the same way they would to decision makers on the Cabinet, other executive committees and elected Councillors in general. Officers from relevant services also have an obligation to help develop workable actions, to put into effect the purpose and intent of individual recommendations contained in scrutiny reports and ensure these are implemented in the way they are agreed by the Executive.

Scrutiny's relationship with the Cabinet

10.21 A good working relationship between the Cabinet and scrutiny is vital to the success of the scrutiny process. It should be a constructive relationship, which respects the role of each and promotes mutual respect and recognition of the value both add to the Council's decision making process. Cabinet should welcome the contribution scrutiny bodies make at an early stage in shaping or informing policy and decision making. Cabinet may wish to ask OSC or one of the sub-committees to undertake a specific piece of work that would be helpful to Cabinet in its decision making role.

10.22 Scrutiny has the power to require a Cabinet Member to attend one of its meetings in order to explain and answer questions about their decisions, plans and performance. Relevant Cabinet Members are expected to attend OSC, its sub-committees and review and challenge session meetings. The final report (with recommendations) and action plan of all scrutiny reviews or challenge sessions will be presented by its scrutiny chair (or nominated representative) to the Cabinet for consideration and comment. Cabinet will decide whether it wishes to; formally approve the report, recommendations and action plan as it stands, or propose changes to any or all of these.

11. Tools for scrutiny

Supporting data and evidence

11.1 Scrutiny is at its most effective when it considers a broad range of sources of evidence and involves others in its work. Types of evidence gathering include:

- **background information** through desk top research within and outside the Council (for example, think tanks, interest groups, or national representative bodies) as well inspection reports, national strategies, official statistics;

- **research and consultation** from Council sources such as survey data, corporate and service based focus groups, feedback from local residents and other formal and informal communications;

- **engagement and governance processes** such as business or community forums, tenant groups, residents' panels and co-option on to committees.

All of these types of evidence can be gathered from a range of relevant sources:

- Council staff and Members;

- statutory sector partners such as the police, health, fire and rescue, neighbouring local authorities and government;

- voluntary and community organisations locally and nationally;

- residents and other members of the public as individuals, householders, different demographic groups, residents associations;

- businesses, whether individual through the chamber of commerce, or geographically based.

Scrutiny review and challenge session scoping template

11.2 A scoping document should be used in planning each individual scrutiny review and challenge session undertaken and a template is included in Appendix 5.

Process for managing scrutiny reviews and challenge sessions

11.3 The process set out below may vary depending on the complexity or breadth of the topic and whether it is a longer review or a one-off challenge session.

Actions prior to the first meeting

11.4 In conjunction with the Chair and a manager from the relevant service/s, the lead officer (Corporate Strategy & Equality) will draft a scope for the review or challenge session for approval. The lead officer will also recruit Members and representatives from external organisations to serve on the review or challenge session panel. The lead officer must also identify and contact all other officers who need to be involved, and draft a timetable for the review or challenge session.

First meeting

11.5 The lead officer from Corporate Strategy & Equality Service will arrange the date of the first meeting with the Chair and communicate this to attendees. The agenda for the first meeting will include:

- a draft scoping document for the review or challenge session;

- a report from the relevant service setting out the Council or partner agencies current policy in the area covered by the review or challenge session and any operational factors that might have an impact on the outcome of the review;

- information setting out performance outturns for any service/s included in the remit of the review or challenge session;

- Cabinet Member's vision for the service

- identify which officers will undertake the different tasks identified in the scope;

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During the review

11.6 The lead officer in consultation with the Chair will draft all agendas; draft briefing material and produce reports; identify and send any relevant reading material to members; identify and brief potential witnesses and support the Chair to develop draft recommendations.

11.7 The lead officer will also book meeting rooms, refreshments and any equipment for meetings; liaise with witnesses and consultees; conduct research; design any consultation material; analyse and present data; take notes from each meeting to record any decisions taken and work requested; monitor progress in relation to the agreed timetable for completing the review or challenge session; and manage the day to day operation of the scrutiny process on behalf of the Chair. The Chair will manage the overall scrutiny process; control agenda setting; chair meetings; and oversee the drafting of the final report of the review or challenge session.

Final report

11.8 The lead officer should ensure the final report reflects the evidence gathered throughout the course of the review. That the recommendations are achievable and SMART and that officers from the services involved and Cabinet Member(s) are fully signed up to the conclusions reached. The Chair should agree the final report, drafted by the lead officer, based on the evidence received and the views of other Members involved in the work. The final report and recommendations should be presented to OSC by the Chair. The relevant Cabinet Member should be invited to attend the meeting.

11.9 Following agreement by OSC the relevant service will have up to four weeks to develop an action plan responding to the recommendations. The final report, recommendations and action plan will then be submitted to Cabinet for comment and approval. Progress updates

on implementation of previous scrutiny review recommendations are considered throughout the year by OSC.

Learning and development

11.10 Each year the OSC and sub-committees undertake an induction programme which builds on learning from the previous year and other available Member training. This may include externally facilitated workshops which help develop members' scrutiny skills and work programme development.

Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS)

11.11 The CfPS supports organisations and places to create the right culture, systems and process to help governance and scrutiny to improve outcomes. It provides targeted support to local councils and a national helpline for advice on scrutiny issues. Individuals can access support through national training days, conferences and bespoke training and development activities. There are six core areas of support: devolution; transformation; safeguarding children; school accountability; health and social care; and getting scrutiny right.

11.12 In 2014 CfPS produced a series of practice guides to assist those working in overview and scrutiny functions of local authorities. There are thirteen practice guides; topics covered include:

■ making effective recommendations;

■ pre-decision scrutiny;

■ joint working between scrutineers;

■ making scrutiny committee meetings effective;

■ call-in.

These practice guides along with other CfPS publications can be found at http://www.cfps.org.uk/publications/

Communicating scrutiny

11.13 Communicating the activities of overview and scrutiny should be part of the Council's overall public relations strategy. It raises awareness of the role of local government in general and the impact overview and scrutiny has in particular, which can have the following two advantages:

- raise public confidence in local government by showing the public that decision and policy making are open to examination;

- encourage external involvement in scrutiny work from the public, local organisations and community groups.

11.14 External press coverage of overview and scrutiny activities will be discussed on a meeting by meeting basis, between the Chair, lead officer, relevant service managers and the Council's Communications Service. What might be covered in a Council press release relevant to the outcome of scrutiny activity should be agreed in advance and the press invited to attend meetings as necessary.

12. Contacts

12.1 The following officers provide the main overview and scrutiny support at the Council. Their contact details are set out below: Procedural and administrative support is provided by Democratic Services. Its roles are to support; preparation of agendas, circulation of papers, arranging meeting venues, and taking minutes of meetings.

David Knight
Senior Committee Services Officer
Tel: 020 7364 4878
Email: david.knight@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Farhana Zia
Committee Services Officer
Tel: 020 7364 0842
Email: farhana.zia@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Charles Yankiah
Senior Committee Officer
Tel: 020 7364 5554
Email: Charles.yankiah@towerhamlets.gov.uk

12.2 Policy advice and support is provided by the Corporate Strategy and Equality Service to OSC and its sub-committees. Its roles are to support meetings; provide briefing on policy issues or Cabinet reports; draft reports and liaise with officers and partners.

Kevin Kewin
Interim Service Head Corporate Strategy and Equality
Tel: 020 7364 4075
Email: kevin.kewin@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Afazul Hoque
Interim Service Manager Strategy and Performance
Tel: 020 7364 4636
Email: afazul.hoque@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Mark Bursnell
Senior Strategy, Policy and Performance Officer
Tel: 020 7364 2260
Email: mark.bursnell@towerhamlets.gov.uk

12.3 Legal advice is provided by the Service Head Legal Services:

Graham White
Interim Service Head Legal Services
Tel: 020 7364 4348.
Email: graham.white@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Links to the Constitution:
http://moderngov.towerhamlets.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=663&MId=5697&Ver=4&Info=1

Section 2, article 6 – OSC and Panels
http://moderngov.towerhamlets.gov.uk/documents/s66405/Article%206%20Overview%20and%20Scrutiny%20Committee%20and%20Panels.pdf

Section 4.5 – OSC Procedure Rules
http://moderngov.towerhamlets.gov.uk/documents/s66435/4.%205%20Overview%20and%20Scrutiny%20Procedure%20Rules.pdf

Appendix 1

Notification periods for executive decision making and the role of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC)

This procedure outlines the process for Executive decision making within the Council and the role of Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Chair where an urgent decision needs to be taken.

If a key decision needs to be taken by the Mayor in Cabinet on the basis of an unrestricted report and the relevant officer cannot give twenty-eight (28) days' clear notice, but can give 5 days' clear notice, Committee Services will publish the issue on the website and send a General Exception Notice to the Chair of OSC.

If the relevant officer cannot give five (5) clear days' notice they must send a Special Urgency notice to the Chair of OSC and copy in Committee Services. The Chair of OSC must agree to the officer's request. If the Chair agrees, the details of the Special Urgency notice will be published by Committee Services. The officer responsible for drafting the report, must state the special circumstances justifying urgent consideration and follow regular clearance procedures.

If a key decision needs to be taken by the Mayor in Cabinet on the basis of an exempt report (or part thereof) and the relevant officer cannot give twenty-eight (28) days' clear notice, they must send the Private Session Urgency Agreement Notice to the Chair of OSC and copy in Committee Services. The Chair of OSC must agree to the request.

If an officer discovers that their report will now need to be exempt (or part thereof) and not able to give twenty-eight (28) days' clear notice of the change, they will need to obtain the agreement of the Chair of OSC.

If an officer needs their report to be exempted from call-in, they must complete an Exemption form Call-In Notice request and submit this to the Chair of OSC and copy in Committee Services. The Chair of OSC must agree to the request.

If a non-key decision needs to be taken by the Mayor in Cabinet on the basis of an exempt report and the relevant officer cannot give twenty-eight (28) days' clear notice, they must send a Private Urgency Agreement Notice to the Chair of OSC and copy in Committee Services. The Chair of OSC must agree to the request.

If a key decision needs to be taken by the Mayor outside of Cabinet on the basis of a report and the relevant officer cannot give twenty-eight (28) clear days' notice but can give 5 clear days' notice, Committee Services will publish details of the issue and will send the General Exemption notice to the Chair of OSC.

If a key decision needs to be taken by the Mayor outside of Cabinet and the officer cannot give five (5) day's clear notice for their report, then they must send the Special Urgency notice to the Chair of OSC and copy in Committee Services. The Chair of OSC must agree to the request.

There are specific additional requirements that must be met when the Council takes decisions on budget or policy framework items. Although these items must first be presented to Cabinet and must also be published in advance in the Forward Plan. They must also be considered by OSC before they can be determined by Council.

Any budget or policy framework report, where the officer can give twenty-eight (28) clear days' notice, will need to be ready earlier than regular Cabinet reports to allow for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to review. Similarly, any budget or policy framework report, where the officer cannot give twenty-eight (28) clear days' notice will need to be ready earlier than regular Cabinet reports to allow for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to review.

Appendix 2

How Call-In works

How call-in works at the Council is set out in Section 4.5 "Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules" of the Constitution and, in particular, Rules 16 and 17 - Call-In and Call-In and Urgency.

When a decision is made by the Mayor, the Cabinet, an individual Member of the Cabinet, a Committee of the Cabinet, or a key decision is made by an officer with delegated authority or under joint arrangements, the decision shall be published and be available at the Council's main office normally within five (5) working days of being made. Members of the OSC will be sent copies of the records of all such decisions within the same timescale.

The notice will include the date on which it was published and specify that the decision will come into force and may then be implemented at 5pm on the fifth clear working day, after the publication of the decision unless, after receiving a written request to do so, the Director of Law, Probity and Governance calls the decision in.

During this period, the Corporate Director of Law, Probity and Governance shall call-in a decision for scrutiny by the OSC if so requested by: not fewer than five (5) Members of the Council; or, two (2) voting church, faith or parent governor representatives in respect of any education matters only.

The request for a call-in must give reasons in writing and outline an alternative course of action. In particular, the request must state whether or not those Members believe that the decision is outside the policy or budget framework.

The Corporate Director of Law, Probity and Governance shall call-in a decision within twenty-four hours of receiving a written request to do so and shall place it on the agenda of the next meeting of the OSC on such a date as they may determine, where possible after

consultation with the Chair of the Committee and in any case within five (5) clear working days of the decision to call-in.

The Corporate Director of Law, Probity and Governance will not call-in:

i. Any decision which has already been the subject of call-in;

ii. A decision which is urgent and has to be implemented prior to the completion of any review. In such circumstances the decision taker(s) shall give reasons to the OSC;

iii. Decisions by regulatory and other Committees discharging non-executive functions;

iv. Day to day management and operational decisions taken by officers;

v. A resolution that merely notes the report or the actions of officers;

vi. A resolution making recommendations to Full Council.

Where the matter is in dispute, both the Chief Executive and the Monitoring Officer should be satisfied that one of the above criteria applies. The Corporate Director of Law, Probity and Governance shall then notify the decision-taker of the call-in, who shall suspend implementation of the decision.

If having considered the decision, the OSC is concerned, then it may refer it back to the Mayor or Cabinet for reconsideration, setting out why, in writing, the nature of its concerns, or if the matter should properly be considered by Full Council refer the matter to Full Council. If referred to the decision-maker they shall then reconsider within a further five (5) clear working days, or as soon as practical thereafter, amending the decision or not before adopting a final decision.

Appendix 2 continued

How Call-In works

If the OSC refers a matter back to the decision maker(s), the implementation of that decision shall be suspended until such time as the decision maker(s) reconsiders and either amends or confirms the decision. If following an objection to the decision, the OSC does not meet in the period set out above, or does meet but does not refer the matter back to the decision maker, the decision shall take effect on the date of the OSC meeting, or the expiry of that further five (5) working day period, whichever is the earlier.

Call-In and Urgency

The call-in procedure set out in the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules shall not apply where the decision being taken by the Mayor, Cabinet or a Cabinet Committee, or the key decision being made by an officer with delegated authority from the Cabinet or under joint arrangements is urgent. A decision will be urgent if any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public interest.

The record of this decision and notice by which it is made public shall state whether in the opinion of the decision maker, the decision is an urgent one and therefore not subject to call-in. The Chair of OSC must agree that both the decision is reasonable in all the circumstances and to it being treated as a matter of urgency. In the absence of the Chair, the speaker of the Council's consent shall be required. In the absence of both, the consent of the Deputy Speaker of the Council or the Head of Paid service, or their nominee, shall be required.

Decisions taken as a matter of urgency must be reported to the next available meeting of the Council, together with the reasons for urgency. The operation of the provisions relating to call-in and urgency shall be monitored annually, and a report submitted to Council with proposals for review if necessary.

Appendix 3

Overview and Scrutiny Member Role Description

Scrutinising and developing policy

- Participate fully in the activities of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and its sub- committees, the development and delivery of their work programmes and associated review and challenge sessions

- Assist in the development of Council and partner agencies policy through scrutinising draft policies and improve existing policies

- Challenge policies, where the evidence available suggests these can better reflect local and strategic priorities

- Assess the impact of existing policy and identify areas for improvement

Holding the Executive to account, monitoring performance and service delivery

- Monitor the performance of internal and external providers against Council standards and targets, including questioning Cabinet Members and senior officers on the delivery of targets

- Investigate and make recommendations to address the causes of under or poor performance

- Evaluate the validity of Mayor and Cabinet decisions and challenge decisions through call in where appropriate

- Build trust with the Mayor and Cabinet so that appropriate matters can be sent to scrutiny for pre-decision review prior to a final decision being taken

Promoting the work of overview and scrutiny

- Promote the role of overview and scrutiny within and outside the Council, developing effective internal relationships with officers and other Members and external relationships with other agencies and community organisations

- Demonstrate an objective and evidence based approach to overview and scrutiny, by using a wide range of research sources from within and outside the Council in any work undertaken

- Be able to demonstrate how scrutiny is making a difference by its involvement

Community engagement

- Use scrutiny as a means to address community issues and engage the public in developing the work programme

- Encourage stakeholders to participate in the work of the Council and partner agencies

- Assist in developing viable and acceptable policy solutions to local issues

- Take a borough wide approach in dealing with issues

Meeting participation

- Make adequate and appropriate preparation for meetings through research, briefings and planning meetings

- Participate in an informed and objective manner, taking into account the code of conduct, standing orders and other constitutional requirements

- Demonstrate effective scrutiny skills in questioning, listening and information handling

- Focus on outcomes and making a positive difference by participation

Appendix 4

Overview and Scrutiny Chair Role Description

Providing leadership and direction

- Provide confident and effective management of the committee

- Promote the role of overview and scrutiny within the Council and partner agencies, liaising effectively with Cabinet Members, colleague chairs and officers

- Promote the role and contribution of scrutiny within the Council's and partner agencies broader improvement and reporting arrangements

- Champion and promote the role of overview and scrutiny to the public, helping the public better understand, contribute and engage with the scrutiny process

- Promote the role of overview and scrutiny to partner bodies, helping them to understand and engage with the scrutiny function

- Demonstrate an objective and evidence based approach to overview and scrutiny, ensuring that scrutiny activity incorporates a wide range of evidence and perspectives

- Follow up scrutiny recommendations, evaluate the impact and added value of overview and scrutiny activity and identify areas for improvement

Managing the work programme

- Develop a balanced work for the committee which includes pre- decision scrutiny, policy development and review, investigative scrutiny, holding the executive to account and performance monitoring

- Ensure that the public are engaged in scrutiny activities by raising awareness of the work programme and encouraging participation

- Report on progress against the work programme to Council, the Mayor and

Cabinet and partners decision making boards as appropriate

- Ensure that the work programme is manageable and the workload prioritised to focus on the areas of most benefit, or greatest risk to the Council and partner agencies

- Ensure that the work programme is delivered

Effective meeting management

- Plan and set agendas containing clear objectives and outcomes for meetings

- Ensure the necessary preparation is done beforehand through pre-meetings, including agreeing appropriate lines of questioning

- Manage the progress of business at meetings, ensuring that meeting objectives are met, and the code of conduct, standing orders and other constitutional requirements are adhered to

- Ensure that all participants have an opportunity to make an appropriate contribution

- Ensure that members of the public are able to contribute to meetings and understand the rules governing public speaking

Involvement and development of committee members

- Encourage effective contributions from all committee members in both committee and at review and challenge sessions

- Assess individual and collective performance within the committee and work to improve scrutiny outcomes

- Ensure that committee members have the appropriate knowledge and skills to undertake their roles and work with Cabinet Members and officers to achieve appropriate development

Page 34

Appendix 5

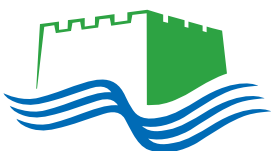## Scrutiny Review/Challenge Session Scoping Template

Councillor(s) submitting proposal	The name of the Councillor(s) who submitted the proposal
Working title	What the review or challenge session will be called to reflect the substantive area to be covered
Reason for enquiry	What questions the review or challenge session is seeking to answer, stating the overall aim of the exercise and why this scrutiny activity has been agreed
Proposed completion date	Based on the work implications of completing the review or challenge session, a suggested date when the report and recommendations will be finalised
Desired outcome	The end result/s this review or challenge wants to achieve, how these improve the service or policy area under review
What will not be included	Those subject areas the review or challenge session will not cover, although they may be closely related to the topic under discussion, in order to give a clear focus to the scrutiny activity
Risks (mitigation)	What are the risks that that might prevent the review or challenge session achieving the outcomes it has set itself, and can these be mitigated by taking the appropriate steps at the start
Equality & Diversity considerations	Are their equality and diversity issues around why this topic is being looked at, and how these concerns can be positively addressed in the recommendations and actions that result
Possible co-options	Can the outcomes achieved of the review or challenge session be improved by including, on the scrutiny group, individuals outside the Council who have valuable knowledge, experience or insights to contribute
Key stakeholders/consultees	Who are the main stakeholders and interest groups associated with this review or challenge session and how should they be consulted to obtain their concerns and priorities
Cabinet Member(s)	Who is, or who are, the relevant Cabinet Members for this review or challenge session in terms of their remit and the topic area covered, and how should they be engaged in this scrutiny activity

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Appendix 5 continued

Scrutiny Review/Challenge Session Scoping Template

Potential witnesses	Will the outcomes achieved by the review or challenge session benefit by receiving written or verbal evidence from groups or individuals with a particular interest in the topic, or who have relevant first-hand experience
Research/Evidence required	What material can be gathered that will help the review or challenge session understand the key issues and develop conclusions that are well informed and consistent with the evidence
Timescales	Setting out the timetable for completing the review or challenge session and indicating the appropriate report deadline for each relevant officer or member meeting in the decision making cycle
Publicity	Working with the communications team, to publicise the reasons why a particular topic is being scrutinised and the positive outcomes that have emerged from the work that will improve the situation
Links to Strategic/Mayoral Priorities	How the topic matter of the review or challenge session is relevant and contributes towards a commitment in the Strategic Plan 2016-19

TOWER HAMLETS

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Non-Executive Report of the: **Overview and Scrutiny Committee** 28th September 2016	TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Melanie Clay, Director of Law, Probity and Governance	**Classification:** Unrestricted
Delivering the Prevent Duty: Promoting Safeguarding in Tower Hamlets Scrutiny Review Report	

Originating Officer(s)	Kevin Kewin, Interim Service Head Corporate Strategy and Equality Gulam Hussain, Senior Strategy, Policy & Performance Officer, Corporate Strategy & Equality
Wards affected	All Wards

Summary

1.1 This report submits the report and recommendations of the scrutiny review on delivering the prevent duty: promoting safeguarding in Tower Hamlets.

Recommendations:

2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

o Agree the draft report and the recommendations.

o Authorise the Interim Service Head Corporate Strategy & Equality to amend the draft report before submission to Cabinet, after consultation with the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Tower Hamlets has one of the fastest growing populations in London and is expected to be one of the fastest growing local authorities in England over the next ten years. The borough is home to an ethnically diverse population and based on the 2015 mid-year population estimates from the Office for National Statistics has a high proportion of young people with 48% aged 20-39. Figures from the 2011 Census showed only 31% of residents identified themselves as 'White British' and Islam reported as the largest faith within the borough. Although the borough has seen significant growth the 2015 Indices of Deprivation suggest that despite some improvements, the borough continues to be within the top 10 most deprived areas in England.[1]

3.2 The 2015/16 Annual Residents Survey showed that views about cohesion in the borough remain positive, with 87% of residents surveyed agreeing that the local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together.

3.3 The Home Office has designated Tower Hamlets as a Tier 1 borough, representing the highest perceived risks of extremism. To ensure all Tier 1 boroughs are adequately supported, the Home Office provides additional funding to challenge extremist narratives and support communities to develop resilience through funded projects as well to support staffing arrangements.

3.4 In addition radical Islamist groups and far right organisations, such as the English Defence League (EDL) and Britain First, have held protests in the borough to cause disruption and undermine cohesion in the borough. During the current year Britain First has organised a number of unannounced visits to the borough to demonstrate outside landmarks such as the East London Mosque and actively incite negative reactions for promotional purposes. Their attempts to cause disruption in the borough have been managed through the positive partnership working led through the council, police, Tower Hamlets Interfaith Forum and the East London Mosque; however the inability to predict future visits presents an ongoing challenge.

3.5 The youthful composition of the borough, coupled with the increasingly sophisticated deployment of the web and social media by organisations such as Daesh[2], has presented new challenges for the borough. In February 2015, the borough drew national attention when three students from the Bethnal Green Academy fled the country to travel to Syria. The event which shook communities in the borough was swiftly surrounded by a flurry of information revealing that a student from the same school had previously travelled to Syria in 2014. A further five teenage girls had travel bans imposed by the courts in March 2015 at the request of the council in response to this event.

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[1] Based on the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Rank measure, *Indices of Deprivation*, Department for Communities, Localities and Government, September 2015

[2] In December 2015, the UK Government committed to referring to the organisation also known as ISIL, Islamic State, or ISIS as Daesh. The term, an abbreviation of the formal name in Arabic of the 'Islamic State in Iraq and Shaam (Syria)', is also a play on words in that language and is considered offensive by members of the organisation.

3.6   The events in the borough coincided with national developments -the enacting of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015. The Act places a Duty on local authorities and other responsible authorities (including schools) to have 'due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. The Act has been met with vocal opposition from the education sector with organisations such as the National Union of Teachers (NUT) and the National Union of Students (NUS) criticising the implications for freedom of speech and the impact on cohesion. Opposition groups have expressed concerns over the impact on young people, in particular the risk for disproportionately targeting Muslim youth and the implications for free speech. These concerns have been exacerbated by a range of stories covered in the media suggesting that guidance around the Duty is inadequate and the impact on young people is harmful.

3.7   Recognising the national and local context, the aim of the review was to explore the approach taken by the council to deliver the Prevent Duty and influence its delivery by other responsible authorities and its impact on young people. The review was underpinned by three core questions:

        a) How does our approach to delivering the Prevent Duty impact on young people?
        b) Does our approach appropriately reflect the priorities in Tower Hamlets?
        c) What have been the challenges in meeting our obligations under the Duty?

3.8   The review was chaired by Cllr John Pierce, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee over the course of six sessions throughout March and April 2016. The sessions were held across a number of sites including the Town Hall, Morpeth Secondary School and Birmingham City Council.

3.9   The report with recommendations is attached as Appendix 1. There are 13 recommendations arising from the review which is outlined below:

Safeguarding Young People

Recommendation 1:
The Community Safety Service should continue to work in partnership with the voluntary and community sector to expand their work on promoting a better understanding of safeguarding risks presented by online and social media, and how to stay safe online, through the use of digital champions embedded across the voluntary and community sector.

Recommendation 2:
The council should consider imposing requirements on MSG and other grant funded and commissioned organisations working with young people to obtain relevant safeguarding training.

Recommendation 3:
The Youth Service should;
   • Build on their current work to develop a curriculum to provide a structured programme of development for young people;

- Explore ways to support young people at risk of isolation;
- Develop, in partnership with Community Safety, a peer education programme to develop young leaders capable of promoting safeguarding and cohesion within their peer groups.

Recommendation 4:
The Learning & Achievement Service should work with schools and commissioned providers of interfaith work in schools to support the creation of safe spaces for young people to promote debate and critical discourse.

Recommendation 5:
The council should continue to engage local citizens, in particular young people, in the shaping of plans and commissioning of services aimed at promoting safeguarding and undermining the risks of people being drawn in to terrorism, the support of terrorism or violent extremism.

Promoting Cohesion in Tower Hamlets

Recommendation 6:
The Learning & Achievement Service should build on existing work to support schools in promoting equality and diversity, cohesion and critical thinking skills through the school curriculum and help them explore further opportunities to do this outside the curriculum.

Recommendation 7:
The council should exploit all commissioning opportunities to;
- Develop greater community leadership to promote and celebrate diversity; and to build resilience to challenges to community cohesion
- Ensure its approach to the commissioning of cohesion activities strengthens engagement across all communities in the borough and provides a platform for sustained interaction between communities.

Recommendation 8:
The Learning & Achievement Service should continue to promote the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Award to improve uptake across schools in the borough.

Recommendation 9:
The council should ensure the use of language across services and commissioned partners is consistent and compliant with the objective to promote community cohesion. This should include appropriate use; distinguishing between faith and ideology, avoiding objectification of groups or communities and greater clarity in describing risks/threats i.e. *"people being drawn into terrorism, the support of terrorism or violent extremism"* or *"increasing risk of travel to conflict zones including Syria and Iraq"* as opposed to using more general terms such as 'radicalisation'.

Recommendation 10:
The Communications Service should adopt a more proactive approach to promoting cohesion through a borough wide campaign which celebrates our history, diversity

and resilience to adversity. This should include opportunities for resident involvement to promote the borough and a greater role within the Prevent Delivery Plan.

Developing Leadership around Prevent

Recommendation 11:
Elected Members should be further supported to understand and comply with Sections C and E of the 2015 Prevent Duty Guidance, including:
- Dissemination of intelligence information to designated elected members in line with section C of the Prevent Duty Guidance;
- Guidance and training tailored for elected Members to enable them to understand their role in the Duty;
- Further consideration to the role of elected Members in the management of consequences following any local incidences.

Recommendation 12:
The council should progress work to promote greater collaborative working on Prevent and Safeguarding across the East London region. This should include work to promote greater consistency across the delivery of the Prevent Duty and sharing of appropriate intelligence across officers and elected Members.

Recommendation 13:
The council should take steps to promote an organisational culture which includes a focus on safeguarding and civic responsibility. This should also include consideration for rolling out appropriate e-learning modules for all staff to promote an understanding of the risks of being drawn into the support of terrorism.

3.10   Once agreed, the Working Group's report will be submitted to Cabinet for a response to the recommendations.

4.   COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

4.1   The report details a number of recommendations for safeguarding young people, promoting cohesion in Tower Hamlets and developing leadership around Prevent. The financial implications of the recommendations will need to be considered and assessed as part of the Council's outcome based budgeting approach and Medium Term Financial Strategy.

5.   LEGAL COMMENTS

5.1   The Council is required by Section 9F of the Local Government Act 2000 to have an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and to have executive arrangements which ensure the committee has specified powers. Consistent with that obligation Article 6 of the Council's Constitution provides that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee may consider any matter affecting the area or its inhabitants and may make reports and recommendations to the Full Council or the Executive, as appropriate, in connection with the discharge of

any functions. It is consistent with the Constitution and the statutory framework for the Committee to be asked to agree the report and recommendations and to authorise a senior officer to amend the draft report before submission to Cabinet for consideration after consultation with the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny.

5.2.   Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 ('the Act') placed the Government's existing Prevent strategy on a statutory basis, placing a duty on the Council, and well as schools and childcare providers, in the exercise of their existing functions, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". The Prevent Strategy Guidance ('the Guidance') was issued on 1 July 2015 under section 29 of the Act, and the Council must have regard to the Guidance when carrying out its Prevent duty. The Guidance sets out that being drawn into terrorism includes not just violent extremism but also non-violent extremism, which can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism and can popularise views which terrorists exploit.

5.3.   The Guidance sets out that compliance with the Prevent duty requires the Council to engage in multi-agency partnership working, provide training for staff and relevant third party agency and develop a Prevent Action Plan to address risk in its area.

5.4.   The Council's functions in relation to children include a duty under section 11 of the Children Act 2004 to make arrangements to ensure that its functions are discharged having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Section 10 of the Act also requires the Council to make arrangements to promote cooperation between its safeguarding partner agencies including schools, the police, probation services and the youth offending team. Further, the Council has a duty to make enquiries under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 if they have reasonable cause to suspect that a child is likely to suffer significant harm, to enable them to decide whether they should take any action to safeguard and promote the child's welfare.

5.5.   Schools have existing duties to forbid political indoctrination and secure a balanced presentation of political issues. These duties are imposed on maintained schools by sections 406 and 407 of the Education Act 1996. Additionally, section 175 of the Education Act 2002 places a duty on schools to ensure that their functions are discharged with regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

5.6.   When considering sharing personal information, the Council must comply with its duties under the Human Rights Act 1998, Data Protection Act and the common law duty of confidentiality.

5.7.   When planning Prevent strategies, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who don't (the public

sector equality duty). Some form of equality analysis will be required which is proportionate to the proposed action.

6.   ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

6.1   The core focus of this review is on the council's approach to delivering the Prevent Duty. A key element of this is to ensure this does not have a negative impact on cohesion in the borough. The review makes a number of recommendations on ways the borough could become more cohesive through developing the community leadership role of local people and elected members, strengthening engagement with local people and community organisations and working collaboratively with partner organisations.

7.   BEST VALUE (BV) IMPLICATIONS

7.1   The recommendations in this report are made as part of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's role in helping to secure continuous improvement for the council, as required under its Best Value duty.

8.   SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

8.1   There are no direct sustainable actions for greener environment arising from this report.

9.   RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

9.1   The recommendations from this review will help build resilience to extremism and reduce risk of negative publicity for the borough.

10.   CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

10.1   The focus of the review is to ensure local people do not get involved in extremism and ensuring effective delivery of our Prevent Duty will reduce the number of local people involved in crime and disorder.

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Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents
Linked Report
- NONE

Appendices
Appendix 1 – Delivering the Prevent Duty: Promoting Safeguarding in Tower Hamlets Scrutiny Review Report
   Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)
   List of "Background Papers" used in the preparation of this report
   List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.
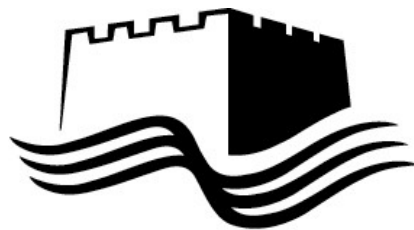- These must be sent to Democratic Services with the report

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APPENDIX 1

**Delivering the Prevent Duty;
Promoting Safeguarding in Tower Hamlets**

Scrutiny Review Report

September 2016

Chair's Foreword

In 2015, the Government's Counter-Terrorism and Security Act introduced a duty on councils to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism or violent extremism. It's rare that our scrutiny committee looks at an issue of such local, national and international significance. This is the case for the 'Prevent Duty' and its implementation in Tower Hamlets, which can and has had international significance.

Right-wing or left-wing, religious or secular, nationalist or internationalist, all forms of terrorism or violent extremism come under the 'Prevent Duty' as they all seek to challenge our way of life and undermine cohesion in our communities.

Tower Hamlets is a priority area under the duty and so it's right that scrutiny members, on behalf of local residents, understand what the Council and our partners are doing to deter people away from terrorism and violent extremism.

Tower Hamlets Council has strong reputation for its work in this area, particularly in the way it has embedded the required safeguarding mechanism under the duty into its existing safeguarding arrangements. The evidence we saw supports this view. And yet there is always more that can be done to ensure that we are greater than the sum of our parts and that we empower our local communities and their elected representatives to be at the heart of what we do.

This report makes 13 recommendations on how the Council and our partners can add value to what is already happening under the 'Prevent Duty'. Our recommendations cover three themes of:
- Safeguarding young people
- Promoting cohesion in Tower Hamlets
- Developing leadership around Prevent

Our recommendations were developed following discussions over five sessions. Three additional co-opted members, Sarah Castro, Rob Faure-Walker and Dr Farid Panjwani, participated in our review bringing their academic knowledge, hands on experience of working with communities on cohesion and understanding of the impact of counter-terrorism policies on communities to our discussions. I would like to thank them, our elected members and all of the participants in this review. In particular Birmingham City Council who hosted us for a joint scrutiny session and to the young people from our local schools who participated in a facilitated discussion on the impact of the prevent agenda.

Councillor John Pierce

Summary of Recommendations

Safeguarding Young People

Recommendation 1:
The Community Safety Service should continue to work in partnership with the voluntary and community sector to expand their work on promoting a better understanding of safeguarding risks presented by online and social media, and how to stay safe online, through the use of digital champions embedded across the voluntary and community sector.

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4

1. Introduction

1.1 The London Borough of Tower Hamlets has one of the fastest growing populations in London and is expected to be one of the fastest growing local authorities in England over the next ten years.

1.2 The borough is home to an ethnically diverse population and, based on the 2015 mid-year population estimates from the Office for National Statistics, has a high proportion of young people with 48% aged 20-39. Figures from the 2011 Census showed only 31% of residents identified themselves as 'White British' and Islam was identified as the largest faith within the borough.

1.3 Although the borough has seen significant growth the 2015 Indices of Deprivation suggest that despite some improvements, the borough continues to be within the top 10 most deprived areas in England.[1]

1.4 The 2015/16 Annual Residents Survey showed that views about cohesion in the borough remain positive, with 87% of residents surveyed agreeing that the local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together.

1.5 The Home Office has designated Tower Hamlets as a Tier 1 borough, representing the highest perceived risks of extremism. To ensure all Tier 1 boroughs are adequately supported, the Home Office provides additional funding to challenge extremist narratives and support communities to develop resilience through funded projects as well as to support staffing arrangements.

1.6 In addition to drawing the attention of radical Islamist groups, since 2010 the borough has attracted the attention of far right organisations such as the English Defence League (EDL) and Britain First who seek to cause disruption in the borough.

1.7 Groups such as Britain First have organised unannounced visits to the borough to demonstrate outside landmarks such as the East London Mosque and actively incite negative reactions for promotional purposes. In March 2016, the borough received three visits from Britain First. Their attempts to cause disruption in the borough have been managed through the positive partnership working led through the council, police, Tower Hamlets Interfaith Forum and the East London Mosque; however the inability to predict future visits presents an ongoing challenge.

1.8 The youthful composition of the borough, coupled with the increasingly sophisticated deployment of the web and social media by organisations such as Daesh[2], has presented new challenges for the borough. In February 2015, the borough drew national attention when three students from the Bethnal Green Academy fled the country to travel to Syria. The event which shook communities in the borough was swiftly surrounded by a flurry of information revealing that a student from the same school had previously travelled to

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[2] In December 2015, the UK Government committed to referring to the organisation also known as ISIL, Islamic State, or ISIS as Daesh. The term, an abbreviation of the formal name in Arabic of the 'Islamic State in Iraq and Shaam (Syria)', is also a play on words in that language and is considered offensive by members of the organisation.

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Syria in 2014. A further five teenage girls had travel bans imposed by the courts in March 2015 at the request of the council in response to this event.

1.9 The events in the borough coincided with national developments -the enacting of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015. The Act places a Duty on local authorities and other responsible authorities (including schools) to have 'due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'.[3]

1.10 The Act has been met with vocal opposition from the education sector with organisations such as the National Union of Teachers (NUT) and the National Union of Students (NUS) criticising the implications for freedom of speech and the impact on cohesion. Opposition groups have expressed concerns over the impact on young people, in particular the risk for disproportionately targeting Muslim youth and the implications for free speech. These concerns have been exacerbated by a range of stories covered in the media suggesting that guidance around the Duty is inadequate and the impact on young people is harmful.

1.11 Recognising the national and local context, the aim of the review was to explore the approach taken by the council to deliver the Prevent Duty and influence its delivery by other responsible authorities and its impact on young people.

1.12 The review was underpinned by three core questions:

a) How does our approach to delivering the Prevent Duty impact on young people?
b) Does our approach appropriately reflect the priorities in Tower Hamlets?
c) What have been the challenges in meeting our obligations under the Duty?

1.13 The review was chaired by Cllr John Pierce, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, over the course of six sessions throughout March and April 2016. The sessions were held across a number of sites including the Town Hall, Morpeth Secondary School and Birmingham City Council.

1.14 Other members of the review panel included;

Nozul Mustafa	Co-opted members of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Victoria Ekubia	
Rob Faure-Walker	Co-opted member of the Review Panel Head of Geography, Morpeth Secondary School
Sarah Castro	Co-opted member of the Review Panel Programme Manager, Poplar Harca

1.15 The review was supported by;

Gulam Hussain	Strategy, Policy and Performance Officer

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[3] Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015

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1.16 The panel received evidence from members of the Executive, a range of officers and experts including;

London Borough of Tower Hamlets:

Cllr Rachael Saunders	Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education & Children's Services
Stephen Halsey	Corporate Director, Communities, Localities & Culture
Debbie Jones	Corporate Director, Children's Services
Nasima Patel	Service Head, Children's Social Care
Andy Bamber	Service Head, Safer Communities
Shazia Ghani	Head of Community Safety
Liz Vickerie	Head of Support for Learning and Lead Officer for Social Inclusion
Emily Fieran-Reed	Service Manager, Cohesion, Engagement & Commissioning
Moksuda Uddin	Head of Family Support and Protection
Percy Aggett	Psychological Therapies & Clinical Team Lead, (CAHMS)
Bill Williams	Project Lead, Improving Access to Psychological Therapies
Kelly Powell	Head of Media, Communications Service
Thomas Llewellyn-Jones	Prevent Education Officer

Metropolitan Police:

Sue Williams	Borough Commander, Metropolitan Police
Helen Lewis	Partnerships Lead, Metropolitan Police

SO15 Counter-terrorism Police:

Scott Pullen	SO15 Local Ops Supervisor, North East (London)

Home Office:

Abu Ahmed	Head of Training and Engagement, Home Office

Birmingham City Council:

Cllr Shafique Shah	Cabinet Member for Inclusion & Community Safety, Birmingham City Council
Cllr Zafar Iqbal	Chair, Neighbourhood and Community Services Scrutiny Committee, Birmingham City Council
Dr Mashuq Ally	Head of Equality and Diversity, Birmingham City Council
Waqar Ahmed	Prevent Manager, Birmingham City Council
Razia Butt	Schools Resilience Advisor, Birmingham City Council

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External experts:

Sarah Soyei	Head of Partnerships, Equali-teach
Mike Jervis	Active Change Foundation
Dr Farid Panjwani	Director, Centre For Research And Evaluation In Muslim Education

2. National Context

2.1 Over the course of the last 15 years, counter-terrorism and security has played an increasingly prominent role in domestic and foreign policy considerations both in the UK and abroad.

2.2 Since 2003, CONTEST has been at the heart of the UK Government's approach to counter-terrorism. The CONTEST strategy incorporates four key strands, also known as the 4 P's. These are;

- Pursue: to stop terrorist attacks;
- Prevent: to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism;
- Protect: to strengthen protection against a terrorist attack, and
- Prepare: to mitigate the impact of a terrorist attack.

2.3 The Prevent strand of the strategy focuses on three key areas which are:
   a) 'To respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat from those who promote it;
   b) To prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support;
   c) To work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation that we need to address.'[4]

2.4 In 2011, the Coalition Government released a revised Prevent Strategy responding to feedback from the Carlile review. The review commissioned by the Home Secretary concluded that there was also 'serious work to be done' in relation to right-wing and Northern Ireland related extremism. Incorporating feedback from the review, the revised strategy included greater recognition of all forms of terrorism and non-violent extremism, which could create environments conducive to drawing people in to terrorism or the support of terrorism.

2.5 "Channel" forms a key part of the Prevent strategy. The programme, first piloted in 2007 and rolled out across England and Wales in 2012, focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. The programme uses a multi-agency approach to protect vulnerable people by:

   a) Identifying individuals at risk;
   b) Assessing the nature and extent of that risk; and
   c) Developing the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned.

2.6 As part of ongoing measures to strengthen counter-terrorism, in March 2015 the Government enacted the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act. This placed a new Duty on local authorities, schools and other specified authorities to prevent people being drawn into terrorism and extremism[5]. The Act also places a Duty on local authorities to have panels in place to support vulnerable people deemed to be at risk of being drawn into terrorism.

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[4] *The Prevent Strategy 2011*, HM Government, pg.7
[5] "Extremism" can be violent or non-violent in nature and is defined as: "vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values" and "calls for death for members of our armed forces" (Prevent Duty Guidance, 2015).

2.7   The "Prevent Duty" which came in to force on 1st July 2015, does not confer new functions on specified authorities, but does introduce the need to pay due regard to the Duty.

2.8   The associated Prevent Duty Guidance, revised in July 2015, highlights the importance of effective leadership, working in partnership and development of staff capabilities around Prevent within specified authorities. This requires elected members in addition to senior officers to be aware of and involved in risk assessment.

3. Delivering the Prevent Strategy in Tower Hamlets

3.1 The London Borough of Tower Hamlets is a Tier 1 Local Authority, one of seven designated priority areas identified by the Home Office within England and Wales.

3.2 Since 2014, the council's Community Safety team, part of the Communities Localities and Culture (CLC) directorate, has led on the strategic oversight of the prevent agenda across the organisation. This has been closely supported by the Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) team within Children's Social Care, and the lead Social Inclusion Officer and the Prevent Education Officer within the Children's Services directorate, providing specialist support to schools and services working with young people in the borough.

3.3 The national Prevent Strategy is embedded in safeguarding practices and procedures across a wide range of council services. This is captured through Tower Hamlets' annual Prevent Delivery plan, which provides a framework for the full breadth of work being undertaken by both internal and external partners. These partners include Community Safety, which leads on work around Preventing Violent Extremism, Parental Engagement, Early Years Learning, Communications as well as the Police, SO15 Counter-terrorism Command and the Home Office.

3.4 The Home Office acts as a crucial stakeholder in negotiating and agreeing the Home Office Prevent grant allocation, which facilitates a range of community based services aimed at developing resilience, leadership and confidence within the community to challenge radical and extremist narratives. In 2015/16, the council commissioned eight projects through the grant and has secured further funding for a range of programmes for the 2016/17 financial year.

3.5 In addition to providing grant funding to commission work within the community, the Home Office currently funds 3.5 posts to support the delivery of Prevent work across the council. This facilitates delivery of bespoke training opportunities, including access to the Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP) for organisations and individuals as well as dedicated support for maintained and independent schools to access curriculum resources and training for Safeguarding Leads and Governors in line with Ofsted and Prevent Duty requirements. The long term commitment of the Home Office to continue funding all four posts remains uncertain placing the continued delivery of all services currently being offered at risk.

3.6 As part of the Prevent Delivery Plan the council also integrates the raising of awareness of the risks of being drawn into terrorism or travel to Syria and Iraq across existing platforms. This includes initiatives such as the No Place for Hate Campaign, which aims to promote a co-ordinated response to hate crime, support victims and challenge prejudices; and through awareness campaigns and training aimed at tackling Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG). The council also provides training for parents as part of its Strengthening Families and Strengthening Communities programme to support parents to understand the risks and opportunities for young people to be drawn into terrorism or travel to a conflict zone as part of broader safeguarding programme.

Managing Referrals

3.7　The delivery of the Prevent Strategy is underpinned by the Channel programme which offers a platform for multi-agency intervention for those deemed to be at risk of being drawn in to extremism. The role of the Channel programme is reinforced through the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, which sets out the duty on local authorities to have panels in place to manage referrals for interventions.

3.8　The London Borough of Tower Hamlets in partnership with the Home Office has developed a tailored solution which reflects the principle of 'One Tower Hamlets' found in the Council's Community Plan. This principle which emphasises the importance of promoting equality, cohesion and community leadership has informed the decision to utilise existing safeguarding structures to manage referrals rather than a separate Channel Panel. As a result Prevent casework is handled through the Safeguarding Adults Panel (SAP) and Social Inclusion Panel (SIP) which include the SO15 Counter-terrorism Police as members.

3.9　The work of the Safeguarding Adults Pane (SAP) and Social Inclusion Panel (SIP) also ties in with other safeguarding platforms such as the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment-Conference (MARAC), Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and the London Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) to facilitate integrated working and facilitate referrals and specialists interventions across a range of partners.

3.10　As Tower Hamlets is home to a diverse community with varied views on the Government's counter-terrorism policies, the use of existing mechanisms within the broader safeguarding context has allowed for a more sensitive implementation of the Prevent Strategy and has drawn on the existing strengths of safeguarding arrangements within the borough.

Governance Arrangements

3.11　The Prevent Programme Board, chaired by the Corporate Director for Communities, Localities & Culture (CLC) operates as a distinct board with responsibility for overseeing the delivery of Prevent work and monitoring the threat from extremist organisations and groups.

3.12　The board meets on a bi-monthly basis and aims to:

　　a)　Bring together key stakeholders to contribute to the mapping and development of the local Prevent Strategy and oversee the delivery of the local Prevent Delivery Plan;

　　b)　Inform development and delivery of innovative approaches to Prevent engagement;

　　c)　Embed the Prevent Duty across council services and raise awareness of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act and Prevent Duty 2015 amongst statutory, non-statutory and community organisations;

　　d)　Ensure relevant staff/teams are appropriately trained and offered opportunities for continuous development;

　　e)　Identify gaps in Prevent delivery and focus resources where it is needed most; and

f) Monitor all funded Prevent projects and ensure accountability of the local Prevent budget and performance delivery.

3.13   Membership of the board is comprised of directors and senior officers from the council's CLC, Children's Service, Public Health and Adults Service directorates. It also includes local health partners, the Police Borough Commander and SO15 Counter-Terrorism Command, the Borough Commander for the London Fire Brigade, Probation, Chairs of the Children's and Adults Safeguarding Boards and representatives from the Home Office.

3.14   In addition to its membership, the board is informed by a number of bodies and steering groups which includes the Social Inclusion Panel and Safeguarding Adults Board, Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) Steering Group, Domestic Violence Forum, London Prevent Network and the Prevent Coordinators Forum.

3.15   The work of the Prevent Programme Board feeds into the Community Safety Partnership Board[6] and the Community Safety Partnership Plan, which brings together a number of local agencies to work collaboratively to reduce crime across a partnership area (see Appendix 1).

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[6] The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, places a duty on key bodies to work together to reduce crime. The Act recognises that partnership working is likely to have a greater impact on crime and specifies that responsible bodies must work together.

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4.   Safeguarding Young People

Combating online radicalisation

4.1   Tower Hamlets is designated as a Tier 1 authority in England and, according to the National Counter-terrorism Police (NCTP) generates one of the highest number of referrals to the police. The extensive use of a wide range of communication platforms in the English language by extremists to radicalise others, underpinned by sophisticated marketing (in particular the use of social media) presents a new and difficult challenge locally and nationally. The reach and power of social media was exemplified by the events of February 2015 which saw three students from the Bethnal Green Academy depart for Syria. However, a number of other students in Tower Hamlets have been prevented from doing so following interventions led by the council and supported by partners including local schools, the police and courts.

4.2   The students from the Bethnal Green Academy reflected a national trend of increasing numbers of young females attempting to travel to Syria and Iraq. However, focusing on young people outside of the usual domain of vulnerability makes detection and intervention harder for the responsible authorities. The Metropolitan Police's Internet Referral Unit suggests that on average 1,000 websites promoting extremist content are removed on a weekly basis, with approximately 800 originating in or linked to Syria.

4.3   Progress has been made to develop a strategic response to the risks of online encouragement to support or participate in terrorism. This includes positive work being led by the council's Parental Engagement Team, working with parents, to raise awareness and a number of projects delivered using Home Office funded grants to work across this area within schools. Work led by both the Home Office grant funded providers and the Parental Engagement Team is expected to continue throughout 2016/17. This has been supported by cyber safety work delivered by the Anti-bullying Advisor. Despite the positive initiatives, members of the panel recognise that much of the existing work has been centred on schools and parents and does not go far enough to reach out to harder to reach communities and those not engaged with formal structures such as schools, libraries and other council services. More work is needed to promote awareness across the council, the voluntary and community sector and the wider community to broaden the reach of this area of work.

4.4   The review panel noted the opportunity to further develop capacity within the voluntary and community sector and support the work of council services around promoting digital inclusion and online safeguarding, Members of the review panel believe the Digital Champions model, employed widely across the public and private sectors, would provide a cost effective model to support an increased awareness of online safeguarding, particularly in relation to the risk of young people being drawn in to support terrorism. The model which relies on volunteers being trained to act as Digital Champions to support people in learning basic ICT skills and understanding online safety would build on the existing groundwork laid down by the council with a range of partners including the voluntary and community sector as part of its Digital Inclusion Strategy.

> ### RECOMMENDATION 1:
>
> The Community Safety Service should continue to work in partnership with the voluntary and community sector to expand their work on promoting a better understanding of safeguarding risks presented by online and social media, and how to stay safe online, through the use of digital champions embedded across the voluntary and community sector.

Supporting Schools

4.5   The approach of the council in providing support packages to schools is underpinned by promoting community cohesion and the Prevent Duty as part of a wider safeguarding agenda.

4.6   As part of its support package, the council offers the Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP) training for Safeguarding Leads and Governors in all schools as well as policy guidance and checklists to support the development of effective internal processes. Whilst this has been rolled out across all maintained secondary schools and most schools in the free and independent school sector, more work is required to cover all primary and early years settings in the borough.

4.7   In addition to training and policy guidance, through the post of the Prevent Education Officer, the council has also developed a range of curriculum resources and mapping tools to support schools in ensuring their curriculum reflects Ofsted requirements, particularly in relation to promoting 'British Values'. Schools also have access to tailored assemblies tackling issues around cohesion and extremism as well as support for peer education programmes to develop student led narratives on the risks of being drawn into the support of terrorism.

4.8   Support for schools accelerated throughout 2015 following a series of Ofsted inspections in October 2014. The inspections affected six independent Muslim faith schools and a Church of England School and followed a wider review of school governance in Birmingham[7]. The findings published in November 2014 concluded that all the schools were 'inadequate' citing failures around safeguarding primarily in relation to the risks of young people potentially being drawn into terrorism or the support of terrorism or potentially seeking to travel abroad to conflict zones.

4.9   The programme of support offered by the council has seen schools in Tower Hamlets develop their confidence and ability to effectively identify and handle concerns through internal processes, seeking advice as appropriate without requiring a formal referral to the Social Inclusion Panel (SIP). An evaluation of the support offered to schools has shown that services are well received with most areas of support being scored four out of five (on a scale of 1 = poor and 5 = excellent.).

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[7] In March 2014, the Secretary of State for Education directed Ofsted and the Education Funding Agency to launch an investigation into 21 schools in Birmingham. This was in response to allegations of an attempted Islamist takeover and imposition of an Islamic ethos which included gender segregation and failure of the council to recognise this over a number of years. Commonly referred to as Operation Trojan Horse or 'Trojan Horse' in the media, in March 2016 the Education Commissioner for Birmingham, Sir Mike Tomlinson, announced a ban on its use within the city citing the term to be 'unhelpful' to schools and the city.

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4.10   Whilst the support offered to schools has delivered positive results, this needs to be sustained to ensure schools maintain effective processes and demonstrate robustness to external inspection. Maintaining this level of support however is challenging due to the lack of additional funding from the Home Office to cover the existing support arrangements and no immediate prospect of extending capacity to accelerate progress. At present the post of the Prevent Education Officer is funded by the Home Office with the council allocating additional resources from the Cohesion and Special Educational Needs (SEN) budgets.

4.11   Uncertainty over the long term commitment of the Home Office to continue funding this area of work, coupled with the financial pressures faced by local government, could result in this area of work being scaled back in the future. Recognising the uncertainties over resourcing and the importance of this area of work, members of the panel were keen to ensure that the council should continue supporting schools to develop safeguarding systems and processes, and promote cohesion.

Promoting Safeguarding in the Community

4.12   Since its introduction, the Prevent Strategy has sparked intense debate over its contribution to the UK's security and its impact on communities. In April 2016 the strategy drew criticism from the UN Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association suggesting the policy risked promoting extremism rather than countering it. The strategy was criticised for creating "unease and uncertainty around what can be legitimately discussed in public" and "risked dividing, stigmatising and alienating segments of the population." [8]

4.13   Recognising the contentious nature of the policy, implementation of the Prevent Strategy in Tower Hamlets has been tailored to recognise the local context and deliver a robust response within the framework of promoting community cohesion. This approach recognises concerns around the limited focus of the initial iterations of the Prevent Strategy which were centred on tackling Islamist extremism, the status of the borough as home to one of the largest Muslim populations in the UK and the potential implications for cohesion and resilience the borough.

4.14   As part of this process the council has utilised the national guidance regarding the formation of a Channel Panel to integrate with existing safeguarding mechanisms such as the Social Inclusion Panel (SIP) and the Safeguarding Adults Panel (SAP) to manage Prevent referrals. This approach, instituted with agreement from the Home Office, has facilitated Prevent concerns to be addressed in the context of wider social, physiological and safety factors whilst also enabling greater reach within the community.

4.15   Despite implementing the Prevent Strategy within the wider safeguarding context, there can be a challenge of promoting an understanding of preventing people from being drawn into terrorism, or the support of terrorism, as a safeguarding issue that cuts across all ages, organisations and communities. Although the council has developed guidance for parents and carers delivered through the Parental Engagement Team, more work is

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[8] Gayle, D., *'Prevent strategy 'could end up promoting extremism'*, The Guardian, 21st April 2016

necessary to challenge misconceptions and promote awareness of how to safeguard against young people seeking to travel abroad for the purposes of terrorism and their exposure to extremist narratives.

4.16   In 2015/16, of 2,500 children known to the Children's Social Care Service, approximately 70 cases included issues of extremism. This is an area of growth, driven in part by a better understanding on the part of the local authority in identifying those at risk. Nationally the borough has received recognition for its pioneering use of the courts to safeguard those deemed at risk.

4.17   Amongst the challenges faced by the local authority, increasing numbers of young people being home educated is an emerging area. With limited powers of intervention when a child is home schooled, safeguarding young people who do not otherwise trigger social care processes and who may be sometimes be exposed to extremist narratives requires the development of more specialist understanding around interventions and the use of the court system in appropriate cases. Steps have already been taken to develop a specialist team within the Children's Social Care Service.

4.18   The extensive network of voluntary and community sector providers offering supplementary education and recreational activities for young people, often grant funded through the council, were acknowledged as important partners for promoting greater awareness of the risks of young people being drawn in to the support of terrorism. As well as playing a key role in promoting awareness within the community, the sector could play an important role in identifying young people at risk, particularly those operating outside of formal areas of interaction. As much of the existing work pursued by the council relates to schools, there is potential benefit from delivering more training and developing safeguarding systems across voluntary and community sector providers within the borough.

4.19   Existing arrangements for the award of Mainstream Grants to organisations working with young people require organisations to have up to date child protection policies and staff to have DBS clearances and be properly qualified and competent in relation to delivering the services in question. The requirements however do not stipulate minimum levels of safeguarding training required for all members of staff or require organisations to have a Designated Safeguarding Officers (DSO) with higher levels of training to serve as points of contact for staff within an organisation when concerned about the welfare of a child.

4.20   As part of the process of embedding the Prevent Duty across the council and the voluntary and community sector, work is being progressed to ensure the council's corporate safeguarding policy encompasses Prevent and that this is reflected across all grant and commissioning processes. The WRAP training is currently publicised and has been made available to a number of commissioned providers; however grant organisations are not currently required to undertake this training.

4.21 The Tower Hamlets Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) currently offers safeguarding training opportunities to council partners and independent organisations with costs for sessions ranging from £50-110. This is supplemented by the WRAP training programme delivered through the Community Safety Service, the costs of which are currently met through Home Office funding. Recognising the challenges to local government finances and the existing levels of resources provided by the Home Office, members of the review panel stressed the importance of continuing to offer training for free or where necessary at an appropriately subsidised rate to ensure the costs of accessing training does not limit access for voluntary and community sector organisations.

Empowering young people

4.22 When exploring research on pathways and developing resilience, the panel heard evidence that suggests access to a strong humanities curriculum plays an important role in developing resilience within young people. Research which involved men and women of Pakistani and Bangladeshi origin living in the UK also suggested there was a correlation between extremist sympathies and those who were young, in full time education, relatively socially isolated and with a tendency towards depressive symptoms.[9]

4.23 Reflecting on the evidence, members of the review panel agreed that the Youth Service, through an effective universal offer, has an important role in promoting the development of resilience and critical thinking skills whilst also tackling isolation. This is best achieved through access to a structured curriculum embedded within the recreational programmes offered by the Youth Service.

4.24 Recognising the shortcomings within the previous Youth Service approach, the council has already taken steps to adopt an interim model due to come in to effect as of summer 2016 paving the way for a more permanent redesign. The interim model, which maintains existing levels of staffing and funding, expects to offer a wider range of services for young people whilst continuing to provide the Duke of Edinburgh Awards programme to support young people in their development.

4.25 As part of its examination of the impact of the Prevent Duty on young people, the review commissioned a workshop involving students from three secondary schools across the borough. Findings from the workshop indicate that young people recognise the need for work to raise awareness of risks of being drawn into terrorism or the support of terrorism. They also view many of the initiatives driven by the council positively. This included positive feedback

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[9] Bhui, K., *'Extremism's False Trail',* New Scientist, April 2015

on school assemblies and some of the small-scale peer education work supported through the post of the Prevent Education Officer.

4.26 Feedback from the workshop indicates that although the council has facilitated peer-led work to promote awareness of the risks of young people being drawn in to the support of terrorism, there is a strong demand for a wider programme. Young people recognised peer led approaches to have a wider reach and stronger influence on thinking. Previous applications of this approach within the Youth Service to promote smoking cessation had shown peer-led programmes to be more effective in shaping attitudes than more traditional campaigns.

4.27 The experience of successfully leading peer education programmes, coupled with the ongoing work to redesign the Youth Service offer, presents an opportunity to embed Prevent related work as part of the broader safeguarding agenda and support compliance with the Prevent Duty. This would build on some of the existing work with young people delivered as part of the council's No Place for Hate Campaign and offer an opportunity to develop a mechanism to capture young people who may not be reached, or cannot be accommodated, through the programmes commissioned through Home Office grant funding.

RECOMMENDATION 3:

The Youth Service should;
- Build on their current work to develop a curriculum to provide a structured programme of development for young people;
- Explore ways to support young people at risk of isolation;
- Develop in partnership with Community Safety, a peer education programme to develop young leaders capable of promoting safeguarding and cohesion within their peer groups.

4.28 Whilst positively receiving the work led by the council, students also highlighted the unease and inconsistencies in approach across schools on issues related to the accommodation of faith. This includes recognising the importance of providing segregated spaces for worship as well as promoting clear 'safe spaces' for debate.

4.29 The concerns expressed by young people echoes evidence provided by the independent reviewer of terrorism laws, David Anderson QC, to the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights. He suggests the implementation of the

Prevent Strategy on a national level was felt to be inhibiting free speech and discouraging teachers from tackling issues deemed controversial.[10]

4.30   Students from the Sir John Cass Redcoat Foundation School highlighted that access to chaplains within schools allowed young people to explore issues within a clearly designated 'safe space'. Being a Church of England School and one affected by the Ofsted inspections in October 2014, it has been able to draw on learning and its faith-based ethos to widen access to advice and guidance support and provide spaces for exploration. Across other schools however, students emphasised that more work is needed to ensure schools are promoting 'safe spaces' for the exploration of ideas and are better equipped to address faith related issues.

4.31   As part of a programme of commissioning for cohesion services, the council has commissioned RE Today to promote religious education and interfaith engagement across young people. As part of its programme of activities, the provider has facilitated a range of school visits to places of worship as well as trained Ambassadors of Faith, aged 16-18, to present to primary classes on issues related to faith and belief.

> **RECOMMENDATION 4:**
>
> The Learning & Achievement Service should work with schools and commissioned providers of interfaith work in schools to support the creation of safe spaces for young people to promote debate and critical discourse.

4.32   As part of its approach to promote understanding of the Prevent Strategy and encourage greater acceptance, Birmingham City Council has established a formal Prevent Community Reference Group designed to feed community views into the shaping of delivery at a local level. This is supplemented by Community Channel Panels, which together with sample case studies offers communities the opportunity to understand this area of work and the safeguarding challenges. This exercise has often shown community responses to be much firmer and stringent than that of the council and as a result has served as an important mechanism for Birmingham City Council to promote understanding of the Prevent Strategy and the threat of extremism within communities.

4.33   In 2015 a report commissioned by the Greater London Assembly (GLA) and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) concluded that local authorities should actively engage with community groups, including those critical of the Prevent Strategy, and incorporate views when planning Prevent projects and shape local intelligence as part of the Counter-terrorism Local Profile (CTLP).[11]

4.34   Within Tower Hamlets it is recognised that one of the key challenges for the future is to move towards a more proactive Prevent approach which includes mechanisms for greater community involvement in the shaping of local strategies and informing delivery. Conclusions drawn from the workshop with

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[10] Bowcott, O., '*Prevent strategy stifles debate and makes teachers feel vulnerable*', The Guardian, 9th March 2016

[11] Ganesh, B., '*Implementing Prevent: from a community led to a Government centred approach*', Faith Matters, June 2015

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young people also indicated that there was strong appetite for greater involvement, particularly through established platforms such as the Youth Council, Youth Inspectors and the Young Mayor to shape delivery at a borough level. Incorporating greater engagement could help to promote ownership and ensure approaches adopted by the council better reflect needs.

4.35   At present the Community Safety Partnership Board, which brings together a range of stakeholders including key council partners and community and faith representatives, serves as a platform to inform and shape the work of the Prevent Board and the Prevent Delivery Plan. During 2016/17, there will be a drive to establish a more direct relationship through the establishment of community voices group to help inform and shape the Prevent Delivery Plan and in turn inform the commissioning of services. The development process for the council's Children and Families Plan which sets out how the council will support young people and families for the next three years and shapes safeguarding priorities already includes strong mechanisms for the engagement of young people and the wider community.

> **RECOMMENDATION 5:**
>
> The council should continue to engage local citizens, in particular young people, in the shaping of plans and commissioning of services aimed at promoting safeguarding and undermining the risks of people being drawn in to terrorism, the support of terrorism or violent extremism.

5.   Promoting Cohesion in Tower Hamlets

Enhancing cohesion through schools

5.1   Since its inception, the Prevent Strategy has recognised the importance of community cohesion as an important element to developing community resilience against extremist narratives. The 2011 Prevent Strategy for England and Wales argues that a stronger sense of "belonging" and citizenship makes communities more resilient to terrorist ideology and propagandists'. [12]

5.2   As part of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, all schools in England and Wales have been under a duty to promote community cohesion. The definition of community cohesion provided in the accompanying guidance is set out as: 'working towards a society in which there is a common vision and sense of belonging by all communities; … and a society in which strong and positive relationships exist and continue to be developed in the workplace, in schools and in the wider community.'[13]

5.3   Exploring the national context, members of the review panel noted that there is a decline in provision particularly across Key Stage 4 for subjects such as Religious Education and Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE): these serve as key platforms for tackling issues of cohesion. Research conducted by the National Association of Teachers of RE had shown that by 2015 the exclusion of RE as contributing subject to the English Baccalaureate measure had contributed to an overall decline of 20% since 2009.[14] Similarly research led by the Centre for Education and Inclusion Research concluded that whilst practitioners recognise the benefits of PSHE there appears to be a decrease in provision for older students.[15]

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[12] *The Prevent Strategy*, 2011, HM Government, pg. 27

[13] *Guidance on the Duty to promote Community Cohesion*, Department for Education, 2007, pg. 3

[14] *Full course GCSE Religious Studies entries rise, but number of schools with no RS students at all is increasing,* National Association of Teachers of RE, August 2015

[15] Willis, B., and Wolstenholme, C., '*Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education under the Coalition Government'*, Centre for Education and Inclusion Research, 2016

5.4 Providing evidence to the panel, officers from the council acknowledge that whilst the schools in the borough have done well to retain a high number of entries for RE GCSE, they are not immune to national trends which drive schools to maximise opportunities to secure expected outcomes across 'core' subject areas. Whilst more work could be done to promote cohesion in schools and expand the horizons of young people, the national context has meant that the number of opportunities available to engage outside of their usual contexts has declined. This is due in part to increasing academic pressures and a complex health and safety landscape that have made schools increasingly risk averse.

5.5 The Council has commissioned projects aimed at improving understanding of faith and belief through educational materials and school visits to places of worship. Due to commence in September 2016, the council has also commissioned the council's HEC Global Learning Centre, part of the Schools Library Service to develop innovative lesson plans and 'Train the Trainer' training materials for school councils. These will help to develop critical thinking skills and raise awareness and understanding amongst young people around issues of cohesion, equality and hate crime. This builds on work delivered through the Prevent Education Officer aimed at supporting schools to map and take stock of the delivery of cohesion and 'British values' throughout the curriculum.

> **RECOMMENDATION 6:**
>
> The Learning & Achievement Service should build on existing work to support schools in promoting equality and diversity, cohesion and critical thinking skills through the school curriculum and help them explore further opportunities to do this outside the curriculum.

5.6 Views of secondary school students from the 2016 Pupil Attitude Survey commissioned by the council showed that the BME student population (excluding Bangladeshi students) were more likely to disagree with the statement that young people of different backgrounds got on well together in Tower Hamlets. Feedback from the workshop for young people also highlighted concerns around cohesion, suggesting more work is required to reduce barriers and promote greater cross-cultural interaction amongst young people outside of formal settings. It was suggested that whilst people of different backgrounds respected one another, there was a need to do more to develop relationships, interaction and engagement outside of formal structures and settings.

5.7 Members of the review panel believe that whilst the council has invested resources to promote a vision of 'One Tower Hamlets' over a number of years, until recently much of this work has been centred around tackling inequalities and empowering and celebrating new and underrepresented communities in the borough. Whilst this work is welcome, there needs to be a focus on addressing the challenge of building communities around people with different cultural and socio-economic backgrounds and providing sustainable infrastructure to facilitate this form of engagement beyond the lifespan of any project. In light of the current pace of change within the borough, driven by the surge of development and the associated demographic changes, the panel felt that there is a need for a clear strategic

vision to guide cohesion activities in the borough. This would help ensure that barriers preventing sustained interactions between different communities in the borough can be removed.

5.8 The conclusion of the review panel mirrors findings from initial consultations held with stakeholders as part of the development of specifications for the commissioning of new cohesion programmes within the borough. The new proposed projects will build on some of the positive work achieved through the Mainstream Grants programme which has delivered positive outcomes in relation to improving intergenerational and cross-cultural engagement.

5.9 In addition to promoting cohesion through community organisations commissioned by the council, members of the review panel noted that the commissioning process could also be used to promote understanding of the Prevent Strategy, develop safeguarding practices and improve community resilience. This could also help to empower communities to develop counter narratives against those promoting extremism. In light of the recent history of the borough and the attempts by the far right and Islamist extremist groups to cause disruption and undermine cohesion, this was noted as an area of importance.

5.10 The council's refresh of its Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Strategy seeks to build on a commitment of the Community Plan to "build strong community leadership and social capital through a thriving voluntary and community sector". The VCS Strategy sets out key activities which aim to develop leadership and resilience within the voluntary and community sector through capacity building, opportunities to participate in co-production and collaborative commissioning opportunities as well as developing and promoting new ways of volunteering to promote and strengthen cohesion. The adoption of this strategy is expected to pave the way for more of the council's commissioning to support the local community to develop local leadership and promote cohesion.

5.11 As part of its broader commissioning approach, the council recognises the importance of securing community benefits, which can also include opportunities to develop community leadership and promote cohesion, in line with the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012. This approach however is constrained by the need to pay due regard to the value for money being achieved as well as relevant EU Directives to ensure specifications are not anti-competitive and do not discriminate against suppliers not based locally.

> **RECOMMENDATION 7:**
>
> The council should exploit all commissioning opportunities to ;
> - Develop greater community leadership to promote and celebrate diversity; and to build resilience to challenges to community cohesion
> - Ensure its approach to the commissioning of cohesion activities strengthens engagement across all communities in the borough and provides a platform for sustained interaction between communities.

5.12   The 2011 National Prevent Strategy recommended that local authorities avoid merging Prevent and cohesion strategies to limit the risk of undermining community cohesion. Despite this, Birmingham City Council provides a distinctive example of an area where both the Prevent and cohesion strategy are intertwined. Members of the review panel noted that the city council viewed its Prevent and cohesion strategies as part of the broader equalities agenda driven by the Equality Act 2010 and this was closely linked to its vision for promoting civic leadership.

5.13   As part of its approach to embedding a strong cohesion and equalities programme in schools, Tower Hamlets council has worked closely with schools to deliver cultural awareness training for school leaders. This has been led by Educational Psychologists to explore development cycles and religiosity in young people to facilitate a more sensitive implementation of the Prevent Duty within schools. The council has also invested in promoting the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Award, offering schools an opportunity to obtain an accredited outcome. Through a funding arrangement with schools to offset the costs of a trainer, the scheme has managed to engage 127 schools as part of its initial rollout. Initial evaluation of the programme had shown the programme had a positive impact on school leadership and on young people. Although this programme has been in place in Tower Hamlets since 2011, only a third of primary schools in the borough and smaller proportion of secondary schools are actively involved with the accreditation scheme.

RECOMMENDATION 8:

The Learning & Achievement Service should continue to promote the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Award to improve uptake across schools in the borough.

Maintaining consistency in Language

5.14   The Prevent Strategy in all its revisions and accompanying guidance has maintained consistency in setting out its primary objective – to combat 'radicalisation'. The definition of radicalisation however has evolved throughout the years, leading to some suggestions that this has contributed to confused notions of the Prevent Strategy.

5.15   Since 2008 the definition of 'radicalisation' has increasingly become synonymous with support for violence and terrorism as opposed to a distinct phenomenon. More recent definitions provided by the government, most

notably in the Educate Against Hate website, suggest 'radicalisation' is 'a process by which an individual or group comes to adopt increasingly extreme political, social or religious ideals and aspirations that (1) reject or undermine the status quo or (2) reject and/or undermine contemporary ideas and expressions or freedom of choice'.

5.16 This broad definition issued by the government has been criticised for failing to establish a link between extremism and violent terrorist acts and instead facilitating the labelling and marginalisation of sections of the population who adhere to orthodox or conservative religious teachings. A report published in January 2015, by the think tank Claystone, argues that "Advocacy of the official narrative on the causes of terrorism has had a significant polarising effect on public discourse in Britain"[16] and points to the wide body of academic research indicating that the overwhelming majority of those holding radical beliefs do not engage in violence and those engaged in violence may not necessary hold 'radical' views. This adds to existing concerns in relation to the Prevent Strategy. In a written submission to the Home Affairs Select Committee, the independent reviewer of terrorism laws, David Anderson QC, notes that elements of the Prevent Strategy were being applied in an insensitive or discriminatory manner.[17]

5.17 Within Tower Hamlets the issue of language and possible implications for cohesion has been recognised and fed back to the Home Office and continues to be part of an ongoing process. The council has demonstrated positive examples of its ability to effectively use language when communicating complex and sensitive messages as demonstrated by some of the literature produced for schools and parents. However in some instances members of the review panel noted that the language used in discussing faith and values was inconsistent across the organisation which could undermine rather than promote cohesion.

5.18 Anecdotal evidence provided by members of the panel suggests that the terms 'radical' or 'radicalisation' have increasingly come to be associated with the potential for violence and is often associated with a particular community or individuals displaying increased religiosity. In light of this, continued use of terms such as 'radicalisation' fails to describe to the specific risks being tackled and could harm the objectives of the Prevent Strategy locally.

5.19 The panel believes that language used by the council and its partners (including those from whom it commissions services) should be consistent and compliant with the objective to promote community cohesion. This includes distinguishing between faith and ideology, avoiding objectification of groups or communities, and clearly describing the specific risks or threats being tackled. An example of this would be 'people being drawn into terrorism or the support of terrorism' or 'increasing risk of travel to Syria', rather than the more vague term 'radicalisation'.

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[16] Kundani, A., *'A Decade Lost: Rethinking Radicalisation and Extremism'*, Claystone, January 2015

[17] '*Prevent strategy 'sowing mistrust and fear in Muslim communities'*, David Batty, The Guardian, 3rd February 2016

> ### RECOMMENDATION 9:
>
> The council should ensure the use of language across services and commissioned partners is consistent and compliant with the objective to promote community cohesion. This should include appropriate use; distinguishing between faith and ideology, avoiding objectification of groups or communities and greater clarity in describing risks/threats i.e. *"people being drawn into terrorism, the support of terrorism or violent extremism"* or *"increasing risk of travel to conflict zones including Syria and Iraq"* as opposed to using more general terms such as 'radicalisation'.

Promoting a positive image of Tower Hamlets

5.20   As home to a diverse population, which also includes the largest Muslim population in the UK, the borough has received significant media attention in recent years. This has included both direct and indirect coverage, with stock imagery of key landmarks in the borough (such as the East London Mosque and the Whitechapel Market) accompanying news items around the role of faith in society, integration and counter-terrorism. More recently, the intervention by the Department for Communities and Local Government, re-run of the Mayoral elections and the events linked to Ofsted and the departure of three students to Syria has seen the borough subject to intensive coverage.

5.21   The Communications Services manages the interface with media organisations and supports the organisation's reputation. The Prevent communications approach has been primarily reactive. For example, since 2014, the service has handled 48 enquires pertaining to Prevent and has on 4 occasions supported the promotion of Prevent work.

5.22   The service maintains a strong relationship with the Community Safety Service, which oversees delivery of Prevent work. This partnership has played an important role in supporting the council to engage with key partners, and respond to immediate threats presented by organisations such as the English Defence League and more recently Britain First.

5.23   Officers from the Communications Service have stated that that there is potential for the service to be at the forefront of the Prevent conversation. A new communications strategy will see the service take on a more proactive and strategic approach to communication activities and will include significant investment in campaigns to promote cohesion in the borough.

5.24   Referencing the example of Birmingham City Council, members of the review panel set out the approach of the council which embeds communications activity as an integral part of the delivery of the Prevent Strategy and this is included within the Prevent Delivery Plan. This includes responsibility for consequence management in response to any high profile events and a more frequent and proactive approach to promote the city in a positive light, emphasising the message of cohesion and undermining notions of communities being under siege.

5.25   Members of the review panel agreed that there is a need for greater communications activity to promote a strong civic identity as well support the development of community resilience. This is considered to be particularly

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important for young people for whom negative coverage of the borough, driven by external sources, could contribute to a sense of grievance that could be exploited. This conclusion is also supported by analysis from the International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation (ICSR) that suggests that after stripping away all grievances and individual triggers, a crisis of identity and the lack of a sense of belonging is a common thread amongst those joining extremist groups.[18]

5.26   The 'I Love Hackney' campaign established in 2006 as a response to the designation of the area as one of the worst places to live in the UK[19] serves as a positive example of a successful campaign promoting pride in the local area. The campaign has been actively promoted through badges, bags and posters and used as platform to engage residents and promote improvements to local services. In 2011 the campaign also served as the focal point for uniting the community in the aftermath of the London riots. As part of the 10th anniversary, the campaign has also introduced a new civic award to recognise outstanding individuals within the local community. Members of the review panel believe that the 'I Love Hackney' campaign should serve as a model for future communication campaigns in Tower Hamlets.

5.27   As part of a new communications strategy developed following the review of the council's communication activities in 2015, the council has identified the need to refresh and deliver a broad campaign promoting cohesion and civic pride in the borough. This will form one of several priority campaigns throughout 2016/17 and beyond.

RECOMMENDATION 10:

The Communications Service should adopt a more proactive approach to promoting cohesion through a borough wide campaign which celebrates our history, diversity and resilience to adversity. This should include opportunities for resident involvement to promote the borough and a greater role within the Prevent Delivery Plan.

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[18] Maher, S., 'The roots of radicalisation? It's identity, stupid', The Guardian, 17th June 2015

[19] In 2006 the London Borough of Hackney was designated as the worst place to live in the UK by the Channel 4 programme The Best and Worst Places to Live in the UK'

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6.   Developing Leadership around Prevent

Empowering elected representatives and Improving Collaboration

6.1   As part of the new statutory Prevent Duty introduced through the Counter-terrorism and Security Act 2015, the Government devised the Prevent Duty Guidance setting out how specified authorities are to comply with the Prevent Duty. Sections C and E of the 2015 Prevent Duty Guidance set out responsibilities on local authorities and elected members to demonstrate an awareness and understanding of the risk of radicalisation in their area, institution or body.

6.2   Birmingham City Council has worked closely with all elected members to develop capacity and encourage the development of a political consensus on issues such as cohesion and safeguarding, including Prevent. This has been realised through strong working relations between members and officers as well as training opportunities for elected members to help them understand their roles and provide leadership. This approach has enabled the council to benefit from consistency in leadership and stability in support for this area of work across political change.

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6.3 The establishment of a local political consensus on the issue of the Prevent Strategy alongside the reassurance of political leadership across all parties has played an important role in establishing a strong working relationship with the West Midlands Police Force. This development has been instrumental in moving towards a model which allows for restricted documents such as the Counter-Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP) to be shared (albeit in redacted form) more widely across elected members to help them to develop an awareness of the risks as set out in the Prevent Duty. The wider dissemination of this document across the council has also enabled decision-making to be better informed and ensure elected members fulfilled their Duty under the Act.

6.4 Birmingham City Council has also trialled models that have seen elements of the CTLP verbally briefed by members of the West Midlands Police Force across local communities to promote an understanding of risks. This approach has supported the council in dispelling myths and also encouraging community engagement.

6.5 Highlighting the approach of Birmingham City Council, members of the review panel identified the potential benefit of training opportunities available to elected representatives in Tower Hamlets. This would help enable local councillors to provide more effective leadership within their communities and support delivery of sections C and E of the Prevent Duty Guidance.

6.6 Recognising the concerns of members, officers have taken forward initiatives to provide councillor training opportunities in order to support them to improve their understanding of Prevent and their roles in relation to it. This will build upon updates on local prevalence, referrals and risk which are provided at each Prevent Board meeting which takes place bi-monthly.

6.7 Members of the review panel believe that training opportunities on offer to promote an understanding of the risks of people being drawn into or the support of terrorism or violent extremism should take into account specific responsibilities and levels of leadership that may be required of individuals. Whilst noting that the Home Office is currently in the process of working with the Local Government Association (LGA) to develop a programme with elected members in mind, the panel believes the council should play an active role in contributing to the development of this programme where appropriate and ensure its availability once finalised.

6.8 Building on its information-sharing approach, Birmingham has also put in place mechanisms to provide elected members with high-level information on police activity in hotspots. Although this does not include operational details, the approach enables members to engage with communities after events and provide reassurance.

6.9 Within Tower Hamlets the council maintains a strong partnership with the Metropolitan Police Service and has in place a range of platforms such as the Community Safety Partnership, Prevent Boards, Tension Monitoring Group and Cohesion Working Group which brings together police and council offers alongside other key partners. The council also has in place mechanisms which include Gold meetings to address serious incidents and regular operational meetings to ensure effective communication is in place between the council and police.

6.10   Officers in Tower Hamlets recognise the importance of disseminating information to elected members. For example, they have progressed work to embed this as part of a communications protocol for the Tension Monitoring Group to circulate information on significant events, such as attempts by far right organisations to cause unrest in the borough. In addition, members of the review panel did note that positive steps have been taken with the police to provide information through email to key partners including elected members. This however did not provide members with an explicit role in supporting post incident arrangements and providing reassurance to their communities.

> **RECOMMENDATION 11:**
>
> Elected Members should be further supported to understand and comply with Sections C and E of the 2015 Prevent Duty Guidance, including:
> - Dissemination of intelligence information to designated elected Members in line with section C of the Prevent Duty Guidance;
> - Guidance and training tailored for elected Members to enable them to understand their role in the Duty;
> - Further consideration to the role of elected Members in the management of consequences following any local incidences.

6.11   The approach taken in Birmingham City Council demonstrates strong collaborative working at a wider regional level. This is driven, in part, by the regional devolution agenda leading to the formation of the West Midlands Combined Authority. However, there is also a clear recognition that communities do not end with local authority boundaries and that consistency in approach at a regional level will deliver greater results.

6.12   Although Tower Hamlets engages with the London Prevent Network and the London Prevent Board, members of the review panel agree more should be done to develop sub-regional ties across existing partnership regions to promote greater information-sharing, including counter-terrorism profiles, and a consistent approach to managing the risks of people being drawn in to terrorism or the support of terrorism.

6.13   As part of an initiative to establish a cross borough peer support and strategy group to improve practice, the council has held initial discussions with the London Borough of Islington and expects to also engage Newham, Waltham Forest, Hackney and Redbridge councils as part of a wider partnership initiative.

> **RECOMMENDATION 12:**
>
> The council should progress work to promote greater collaboration on Prevent and Safeguarding across the East London region. This should include work to promote greater consistency across the delivery of the Prevent duty and sharing of appropriate intelligence across officers and elected Members.
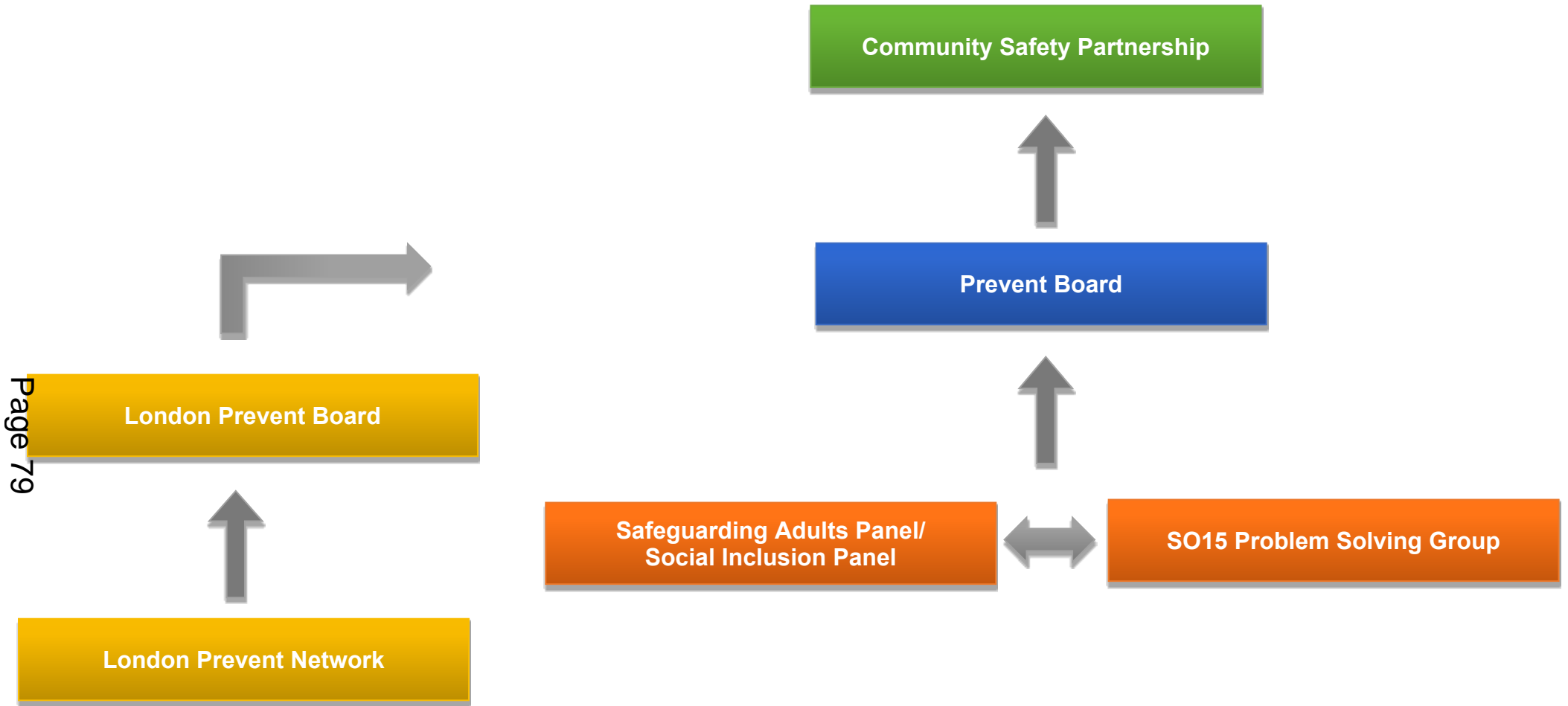
Embedding the Prevent Duty across the Council

6.14   The Prevent Duty Guidance reinforces the importance of offering training to staff in order to be able to recognise vulnerability. To support this objective Birmingham City Council has established a multi-agency and multi-disciplinary workforce development team for Prevent who lead on providing training across the organisation.

6.15   Recognising the importance of safeguarding risks, Birmingham City Council has moved towards mainstreaming Prevent work by developing levels of training for staff to reflect their interactions with the wider population. This approach includes delivering training to a much wider array of staff ranging from those involved in front line waste management services to back office staff. The council also incorporates recognition of the risks of terrorism within its planning functions to ensure new developments of significant scale have appropriate design safeguards to improve resilience.

6.16   Birmingham's approach to training and development around Prevent has also been embedded as part of a broader vision for the city that seeks to promote greater civic responsibility amongst staff during and outside of work. As a major employer in the city, the council recognises the importance of ensuring that all staff, regardless of role, are nonetheless equipped and encouraged to actively engage with this area as local citizens.

6.17   Within Tower Hamlets the need to promote the Prevent Duty and provide appropriate training across a much wider pool of staff is recognised. Information provided to the panel, through the course of the review, suggests that the levels of funding provided by the Home Office are inadequate to support some of the work required. Despite the challenges, positive progress has been made to ensure key stakeholders such as schools and the Youth Service have had access to appropriate training and steps are being taken to widen the roll out across the voluntary and community sector.

6.18   The development of an e-learning module by the Home Office offers the option to promote a wider roll out of training with minimal resource implications. Members of the review panel also recognise the importance of embedding the Prevent Duty as part of the wider initiatives expected of the council to promote cultural change within the organisation.

> **RECOMMENDATION 13:**
>
> The council should take steps to promote an organisational culture which includes a focus on safeguarding and civic responsibility. This should also include consideration for rolling out appropriate e-learning modules for all staff to promote an understanding of the risks of being drawn into the support of terrorism and violent extremism.

Appendix 1: Prevent Governance Structure

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                                    ┌─────────────────────────────┐
                                    │ Community Safety Partnership │
                                    └─────────────────────────────┘
                                                 ▲
                                    ┌─────────────────────────────┐
                                    │        Prevent Board        │
                                    └─────────────────────────────┘
                                                 ▲
   ┌──────────────────────┐
   │ London Prevent Board │    ┌──────────────────────────┐      ┌──────────────────────────┐
   └──────────────────────┘    │ Safeguarding Adults Panel/│ ◄──► │ SO15 Problem Solving Group│
              ▲                 │  Social Inclusion Panel   │      └──────────────────────────┘
   ┌──────────────────────┐    └──────────────────────────┘
   │London Prevent Network│
   └──────────────────────┘
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Non-Executive Report of the: Overview and Scrutiny Committee 28th September 2016	TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Melanie Clay, Director of Law, Probity and Governance	**Classification:** [Unrestricted or Exempt]
Quarter 1 2016/17 Strategic Performance Monitoring	

Originating Officer(s)	Kevin Kewin, Interim Service Head Corporate Strategy and Equality
Wards affected	All Wards

Summary

The council uses a basket of performance measures to track delivery against priorities and this is supported by key strategic activities which are outlined in the Strategic Plan. This monitoring report details the council's performance at the Quarter 1 (April-June) Stage

Recommendations:

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

1. Review progress in delivering the strategic measures at the quarter 1 stage (appendix 1) and final outturns and commentary for 2015/16 (appendix 2).

1.   REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

1.1   The council uses a basket of performance measures to track whether it is delivering on its priorities and this is supported by key strategic activities as outlined in the Strategic Plan.   This monitoring report details the council's performance at the quarter 1 (to June 2016) stage.

Overview and Scrutiny is asked to:
   * Review progress in delivering the strategic measures at the quarter 1 stage (appendix 1) and final outturns and commentary for 2015/16 (appendix 2);
   *

2.   ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

2.1   The Council reports its strategic performance.   Significant variations, trends and corrective action are reported in the body and appendices of the report. No alternative action is considered necessary beyond that included below and this report is produced to ensure that Members are kept informed about decisions made under the delegated authority.

3.   DETAILS OF REPORT

STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE MEASURES

3.1   The strategic measures enable the council to monitor progress against its priorities outlined in the Strategic Plan. The measures are monitored on a quarterly basis by CMT and Members.

3.2   **Appendix 1** illustrates the latest performance against our strategic measures. Performance against the current target is measured as either 'Red', 'Amber' or 'Green' (RAG). Should performance fall below the minimum expectation – indicated as the dotted red line - it is marked as 'Red'. Should it be at or better than the minimum standard, but below the target – indicated as the solid green line - it is 'Amber'.   Where performance is at or better than the target, it is 'Green'. Performance is also measured against the equivalent quarter for the previous year, as a 'direction of travel'. If performance has deteriorated compared to the same time last year, it is indicated as a downward arrow ↓; if there has been no change (or less than 5% change, or no statistically significant change for survey measures) it is neutral ↔; and if performance has improved compared to the previous year, it is indicated as an upward arrow ↑.


2015/16 Final Outturn Reporting Update

3.3   Since the year end 2015/16 performance reporting was undertaken, final outturns for several outstanding performance measures is now available. Outturn and commentary information is included in **Appendix 2** for these indicators.

3.4   There is one measure where the 2015/16 year-end outturn is still outstanding, the outturn will be reported at the quarter 2 stage:

- *Percentage of overall council housing stock that is non-decent* – *year end data is expected shortly after quality checks have been completed.*

Strategic Performance Measures – Quarter 1 (April-June 2016)

3.6   The number of strategic measures available for reporting fluctuates between periods due to the different reporting frequencies of the measures. Of the 71 measures in the strategic set, including subsets of measures, 26 are reportable this quarter. The chart below shows the breakdown of these indicators by RAG performance:

Green = meeting or exceeding target

Amber = better than the minimum expectation but below the target

Red = below the minimum expectation
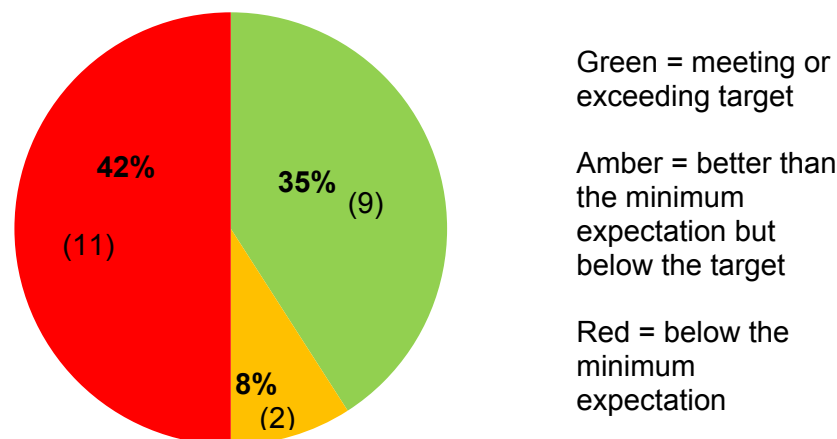
- For those measures where targets have not been set, performance against target cannot be reported; of the three measures in this category, one has maintained performance compared to this time last year, one has deteriorated and direction of travel cannot be assessed for one measure where there is no previous outturn information available.

- Overall 7 indicators (33%) show improved performance compared to last year (↑), 5 (24%) are stable (↔), 9 (43%) have deteriorated (↓), and five new measures where direction of travel cannot be measured.

- Direction of travel – comparing current outturn to this time last year:
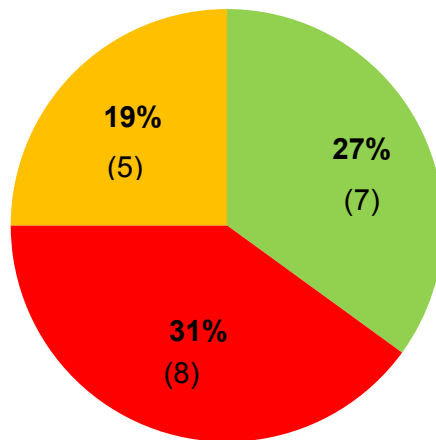
GREEN = better than this time last period
AMBER = performance same as this time last year
RED = performance deteriorated compared to this time last year

3.6   There are 4 strategic performance measures which report on a quarterly basis but Q1 data is currently not available due to a time lag in reporting; outturns for these measures will be included in the next reporting period:

- Number of Smoking Quitters;
- Proven re-offending by young people;
- Homelessness Prevention; and
- Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting.

3.8   The relatively high proportion of measures that are red and deteriorating is not untypical at the Q1 stage as there can be a phased start to delivery including for some cumulative measures such as those relating to job starts, business support and housing delivery.

Performance Summary

3.9   The following sections detail our performance under two key headings:

- High performance and areas of improvement
- High risk areas

High Performance and Areas of Improvement – Quarter 1

3.10   Measures that exceeded their target or have improved compared to quarter 1 last year include:

3.10.1 Creating opportunity by supporting aspiration and tackling poverty

- *Overall employment rate – gap between borough and London average* – the percentage point gap between the borough's employment rate and the London average is 1.3 percentage points; the target has been exceeded and the gap has narrowed compared to this time last year
- *Employment gap for women – the gap between borough and London average* – the gap of 3.7 percentage points is lower than the target of 6.9 and 1.7 percentage points better the same period last year.
- *NEETS* – at 3.10 percent, the in-year target has been exceeded and there has been an improvement compared to this time last year
- *Early Years Attainment* – 66.8 percent of children in the cohort achieved 'a good level of development'; the minimum expectation has been exceeded and there has been a 5.2 percentage point improvement compared to last year
- *Number of adoptions and special guardianship orders for looked after children* - an outturn of 11 percent has been achieved; the in-year target of five has been exceeded. The number of children has increased by nine compared to the same period last year.
- *Average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family* – the number of days this quarter is 634; whilst the minimum expectation has not been met, there has been a significant reduction in the number of days taken (-128 days) compared to this time last year.
- *Percentage of people aged over 65 who are receiving long-term support* – the number per 10,000 population was 1,415, the target of 1,470 has been exceeded.

3.10.2 Creating and maintaining a vibrant, successful place
- *Number of affordable units provided as wheelchair accessible / adaptable* – the target of 10 percent of affordable homes (14 units) has been met.

3.10.3 A transformed council, making best use of resources with an outward facing culture
- *Percentage of council tax collected (budgeted)* and *Percentage of non-domestic rates collected (budgeted)* – both measures have exceeded their targets of 25 percent.

High Risk Areas

3.11 As part of the monitoring of our performance each quarter, analysis is undertaken to identify those measures at risk of not achieving their annual target. This includes measures that are below the minimum expectation and have deteriorated since the corresponding quarter for the previous year.

<u>Creating opportunity by supporting aspiration and tackling poverty</u>

3.11.1 ***Employment gap for BME residents – reducing the gap between borough rate and employment rate for BME residents*** – The employment rate of BME residents in the borough was 62.5 percent compared to the borough average of 65.5 percent equating to a gap of 3 percentage points. The target was missed and there was an increase in the gap of 0.2 percentage points compared to the same period last year.

While the employment rate for BME residents in the borough is also 1.9pps higher than this time last year. The London average rate increased 2.1pps. The revised Local Economic Assessment suggests that BME residents (particularly women) are still over represented in both unemployment and benefit claims statistics. There are a range of different barriers to work associated with BME clients including English, basic skills and access to networks. Long term and economically inactive BME residents will continue to be a focus for the Employment & Skills delivery service and will form part of the focus of the new integrated employment service. With a target of 1,000 residents into employment through Council activities, an 850 net increase of BME residents into work represents a closing of the gap by 0.15pps.

<u>Creating and maintaining a vibrant, successful place</u>

3.11.2 ***Number of affordable homes delivered (gross)*** **–** 142 affordable homes were delivered during Quarter 1, 133 homes short of the minimum expectation and 78 fewer than this time last year.

Tower Hamlets has a strong track record of housing delivery and continues to provide among the highest numbers of affordable homes in the country. 142 affordable homes have been delivered in Q1 against a minimum expectation of 277 and target of 344 units. However, it is anticipated that the end of year total will be within the target range. Our current prediction is for the completion of 1,340 affordable units in this financial year. Performance for quarter 1 was expected to be higher, as several schemes due for completion in quarter 4 of last year were reported as having slipped into quarter 1. However, there are a number of schemes which are substantially complete, perhaps even achieving technical completion for the purposes of GLA grant claims, but still not ready for occupation, which is the completion requirement for Council monitoring. These delays are expected to be resolved soon and should lead to a higher outturn for quarter 2. As is regularly reported, there can be no action plan to remedy quarterly underperformance, as the distribution of completions will never fall into an equal four quarter split and there is nothing that the Council can do to influence the actual date of handovers.

3.11.3 ***Number of affordable social housing completions for family housing*** – in Quarter 1, 44 units were delivered, the minimum expectation of 87 was missed

and there were 49 fewer than this time last year. However, this does represent 42% of the rental delivery in Quarter 1, so is acceptably close to our 45% policy target.

3.11.4 *Lets to overcrowded households* – 173 overcrowded families have been rehoused in Q1 which is below the Q1 minimum expectation of 235. This is due to the number of total lets being low for the quarter at 393, but there were a number of outstanding offers to people on the housing register at the point of reporting, on which a decision to take or reject the let had not yet been taken. It is anticipated that the number of units becoming available to let will increase towards the end of the year due to handover of the new build units and if outstanding offers to those on the housing register result in lets it is likely we will see an increase in lets to overcrowded households. However, the fact that we operate a choice based lettings scheme and have no control over bidding preferences - who and how applicants bid - it is not possible to accurately predict lets outcome.

3.11.5 *The number of households who considered themselves as homeless, who approached the local authority's housing advice services and for whom housing advice casework intervention resolved their situation* – the final outturn for 2015/16 was 5.49 per 1,000 households prevented from becoming homeless; the minimum expectation of 5.94 was not met. A total of 636 households were prevented from becoming homeless ending in Q4, 36 (0.45 percentage points) households lower than in 2014/15.

The borough has grown by 2,610 households over the year and this has had an effect on the homelessness prevention rate. It is worth noting that the borough continues to face a severe shortage of affordable private sector properties available to homeless households as an alternative to pursuing a statutory homeless application and the problem continues to worsen. Consequently, our ability to prevent homelessness by securing an alternative tenancy has diminished immensely. We have improved the incentive provided to landlords so they will let their (admittedly small number of) properties available at, or close to, Local Housing Allowance levels via the council to one of our customers rather than let them to a member of the general public. We have also seen a rise in the number of preventions through negotiations with friends and relatives, persuading families that the best option for all is for the threatened homeless client to remain in their current accommodation. Nevertheless, proportionately, this is not sufficient to temper the increase in landlords evicting their benefit-dependent tenants as they can pitch their rents at higher levels. Where possible, we continue to negotiate with Housing Benefit to resolve arrears problems, and negotiate with landlords, to ensure tenants can remain in their properties and thus prevent homelessness. This financial year, the measure will be reported as an actual number rather than a rate.

A transcription

<u>A transformed council, making best use of resources with an outward facing culture</u>

3.11.6 ***Sickness Absence*** – the number of days lost due to sickness absence in the rolling year to June 2016 is 9.49. The minimum expectation of 9.25 days has been missed and compared to the same period last year there has been a deterioration of 1.17 days. Both short term and long term absence has risen over recent years. A programme has commenced to address the rise and manage sickness absence back to the previously lower rates. The approach will be to focus on:

- Clear policies
- Consistently applied return to work meetings
- Management confidence in medical referrals
- Focused attention on teams with higher absence rates
- A positive employee wellbeing environment

HR resources have been identified to implement the programme and progress will be closely monitored by the Corporate Management Team.

4. <u>**COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**</u>

4.1 This is a noting report and highlights progress with strategic measures during the first three months of 2016/17. The cost of these activities is funded through the Council's General Fund Revenue and Capital budgets, agreed by full Council on the 24th February 2016. There are no additional financial implications arising from the recommendations within this report.

5. <u>**LEGAL COMMENTS**</u>

5.1 The report provides performance information. It is consistent with good administration for the Council to consider monitoring information in relation to plans that it has adopted in order to achieve best value.

5.2 When considering its performance, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (the public sector equality duty). The Council's targets are formulated by reference to its public sector equality duty and monitoring performance against those targets should help to ensure they are delivered.

6. <u>**ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS**</u>

7.1 The Council's Strategic Plan and Strategic Measures are focused upon meeting the needs of the diverse communities living in Tower Hamlets and supporting delivery of One Tower Hamlets. In particular, strategic priorities include the reduction of inequalities and the fostering of community cohesion, which are measured by a variety of strategic indicators

7. BEST VALUE (BV) IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Section 3 of the Local Government Act 1999 requires the Council as a best value authority to "make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness". Monitoring of performance information is an important way in which that obligation can be fulfilled.

8. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

8.1 An element of the monitoring report deals with environmental milestones within the An Improved Local Environment Plan theme.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

9.1 In line with the Council's risk management strategy, the information contained within the Strategic Indicator Monitoring will assist the Cabinet, Corporate Directors and relevant service managers in delivering the ambitious targets set out in the Strategic Plan. Regular monitoring reports will enable Members and Corporate Directors to keep progress under regular review.

10. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The Strategic Indicator set contain a number of crime and disorder items under the Less Crime and ASB Plan theme, however there are no specific crime and disorder reduction implications.

11. SAFEGUARDING IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no specific safeguarding implications.

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Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents
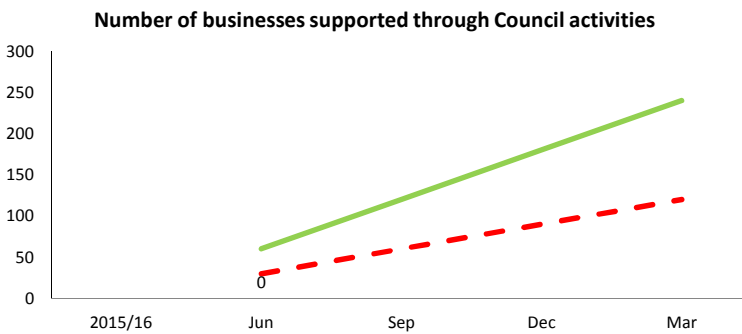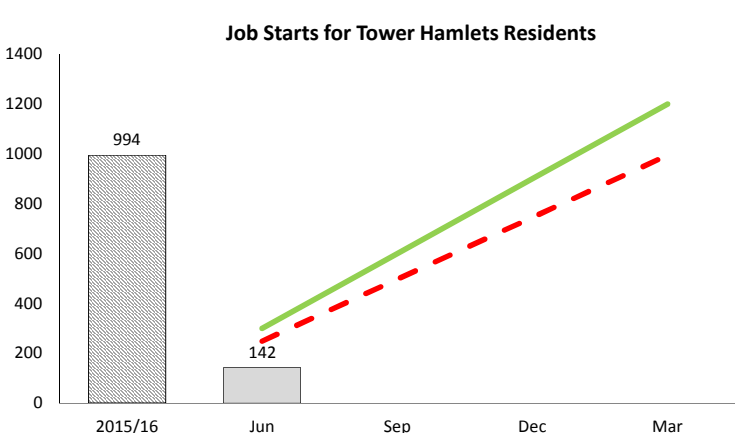
Linked Report
- NONE

Appendices
- Appendix 1 – strategic measures at the quarter 1 stage
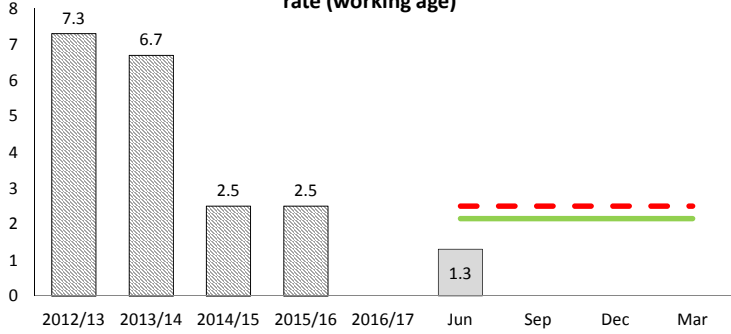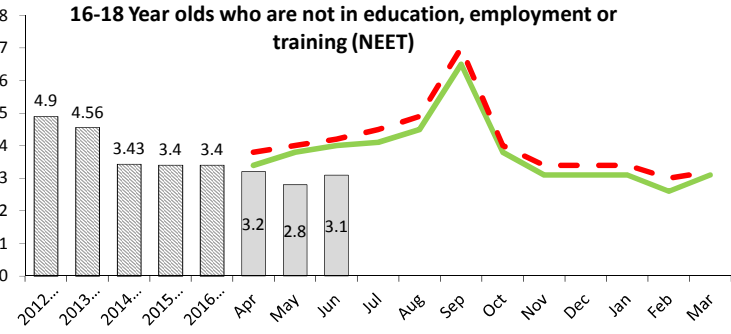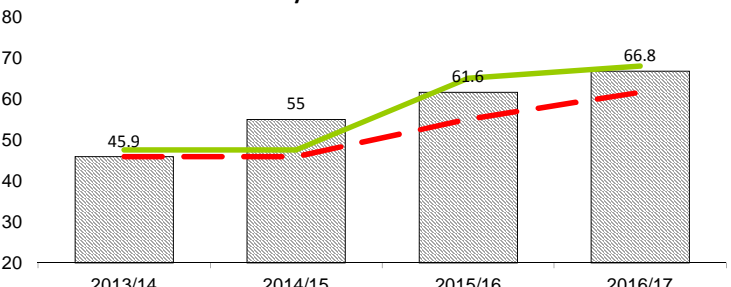- Appendix 2 – outstanding 2015/16 strategic measures

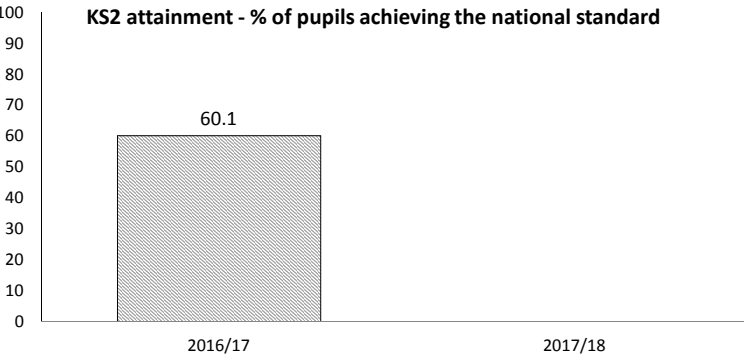**Background Documents – Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012**
- NONE
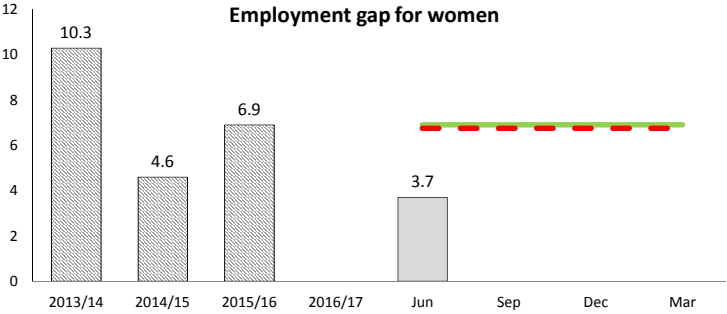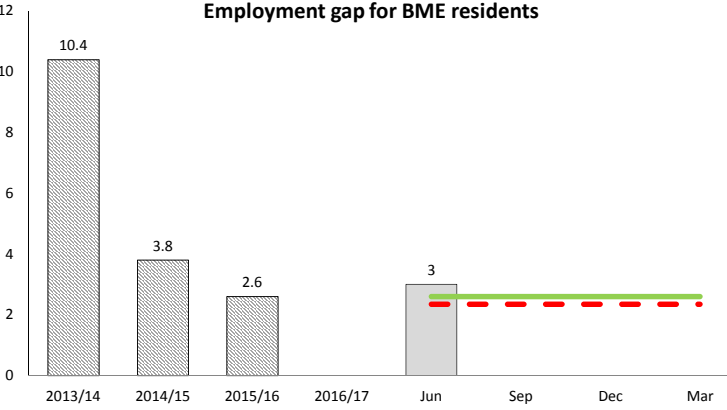
Officer contact details for documents:
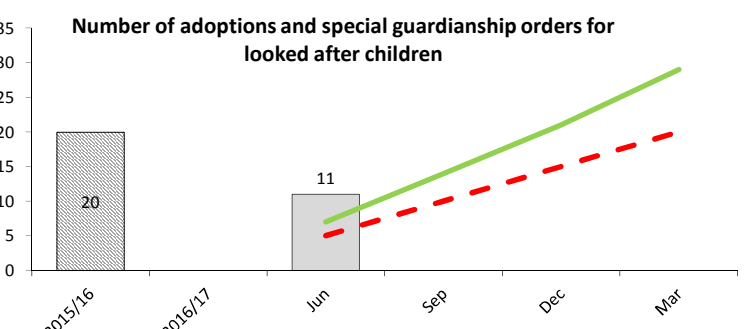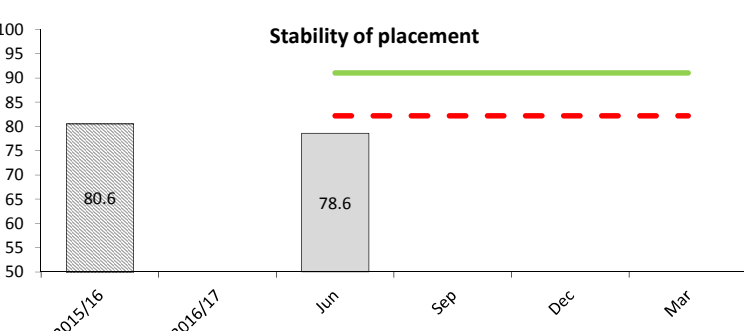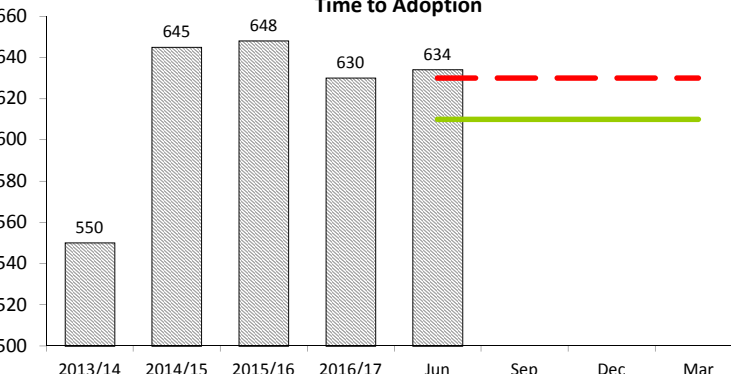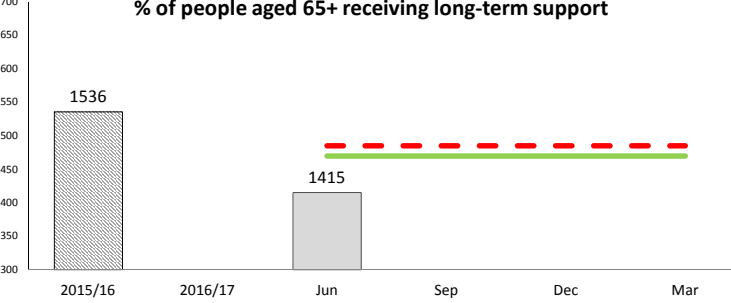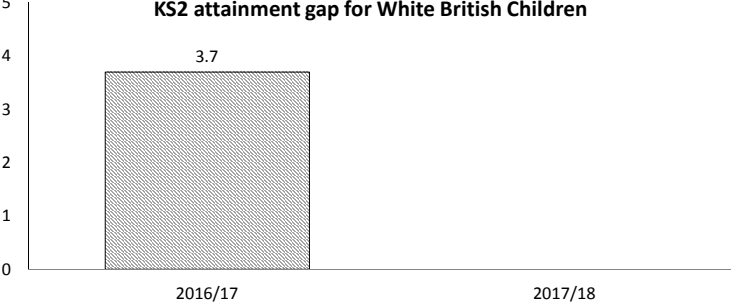Kevin Kewin, Interim Service Head Corporate Strategy and Equality, ext. 4075

Description	Minimum --- Target	Annual Actual (2015/16)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance (performance against target)	Direction of Travel (comparing current outturn with this time last year)

Creating opportunity by supporting aspiration and tackling poverty

A dynamic local economy with high levels of growth benefiting us

| Number of businesses supported through Council activities

Measured in: Number
Good Performance: Higher | **Number of businesses supported through Council activities** | N/A | 30 | 60 | 0 | RED | N/A |

Due to the delayed start of the relevant projects, we have nil response for this indicator in this quarter. Procurement processes have caused some delay in delivery, but are now moving ahead successfully. The programme has been re-profiled accordingly and the NHB programme delivery has been extended for a year to March 2019. It is anticipated that once contract(s) have been awarded, the year end target will be achieved. New enterprise and business support activities through the high street fund are also in progress. Whitechapel will be a primary focus for the achievement of targets in the NHB projects relating to Growth Sectors, New Enterprise Support and Retail Marketing.

A dynamic local economy with high levels of growth benefiting us

| Number of **residents supported into sustainable jobs** through the employment & skills programme

Measured in: Number
Good Performance: Higher | **Job Starts for Tower Hamlets Residents** | 994 | 248 | 300 | 142 | RED | N/A |

The Raising Aspirations delivery model and ESF programme was implemented January 2016. The Employment Service focus has therefore shifted to economically inactive and long-term unemployed (residents furthest from the Labour Market, potentially with multiple barriers to employment). In addition the service has experienced difficulties with recruitment of suitable staff into vacant posts. The service however expects to be up to full capacity by Q2.

A series of targeted programmes are also being developed and profiled to take into account Integrated Employment Service (IES) development work with services and departments across the Council and key providers to maximise the engagement of women, disabled and BAME residents. The refocus takes account of targeting of identified benefit cap clients affected from Oct 2016. The Working Start Programme is also being rescheduled to align support for specific groups.

Quarter 1 has been spent introducing and training staff from other services and departments across the council on systems and assessment tools developed for IES. It is expected that Q2 reports will show a positive trend upwards in job starts achieved, with a yearend outrun closer to target levels.

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Description	Minimum ----- Target ‾‾‾‾‾	Annual Actual (2015/16)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance (performance against target)	Direction of Travel (comparing current outturn with this time last year)
Overall **employment rate - gap** between the Borough and London average rate (working age) (ppts) Measured in: percentage points Good Performance: Gap - Lower	**Gap between the Borough and London average employment rate (working age)** 7.3 (2012/13), 6.7 (2013/14), 2.5 (2014/15), 2.5 (2015/16), 1.3 (Jun)	2.50	2.50	2.15	1.30	**GREEN**	↑

Monthly Performance: Overall Employment rate:
TH: 71.9
London average:73.2
Gap between TH & London average rate: 1.3ppts

Target met. The Tower Hamlets employment rate has increased to 71.9% since last quarter's reporting, narrowing the gap with London further, to 1.3pps. The employment rate for the borough is also 2.4pps higher than this time last year, although the London average rate has only increased 1.4pps. The net increase in employment since this time last year is 8,900. When comparing TH performance against the East London Growth boroughs employment rates, TH has the 3rd highest employment rate and the second highest increase since the previous quarter. TH also has the highest employment rate increase of 3.1pps over the 6 month period.

Description	Chart	Annual Actual (2015/16)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance	Direction of Travel
16 to 19 year olds who are not in education, employment or training **(NEET) (%)** Measured in: % Good Performance: Lower	**16-18 Year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)** 4.9, 4.56, 3.43, 3.4, 3.4, 3.2 (Apr), 2.8 (May), 3.1 (Jun)	3.40	3.40	3.10	3.10	**GREEN**	↑

Target achieved. The number of young people who are NEET naturally fluctuates depending on the time of year and in-year targets have been set accordingly.

Description	Chart	Annual Actual (2015/16)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance	Direction of Travel
Early Years Foundation Profile - achievement of a good level of development Measured in % Good performance: Higher	**Early Years Achievement** 45.9 (2013/14), 55 (2014/15), 61.6 (2015/16), 66.8 (2016/17)	61.60	61.6	68.0	66.8	**AMBER**	↑

Provisional annual outturn relating to assessments taken in Summer 2016.   66.8 percent of pupils achieved the 'good level of development' standard. This is another large improvement on the previous year, following successive years of improvement, and close to the target set. It is also higher than the provisional national average of 64.9 percent.

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Description		Annual Actual (2015/16)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance (performance against target)	Direction of Travel (comparing current outturn with this time last year)
Key Stage 2 Achievement: Percentage of children achieving the national standard (**all children**) Measured in: Percentage Good Performance: Higher	KS2 attainment - % of pupils achieving the national standard 60.1	N/A	Above national & London Ave	N/A	60.10	GREEN	N/A

Provisional annual outturn relating to assessments taken in Summer 2016. Tower Hamlets is on target to be above the national average for Key Stage two attainment.
Tower Hamlets borough average was 60.1 percent compared to the national average of 52 percent and London average of 57 percent (for state funded schools). The borough is above the national and London average.
The national floor standards for schools remain unchanged at 65% (based on last year's performance measure) meaning that only one TH school is currently above the floor standard. However, the expectation is that the DFE will be adjusting the floor standards for this new measure in light of the change in methodology and the new national average.

Description		Annual Actual (2015/16)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance	Direction of Travel
Number of adoptions and special guardianship orders granted for looked after children Measured in: Number Good Performance: Higher	Number of adoptions and special guardianship orders for looked after children	20.00	5.00	7.00	11.00	GREEN	↑

Positive first quarter performance towards an overall target of 29 adoptions or special guardianship orders.

Description		Annual Actual (2015/16)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance	Direction of Travel
Percentage of looked after children in the same placement for two years or more Measured in: Percentage Good Performance: Higher	Stability of placement	80.6 (P)	82.20	91.00	78.60	RED	↔

Performance for Q1 is off target and will be monitored through the Children's Service DMT and Children's Social Care management team performance monitoring on a monthly basis.

There have been a number of challenges in maintaining some placements this year, often because of a carer's inability to manage fairly extreme behaviour (fire setting, physical altercation, allegations against the carers). We have a better track record of stability with local in-house provision and have increased our support to these placements by using the new onsite CAMHs team and investing in the Mockingbird initiative. This initiative supports foster carers to work as a community to support each other including giving respite and peer support. In order to better track placement stability this year, a quality assurance tracking meeting (template to be completed quarterly) will be established for children who have moved twice to prevent them triggering the third placement.

Description		Annual Actual (2015/16)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance (performance against target)	Direction of Travel (comparing current outturn with this time last year)
	Minimum — — — — Target ————						

Average time between a child entering care and moving in with adoptive family (Time to adoption)

Measured in: Days
Good Performance: Lower

Time to Adoption chart

| 630 | 630 | 610 | 634 | RED | ↑ |

In the 2016-2017 cohort, Quarter 1 figures, there have been 4 adoptions. Of these, 2 of the children, have a long gap between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family. This sibling group were abducted to Thailand by their parents, during which time they remained "looked after". After considerable efforts a family was identified who took these siblings and a third sibling, the responsibility of another LA. Support has been provided to this family prior to the adoption application being made by PAC (Post-Adoption Centre).

There are currently 17 children on a care plan for adoption. It is anticipated that of the 17, 6 will be adopted in this year. In terms of the impact of the figures for 2016-17 these adoptions could improve our figures slightly. At this juncture it is impossible to quantify accurately. Currently the PAST (Permanency & Adoption Support Team) managers are looking to place children with adopters as quickly as possible from the date of the placement order. We are also working with adopters to consider the fostering to adopt option now available.

Proportion of people over 65 receiving long term support, per 10,000 population

Measured in: Percentage
Good Performance: Lower

% of people aged 65+ receiving long-term support chart

| 1536 | 1485 | 1470 | 1415 | GREEN | N/A |

Based on rolling year data to end of June 2016. 2,502 actual service users aged 65+ received a long term service, which is a reduction from the 2015/16 period when 2,626 received the service. Revised Office for National Statistics mid-year population figures, showing a slight increase in the 65+ age group, has had some positive impact on the rate. We are on target to meet the target set for this measure.

Reducing inequality and embracing diversity

Key Stage 2 Achievement: Percentage of children achieving the national standard **(attainment gap for White British children)**

Measured in: Percentage
Good Performance: Higher

KS2 attainment gap for White British Children chart

| N/A | Not Set | Not Set | 3.70 | N/A | N/A |

This is a new measure.

The gap between White British children's attainment at Key Stage Two and all other ethnic groups was 3.7 percentage points. 57.1 percent of White British children achieved the national standard, compared to 60.8 percent of non-White British children.

Nationally 53.7 percent of White British children achieved the national standard, compared to 52.6 percent of non-White British children. Tower Hamlets white British pupils are performing better than white British pupils nationally (+3.4 percentage points).
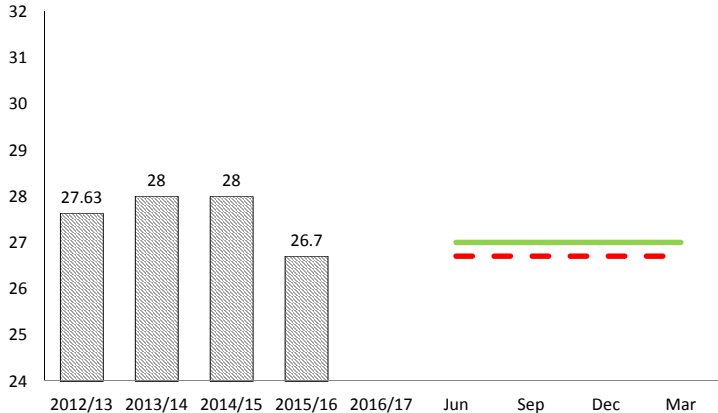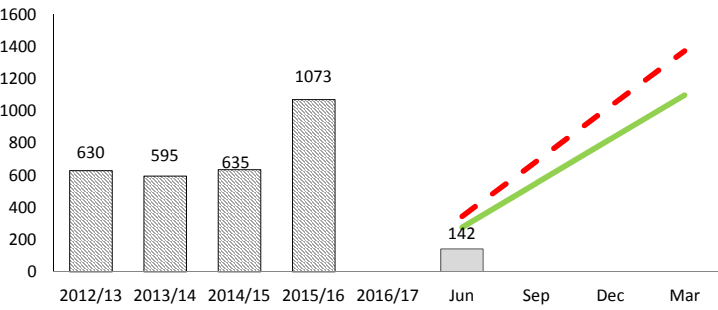
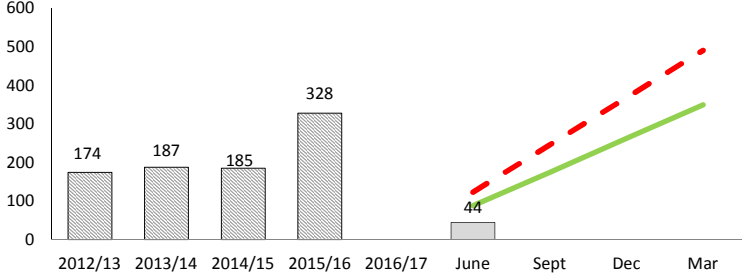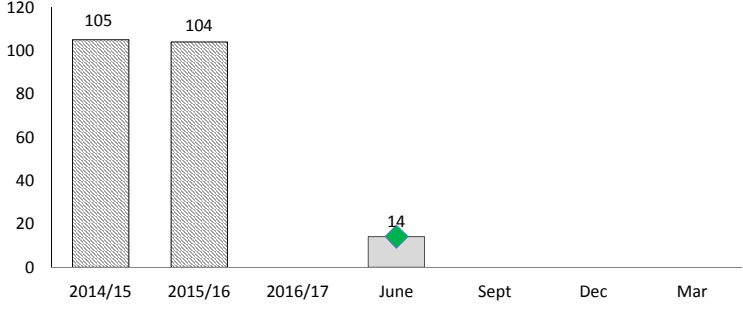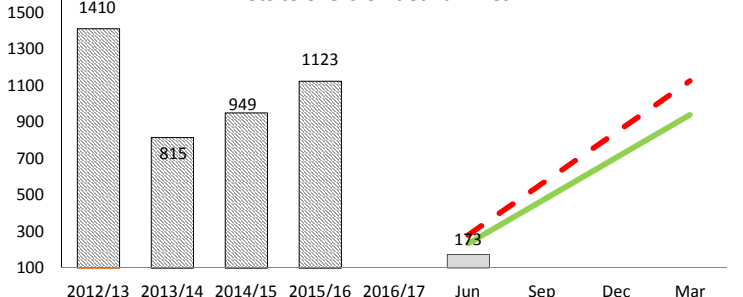| Description	Minimum --- Target	Annual Actual (2015/16)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance (performance against target)	Direction of Travel (comparing current outturn with this time last year)
Employment gap for <u>women</u>: reducing the gap between the Borough employment rate and employment rate for women Measured in: percentage points Good Performance: Gap - Lower	**Employment gap for women** 2013/14: 10.3 2014/15: 4.6 2015/16: 6.9 Jun: 3.7	**6.9**	**6.9**	**6.8**	**3.7**	**GREEN**	↑

Monthly Performance, employment rate females:
TH: 62.9%
London Average Rate: 66.6%
Gap between TH and the London average rate: 3.7ppts

Target Met. The Tower Hamlets employment rate for women has increased to 62.9% since last quarter's reporting, narrowing the gap with London further, to 3.7pps. The employment rate for women in the borough is also 3.9pps higher than this time last year while the London average rate only increased 2.2pps. When comparing TH performance against the East London Growth Boroughs, TH has the 4th highest employment rates for women, but has the highest increase over the 3 month period of 3.4pps, Newham following with the 2nd highest increase of 1.4pps .

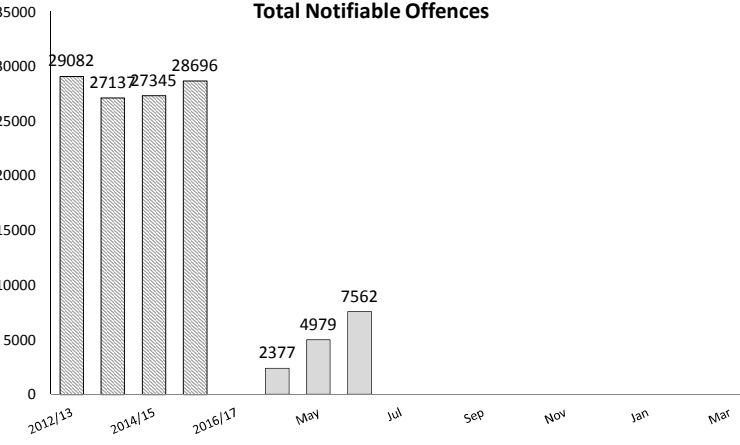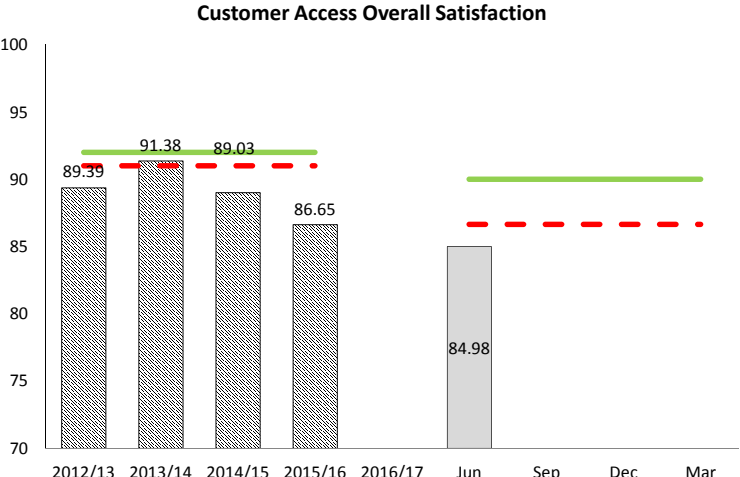| Description		Annual Actual (2015/16)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance	Direction of Travel
Employment gap for <u>BME</u> residents reducing the gap between the Borough employment rate and employment rate for BME residents Measured in: percentage points Good Performance: Gap - Lower	**Employment gap for BME residents** 2013/14: 10.4 2014/15: 3.8 2015/16: 2.6 Jun: 3	**2.60**	**2.60**	**2.35**	**3.00**	**RED**	↓

Monthly Performance, employment rate BME residents:
TH: 62.5%
London average rate: 65.5%
Gap between TH and the London average rate: 3.0ppts

The Tower Hamlets employment rate for BME residents has increased to 62.5% since last quarter's reporting, the gap with London remains and is 3.0pps. The employment rate for BME residents in the borough is 1.9pps higher than this time last year while the London average rate increased 2.1pps. Whilst the rate has improved, the revised Local Economic Assessment suggests that BME residents (particularly amongst Women) are still over represented in both unemployment and benefit claims statistics. There are a range of different barriers to work associated with BME clients including English language skills, basic skills and access to networks. Long term and economically inactive BME residents will continue to be a focus for the Employment & Skills delivery service and will form part of the focus of the new integrated service development. With a top bandwidth target of supporting 1,000 residents into employment through Council activities, an 850 net increase of BME residents into work would represent a closing of the gap by 0.15pp.
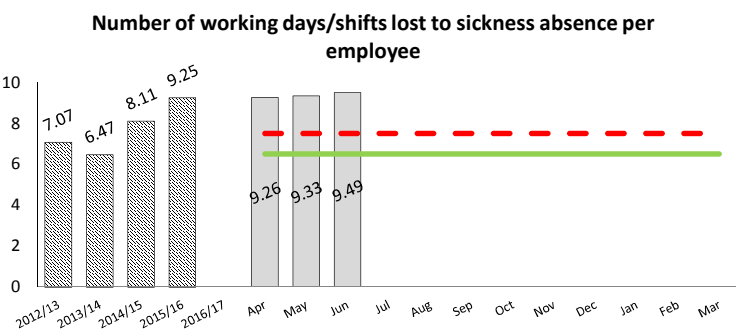
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Description	Minimum ---- Target ————	Annual Actual (2015/16)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance (performance against target)	Direction of Travel (comparing current outturn with this time last year)
Creating and maintaining a vibrant successful place							
An improved local environment							

	Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling & composting						
Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, **recycling** and composting Measured in % Good performance: Higher		26.70	28.00	29.00	26.70	**RED**	⟷

The final outturn of 26.7 percent has been confirmed. The downward travel and plateauing rates are a current trend on a national scale, not just within TH or London. Despite the downward trend TH is still recognised as one of the best performing recyclers of dry recyclables in inner London. Tower Hamlets has the challenge of high density housing with 86% high rise properties with limited space for recycling receptacles. There is also low participation in the recycling of green waste due to the proportion of high rise housing within the borough.   New legislation covering Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) operations and the quality of recyclable materials produced by MRFs, making operators more vigilant about the quality of the recyclable material they are receiving from local authorities, has impacted on performance.

A campaign was launched back in November 2015 around recycling and the impact of contamination (Lets Sort It), the campaign focused on how to correctly recycle and improvements have been observed at the MRF with the acceptable tolerances.   The council continues to work with local Registered Providers to look at recycling points and centres on estates as well as rebranding communications to give clear messages on what can and cannot be recycled. The Council will work with developers in the long term to incorporate innovative general waste and recycling waste management systems. Qtr. 1 figures will be submitted to the Waste Data Flow system in September and a provisional figure published; a final figure is anticipated at the end of October 2016.

	Number of affordable homes delivered (gross)						
Number of **affordable homes** delivered (gross) Measured in: Number (the sum of social rent housing and intermediate housing - low cost home ownership and intermediate rent) Good Performance: Higher		1073	275	343	142	**RED**	↓

Tower Hamlets has a strong track record of housing delivery and continues to provide among the highest numbers of affordable homes in the country. 142 affordable homes have been delivered in Q1 against our target of between 277 and 344 units. However, it is anticipated that the end of year total will be within the target range. Our current prediction is for the completion of 1,340 affordable units in this financial year. Performance for quarter 1 was expected to be higher, as several schemes due for completion in quarter 4 of last year were reported as having slipped into quarter 1. However, there are a number of schemes which are substantially complete, perhaps even achieving technical completion for the purposes of GLA grant claims, but still not ready for occupation, which is the completion requirement for LBTH monitoring. These delays are expected to be resolved soon and should lead to a higher outturn for quarter 2. As is regularly reported, there can be no action plan to remedy quarterly underperformance, as the distribution of completions will never fall into an equal four quarter split and there is nothing that the Council can do to influence the actual date of handovers.

Description	Minimum - - - - Target ———	Annual Actual (2015/16)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance (performance against target)	Direction of Travel (comparing current outturn with this time last year)
Number of affordable social rented housing completions for **family housing** (gross) Measured in: Number (a count of the number of affordable housing - local authority, housing associations, and co-operative tenants. Family housing is 3 bedrooms or more) Good Performance: Higher	**Social rented housing completions for family housing (gross figures only)** 600 500 400 300 200 100 0 174 187 185 328 44 2012/13 2013/14 2014/15 2015/16 2016/17 June Sept Dec Mar	**328**	**87**	**122**	**44**	**RED**	↓
	The number of family units for rent falls below our target, at 44 units delivered. However, this does represent 42% of the rental delivery in Quarter 1, so is acceptably close to our 45% policy target.						
Number of affordable units provided as **wheelchair accessible** or adaptable (10% of affordable homes delivered) Measured in: Number Good Performance: Higher	**Number of affordable units provided as wheelchair accessible / adaptable** 120 100 80 60 40 20 0 105 104 14 2014/15 2015/16 2016/17 June Sept Dec Mar	**104**	**N/A**	**14.2** (10% of Affordable Homes)	**14**	**GREEN**	↓
	The number of affordable housing units provided this quarter was 142. The number of wheelchair units completed in Quarter 1 is 14, which represents 10% of the delivery in the quarter. The target has been met. In quarter 1 last year (2015/16), 43 affordable homes were delivered which were wheelchair accessible.						
The number of overcrowded families rehoused, **lets to overcrowded households** Measured in: Number (count of lets to overcrowded housing applicants and tenants of CHR partner landlords lacking one or more bedrooms) Good Performance: Higher	**Lets to overcrowded families** 1500 1300 1100 900 700 500 300 100 1410 815 949 1123 173 2012/13 2013/14 2014/15 2015/16 2016/17 Jun Sep Dec Mar	**1123**	**235**	**281**	**173**	**RED**	↓
	173 overcrowded families have been rehoused in Q1, which is below the Q1 minimum expectation of 235. This is due to the number of total lets being low for the quarter at 393 but there were a number of outstanding offers to people on the housing register at the point of reporting, on which a decision to take or reject the let had not yet been taken . It is anticipated that the number of units becoming available to let will increase towards the end of the year due to handover of the new build units and, if outstanding offers to those on the housing register result in lets, it is likely we will see an increase in lets to overcrowded households. However, the fact that we operate a choice based lettings scheme and have no control over bidding preferences - who and how applicants bid - it is not possible to accurately predict lets outcomes.						

Description	Minimum — — — Target ————	Annual Actual (2015/16)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance (performance against target)	Direction of Travel (comparing current outturn with this time last year)
Number of homeless households in B&B >6 weeks Measured in: Number Good Performance: Lower	**Number of homeless households in B&B >6 weeks** 12 (2015/16), 24 (Jun)	12	N/A	N/A	12.00	N/A	↑

The number of families in B&B>6weeks is 24. This is an increase from 12 at the end of Q4 14/15, but an 85% reduction on the same quarter last year – down from 166. The increase this quarter has been due to the supply of self-contained accommodation not matching demand – with 272 properties being available for transfers in the previous quarter against 190 in the last quarter. This is in part due to delays in the delivery of pipeline non-secure tenancies and a reduction in the number of private sector voids being offered to the service for re-letting (down from an average of 48% in the previous quarter to 38% in April & May). The Council has a substantial pipeline of non-secure tenancies and is considering a number of options for developing its own Temporary Accommodation portfolio and utilising more social housing stock as TA. Proposals for a rent increase for private sector temporary accommodation are close to being finalised which it is anticipated will assist with developing new supply and retaining current properties. This indicator is subject to considerable fluctuation based on demand for the service caused by an increase in homelessness, and on the supply of self-contained accommodation. Supply has improved considerably, but demand continues to be significant. The aim is zero, which is challenging but reflects the statutory imperative not to have any families in B&B for longer than 6 weeks. It is, therefore, not possible to say when or if the target will be achieved.

Description		Annual Actual (2015/16)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance (performance against target)	Direction of Travel
Number of **households living in temporary accommodation** Measured in: Number owed a statutory duty Good Performance: Lower	**Households in temporary accommodation** 2005 (2014/15), 1972 (2015/16), 2009 (Jun)	1972	Not Set	Not Set	2009	N/A	↔

There are a total of 2,130 families in temporary accommodation, of which 2,009 are owed a statutory homeless duty, the remainder being accommodated under the Council's discretionary powers. In terms of trends this represents an increase on the last quarter. For those households owed a statutory duty this is 28 fewer than the total accommodated in June 2015. Numbers accommodated on a discretionary basis have increased by 38 on June 2015.

Description	- - - Minimum ——— Target	Annual Actual (2015/16)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance (performance against target)	Direction of Travel (comparing current outturn with this time last year)
Less crime and ASB							

Total Notifiable Offences (number)

Measured in: Number
Good Performance: Lower

Total Notifiable Offences

28,618	Not Set	Not Set	7,562	N/A	↓

Latest available data is for June 2016 [Data taken from the met.police.uk website]. Data published identifies 7,562 total notifiable offences to June 2016/17 compared to 6,996 in the same period last year.

This TNO indicator now replaces the previous MOPAC 7 indicators as a measure against the new Priority Outcomes. This is a general marker for total crime in the borough.

Whilst the responsibility to tackle and reduce crime lies with the Metropolitan Police Service, the Council has is funding an additional number of Police officers to address key crime and disorder priorities for the Council and residents.

At present, the Council funds a team of 5 PCs and 1 Police Sergeant, known as the Partnership Task Force, to tackle key crime and ASB hotspots within the borough. These officers are tasked via the Partnership ASB Operations Group, along with other partnership resources to address the current and emerging community safety issues in the borough. It is hoped that this team will also contribute to the wider activity to reduce the fear of crime and increase public confidence.

A transformed council, making best use of resources with an outward facing culture

Customer Access Overall Satisfaction (telephone contact)

Measured in: %
Good Performance: Higher

Customer Access Overall Satisfaction

86.65	86.65	90.00	84.98	**RED**	↔

Monthly figures (April 86%/May 86%/June 83%) show the adverse impact in June of longer queue times for the Contact Centre as a result of staff shortages and peak demand periods. This dip in June has brought down the quarterly average figure. Customer satisfaction with the contact centre's advisers remains higher than the overall figure (customers rating advisers "interested & helpful" 91%, "polite" 95%). There is also variation in satisfaction with different services, varying from Pest Control at 91% to Housing Repairs at 84%, which suggests service delivery is also a factor in determining overall satisfaction.

Every effort continues to be made to reduce wait times by maximising staff resources, including managing sickness absences. The change in contact centre opening hours to 9-5 from 3rd October will also increase staffing at peak times. We continue to work with back office services to improve delivery and reduce avoidable calls and thus reduce call volumes. Thirdly, we continue to monitor adviser performance to improve satisfaction with call handling.

Overall satisfaction in July returned to 86% suggesting that Q2 will see an improvement in performance. The transfer of repairs call handling from the Contact Centre to Tower Hamlets Homes from October 1st will also reduce call volumes and queue times, which should encourage further improvement in Q3.

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Description	Minimum ---- Target ———	Annual Actual (2015/16)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance (performance against target)	Direction of Travel (comparing current outturn with this time last year)
Percentage of contact transactions dealt with online (channel shift) Measured in: Percentage Good Performance: Higher	**Percentage of contract transactions dealt with online (channel shift)** 78 78.12	78.00	78.00	80.00	78.12	AMBER	N/A
		This new indicator benchmarks performance at the start of the Council's digital and customer services transformation programmes. As increasing numbers of services are fully digitally enabled and as existing digital processes are improved, this indicator will enable tracking of progress and a measure of customers shifting to digital channels to access services.					
Percentage of Council Tax Collected (budgeted) Measured in: % Good Performance: Higher	**Percentage of council tax collected (budgeted)** 95.4 96.67 100 9.02 17.52 25.89	100.00	Not Set	25.00	25.89	GREEN	⟷
		Target exceeded.					
Percentage of Non-Domestic Rates Collected (budgeted) Measured in: % Good Performance: Higher	**Percentage of non-domestic rates collected (budgeted)** 99.7 99.86 98.65 11.13 20.38 28.38	98.65	Not Set	25.00	28.38	GREEN	↓
		Target exceeded.					

Description	━ ━ ━ Minimum ───── Target	Annual Actual (2015/16)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance (performance against target)	Direction of Travel (comparing current outturn with this time last year)
Number of working days/shifts lost to **sickness absence** per employee Measured in: Number (the aggregate of working days lost due to sickness absence divided by the average number of FTE staff) Good Performance: Lower	**Number of working days/shifts lost to sickness absence per employee**	9.25	9.25	7.00	9.49	RED	↓

Number of working days/shifts lost to sickness absence per employee

Chart values:
- 2012/13: 7.07
- 2013/14: 6.47
- 2014/15: 8.11
- 2015/16: 9.25
- Apr: 9.26
- May: 9.33
- Jun: 9.49

Both short term and long term absence has risen over recent years. A programme has commenced to address the rise and manage sickness absence back to the previously lower rates. The approach will be to focus on:
• Clear policies
• Consistently applied return to work meetings
• Management confidence in medical referrals
• Focused attention on teams with higher absence rates
• A positive employee wellbeing environment

HR resources have been identified to implement the programme and progress will be closely monitored by the Corporate Management Team.
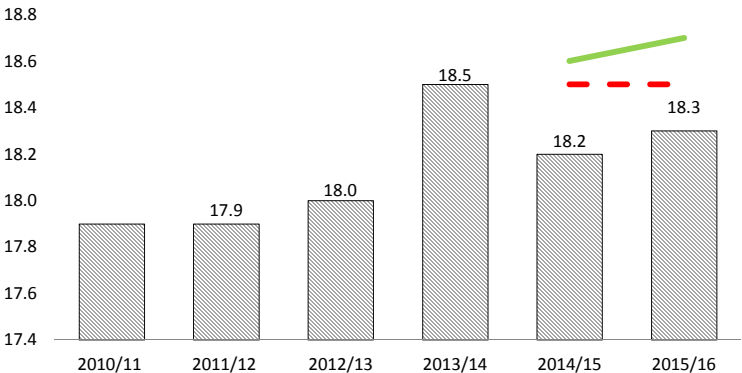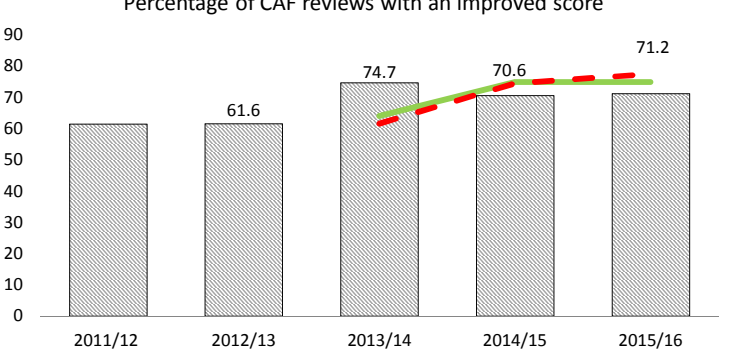
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		Annual Actual (2014/15)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance (performance against target)	Direction of Travel (comparing current outturn with this time last year)

Minimum — — — — **Target** ———————

The number of households who considered themselves as homeless, who approached the local authority's housing advice service(s), and for whom housing advice casework intervention resolved their situation.

Measured in: The number of cases assisted through successful casework intervention per 1,000 households
Good Performance: Higher

Homeless Prevention

| 5.49 | 5.94 | 6.50 | 5.49 | RED | ↓ |

2015/16 Annual Outturn: A total of 636 households were prevented from becoming homeless ending Q4, 36 households lower than the same period last year. Total numbers of preventions represent 5.49 per thousand households and is 0.45 percentage points lower than for the same period last year. The borough has grown by 2,610 households since this time last year and this has had an effect on the homelessness prevention rate. It is worth noting that the borough continues to face a severe shortage of affordable private sector properties available to homeless households as an alternative to pursuing a statutory homeless application and the problem continues to worsen. Consequently, our ability to prevent homelessness by securing an alternative tenancy has diminished immensely. We have improved the incentive provided to landlords so they will let their (admittedly small number of) properties available at, or close to, Local Housing Allowance levels via the Council to one of our customers rather than let them to a member of the general public. We have also seen a rise in the number of preventions through negotiations with friends and relatives, persuading families that the best option for all is for the threatened homeless client to remain in their current accommodation. Nevertheless, proportionately, this is not sufficient to temper the increase in landlords evicting their benefit-dependent tenants so they can pitch their rents at higher levels. Where possible, we continue to negotiate with Housing Benefit to resolve arrears problems and negotiate with landlords to ensure tenants can remain in their properties and thus prevent homelessness.

This financial year, the measure will be reported as an actual number rather than a rate.

Labour Market: number of job starts for Tower Hamlets residents

Measured in: %
Good Performance: Higher

Labour Market: number of job starts for Tower Hamlets residents

| 4110 | Not Set | Not Set | 2466 | N/A | ↓ |

PROVISIONAL OUTTURN
2,466 job starts have been achieved showing a positive increase, however JCP off flow statistics for Q4 are still awaited. The outturn is provisional because there is a time lag in receiving data. Following a restructuring of service, a new team has been established to take over the monitoring and reporting of employment statistics, helping to strengthen cross council reporting of outputs whilst ensuring quality assurance. There is a significantly decreasing pool of those not working and service delivery via the Employment and Skills centre is shifting towards focusing more on those who are economically inactive and long term unemployed who often have multiple barriers to employment and working towards addressing those, meaning potentially longer turnaround time from registration to employment. A review of the employment delivery services across the council has taken place to begin the development of a more holistic partnership driven service which will better align council services and more comprehensively support those residents with complex needs.

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		Annual Actual (2014/15)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance (performance against target)	Direction of Travel (comparing current outturn with this time last year)

- - - Minimum   **—— Target**

Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting

Measured in %
Good performance: Higher

Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling & composting

| 26.70 | 28.00 | 29.00 | 26.70 | **RED** | ⟷ |

Final outturn submitted to Waste Dataflow is confirmed as 26.7 percent. The downward travel and plateauing rates are a current trend on a national scale, not just within TH or London. Despite the downward trend TH is still recognised as one of the best performing recyclers of dry recyclables in inner London. Tower Hamlets has the challenge of high density housing with 86% high rise properties with limited space for recycling receptacles. There is also low participation in the recycling of green waste due to the proportion of high rise housing within the borough.   New legislation covering Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) operations and the quality of recyclable materials produced by MRFs are making operators more vigilant about the quality of the recyclable material they are receiving from local authorities, which has impacted on performance.

The council continues to work with with local Registered Providers to look at recycling points and centres on estates as well as rebranding communications to give clear messages on what can and cannot be recycled. The Council will work with developers in the long term to incorporate innovative general waste and recycling waste management systems. Qtr. 1 figures will be submitted to the Waste Data Flow system in September and a provisional figure published; a final figure is anticipated at the end of October 2016.

Number of people killed or seriously injured (3 year average)

Measured in: Number
Good Performance: Lower

KSI

| 114.3 | 114.3 | 107.0 | 81 | **GREEN** | ↑ |

The annual outturn shows the three year average for the most up to date period; calendar years 2013, 2014 and 2015. The number of people killed or seriously injured in those years was 87, 88 and 68 respectively. The average was 81; the target of 107 was exceeded.

Number of Children killed or seriously injured (3 year average)

Measured in: Number
Good Performance: Lower

KSI - Children

| 5.7 | 5.7 | 4.5 | 3.3 | **GREEN** | ↑ |

The annual outturn shows the three year rolling average for the most up to date period; calendar years 2013, 2014 and 2015. The number of children killed or seriously injured in those years was 4, 2 and 4 respectively. The average was 3.3; the target of 4.5 was exceeded.

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	Minimum ---- Target ———	Annual Actual (2014/15)	Minimum Expectation	Target	Actual	Variance (performance against target)	Direction of Travel (comparing current outturn with this time last year)
Social Care-related quality of life Measured in: Score Good Performance: Higher	Self reported experience of social care users ASC survey 18.8 ⌐ 18.6 18.4 18.2 18.0 17.8 17.6 17.4 2010/11 2011/12 2012/13 2013/14 2014/15 2015/16 17.9 18.0 18.5 18.2 18.3	18.5	18.50	18.70	18.30	RED	⟷
	The score for this survey question was 18.3 out of a maximum possible score of 24. The measure from the Adult Social Care Survey uses responses to survey questions covering eight domains; control, dignity, personal care, food and nutrition, safety, occupation, social participation and accommodation. The minimum expectation of 18.5 percent was not met.						
Percentage of CAF reviews with an improved score Measured in: % Good Performance: Higher	Percentage of CAF reviews with an improved score 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 2011/12 2012/13 2013/14 2014/15 2015/16 61.6 74.7 70.6 71.2	70.6	75.0	78	71.2	N/A	⟷
	The annual outturn for this measure for 2015/16 was 71.2 percent. No target was set for this measure last year; however the outturn represents an improvement on last year's outturn of 70.6 percent.						

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Non-Executive Report of the: **Overview & Scrutiny** 28 September 2016	TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Will Tuckley, Chief Executive & Communities, Localities and Culture	**Classification:** Unrestricted
Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16 Year 4 (2016/17)	

Originating Officer(s)	Colin Hewitt, CLC, CSP Officer, ext. 6134
Wards affected	All wards

Summary

Please see Cabinet Report attached.

Recommendations:

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

1. Consider and comment on the attached draft Cabinet Report prior to the report going forward for Cabinet approval.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

1.1 Please see Cabinet Report attached.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

2.1 Please see Cabinet Report attached.

3. DETAILS OF REPORT

3.1 Please see Cabinet Report attached.

4. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

4.1 The financial comments are contained within the body of the Cabinet report.

5. LEGAL COMMENTS

5.1 Under Article 4 of the Council's Constitution, the adoption of the Community Safety Partnership Plan is a function for full Council. This reflects the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended) which provide that the making of a crime and disorder reduction strategy pursuant to sections 5 and 6 of the 1998 Act is a function that is required not to be the sole responsibility of the Council's executive.

5.2 Under the Council's Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules, it is the responsibility of the Mayor as the Executive to prepare the draft plan and recommend to full council for approval. It is also the responsibility of the Executive and officers to implement the plan once approved by full Council.

5.3 Prior to the Mayor recommending to full Council, the procedure set out in the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules also requires pre-decision scrutiny by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and it is consistent with these Rules that this report is considered by Overview & Scrutiny prior to a report being considered by Cabinet.

6. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 Please see Cabinet Report attached.

7. BEST VALUE (BV) IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Please see Cabinet Report attached.

8. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

8.1 Please see Cabinet Report attached.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Please see Cabinet Report attached.

10. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Please see Cabinet Report attached.

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Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report
- [Please see Cabinet Report attached]

Appendices
- Please see Cabinet Report attached

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)
List of "Background Papers" used in the preparation of this report
List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.
- None

Officer contact details for documents:
- [N/A]

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Cabinet Decision **1st November 2016**		TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Corporate Director – Communities, Localities and Culture	**Classification:** Unrestricted	
Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16 Year 4 (2016/17)		

Lead Member	**Councillor Shiria Khatun, Community Safety**
Originating Officer(s)	Andy Bamber – Service Head Safer Communities Shazia Ghani – Head of Community Safety
Wards affected	All wards
Key Decision?	Yes
Community Plan Theme	**A Safe and Cohesive Community**

Executive Summary

This report sets out the Community Safety Partnership's (CSP) reviewed CSP Plan 2013-16 for the final year of its 4 year term 2016/17.

The CSP has an annual duty to review its Community Safety Partnership Plan known as a Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy under the Crime and Disorder Act and should do this based on its annual Strategic Assessment. Under the Council Constitution, this Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy, known here as the Community Safety Partnership Plan must be approved by Full Council as the Council is statutorily obliged to adopt one.

The Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16 revised for Year 4 (2016/17) has been reviewed by the CSP Subgroup Chairs and agency leads from the responsible authorities (statutory partners), prior to discussion and approval by the CSP on 18th July 2016. The CSP has reviewed its priorities for the final year of the current Plan and is presenting the revised Plan to the Councils Executive to agree its progression to Full Council as required by the constitution for adoption.

Recommendations:

The Mayor in Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Note the content of the Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16 Year 4 (2016/17) included as appendix 1 to this report

2. Note the content of this report and the decision made by the Partnership to:

2.1. include Prevent as a standalone CSP Priority for 2016/17

2.2. remove the duplication between current Priority Themes by absorbing the Serious Acquisitive (Property) Crime under the MOPAC 7 Cross-cutting Priority Theme for 2016/17

3. Agree this report and the CSP Plan 2013-16: Year 4 (2016/17) and recommend to Full Council that the Year 4 Plan be adopted.

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). Under the Article 4 of the Council Constitution, Council approval for the CSP Plan can only be granted at Full Council.

1.2   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 2016 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 update its priorities to include Prevent as a Standalone CSP Priority and remove Serious Acquisitive (Property) Crime as it is covered under Cross-cutting Priority MOPAC 7 and satisfy itself that it can proceed to Full Council.

1.3   The reviewed CSP Plan is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

2.   **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

2.1   It is a statutory responsibility for Community Safety Partnerships to produce a Community Safety Plan and then annually review the contents. Full Council must adopt a Community Safety Partnership Plan in order to meet statutory requirements set by the Crime and Disorder Act (1998). There are therefore no alternative options to doing so without risking government censure, damaging key partner relationships and undermining community safety.

3.   **DETAILS OF REPORT**

3.1   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. The Plan is owned and developed by the Community Safety Partnership of which the Council is a key partner.

3.2 In order to fulfil our other statutory duties, the CSP produced an annual Strategic Assessment in late 2015/16, which enabled it to review the current 4 year Plan at the end of year 3.

3.3 The CSP met on the 3rd May 2016 to review the CSP Plan based on the findings of the CSP Strategic Assessment 2015.

3.4 As a result of this review process and following feedback during the Council approval process from the previous (2015) year-end CSP Plan review, it was decided that one area of concern (Prevent) which was originally included under the CSP Plan Priority Theme Hate Crime and Cohesion, warranted recognition as standalone priority in the Plan.

3.5 The CSP also agreed that there was duplication between the Serious Acquisitive (Property) Crime Priority Theme and the Cross-cutting Priority MOPAC 7, which also included the key acquisitive crimes. The decision was made that MOPAC 7 would sufficiently cover the property crimes which were priorities for the Partnership, and that the Priority Theme Serious Acquisitive (Property) Crime would be removed from the reviewed CSP Plan 2013-16 Year 4 (2016/17).

3.6 The Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16 Year 4 (2016/17) has been reviewed by the CSP Subgroup Chairs and agency leads from the responsible authorities (statutory partners), prior to discussion and approval by the CSP on 18th July 2016.

3.7 The CSP Plan 2013-16 Year 4 (2016/17) includes a summary of the Strategic Assessment 2015, an updated Partnership Governance Structure, highlights and performance for 2015/16 financial year and the 11 agreed Priority Themes for this final year of the Plan's 4 year term.

3.8 The CSP's Priority Themes for 2016/17 are:
- Gangs and Serious Youth Violence
- Anti-Social Behaviour and Arson
- Drugs and Alcohol
- Violence (inc. Domestic Violence and Violence Against Women and Girls)
- Prostitution
- Hate Crime and Cohesion
- Killed or Seriously Injured (on our roads)
- Prevent
- Cross-cutting Priorities:
- Public Confidence and Victim Satisfaction
- Reducing Re-offending
- MOPAC 7

3.9 MOPAC 7 are the priority crimes for the Mayor of London's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC). The Metropolitan Police Service has been set targets

for an overall 20% reduction in the life of its Police and Crime Plan 2013-16, which expires on 31st March 2017. MOPAC 7 is made up of the following priority neighbourhood crimes, which MOPAC believe have the greatest impact on the community and their fear of crime. The MOPAC 7 comprise

- Burglary
- Criminal Damage
- Robbery
- Theft from Motor Vehicle
- Theft / Taking of Motor Vehicle
- Theft from Person
- Violence with Injury

3.10 The Plan's 11 Priority Themes are made up of 8 stand-alone priority themes with one or two CSP subgroups responsible for activity in the form of an annual Subgroup Action Plan. The remaining three Cross-cutting Priority Themes are the responsibility of all the CSP Subgroups, as their work within the other priorities impacts on these.

3.11 Both the Equalities Considerations and Equalities Analysis – Initial Screening Document are attached as appendix 2 and 3 respectively.

3.12 Next Steps for the CSP:
- The CSP is currently conducting a public consultation on new community safety priorities for April 2017 onwards, the findings of which will be considered when drafting the New CSP Plan 2017-21.
- The CSP is currently in the process of obtaining data and analysis for their 2016 Strategic Assessment, which looks at the financial years 2015/16 compared to 2014/15 and will also be considered when drafting the New CSP Plan 2017-21.
- The CSP will consider partners, local, London (inc. MOPAC), Regional and National priorities to produce the New CSP Plan 2017-21 in September 2016
- The CSP Co-chairs have reviewed the Community Safety Partnership structure and operating procedures in order to ensure that the Partnership can effectively and efficiently carry out its statutory duties in the future. Proposals from this Review will be presented to the CSP along with draft Strategic Assessment and New Community Safety Plan 2017-21 at a Performance and Planning Workshop on 27th September 2016.
- The Council along with key partners in Police, Public Health (including Mental Health), Drug and Alcohol Action Team and Housing Providers in the Borough recognise the detrimental impact anti-social behavior has on residents in the borough and it remains an important priority for the partnership to address. In addition to the work outlined in the reviewed CSP Plan for 2016/17 under this current priority theme, senior officers within the aforementioned agencies have agreed to develop a Partnership ASB Strategy and detailed Action Plan in 2016/17 for the coming years. This will aim to address ASB as a significant priority for the borough and its key partners for years to come.

4. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

4.1   The report sets out the review of the Community Safety Partnership Plan 13-16 extended for a further year to cover the period of 2016/17. The funding for the CSP Plan is met from the Community Safety Partnership, Domestic. Violence and Hate Crime budget of £1.57m. In addition there is MOPAC funding allocation which remains at £811k for the financial year 2016/17. Also highlighted in the plan is that up to £1m was received over the previous three years from external sources such as MOPAC, Department for Education, and the Department for Communities and Local Government that supplemented the funding provision.

4.2   Given the financial constraints being faced by the Council and other partners, it is imperative that funding levels for the service are considered fully as part of the Council's Outcomes Based Budgeting approach for 2017 -2020. This will include the identification of complementary funding and consideration of the most effective way to respond to this area of work alongside the Council's wider priorities.

4.3   Consequently whilst there are no direct financial implications emanating from the review of the current year plan, the extent to which funding at the levels previously seen will continue to be available must be a consideration of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) process.

5. LEGAL COMMENTS

5.1   This report relates to review of the Council's existing Community Safety Partnership Plan. There is a statutory requirement for such a Plan as the Council is one of the responsible authorities for Tower Hamlets, within the meaning of section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 ('the 1998 Act'). Other responsible authorities for Tower Hamlets include: every provider of probation services in Tower Hamlets; the chief officer of police whose police area lies within Tower Hamlets; and the fire and rescue authority for Tower Hamlets. Together, the responsible authorities for Tower Hamlets are required to formulate and implement strategies for: the reduction of crime and disorder; combating the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances; and the reduction of reoffending pursuant to section 6 of the 1998 Act. When formulating and implementing these strategies, each authority is required to have regard to the police and crime objectives set out in the police and crime plan for Tower Hamlets.

5.2   Additionally, when considering the review of this Plan regard must be had to section 17 of 1998 Act and which places an obligation of the Council to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area.

5.3   The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 require that there be a strategy group whose functions are to prepare strategic assessments, following community engagement, and to prepare and implement a partnership plan and community safety agreement for Tower Hamlets. The partnership plan must set out a crime and disorder reduction strategy, amongst other matters. The strategy group must consider the strategic assessment and the community safety agreement in the formulation of the partnership plan. The Community Safety Partnership Board discharges these functions in Tower Hamlets.

5.4   With regard to consultation, regulations 12 to 14A of the Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 provide for Community Engagement. Further, in consulting, the Council must comply with the common law principles set out in *R v Brent London Borough Council, ex p Gunning,* (1985) and recently approved by the Supreme Court in *R(Mosely) v LB Haringey 2014*. Those are *'First, that consultation must be at a time when proposals are still at a formative stage. Second, that the proposer must give sufficient reasons for any proposal to permit of intelligent consideration and response. Third that adequate time must be given for consideration and response. And finally, fourth, that the product of consultation must be conscientiously taken into account in finalising any statutory proposals."* There is no prescribed period for consultation, but principles of fairness apply such that there should be sufficient time for those being consulted to consider and respond to the matters arising, having regard to their complexity, impact etc. It is necessary to comply with the common law requirement to consider any feedback before making a decision.

5.5   Public consultation on new community safety priorities for April 2017 onwards is underway in preparation for the new Community Safety Partnership Plan 2017-21 and the consultation responses must be conscientiously taken into account before the final adoption of this new plan.

5.6   Under Article 4 of the council's constitution, the adoption of the   Community Safety Partnership Plan is a function for full Council. This reflects the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended) which provide that the making of a crime and disorder reduction strategy pursuant to sections 5 and 6 of the 1998 Act is a function that is required not to be the sole responsibility of the Council's executive. Under the Council's Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules, it is the responsibility of the Mayor as the executive to prepare a draft plan for full council to consider and adopt. It is also the responsibility of the executive and officers to implement the plan once approved by full council.

5.7   When taking decisions, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who don't. Equalities considerations are set out in the One Tower Hamlets Section of the report and there is an Equalities Considerations at appendix 2 and an Equalities Analysis – Initial Screening Document at appendix 3.

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; Tension Monitoring Group and the Prevent Board, all subgroups of the CSP aim to carry-out this important part of work for the Partnership. Prevent, 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 Community Safety Plan 2013-16 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 The Community Safety Plan 2013-16 and its implementation 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.

9.2 The Community Safety Partnership Subgroups identify and report on emerging threats and risks to partnership activity against its priorities in their Quarterly Performance Reports which are then reviewed by the Partnership at their Quarterly CSP Meetings. From September 2016 the CSP will be extracting those threats and risks and including them in a CSP Risk Register along with mitigating actions proposed by the partners.

10. **CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 The reviewed Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16 for 2016/17 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. These boards are seen as 'linked boards' to the CSP and have been included in the development process of the reviewed CSP Plan. There are no safeguarding risks identified from the Plan, 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 –   Tower Hamlets Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16 Year 4 (2016/17)

Appendix 2 –   Equalities Considerations

Appendix 3 -   Equalities Analysis – Initial Screening Document

Background Documents – Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012

None

Officer contact details for documents:

Colin Hewitt, CSP Officer, Communities Localities and Culture, 0207 364 6134

Tower Hamlets
Community Safety Partnership Plan
2013 – 2016
Year 4 (2016/17)

Approved by CSP (18.07.16)

Total Crime in Tower Hamlets and Neighbouring Boroughs

Annual Total Notifiable Offences (TNOs) recorded by the Metropolitan Police in Tower Hamlets and neighbouring boroughs over the 16 financial years (2000/01 – 2015/16). Total Notifiable Offences (TNOs) is a count of all offences which are statutorily notifiable by the Police to the Home Office, and for the purposes of this Plan what the Community Safety Partnership refers to as 'Total Crime'.

Financial Year	Total Notifiable Offences					
	Greenwich	Hackney	Lewisham	Newham	Southwark	Tower Hamlets
2000/01	28165	38242	27814	38776	40447	35070
2001/02	28995	39769	29008	40616	45707	37273
2002/03	31202	39267	28763	41157	45960	41124
2003/04	31347	39035	31577	40615	46276	39188
2004/05	31186	36492	34833	36460	43771	36329
2005/06	31354	34630	33387	39020	41432	33756
2006/07	29829	31160	32150	35597	39713	32627
2007/08	30617	32241	31055	35448	40029	30892
2008/09	28690	29715	31549	33536	39271	27712
2009/10	25631	28722	29544	34240	37037	26989
2010/11	24148	28035	28888	34374	36273	28668
2011/12 (MOPAC Plan Baseline)	22434	27902	27168	32011	34483	29463
2012/13 (CSP Plan Baseline)	21110	27804	24727	31716	32747	29082
2013/14 (CSP Plan Y1)	19630	26031	22327	28950	31195	27139
2014/15 (CSP Plan Y2)	21020	25705	22106	28982	30119	27345
2015/16 (CSP Plan Y3)	21887	27127	24628	29964	31335	28618
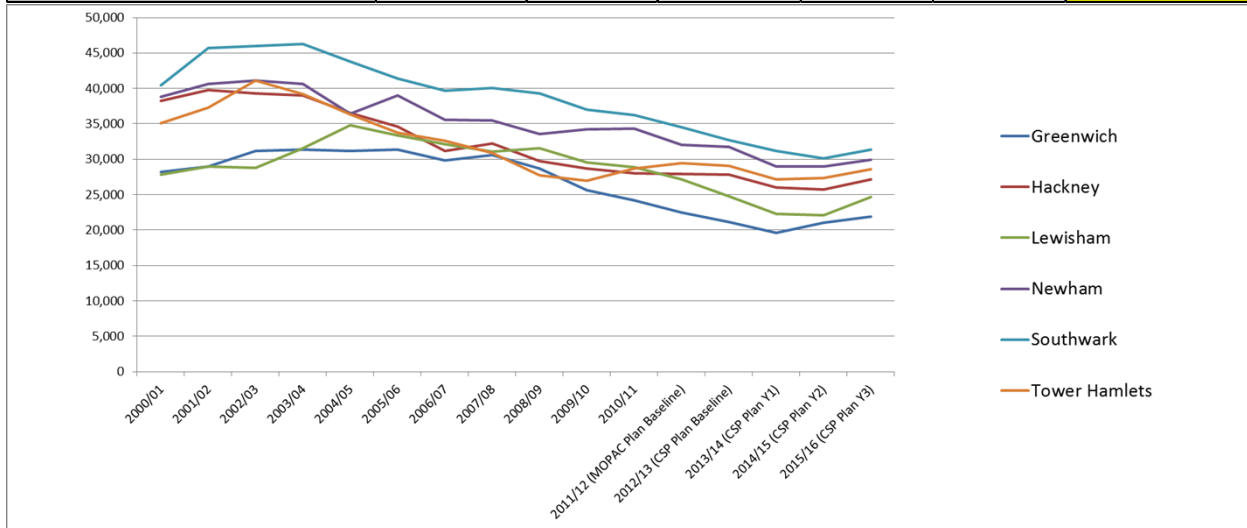
Total Notifiable Offences (TNOs) Comparison						
	Greenwich	Hackney	Lewisham	Newham	Southwark	Tower Hamlets
Year 1 of CSP Plan against CSP Plan baseline 2013/14 vs 2012/13 (Percentage)	1475 (-6.9%)	1708 (-6.1%)	2346 (-9.5%)	2735 (-8.6%)	1436 (-4.4%)	1908 (-6.5%)
Year 2 of CSP Plan against CSP Plan baseline 2014/15 vs 2012/13 Percentage	1938 (-9.2%)	4433 (-15.9%)	4612 (-18.7%)	5438 (-17.1%)	5099 (-15.6%)	4178 (-14.2%)
Year 2 of CSP Plan against Year 1 2014/15 vs 2013/14 Percentage	463 (-2.4%)	2725 (-10.5%)	2266 (-10.2%)	2703 (-9.3%)	3663 (-11.7%)	2270 (-8.4%)
Year 3 of CSP Plan against CSP Plan baseline 2015/16 vs 2012/13 Percentage	777 (+3.7%)	677 (-2.4%)	99 (-0.4%)	1,752 (-5.5%)	1,412 (-4.3%)	464 (-1.6%)
Year 3 of CSP Plan against Year 2 2015/16 vs 2014/15 Percentage	867 (+4.1%)	1,422 (+5.5%)	2,522 (+11.4%)	982 (+3.4%)	1,216 (+4.0%)	1,273 (+4.7%)
Year 3 of CSP Plan against Met Police recording baseline 2015/16 - 2000/01 (Percentage)	6,278 (-22.3%)	11,115 (-29.1%)	3,186 (-11.5%)	8,812 (-22.7%)	9,112 (-22.5%)	6,452 (-18.4%)

Figures obtained from the Metropolitan Police Service Crime Mapping: Data Tables section of MPS website on 10.05.16

Foreword by Co-Chairs of Community Safety Partnership

Welcome to Tower Hamlet's Community Safety Plan covering the four years 2013/14 to 2016/17.

The Community Safety Partnership Plan sets out how the Police, Council, Probation, Health, Fire Service, voluntary and community sectors and individuals can all contribute to reducing crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and re-offending to keep Tower Hamlets a safe place.

This Plan aims to reduce the number of crimes and anti-social behaviour in the borough, but in some categories, it aims to increase the number of reports, due to under reporting where historically victims don't feel confident enough to report it to us. By increasing reporting and therefore recording, we will then be able to offer support to those victims and take appropriate action against the perpetrators.

The people in our communities are not just numbers or statistics, crime and disorder impacts on not only the victim's but also the wider community's quality of life, so we understand how important it is for you that we tackle it in a timely, efficient and effective way.

We are confident that this Plan not only captures and addresses the priorities that have been identified through our analysis of evidential information and performance in the borough, but also the concerns of the people of Tower Hamlets.

We recognise that not only do we have a duty to continue to tackle crime and disorder but we all (both organisations and members of the public), have a duty to prevent it from happening in the first place.

As a partnership we are responsible for community safety and community cohesion. We will work with our local communities to ensure we protect the vulnerable, support our communities to develop and make Tower Hamlets a safer place for everyone.

Cllr Shiria Khatun (Co-Chair of CSP)   Detective Chief Superintendent Sue Williams (Co-Chair of CSP)
Cabinet Member for Community Safety   Metropolitan Police Borough Commander (Tower Hamlets)

Contents

Introduction

The Tower Hamlets Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is required by law to conduct an annual assessment of crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and re-offending within the borough, this is known as the Strategic Assessment. It is also required to consult members of the public and the wider partnership on the levels of the above. The Strategic Assessment and the findings of the public consultation are then used to produce the partnership's Community Safety Plan.

Since 2011, the CSP has had the power to decide the term of its Community Safety Plan. In 2012, the CSP chose to have a one year plan, this decision was based on the unique budgetary pressures on partner agencies and the anticipated demand on service from London hosting the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic games.

This Community Safety Plan will run for a period of 4 years from 1st April 2013 to 31st March 2017, with performance against the priorities within it reviewed on an annual basis in the form of the annual Strategic Assessment. The Community Safety Partnership Subgroups each produce an Action/Delivery Plan to reflect both the Priorities of the Community Safety Partnership and their own subgroup priorities. If due to external pressures or levels of performance against the priorities, the Community Safety Plan can be amended on an annual basis within its four year term. Performance against CSP Plan Priorities is reviewed in-year on a quarterly basis in the CSP Subgroup Quarterly Performance Reports submitted to the CSP.

Reducing crime and anti-social behaviour requires a careful balance between reducing recorded incidents, encouraging reporting and addressing negative perceptions of those who believe levels are worse than they are in reality.

This Plan will ensure that the issues most important to the people of Tower Hamlets will be addressed in the most appropriate and cost effective way. The partnership is committed to ensuring the low levels of particular crimes and issues are maintained, but have also identified through local evidence and perception, a number of priorities that require particular partnership focus in the four years of this Plan, which also sets out the main objectives of the CSP and how it plans to achieve those objectives.

The CSP has also chosen to align itself where possible with those of local and national governing bodies, which have a duty to oversee the work of not only the Partnership, but also key agencies referred to as 'Responsible Authorities' under the legislation. The Home Office and MOPAC play a significant role in both National and Local governance/direction as well as funding, which is the reason for this alignment.

The London Mayoral Elections are taking place on the 5th May 2016, once elected MOPAC will be producing a new London Police and Crime Plan for 2017 onwards, to reflect the priorities of the new Mayor's administrational term. 2016/17 financial year is being seen as a 'transitional year' by MOPAC in order to review the current priorities, align them with that of the new Mayoral Administration and then go out to public consultation. The CSP will be reviewing, producing and consulting on their new Community Safety Plan during this period.

About The Partnership

The Tower Hamlets Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is a multi-agency strategic group set up following the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The CSP is also the delivery group responsible for partnership work in relation to the Tower Hamlets Community Plan priority 'A safe and cohesive community', with the priorities within both the Community Plan 2015 and this Community Safety Plan aligned. The partnership approach is built on the premise that no single agency can deal with, or be responsible for dealing with, complex community safety issues and that these issues can be addressed more effectively and efficiently through working in partnership. It does this by overseeing the following:

- Service Outcomes
- Leadership and Partnership Working
- Service Planning & Performance Management
- Resource Management & Value for Money
- Service Use and Community Engagement
- Equality & Diversity

The CSP is made up of both Statutory Agencies and Co-operating Bodies within the Borough. The Statutory Agencies are:

- Tower Hamlets Police
- London Borough of Tower Hamlets
- National Probation Service
- London Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)
- London Fire Brigade
- NHS Bodies including: Bart's Health Trust, East London Foundation Trust and London Ambulance Service, as commissioned by Tower Hamlets Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)

The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC), replaced the Metropolitan Police Authority in February 2012, is no longer a statutory agency of the CSP, but becomes a co-operating body. Representatives from MOPAC and the Tower Hamlets Police and Community Safety Board are both members of the CSP, although MOPAC are not required to attend meetings unless they wish to or requested to present.

The above statutory agencies and co-operating bodies are supported by the following key local agencies from both the Public and Voluntary Sectors.
- Housing Providers
- Victim Support
- Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Services
- Tower Hamlets Inter Faith Forum
- Tower Hamlets Council of Mosques
- Tower Hamlets Safer Neighbourhood Board
- Canary Wharf Group

Representation on the CSP is through attendance by senior officer / person within that organisation with the authority to make strategic decisions on behalf of their agency/organisation.

Partners bring different skills and responsibilities to the CSP. Some agencies are responsible for crime prevention while others are responsible for intervention or enforcement. Some have a responsibility to support the victim and others have a responsibility to work with the perpetrator. Ultimately the CSP has a duty to make Tower Hamlets a safer place for everyone.

Governance

The Community Safety Partnership is one of 4 Community Plan Delivery Groups which are held responsible by the Partnership Executive for delivering the aims/actions contained within the Community Plan.

Partnership Executive

The Partnership Executive is the borough's Local Strategic Partnership and brings key stakeholders together to create and deliver the borough's Community Plan. Members of the Partnership include the Council, Police, NHS, other statutory service providers, voluntary and community groups, faith communities, housing associations, businesses and citizens. It acts as the governing body for the Partnership, agreeing priorities and monitoring performance against the Community Plan targets and holding the Partnership to account through active involvement of local residents. The Community Plan is an agreement that articulates the aspirations of local communities and sets out how the Borough will work together to realise these priorities.

Community Plan

The overall vision for the community plan is to improve the lives of all those living and working in the borough. The Community Plan includes 4 main priorities of which 'A Safe and Cohesive Community' and Tower Hamlets will be a safer place where people feel safer, get on better together and difference is not seen as threat but a core strength of the borough. To make Tower Hamlets a Safe and Cohesive Community the Partnership will focus on the following commitments:

- Reduce acquisitive crime and anti-social behaviour by tackling problem drinking and drug use
- Limit local gangs and the impact they have on youth violence and fear of crime
- Strengthen partnership work to reduce domestic violence and violence against women and girls
- Promote community cohesion
- Find solutions to increase cycling safety on busy roads

Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC)

The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) was created by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. Its core function is to secure the maintenance of an efficient and effective Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), and to hold the Commissioner of Police to account for the exercise of his functions in London. MOPAC oversees the police and criminal justice system performance, the budget environment, and the implementation of policies set out in MOPAC's Police and Crime Plan.

The Mayor of London's Office for Policing and Crime, under the remit of being London's Police and Crime Commissioner, has several responsibilities regarding Community Safety Partnerships. They are:

- a duty to consult the communities (including victims) and to publish a Police and Crime Plan
- determining police and crime objectives
- are a co-operating body on Community Safety Partnerships
- have the power to 'call in' poor performing Community Safety Partnerships.

The London Mayoral Elections have taken place on the 5th May 2016, following the election MOPAC will be producing a new London Police and Crime Plan for 2017 onwards, to reflect the priorities of the new Mayor's administrational term. 2016/17 financial year is being seen as a 'transitional year' by MOPAC in order to review the current priorities, align them with that of the new administration and then go out to public consultation. The priorities within MOPAC's Police and Crime Plan 2013-16, their current Plan (at the time of writing) for this 'transitional year' are:

- Strengthen the Metropolitan Police Service and drive a renewed focus on street policing
- Give victims a greater voice
- Create a safer London for women
- Develop smarter solutions to alcohol and drug crime
- Help London's vulnerable young people

In addition to the above, the Mayor of London has placed special emphasis on a number of additional public safety challenges and concerns of Londoners, which include:

- Violence Against Women and Girls

- Serious Youth Violence
- Business Crime

MOPAC is also responsible for the management and allocation of the Community Safety Fund monies from Central Government. Allocations for funding will be made on a 'Challenge Fund' approach, which will determine the nature and scale of funding to individual boroughs based on their proposal's alignment with the Police and Crime Plan Priorities.

Linked Strategies and Delivery Plans

The Community Safety Partnership Plan does not exist in isolation: Rather, it is part of a series of key strategies in the borough which set out how local services will support and improve the lives of local residents. Sitting above this collection of strategic plans is the over-arching 2015 Tower Hamlets Community Plan.

The Community Plan is based around four key themes:
- A great place to live
- A fair and prosperous community
- A safe and cohesive community
- A healthy and supportive community

In addition, the Community Plan contains four cross-cutting priorities:
- Empowering residents and building resilience
- Promoting healthier lives
- Increasing employment
- Responding to population growth

This Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16, the strategic aims and the activity against these aims are linked to other Community Plan Delivery Groups' strategies and their subgroup delivery plans, which all aim to improve the lives of people in Tower Hamlets.

Community Safety Partnership Sub-Groups

In order to co-ordinate and deliver activity in the various areas of crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and reducing re-offending, the CSP has a sub-structure of groups and boards. Each sub-group/board is responsible for producing a delivery plan which aims to address the overarching partnership priorities and fulfil any additional priorities they see fit as a sub-group/board. They are responsible for ensuring there are resources available to deliver their actions and if needed, produce and submit detailed funding applications to enable this.

Subgroups are represented through their Chairperson on the Community Safety Partnership, who is required to provide a bi-monthly update on performance against their delivery plan.

Subgroups are made up of senior officers within key agencies, who have a direct responsibility for service delivery in these specific areas of work.

Tower Hamlets Community Safety Partnership Governance 2016

Partnership Executive Board

Safer Neighbourhood Board

(Lead: Council for MOPAC with Independent Chair)

Tower Hamlets Housing Forum
(Lead: Poplar Harca)

Community Safety Partnership (CSP)

(Chaired by Council Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Police Borough Commander)

Health & Wellbeing Board

(Lead: Council)

Local Safeguarding Children Board

(Lead: Council with Independent Chair)

Safeguarding Adults Board

(Lead: Council with Independent Chair)

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Strategy Group

(Lead: Poplar Harca on behalf of all Borough Housing Associations)

Confidence and Satisfaction Board

(Lead: Police)

Domestic Violence Forum

(Lead: Council)

Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) Management Board

(Lead: Council)

Killed or Seriously Injured (KSI) Board

(Lead: Police)

No Place For Hate Forum

(Lead: Council)

Prevent Board

(Lead: Council)

Reducing Re-offending Board

(Lead: CRC/ Police)

Tactical Tasking & Co-ordinating Group (TTCG)

(Lead: Police)

Tension Monitoring Group

(Lead: Council)

Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG) Steering Group

(Lead: Council)

Youth Offending Team Management Board

(Lead: Council)

Area Panels

Safer Neighbourhood Ward Panels (18)

Community Safety Partnership, Subgroups and Linked Boards

Community Safety Partnership

The CSP as it is known amongst the partners is accountable for the reduction of crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and reoffending, as well as increasing community cohesion under the Community Plan Partnership Structure. It will determine priorities and oversee the statutory and non-statutory boards responsible to deliver against these priorities. The CSP meets on a quarterly basis and is co-chaired by the Tower Hamlets Police Borough Commander and the Tower Hamlets Cabinet Member for Community Safety. Membership of the CSP is at organisational Chief Executive/Officer level.

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Strategy Group

The Tower Hamlets Housing Forum ASB Strategy Group is chaired by Poplar HARCA's Director of Housing on behalf of all housing providers in the borough. It is responsible to both the Tower Hamlets Housing Forum and the Community Safety Partnership since merging with the CSP ASB Strategy Group in January 2016. Registered Social Landlord ASB Forum merged with the CSP ASB Strategy Group in January 2016. The Strategy Group is made up of partner agencies with a strategic responsibility to address anti-social behaviour including arson (deliberate fire setting) in the borough, and includes representation from the Police, Council, Victim Support, London Fire Brigade, Youth Offending Service, Probation and the following ASB Partnership Boards/Groups: ASB Operations Group, ASB Partnership Action Group, ASB Legal Consultation and Certification Group, Neighbourhood Panels and Community Trigger Panel. Like all CSP Subgroups, the ASB Strategy Group is responsible for producing an annual action/delivery plan which aims to address the priorities identified in the Community Safety Partnership Plan.

Confidence & Satisfaction Board

The confidence and satisfaction of the community in our shared approach to crime and cohesion are key success measures. The Confidence and Satisfaction Board is chaired by the Police Superintendent, with representatives from the Council, Victim Support and Safer Neighbourhood Board. It has an overview of activity to ensure that community views and concerns are understood and addressed both efficiently and effectively. It also ensures that residents have access to relevant information, including feedback on action taken.

Domestic Violence Forum

The Domestic Violence Forum is chaired by the LBTH Head of Community Safety and oversees the borough's multi-agency approach to addressing domestic violence and abuse against men, women and young people.   Membership comprises approximately 100 organisations

representing both statutory and voluntary service providers in the borough. The forum takes place quarterly and has oversight of key domestic violence activities including the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC), the Specialist Domestic Violence Court (SDVC), the DV One Stop Shop, the Housing & Health DV drop-in services, the LBTH Domestic Violence Duty Line, training and safeguarding matters related to domestic abuse. The Forum is ultimately responsible for coordinating services within the borough for both domestic violence victims and those perpetrating violence against them. The DV Forum ensures an annual action plan is in place which is reviewed at each forum meeting as well as key activities and outcomes are reported back at CSP Board.

Drug and Alcohol Action Team Management Board

This board is chaired by the LBTH Corporate Director of Communities, Localities and Culture, with membership representing the CLC DAAT, Public Health, Education, Social Care and Wellbeing, health services, the Metropolitan Police Service, National Probation Service and London Community Rehabilitation Company. It is a statutory board with responsibilities for developing and implementing local strategy to combat the harms associated with drug and alcohol use. This includes co-ordinating and commissioning services relating to drug / alcohol issues in the borough including; drug / alcohol treatment for adults and young people, prevention and behaviour change, licensing and regulation / enforcement.

No Place for Hate Forum

The forum brings key agencies together to work in partnership to develop and promote a co-ordinated response to hate crime in Tower Hamlets. It aims to protect and support victims, deter perpetrators, and challenge prejudice and hate. The Forum meets on a quarterly basis, and is chaired by the Chair of the borough's Interfaith Forum, with members from both statutory and voluntary organisations, including those representing specific areas or communities concerning hate crime.

Prevent Board

This board is chaired by the Council's Chief Executive. It operates as a distinct board with responsibility for delivering the local Prevent programme. The board is made up of officers from One Tower Hamlets, Youth Services, Tower Hamlets Police, NHS Tower Hamlets, Home Office SO15, Probation, London Fire Brigade, Tower Hamlets Clinical Commissioning Group, the Council's Adult Services, Children's Services, Youth Services, Communications, Public Health, Safer Communities Service, along with both Independent Chairs of the Safeguarding Adults Board and the Safeguarding Children Board. It meets bi monthly and has a Prevent Delivery Plan which informs strategic and lead partner activities. Updates are provided at each CSP Board.

Prostitution Board/Governance

With Prostitution now being a Priority for the CSP, consideration by the CSP is being undertaken to reflect which Board is responsible for Prostitution Priority to the CSP. Currently it is the responsibility of both the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Steering Group in relation to the sex workers involved and the Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Strategy Group with regards its anti-social behaviour impacts.

Reducing Re-offending Board

This Board oversees the delivery of the borough's Integrated Offender Management initiative, the Gangs programme and the local MAPPA; it is also responsible for other programmes such as Gripping the Offender (a MOPAC pilot). The board is co-chaired by a Detective Superintendent from the local police and the Community Rehabilitation Company's Assistant Chief Officer. Where necessary the Board will seek to commission housing and/or other services.

Safeguarding Adults Board (Linked Board)

The Safeguarding Adults Board is a statutory local partnership board in its own right under the Care Act 2014, with shared interests and a close relationship with the CSP. The multi-agency board comprises of lead people from all the NHS organisations in the borough, various Council services, Police, Probation, Fire, Ambulance, Housing providers and voluntary, community and advocacy organisations. The Safeguarding Adults Board has a similar close working relationship with the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Local Safeguarding Children Board, as with the Community Safety Partnership Board. It has an Independent Chair not employed by any of the member organisations. The board oversees and seeks assurances about the quality of service responses to people who are vulnerable and in need, or potentially in need, of safeguarding. It also supports and scrutinises the quality of partnership working between organisations in line with statutory and Pan-London requirements.

Local Safeguarding Children Board (Linked Board)

This is a statutory multi-agency Partnership Board under The Children Act 2004, which has an Independent chair and comprises of lead officers from various Council services, Police, National Probation Services and London Community Rehabilitation Company, Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Trusts, CAFCASS and the local voluntary sector. It also includes two lay members.

The LSCB's objectives are to co-ordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the borough; and to ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each person or body for those purposes. The LSCB works in partnership with the CSP to ensure that in delivering its agenda the CSP ensures that the safeguarding of children and young people remains paramount. The Independent Chair of the LSCB also has a seat on the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Tactical Tasking and Co-ordinating Group (TTCG)

The Group was established as part of the programme to join together partnership service delivery in the localities. It meets on a fortnightly basis and uses an analytical product/profile on current/emerging crime and anti-social behaviour issues to task police resources to respond. The overarching principle behind the Group is to ensure that local operational activity is prioritised against MPS Control Strategy priorities, which also include community concerns as determined through ward panels.

The group is chaired by the Police Borough Commander and the membership includes various ranking police officers. The London Fire Brigade and Tower Hamlets Homes are represented on group in addition to senior Council officers.

Tension Monitoring Group (TMG)

This group is chaired by the Service Head of Safer Communities and acts as an operational group to monitor and respond to emerging community tensions. The group is made up of representatives from organisations including the Interfaith Forum, the London Muslim Centre, the Council of Mosques, Rainbow Hamlets, Youth Services, Tower Hamlets Police, the Council's Safer Communities Service, Corporate Safety and Civil Protection, Communications and One Tower Hamlets. The TMG group meet on a quarterly basis but can also convene a meeting at any time if required based on any incident that has occurred that poses a risk to community cohesion.

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Steering Group

The VAWG Steering Group is chaired by the Head of Community Safety and oversees the borough's multi-agency approach to addressing all forms of Violence Against Women and Girls. Whilst it has an oversight of domestic violence and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), the detail of these are dealt with separately via the Domestic Violence Forum and LSCB CSE subgroup respectively. The other main types of violence covered include rape and sexual violence, trafficking, prostitution, female genital mutilation, forced marriage, so called 'honour' based violence, stalking and harassment and dowry related abuse. These are the Borough's strands within its Violence against Women and Girls Plan.

Membership comprises approximately a dozen individuals with responsibility for statutory services in the borough. The forum takes place quarterly and has oversight of key initiatives in this area including the Tower Hamlets Prostitution Partnership (Prostitution Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)), the Prostitution Support Programme, and the VAWG Training and Awareness Officer. The Forum is ultimately responsible for coordination of services within the borough for both violence victims/survivors and those perpetrating violence against them.

Youth Offending Team (YOT) Management Board

The YOT Management Board is chaired by the Corporate Director of Children's Services and oversees the youth offending multi-agency team which comprises of staff from: the Council Children's Services, Youth Service, Police, Probation and Health. The Youth Offending Team works with young people from arrest, through sentencing and either when in custody or during a community sentence. The team also support young offenders post custody. Staff provide services including bail and remand management and Pre-Sentence reports to the Youth, Magistrates and Crown Courts and work with young people subject to reprimands and final warnings from Police, and those charged, convicted and given community and custodial sentences. The team also works with young people and the wider community to prevent young people entering the Criminal Justice System.

Tower Hamlets Safer Neighbourhood Board

The Board gives local people and victims of crime a greater voice in setting policing priorities in Tower Hamlets. Safer Neighbourhood Boards operate in every London borough and are the means by which the Mayor of London (through the Deputy Mayor and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime) holds Borough Police Command Units to account for performance. The Board has an independent Chair, who along with executive board members recruited from the local community provide independent scrutiny, challenge, and strategic vision to ensure that the police collaborate and work together with other agencies successfully to co-ordinate and promote the policing and crime reduction agenda.

Highlights and Performance from 2015/16

Domestic Violence:

The Sanctuary Project has been secured and continued for 2016/17 with the contract awarded to Safe Partnerships following a competitive tendering process. The Project enables the Partnership to annually support up to 60 victims of domestic violence by target hardening their homes.

Following an in-depth review, the Specialist Domestic Violence Court funding has been confirmed from London Borough of Hackney to continue to part-fund the SDVC Co-ordinator post. This ensures the valued service is continued to be provided to victims of domestic violence at our local courts, which is also responsible for increased victim satisfaction for domestic violence cases heard at the SDVC and also to decrease unsuccessful prosecutions of these domestic violence cases

Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Case-conferences (MARACs) continue to be held bi-monthly ensuring high risk cases are reviewed in partnership and appropriate agencies are providing the right level of support to these vulnerable victims of domestic abuse. Safe Lives (formerly known as CAADA) highlighted Tower Hamlets as a 'good practice borough' following their inspection and their recommendations for building on this has been formulated into a partnership action plan which has now been delivered.

The Domestic Violence One Stop Shop has seen an increase in domestic violence reports and continues to grow from strength to strength having encouraged hundreds of victims to report to disclose domestic abuse.

Domestic Violence Training has been provided to hundreds of community and professionals within the borough enabling them to have increased awareness of domestic violence services available and to consequently safeguard victims and their families.

Funding has been secured to undertake work with DV victims with multiple disadvantages which include ensuring holistic wrap around support for women with no recourse to public funds, training for professionals and legal advice around immigration issues.

Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG), Domestic Violence and Prostitution:

Over a thousand professionals, residents and young people have received training in VAWG through our VAWG Training and Awareness Officer and schools programmes, further raising awareness of this in the borough. This had led to an increase in reporting across the priority performance indicators, except for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), however an FGM partnership conference should raise awareness of the referral pathways and lead to both increased awareness and possible reporting.

The new Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2016-19 has been produced following extensive consultation across partner agencies and stakeholders. The Strategy has entered into the Formal Council Approval Process and is anticipated to be ratified by autumn 2016.

Over the last 3 years, almost a £1,000,000 funding has been raised from external sources including MOPAC, DfE and DCLG. This includes being one of five boroughs to participate in a MOPAC and DfE funded pilot to tackle harmful practices.

Further development of the 'whole school' approach to prevention developed and implemented in schools across the borough.

Recruitment of 43 VAWG Champions from organisations across the borough

1148 young people have received awareness raising sessions, including 994 professionals trained, 318 of which have been school staff and over 450 community members including parents.

There has been an increased awareness regarding the risk of exploitation and extremism and a workshop has been delivered and will continue to be supported to schools and be promoted wider.

A number of campaigns this year have also supported the whole school approach and looking at intervention approaches. For example a successful training session with youths took place understanding healthy relationships and identity.

The SDVC has seen a steady decrease in unsuccessful prosecutions. In total unsuccessful prosecutions have decreased by 10% and the number of cases being prosecuting has also steadily increased with 158 extra cases being prosecuted in 2015/16.

Victim satisfaction at SDVC has increased by 37% to 87%.

The last 12 months has seen a significant different approach by the SDVC and its partner agencies in how they deal with DV cases. In particular the implementation of a policy where special measures will be applied for at the 1st hearing irrespective of whether these have been requested by the victim. This has seen a reduction in the need for extra hearings being listed and the police needing to complete further statements. It has also allowed the SDVC Coordinator and the IDVAs to encourage victims to attend court without the anxiety of having to see the perpetrator whist giving evidence. The SDVC Coordinator has also worked with the court and other agencies in implementing a remote video link facility. This means that we are now able to apply to the court to allow a victim to give their evidence remotely and the need for them to attend court is removed.

Increase in MARAC referrals and exceeded targets set by Safe Lives.

Continuation funding for Sanctuary Project and installations provided for high risk victims of domestic violence, and a significant increase in Sanctuary referrals.

Increase in DV reports via DV One Stop Shop including positive feedback received.

Community Groups Programme to 18 mothers affected by DV via the Positive Change Programme.

Increased funding to tackle FGM included being one of the first boroughs to pilot the Harmful Practices Project which include Community Advocates raising awareness and training.

Recruitment of over 150 VAWG Champions from organisations across the borough.

Extensive consultation and development of a new VAWG Strategy 2016-2019.

VAWG Network of over 500 participants. Over 1000 young people have received lessons on VAWG awareness and over 1500 professionals have received training

Whole school approach to prevention developed and implemented in schools across the borough. Training delivered in regards to exploitation and radicalisation.

Funding received to deliver a project to support the accommodation needs for women with no recall to public funds who are victims of Domestic abuse.

Increase in referrals to TH Prostitution MARAC resulting in increased support for victims of sexual violence and domestic abuse.

Increase in support for sex workers who have had their children removed via Hummingbirds Project within CSC.

Drugs and Alcohol:

A new Substance Misuse Strategy 2016-19 has been produced to continue the work of the previous Substance Misuse Strategy and will be signed off by key partners across the borough.

Procurement of a redesigned adult drug / alcohol treatment system commenced and recommendations made for the award of new contracts to facilitate improved access to and better outcomes from treatment.

A Therapeutic Recovery Champion plan has been agreed for every treatment service as well as some hostels to make recovery more visible to all and improve treatment outcomes for service users.

During 2015/16, there have been sustained improvements in performance of the drug treatment system with successful completions for both opiate users and non-opiate users continuing to show improvements over the first half of the year. This sustained improvement means that Tower Hamlets is no longer considered to be a 'priority partnership' in relation to treatment outcomes for drug users.

A working group was established by the DAAT to improve alcohol performance relating to the number of alcohol users engaged in structured treatment. Treatment outcomes (successful completions) for alcohol clients have improved from around 20% in February 2015 up to 30% as of January 2016. This work has now been recognised by Public Health England as an example of best practice.

Anti-Social Behaviour:

ASB Demand (calls to police to report ASB via 101 or 999) has reduced by 9.1% over the financial year 2015/16 when compared to the previous year.

The partners have continued to develop the ASB Partnership Action Group for vulnerable and at risk victims of ASB over the past 12 months, close working with Mental Health support services has increased support to this group and has made a significant contribution to the reduction of repeat callers. This has resulted in a 9.1% reduction in repeat callers, with one person alone responsible for 700 calls a year accessing mental health support and no longer calling the Police at all. To date 25 cases in total have been discharged.

Partnership training has been provided on new ASB legislation, which has eased the transition from the old powers and enabled new powers to be used effectively and consistently in the borough.

Close working by statutory and other partners with hostels and housing providers led to more effective and appropriate support being offered and taken by a particularly vulnerable client group that causes ASB that often significantly impacts on neighbours living nearby.

Gangs and Serious Youth Violence:

The Youth Offending Service is now managed alongside the Family Intervention Service, which allows for closer working across both services. YOS Operational Managers are implementing a more reflective approach to supervision, which has been well received. The Groups, Gangs and Serious Youth Violence Co-ordinator has been in post since Quarter 3 and this is leading to improved working to address this CSP Priority by all agencies responsible. The completion of the Thematic Review of older children who harm or have come to harm has been produced and findings from that are being taken into account for future service provision.

The Police have realigned resources to meet the specific profile of the borough; a police inspector now manages the Gangs Unit, Police YOT, youth/schools officers and the borough's police cadets. The inspector will work with partners to help prevent young people from becoming involved with gangs and/or crime.

Reducing Re-offending:

The Integrated Offender Management cohort has been re-focussed to ensure resources are targeted to support those prolific offenders who cause more serious offences such as burglary, robbery and violence. MAPPA subjects, domestic abuse suspects and gang nominals are managed separately. Visits to offenders within the cohort have increased to an average of 90 per month, with partnership agencies involved in these home visits. More mobile drug testing is taking place to ensure offenders are keeping free from the illegal substances that are often the cause of their offending.

The IOM team members have been trained in offender management work and referral pathways, with offenders being escorted to initial appointments Community Mental Health Teams, Drug Intervention Project and Probation. Working arrangements have been established with the DIP in targeting offenders to enable access to DIP resources including legal, medical and outreach.

Drug testing is being carried out by IOM Police Officers and intervention by IOM has prevented offenders being recalled/breached by Probation following re-engagement with services.

Public Confidence and Victim Satisfaction:

Both confidence and Satisfaction have improved over the last year, with Borough Police recently receiving an award from the Metropolitan Police Assistant Commissioner for the most improved public confidence, a 15% increase on previous confidence levels. As of February 2016, Victim Overall Satisfaction is 76%, whilst Confidence in Local Policing is at 66% as of Quarter 3 (December 2015).

Quality Call Backs (QCBs) by two police staff have been implemented and have gleaned first-hand feedback about primary and secondary investigations from victims. Increased staffing levels across all CID has led to a decreased workload and increased quality of service provided by secondary investigators. This has led to an increased level in satisfaction with CID handling of crime for violence, whilst burglary satisfaction has been maintained at 80%

The Independent Advisory Group (IAG) has been rejuvenated with 14 new members recruited and meetings held every two months to discuss incidents that have a wider impact on the community.

Hate Crime:

The Hate Crime Third Party Reporting Centres have been reviewed, re-trained and re-launched, to ensure they are providing a good standard of service to victims. Victim Support have 2 posts, whose remit specifically includes support for victims of hate crime and these posts are actively working on a number of hate crime cases, based in the borough. The No Place for Hate Campaign materials have been refreshed and continue to be publicised.

Presentations and training and awareness sessions have been provided for a number of organisations.

Further to the Paris and Brussels attacks, refugee crisis, war and politics, nationally there has been an increase in hate crime, in particular Islamophobia, but locally this has not been reflected other than the repeat return of Britain First protesting outside the East London Mosque. Anecdotal information suggests that Islamophobic crime is on the increase but it is low level and minimised by victims and so not reported.

Nationally LGBT hate crime has increased and this is seen as positive due to the increased resources around LGBT crime, including the work commissioned by ELOP around an LGBT Forum, Victim Support Specialist Worker, LGBT Police Liaison Officer and work done around International Day Against Homophobia (IDAHO).

Hate Crime Training has been successfully delivered to Tower Hamlets Homes Officers in Quarter 4, with over 300 people trained and engaged through outreach including training for parents on Strengthening Families Course and at the Early Yeas Conference with nursery providers.

Increase in referrals to Hate Incidents Panel including increased engagement and participation.

Higher visibility of No Place for Hate Campaign through increased training and outreach activities totalling 51 events across all key strands.

Increase in the number of people and organisations signed up to the No Place For Hate Pledge.

Tension Monitoring Group (TMG):

The TMG has strengthened its response to tackling and reducing tensions, successfully managing a number of high profile and potentially disruptive incidents.

The Group has been involved in reducing tensions that have come about from international issues but have had an impact locally, in particular the political issues in Syria.

Our success is evidenced through the boroughs annual residents' survey where the majority of residents (78%) feel that the local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together. This is a positive result that has been maintained at this level for the past 8 years.

Along with a the quarterly meetings, a number of meetings took place in 2015-16 both in a response to incidents that took place but also as to mitigate any issues arising due to a national incidents that had taken place, such as the Paris Terror attack in November 2015. The quarterly meeting also provide an opportunity to reflect on good practice and share partner messages in regards to community safety and cohesion projects scheduled locally.

Prevent Programme Board:

Following a workshop in December 2015 partners have reviewed and revised the Executive Prevent Board, agreeing terms of reference and key priorities fed back from both SO15 and the Home Office.

The Prevent Team have delivered training sessions across a range of stakeholders including CCG, DAAT, Rapid Response Youth Team, in schools, with parent governors and with bespoke Prevent Sessions delivered to Youth Service workers, In Quarter 4, 324 individuals have been trained. A Prevent Conference was held in March 2016 with a focus on safeguarding, Prevent Duty in Schools and also included sessions on Violence Against Women and Girls, Radicalisation and an update from Home Office funded projects.

Bids have been submitted to the Home Office to fund projects from their Best practice Catalogue along with a brief for additional funding for Prevent Staff, marketing and a conference for 2016/17.

Killed or Seriously Injured:

2015 saw a 22.7% decrease in the number of people killed or seriously injured KSIs on or around our roads compared to the previous year (based on provisional 2015 Transport for London (TFL) data). Anecdotally the decrease may be attributed to a number of road safety measures introduced by TFL and LBTH; the introduction of the 20mph limit and the Two Stage Right Hand Turn for Cyclists at Cycle Super Highways.

The KSI Board has been well established since 2015 with buy-in from LBTH, TFL, RTPC and LFEPA, meeting on a bi-monthly basis. LBTH Road Safety Engineering department secured funding for a speed gun and certification for eight borough officers and two RTPC officers (with a further eight officers to be trained in July 2016); and Operation NIMIS was launched in March 2016.

Operation NIMIS is a multi-faceted approach to education and enforcement around excessive speed and ASB driving. In collaboration with the council's Road Safety Engineering department, 20 hotspots have been identified across the borough. Local officers and colleagues from RTPC (based in Bow) deploy to these areas to utilise the Speed Gun. Court proceedings are initiated against all persons driving at excessive speed. This deployment also acts as high visibility policing, reinforcing the 20mph speed limit.

The second strand of Operation Nimis is Community Speed Watch. The pilot took place at Old Ford Road on the 24th March 2016, attended by a local councillor and ward residents. The Community Speed Watch initiative has been extended to all Councillors with the aim of it being replicated on all wards. These traffic operations will take place at the 20 hotspot areas and will tie-in with local SNT and ward priorities such as ASB; nuisance driving being a large complaint generator for the Council.

Operation NIMIS also incorporates a School Speed Awareness Campaign. Primary schools across the borough have been invited to take part in an MPS educational campaign aimed at drivers in the vicinity of school crossings. Any driver who exceeds the 20mph limit will be asked to complete a short questionnaire administer by the school children. If drivers do not wish to engage in this 'educational' activity, enforcement avenues will be pursued (if appropriate). This initiative is supported by the LBTH Public Health department who are assisting with the promotion of this scheme amongst educational facilities.

The final aspect of Operation NIMIS is a TPAC (pursuit trained officer) assisted operation. TPAC officers will support local units targeting offenders using vehicle to deal drugs. In the past 12 months there have been 172 fail to stop incidents, this is a tactic used by drug dealers to evade police and necessitates the need for a TPAC skilled driver. There is also work underway to explore the use of Field Impairment Test trained officers to target those offenders who are drug driving on the borough and there is an opportunity for this to complement a borough wide poster campaign commissioned by the Drug and Alcohol Action Team.

All results from Operation NIMIS are sent through to LBTH and will contribute to a paper on the 20mph speed limit due to be presented to the committee.

On 21st March 2016 local officers conducted a 'Super Cubo' targeting offender drivers and drug dealing at four locations across the borough. The objective of this traffic operation was to disrupt criminal activity; improve road safety and educate drivers. Approximately 80-100 cars were stopped; resulting in vehicle seizures for no insurance, a high proportion of drivers processed for driving offences and several arrests for drug related matters.

2015/16 Financial Year Crime Figures

Met Head Quarters, Performance and Assurance have confirmed that the baseline for the MOPAC 7 crime reduction target is the offence level during FY 2011/12, and FY 2015/16 is to be used to assess final performance against the total 20% reduction target. This table compares financial year 2015/16 performance against the previous financial year 2014/15

Major Classification	Minor Classification	Offences 2015/16	Offences 2014/15	% Change on 2014/15	Sanction Detection 2015/16	Sanction Detection 2014/15	SD Rate 2015/16	SD Rate 2014/15	% point change on 2014/15
Violence Against The Person	Murder	4	3	+33.3%	4	4	100%	133.3%	-33.3
	Wounding / GBH	998	920	+8.5%	255	274	25.6%	29.8%	-4.2
	Assault with Injury	1922	1808	+6.3%	555	581	28.9%	32.1%	-3.2
	Common Assault	2564	2427	+5.6%	458	442	17.9%	18.2%	-0.3
	Offensive Weapon	176	144	+22.2%	156	130	88.6%	90.3%	-1.7
	Harassment	3132	2472	+26.7%	412	412	13.2%	16.7%	-3.5
	Other Violence	371	277	+33.9%	122	123	32.9%	44.4%	-11.5
Sexual Offences	Rape	229	193	+18.7%	20	24	8.7%	12.4%	-3.7
	Other Sexual	363	371	-2.2%	58	54	16.0%	14.6%	+1.4
Robbery	Personal Property	1079	1094	-1.4%	99	85	9.2%	7.8%	+1.4
	Business Property	62	65	-4.6%	13	16	21.0%	24.6%	-3.6
Burglary	Burglary in a Dwelling	1298	1208	+7.5%	71	59	5.5%	4.9%	+0.6
	Burglary in Other Buildings	1253	1203	+4.2%	140	86	11.2%	7.1%	+4.1
Theft and Handling	Theft/Taking of Motor Vehicles	1120	929	+20.6%	101	55	9.0%	5.9%	+3.1
	Theft form Motor Vehicles	1564	1531	+2.2%	39	35	2.5%	2.3%	+0.2
	Motor Vehicle Interference & Tampering	376	299	+25.8%	18	12	4.8%	4.0%	+0.8
	Theft from Shops	1089	916	+18.9%	383	416	35.2%	45.4%	-10.2
	Theft from Person	1392	1319	+5.5%	19	54	1.4%	4.1%	-2.7
	Theft/Taking of Pedal Cycles	1134	1264	-10.3%	27	47	2.4%	3.7%	-1.3
	Other Theft	3585	3665	-2.2%	128	146	3.6%	4.0%	-0.4
	Handling Stolen Goods	81	68	+19.1%	73	63	90.1%	92.6%	-1.5
Fraud and Forgery	Front Counted per Victim	0	0	0%	2	0	NA	NA	NA
	Other Fraud & Forgery	32	22	+45.5%	18	6	56.3%	27.3%	+29.0
Criminal Damage	Arson	127	118	+7.6%	10	9	7.9%	7.6%	+0.3
	Criminal Damage to a Dwelling	526	534	-1.5%	86	79	16.3%	14.8%	+1.5
	Criminal Damage to Other Building	307	300	+2.3%	59	64	19.2%	21.3%	-3.1
	Criminal Damage to Motor Vehicle	854	874	-2.3%	72	60	8.4%	6.9%	+1.5
	Other Criminal Damage	549	557	-1.4%	97	99	17.7%	17.8%	-0.1
Drugs	Drug Trafficking	92	137	-32.8%	100	121	108.7%	88.3%	+20.4
	Possession of Drugs	1696	2048	-17.2%	1488	1836	87.7%	89.6%	-1.9
	Other Drug Offences	9	8	+12.5%	8	9	88.9%	112.5%	-23.6

Other Notifiable	*Going Equipped*	36	15	+140%	25	12	69.4%	80.0%	-10.6
	Other Notifiable	598	559	+7.0%	236	253	39.5%	45.3%	-5.8
Total Notifiable Offences (TNO)		28618	27348	+4.6%	5352	5666	18.7%	20.7%	-2.0
	==*Violence with Injury*==	2946	2752	+7.0%	827	867	28.1%	31.5%	-0.1
MOPAC 7 (total of all crimes highlighted in yellow)		13077	12484	+4.8%	1633	1568	12.5%	12.6%	-3.4
	Gun Crime	80	68	+17.6%	9	16	11.3%	23.5%	-12.2
	Knife Crime	569	508	+12.0%	102	98	17.9%	19.3%	-1.4
	Domestic Abuse	2978	2596	+14.7%	930	934	31.2%	36.0%	-4.8
	Racist and Religious Hate Crime	586	577	+1.6%	116	156	19.8%	27.0%	-7.2
	Homophobic Crime	89	80	+11.3%	10	10	11.2%	12.5%	-1.3

2015/16 Financial Year Performance Against the MOPAC Baseline Year 2011/12

Met Head Quarters, Performance and Assurance have confirmed that the baseline for the MOPAC 7 crime reduction target is the offence level during FY 2011/12, and FY 2015/16 is to be used to assess final performance against the 20% reduction target. This Table compares financial year 2015/16 performance against the MOPAC Baseline FY 2011/12.

Major Classification	Minor Classification	Offences 2015/16	Offences 2011/12*	% Change on 2011/12
Violence Against The Person	*Murder*	4	5	-20%
	Wounding / GBH	998	432	+131.0%
	Assault with Injury	1922	1554	+23.7%
	Common Assault	2564	1827	+40.3%
	Offensive Weapon	176	171	+2.9%
	Harassment	3132	1635	+91.6%
	Other Violence	371	193	+92.2%
Sexual Offences	*Rape*	229	138	+65.9%
	Other Sexual	363	293	+23.9%
Robbery	*Personal Property*	1079	1319	-18.2%
	Business Property	62	96	-35.4%
Burglary	*Burglary in a Dwelling*	1298	1538	-15.6%
	Burglary in Other Buildings	1253	1179	+6.3%
Theft and Handling	*Theft/Taking of Motor Vehicles*	1120	873	+28.3%
	Theft form Motor Vehicles	1564	1944	-19.5%
	Motor Vehicle Interference & Tampering	376	87	+332%
	Theft from Shops	1089	719	+51.5%
	Theft from Person	1392	1606	-13.3%
	Theft/Taking of Pedal Cycles	1134	1342	-0.6%
	Other Theft	3585	4412	-18.7%
	Handling Stolen Goods	81	70	+15.7%
Fraud and Forgery	*Front Counted per Victim*	0	974	-974%
	Other Fraud & Forgery	32	426	-92.5%
Criminal Damage	*Arson*	127	N/A	N/A
	Criminal Damage to a Dwelling	526	629	-16.4%
	Criminal Damage to Other Building	307	318	-3.5%
	Criminal Damage to Motor Vehicle	854	928	-8.0%
	Other Criminal Damage	549	589	-6.8%
Drugs	*Drug Trafficking*	92	226	-59.3%
	Possession of Drugs	1696	3481	-51.3%
	Other Drug Offences	9	16	-43.8%
Other Notifiable	*Going Equipped*	36	20	+80.0%
	Other Notifiable	598	423	+41.4%
Total Notifiable Offences (TNO)		28618	29463	-2.9%
	Violence with Injury	2946	2003**	+47.1%
MOPAC 7 (total of all crimes highlighted in yellow)		13077	13023	+0.4%
	Gun Crime	80	N/A	N/A
	Knife Crime	569	N/A	N/A
	Domestic Abuse	2978	N/A	N/A
	Racist and Religious Hate Crime	586	N/A	N/A
	Homophobic Crime	89	N/A	N/A

2015/16 Data provided in Metropolitan Police Tower Hamlets Borough Operational Command Unit Pre Release of Financial Year 2015/16 Crime Statistics (released 15.05.2016)

*   2011/12 MOPAC Baseline Data provided in Met Data Tables webpage Borough Totals extracted on 18.05.16

**   2011/12 MOPAC Baseline Data provided in Metropolitan Police Tower Hamlets Daily Dashboard produced on 16.05.16

N/A Data not available at time of writing

Strategic Assessment 2015

The Tower Hamlets Community Safety Partnership is required to produce an annual Strategic Assessment by the Crime & Disorder (Formulation & Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007. The regulations state that a strategic assessment needs to include:

- An analysis of the current community safety issues
- An analysis of the changes in those levels and patterns, and;
- The Partnership's priorities to tackle the local issues.

The Strategic Assessment 2015 has allowed the Partnership to fulfil its statutory duty to review this Community Safety Partnership Plan in 2015 and refresh it for the final year (2016/17) of its now 4 year term.

The Strategic Assessment production process is reviewed on an annual basis by the CSP's Strategy Group, which is made up of senior representatives of the borough's 6 Responsible Authorities as well as the CSP Subgroup Chairs. This review enables the Partnership to ensure that the Strategic Assessment contains and analyses all the key information required for the CSP to be able to effectively review its Community Safety Partnership Plan annually.

The partnership examined the context of current themes within community safety and took into account key national, regional and local priorities.

The Strategic Assessment was developed based on close analysis of data against the CSP's 42 priority performance indicators across its 11 priority themes (see below). Performance is monitored as part of the CSP's Priority Performance Dashboard at CSP meetings on a quarterly basis and at the relevant CSP Subgroup meetings.

The Partnership believed that these Priority Themes are the most efficient way to monitor data, and take into account the national, regional and local priorities. The current themes are:

- Anti-Social Behaviour and Arson   (3 indicators)
- Drugs and Alcohol   (5 indicators)
- Hate Crime and Community Cohesion   (3 indicators)
- Killed or Seriously Injured   (1 indicator)
- Prevent   (New Priority)
- Property/Serious Acquisitive Crime   (7 indicators)
- Prostitution   (New Priority)
- Public Confidence & Victim Satisfaction   (3 indicators)
- Reducing Re-offending   (3 indicators)
- Violence (including Domestic Violence
  & Violence against Women and Girls)   (9 indicators)
- Youth Crime (Gangs and Serious Youth Violence)   (4 indicators)

The statutory partners provided information on the above indicators and they have been reviewed in the Strategic Assessment in terms of the following factors:

- Data and Analysis: 1st October 2014 – 30th September 2015
- Trends over the last 3 years (October 2012 – September 2015)

In addition to the information supplied by the statutory partners, additional information was provided by Health with regards to the health needs of offenders with a summary from their Offender Health Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2015 and the National Probation Service separate profile on the needs of the local offending population including any gaps in service.

Please note:
Due to the time scales and production schedule for the Community Safety Plan, we are unable to use full financial year figures in the Strategic Assessment.

Performance from Strategic Assessment 2015
1st October 2011 – 30th September 2015

'Total Crime' in Tower Hamlets							
Performance Indicator	**Lead Agency for performance data & CSP Subgroup**	**Performance 2011/12 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2012/13 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2013/14 (Oct –Sept)**	**Performance 2014/15 (Oct –Sept)**	**Difference (+/-%)** **2014/15 – 2013/14**	**Direction of Travel Oct 2011 – Sept 2015**
Total Notifiable Offences	Police	29,369	27,971	26,374	28,056	+6.37%	-4.47%

Priority A: Gangs and Serious Youth Violence							
Performance Indicator	**Lead Agency for performance indicator & CSP Subgroup**	**Performance 2011/12 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2012/13 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2013/14 (Oct –Sept)**	**Performance 2014/15 (Oct –Sept)**	**Difference (+/-%)** **2014/15 – 2013/14**	**Direction of Travel Oct 2011 – Sept 2015**
YOT Re-offending Rates – Percentage of cohort that re-offended (binary rate) – Quarterly percentage rates	YOT – YJB data	New indicator 2015/16	New indicator 2015/16	New indicator 2015/16	Q3 40.9% Q4 37.3% Q1 38.0% Q2 38.5%	-	-
Number of young people engaged with from the Police Gang Matrix	Police / YOS (YOT MB)	-	5 from top 10 25 associates	12 from top 10 Up to 5 associates per individual			
Number of young people entering the Youth Justice System for the first time (FTE)	YOT – YJB data	195 (12 months to June 2012)	133 (12 months to June 2013)	102 (12 months to June 2014)	112 (12 months to June 2015)	+9.8%	-42.6%
Rate of young people First Time Entrants (FTE) into the Youth Justice System per 100,000 young people	YOT – YJB data	n/a	n/a	n/a	481	-	-
% of custodial sentences compared to all court disposals	LBTH – YOT (YOT MB)	24 (5.8%) 24/413	20 (5.3%) 20/379	16 (7%) 16/230	17 No % or total available	+6.25%	-29.1% based on total figure

Priority B: Anti-Social Behaviour (including Arson)							
Performance Indicator	Lead Agency for performance indicator	Performance 2011/12 (Oct – Sept)	Performance 2012/13 (Oct – Sept)	Performance 2013/14 Oct – Sept)	Performance 2014/15 Oct – Sept)	Difference (+/-%) 2014/15 – 2013/14	Direction of Travel Oct 2011 – Sept 2015
Number of Police CAD calls for ASB	Police (ASB OG)	17,784	17,452	16,052	14,304	-10.9% (-1,748)	-19.6% (-3,480)
Number of Arson incidents (all deliberate fires)	London Fire Brigade (ASB OG)	481	390	344	409	-18.9% (-65)	-15% (-72)
Number of Repeat Victims of ASB		736	749	735	643	-12.5% (-92)	-12.6% (-93)

Priority C: Drugs and Alcohol							
Performance Indicator	**Lead Agency for performance indicator**	**Performance 2011/12 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2012/13 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2013/14 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2014/15 (Oct – Sept)**	**Difference (+/-%) 2014/15 – 2013/14**	**Direction of Travel 2011-15 Oct – Sept**
Number of alcohol users engaging in structured treatment Restricted NDTMS Data – Not for Public*	LBTH (DAAT)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of successful completions (drug treatment) who do not re-present within 6 months: Restricted NDTMS Data – Not for Public*	LBTH (DAAT)						
A) Opiates	DAAT	-	-	-	-	-	-
B) Non-opiates	DAAT	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of young people engaged in drug / alcohol treatment Restricted NDTMS Data – Not for Public*	LBTH DAAT – PHE through NDTMS	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of clients on IARP caseload also in structured treatment for:	LBTH (DAAT)						
A) Opiates	LBTH DAAT	Q3 375 (23%) Q4 367 (22%) Q1 No Data Q2 360 (23%)	Q3 364 (23%) Q4 334 (23%) Q1 385 (26%) Q2 382 (26%)	Q3 373 (25%) Q4 374 (26%) Q1 375(26%) Q2 367(25.7%)	Q3 378 (26.3%) Q4 372 (25.9%)	Not comparable	Not comparable
B) Non-opiates	LBTH (DAAT)	Q3 41 (20%) Q4 35 (16%) Q1 No Data Q2 22 (10%)	Q3 14 (7%) Q4 16 (8%) Q1 27 (14%) Q2 27 (13%)	Q3 28 (13%) Q4 38 (17%) Q1 27 (18.8%) Q2 25 (17.1%)	Q3 26 (16.7%) Q4 24 (13.5%)	Not comparable	Not comparable
C) Alcohol	LBTH (DAAT)			Q1 58 (11.7%) Q2 46 (9.6%)	Q3 47 (10.1%) Q4 46 (10.2%) Q1 39 (9.7%)	-	-
Number of arrests for Possession With Intent To Supply	Police (TTCG)	New indicator 2015/16	255	177	137	-22.6%	Not comparable
Possession With Intent To Supply Sanction Detection Rate	Police (TTCG)	New Indicator 2015/16	93.7% (239)	92.1% (163)	92% (126)	-0.1% pts (-37)	Not comparable
Possession Only (Arrests & Warnings)	Police (TTCG)	New Indicator 2015/16	1,369	1,315	993	-24.5% (322)	Not Comparable
Possession Only Sanction Detections	Police (TTCG)	New Indicator 2015/16	94.3% (1,290)	93.6% (1,231)	90.8% (902)	-2.8% pts (-329)	Not Comparable

Priority D: Violence (including Domestic Violence and Violence Against Women and Girls)								
** Please note: Due to historic under reporting of violence against women and girls, significant work is being undertaken to increase both confidence in reporting and early reporting of these offences/crimes, to ensure that the actual levels are established. More importantly, so that the victim/survivors receive partnership support at the earliest possible opportunity. Due to this work, we hope that this will have an impact (increase) on the number of reports of violence against women and girls, particularly the Number of Domestic Violence Offences, Rapes and Other Serious Sexual Offences as seen below.								

Performance Indicator	Lead Agency for performance indicator	Performance 2011/12 (Oct – Sept)	Performance 2012/13 (Oct – Sept)	Performance 2013/14 (Oct – Sept)	Performance 2014/15 Oct – Sept)	Difference (+/-%) 2014/15 – 2013/14	Direction of Travel Oct 2011 – Sept 2015
Number of Domestic Violence Reports to Police	Police (TTCG)	New Indicator 2015/16	1,919	2,178	2,354	+8.1% 176	Not comparable
Domestic Violence Conviction Rate ('cracked cases')		New indicator 2015/16	New indicator 2015/16	New indicator 2015/16	68%	Not comparable	Not comparable
Domestic Violence Sanction Detection (SD) Rate	Police	New Indicator 2015/16	45.6%	34.8%	33.4%	-1.4% pts	Not comparable
Percentage of Domestic Crimes that involve repeat victims	Police	New Indicator 2015/16	21.52%	15.87%	23.48%	+7.61% pts	Not comparable
Decrease Unsuccessful Prosecutions and Rate against total	LBTH (DV Forum)	New Indicator 2015/16					
Number of Rapes and Other Serious Sexual Offences	Police (TTCG)	New indicator 2015/16	228	249	323	+29.7% (+74)	Not comparable
Number of individual crimes of Stalking and Harassment recorded	Police (VAWG)	New indicator 2015/16	403	499	458	-8.2% (-41)	Not comparable
Number of cases of Harmful Practices of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) recorded	VAWG	New indicator 2015/16	0	3	6	+100% (+3)	Not comparable
Number of cases of Harmful Practices of Honour Based Violence recorded	VAWG	New Indicator 2015/16	6	7	10	+42.9% (+3)	Not comparable
Number of cases of Harmful Practices of Forced Marriage	VAWG	New indicator 2015/16	3	4	2	-50% (-2)	Not comparable
Number of professionals receiving training and reporting increased awareness of VAWG	VAWG	New Indicator 2015/16	200	768	1048	+33.9% (+260)	Not comparable
Number of offences of Violence With Injury (Non-Domestic Abuse)	Police (TTCG)	Data not supplied	1,480	1,708	1,983	+16.1% (+275)	+35.7% (+503)
Number of Offences of Violence With Injury (Domestic Abuse)	Police (TTCG)	Data not supplied	736	740	844	+14.1% (+104)	+14.7% (+108)

Priority E: Prostitution							
Performance Indicator	**Lead Agency for performance indicator**	**Performance 2011/12 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2012/13 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2013/14 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2014/15 Oct – Sept)**	**Difference (+/-%) 2014/15 – 2013/14**	**Direction of Travel Oct 2011 – Sept 2015**
Number of women referred to the Prostitution MARAC	TBC	New indicator 2016/17	New indicator 2016/17	New indicator 2016/17	New indicator 2016/17	-	-
Number of women re-referred to the Prostitution MARAC	TBC	New indicator 2016/17	New indicator 2016/17	New indicator 2016/17	New indicator 2016/17	-	-

Priority F: Hate Crime and Cohesion							
Please note: Due to historic under reporting of hate crime, significant work is being undertaken to increase both confidence in reporting and early reporting of these offences/crimes, to ensure that the actual levels are established. More importantly, so that the victims receive partnership support at the earliest possible opportunity. The performance data below is in the format/categories provided by the police, unfortunately this does not disaggregate it into the 7 strands of hate crime (Disability; Race or Ethnic Identity; Religion/Belief; Gender or Gender Identity; Sexual Orientation; Age and Immigration Status or Nationality), which has historically only been recorded by the police as Race and Religious or Homophobic incidents/crimes. Due to this work, we hope that this will have an impact (increase) on the number of reports of all types of hate incidents/crimes, thus reducing the historical under-reporting, as seen below.							
Performance Indicator	**Lead Agency for performance indicator**	**Performance 2011/12 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2012/13 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2013/14 (Oct-Sept)**	**Performance 2014/15 Oct – Sept)**	**Difference (+/-%) 2014/15 – 2013/14**	**Direction of Travel Oct 2011 – Sept 2015**
Overall Hate Crime (reported to Police) **Please see above explanatory note**	Police (NPFHF)	New indicator 2015/16	480	527	582	+10.4% (+55)	Not comparable
Overall Hate Crime Sanction Detection (SD) Rate	Police (NPFHF)	New indicator 2015/16	13.3% (64/480)	10.2% (54/527)	8.6% (50/582)	-1.6% pts	Not comparable
Hate Crime cases reviewed at the monthly Hate Incident Panel which resulted in action being taken	LBTH (NPFHF)	New indicator 2015/16	73	120	No data available	Not comparable	Not comparable
Hold 4 Tension Monitoring Group (TMG) Meetings per year with additional emergency meetings when required	LBTH (TMG)	New Indicator 2015/16	4 + emergency meetings	4 + emergency meetings	4 + emergency meetings	-	Not comparable

Priority G: Killed or Seriously Injured on our roads							
Performance Indicator	Lead Agency for performance indicator	Performance 2011/12 (Oct – Sept)	Performance 2012/13 (Oct – Sept)	Performance 2013/14 (Oct-Sept)	Performance 2014/15 Oct – Sept)	Difference (+/-%) 2014/15 – 2013/14	Direction of Travel Oct 2011 – Sept 2015
Number of persons killed or seriously injured on road	Police (KSI)	142 Aug 2011 – July 2012	132 Aug 2012 – July 2013	44 Aug 2013 – July 2014	46 Jan 2015 – July 2015	Not comparable	Not comparable

Priority H: Property/Serious Acquisitive Crime							
Performance Indicator	Lead Agency for performance indicator	Performance 2011/12 (Oct – Sept)	Performance 2012/13 (Oct – Sept)	Performance 2013/14 (Oct – Sept)	Performance 2014/15 Oct – Sept)	Difference (+/-%) 2014/15 – 2013/14	Direction of Travel Oct 2012 – Sept 2015
Number of Personal Robberies	Police (TTCG)	Data not supplied	1,169	1,030	1,057	+2.6% (+27)	-9.6% (-112)
Number of Residential Burglaries	Police (TTCG)	Data not supplied	1,528	1,215	1,252	+3% (+37)	-18.1% (-276)
Number of Theft of Motor Vehicles	Police (TTCG)	Data not supplied	894	942	1,025	+8.8% (+83)	+14.7% (+131)
Number of Theft From Motor Vehicles	Police (TTCG)	Data not supplied	1,685	1,613	1,566	-2.9% (-47)	-7.1% (-119)
Number of Theft from Persons	Police (TTCG)	Data not supplied	1,756	1,281	1,411	+10.1% (+130)	-19.6% (-345)
Number of Non-Residential Burglaries	Police (TTCG)	Data not supplied	1,396	1,232	1,179	-4.3% (-53)	-15.5% (-217)
Number of Theft of Pedal Cycles	Police (TTCG)	Data not supplied	1,338	1,309	1,109	-15.3% (-200)	-17.1% (-229)

Priority I: Prevent							
Performance Indicator	**Lead Agency for performance indicator**	**Performance 2011/12 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2012/13 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2013/14 (Oct-Sept)**	**Performance 2014/15 Oct – Sept)**	**Difference (+/-%) 2014/15 – 2013/14**	**Direction of Travel Oct 2011 – Sept 2015**
No performance indicators set or data available to share, this is a new standalone priority for 2016/17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Cross-Cutting Priority 1: Public Confidence and Victim Satisfaction							
Performance Indicator	**Lead Agency for performance indicator**	**Performance 2011/12 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2012/13 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2013/14 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2014/15 Oct – Sept)**	**Difference (+/-%) 2014/15 – 2013/14**	**Direction of Travel Oct 2011 – Sept 2015**
Percentage of community concerned with ASB (Public Attitude Survey) – How much of a problem are teenagers in the street?	Police (Confidence and Satisfaction Board)	41 (FY 2011-12)	39 (FY 2012-13)	40 (Oct 2013 – Sept 2014)	43 (Oct 2014 – Sept 2015)	3% pts	2% pts
Overall Victim Satisfaction (with Police Service)	Police (Satisfaction Board)	70% (FY 11/12)	74% (FY 12/13)	72% (FY 13/14)	76% (September 2015)	4% pts	6% pts
Overall confidence of Police doing a good job	Police (Confidence Board)	61% (FY 12/13)	63% (July 12 – June 13)	55% (Oct 2013 – Sept 2014)	64% (Oct 2014 - Sept 2015)	9% pts	3% pts

Cross-cutting Priority 2: Reducing Re-offending							
Performance Indicator	**Lead Agency for performance indicator**	**Performance 2011/12 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2012/13 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2013/14 (Oct – Sept)**	**Performance 2014/15 Oct – Sept)**	**Difference (+/-%) 2014/15 – 2013/14**	**Direction of Travel Oct 2011 – Sept 2015**
Number of offenders on IOM Cohort 18+ who have reduced offending Data Not Available for Strategic Assessment Period, see Separate Table below with	Probation (RRB)	-	-	Unable to compare as data only available	Unable to compare as data only available	Not comparable	Not Comparable

				Quarterly over 18 month period	Quarterly over 18 month period		
Quarterly performance available under all elements of this indicator from operational IOM Scheme							
Jigsaw: Staff to high risk offender ration	Police (Police)	Data not supplied	Data not supplied	Data not supplied	1:13.8 Supervising 49.8 RSOs	Improvement reduced ratios over period	Improvement reduced ratios over 3 year period

Cross-cutting Priority 2: Reducing Re-offending – IOM Reduced Re-offending Available Data							
Performance Indicator	Lead Agency for performance indicator	Performance April – June 2014	Performance July – August 2014	Performance October – December 2014	Performance January – March 2015	Performance April – June 2015	Performance July – September 2015
Number of offenders on IOM Cohort 18+ who have reduced offending Red to Amber on Cohort	Probation (RRB)	12	6	8	7	7	1
Number of offenders on IOM Cohort 18+ who have reduced offending Amber to Green on Cohort	Probation (RRB)	0	2	2	9	8	5
Number of offenders on IOM Cohort 18+ who have reduced offending Green to Removal	Probation (RRB)	0	34	3	7	30	18
Average number of arrests per offender per month	Probation (RRB)	0.1	0.11	0.24	0.26	0.29	0.25
MOPAC 7 Offenders (those whose primary offence is one of MOPAC 7 crimes)	Probation (RRB)	Not Collected	Not Collected	28	39	53	55

Public Consultation

As part of the Partnership's statutory duties to consult the community on community safety in the borough, an extensive 5 week public consultation took place during May and June 2012. The consultation asked members of the public (residents and business people), partnership and community groups/organisations for their top three community safety priorities.

People were made aware of the consultation via press articles, letters and email alerts. They were given the opportunity to attend their local Police Safer Neighbourhood Team's Public Meeting, a Borough Public Meeting and/or an Elected Members' Consultation Session. In addition they could reply in writing /email or respond via the dedicated webpage.

In total 1,013 responses were received, the majority of which (862) were collected through the dedicated web page (Mytowerhamlets) survey. This collection method also enabled us to monitor the equalities data of those 862 recipients against the Greater London Assembly's 2011 data, full findings of which are included in Public Consultation Report. In summary 65.71% of recipients identified their ethnicity as White (17 percentage point overrepresentation) and 20.36% as Bangladeshi (14 percentage point underrepresentation). In terms of Gender, 42% of respondents were female and 58% were male, which shows a 6.5 percentage point underrepresentation for female. The largest group of respondents were those aged between 25 and 39 years of age, making up 50.2% (3.2% overrepresentation) of respondents and the smallest group being the 0 to 16 age group, making up only 5.1% (14.9% underrepresentation), however we cannot expect infants and minors to respond, so we cannot make meaningful statements about this. Those aged between 17 and 24 years made up 9% of respondents, which is an 11 percentage point underrepresentation.

Results:

Based solely on the number of selections by members of the public in Tower Hamlets across all the different collection methods, the top 4 community safety priorities for the Community Safety Plan 2013-17 are:

1) Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)   298
2) Serious Acquisitive Crime   200
3) Drugs and Alcohol   196
- Violence   196

In 2015/16 as part of the Partnership's statutory duty to consult, the Safer Neighbourhood Board held five Resident's Question Time public meetings, where anyone in the borough was able to raise community safety issues with senior officers from the Partnership. During these five themed events the residents' and local community groups' main concerns were:
- Drugs & Alcohol
- Anti-Social Behaviour and Noise
- Cycle Lanes and Road Safety
- Public Confidence and response times to reports
- Use of CCTV
- Historic/Repeat Hotspots for ASB

Priorities – How the Partnership Decided

In December 2012, the Community Safety Partnership was presented with the Strategic Assessment 2012, an Executive Summary of the Strategic Assessment 2012, the Public Consultation Report and a paper which made recommendations based on their findings. These documents were used along with internal/external partnership priorities, when the partnership originally set its priorities for the full term of the plan back in March 2013.

It is a statutory duty of the Community Safety Partnership to review the Community Safety Plan annually, based on the findings of its annual Strategic Assessment.

In January 2016, the Community Safety Partnership was presented with the Strategic Assessment 2015, which included public consultation findings from 2015/16 and made recommendations to the Partnership which were discussed and the priorities formally reviewed.

The recommendations took into account the original Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-17 Priorities, areas where trends were going in the wrong direction, areas which the partner agencies had highlighted as being priorities for all the partnership and existing priorities external to the partnership i.e. Home Office, MOPAC and Community Plan as well as the public's perception/priorities.

The draft CSP Plan 2013-17 reviewed for Year 4 (final year of the now 4 year term) amended to take into account those discussions during the January CSP meeting was then presented to the CSP on 3rd May 2016 for discussion.

There are some areas of work which are priorities for individual and/or several partner agencies which the Community Safety Partnership has also taken into account when agreeing its own priorities for the term of this plan. These priorities that have not been deemed a priority by/for the Partnership will continue to remain priorities for those individual agencies and their performance will continue to be monitored and managed by each respective agency.

Priorities for 2013 -2017

The Partnership recognises that it has a responsibility to address all areas of crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and re-offending as part of its core business. However, it also recognises that there are a few particular areas, which have a greater impact on the people of Tower Hamlets and their quality of life. For this reason, it has agreed that it will place an added focus on these areas and they will form the priorities during the term of this plan.

As part of the Community Safety Partnership's statutory duty to review its Plan on an annual basis, in March 2016 the CSP Co-chairs reviewed the current CSP Plan Priorities based on the findings of the 2015 Strategic Assessment and agreed that the following would be the priorities for the final year (2016/17) of this Plan's 4 year term:

- **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**
- **Killed or Seriously Injured**
- **Prevent**
- **Public Confidence & Victim Satisfaction**
- **Reducing Re-offending**
- **MOPAC 7**

Priority A:

Gangs and Serious Youth Violence

Why is it a priority?

Tower Hamlets has one of the highest proportions of young people as a percentage of its population compared to other boroughs both in London and nationally. Whilst Tower Hamlets does not have a significant gang problem compared to other London Boroughs its prevalence is growing here, there are a small number of geographically based gangs in the borough, who sporadically come into conflict with each other. These gangs are responsible for a significant amount of the borough's youth crime and drug dealing. The effects that gangs and incidents of serious youth violence, although both uncommon, have on members' of the wider communities feeling of safety, especially other young people, makes this a priority for the Community Safety Partnership to address.

The borough saw a 27% reduction in the number of serious youth violence incidents and therefore victims for the period October 2011 – September 2012 when compared to the previous year. However, it is common to see increases and decreases, year on year as they can be skewed by unexpected events.

Young people aged 8 - 17, which form the Youth Offending Service's service users' age cohort, account for 10.4% of the Tower Hamlets population (27,280 residents[1]). This is above the proportion those aged 0 to 17 for Inner London which stands at 9.8% of the population, but below the figure for Greater London of 11%

This age group is projected to increase in size by 7.8% over the next 5 years[2] to reach 29,400 8 - 17 year olds by 2017. It is then projected to increase further over the following 5 years to reach 33,426 residents by 2022, which represents a 22.5% increase over the current 2012 number.

Responsible Board/CSP Sub-group:

Youth Offending Team Management Board
Reducing Re-offending Board
Strategic Operational Group – EGGSYV (Ending Guns, Gangs and Serious Youth Violence)

What will we aim to achieve this year?

- Reduce the levels of ASB, Drugs, Homicide, Firearms discharges, Knife crime, and Serious Youth Violence
- Reduce First Time Entrants (FTE) to the youth justice system by early intervention
- Reduce the harm caused by street gangs across the borough

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[1] ONS 2011 Census
[2] GLA SHLAA population projections – 2012 Round

- Reduce re-offending
- Reduce the use of custody, especially remands into custody
- Focus activity towards offenders who present most risk and harm to the community
- Support interventions to prevent young people from becoming involved in gang crime, radicalisation and serious youth violence
- Improve the numbers of young offenders in Education, Training and Employment
- With partners, offer practical assistance to individuals wishing to stop their involvement in gang criminality
- Engage young people on the periphery of gangs in positive activities
- Deliver sturdy enforcement of the law against those who persist with gang criminality, ASB, drugs, knife crime and youth violence
- Make best use of all available Criminal Justice opportunities to prevent and disrupt gang criminality and bring offenders before the courts
- Train magistrates in the work we are doing in respect of gangs
- Ensure there is process for the community to provide information and we can demonstrate it has been acted upon
- Run a violent offender group-work programme via the Youth Offending Service
- Become actively involved in the Safe and Secure Project
- Work with Troubled Families, the Youth Service and Docklands Outreach to increase and improve our work with the Trauma unit (A&E screening and outreach to young victims of violence) at The Royal London Hospital
- The hospital is reporting growing numbers of stabbing injuries and one wounding by gunshot. Between Jan-October 2014: 430 people were seen at the Royal London with serious stab wounds. In the last 10 days 19th-29th of June 2015 there was 22 serious assaults with knives and 1 gunshot wound. The ages range from 12-25. It is important to note that the majority of patients do not come from Tower Hamlets, with approximately 2 within the 10 days data that came from Tower Hamlets postcodes.

How will we measure success?

- Number of Serious Youth Violence incidents
- Number of young people engaged with through the Police Gang Matrix
- Reduction in the number of First Time Entrants into the Criminal Justice System
- Number of young people from Police Gang Matrix:
     Placed in Education, Training or Employment
     Placed in suitable housing
- Re-offending Rates
- Police Public Attitude Survey
- Community Tension Reports
- Reducing Youth on Youth Violence through Rapid Response Team in identified Hotspot zones (identified by partners)
- YJB YOT rating reports (quarterly)
- Number of young people engaged via staff deployment in RLH A&E and Trauma ward.
- Number of young offenders given custodial sentences for SYV

How will we do this?

<u>Youth Offending</u>

- Identification and Priority Cohort – the key trigger for diversion and engagement targeted support and enforcement measures will be based on intelligence about young people shared between key partners and stakeholders.
- Support and enforcement to Young people (8-17 years) at risk of involvement in violent behaviour (including victims of SYV); those seeking a route out of violence and gang culture; and those being considered for enforcement measures due to refusing to exit violent lifestyles.
- Referrals will continue to come from schools to the Social Inclusion Panel and support will extend to siblings of the target cohort as well as children of adult offenders via the Youth Inclusion Support Programme. The Youth Offending Prevention Service will build on its existing referral mechanisms for parents and self-referrals.
- Referrals from Royal London Hospital A&E and Trauma wards
- We will also build on the Council's current arrangements for ASB enforcement measures and Gang Injunctions to ensure that young people have access to support services to prevent further escalation.
- Young people supported through diversion and engagement will be formally assessed using the Youth Justice Board's assessment framework. Assessments will aid the development of integrated action plans for each young person, determine and manage risks, taking into account safeguarding concerns.
- Interventions will be initiated via letter to both the young person and his/her guardian.
- Support available includes education, training, employment, accommodation (Police – Safe and Secure Initiative), substance misuse services, parental support, violent offenders/identity workshops, mentoring and positive activities, health and emotional wellbeing services and having a named key-worker.
- Early enforcement includes Behaviour Contracts (including exclusion zones and prohibitions), joint home visits and we would like tore-introduce the use of 'Buddi' monitoring tags.
- Civil enforcement including Gang Injunctions, Parenting Orders, Anti-Social Behaviour Orders and Individual Support Orders.
- The Youth Offending Team and the Family Intervention Service will combine to provide a more holistic, whole family approach to young people who offend or are at risk of offending, including a clinical response to young people and other family members who are experiencing low to medium mental health support needs.

<u>Integrated Youth and Community Service</u>

- The service will work in partnership with the police and respond to "Youth on Youth Violence" issues and engage them in to structured learning opportunities.

<u>Supporting Stronger Families</u>

- Supporting Stronger Families is the Council's response to the Troubled Families Programme. It will enhance the work of the Police and Youth Offending Team to broaden the offer of support and therapeutic intervention to the families of young people whose lives are affected by gangs. Outcomes are linked to the PBR element of the troubled families programme and focus primarily on reducing offending, increasing educational attendance and achievement and in getting young adults and their parents either into work or on the way to work.

<u>Police</u>

- The Police will use a range of activities in their approach to tackling Gangs and Serious Youth Violence. These will include activity analysis, weapons seizures, arrests, detections, search warrants, CHIS coverage and financial investigation and more frequent use of obtaining CBO (Criminal Behaviour Orders) and a more 'offender' approach.
- Produce Gang Related Intervention Profiles (GRIPs) on each individual which will include information on and from MATRIX analysis, reaching minimum threshold, intelligence coverage and whether they have been convicted in the past 6 months, charged in the past 3 months, under judicial restriction, named in proactive enquiry, a subject of financial investigation, engaging in a diversionary scheme and/or have no restrictions or current interventions in place.
- Other activities include targeting habitual knife carriers, supporting repeat knife crime victims, and continuing the knife prevention work with schools, youth centres and so on.
- The police have realigned resources to meet the specific profile of the borough; a police inspector now manages the Gangs Unit, police YOT, youth/schools officers and the boroughs police cadets. The inspector will work with partners to help prevent young people from becoming involved with gangs and/or crime.

<u>LSCB</u>

LSCB to take forward actions identified in the Thematic Review – Older Children Who Have Caused Serious Harm or Come to Harm

What we will aim to achieve over the term of this plan?

- Aim to alter the public's perception and increase both confidence and satisfaction
- Increase the number of gang nominal's in custody by 20% of the 140 on the Matrix
- Increase the number of those exiting gang related offending
- Focus enforcement work on those who reject the offer of intervention
- Increase the use of the family intervention: proportion of gang nominals supported within a Family Intervention context
- Increase the proportion of those supported into Education, Training and Employment

- Provide meaningful community engagement and full multi-agency collaboration and communication
- Through early intervention improve PRU and school truancy rates of those in the cohort
- Develop effective Accident & Emergency data sharing
- Provide enhanced offender management for gang members
- Maintain a fast response to critical incidents
- Develop shared ownership; strong leadership; information sharing; assessment and referral and targeted services
- To be able to identify what success is for key agencies, young people, families, government and for those involved in serious youth violence

Priority B:

Anti-Social Behaviour and Arson

Why is it a priority?

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) impacts fundamentally on our quality of life. It is therefore a National and Local priority.

ASB includes a variety of behaviours which adversely affect individuals and the areas in which they live, work and visit. Noise, graffiti, abandoned cars, fly-tipping, intimidation and threatening behaviour all leave those affected feeling frustrated, angry or frightened. It eats away at the cohesiveness of our communities and the attractiveness of our borough.

Tower Hamlets Community Safety Partnership works with partners to reduce ASB, mitigate its impact and prevent its recurrence. It wants residents and those who visit and work in the borough to feel safe and enjoy the area.

Arson for the purpose of this plan refers to deliberate fire-setting in the borough, the majority of which is deliberate bin fires on housing estates which are a significant threat to life due to the risks to residential properties.

Responsible Board/CSP Sub-group:

ASB Strategy Group
Tactical Tasking and Co-ordinating Group

What will we aim to achieve this year?

- Analyse incidents reported to all partners, including Police data, to identify and respond more effectively to the needs of victims
- Reduce the number of individual callers contacting 101 more than 10 times regarding anti-social behaviour
- Reduce the number of ASB incidents through targeted prevention and diversion interventions
- Reduce the number of incidents of vandalism
- Reduce the number of incidents of arson

How will we measure success?

- Number of calls to Police (101 or 999) for ASB**
- RSL ASB (no. of ASB incidents reported) data

** Using Metropolitan Police definition of Anti-social behaviour

- Number of young people engaged by the Youth Inclusion and Support Programme
- Number of incidents of Criminal Damage
- Improved Public Confidence and Victim Satisfaction
- Number of Arson incidents – All Deliberate Fires
- Number of Accidental Dwelling Fires
- Number of Primary Fires in Non-Domestic Buildings

How will we do this?

- Operational meetings between Police, Fire Brigade, Council ASB and Integrated Youth & Community Service (including Rapid Response Team) together with key partners (including Housing Providers) to prioritise resource tasking, including Tower Hamlets Enforcement Officers (THEOs)
- Better analysis through enhanced information sharing and improved data collection
- Measuring effectiveness of cluster/ward team actions and intervention
- By better use and co-ordination of civil tools and legislative powers available to landlords to tackle ASB in neighbourhoods
- Effective and consistent use of informal interventions to avoid criminal justice system particularly for younger offenders – e.g. acceptable behaviour contracts, agreements and undertakings
- Taking opportunities of environmental, regeneration and development projects to 'design-out' ASB
- Engage young people in services and opportunities to get involved – especially during school holiday periods
- Enhancing the ASB Partnership Action Group to support vulnerable and at risk victims
- Working together with LFB to reduce risk of arson by reducing dumped rubbish and fly-tipping, and developing a more effective reporting mechanism for residents

What we will aim to achieve over the term of this plan?

- Year-on-year 10% reduction in ASB incidents
- Improve the service to victims from Neighbourhood Policing Team by early identification and differentiation of ASB incidents from crime reports
- Improve standing from 2nd highest to 5th (or better) contributor of London's ASB incidents
- Proactively use new powers, ensuring partners are trained and utilisation is consistent across the borough
- Develop bespoke interventions that minimise recidivism, focusing especially on young people
- Reduction in incidents of vandalism
- Identify the support needs of vulnerable and at risk victims and work with statutory, third sector and other agencies to provide effective interventions

Priority C:

Drugs and Alcohol

Why is it a priority?

There is a clear link between dependent users of Class A Drugs (like heroin and crack cocaine) with burglary, robbery, theft from a person or vehicle (collectively known as Serious Acquisitive Crimes), fraud, shoplifting and prostitution, which they commit in order to fund the drug dependency.

The effects of alcohol on the body mean it is often more likely for the drinker to either be a victim or perpetrator of crime. Alcohol is often linked to both violence and anti-social behaviour. Its use is particularly linked to incidents of domestic abuse and violence.

Treatment for drug and alcohol users, particularly young people is important so that their health and well-being is safeguarded and they make a positive contribution to their local communities.

Responsible Board/CSP Sub-group:

Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) Management Board

What will we aim to achieve this year?

- Implement new treatment services and deliver a visible launch with comprehensive messages regarding substance misuse and where to get help
- Develop and implement an annual multi-agency communications plan for service users and professionals
- Ensure identification and brief advice interventions are routinely offered to adult clients across a range of frontline services
- Deliver training across Young People services to ensure a child's rights based approach
- Ensure family support is available to address the impact of parental substance misuse
- Establish a robust approach to carer involvement and support
- Ensure widespread distribution of Naloxone injections to reduce the incidence of drug related deaths
- Implement robust referral pathways between hostels and treatment services that maximise the skills and capacity of the total workforce
- Work with treatment services and CRC to maximise the utilisation and effectiveness of Drug Rehabilitation Requirements (DRRs) and Alcohol Treatment Requirements (ATRs) to reduce offending of those misusing substances
- Review and recommission GP based drug / alcohol treatment services to ensure general health outcomes for drug / alcohol users in treatment are improved

- Improve services available to substance misusing young people who have a concurrent mental health issue
- Recommission Young People's substance misuse service to ensure timely and comprehensive intervention for young people experiencing problems with drugs / alcohol
- Develop and implement a Community Alcohol Partnership scheme in Mile End that targets the issues around underage drinking
- Consult on the introduction of a late night levy to help fund the costs associated with the night time economy
- Increase in the number of successful completions for those on Alcohol Treatment Requirement & Drug Rehabilitation Requirements
- Enforce the new Psychoactive Substances Act
- Disrupt the supply of drugs, including harmful legal highs, through effective enforcement and legislation
- Adopt and implement a new Substance Misuse Strategy for 2016-2019

How will we measure success?

- Number of users of opiates that left drug treatment successfully (free of drug(s) dependence) who do not then re-present to treatment again within 6 months, as a percentage of the total number of opiate users in treatment
- Number of alcohol users engaging in structured treatment
- Number of DIP (criminal justice) clients engaging in structured treatment
- Number of young people entering structured drug / alcohol treatment
- Number of planned exits from alcohol treatment
- Number of arrests for Possession With Intent To Supply
- Possession With Intent To Supply Sanction Detection Rate
- Possession Only (Arrests & Warnings)
- Possession Only Sanction Detections

How will we do this?

- Deliver widespread training and awareness campaigns
- Conduct the defined procurement process to award contracts for new drug / alcohol treatment services
- Educate frontline professionals and residents about the harms and risks associated with the use of legal highs.
- Utilise the full range of legislation and powers to tackle drug / alcohol related ASB and crime
- Ensure all partners are fully committed to delivery of the Substance Misuse Strategy 2016-19
- Further develop and implement data capture and needs assessment processes to ensure we are fully aware of met and unmet needs across the borough

What we will aim to achieve over the term of this plan?

- Improved access and uptake of increasingly effective treatment interventions which in turn reduce drug / alcohol related re-offending

Priority D:

Violence
(including Domestic Violence and Violence Against Women & Girls)

Why is it a priority?

Violent crime is defined by the Home Office as robbery, sexual offences and violence against a person (ranging from assault without injury to homicide). The number of incidences of Most Serious Violence (GBH and above) in the borough has shown a significant increase over the 12 months measured in the Strategic Assessment 2013, up by 48% (173 incidents).

The strategic assessment figures above show that the number of Domestic Violence with Injury Offences has increased over the last 2 years i.e. since the baseline year (Oct 11-Sept 12), it has increased by 34.9% (188 recorded incidents), however it has remained stable in the last year compared to the previous year. This increase in domestic violence offences being recorded by the Police could be attributable to an increase in incidents being recorded as crimes rather than "non-crime incidents", although at present there is no data to support an increase in the proportion of incidents that are treated as crimes by the Police. It is hoped that the data is attributable to increased reporting rates, as so much of our partnership work is focussed on increasing confidence in reporting, to address the huge problem of underreporting of this type of crime.

Domestic violence affects both adults and children and has serious consequences for victims and witnesses. Evidence shows that domestic violence is experienced for a number of years, on average, before it is reported to the police for the first time.

Particular focus will be placed on Domestic Violence within this priority as well as all of the other strands of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) contained within the borough's VAWG Plan, namely:
- Rape and Sexual Violence
- Domestic Violence (DV)
- Trafficking
- Prostitution
- Sexual Exploitation (including Child Sexual Exploitation)
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
- Forced Marriage (FM)
- So called Honour Based Violence (HBV)
- Dowry Related Abuse
- Harassment
- Stalking

Across the partnership we have agreed to adopt the cross-Government definition of domestic violence and abuse which reads: -

"Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality."

This definition incorporates most of the VAWG strands and a wide range of abusive and controlling behaviours including physical, sexual, financial, emotional and psychological abuse, which contribute to the increase in violence across the borough. The cross-cutting nature of the Violence Against Women and Girls agenda means that responsibility for tackling these issues falls across a wide range of different agencies. Co-ordinating service provision and ensuring clear governance and accountability for this agenda is therefore a key challenge and a priority for the borough.

Responsible Board/CSP Sub-group:

Tactical Tasking and Co-ordinating Group
Domestic Violence (DV) Forum
Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG) Steering Group

What will we aim to achieve this year?

- Sign off of the VAWG strategy by Cabinet to underpin local outcomes and delivery
- A reduction in the volume of non-domestic violence recorded Violence with injury compared with 2012/13 performance
- An increase in the proportion of domestic incidents that are recorded as crimes versus non-crime incidents by the Police.
- Improved sanctioned Detection rates for violence with injury (domestic and non-domestic) i.e. offences brought to justice.
- Increase in the reporting of domestic abuse and sexual violence to the Police
- Developing partnership work across the borough to ensure that Safeguarding Policies are adhered to by all agencies
- Continuation of the DV One Stop Service in its new location and with its expanded remit across all the VAWG strands.
- Increase in victim satisfaction from cases heard at the Specialist Domestic Violence Court
- Decrease in unsuccessful prosecutions of cases heard at the Specialist Domestic Violence Court
- Ensure monthly target of cases heard at MARAC per fortnight are met.
- Offer security installations to up to 60 households affected by domestic violence.
- Increase the number of DV perpetrators being referred to and accessing perpetrator programmes within the borough
- Run a violent offender group-work programme in the Youth Offending Team including an offensive weapon and joint enterprise session.
- Reduce the number of incidents of Violence with Injury
- Increased numbers of Tower Hamlets service users accessing the Haven, the Independent Sexual Violence Adviser (ISVA) and East London Rape Crisis (ELRC)
- Increased numbers of female genital mutilation (FGM) cases identified

- Increased numbers of victims of trafficking or sexual exploitation identified and supported through specialist services.
- Increase awareness through training and awareness raising of exploitation via online and social media
- Increased number of VAWG champions

How will we measure success?

- Number of Most Serious Violence offences per 1000 of the population
- Number of Gun Crimes
- Number of Knife Crimes
- Number of incidents of Violence with injury
- Number of Domestic Violence with Injury offences recorded by the Police (Colin, unless it was discussed at CPS, Police to confirm as Helen has not mentioned this to me and we don't receive detailed data reports anymore since cutbacks)
- Number of incidents of non-Domestic Violence with Injury (see comment above)
- Number of DV Murders recorded by the Police
- Number of Domestic Violence Offences recorded by the Police
- Number of Domestic incidents (non-crimes) recorded by the Police
- Percentage of total domestic reports to the Police that are recorded as offences versus percentage recorded as non-crime incidents (see comment above as the DVF don't receive this data)
- Domestic Violence Sanction Detection (SD) Rate
- Domestic Offence Arrest Rate (see comment above)
- Number of Rapes
- Rape Sanction Detection (SD) Rate
- Number of other Serious Sexual Offences
- Other Serious Sexual Offences Sanction Detection (SD) Rate
- Number of young people reported as missing from care or at risk of sexual exploitation, to Children's Services
- Number of cases referred to the MASE
- Number of service users presenting to sexual violence services in the borough
- Numbers referred to the MARAC
- Numbers of repeat referrals to the MARAC
- Number of women referred to the Prostitution MARAC
- Number of women re-referred to the Prostitution MARAC
- Number of women receiving de-infibulation services (for FGM) at Mile End Hospital
- Number of women who have undergone FGM reported to midwifery/sexual health services
- Numbers of people reporting HBV or FM (police and other partner data)
- Number of successful diversion from court outcomes for offences related to prostitution
- Number of test on arrest for drugs and alcohol when arrested for prostitution related offences
- Number of CRIS reports with flags for stalking or harassment
- Number of women and girls reported to the national referral mechanism for trafficking

- Numbers of trained VAWG Champions
- Training session delivered to capture exploitation and radicalisation

How will we do this?

- The Council will continue to develop partnership working with the Police, Health and the Voluntary Sector, to increase the reporting of domestic abuse The Police will work to the 'action plans' for Violence with Injury and Domestic Violence which are designed to drive forward performance.
- The Council Domestic Violence and Hate Crime team will drive the Domestic Violence Forum and its action plan, developing and coordinating services and undertaking training and awareness raising activities.
- The Council Domestic Violence and Hate Crime Team will deliver against the VAWG Action Plan, ensuring that specific partnership activity takes places against each of the VAWG strands above, coordinating services across the borough and coordinating training and awareness raising activities on VAWG issues.
- Development of services to tackle VAWG and support victims, including specific case management services.
- Working with the Prevent team to further develop training in regards to exploitation and extremism

<u>Role of the Domestic Violence and Hate Crime Team in relation to Domestic Violence and VAWG</u>

- Coordinating Domestic Homicide Reviews on behalf of the Council ensuring all partners are involved throughout the process.
- Running the Domestic Violence Forum, VAWG Steering Group and VAWG e-forum.
- Managing the Victim Support contract for Independent Domestic Violence Advisers and Violent Crime Caseworkers
- Co-ordinating The Tower Hamlets Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC): attended by key officers from the Police, Council and a range of other agencies. The MARAC meets fortnightly to share information and identify safety planning actions for agencies in high risk cases.
- Oversight, through the VAWG Steering Group of the prostitution work managed by the DIP, including the Police, and Tower Hamlets' Prostitution Partnership (THPP) meetings: interagency case meetings regarding sex workers
- Through the VAWG Steering Group, develop and oversee services to respond to all strands of VAWG
- Running the VAWG Champions Programme
- Running the Sanctuary Scheme to provide physical security measures in victim's homes.
- Servicing the Domestic Violence duty line providing advice and guidance to professionals and members of the public
- Receive and record DV1 referrals (inter-agency referral form) and maintain records of these through the borough's DV database
- Coordinate and manage the Partnership DV One Stop Shop

- Coordinate activities around White Ribbon Campaign
- Manage the Domestic Abuse, No Excuse Campaign ensuring key messages are communicated to all stakeholders.
- Hold DV Drop in surgeries including at the Barkantine and Homeless Person's Unit
- Coordinate the Specialist Domestic Violence Court for Tower Hamlets and Hackney
- Raise awareness and promote reporting amongst professionals and the public, in particular by providing training
- Coordinate and support the multi-agency forum on FGM
- Work with school staff, governors and parents, to enable young people to increase their awareness of VAWG and recognise when they are at risk
- Support agencies to identify and support people that are at risk of VAWG.

Violence with Injury

- Identification and Priority Cohort – the key trigger for diversion and engagement targeted support and enforcement measures will be based on intelligence about young people shared between key partners and stakeholders
- Young people (8-17 years) at risk of involvement in violent behaviour (including victims of Serious Youth Violence); those seeking a route out of violence and gang culture; and those being considered for enforcement measures due to refusing to exit violent lifestyles
- Referrals will continue to come from schools to the Social Inclusion Panel and support will extend to siblings of the target cohort as well as children of adult offenders via the Youth Inclusion Support Programme. The Youth Offending Prevention Service will build on its existing referral mechanisms for parents and self-referrals.
- Referrals from Royal London Hospital A&E and Trauma Wards
- We will also build on the Council's current arrangements for ASB enforcement measures and Gang Injunctions to ensure that young people have access to support services to prevent further escalation
- Support available includes education, training, employment, accommodation (Police – Safe and Secure Initiative), substance misuse services, parental support, violent offenders/identity workshops, mentoring and positive activities, health and emotional wellbeing services and having a named key-worker
- Early enforcement includes behaviour contracts (including exclusion zones and prohibitions), joint home visits and 'Buddi' monitoring tags.
- Civil enforcement includes Gang Injunctions, Parenting Orders, Civil Injunctions and Individual Support Orders
- The Integrated Youth and Community Service will work in partnership with the Police and respond to 'Youth on Youth Violence" issues and engage them into structured learning opportunities
- The Police will use a range of activities to tackle serious youth violence, this will include activity analysis, weapons sweeps and seizures, arrests, detections, search warrants, CHIS coverage and financial investigation
- Produce gang related intervention profiles (GRIPs) on each individual which will include information on and from Matrix analysis.
- Police will work to the 'action plans' for Violence with Injury and Domestic Violence which are designed to drive forward performance

What we will aim to achieve over the term of this plan?

- The Police will continue to work towards the MOPAC directive to achieve a 20% reduction in 'key crime' (Including Violence with Injury) by the end of 2015/16 performance year. (Police to comment on year?) The contribution to this performance through 2013/14 (Police to comment on year) will be a 5% Reduction in Violent Crime married with a 34% detection rate against the 2012/13 performance year. A focus on Violence with Injury offences and building on the success of Op Equinox the MPS Corporate Operation in the reduction of Violence with Injury (non DA).
- Increase victim satisfaction of cases heard at Specialist Domestic Violence Court
- Decrease unsuccessful prosecutions of domestic violence
- Increase awareness of all forms of VAWG and increase reporting to Police and other agencies
- Ensure recommendations from Domestic Homicide Reviews are considered at CSP
- Increase consistency of approach to addressing issues of domestic abuse across agencies, in particular by increasing the amount of training provided to professionals in front line services.
- Increase referrals to the MARAC and THPP, with a particular focus on all strands of VAWG.
- Develop specialist services for victims/ survivors of each VAWG strand.
- Develop educational and training resources for professionals and schools on how to appropriately respond on cases of VAWG.
- Increase the safety and health of street based sex workers and reduce associated ASB.

Violence with Injury

- A focus on Violence with Injury offences and building on the success of Op Equinox the MPS Corporate Operation in the reduction of Violence with Injury (non DA).
- Reduce the length of time that individuals experience domestic abuse for before they report it.
- Increase awareness of domestic abuse and violence and increase reporting of domestic abuse to the Police.
- Increase awareness of all forms of VAWG and increase reporting to Police and other agencies
- Increase consistency of approach to addressing issues of domestic abuse across agencies, in particular by increasing the amount of training provided to professionals in front line services,.
- Increase referrals to the MARAC and THPP, with a particular focus on all strands of VAWG.
- Develop specialist services for victims/ survivors of each VAWG strand.
- Develop educational and training resources for professionals and schools on how to appropriately respond on cases of VAWG.
- Increase the safety and health of street based sex workers and reduce associated ASB.

Priority E

Prostitution

Why is it a priority?

Prostitution in the borough is a new standalone priority to the CSP as of April 2015, formerly covered by Violence Against Women and Girls and Anti-Social Behaviour. The CSP has taken the decision to separate this out of both existing priorities to ensure that the impact that Prostitution has on both those involved and the surrounding neighbourhoods is recognised and addressed as a priority.

Women who sex work often experience complex needs for support for drug and alcohol misuse as well as underlying health and wellbeing issues which need to be addressed to enable their safe exit.

For those in the neighbouring community affected by prostitution (whether street-based or off street locations including brothels), it is often seen as anti-social behaviour which is having a detrimental impact of their quality of life, either from witnessing the act or the waste products left afterwards, to harassment alarm and distress both the prostitute and those involved in prostitution cause.

Work carried out by the CSP to address prostitution and its causes will have a positive impact on the performance against other interrelated CSP Priorities of Anti-Social Behaviour, Drugs and Alcohol and Violence Against Women and Girls.

Responsible Board/CSP Sub-group:

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Steering Group - TBC

What will we aim to achieve this year?

- Development of multi-agency coordination and accountability for prostitution
- Women with 'red flag' indicators are supported to reduce their risk through an holistic support package provided by a dedicated case management service
- Women engaged in prostitution are offered holistic support across health, housing, education and criminal justice
- Agencies across Tower Hamlets feel supported to support women engaged in prostitution
- Residents are engaged in partnership work to reduce prostitution related ASB
- Men who buy sex are targeted with police actions including letters deterring them from Tower Hamlets

How will we measure success?

- Number of women referred to the Prostitution MARAC
- Number of women re-referred to the Prostitution MARAC

How will we do this?

- Support organisations to increase their referrals to the Prostitution MARAC, with a focus on 'high-risk' groups such as sex workers, those who are dependent on alcohol or drugs, carers and young people.
- Increase safety and health of street based sex workers as well as reducing associated ASB.
- Meaningful consultation with residents, especially those from 'hotspot' areas for prostitution

What we will aim to achieve over the term of this plan?

Not applicable due to this only being made a priority for the final year of this CSP Plan term 2015/16.

Priority F:

Hate Crime and Cohesion

Why is it a priority?

The Tower Hamlets Community Plan aims to make the borough a better place for everyone who lives and works here. The Borough's diversity is one of its greatest strengths with the richness, vibrancy and energy that our communities bring. As a partnership we are committed to build One Tower Hamlets, to tackle inequality, strengthen cohesion and build both community leadership and personal responsibility. Preventing extremism and people becoming involved in it, is fundamental to achieving One Tower Hamlets. Our partnership approach has developed over the past five years and enabled us to tackle complex and contentious issues during that time.

The borough is a diverse and tolerant place, where the vast majority of people treat each other with dignity and respect. Unfortunately there is a small minority of people who don't hold those same values and perpetuate hate. Hate crimes are committed on the grounds of prejudice against people who are different than the perpetrator in some way.

The experience of prejudice and hate isn't limited to one particular group. Hate crimes are committed against people of different:
- race
- religion/beliefs
- age
- disability
- sexuality
- refugee/asylum seeker
- gender identity
- and any other (actual or perceived) differences

The partnership agencies will work together to address all the above forms of hate, with specific activity targeting under reported, more prevalent or emerging types of hate crime being addressed through the relevant CSP Subgroups on a quarterly basis.

Responsible Board/CSP Sub-group:

No Place For Hate Forum (NPFHF)
Tension Monitoring Group (TMG)
Prevent Board

What will we aim to achieve this year?

No Place For Hate Forum (NPFHF)

The NPFHF is a partnership of statutory, voluntary and community organisations that join together in a zero tolerance approach to all forms (also known as strands) of hate. We know that for some people difference is a frightening thing. In difference, they see a threat and that

is when prejudice takes hold. Sometimes prejudice results in the abuse and violence that undermines the borough's proud tradition of diversity and tolerance.

The No Place for Hate Forum brings partners together to implement a co-ordinated response to challenging prejudice and hate with work arranged under the following key themes:

- Protect and Support Victims
- Hold Perpetrators Accountable
- Prevention, Awareness and Community Cohesion

In 2016/17 we will ensure that all victims of all forms of hate crime have access to appropriate protection and support by:-

- Continue to develop strategies to impact on all forms of hate and ensure that Tower Hamlets is a safe place for everyone.
- Increase the reporting to the Police of hate crimes and incidents across all strands, by building community confidence.
- Increase professional and community awareness of hate and its impact, through a wide range of education and awareness raising activities including targeted activity for each of the strands of hate.
- Deliver a range of initiatives at different points throughout the year that contribute to making the borough proud and tolerant of its diversity.
- Develop a local NPFH Champions Programme to encourage responsibility in tackling hate and promoting cohesion.
- Manage and coordinate the No Place for Hate Campaign including increasing sign up to the No Place for Hate Pledge.
- Increase the number of cases heard at the Hate Incidents Panel.
- Maintain and further develop the Third Party Reporting (TPR) Centres and recruit new organisations to become TPR centres.
- Victim Support to ensure that clients have face to face visits and provide telephone support to victims
- Victim Support to establish a support desk at Accident & Emergency department at the Royal London Hospital
- Police Community Safety Unit to offer specialist advice to frontline officers regarding hate crime
- Ensure that victims of disability hate crime receive appropriate response, referrals to key partners and representations at ward panel meetings
- Disability hate crime victims to be identified from the first point of contact with the Police
- Build a local database and recognise the needs of all victims / suspects of disability hate crime

To deter and hold perpetrators accountable by:

- Hold monthly multi-agency Hate Incident Panel which ensure co-ordinated responses to hate crime and incidents
- Inform Registered Housing Providers of the Hate Incident Panel and encourage referrals and participation
- The Police Community Safety Unit to reduce offending opportunities for hate crime
- Reduce exclusions and cyberbullying by producing a locally relevant mobile app to inform pupils about cyber safety and online conflict

To prevent hate through promoting awareness, encouraging reporting and building community cohesion across all communities by:

- Awareness raising campaign promoting clear messages that Tower Hamlets is no place for hate and promote a stronger stand against hate in the borough
- Deliver activities outreach work and activities during National Hate Crime Awareness Week
- Recruit, train and support 10 No Place for Hate Champions to cascade hate crime awareness activities and training in the communities
- Inform all Children's Centres, Hospitals and GP Surgeries of the No Place for Hate Pledge, inviting them to join and encourage referrals to the HIP
- Carryout community cohesion intergenerational work to break barriers, reduce crime and get along together
- Raise awareness of the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia – Hatred Hurts All Conference aimed at those who work with victims of hate crime
- Raise awareness of pathways for hate crime reporting with members of the LBTH LGBT Community Forum
- Gain insight into local people experience and promote good practice in challenging homophobia, biphobia and transphobia

Tension Monitoring Group (TMG)

The TMG acts as a network of key individuals who represent statutory, voluntary and community organisations in Tower Hamlets who respond in real time to critical incidents, to provide an effective emergency response.

In 2016/17 we aim to:

- Review the membership of the group in order to cover gaps and strengthen its impact in protecting local communities.
- Continue to respond to cohesion related issues in the borough in real time.
- Undertake meetings and events to consider specific threats to cohesion, in order to both increase our knowledge and identify how the borough can respond to reduce specific threats.
- Undertake research on specific threats and how they impact upon the local community.
- Develop a communication protocol to support members in regards to reporting incidents in the borough

How will we measure success?

- Overall Hate Crime rate (reported to the Police)
- Hate crime sanctioned detection (SD) rate
- Number of "Racist and Religious" offences (reported to the Police)
- Number of Islamophobic offences
- Number of Anti-Semitic offences
- Number of Homophobic offences

- Number of Disability hate crime offences
- Number of Transphobic hate crime offences
- Number of cases reviewed at the Hate Incidents Panel
- % of hate crime cases coming to the Hate Incidents Panel where formal action is taken
- Number of Organisational and Personal No Place for Hate Pledges signed

How will we do this?

<u>No Place For Hate Forum</u>

- The Hate Incident Panel (HIP) consists of key agencies who can respond to cases of hate crime. Agencies who are members include the Council's Domestic Violence and Hate Crime Team, Police, LBTH Legal Services, Housing Associations, Victim Support and LBTH Youth Services. The HIP will meet regularly to assign and review effective actions, share information and swiftly manage responses to high risk hate crimes and incidents. It will ensure that the cases it considers receive a co-ordinated and structured response, and that offenders are held accountable for their actions. The HIP will increase the percentage of hate crime cases reviewed at the Panel, where enforcement action is taken. Enforcement action could be action against a tenancy such as eviction, legal action such as an injunction, criminal justice action such as arresting/charging/prosecuting or civil enforcement such as the range of powers available to THEOs and ASB Case Investigators.
- Advice and guidance will be provided by the LBTH Domestic Violence and Hate Crime Team to a range of agencies, particularly Registered Social Landlords (RSLs), with the intention to bring about a more coordinated and consistent response to hate crimes and incidents. Through this work, we will increase the number of cases referred to the HIP by RSLs.
- The Police, supported by other partners will work to increase the Sanctioned Detection (SD) Rate for hate crime across all strands.
- We will promote the message that we will not tolerate hate, in particular to offenders, by taking enforcement action and promoting the actions that have been taken.
- Maintain and develop Third Party Reporting Centres
- Encourage reporting through raising the profile of the No Place for Hate Campaign and Pledge.

<u>Tension Monitoring Group (TMG)</u>

- The TMG will continue to meet quarterly with emergency meetings taking place if and when needed to discuss imminent threats to cohesion. The group will also review its membership to ensure that all sections of the community are being engaged and are part of the discussion on cohesion related issues. Terms of reference will be updated along with a communication protocol to support the reporting of any incidents that may create a risk to community cohesion.

What we will aim to achieve over the term of this plan?

No Place For Hate Forum

- We will maintain and further develop the Third Party Reporting Project We will provide training and support to new and existing centres, including a TPR Steering Group. We will publicise the locations and contact details of TPR centres widely.
- No Place For Hate Campaign – we will continue the campaign which promotes an established clear message to the community. The campaign will be used to link to and support national and international campaigns as well as local events, highlighting clearly that the borough will not tolerate hate in any form in our diverse and cohesive borough, that is 'One Tower Hamlets'.
- The Forum will continue to promote the No Place for Hate Pledge, including at having stalls or other presence at events in the community, and through workshops and training. It will encourage as many individuals and organisations as possible to make a pledge against hate.
- The Forum aspires to increase the sign up of individuals and organisations to the pledge by at least an additional 100 per year.

Tension Monitoring Group (TMG)

- Maintain its role in monitoring local tensions and responding to threats to cohesion that may arise
- Aims to ensure that we continue to increase, on an annual basis, the percentage of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area, as measured by the Annual Residents Survey.
- Tackle and counter negative media messages about the borough in relation to cohesion and tension related issues.

Priority G:

Killed or Seriously Injured (on our roads)

Why is it a priority?

Road safety is an issue that affects not only everyone in London, but nationally and globally. We all need to use roads to get around – to school, to work, to the doctor, to the shops, to the cinema etc. Most of us use the roads every day, as drivers, passengers, cyclists and pedestrians, and for many people driving is the main part of their job.

TfL's annual Health, Safety and Environment Report reveals that 3,018 people were killed or seriously injured across Greater London in 2012, up from 2,805 in 2011. Of that fatalities were down from 159 to 134 and included 69 pedestrians, 27 motorbike/scooter riders and 14 cyclists, down two on 2011. The cost to the community of the road collisions in 2012 was an extraordinary £2.26 billion.

This increase in recent years along with media attention, has led to increased concern around road safety across London. Cycling fatalities in Tower Hamlets in and around busy arterial roads have increased local concerns and are a major factor for this being made a priority for the Community Safety Partnership.

2014 TFL data shows that compared to 2013, the number of people killed or seriously injured was down seven percent; Pedestrians and car occupants killed or seriously injured fell by seven per cent and six per cent respectively to their lowest ever levels. The number of cyclists killed or seriously injured was down 12%, despite huge increases in the number of people cycling, the number of children killed or seriously injured fell to the lowest level recorded, down 11%. This means that child road deaths have been reduced from 18 in 2000 to three in 2014 (Source https://tfl.gov.uk/info-for/media/press-releases/2015/june/mayor-takes-action-to-halve-road-casualties-by-2020).

Responsible Board/CSP Subgroup:

Killed or Seriously Injured (KSI) Board

What will we aim to achieve this year?

- Deliver road safety education programmes in schools, colleges and to community groups in the borough
- Deliver educational 'Exchange Programme' to drivers of HGVs and cyclists
- Focus campaigns on discouraging drink and drug driving and using mobile phones whilst driving
- Focused enforcement around travelling public in respect to road signage such as traffic lights/cycle boxes/ two-stage right turn

- Speed Gun Activity - Community Speed Watch and operation using children from local primary schools to advise drivers of the dangers of excessive speed; deterrent/educational programme.
- Joint Emergency Response Awareness Days: Demonstration of response to Road Traffic Collision.
- In June 2016 a joint operation is planned with RTPC's 'Safer Cycle Unit'. This will include an 'Exchange Programme' where cyclists are given an opportunity to sit in a HGV to experience the 'blind spots' and the perspective of the driver. A collaborative approach will also be taken with LBTH, with the use of a mobile police station for KSI educational/ enforcement days. A Community KSI event is also planned for later in the summer. This partnership initiative will see local policing units and RTPC working alongside the LFEPA and the LAS to reconstruct the aftermath of an RTC, showcasing the work of the emergency services and highlighting the dangers of speeding and Drug/Drink driving.
- A joint KSI operation is also planned at Canary Wharf to be conducted in partnership with Canary Wharf security. 120,000 people pass through the estate on a daily basis and this will be an educational programme focused particularly on cyclists.
- Regular ANPR operations continue to take place by the borough's CT Engagement Team using vehicle based mobile ANPR cameras and the Council's static CCTV. These operations take place on the main access/egress routes and target commuters coming in and out of central London. RTPC continue to have dedicated officers deployed on Operation Safeway to raise the profile of cycle related road safely; especially on the numerous Cycle Super Highways situated across the borough.

How will we measure success?

Number of recorded Killed or Seriously Injured as recorded by TFL

How will we do this?

- By engaging young people in schools/colleges/universities on road safety
- By provision of information and road safety equipment
- Better identification of road safety issue hotspots through enhanced information sharing, improved data collection, recording and analysis
- Regular meetings between Police, Fire Brigade, Council, TFL, London Ambulance Service (LAS) and key partners (including local transport groups), to prioritise identified problems and task resources committed to the reduction of KSI
- Identify road layout issues and set in place environmental changes to reduce risk

What will we aim to do over the term of this plan?

Through enhanced Police and partnership activity, we will seek a minimum 20% reduction in line with the MOPAC Police and Crime Plan 2013-17.

Priority H:

Prevent

Why is it a priority?

Nationally the threat from terrorism remains high and East London has been categorised as a 'high risk' area by the Government. Although there are many different terrorist groups across the world, currently the greatest risk to national security comes from ISIS. Tower Hamlets as well as neighbouring boroughs have had a small number of people being charged under the Terrorism Act 2006. We feel that a strong leadership and active community participation is required to address the threat of people being radicalised and the risk of local people supporting terrorism.

For the Tower Hamlets Partnership, work to reduce extremism and prevent individuals becoming radicalised is fundamental to achieving One Tower Hamlets. Work on preventing violent extremism began in 2007, but our local approach developed out of existing partnerships, approaches and programmes which had enabled us to tackle complex and contentious issues in the past.

Underpinning our work has been a commitment to engaging with all communities, to listen to and address concerns and work with the community and statutory partners to develop appropriate interventions where necessary.

We recognised from the outset that we could not achieve our aims by working in isolation and have been committed throughout to strengthening accountability and transparency. Engaging and debating with our communities has been key to increasing our own understanding of the impact on residents of extremism and its links to violence.

Prevent is a Home Office led national strategy with local action plans vigorously reviewed and approved by them before any activity is commenced at a local level. Local Prevent Action Plans remain strictly confidential within only those agencies in attendance at the local Prevent Boards.

Responsible Board/CSP Subgroup:

Prevent Board

What will we aim to achieve this year?

- Target social, peer and educational support and advice to individuals identified as at risk of involvement in extremist activity and violence
- Strengthen community Leadership to enable key individuals and organisations to challenge extremist ideology

- Strengthen positive social networks and institutions to increase their capacity to challenge extremism and violence, and disrupt networks and organisations which are sympathetic to extremism and terrorism
- Ensure robust evaluation is built into the delivery of the Prevent programme and activities to ensure effective monitoring of impact and increased capacity of local organisations to deliver Prevent objectives
- Mainstream Prevent across all Directorates in order to increase Prevent awareness and enhance referrals for those that are vulnerable to extremism.
- Support capacity building with local organisations and providers to support the delivery of Prevent and the safeguarding agenda locally.
- Ensure corporate Safeguarding Policy includes Prevent as a key strand.
- Ensure that WRAP training is provided to a broad range of organisations, across front line operational teams to community organisations and through to Cllrs and executive members of the Council.
- The delivery of Home Office funded projects which are community based.
- Continue with the parental engagement project and working with VAWG led for joint training and awareness session

How will we measure success?

- Number of Prevent Board Meetings per year
- Number of referrals to Social Inclusion Panel (under 18 years of age)
- Number of referrals to Safeguarding Adults Board (over 18 years of age)
- Number of training sessions delivered per year (including categories of those trained)
- Number of individuals trained per year (including categories of those trained)

How will we do this?

- The Prevent Action Plan is currently being developed awaiting confirmation of Home Office funded projects for 2016-17. (April 2016) Once completed this will be shared with the Prevent Board to be signed off. In year action plans remain a confidential document for the Prevent Board to only as stipulated by the Home Office
- The Partnership and Prevent Team within the Council and Police officers will work with Home Office approved service providers to engage those at risk of involvement in extremism and violence and strengthen community leadership and resilience against it.
- Quarterly monitoring data in regards to the projects provide an update on activity and challenges. Updates on performance are shared at the bi monthly Prevent Board.
- Both the Social Inclusion Panel and Safeguarding Adults Panel lead on referrals regarding Prevent and will continue to lead on this and again share information at the Prevent Board and CSP Board each quarter.
- Each quarter the training that is delivered both through the Community Engagement post and also the Prevent Curriculum Advisor post are reported to the Home Office and an update provided to the Prevent Board and CSP Board.

Cross-Cutting Priorities

When the Strategic Assessment and Public Consultation findings were presented to the Community Safety Partnership, they recognised that there were a number of areas of work that cut across other priority areas. Action taken to address the stand-alone priorities would be impacted by and impact upon these cross-cutting areas. For this reason the Community Safety Partnership agreed that this Plan would also contain the following cross-cutting priorities:

Public Confidence & Victim Satisfaction

Reducing Re-offending

MOPAC 7

Cross-Cutting Priority 1:

Public Confidence & Victim Satisfaction

Why is it a priority?

Public Confidence is a Government priority and a measurement of the level of Confidence in Policing and the wider partnership. Reducing the community's fear of crime is therefore a priority as how we deal with crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour impacts on the community's well-being, confidence to report incidents and support of future investigations and prosecutions.

The perception of, and fear of both crime and ASB directly impacts on public confidence. Being a victim of or knowing a victim of a Serious Acquisitive Crime (robbery, burglary, car crime and theft), has a particular impact on public confidence and can generate negative perceptions of both agencies and particular geographical areas or estates in the borough.

Responsible Board/CSP Sub-group:

Confidence and Satisfaction Board

What will we aim to achieve this year?

- Ensure that residents and people who work in or visit the borough, have a realistic understanding of the levels of crime and disorder within the borough, so that their fear does not become disproportionate
- Encourage people to take reasonable steps to protect themselves, their neighbours and their property
- Ensure that people continue to report crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour to the relevant agencies and that they are confident their issues will be dealt with
- Reduce the level of reported ASB and Crime, including Serious Acquisitive Crime, which are known drivers of public confidence
- Improve the public's perception of police by 20% and improve satisfaction with the policing service provided

How will we measure success?

- % of residents who feel the Police deal effectively with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime
- Perceptions of Crime and ASB as measured by MPS and Council data reduced based on 2012/13 end of year performance data.
  - Local concern about ASB and Crime a) Drunk and rowdy behaviour in a public place
  - Local concern about ASB and Crime b) Vandalism and Graffiti

- o Local concern about ASB and Crime c) Drug use or drug dealing as a problem
- o Local council and police are dealing effectively with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime
- Year on year improvement in published performance data relating to Confidence and Satisfaction measures

How will we do this?

- Continue and improve partnership working to provide a quality response to all victim needs and identified crime trends.
- Respond to every victim's call for help by responding in a timely fashion while delivering a quality service.
- Contact every victim of ASB to establish how we can support them better, to improve theirs and their community's quality of life.
- Contacts a range of victims of crime to identify the level of service delivered and identify opportunities to improve service delivery.
- Improve our communication of good news 'you said, we did'

What we will aim to achieve over the term of this plan?

- 20% Increase in Public Confidence
- Reduce the Volume of Reported Crime and ASB each year from a baseline measured on 2012/13 financial year.
- Improve our Confidence and Satisfaction Performance data by 2 percentage points per year based on 2012/13 financial year.
- Through better contact with victims, we will improve victim care and increase our Public Confidence and Satisfaction performance that will contribute together with other activity to show Tower Hamlets as the 'best in class' within inner London.

Cross-Cutting Priority 2:

Reducing Re-offending

Why is it a priority?

Partners in Tower Hamlets are committed to working together to reduce crime and disorder, and tackling deprivation, worklessness and social exclusion. We know that 50% of all crime is committed by people who have already been through the criminal justice system – re-conviction rates for some offenders can reach over 70%.

IOM: In Tower Hamlets, like most boroughs there are a relatively small number of people who carry out the majority of criminal acts. By targeting resources at these prolific offenders, to improve the level of support provided for those who wish to change their lives in a positive way and fast-tracking the prosecution process for those who refuse to change, we aim to reduce the number of prolific offenders in the borough and make it a safer environment for everyone.

MAPPA: Persons who are subject to MAPPA oversight are by their very nature some of the most dangerous offenders living in our community. Public safety is critical and it is also essential that MAPPA subjects are provided with the opportunity and cause to stop offending, through various mechanisms including rehabilitative interventions.

GANGS: Gang violence remains an issue for the borough; Tower Hamlets has a high number of young people involved with gangs with offences such as robbery and violence being committed. During 2015/16 over 150 knives were recovered - from people carrying them in public places, from weapons sweeps and also from test purchase operations. The number of knife crime victims under 25 is a concern for the CSP.

Responsible Board/CSP Sub-group:

Reducing Re-offending Board (RRB)
Youth Offending Team (YOT) Management Board

What will we aim to achieve this year?

- Reduce the level of recorded crime within the borough
- Reduce the level of the 'Gang Indicator crimes' within the borough
- Ensure there is adequate provision (e.g. housing and ETE) so that prolific and/or dangerous offenders can be rehabilitated and the public protected
- Work with partners to identify a common approach to the use of Criminal Behaviour Orders
- Develop a Youth IAG and Young Advisors programme to ensure young people have a voice and that they can help influence the partnership approach to these and other challenges

How will we measure success?

<u>Young People</u>

- Number of Youths not entering Criminal Justice System through YOS EIP
- Proven reduced re-offending by offenders supported by Youth Offending Service

<u>Gangs</u>

Gang Indicator crimes –

- Serious Violence
- Violence With Injury
- Knife crime
- Knife injury
- Gun crime
- Gun discharges
- SYV victims
- Knife Injury victims under 25 no DA related

<u>IOM</u>

- No. of red and amber offenders with a 'need' versus the no. where the need has been met. The "need" categories are: Accommodation, ETE, Mental Health, Substance Misuse & Benefits

<u>MAPPA</u>

- No. of L2 / L3 offenders with an accommodation need v no. of offenders with that need met
- No. of L3 offenders committing a serious offence within the period of supervision
- No. of L3 offenders committing a serious offence within 28 days after the end of the period of supervision

How will we do this?

- Better identify youths who are suitable for non-Criminal Justice outcomes by improved triage processes and introduce conditional cautioning as a disposal option.
- Improve drug testing activity in Police custody, to identify potential offenders and provide support / treatment
- Improve partnership engagement to better identify third sector agencies that can support identified offenders who require help to escape their life of crime.
- Secure additional housing and/or other services such as ETE, to meet the needs of the offenders

- Enhance our daily contact with named individuals through the Integrated Offender Management Team (Police, Probation and Drug Intervention Project), to ensure their on-going commitment to a non-criminal lifestyle
- Use of the YJB Re-offending toolkit which enables management to target resources to those groups committing the most re-offending, using live data.

Cross-Cutting Priority 3

MOPAC 7

Why is it a Priority?

The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) under their remit as Police and Crime Commissioner for London have produced their 3 year Police and Crime Plan. Within their plan are 7 reduction targets relating to key neighbourhood crimes, which in total MOPAC have set a target for the Metropolitan Police Service to reduce by 20% by the end of March 2016.

Using the financial year of 2011/12 as a baseline, each London Borough Police have been set individual targets against each of the 7 key crimes to obtain an overall 20% reduction. These individual reduction targets have been reviewed and set annually based on each financial year's performance during the 3 year term of the Police and Crime Plan.

Tower Hamlets Community Safety Partnership Plan is aligned to the London Police and Crime Plan both in terms of MOPAC 7 priorities and length of term.

Responsible Board/CSP Sub-group:

Tactical Tasking and Co-ordinating Group (TTCG)

What will we aim to achieve this year?

- Reduction in the total number of MOPAC 7 basket offences/crimes
- Reduction in the total number of Burglaries
- Reduction in Criminal Damage
- Reduction in Robbery
- Reduction in Theft from Motor Vehicle
- Reduction in Theft/Taking of Motor Vehicle
- Reduction in Theft from Person
- Reduction in Violence with Injury

How will we measure success?

- Number of MOPAC 7 basket offences/crimes
- Number of Burglaries
- Number of incidents of Criminal Damage
- Number of Robberies
- Number of Thefts from Motor Vehicles
- Number of Theft/Taking of Motor Vehicles
- Number of Thefts from Person
- Number of incidents of Violence with Injury

How will we do this?

Integrated offender management and targeted work around prolific and priority offenders is key to reducing these types of crimes. Working in partnership, agencies such as the Police, Probation, drug treatment services and the Council can manage these offenders by providing a range of interventions from treatment and support which seek to address the causes, to criminal justice interventions such as the courts.

<u>Violence with Injury</u>

- Identification and Priority Cohort – the key trigger for diversion and engagement targeted support and enforcement measures will be based on intelligence about young people shared between key partners and stakeholders
- Young people (8-17 years) at risk of involvement in violent behaviour (including victims of Serious Youth Violence); those seeking a route out of violence and gang culture; and those being considered for enforcement measures due to refusing to exit violent lifestyles
- Referrals will continue to come from schools to the Social Inclusion Panel and support will extend to siblings of the target cohort as well as children of adult offenders via the Youth Inclusion Support Programme. The Youth Offending Prevention Service will build on its existing referral mechanisms for parents and self-referrals.
- Referrals from Royal London Hospital A&E and Trauma Wards
- We will also build on the Council's current arrangements for ASB enforcement measures and Gang Injunctions to ensure that young people have access to support services to prevent further escalation
- Support available includes education, training, employment, accommodation (Police – Safe and Secure Initiative), substance misuse services, parental support, violent offenders/identity workshops, mentoring and positive activities, health and emotional wellbeing services and having a named key-worker
- Early enforcement includes behaviour contracts (including exclusion zones and prohibitions), joint home visits and 'Buddi' monitoring tags.
- Civil enforcement includes Gang Injunctions, Parenting Orders, Civil Injunctions and Individual Support Orders
- The Integrated Youth and Community Service will work in partnership with the Police and respond to 'Youth on Youth Violence" issues and engage them into structured learning opportunities
- The Police will use a range of activities to tackle serious youth violence, this will include activity analysis, weapons sweeps and seizures, arrests, detections, search warrants, CHIS coverage and financial investigation
- Produce gang related intervention profiles (GRIPs) on each individual which will include information on and from Matrix analysis.
- Police will work to the 'action plans' for Violence with Injury and Domestic Violence which are designed to drive forward performance

Robbery and Theft from Person

- Areas of high risk need will need to be identified through the TTCG process and staff allocated as required, a conscious decision needs to be made between Local Authority and Police as to where their limited resources are best deployed at a given time
- Additional support and training needs to be given to teachers and those that have the closest interactions with youth in order to educate them on personal safety.
- Raise awareness on personal safety when exiting transport hubs and being aware of their property

Burglary

- Landlords, Local Authority and Police to work closer together to reduce the number of properties/areas that are attractive to burglars, as offenders will look for the easiest option for the highest yield with the lowest risk of being detected.
- Address common themes and remind owners to take simple steps to protect their property, like securing windows and doors
- Work with developers to design out crime during the planning stages of new residential developments
- Work in partnership with Queen Mary University to educate students, target harden dorms and reduce burglaries/thefts from both student accommodation and campus
- Work with schools officers to engage with schools about crime prevention tactics
- Partnership working with businesses to reduce the amount of thefts from business premises, including use of key fob entry systems and designing out crime opportunities

Vehicle Crime

- Increase education of owners of particular motor cycles/mopeds to ensure increased security of these high risk vehicles
- Signage in high crime hotspots to educate owners to secure and protect their vehicles
- Use publicity to address emerging trends in types of vehicle being targeted to prevent further offences
- Increase education of owners/drivers and in particular non-resident parking area users to ensure they take steps to reduce risk and secure both vehicle and contents
- Deter drivers form leaving valuables on display for opportunist crimes

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APPENDIX 2 – Equalities Considerations

The Community Safety Plan 2013-16 is informed by both the Strategic Assessment 2012 and annual Strategic Assessments within its term, which analyses data on the trends and future local challenges, and through consultation with both members of the public and the wide membership of the Community Safety Partnership (Safe and Cohesive Community Plan Delivery Group). A number of cross cutting issues were also considered as part of this process.

From this detailed evaluation of the strategic landscape and assessment of the most effective governance arrangements, priority areas were developed. This included consideration of the drivers of crime locally and equalities - through the impact on people from different protected characteristic groups. This has influenced the identification of the Plan's priorities for 2013-16, which are:

- Gangs and Serious Youth Violence
- Anti-Social Behaviour (including Arson)
- Drugs and Alcohol
- Violence (inc. Domestic Violence and Violence Against Women and Girls)
- Prostitution
- Hate Crime and Cohesion
- Killed or Seriously Injured
- Property / Serious Acquisitive Crime

Cross-cutting Priorities:

- Public Confidence
- Reducing Re-offending
- MOPAC 7

A high level test of relevance equalities screening has been undertaken on the Plan. This is attached as appendix 2. As the Plan is to be further developed through Community Safety Partnership (CSP) subgroup action plans – further detailed evaluation of equalities in the action plans will be undertaken by those subgroups to ensure they continue to be considered with the development of the Plan.

The Plan is a jointly owned partnership approach – it is not solely owned by the Council – so the authority will communicate the importance of ensuring subgroups give 'due regard' to equalities in the action plan development process and are aware of the requirement to provide appropriate evidence: These considerations will be recorded through the inclusion of equalities considerations in the template for creating their action plans. As sub-group action plans are presented to the Community Safety Partnership (Safe and Cohesive CPDG) equalities considerations will be evaluated by the members.

APPENDIX 3 - Equalities Analysis - Initial Screening Document

This document is to be used for:-

- Establishing whether an Equality Analysis needs to be undertaken for the policy, function or strategy. *(Based on Section 4 around Impacts)*
- Reviewing existing equality analysis (EQIA) to ascertain whether the original EQIA needs revising.

Section 1 – General Information

Name of the Policy or Function
Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16

Service area
Safer Communities Service

Team name
The Community Safety Partnership

Service manager
Emily Fieran-Reed

Name and role of the officer completing the Initial Screening
(Explain why these people were selected i.e. the knowledge and experience they bring to the process)
Colin Hewitt – CSP Officer, Community Safety

Section 2 - Information about the Policy or Function

Is this a policy or function?   Policy ☒   Function ☐

Is the policy or function strategic or developmental?

Strategic ☒   Developmental ☐

Is this a new or existing policy or function?   New ☒   Existing ☐

If for a new policy or function, please indicate the date this form was undertaken
April 2013

If for an existing policy or function, what was the original date(s) the equality analysis (Initial Screening or EQIA) was undertaken
(please attach a copy of any previous equality analysis)

What are the main aims and objectives of the Policy or Function

There is a legal requirement for each Community Safety Partnership formerly Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (Safe & Cohesive CPDG) to have a Community Safety Plan.

The Safe and Cohesive Plan 2013-2016 has been created in consultation with members of the Safe & Cohesive CPDG. The objective of the Plan is to address the following local priorities:

- Gangs and Serious Youth Violence
- Anti-Social Behaviour and Arson
- Drugs and Alcohol
- Violence (inc. Domestic Violence and Violence Against Women and Girls)
- Prostitution
- Hate Crime and Cohesion
- Killed or Seriously Injured
- Property/Serious Acquisitive Crime

Cross-cutting Priorities:

- Public Confidence
- Reducing Re-offending
- MOPAC 7

Who are the main stakeholders:
The London Borough of Tower Hamlets
The Police
London Fire Brigade
Probation Services
Health, NHS, CCG and Public Health
Those who live, work, study and visit the borough

Is this policy/function associated with any other policy or function of the Council
(i.e. Community Plan, One Tower Hamlets etc.)

- The Community Plan
- Children and Young People's Plan
- Substance Misuse Strategy 2011-2014 (Drugs &Alcohol)
- Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy
- Integrated Offender Management Plan
- Tower Hamlets Prevent Delivery Plan (under review in line with National Guidance)
- ASB Profile
- Hate Crime Strategy
- Community Cohesion Contingency Plan

Section 3 – Information about <u>Existing</u> Policies and, or Changes to Functions only

Has there been any 'significant' change to the Policy or Function?

Yes   No ☐

If yes, Please indicate what the change will be and what has brought about this change to the policy or function?

has been NO SIGNIFICANT amendments to an existing policy/function there is no need to continue to Section 4 below or a full equalities analysis

Section 4 – The Impact

(Briefly assess the potential impact that the policy/function could have on each of the target groups. The potential impact could be negative, positive or neutral. If you have assessed negative potential impact for any of the target groups you will need to also assess whether that negative potential impact is high, medium or low). Please also indicate if there is any link to Community Cohesion.

Identify the potential impact on the following groups and:

Target Groups What impact will the 'new' or 'significantly' amended policy or function have on specific groups of service users?	Impact – Positive or Adverse	Reason(s) • Please add a narrative to justify your claims around impacts and, • Please describe the analysis and interpretation of evidence to support your conclusion as this will inform members decision making • Can the negative impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality?
Race	Positive	For race equality the priority of addressing Hate Crime and Cohesion may be of particular relevance. The data collected in the CSP Strategic Assessment 2012 suggests that depending on your racial background, the likelihood of you being a victim of crime or identified as a perpetrator of crime varies significantly. The analysis below summarises this information and sets out key areas which will be addressed by sub-groups in developing detailed plans to reduce crime, protect victims and promote equality for people from different racial backgrounds. **National crime data** There is a significant amount of national and regional evidence about the different experiences of crime by people from different racial background, some of which is summarised below. These suggest possible areas of inequality locally. In developing the CSPP sub-group action plans we will seek to collect and analyse local data to identify patterns in the borough: **Overall crime:** Analysis from the Ministry of Justice's Statistics on Race and the Criminal Justice System 2010 and according to the 2010/11 British Crime Survey, showed that nationally the risk of being a victim of personal crime was higher for adults from a Mixed background than for other ethnic

groups. It was also higher for members of all BME groups than for the White group. Over the five year period 2006/7 to 2010/11, there was a statistically significant fall in the risk of being a victim of personal crime for members of the White group of 0.8%. The apparent decrease for those from BME groups was not statistically significant.

Violent crime: Of the 2,007 homicides nation-wide recorded between 2007/8 and 2009/10, 75% of victims were White, 12% Black and 8% Asian. These proportions are lower for the white group and higher for the Black and Asian groups than reflected in estimates of the general population. In the majority of homicide cases, victims were suspected of being killed by someone of the same ethnic group, which is consistent with the previous trend (88% of White victims, 78% of Black victims and 60% of Asian victims).

Arrest and sanction rates: Across England and Wales, there was a 3% decrease in the total number of arrests in 2009/10 (1,386,030) compared to 2005/6 (1,429,785). The number of arrests for the White group also decreased during this period, arrests of Black persons rose by 5% and arrests of Asian people by 13%. Overall, there were more arrests per 1,000 population of each BME group (except for Chinese or Other) than for people of White ethnicity in 2009/10. Per 1,000 population, Black persons were arrested 3.3 times more than White people and those from Mixed ethnic group 2.3 times more than White people.

Conviction ratios for indictable offences were higher for White persons in 2010 than those in the Black and Asian groups (81% for White, 74% for Black and 77% for Asian). A higher percentage of those in the BME groups were sentenced to immediate custody for indictable offences than in the White group in 2010 (White 23%, Black 27%, Asian 29% and Other 42%), this is mainly due to differences in plea between ethnic groups.

Regional crime data:
Analysis from the MOPAC Policing and Crime Plan 2013-17 Equality Impact Assessment 2013 states that London is disproportionately affected by crime problems, such as robbery and knife crime, typically associated with young males who often operate in groups or 'gangs'. Current analysis shows that all of the gang members scored on the MPS matrix are male and that 79% are described as Black and Minority Ethnic (BME). In 2011 14% of homicides (19) were gang related and two thirds (12) were teenagers and all but one was male and from a BME background.

Hate crime: Analysis from the MOPAC Policing and Crime Plan 2013-17 Equality Impact Assessment 2013 states that hate crime is greatly unreported and which is a great concern for many communities. In 2011/12 there was a 6.8% reduction in the number of reported racist and religious hate crimes.

Analysis by the Home Office shows that there were 43,748 hate crimes recorded by the police in 2011/12 in England and Wales, of which 35,816 (82%) were race hate crimes

The number of Racially motivated crimes/incident recorded by the Police in 2010/11 was 18% lower at 51,187, than they were during the 5 year period 2006/7 to 2010/11.

Local data
Analysis from the CSP Strategic Assessment 2012 under Cohesion & Hate Crime indicator recording the number of racist and religious offences showed a 9% decrease (34 less) in the number of offences in the year up to September 2012, when compared to the previous year. Offence numbers have remained reasonable static for the last 3 years, with an average of 358 offences a year, or one a day.

Recommendations from CSP Strategic Assessment to CSP and Subgroups were that their action plans should maintain a continued focus on all Hate Crime Offences of which Racist and Religious Offences fall into. The CSP and its Subgroups to continue their work around education of potential victims and suspects within this crime category and to carry on with various education/crime prevention plans linked to this subject.

Analysis from the CSP Strategic Assessment 2012 provided by the Metropolitan Police to Victim Support regarding victims of crime by ethnicity and age is not thorough and reliant on the information recorded on the Police CRIS system. However combined figures for segmented groups into large groups (Asian, White, Black, Other) shows that during the period 1st October 2011 to 30th September 2012, 45% of victims of crime were from the White group, 35% from the Asian group and 9% from the Black group. Population figures for Tower Hamlets from the 2011 Census shows 45% from the White group, 41% from the Asian Group and 7% from the Black group. Therefore the Asian group is underrepresented by 6 percentage points and the Black group is over represented by 2 percentage points.

Looking at crime breakdown by ethnicity White people are over represented in the borough being victims to 60% of burglary and 50% of robbery, when compared to the population figure of 45%. Black people are over represented in the borough being victims to 12% of violent crime, when compared to

		the population figure of 7%. **Recommendation** from Victim Support in the CSP Strategic Assessment 2012 is for the Metropolitan Police to improve the recording of specific hate crime categories which will improve the referrals to Victim Support via the automatic data transfer from the Police CRIS system. More accurate recording of ethnicity of victims will enable Victim Support to analyse trends in crimes for the borough and assist in targeted work for CSP Subgroups to deliver.
Disability	Positive	For disability equality, the priority of addressing Hate Crime and Cohesion may be of particular relevance. **National and regional data** **Analysis** by the Home Office shows that there were 43,748 hate crimes recorded by the police in 2011/12 in England and Wales, of which 1,744 (4%) were disability hate crimes **Analysis** of regional police force figures show that there were 133 disability hate crimes recorded by the Metropolitan Police Force in 2011. This demonstrates a 14.66% increase on the number of recorded disability hate crimes in 2010 (116) and a 34% increase when compared to the ACPO figures for London in 2009 (99). **Analysis** in the British Crime Survey 2010/11 shows that Disabled people are significantly more likely to be victims of crime than non-disabled people. This gap is largest amongst 16-34 year-olds where 39 per cent of disabled people reported having been a victim of crime compared to 28 per cent of non-disabled people. Disabled people are less likely than their non-disabled peers to think the Criminal Justice System (CJS) is fair. This gap is largest amongst 16-34 year-olds, where 54 per cent of disabled people think that the CJS is fair compared to 66 per cent of non-disabled people **Analysis** from the MOPAC Policing and Crime Plan 2013-17 Equality Impact Assessment 2013 states that hate crime is greatly unreported and which is a great concern for many communities. There is significant underreporting of disability hate crimes (according to the Met's 2011/12 Annual Report). **Local data:** **Analysis** from the Tower Hamlets Local Voices report (Hearing the Voices of Disabled People in Tower Hamlets) produced by REAL in 2013, of which 99 disabled people responded to the survey showed that the number one issue for 12% of the survey respondents and number 2 issue for 9.1% of

the respondents was Crime and Safety. Older people, Asian people and those with a Mental Health condition has slightly higher levels of concern and a greater sense that crime and safety services were failing disabled people than others. Nearly half of the survey respondents disagreed/strongly disagreed that disabled people were safe from harassment and hate crime and only 30% agreed they were safe. Within each gender, age and ethnicity groups of those disabled people who completed the survey, it was Men, people under 60 and Asian people who most tended not to agree that disabled people were safe. Amongst different impairment groups, disagreement was particularly high for people with visual impairment (55%), people with learning disability or cognitive impairment (80%) and people with mental health condition (87%). Overall 28% of survey respondents believed crime and safety services did not serve disabled people well, making it fourth worst performing service out of the survey. People with visual impairment were particularly critical, with 25% saying it fails disabled people.

Response - In line with the equalities duty and the No Place For Hate & Domestic Violence action plan, The Domestic Violence & Hate Crime Team are committed to supporting both agencies and disabled service users in the context of all crime and disorder.

The DV & Hate Crime Team currently provide monthly training to service users who experience mental health illness & learning disabilities around recognising what domestic violence and hate crime is, which also shows them how they can report incidents. We have recently produced an 'easy read' DV leaflet for adults with learning disabilities and will have finished an easy read HC leaflet by November 2013. The team also provide regular training to the Community Mental Health Team, Safeguarding Adults Board, Safeguarding Adults Champions and local community groups including REAL, Positive East and MIND.

| Gender | Positive | For gender equality, the priority of addressing Violence (with a focus on Domestic Violence) may be of particular relevance. |

National and regional data
Analysis from the Ministry of Justice's Statistics on Women and the Criminal Justice System 2012, shows an estimated three in every 100 adults were a victim of violent crime according to the Crime Survey England and Wales 2011/12, with 2% of women reporting being victims of violent crime compared to 4% of men. The type of violence most commonly reported differs by gender. Women who reported being a victim of violence were most commonly victimized by an acquaintance whereas men

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most commonly were victims of stranger violence.

A higher proportion of women reported being victims of intimate violence such as partner or family non-physical abuse, threats sexual assault or stalking - 7% of women compared with 5% of men.

201 women were victims of homicide in 2010/11 compared with 435 men according to data from the Homicide Index. A greater proportion of female victims than male victims knew the principal suspect, 78% and 57% respectively in 2011.

34% of females and 31% of males were arrested for violence against the person in 2010/11 - the most common offence group for arrest during the five year period 2006/7 to 2010/11.
According to the Ministry of Justice figures for 2010/11 by Police Force area, the Metropolitan Police arrested 50,293 men and 9,464 women that year for Violence Against the Person. The next highest was 28,207 arrests of men and 8,471 arrests of women for Theft and Handling, followed by 20,980 arrests of men and 1,894 arrests of women for Drug Offences.

Nationally more than 1.2m persons of known gender were convicted and sentenced at all courts in 2011. Of these 24% were female and 76% were male.

Analysis from the MOPAC Policing and Crime Plan 2013-17 Equality Impact Assessment 2013 states that London is disproportionately affected by crime problems, such as robbery and knife crime, typically associated with young males who often operate in groups or 'gangs'. Current analysis shows that all of the gang members scored on the MPS matrix are male. In 2011 14% of homicides (19) were gang related and two thirds (12) were teenagers and all but one was male.

Local data
Analysis from the CSP Strategic Assessment 2012 under Violent Crime Indicator for the 'Number of Most Serious Violence offences per 1,000 of the population' and 'Number of Assault with Injury' show that victims are more likely to be male although repeat victims are more likely to be female. Currently (October 2013) Non Domestic Violence with Injury accounts for 68% and Domestic Violence With Injury accounts for 32% of all Violence with Injury in the borough. In the town centre hotspot, victims and suspects are less likely to know each other. When they do know each other they are more likely to be acquaintances, whereas on the rest of the borough, they are more likely to have been in a past or current relationship with each other (domestic violence).

Page 205		**Recommendations** from CSP Strategic Assessment to CSP and Subgroups was that their action plan should include a continued focus on Violence Related Offences, the Community Safety Partnership to continue its work around education of potential victims and suspects within this crime category. Carry on with various education plans linked to this subject and continue crime prevention programmes. The subgroup responsible for the CSP Priority Violence (with a focus on Domestic Violence) action plan should contain detailed actions to address these findings, which should lead to a decrease in the number of offences and an increase in partnership working, social cohesion and education around this subject. **Analysis** from the CSP Strategic Assessment 2012 under Violence Against women and Girls, measures the number of Domestic Violence Offences shows an increase in the number of offences by 6% year on year over the three year period. This increase could be down to a number of factors including numbers of people living in the borough, overcrowding and the economic downturn, particularly the associated pressures that these can bring, but also may be down to an increase in confidence to report offences. A lot of work has been done in the borough to raise awareness of domestic violence, specifically Violence Against Women and Girls as it has been both nationally and locally grossly under reported. The Crime Survey for England and Wales estimates that since the age of 16, 29% of Women have experienced Domestic Violence; 20% have experience Sexual Assault and 19% have experienced Stalking. Approximately 97% of all known victims of interpersonal violence in Tower Hamlets are Female, which is a significant gender bias towards Women. **Recommendations** from CSP Strategic Assessment to CSP and Subgroups were that their action plan should include a continued focus on all violence related offences, especially those that can be linked to Domestic Violence. The CSP and Subgroups should continue to work and focus around education of potential victims and engaging with suspects within this crime category. Carry on with various education plans linked to this subject and continue with gender specific crime prevention programmes.
Gender Reassignment	Positive	For transgender equality, the priority of addressing Hate Crime and Cohesion may be of particular relevance, as this priority aims to address all hate crimes, of which trans phobic crime is one. **Analysis** by the Home Office shows that there were 43,748 hate crimes recorded by the police in 2011/12 in England and Wales, of which 315 (1%) were transgender hate crimes. In 2013 Galup's hate crime report stated that there were only 50 transphobic crimes recorded in

		London during 2012/13, yet anecdotal evidence collected by Galup identifies individual trans people who are the target of over 50 transphobic crimes each year. We do not have any local or borough data to analyse as there were no recorded trans phobic crimes in last year according the local Police data.
Sexual Orientation	Positive	For Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual people, the priority of addressing Hate Crime and Cohesion may be of particular relevance. **National and regional data** **Analysis** by the Home Office shows that there were 43,748 hate crimes recorded by the police in 2011/12 in England and Wales, of which 4,252 (10%) were sexual orientation hate crimes. **Analysis** from the MOPAC Policing and Crime Plan 2013-17 Equality Impact Assessment 2013 states that hate crime is greatly unreported and which is a great concern for many communities. In 2011/12 there was a 5.5% reduction in the number of reported homophobic crimes. A report on homophobic crime produced by the Equality and Human Rights Commission shows that LGB people appear to worry about being the victim of crime to a greater degree than other minority groups. In 2008 around 40 per cent of LGB people say they are worried about being the victim of a crime. This compares to 13 per cent of people on average who are worried about being the victim of a crime. A survey of Homophobic hate crime in 2008 showed that eleven per cent of LGB people say being the victim of a crime is their biggest worry. **Local data** **Analysis** from the CSP Strategic Assessment 2012 under Cohesion & Hate Crime indicator recording the number of Homophobic offences shows no pattern in the levels of offences each year. The figures from the control period shows increases one year and decreases the following, this is due to the low number of offences that are reported each year in the borough, 71 in the year up to September 2012. Over the past three years the average number of offences was 73. **Recommendations** from CSP Strategic Assessment to CSP and Subgroups were that their action plan should maintain a continued focus on all Hate Crime Offences of which Homophobic Crime can be categorised. The CSP and its Subgroups should continue their work around education of potential victims to boost confidence and increase reporting and work with the LGB community to address

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		homophobic attitudes which drive hate incidents and hate crimes. It should also carry on with various education/crime prevention plans linked to this subject to prevent further incidents/crimes.
Religion or Belief	Positive	For Religion/Belief equality , the priority of addressing Hate Crime and Cohesion may be of particular relevance. **National and regional data** **Analysis** by the Home Office shows that there were 43,748 hate crimes recorded by the police in 2011/12 in England and Wales, of which 1,621 (4%) were religion hate crimes. **Analysis** from the MOPAC Policing and Crime Plan 2013-17 Equality Impact Assessment 2013 states that hate crime is greatly unreported and which is a great concern for many communities. In 2011/12 there was a 6.8% reduction in the number of reported racist and religious hate crimes. **Local data** **Analysis** from the CSP Strategic Assessment 2012 under Cohesion & Hate Crime indicator recording the number of racist and religious offences showed a 9% decrease (34 less) in the number of offences in the year up to September 2012, when compared to the previous year. Offence numbers have remained reasonable static for the last 3 years, with an average of 358 offences a year, or one a day. **Recommendations** from CSP Strategic Assessment to CSP and Subgroups were that their action plans should maintain a continued focus on all Hate Crime Offences of which Racist and Religious Offences fall into. The CSP and its Subgroups to continue their work around education of potential victims and suspects within this crime category and to carry on with various education/crime prevention plans linked to this subject.
Age	Positive	For age equality , the priorities of addressing Gangs & Serious Youth Violence and Reducing Re-offending may be of particular relevance. **National and regional data** **Analysis** from the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime states that London is disproportionately affected by crime problems, such as robbery and knife crime, typically associated with young males who often operate in groups or 'gangs'. In 2011 14% of homicides (19) were gang related and two thirds (12) were teenagers. Gang members mostly fall into the 13-24 age range, with the largest cohort being 18-24 (75% of the highest harm individuals are over the age of 18); intelligence also suggests

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that 10-13 year olds are increasingly being drawn into gang membership.

Analysis from the Ministry of Justice's Breaking the Cycle: Effective punishment, rehabilitation and sentencing of offending 2010, states that 75% of young people released from custody and 68% of young people on community sentences re-offend within a year

Analysis from the CSP Strategic Assessment 2012 provided by the Metropolitan Police to Victim Support regarding victims of crime by ethnicity and age is not thorough. However looking at victim breakdown by age shows that 18 – 24 year olds are over represented at 24% of the borough's victims when compared to the population figure from the 2011 census of 12%. It also shows that 25-34 year olds are over represented in the victim breakdown for the borough at 34%, when compared to this group making up 25% of the population.

<u>Local data</u>

Analysis from the CSP Strategic Assessment 2012 under Violent Crime Indicator for the 'Number of Most Serious Violence offences per 1,000 of the population' and 'Number of Assault with Injury' show that offenders and victims show similar patterns of age, with a peak occurring in the 20's and a steep decline as age increases.

Recommendations from CSP Strategic Assessment to CSP and Subgroups was that their action plan should include a continued focus on Violence Related Offences, the Community Safety Partnership to continue its work around education of potential victims and suspects within this crime category. Carry on with various education plans linked to this subject and continue crime prevention programmes. The subgroup responsible for the CSP Priority Violence (with a focus on Domestic Violence) action plan should contain detailed actions to address these findings, which should lead to a decrease in the number of offences and an increase in partnership working, social cohesion and education around this subject. It recommends a continued investment in youth diversionary/outreach services to prevent young people being involved in crime and anti-social behaviour either as a victim or a perpetrator. The borough Gangs Matrix aims to tackle those already involved in gang activity/crime, offering ways out of offending behaviour or where this is not accepted by the offender, taking enforcement action against them.

Analysis from the CSP Strategic Assessment 2012 under Violent Crime Indicator for the number of 'Hospital admissions for unintentional and deliberate injuries for young people aged 0 – 17 years, shows that 0 – 4 and 5 – 14 age groups by 3 year pooled data, show downward trends in the numbers of admissions, with a more pronounced downward trend in 0 – 4 year age group.

Recommendations from CSP Strategic Assessment to CSP and Subgroups are for

- Programmes that support parents and families, develop life skills in children, work with high risk youth and reduce availability of and misuse of alcohol have proven effective at reducing violence. Measures to ensure appropriate identification, care and support mechanisms are in place are important in minimising the harms caused by violence and reducing its recurrence.
- Reducing violence to 0-5 does depend on widespread, multi-sectorial action and requires a well-planned strategic approach to involving all members of the partnership and Local Safeguarding Children Board. Moving straight into action planning now would be precipitate. However better data on presentations to A7E (work is on-going), we need better information on what is being delivered across the piece and thirdly we need a strategy that sets out what, why and how we are proposing action.

The subgroup responsible for the CSP Priority Violence (with a focus on Domestic Violence) and Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) action plans should contain detailed actions to address these findings, which should lead to a decrease in the number of offences and an increase in partnership working, social cohesion and education around this subject.

Analysis from the CSP Strategic Assessment 2012 under Property Crime indicator 'Number of Personal Robberies' will also contain some correlation with Serious Youth Violence and Knife Crime and shows that School pupils and students account for almost half of all victims on the borough, with mobile phones being the most frequently stolen property around 29% of all property taken. Personal Robbery appears to be mainly a crime whereby the majority of suspects are aged between 15 and 19 years and the majority of victims tend to be youths. Knife Enabled Robbery remained a persistent proportion of all personal robbery offences.

Recommendations from CSP Strategic Assessment to CSP and Subgroups was that their action plan should include a continued focus on Personal Robbery Offences and offenders as there are overlaps between offenders for robbery and other offence types. Community Safety Partnership and subgroups to continue their work around education of potential victims and suspects within this crime category. Carry on with various education plans linked to this subject and continue with crime prevention programmes. The subgroups responsible for the CSP Priorities Reducing Re-offending and Gangs & Serious Youth Violence action plans should contain detailed actions to address these findings, which should lead to a decrease in the number of offences and an increase in partnership working, social cohesion and education around this subject.

Analysis from the CSP Strategic Assessment 2012 under Youth Crime, measures the number of victims, offenders, incidents, entering custody, successfully completing orders and proven re-offending of young people. They show clear correlations between Knife Crime Offences, Robbery Offences and Serious Youth Violence as these offences tend to overlay each other in crime types and peak and trough at the same time throughout the year.

Recommendations from CSP Strategic Assessment to CSP and Subgroups was that their action plan should acknowledge the clear correlation between Knife Crime, Robbery and Serious Youth Violence and vital partnership working around all three identify the link and adapt their plans accordingly to ensure that they are all part of the strategy and performance measure. Increase in activity around hotspot wards for these offences will impact on one another as there is a link between the schools and robbery offences. Partnership working around facilities provided (ie. Schools, youth clubs and leisure facilities), as 80% of all Tower Hamlets' serious youth violence victims lives within the borough. The subgroups responsible for the CSP Priorities Reducing Re-offending and Gangs & Serious Youth Violence action plans should contain detailed actions to address these findings, which should lead to a decrease in the number of offences and an increase in partnership working, social cohesion and education around this subject.

Analysis from the CSP Strategic Assessment 2012 under Drugs and Alcohol, measures the number of Young People taking drugs and or alcohol in specialist treatment has shown an 11.5% increase in the number of Young People in treatment over the three year period. This could be down to the realignment of services due to changes in funding, the YOT becoming part of the specialist treatment network and having a dedicated drug worker or a combination of both. However it is expected that the performance over the coming 3 years is likely to stay relatively stable, which goes against the national trend of a decrease over both periods.

Recommendations from CSP Strategic Assessment to CSP and Subgroups was that specialist treatment service should continue to be monitored and adjustments made to it in accordance with the needs of the users/clients.

Analysis of National Research shows that Domestic violence is a significant issue for the welfare of children and young people. It is estimated that nearly three quarters of children on the 'at risk' register live in households where domestic violence is occurring (Department of Health 2002 – Women's Mental Health: Into the mainstream). The majority of children in households experiencing domestic

		violence will witness abusive behaviour. It is estimated that 90% of children are in the same or next room when abuse occurs (Hughes, 1992) **Response** from Tower Hamlets Safeguarding Children's Board is that it has risk assessment tool to support professionals in identifying risks to children in families experiencing domestic violence and ensure appropriate response and actions. The tool and accompanying guidance supports the London safeguarding children board procedure "Safeguarding children abused through domestic violence".
Socio-economic	Positive	For this target group, the priorities of Drugs and Alcohol and Reducing Re-offending may be of particular relevance. **Analysis** from the CSP Strategic Assessment 2012 under Violence Against women and Girls, shows an increase in the number of domestic violence offences by 6% year on year over the three year period. This increase could be down to a number of factors including an increasing number of people living in the borough; overcrowding and; the economic downturn, particularly the associated pressures that these can bring, but also may be down to an increase in confidence to report offences. **Recommendations** from CSP Strategic Assessment to CSP and Subgroups were that their action plans should include a continued focus on all violence related offences, especially those that can be linked to Domestic Violence. The CSP and Subgroups should continue to work and focus around education of potential victims and engaging with suspects within this crime category. Carry on with various education plans linked to this subject and continue with crime prevention programmes.
Marriage and Civil Partnerships.	Positive	No data available for analysis
Pregnancy and Maternity	Positive	**Research** nationally shows that It is estimated 30% of domestic violence begins or escalates during pregnancy, and it has been identified as a prime cause of miscarriage or still-birth, premature birth, foetal psychological damage, foetal physical injury and foetal death. The mother may be prevented from seeking or receiving adequate ante-natal or post-natal care. In addition, if the mother is being abused this may affect her attachment to her child, more so if the pregnancy is a result of rape by her partner.

		Response from the CSP and the DV Forum is that they have recognised this increased risk during pregnancy and recent birth of a child. It has included this in their Domestic Abuse Stalking and Honour-based Violence Risk Assessment Form, for consideration of individual cases when taking cases to their Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference on a bi-monthly basis.

As a result of completing the above, what is the potential impact of your policy/function on the public, giving particular regard to potential impacts on minority or protected groups?

High ☐   **Medium**   ☐   **Low**   ☒
Equalities to be further considered at the Action Planning stage.
If you have identified a LOW impact or, there has been NO SIGNIFICANT amendments to an existing policy/function there is no need to continue to a full equalities analysis.

If you have assessed the potential impact as MEDIUM or HIGH you will now need to complete a full equalities analysis - building upon the findings of the initial impact assessment (section 4)

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Non-Executive Report of the: **Overview and Scrutiny** 28th September 2016	TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Communities, Localities and Culture	**Classification:** Unrestricted
Gambling Policy 2016 -2019	

Originating Officer(s)	David Tolley, Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards
Wards affected	All

Summary

As a Licensing Authority the Council must review the existing Gambling Policy and adopt a new policy by November 2016, as one of the responsibilities it has to administer 'high street' licences under the Gambling Act 2005. The purpose of the policy is to define how the responsibilities under the Act are going to be exercised and administered. This is highly prescribed and limited by statute. The Council is not able, for example, to ban gambling or specific forms of gambling.

Subject to agreement the Policy will be presented Cabinet and then to Full Council for adoption under the provisions set out by the Council's Constitution

The policy is now before Overview and Scrutiny, as requested, after consultation, for comment.

The report also considers some of the wider aspects of gambling, which were discussed at the previous Overview and Scrutiny meeting during the consultation process. These wider aspects cannot be considered in terms of the statutory Gambling policy though

Recommendations:

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

1. Review the Gambling Policy 2016 – 2019 and provide any comments on the policy.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

1.1 All relevant local authorities are required under the Gambling Act to review their gambling policy.

1.2 The purpose of the policy is to define how the responsibilities under the Act are going to be exercised and administered.

1.3 A statutory consultation process must take place prior to the adoption of the revised Gambling Policy by full Council.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

2.1 Pursuant to the Gambling Act 2005, the Council is a responsible authority for the licensing of premises used for gambling. If the Council did not have a policy it would be acting ultra vires with regards to any decisions it makes determining gambling premises licences.

2.2 The Gambling Commission has laid down guidance which the Council must have regards to in carrying out their functions under the Act, including setting their Gambling policy. Departure from the guidance without good reason could leave the council at risk of judicial challenge. The Gambling Commission guidance has been followed in drafting the revised Gambling Policy. The policy focuses on the elements covered by the licensing objectives.

3. DETAILS OF REPORT

3.1 All relevant local authorities have to review their gambling policy, as one of the responsibilities they have, under the Gambling Act 2005.

3.2 The purpose of the policy is to define how the responsibilities under the Act are going to be exercised and administered.

3.3 A statutory consultation process must take place prior to the adoption of the revised Gambling Policy by full Council.

3.4 Pursuant to the Gambling Act 2005, the Council is a responsible authority for the licensing of premises used for gambling. If the Council did not have a policy it would be acting ultra vires with regards to any decisions it makes determining gambling premises licences.

3.5 The Gambling Commission has laid down requirements which the Council must follow with regards to the Gambling Policy. If these requirements are not followed, the Council could be at risk of judicial challenge. The Gambling Commission guidance has been followed in drafting the revised Gambling Policy. The policy is limited to considering the elements covered by the licensing objectives. The Council must follow the guidance laid down by the Gambling Commission.

3.6   The Gambling Act 2005 gives local authorities a range of responsibilities relating to gambling. The Gambling Policy states how the Licensing Authority will exercise this responsibility and authority.

3.7   This policy covers the following:

*   How the Licensing Authority will use its regulatory powers in relation to applications and reviews of the activities it regulates, to the extent it is allowed by statute.
*   The main licensing objective for the authority is protecting the vulnerable.
*   The Licensing Authority approach to regulation
*   The scheme of delegation

3.8   The Gambling Policy is prescribed by Central Government and the Gambling Commission. The policy produced has to comply with guidance issued by both of these bodies. The current policy is compatible with this advice and guidance.

3.9   Members should note that some of the major issues and concerns about gambling are not addressed in the policy or by the approach of the consultation. For example, gambling addiction is outside the remit of the consultation, as are arguments about the public benefits, or otherwise, of a more liberal gambling regime.

3.10   The responsibilities the Council have under the Gambling Act 2005 have not been controversial. 80 licences have been issued primarily to betting shops and adult amusement arcades. These businesses are nearly all national companies that have conducted their business within the legal requirements. The number of premises in a particular area is not grounds for objection.

3.11   The Local Authority does not have the powers within its Gambling Policy to regulate on-line gambling sites. All gambling websites trading with, or advertising to, consumers in Britain must have a Gambling Commission licence issued by the Gambling Commission.

3.12   In April 2015 the government changed the use class order so that betting shops were removed from their previous A2 use class and made a 'sui generis' use. As such planning permission is now required to change the use from any other use to a betting shop. This has meant that there is slightly more control under planning legislation to control the growth of Betting Shops.

3.13   Planning powers cannot control existing betting shops if they have already opened up under a permitted change of use (i.e. before the recent changes to the use class order moving betting shops from A2 to 'sui generis'), however any further change of use applications for a betting shop would be subject to a planning application. As part of the determination of the application, issues such as the number of betting shops in the surrounding area could be a consideration if the area was becoming saturated with betting shops.

3.14 There have been several concerns raised though London Councils concerning the fixed odds betting terminals (FOBT's) that have been installed within betting shops. These B2 gambling machines play games of chance such as roulette. With a betting shop licence, the operator can install up to four machines, which have a maximum stake of £100 and a maximum prize of £500. London Councils are promoting that the maximum £100 stake on B2 machines should be changed to £2 to prevent the clustering of betting shops due to the profitability of such gambling machines. Tower Hamlets is a signatory to this campaign.

3.15 We have not experienced the same volume of applications in gambling as we have in other areas of licensing. There has been one application since 2014, this was for a Paddy Power Shop in Roman Road. This application was objected to by the community, but after consideration by the Licensing Sub Committee and legal advice the licence was issued.

3.16 The issues of betting shop clustering and concern over fixed odd betting terminals (FOBT) have shown that gambling generates extremely strong feelings. Whilst licensing authorities do not have the powers to refuse new applications or limit FOBT machines, the requirement for operators to prepare local risk assessments in relation to their premises from April 2016 means that licensing authorities need to set out their expectations within their statements of Gambling Policy.

3.17 The additional requirements to include in the Gambling Policy are noted below:

• to set out a local profile, the Policy links to the Borough profile held on the website, therefore the profile can be updated without the need to re-consult on amending the full Policy.
• details of the inspection format to be used
• risk assessment advice from operators
• sample licence conditions

3.18 During the consultation process a number of representations were made by national Betting shop companies. We have reviewed the comments made therein and have made slight changes to the requirements that are required of operators in relation to their local risk assessments. We have also reflected on the content of our local profile and have added this information onto the website. No further suggestions or changes have been made. The proposed policy is at Appendix One.

3.19 The comments by the Campaign for Fairer Gambling were noted in relation to the use of FOBT's, but this can only be considered on an individual application basis.

3.20 The only controversial applications have been where betting shops have applied to open in close proximity to schools or places of worship. The powers the Council have are limited and it is not possible to make either policy or decisions regarding this issue under the Gambling Policy.

3.21   It is proposed that the current 'no casino' resolution that is currently in the existing policy remains.

3.22   An Equalities checklist has been undertaken as is at Appendix Two.

Wider Considerations of Gambling

3.23   It is important to recognise that peoples gambling behaviour covers a continuum with most people deriving pleasure from gambling and it not having a detrimental impact. However for about 8% of gamblers there is an increased risk with the proportion of those with a problem gambling habit increasing. The impact can be described as follows;

a) The individual: who will experience health and personal problems such as stress, depression and anxiety, job loss, social isolation, financial hardship, and family and relationship issues. Gambling often co-exists alongside mental illness and abuse of alcohol and drugs.

b) The immediate family and wider network of friends and family, possible negative outcomes including family and relationship breakdown, domestic violence and a fall into poverty. The negative impact falls disproportionally on women and children and may exacerbate low income due to zero hour contracts and changes to the benefits systems. Local experience suggests that any money won on gambling was rarely spent on anything but more gambling.

c) The wider community/ society: Problem gambling may be linked to such issues such as unemployment, increased burden on health and welfare services, and an increased take up of benefits. At a local level the impact is often felt by the look of local neighbourhoods/High Streets due to the clustering of outlets and a perception that there is a link to anti-social behaviour such as litter, street drinking and gathering of adults. Staff working alone on premises may feel vulnerable and at risk and reluctant to suggest that customers should take a break from using FOBT for example. Concerns are also raised about proximity to schools or faith venues.

3.24   For health and social care professionals, and even the family and friends of at risk or problem gamblers, the challenge of problem gambling is that it is not easily detectable. It is often described as the 'hidden addiction'. Problem gamblers are far more likely to present with financial, health and relationship issues before an addiction to problem gambling is recognised.

3.25   There are a number of screening tools and questions that can be used by concerned families, GPs and other front line staff in order to identify problem gamblers. These however are not widely used, nor is gambling routinely recorded in GP notes.

3.26   In terms of where individuals can get specialist help nationally there is a range both of organisations and interventions. Examples include:

Gamblers Anonymous
The Gordon Moody Association
Gamcare
Chinese Mental Health Association (CMHA)
CNWL National Gambling Clinic

3.27   For individuals, family and friends to manage the problems of gambling
        particularly the financial implications support may be from the following

        Advice UK
        StepChange
        Citizens Advice Bureau
        National Debtline
        Money Advice Trust

3.28   Some problem gamblers will require referral to the national specialist
        treatment centre at Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust
        (though this is hugely oversubscribed). However there is very little local
        provision or understanding of where those with a problem may get help. In
        addition those who are gambling with increasing risk routine care will not
        identify them.

3.29   We know that residents are worried about the impact of gambling and in
        particular the potential impact on children, but also the make-up and feel of
        their high street. If they feel strongly then they need to speak up and influence
        national and local policy.

3.30   This is included as part of PHSE cyber safety and use of social media as well
        as part of the Healthy Schools. Concern from schools is usually about parents
        being concerned regarding their spouses behaviour

3.31   Gambling profile in the borough: In terms of the adult population 'the
        prevalence of problem gambling is significantly higher in the 16-24 years
        (2.1%) and 25- 34 years (1.5%) than in older adults (0.3% in those aged 55-
        64 years), which reflects similar findings in international research highlighting
        the particular risks of problem gambling for young people.

3.32   When attempting to estimate the local prevalence we used statistical
        techniques to recognise the population profile of the borough (e.g. age, sex
        and ethnicity) and our current estimate in our population is 1.3% i.e. twice the
        national average for problem gambling with 3% at moderate risk. It is likely
        that this is an underestimate. The borough has higher rates than most of
        London. This would equate to in the region of 3,000 problematic gamblers
        with 6,000 at moderate risk.

3.33   As previously stated the impact of gambling has an impact beyond the
        individual. An assumption can be made that for every problem gambler there
        will, as a minimum, be between two to three other individuals affected by
        gambling which significantly increases the scope of work needed to address
        these problems. Therefore as described in the table below the number
        affected will be significantly higher and many of these will be children

Problem Gambling	Estimate	Minimum	Maximum
Gamblers	3600	2200	5000
Affected x 2	7200	4400	10000
Affected x 3	10800	6600	15000

3.34   Domestic violence (DV) is a significant problem in Tower Hamlets. Over 5,000 incidents are reported to the police each year, and DV constitutes about 30% of reported violent crime in the borough. It is a complex problem, requiring a partnership response to respond to it effectively. DV and gambling is not measured officially, however nationally it is known that domestic violence has links with gambling whereby families affected by domestic violence also have drug, alcohol, mental health and gambling issues. Having a gambling problem can be very all-consuming, and as well as the effect on the gamblers themselves, it can have a devastating impact on their relationships with other people, their friends and family. This can take various forms, especially arguing more with your partner or family, especially about money, budgeting and debt, often resulting in financial abuse and coercive control. This can be picked up in the training offer through the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) programme and also highlighted in the training to VAWG Champions going forward.

3.35   A range of support is available both victims of DV or those concerned and wishing to report or seek advice in regards to referral pathways and services. This ranges from the councils Duty Line to the **Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference** (**MARAC**). This is a local, multi agency victim-focused meeting where information is shared on the highest risk cases of domestic violence and abuse between different statutory and voluntary sector agencies

3.36   Problem gambling in a family can also have an effect on children - the impact of stress within the family unit and potential loss of relationship with a parent can have lasting consequences. Locally we do not have any official statistics of domestic violence cases whereby gambling features. However if it were, the following services are available for anyone in the field of DV.

3.37   There are a number of ways in which community safety have engagement with community groups and leaders and this has included through community surgeries, Residents Question Time's through formal partnerships and sub groups across DV, VAWG and Community Safety Partnerships that would raise any issues and also draw out any support in regards to training and awareness needs. The discussion in regards to gambling and older persons was taken to the Older Persons reference group on the 2nd November which included service providers and community leads. They were encouraged to respond to the consultation and the broader discussion in regards to linking in with the work that was in progress in regards to loneliness was being made as a preventative measure to support individuals.

4. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

4.1 There are no specific financial implications emanating from this report which notes the Council's responsibilities as the Licensing Authority. Following a review of the policy it will then be presented to Full Council for adoption for the next three years under the provisions set out by the Council's Constitution

4.2 The costs of each Gambling licence under the Act are reviewed annually as part of the discretionary fees and charges report to Cabinet. The fees cover the cost of administration and compliance contained within the budget for the service.

5. LEGAL COMMENTS

5.1 Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 ('**the 2005 Act**') requires the Council to prepare a statement of the principles that it proposes to apply in exercising its functions under the Act and to determine and then publish this statement. This statement is more commonly known as a Gambling Policy or Statement of Gambling Policy. The legal requirement is for the preparation of the statement of principles to be undertaken every 3 years.

5.2 The current statement of policy was published on 1st November 2013, and therefore the fresh statement must be published before 1st November 2016.

5.3 Pursuant to section 25 of 2005 Act, the Gambling Commission shall from time to time issue guidance as to the manner in which local authorities are to exercise their functions under this Act, and in particular, the principles to be applied by local authorities in exercising functions under the Act. The 5th Guidance was issued in September 2015 and Part 6 of the same provides Guidance to local authorities on the preparation and publication of the statement of licensing policy. The Council should not depart from this guidance without good reason but as stated in paragraph 3.5 of this Report, the guidance has been followed in drafting the revised Gambling Policy.

5.4 Prior to publishing the statement, the Council must undertake statutory consultation as provided by section 349(3) of the Act. Further, in consulting, the Council must comply with the common law principles set out in *R v Brent London Borough Council, ex p Gunning,* (1985) and recently approved by the Supreme Court in *R(Mosely) v LB Haringey 2014*. Those are *'Firstly, the consultation must be at a time when proposals are still at a formative stage. Secondly, the proposer must give sufficient reasons for any proposal to permit of intelligent consideration and response. Thirdly, adequate time must be given for consideration and response. Fourthly, the product of consultation must be conscientiously taken into account in finalising any statutory proposals."*

5.5 Consultation has been carried out as referred to in paragraph 3.18 of the report. The consultation responses have been taken into account to make

relevant adjustments to the proposed Policy and Annex 3 of the proposed Policy at Appendix 1 gives a summary of the issues raised in the responses.

5.6   Pursuant to the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000, the Gambling Policy is required to be part of the Council's policy framework. Article 4 of the Constitution confirms this to be the case and a review of the Gambling Policy requires the procedure set out in the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules. This requires pre-decision scrutiny by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and this report is consistent with that requirement that this report is being considered by the Committee.

5.7   Also pursuant to the Council's Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules, the Mayor as the Executive is responsible for preparing the draft Policy for submission to the full Council. It will therefore be for the Mayor in Cabinet to recommend the draft Policy to Full Council.   The Mayor as the Executive must also carefully consider the consultation responses before making a decision to recommend to Full Council.

5.9   In carrying out its functions, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (the public sector equality duty). An equality analysis will be required which is proportionate to the function in question and its potential impacts. An Equality Analysis Quality Assurance Checklist has been undertaken and which is at Appendix 2. The result of performing such is that "the policy does not appear to have any adverse effects on people who share *Protected Characteristics* and no further actions are recommended at this stage.

6.   ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

6.1   The Equalities Impact Assessment has been reviewed in respect of this policy and no adverse issues have been identified.

7.   BEST VALUE (BV) IMPLICATIONS

7.1   The Gambling policy details the regulatory approach to gambling establishments with the Borough. The fees imposed for the licence are set by government and have been adopted by the Licensing Committee. The fees cover the cost of regulating and administrating the Gambling Policy.

8.   SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

8.1   There are no environmental impacts with regards to this policy.

9.   RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

9.1   There are no risk management issues with the revised policy.

10. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 One of the key licensing objectives is to prevent gambling from being a source of crime and disorder. The policy supports and assists with crime and disorder reduction by controlling those who are able to offer gambling to members of the public and imposing conditions on relevant premises licences.

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Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report
- NONE

Appendices

Appendix One: Gambling Policy 2016-2019
Appendix Two: Equalities Checklist

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:
N/A

Gambling Act 2005

The London Borough of Tower Hamlets Gambling Policy 2016- 2019

(Italics are changes after consultation)

Summary of Local Authority Gambling Policy

1. Licensing local authorities in England and Wales have all been required by the Gambling Act 2005 to adopt a gambling policy following consultation.

2. The following policy was adopted after consultation, including but not confined to the consultation required by the legislation.

3. The policy has to be reviewed every three years and consequently it is now being sent out for a new round of consultation. Again the consultation will include but not be confined to the statutory consultation.

4. The policy sets out in detail how the licensing authority will discharge its licensing functions under the Gambling Act 2005.

5. There are three licensing objectives set out in the Act, as follows:
   • Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime
   • Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way
   • Protecting children and other vulnerable people from being harmed or exploited by gambling

6. The main area of involvement for the licensing authority is protecting the vulnerable, and the licensing policy is largely devoted to seeking to achieve this, across the range of premises licences and permits which the authority will administer.

7. The licensing authority approach to enforcement is defined.

8. The scheme of delegation that defines the responsibility for decision making, administration and enforcement is also included.

Contents

Annex 5 Sample conditions
Annex 6 Local Area Profiles

PART A

1. The Licensing Objectives

1.1 In exercising most of their functions under the Gambling Act 2005, (the Act) licensing authorities must have regard to the licensing objectives as set out in section 1 of the Act. The licensing objectives are:

- Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being
- associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime
- Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way
- Protecting children and other vulnerable people from being harmed or exploited by gambling

1.2 The Gambling Commission's guidance emphasises that moral objections to gambling, or a view that it is generally undesirable are not licensing objectives and cannot inform any decisions by the licensing authority. Also neither public safety nor public nuisance are licensing objectives. These issues will largely be dealt with by the Council's Environmental Health Service

1.3 This authority recognises that in making decisions about premises licences and temporary use notices it should aim to permit the use of premises for gambling in so far as it thinks it is:-

- in accordance with any relevant code of practice issued by the Gambling Commission
- in accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Gambling Commission
- reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives in accordance with the authorities statement of licensing policy

1.4 The Gambling Commission's Licence Conditions and Code of Practice (LCCP) require gambling premises to undertake a risk assessment taking into consideration their local information. Specific information about localities is provided in this policy at Annexe 6.

1.5 The risk assessment is required to be shared with the Council where there is a new application and or a variation to an existing premises licence.

4

2   Introduction

2.1   The London Borough of Tower Hamlets is a single tier authority on the East side of inner London. The Borough is shown in the map in **Annex 1** where Gambling premises licences have been issued.

2.2   Licensing authorities are required by the Gambling Act 2005 to publish a statement of the principles that they propose to apply when exercising their functions. This statement must be published at least every three years. The statement must also be reviewed from "time to time" and any amended parts re consulted upon. The statement must be then re-published.

2.3   Tower Hamlets Council has consulted widely upon its policy statement before finalising and publishing it. A list of the persons and organisations consulted is provided in **Annex 2** of the Policy adopted by the Council. We have consulted businesses, elected representatives, community and third sector organisations and responsible authorities.

2.4   The Gambling Act requires that the following parties are consulted by Licensing Authorities:

- The Chief Officer of Police
- One or more persons who appear to the authority represent the interests of persons carrying on gambling businesses in the authority's area
- One or more persons who appear to the authority to represent the interests of persons who are likely to be affected by the exercise of the authority's functions under the Gambling Act 2005.

2.5   The consultation took place between 19th October 2015 and 17th January 2016. The results of the consultation are summarised in **Annex 3**

2.6   The policy has to be approved at a meeting of the Full Council published via our website as well as being available in the Town Hall and Idea Stores.

2.7   It should be noted that this policy statement will not override the right of any person to make an application, make representations about an application, or apply for a review of a licence. Each will be considered on its own merits and according to the statutory requirements of the Gambling Act 2005.

2.8   The Licensing Authority would like to encourage the highest standards within premises that hold a licence under the Gambling Act 2005. The Licensing Authority has produced a 'Gambling Best Practice Guide' to assist both new applicants and existing operators.

2.9 The list of recommended measures listed in **Annex 4** is not exhaustive but gives an indication of some of the suitable measures and procedures that are expected in well managed premises.

3 Declaration

3.1 In producing this licensing policy the Authority has had regard to the licensing objectives of the Gambling Act 2005 and the guidance issued by the Gambling Commission. The policy has also had regard to any responses from those consulted on the policy statement.

4 Responsible Authorities

4.1 The licensing authority is required to state the principles it will apply to designate a body which is competent to advise the authority about the protection of children from harm. The principles are:

- the need for the body to be responsible for an area covering the whole of the licensing authority's area
- the need for the body to be answerable to democratically elected persons, rather than any particular vested interest group

4.2 In accordance with the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities this authority designates the Local Safeguarding Children Board for this purpose. This is the statutory body charged with coordinating the activities of organisations in Tower Hamlets who are instrumental in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

4.3 The contact details of all the responsible authorities are found on the Council's website at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk

5 Interested parties

5.1 Interested parties can make representations about licence applications, or apply for a review of an existing licence. Interested parties are defined as a person who in the opinion of the licensing authority

  a) lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities,

  b) has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities,

  c) represents persons who satisfy paragraph (a) or (b)

5.2 The licensing authority is required to state the principles it will apply in exercising its powers under the Gambling Act 2005 to determine whether a person is an interested party.

5.3   These principles are that :-

- Each case will be decided upon its merits.
- This authority will not apply a rigid rule to its decision making.
- It will consider the examples of considerations provided in the Gambling Commission's Guidance to local authorities.
- It will also consider the Gambling Commission's advice that "business interests" should be given its widest possible meaning and includes partnerships, charities, faith groups, and medical practices.

5.4   The Gambling Commission has recommended that the licensing authority states that interested parties include trade associations and trade unions, and residents' and tenants' associations. This authority will not however generally view these bodies as interested parties unless they have a member who can be classed as one under the terms of the Gambling Act 2005 e.g. lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the activities being applied for.

5.5   Interested parties can be persons who are democratically elected, such as Councillors and MP's. Other than these persons, this authority will require written evidence that a person 'represents' someone who either lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorities activities and/or business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities. A letter from one of these persons, requesting the representation is sufficient.

5.6   Individuals may wish to approach Councillors to ask them to represent their views. If Councillors take on a representative role they will not be able to be part of the decision making process. If they are a member of the Committee they will withdraw for the hearing.

6   Exchange of Information

6.1   Licensing Authorities have a number of responsibilities relating to the control and exchange of information that has been gained in carrying out its duties and responsibilities under the Act.

6.2   The principle that this licensing authority applies is that it will act in accordance with the provisions of the Gambling Act 2005 in its exchange of information which includes the provision that the Data Protection Act 1998 will not be contravened.

6.3   The licensing authority will also have regard to any guidance issued by the Gambling Commission to Local Authorities on this matter when it is published, as well as any relevant regulations issued by the Secretary of State under the powers provided in the Gambling Act 2005. Any protocols that are adopted will be made available if requested.

7   Enforcement

7.1   Licensing authorities are required to state the principles to be applied by the authority in exercising the functions with respect to the inspection of premises; and the powers to institute criminal proceedings in respect of the offences committed under the Gambling Act 2005.

7.2   This Licensing Authority's general principles of enforcement are set out in its enforcement policy. In addition we will be guided by the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities and we will endeavour to be:

- **Proportionate**: regulators should only intervene when necessary: Remedies should be appropriate to the risk posed, and costs identified and minimised;
- **Accountable:** regulators must be able to justify decisions, and be subject to public scrutiny;
- **Consistent**: rules and standards must be joined up and implemented fairly;
- **Transparent**: regulators should be open, and keep regulations simple and user friendly; and
- **Targeted**: regulation should be focused on the problem, and minimise side effects
- **Avoid duplication** with other regulatory regimes so far as possible.

7.3   This licensing authority has, as recommended by the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities, adopted a risk based inspection programme.

7.4   The local authority does expect that premises that are licensed are aware of and keep to the terms of their licence. The Authority will take appropriate enforcement action to ensure that this is the case, and is especially concerned to ensure that the licensing objective relating to children is met in full.

7.5   The main enforcement and compliance role for this licensing authority will be to ensure compliance with the Premises Licences and other permissions which is authorises. The Gambling Commission will be the enforcement body for the Operator and Personal Licences. Concerns about manufacture, supply or repair of gaming machines will not be dealt with by the licensing authority but will be notified to the Gambling Commission.

7.6   This licensing authority also intends to monitor non-licensed gambling, and is especially concerned to stop non-destination gambling by children and young adults. Non destination gambling is where the destination is not primarily a gambling premises and is mainly visited for a different purpose. This typically (but not exclusively) involves gaming machines in premises

open to the public such as public houses

7.7   This Licensing Authority will continue to keep informed of developments with the work from Central Government and sister organisations on the principles of Better Regulation Executive in its consideration of the regulatory functions

7.8   Bearing in mind the principle of transparency, this licensing authority's enforcement/compliance protocols/written agreements will be available upon request to the licensing department and on the Council's web site. Our risk methodology will also be available upon request. (A charge may be made for hard copies).

7.9   The authority recognises that bookmakers and other operators may have a number of premises within its area. In order to ensure that compliance issues are recognised and dealt with at the earliest possible stage, operators are requested to give the authority a single named contact., who should be a senior individual, and whom the authority will contact first should any compliance queries or issues arise. The authority however, reserves the right to institute proceedings, or take other action as necessary and consistent with its general policies.

7.10   The Authority uses the templates inspection forms produced by the Leicester, Rutland and Leicestershire Licensing Forum and Leicestershire Local Economic Partnership.

7.11   To assist the targeting of the Council's enforcement activity the Council will request that operators / premises share:-
   • test purchasing results (subject to the terms of primary authority agreements) ;
   • incidents in premises, which managers are likely to be required to report to head office;
   • information about numbers of self-excluded gamblers to help it develop its understanding about the risk of problem gambling in its area.

7.12   This information will help the Council to get a clearer picture of which premises may be experiencing issues, meaning that the inspection and enforcement activity is appropriately structured

7.13   Operators are not automatically required to share their risk assessments with licensing authorities except when they are applying for a new premises licence or to vary an existing one. However, the Gambling Commission is advising operators to do so.

7.14   The Council will request a copy of each premises risk assessment during the first year of this Policy.

8   Licensing Authority Functions

8.1   Licensing Authorities are required under the Act to:

- Be responsible for the licensing of premises where gambling activities are to take place by issuing Premises Licences
- Issue Provisional Statements ("in principle" licences where premises are not yet developed)
- Regulate members' clubs and miners' welfare institutes who wish to undertake certain gaming activities via issuing Club Gaming Permits and/or Club Machine Permits
- Issue Club Machine Permits to Commercial Clubs (Commercial Clubs are member clubs that operate on a "for profit" basis)
- Grant permits for the use of certain lower stake gaming machines at unlicensed Family Entertainment Centres (Premises where low level gambling is permitted for children)
- Receive notifications from alcohol licensed premises (under the Licensing Act 2003) for the use of two or fewer gaming machines
- Grant Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permits for premises licensed to
- sell/supply alcohol for consumption on the licensed premises, under the Licensing Act 2003, where more than two machines are required
- Register small society lotteries below prescribed thresholds
- Issue Prize Gaming Permits
- Receive and Endorse Temporary Use Notices
- Receive Occasional Use Notices
- Provide information to the Gambling Commission regarding details of licences issued (see section above on 'information exchange)
- Maintain registers of the permits and licences that are issued under these functions

8.2   This list may be added to on the advice of the Gambling Commission

8.3   Local licensing authorities will not be involved in licensing remote gambling. (Remote gambling is via the internet or interactive television). This will fall to the Gambling Commission via Operator Licences.

PART B - Premises Licences and other matters

1   General Principles

1.1   Premises licences will be subject to the requirements set out in the Gambling Act 2005 and regulations, as well as specific mandatory and default conditions which will be detailed in regulations issued by the Secretary of State. Licensing authorities are able to exclude default conditions and also attach others, where it is believed to be appropriate.

2   Premises

2.1   Premises are defined in the Act as "any place". Different premises licences cannot apply in respect of a single premises at different times. However it is possible for a single building to be subject to more than one premises licence provided they are for different parts of the building. Different parts of the building can reasonably regarded as being separate premises will always be a question of fact in the circumstances. However areas of a building that is artificially or temporarily separate can be properly regarded as different premises.

2.2   This licensing authority will take particular note of the Gambling Commission's Guidance to local authorities that: -

- "Licensing authorities should take particular care in considering applications for multiple licences for a building and those relating to a discrete part of a building used for other (non-gambling) purposes. In particular they should be aware that entrances and exits from parts of a building covered by one or more licences should be separate and identifiable so that the separation of different premises is not compromised and that people do not "drift" into a gambling area"

- "Licensing authorities should pay particular attention to applications where access to the licensed premises is through other premises (which themselves may be licensed or unlicensed), especially if this raises issues in relation to children. There will be specific issues that authorities should consider where children can gain access; compatibility of the two establishments; and ability to comply with the requirements of the Act. But, in addition an overriding consideration should be whether, taken as a whole, the co-location of the licensed premises with other facilities has the effect of creating an arrangement that otherwise would, or should, be prohibited under the Act."

2.3   An applicant cannot obtain a full premises licence until the premises in which it is proposed to offer the gambling are constructed. The Gambling Commission has advised that reference to "the premises" are to the

premises in which gambling may now take place. Thus a licence to use premises for gambling will only be issued in relation to premises that are ready to be used for gambling. This authority agrees with the Gambling Commission that it is a question of fact and degree whether premises are finished to a degree that they can be considered for a premises licence. The Gambling Commission emphasises that requiring the building to be complete ensure that the authority can, if necessary, inspect it fully, as can other responsible authorities with inspection rights.

3   Location

3.1   This licensing authority is aware that demand issues (for example whether or not there is sufficient customer demand to make a site commercially viable) cannot be considered with regard to the location of premises but that considerations in terms of the licensing objectives can. In line with the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities, this authority will pay particular attention to the protection of children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling, as well as issues of crime and disorder.

3.2   It is the licensing authorities' view that premises should not normally be licensed which are close to schools, playgrounds, or other educational establishments such as museums. However any such policy does not preclude any application being made and each application will be decided on its merits, with the onus upon the applicant showing how the concerns can be overcome.

3.3   The council will need to be satisfied that there is sufficient evidence that the particular location of the premises would not be harmful to the licensing objectives.

3.4   From 6 April 2016, it is a requirement of the Gambling Commission's Licence Conditions and Codes of Practice (LCCP), under section 10, for licensees to assess the local risks to the licensing objectives posed by the provision of gambling facilities at their premises and have policies, procedures and control measures to mitigate those risks. In making risk assessments, licensees must take into account relevant matters identified in this policy.

3.5   The LCCP goes on to say licensees must review (and update as necessary) their local risk assessments:

a. to take account of significant changes in local circumstance, including those identified in this policy;
b. when there are significant changes at a licensee's premises that may affect their mitigation of local risks;
c. when applying for a variation of a premises licence; and

d. in any case, undertake a local risk assessment when applying for a new premises licence.

3.6   The Council expects the local risk assessment to consider as a minimum issues *presented by the local landscape, such as;*

> *Exposure to vulnerable groups*
> *Identification of local specific risks*
> *Type of footfall – children, visitors, families, residents*
> *Educational facilities*
> *Community Centers*
> *Homelessness /rough sleeper hostels, provision of support services*

3.7   In any case the local risk assessment should show how vulnerable people, including people with gambling dependencies, are protected.

3.8   Other matters that the assessment may include:

- The training of staff in brief intervention when customers show signs of excessive gambling, the ability of staff to offer brief intervention and how the manning of premises affects this.
- Details as to the location and coverage of working CCTV cameras, and how the system will be monitored.
- The layout of the premises so that staff have an unobstructed view of persons using the premises;
- The number of staff that will be available on the premises at any one time. If at any time that number is one, confirm the supervisory and monitoring arrangements when that person is absent from the licensed area or distracted from supervising the premises and observing those persons using the premises.
- Arrangements for monitoring and dealing with under age persons and vulnerable persons, which may include dedicated and trained personnel, leaflets, posters, self-exclusion schemes, window displays and advertisements not to entice passers-by etc.
- The provision of signage and documents relating to games rules, gambling care providers and other relevant information is provided in both English and the other prominent first language for that locality.
- Where the application is for a betting premises licence, other than in respect of a track, the location and extent of any part of the premises which will be used to provide facilities for gambling in reliance on the licence.

3.9   To assist operators, Annex 6 sets out the Council's Gambling Local Area Profiles criteria.

4   Duplication with other regulatory regimes and licensing objectives

4.1   This authority will seek to avoid any duplication with other statutory / regulatory systems where possible, including planning. This authority will not consider whether a licence application is likely to be awarded planning or building consent, in its consideration of it. This authority will though listen to, and consider carefully, any concerns about conditions which are not able to be met by licensees due to planning restrictions, should such a situation arise.

5   Licensing Objectives

5.1   Premises licences granted must be reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives. With regard to these objectives, this licensing authority has considered the Gambling Commission's Guidance to local authorities and some comments are made below.

5.2   *Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime.* This licensing authority is aware that the Gambling Commission will be taking a leading role in preventing gambling from being a source of crime.

The Gambling Commission's Guidance does however envisage that licensing authorities should pay attention to the proposed location of gambling premises in terms of this licensing objective. Thus, where an area has known high levels of organized crime this authority will consider carefully whether gambling premises are suitable to be located there and whether conditions may be suitable such as the provision of door supervisors. This licensing authority is aware of the distinction between disorder and nuisance and will consider factors such as whether police assistance was required and how threatening the behaviour was to those who could see it, so as to make that distinction. Issues of nuisance cannot be addressed via the Gambling Act provisions. These will be addressed by the relevant regulatory authority e.g. Environmental Health.

5.3   *Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way.* This licensing authority has noted that ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way is a matter for the Gambling Commission. This will not be the case if the licensing authority becomes involved in licensing betting track operators.

5.4   *Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.* This licensing authority has noted the Gambling Commission Guidance to local authorities that this objective means preventing children from taking part in gambling (as well as restriction of advertising so that gambling products are not aimed at or are, particularly attractive to children). The licensing authority will therefore consider, as suggested in the Gambling Commission's Guidance, whether specific measures are required at particular premises, with regard to this licensing

objective. Appropriate measures may include supervision of entrances/ machines, segregation of areas.

5.5 This licensing authority will also make itself aware of the Codes of Practice which the Gambling Commission issues as regards this licensing objective, in relation to specific premises such as casinos.

5.6 As regards the term "vulnerable persons" it is noted that the Gambling Commission is not seeking to offer a definition but states that "it will for regulatory purposes assume that this group includes people who gamble more than they want to; people who gambling beyond their means; and people who may not be able to make informed or balanced decisions about gambling due to a mental impairment, alcohol or drugs." This licensing authority will consider this licensing objective on a case by case basis. Should a practical definition prove possible in future then this policy statement will be updated with it, by way of a revision.

6   Conditions

6.1 Any conditions attached to licences will be proportionate and will be:

- relevant to the need to make the proposed building suitable as a gambling facility
- directly related to the premises and the type of licence applied for;
- fairly and reasonably related to the scale and type of premises: and
- reasonable in all other respects.

6.2 Decisions upon individual conditions will be made on a case by case basis, although there will be a number of control measures, this licensing authority will consider utilising should there be a perceived need, such as the use of door supervisors, supervision of adult gaming machines, appropriate signage for adult only areas.

6.3 The Gambling Commission has produced a list of sample conditions, and these are reproduced at Annex 5. These could be imposed in a number of circumstances to address evidence based concerns.

6.3 There are specific comments made in this regard under each of the licence types below. This licensing authority will also expect the licence applicant to offer his/her own suggestions as to way in which the licensing objectives can be met effectively. The licensing authority will consider the following specific measures in relation to all licensed premises, to the extent that they are relevant to a specific application:

- Leaflets aimed at giving assistance to problem gamblers clearly displayed in prominent areas and also more discreet areas such as toilets

- Self-exclusion forms available

- The odds clearly displayed on all fixed odds machines

- All ATM or other cash terminals to be separate from gaming machines, so that clients have to leave the machines for more funds as required. They should also display stickers with GamCare (or replacement organisation) Helpline information prominently displayed.

- There must be clear visible signs of any age restrictions in any gaming or betting establishments. Entrances to gambling and betting areas must be well supervised and age verification vetting operated.

- Posters with details of GamCare's (or replacement organisation) telephone number and website

The above list is not exhaustive.

6.4 This licensing authority will also consider specific measures which may be required for buildings which are subject to multiple premises licences. Such measures may include the supervision of entrances; segregation of Gambling from non-gambling areas frequented by children; and the supervision of gaming machines in non-adult gambling specific premises in order to pursue the licensing objectives. These matters are in accordance with the Gambling Commission's Guidance.

6.5 This authority will also ensure that where category C or above machines are on offer in premises to which children are admitted:

- all such machines are located in an area of the premises which is separated from the remainder of the premises by a physical barrier which is effective to prevent access other than through a designated entrance;

- only adults are admitted to the area where these machines are located;

- access to the area where the machines are located is supervised the area where these machines are located is arranged so that it can be observed by the staff or the licence holder; and

- at the entrance to and inside any such areas there are prominently displayed notices indicating that access to the area is prohibited to persons under 18.

6.6 These considerations will apply to premises including buildings where multiple premises licences are applicable.

6.7 This licensing authority is aware that betting tracks may be subject to one or more than one premises licence, provided each licence relates to a specified area of the track. As per the Gambling Commission's Guidance, this licensing authority will consider the impact upon the third licensing objective and the need to ensure that entrances to each type of premises are distinct and that children are excluded from gambling areas where they are not permitted to enter.

6.8 It is recognised that there are conditions which the licensing authority cannot attach to premises licences which are:

- any condition on the premises licence which makes it impossible to comply with an operating licence condition
- conditions relating to gaming machine categories, numbers, or method of operation;
- conditions which provide that membership of a club or body be required (the Gambling Act 2005 specifically removes the membership requirement for casino and bingo clubs and this provision prevents it being reinstated) and
- conditions in relation to stakes, fees, winning or prizes
- Applicants will however need to demonstrate social responsibility and adhere to best practice in the protection of the vulnerable

7 Door Supervisors

7.1 The Gambling Commission advises in its Guidance for local authorities that licensing authorities may consider whether there is a need for door supervisors in terms of the licensing objectives of protection of children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling, and also in terms of preventing premises becoming a source of crime.

7.2 The Private Security Industry Act 2001 exempts door supervisors for casinos and bingo halls from requiring a Door Supervisors Licence. Irrespective of the provision this authority will require door supervisors used at these premises to be licensed.

7.3 For other premises, where supervision of entrances/machines is appropriate any requirements for door supervisors or others will be on a case by case basis. In general betting offices will not require door supervisors for the protection of the public. A door supervisor will only be required if there is clear evidence that the premises cannot be adequately supervised from the counter and that door supervision is both necessary and proportionate.

8 **Adult Gaming Centres**

8.1 This licensing authority will specifically have regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling

and will expect the applicant to satisfy the authority that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the premises.

Appropriate licence conditions may cover issues such as:

- Proof of age schemes
- CCTV
- Door supervisors
- Supervision of entrances / machine areas
- Physical separation of areas
- Location of entry
- Notices / signage
- Specific opening hours
- Self-barring schemes
- Provision of information leaflets/ helpful numbers for organisations such as GamCare

8.2　This list is neither mandatory nor exhaustive, and is merely indicative.

9　(Licensed) Family Entertainment Centres:

9.1　This licensing authority will specifically have regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling and will expect the applicant to satisfy the authority that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the adult only gaming machine areas. Appropriate licence conditions may cover issues such as:
- Proof of age schemes
- CCTV
- Door supervisors
- Supervision of entrances / machine areas
- Physical separation of areas
- Location of entry
- Notices / signage
- Specific opening hours
- Self-barring schemes
- Provision of information leaflets/ helpful numbers for organisations such as GamCare
- Measures/training for staff on how to deal with suspected truant school children on the premises

9.2　This list is not mandatory, nor exhaustive, is it merely indicative.

9.3　This licensing authority will, in accordance with the Gambling Commission's guidance, refer to the Commission's website to see any conditions that apply to operator licences covering the way in which the

area containing the category C. Category C machines give a higher payout than children are permitted to use should be delineated. This licensing authority will also make itself aware of any mandatory or default conditions on these premises licences, when they have been published.

10   Casinos

10.1   The Gambling Act, section 166, allows licensing authorities to resolve not to issue casino premises licences. The licensing authority has consulted with residents and businesses to seek their views before deciding whether to make such a resolution. As a result of the consultation the council has resolved not to issue casino premises licences. (Council decision 18th September 2013)

11   Bingo premises

11.1   This licensing authority recognises that the Gambling Commission's Guidance states:

"It is important that if children are allowed to enter premises licensed for bingo that they do not participate in gambling, other than on category D machines. Where category C or above machines are available in premises to which children are admitted licensing authorities should ensure that:

- all such machines are located in an area of the premises separate from the remainder of the premises by a physical barrier which is effective to prevent access other than through a designated entrance;
- only adults are admitted to the area where the machines are located;
- access to the area where the machines are located is supervised;
- the area where the machines are located is arranged so that it can be observed by staff of the operator or the licence holder; and
- at the entrance to, and inside any such area there are prominently displayed notices indicating that access to the area is prohibited to persons under 18."

11.2   This licensing authority is aware that the Gambling Commission is going to issue further guidance about the particular issues that licensing authorities should take into account in relation to the suitability and layout of bingo premises. This guidance will be considered by this licensing authority once it is made available.

12   Betting Premises

12.1   Betting Machines - This licensing authority will have regard to the Gambling Commission's Guidance, take into account the size of the premises, the number of counter positions available for person-to-person transactions, and the ability of staff to monitor the use of the machines by children and young persons (it is an offence for those under 18 to bet) or

by vulnerable people, when considering the number/nature/circumstances of betting machines an operator wants to offer.

13   Tracks – (This section refers to where racing takes place, such as horse or greyhound racing) and other matters

13.1   This licensing authority is aware that tracks may be subject to one or more than one premises licence, provided each licence relates to a specified area of the track. In accordance with the Gambling Commission's Guidance, this licensing authority will especially consider the impact upon the third licensing objective (i.e. the protection of children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling) and the need to ensure that entrances to each type of premises are distinct and that children are excluded from gambling areas where they are not permitted to enter**.**

13.2   This authority will therefore expect the premises licence applicant to demonstrate suitable measures to ensure that children do not have access to adult only gaming facilities. It is noted that children and young persons will be permitted to enter track areas where facilities for betting are provided on days when dog racing and/or horse racing takes place, but that they are still prevented from entering areas where gaming machines (other than category D machines) are provided

13.3   This licensing authority will expect applicants to offer their own measures to meet the licensing objectives however appropriate measures / licence conditions may cover issues such as:

- Proof of age schemes
- CCTV
- Supervision of entrances / machine areas
- Physical separation of areas
- Location of entry
- Notices / signage
- Specific opening hours
- Self-baring schemes
- Provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare

13.4   This list is not mandatory, nor exhaustive, and is merely indicative of example measures.

13.5   Gaming machines - ☐Further guidance from the Gambling Commission is awaited as regards where such machines may be located on tracks and any special considerations that should apply in relation, for example, to supervision of the machines and preventing children from playing them. This licensing authority notes the Commission's Guidance that licensing authorities therefore need to consider the location of gaming machines at

tracks, and applications for track premises licences will need to demonstrate that, where the applicant holds a pool betting operating licence and is going to use their entitlement to four gaming machines, these machines are locate in areas from which children are excluded. Children and young people are not prohibited from playing category D gaming machines on a track.

13.6   Betting machines - This licensing authority will, having regard to the Gambling Commission's Guidance, take into account the size of the premises and the ability of staff to monitor the use of the machines by children and young persons (it is an offence for those under 18 to bet) or by vulnerable people, when considering the number /nature / circumstances of betting machines an operator wants to offer. It will also take note of the Gambling Commission's suggestion that licensing authorities will want to consider restricting the number and location of such machines in respect of applications for track betting premises licences.

13.7   Condition on rules being displayed - The Gambling Commission has advised in its Guidance for local authorities that "licensing authorities should attach a condition to track premises licences requiring the track operator to ensure that the rules are prominently displayed in or near the betting areas, or that other measures are taken to ensure that they are made available to the public. For example, the rules could be printed in the race-card or made available in leaflet form from the track office."

13.8   Applications and plans - This licensing authority awaits regulations setting-out any specific requirements for applications for premises licences but is in accordance with the Gambling Commission's suggestion "To ensure that licensing authorities gain a proper understanding of what they are being asked to license they should, in their licensing policies, set out the information that they will require, which should include detailed plans for the racetrack itself and the area that will be used for temporary "on-course" betting facilities (often known as the "betting ring") and in the case of dog tracks and horse racecourses fixed and mobile pool betting facilities operated by the Tote or track operator, as well as any other proposed gambling facilities." And that "Plans should make clear what is being sought for authorisation under the track betting premises licence and what, if any, other areas are to be subject to a separate application for a different type of premises licence."

13.9   This licensing authority also notes that in the Commission's view that it would be preferable for all self-contained premises operated by off-course betting operators on track to be the subject of separate premises licences, to ensure that there is clarity between the respective responsibilities of the track operator and the off-course betting operator running a self-contained unit on the premises.

14 Travelling Fairs

14.1 It will fall to this licensing authority to decide whether, and where category D machines and / or equal chance prize gaming without a permit is to be made available for use at travelling fairs, provided that the statutory requirement that the facilities for gambling amount to no more than an ancillary amusement at the fair is met.

14.2 The licensing authority will expect applicants to show how they will meet the licensing objectives, in particular in relation to children and young persons.

14.3 The licensing authority will also consider whether the applicant falls within the statutory definition of a travelling fair.

14.4 It has been noted that the 27-day statutory maximum for the land being used as a fair, is per calendar year, and that it applies to the piece of land on which the fairs are held, regardless of whether it is the same or different travelling fairs occupying the land. This licensing authority will work with its neighbouring authorities to ensure that land which crosses our boundaries is monitored so that the statutory limits are not exceeded.

15 Provisional Statements ("in principle" licences where premises are not yet developed)

15.1 This licensing authority notes the Guidance for the Gambling Commission which states that "It is a question of fact and degree whether premises are finished to a degree that they can be considered for a premises licence" and that "Requiring the building to be complete ensures that the authority could if necessary inspect it fully".

15.2 In terms of representations about premises licence applications, following the grant of a provisional statement, no further representations from relevant authorities or interested parties can be taken into account unless they concern matters which could not have been addressed at the provisional statement stage, or they reflect a change in the applicant's circumstances.

15.3 In addition, the authority may refuse the premises licence (or grant it on terms different to those attached to the provisional statement) only by reference to matters: -

    (a) which could not have been raised by objectors at the provisional licence stage; or

    (b) which is in the authority's opinion reflect a change in the operator's circumstances.

16   Reviews:

16.1   Requests for a review of a premises licence can be made by interested
parties or responsible authorities, however, it is for the licensing authority
to decide whether the review is to be carried-out. This will be on the basis
of whether the request for the review is relevant to the matters listed
below, as well as consideration as to whether the request is frivolous,
vexatious, will certainly not cause this authority to wish
alter/revoke/suspend the licence, or whether it is substantially the same as
previous representations or requests for review.

- in accordance with any relevant code of practice issued by the
  Gambling Commission;
- in accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Gambling
  Commission;
- reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives; and
- in accordance with the authority's statement of licensing policy.
- The licensing authority can also initiate a review of a licence on the
  basis of any reason which it thinks is appropriate.

PART C - Permits / Temporary & Occasional Use Notice

1   Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centre Gaming Machine Permits

1.1   Where premises do not hold a premises licence but wishes to provide
gaming machines, it may apply to the licensing authority for this permit. It
should be noted that the applicant must show that the premises will be
wholly or mainly used for making gaming machines available for use

1.2   A licensing authority may prepare a statement of principles that they
propose to consider in determining the suitability of an applicant for a
permit and in preparing this statement, and/or considering applications, it
need not (but may) have regard to the licensing objectives and shall have
regard to any relevant guidance issued by the Commission

1.3   The Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities also states: "In
their three year licensing policy statement, licensing authorities may
include a statement of principles that they propose to apply when
exercising their functions in considering applications for permit. Licensing
authorities will want to give weight to child protection issues."

1.4   Guidance also states: "An application for a permit may be granted only if
the licensing authority is satisfied that the premises will be used as an
unlicensed Family Entertainment Centres, and if the chief officer of police
has been consulted on the application. Licensing authorities might wish to
consider asking applicants to demonstrate:

- a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes of the

gambling that is permissible in unlicensed Family Entertainment Centres;

- that the applicant has no relevant convictions and
- that staff are trained to have a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes.

1.5 It should be noted that a licensing authority cannot attach conditions to this type of permit.

1.6 Statement of Principles - This licensing authority will expect the applicant to show that there are policies and procedures in place to protect children from harm. Harm in this context is not limited to harm from gambling but includes wider child protection considerations. The efficiency of such policies and procedures will each be considered on their merits, however, they may include appropriate measures / training for staff as regards suspected truant school children on the premises, measures / training covering how staff would deal with unsupervised very young children being on the premises, or children causing perceived problems on / around d the premises. Location will also be expected to be dealt with, and it is the licensing authorities view that premises should not normally be licensed which are close to schools, playgrounds, or other educational establishments such as museums and places of worship.

1.7 This licensing authority will also expect that applicants demonstrate a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes of the gambling that is permissible in unlicensed Family Entertainment Centres; that the applicant has no relevant convictions and that staff are trained to have a full understanding of the maximum stakes and prizes.

2 (Alcohol) Licensed premises gaming machine permits

2.1 There is provision in the Act for premises licensed to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises, to automatically have 2 gaming machines, of categories C and/or D. Full definitions of the Gaming Machine Categories can be found on the Councils website; www.towerhamlets.gov.uk. The premises merely need to notify the licensing authority. In relation to all applications the licensing authority will use nationally recommended forms from LACORS as far as possible. The licensing authority can remove the automatic authorisation in respect of any particular premises if:

- provision of the machines is not reasonably consistent with the pursuit of the licensing objectives;
- gaming has taken place on the premises that breaches a condition of section 282 of the Gambling Act (i.e. that written notice has been provided to the licensing authority, that a fee has been provided and that any relevant code of practice issued by the Gambling Commission about the location and operation of the machine has been complied

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with);

- the premises are mainly used for gaming; or
- an offence under the Gambling Act has been committed on the premises

2.2   If a premises wishes to have more than 2 machines, then it needs to apply for a permit and the licensing authority must consider that application based upon the licensing objectives, any guidance issued by the Gambling Commission issued under Section 25 of the Gambling Act 2005, and "such matters as they think relevant.." The licensing authority will require that an application for more than two machines is considered against the above and the matters in 2.3 below before it is granted or refused.

2.3   This licensing authority considers that "such matters" will be decided on a case by case basis but generally there will be regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harmed or being exploited by gambling and will expect the applicant to satisfy the authority that there w i l l be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the adult only gaming machines. Measures which will satisfy the authority that there will be no access may include the adult machines being in sight of the bar, or in the sight of staff that will monitor that the machines are not being used by those under 18. Notices and signage may also be help.

2.4   As regards the protection of vulnerable persons applicants may wish to consider the provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

2.5   It is recognised that some alcohol licensed premises may apply for a premises licence for their non-alcohol licensed areas. Any such application would most likely need to be applied for, and dealt with as an Adult Gaming Centre premises licence.

2.6   The licensing authority can decide to grant the application with a smaller number of machines and/or a different category of machines than that applied for conditions (other than these) cannot be attached.

2.7   The holder of a permit must comply with any Code of Practice issued by the Gambling Commission about the location and operation of the machine.

3   Prize Gaming Permits

3.1   The licensing authority may "prepare a statement of principles that they propose to apply in exercising their functions under this Schedule" which "may, in particular, specify matters that the licensing authority propose to consider in determining the suitability of the applicant for a permit".

3.2   This licensing authority has prepared a Statement of Principles which is that the applicant should set out the types of gaming that he or she is intending to offer and that the applicant should be able to demonstrate:

- that they understand the limits to stakes and prizes that are set out in Regulations;
- and that the gaming offered is within the law.

3.3   In making its decision on an application for this permit the licensing authority does not need to have regard to the licensing objectives but must have regard to any Gambling Commission guidance.

3.4   It should be noted that there are conditions in the Gambling Act 2005 by which the permit holder must comply, but that the licensing authority cannot attach conditions. The conditions in the Act are:

- the limits on participation fees, as set out in regulations, must be complied with;
- all chances to participate in the gaming must be allocated on the premises on which the gaming is taking place and on one day; the game must be played and completed on the day the chances are allocated; and the result of the game must be made public in the premises on the day that it is played;
- the prize for which the game is played must not exceed the amount set out in regulations (if a money prize), or the prescribed value (if non-monetary prize); and
- participation in the gaming must not entitle the player to take part in any other gambling.

4   Club Gaming and Club Machines Permits

4.1   Members Clubs and Miners' welfare institutes (but not Commercial Clubs) may apply for a Club Gaming Permit or a Clubs Gaming machines permit. The Club Gaming Permit will enable the premises to provide gaming machines (3 machines of categories B, C or D), equal chance gaming and games of chance as set-out in forthcoming regulations.

4.2   A Club Gaming machine permit will enable the premises to provide gaming machines (3 machines of categories B, C or D).

4.3   Gambling Commission Guidance states: "Members clubs must have at least 25 members and be established and conducted "wholly or mainly" for purposes other than gaming, unless the gaming is permitted by separate regulations. It is anticipated that this will cover bridge and whist clubs, which will replicate the position under the Gaming Act 1968. A members' club must be permanent in nature, not established to make commercial profit, and controlled by its members equally. Examples include working

men's clubs, branches of Royal British Legion and clubs with political affiliations."

4.4 The Commission Guidance also notes that "licensing authorities may only refuse an application on the grounds that:

    a) the applicant does not fulfil the requirements for a members' or commercial club or miners' welfare institute and therefore is not entitled to receive the type of permit for which it has applied;

    b) the applicant's premises are used wholly or mainly by children and/or young persons;

    c) an offence under the Act or a breach of a permit has been committed by the applicant while providing gaming facilities;

    d) a permit held by the applicant has been cancelled in the previous ten years; or

    e) an objection has been lodged by the Commission or the police.

4.5 There is also a 'fast-track' procedure available under the Act for premises which hold a Club Premises Certificate under the Licensing Act 2003 (Schedule 12 paragraph 10). As the Gambling Commission's Guidance for local authorities states: "Under the fast-track procedure there is no opportunity for objections to be made by the Commission or the police, and the ground upon which an authority can refuse a permit are reduced." And "The grounds on which an application under the process may be refused are:

    (a) that the club is established primarily for gaming, other than gaming prescribed under schedule 12;

    (b) that in addition to the prescribed gaming, the applicant provides facilities for other gaming; or

    (c) that a club gaming permit or club machine permit issued to the applicant in the last ten years has been cancelled."

4.6 There are statutory conditions on club gaming permits that no child uses a category B or C machine on the premises and that the holder complies with any relevant provision of a code of practice about the location and operation of gaming machines.

5   Temporary Use Notices

5.1 The granting of a temporary use notice allows premises without a premises licence to be used by a gambling operator temporarily to provide facilities for gambling

5.2 Licensing authorities are being asked to mindful of the restrictions that allow premises to be licensed for at the most 21 days per year under Temporary Use Notices

5.3 It is possible licence part of a building or set of premises if the location can be rightfully regarded as being separate in terms of ownership, occupation and control.

5.4 This authority will object to a Temporary Use Notice application if it appears that regular gambling is taking place in locations the could be described as one set of premises.

6 Occasional Use Notices

6.1 Occasional Use Notices relate to occasional "track" uses. Betting Track is usually thought of as horse or dog racing. These notices will be for events like point to points on agricultural land.

6.2 The licensing authority has very little discretion as regards these notices aside from ensuring that the statutory limit of 8 days in a calendar year is not exceeded. This licensing authority will though consider the definition of a 'track' and whether the applicant is permitted to avail him/herself of the notice.

PART D

1   Administration, Exercise and Delegation of Functions

1.1 The Council will be involved in a wide range of licensing decisions and functions and has established a Licensing Committee to administer them.

1.2 Appreciating the need to provide a speedy, efficient and cost-effective service to all parties involved in the licensing process, the Committee has delegated certain decisions and functions and has established a number of Sub-Committees to deal with them.

1.3 Further, with many of the decisions and functions being purely administrative in nature, the grant of non-contentious applications where no representations have been made has been delegated to Council Officers. All such matters dealt with by Officers will be reported for information and comment only to the next Committee meeting. The decisions cannot be reversed.

1.4 The following Table sets out the agreed delegation of decisions and functions to Licensing Committee, Sub-Committees and Officers.

1.5   This form of delegations is without prejudice to Officers referring an application to a Sub-Committee, or a Sub-Committee to Full Committee, if considered appropriate in the circumstances of any particular case.

1   TABLE OF DELEGATIONS OF LICENSING FUNCTIONS

MATTER TO BE DEALT WITH	BY WHOM
Three year licensing policy (responsibility shared with Cabinet) Policy to permit or not to permit casinos	THE FULL COUNCIL
Fee Setting- (but when appropriate Corporate Director) Application - for a premises licence, variation of a premises licence, transfer of a premises licence, application for a provisional statement in connection with a premises, in all cases where representations have been received and not withdrawn. Review- of a premises licence. Application for, or cancellation of club gaming /club machine permits where representations have been received and not withdrawn Decision to give a counter notice to a temporary use notice	LICENSING COMMITTEE/ SUB-COMMITTEE
For a premises licence, variation of a premises licence, transfer of a premises, application for a provisional statement in connection with a premises, in all cases where no representations have been received/ or representations have been withdrawn. Application for a club gaming machine/ club machine permit where no representations received/ representations have been withdrawn. Applications for other permits Cancellation of licensed premises gaming machine permits Consideration of temporary use notice	OFFICERS

Annexes

Annex 1 Map of London Borough of Tower Hamlets showing where Gambling Premises Licences have been issued
Annex 2 Details of those consulted.
Annex 3 Results of Consultation
Annex 4 Gambling Best Practice Guide
Annex 5 Sample conditions
Annex 6 Local area profiles

Annex 1

Gambling Premises

Gambling Premises
- Betfred
- Cashino
- Cashino Amusements
- Coral
- Coral Betting Shop
- Coral Racing Ltd
- Jenningsbet
- Ladbrokes
- Ladbrokes Betting & Gaming Ltd
- Paddy Power
- Quicksilver Ltd.
- Red 9 Gaming
- William Hill Organization Ltd

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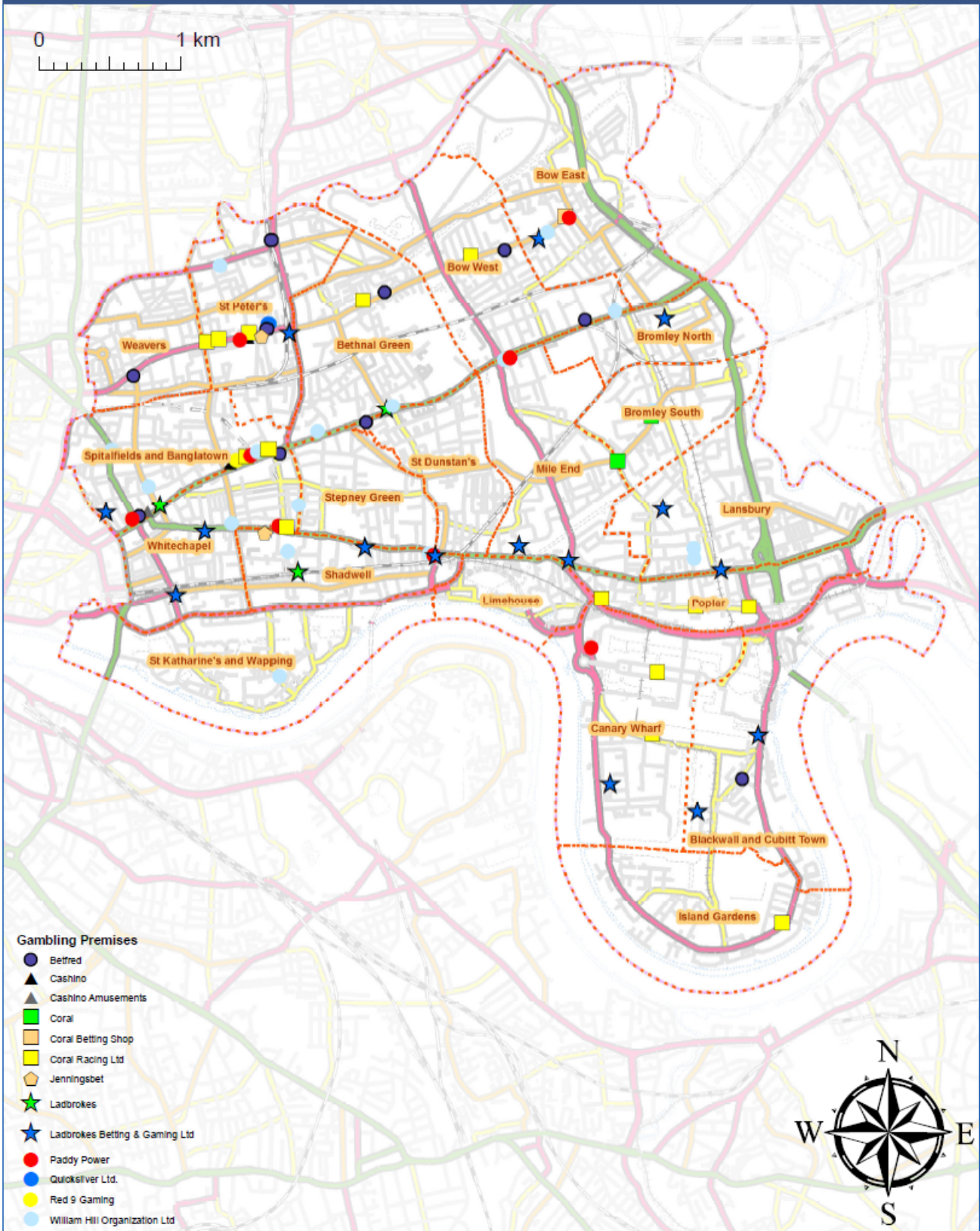
Annex 2

List of consultees:

<u>Authorities/Bodies</u>

The Gambling Commission
Metropolitan Police Service
Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs
Directorate of Development & Renewal (LBTH)
London Fire & Emergency Planning Authority
Maritime & Coastguard agency
Service Manager Child Protection & Reviewing
Canal & River Trust
The Environment Agency
NSPCC
Tower Hamlets Primary Care Trust
Young Mayor and Youth Panel
Inter Faith Forum
CCG
Council of Mosques
Adults Safeguarding Board
Community Safety Partnership
Public Health

<u>Gambling Support Services</u>

GamCare
Gamblers Anonymous
Responsibility in Gambling Trust

<u>Businesses</u>

Agora Betting (UK) Ltd
Arcade Shop
Bet Share Racing
Betex
Betfred Ltd
Better
Betting Shop Services Ltd
Canary Wharf Sports Exchange Ltd
Carousel Amusements
Cashino
Collins Bookmakers

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Coral Racing Ltd
Frankice (Golders Green) Ltd
Gala Coral Group
Gold Room
Grove Leisure Ltd
Joe Jennings Bookmakers Ltd
Ladbrokes Betting & Gambling Ltd
Leisure World (UK) Ltd
Lucky 8 Limited
Paddy Power Limited
Quicksilver Limited
Roar Betting
Roma
Shirt Hot Limited
Talarius Ltd
Tote Bookmakers
TWL Holdings Limited
Two Way Media Ltd
William Claridge Ltd
William Hill Organisation Ltd

Licensing Committee Members

Khales Uddin Ahmed (Chair)
Rajib Ahmed (Member)
Mahbub Alam (Member)
Shah Alam (Member)
Gulam Kibria Choudhury (Member)
Amy Whitelock Gibbs (Member)
Peter Golds (Vice-Chair)
Clare Harrisson (Member)
Denise Jones (Member)
Md. Maium Miah (Member)
Mohammed Mufti Miah (Member)
Muhammad Ansar Mustaquim (Member)
Joshua Peck (Member)
Candida Ronald (Member)
Rachael Saunders (Member)

Housing Associations

A 2 Dominion Housing
Eastend Homes
Gateway Housing
Mitali Housing Association
One Housing Group
Poplar Harca
Peabody Housing Association
Spitalfields Housing Association
Tower Hamlets Community Housing

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Tower Hamlets Homes
Oxford House
Industrial Dwellings Society
Karin Housing Association
Look Ahead Housing Care
Newlon
Old Ford Housing Association
Peter Bedford Housing Association
Reside Housing Association Ltd
South Poplar and Limehouse Action for Secure Housing
St Margarets House Settlement
The Kipper Project

Annex 3

Responses to the Gambling Policy Consultation 2016

Body or Organisation	Summary of issues
Overview and Scrutiny January 2016	• *Concern expressed on the number of FOBT's* • *Impact of FOBT's on quality of life of those poorer residents that gamble* • *Provision of services to addicted gamblers* • *Consider what other Councils are doing regarding FOBT's* • *Encourage schools to address negative impacts of gambling through PHSE* • *Consultation to reach out to greatest number of individuals and organisations as possible* • *LBTH to lobby for legislative changes* • *Consideration on control of advertising on Council sites*
Campaign for Fairer Gambling	• *Commission of test purchasing of premises and staff employed on those premises to transact gambling* • *Evaluate the effectiveness of self-exclusion, under age controls, anti-money laundering policies* • *Police call outs in the first nine months of 2014 were up 20% on the previous year* • *Consideration of condition against lone working policies* • *Use powers to restrict the number of FOBT's in betting shops* • *Suggest a statement supporting further regulatory action against FOBT's*
Public Health	• *More detail on how local risk assessments should be undertaken in relation to schools, places of worship and hostels* • *How licensed premises will support vulnerable people* • *Detail on how employers protect their staff – lone working and anti-social hours*
Member of the Public	• *Far too many betting shops in Tower Hamlets* • *Licenses only granted if no other shops in a mile and if the area is not one of low income/youth vulnerability* • *Gambling addiction support to be offered in Bengali, Hindi and Punjab* • *Gamcare is not enough*
Coral Racing Ltd	• *Has 1850 Betting shops, 20% of all betting shops in Great Britain*

	- *No evidence that betting shops within a proximity of schools causes harm* - *Local risk assessments to be specific to the licensing objectives and to assess whether control measures are going beyond the standard control measures that are needed.*
William Hill	- *17 premises in Tower Hamlets, largest retailer in the UK* - *Concerned that the Council is attempting to fashion an illegal exclusionary policy which reverses the burden of proof required in gambling licensing cases.* - *Cannot impose additional licence conditions without clear evidence to support such an imposition* - *Risk assessments can only be based on evidenced factors that are underpinned by empirical evidence* - *Local area profiles to be focused on aspects of gambling related harm that are evidenced* - *No legitimate justification for routine submission of information to the Council, under age test purchasing data is already supplied to the Primary Authority Partner and reports other related information to the Gambling Commission* - *Self –exclusion numbers does not assist the Council to form a view of gambling related harm, it cannot be used as a proxy for assessment of gambling related harm.* - *It is not for Operators to satisfy the Council that the location of premises would be harmful to the licensing objectives, only that facilities are being operated in a way that is reasonably consistent with the Licensing Objectives.* - *No go areas cannot be fashioned from areas of deprivation/ethnic make-up – this is discriminatory in relation to the aim to permit gambling and human rights* - *The presence of schools and playgrounds cannot be used as a reason to exclude a gambling premises from an area* - *Crime should be defined as crime associated with gambling, not situational crime committed against operators or its staff.* - *Need to define the distinction between disorder and mere public nuisance.* - *Should not mandate matters within the local area risk assessment – against better regulation principles* - *Sample conditions – should be removed, clear evidenced risk to be provided before such conditions can be used* - *Unlawful to include religious buildings in the local area profiles* - *Council has mis-directed itself in law, the language in the policy betrays the fact that the intention is to use it in an exclusionary way, thereby undermining 'the aim to permit' principle.*
Power Leisure Bookmakers Ltd	- *Paddy Power has 325 betting offices in the UK* - *Regulators (as per the Regulators Code) should recognise the compliance record and take an evidenced based approach to determining priority risks in their area. Risks need to be evidenced and controls proportionate* - *The draft policy does not adhere to better regulation* - *Additional conditions only to be imposed in circumstances where it is evidenced that risk are identified. They should not be included in the draft statement of gambling policy.* - *A blanket request for information relating to crime and disorder may be disproportionate and place an excessive regulatory burden on operators*

Association of British Bookmakers	• *Current regime offers key protections for communities*
	• *Planning law changes in April 2015 have increased the ability for Councils to consider betting shop applications.*
	• *In 2015, a decline of 179 betting shops nationally*
	• *Problem gambling is at 0.6% and has been stable*
	• *LGA – ABB Betting Partnership Framework signed in January 2015*
	• *Establishment of Primary Authority Partnerships with Councils*
	• *Councils should not prescribe the local risk assessment form*
	• *Local area profiles to be supported by substantive evidence*
	• *Additional conditions only imposed in exceptional circumstances*
	• *Delete reference to areas of deprivation and ethnic profile of residents as these have no bearing on the licensing objectives.*
	• *Additional conditions list – statement to be added in to make it clear that these can only be imposed if there is a risk to the licensing objectives*
	• *Local profile should not cover issues relating to religious buildings, the night time economy and social-economic make-up of the area.*

Annex 4: Gambling Best Practice Guide

We expect all Gambling premises in the Borough to carry out the measures listed in this Best Practice Guide along with the measures detailed in the main Policy. This guide is about businesses that promote gambling have the responsibility in protecting the vulnerable who may be exposed by their activities.

- All premises to hold and maintain a log of incidences and the handling of problem gambling that occur in the premises. This information should be shared with Licensing Officers on request. Relevant data that should be held include the date and a short description of the intervention in relation to voluntary/mandatory exclusions and whether individuals have tried to gain entry, attempts of those that are underage to gain entry whether with an adult or not. Any incident requiring an intervention from staff

- Staff should be aware on how to tackle irresponsible gambling and have sufficient knowledge on how to promote responsible gambling. Be able to signpost customers to support services with respect to problem gambling, financial management and debt advice. Leaflets on how to identify problem gambling should available for customers in the premises.

- Staff should be aware of the importance of social responsibility, the causes and consequences of problem gambling, intervention with vulnerable persons, dealing with the exclusion of problem gamblers and escalating them for advice or treatment.

- Staff should be aware of refusing customers entry due to alcohol or drugs, age verification processes, identifying forged ID, the importance of time and spend limits

- Staff to be familiar with the offences under the Gambling Act, the categories of gaming machines, the stakes and odds associated with each

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machine.

- Staff should also be aware of not encouraging customers to increase the amount or time they gamble, re-gamble winnings and chase losses.

- Staff to be excluded from gambling at the premises where they are employed and the premises to have a 'no tipping' rule.

- Applicants may wish to seek support with their applications from the Crime Reduction Officer and GamCare with a view to obtaining a certificate of Social Responsibility.

- Where Fixed Odds Betting Terminals are installed within the premises they should be positioned in direct sight of a supervised counter.

Appendix 5: Sample of premises licence conditions

This Annex, reproduced from the Gambling Commission's Guidance to Licensing Authorities, provides a sample of conditions that have been attached to premises licences by licensing authorities, with some amended for illustrative purposes. These are not blanket conditions but have been imposed in a number of circumstances to address evidence based concerns. Part 9 of the Gambling Commission's Guidance to Licensing Authorities provides further details on the principles licensing authorities should apply when exercising their discretion to impose premises licence conditions.

The conditions listed below have been grouped under specific headings for ease of reference. There will inevitably be some overlap between those conditions that address different concerns, for example those related to security and to anti-social behaviour.

1. Security

1.1 No pre-planned single staffing after 8pm and, when this is unavoidable, for a Maglock to be in constant use.
1.2 A minimum of two members of staff after 10pm.
1.3 A minimum of two members of staff will be on duty throughout the whole day.
1.4 The premises will have an intruder alarm and panic button.
1.5 Maglock systems are employed and access is controlled.
1.6 Requirements for full-height security screens to be installed.
1.7 A requirement for 50% of the shop frontage to be clear of advertising so that staff have a clear view and can monitor the exterior of the premises.
1.8 The premise shall maintain a 'safe haven' to the rear of the counter.
1.9 The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive CCTV system as per the minimum requirements of a Metropolitan Police Crime Prevention Officer. All entry and exit points will be covered enabling frontal identification of every person entering in any light condition. The

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CCTV system shall continually record whilst the premises is open for licensable activities and during all times when customers remain on the premises. All recordings shall be stored for a minimum period of 31 days with date and time stamping. Recordings shall be made available immediately upon the request of Police or an authorised officer throughout the preceding 31-day period.

1.10 A member of staff from the premises who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be on the premises at all times when the premises are open to the public. This member of staff must be able to show a member of the police or authorised council officer recent data or footage with the absolute minimum of delay when requested.

1.11 A monitor shall be placed inside the premises above the front door showing CCTV images of customers entering the premises.

1.12 If at any time (whether before or after the opening of the premises), the police or licensing authority supply to the premises names and/or photographs of individuals which it wishes to be banned from the premises, the licensee shall use all reasonable endeavours to implement the ban through staff training.

2. Anti-social behaviour

2.1 The Licensee shall develop and agree a protocol with the police as to incident reporting, including the type and level of incident and mode of communication, so as to enable the police to monitor any issues arising at or in relation to the premises.

2.2 The Licensee shall take all reasonable steps to prevent street drinking of alcohol directly outside the premises and to ban from the premises those who do so.

2.3 The Licensee shall place a notice visible from the exterior of the premises stating that drinking alcohol outside the premises is forbidden and that those who do so will be banned from the premises.

2.4 Notices indicating that CCTV is in use at the premises shall be placed at or near the entrance to the premises and within the premises.

2.5 The Licensee shall place and maintain a sign at the entrance which states that 'only drinks purchased on the premises may be consumed on the premises'.

2.6 The Licensee shall implement a policy of banning any customers who engage in crime or disorder within or outside the premises.

2.7 The Licensee shall install and maintain an ultraviolet lighting system in the customer toilet.

2.8 The Licensee shall install and maintain a magnetic door locking system for the customer toilet operated by staff from behind the counter.

2.9 Prior to opening the Licensee shall meet with the Crime Prevention Officer in order to discuss any additional measures to reduce crime and disorder.

3. Underage controls

3.1 The Licensee shall maintain a bound and paginated 'Think 21 Refusals' register at the premises. The register shall be produced to the police or licensing authority forthwith on request.

3.2 Customers under 21 will have to provide ID.

3.3 The premises will operate a 'challenge 25' policy and prominent signage and notices will be displayed showing the operation of such policy

3.4 Compulsory third party test purchasing on a twice yearly external system and the results to be reported to the Local Authority and police. In the first twelve months (from the date of the Review) two additional internal test purchase operations to be carried out.

3.5 A physical barrier (ie a supermarket metal type or similar) acceptable to the licensing authority, and operated in conjunction with the existing monitored alert system, to be put in place within 3 months from the date of the review.

3.6 No machines in the Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centre to be sited within one meter of the Adult Gaming Centre entrance.

4. Player protection controls

4.1 Prominent GamCare documentation will be displayed at the premises.

4.2 There shall be no cash point or ATM facilities on the premises.

4.3 The Licensee shall train staff on specific issues related to the local area and shall conduct periodic refresher training. Participation in the training shall be formally recorded and the records produced to the police or licensing authority upon request.

4.4 New and seasonal staff must attend induction training. All existing staff must attend refresher training every six months.

4.5 All notices regarding gambling advice or support information within the vicinity of XXX must be translated into both simplified and local languages.

4.6 Infra Red Beam to be positioned across the entrance to the premises. To be utilised whenever:

(a) The first member of staff is not positioned within the Cash Box or,

(b) The second member of staff is not on patrol

Annex 6
Local Area Profiles

The aim of local area profiles is to build up a picture of the locality, and in particular the elements of it that could be impacted by gambling premises.

The Council publishes Area profiles – ward profiles on its website at
http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgsl/901-950/916_borough_profile/area_profiles.aspx

Some publically available sources of information to assist in operators completing a Local Area Profile include:

a) *Crime Mapping websites*
b) *Ward profiles*
c) *Websites or publications by local responsible authorities*
d) *Websites or publications by local voluntary schemes and initiatives*
e) *On-line mapping tools*

The Council will expect applicants for grant of new or variation to existing licences to include full details of their risk assessment in compliance with Social Responsibility (SR code) 10.11 and Ordinary code provisions 10.1.2 (both effective from 6th April 2016)

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Appendix Three

EQUALITY ANALYSIS QUALITY ASSURANCE CHECKLIST

Name of 'proposal' and how has it been implemented (proposal can be a policy, service, function, strategy, project, procedure, restructure/savings proposal)	**Gambling Policy 2016 Review**
Directorate / Service	**CLC / Safer Communities**
Lead Officer	**David Tolley, Head of Environmental Health and Trading Standards**
Signed Off By (inc date)	
Summary – to be completed at the end of completing the QA (using Appendix A) (Please provide a summary of the findings of the Quality Assurance checklist. What has happened as a result of the QA? For example, based on the QA a Full EA will be undertaken or, based on the QA a Full EA will not be undertaken as due regard to the nine protected groups is embedded in the proposal and the proposal has low relevance to equalities)	**Proceed with implementation** As a result of performing the QA checklist, the policy does not appear to have any adverse effects on people who share *Protected Characteristics* and no further actions are recommended at this stage.

Stage	Checklist Area / Question	Yes / No / Unsure	Comment (If the answer is no/unsure, please ask the question to the SPP Service Manager or nominated equality lead to clarify)
1	Overview of Proposal		
a	Are the outcomes of the proposals clear?	Yes	The decision making body is recommended to:

				• Agree the proposed Gambling Policy • Note that the 'no casino' resolution remain within the Gambling Policy. All local authorities have to review and adopt a gambling policy every three years which defines how they will administer and exercise their responsibilities under the Gambling Act 2005. The Gambling Policy is prescribed by the central government and the Gambling Commission. The policy is compatible with this advice and guidance. Some of the major issues and concerns about gambling, including gambling addiction, are not addressed in the policy. Also, noise nuisance is not a licensing objective. Any issues relating to noise and nuisance will be dealt with by the Council's noise team.	
	b	Is it clear who will be or is likely to be affected by what is being proposed (inc service users and staff)? Is there information about the equality profile of those affected?	Yes	The Gambling Policy states how the Licensing Authority will exercise its authority. This policy covers the following: • How the Licensing Authority will use its regulatory powers in relation to applications and reviews of the activities it regulates, to the extent it is allowed by statute. • The main licensing objective for the authority is protecting children, preventing crime and disorder and ensuring gambling is fair and open. • The Licensing Authority approach to regulation • The scheme of delegation The licencing objectives remain including protecting children and the vulnerable, including 'people may not be able to	

				make informed or balanced decisions about gambling due to a mental impairment, alcohol or drugs.' The business operators will be requested to undertake local risk assessments in relation to their premises. It is expected that the local risk assessment will consider various issues including exposure to vulnerable groups, type of footfall (e.g. children, families), education facilities and homelessness/ rough sleeper hostels. The local risk assessment is also expected to identify how these risks will be mitigated and monitored.
2		**Monitoring / Collecting Evidence / Data and Consultation**		
a	Is there reliable qualitative and quantitative data to support claims made about impacts?	Yes	The Gambling Policy is prescribed by the central government and the Gambling Commission. The policy is compatible with this advice and guidance. Regarding the business related data, the Development and Renewal (D&R) directorate have corporate lead responsibility for data capture and are currently reviewing the technical implications in developing an equalities strand of their business data base.	
	Is there sufficient evidence of local/regional/national research that can inform the analysis?	Yes	Gambling premises will undertake a risk assessment taking into consideration their local information. The gambling policy is compatible with this advice and guidance by the central government and the Gambling Commission.	
b	Has a reasonable attempt been made to ensure relevant knowledge and expertise (people, teams and partners) have been involved in the analysis?	Yes	As above. Also, a statutory consultation process commenced on 19 October 2015 and continued for three months, until 17 January 2016. The draft policy has also been consulted by the Licensing Committee on 4 December 2015 and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 4 January 2016. The comments received have been analysed and incorporated into the policy where necessary.	

	c	Is there clear evidence of consultation with stakeholders and users from groups affected by the proposal?	Yes	A statutory consultation process commenced on 19 October 2015 and continued for three months, until 17 January 2016.
3		**Assessing Impact and Analysis**		
	a	Are there clear links between the sources of evidence (information, data etc) and the interpretation of impact amongst the nine protected characteristics?	Yes	The gambling policy is compatible with this advice and guidance by the central government and the Gambling Commission. The licencing objectives remain including protecting children and the vulnerable, including 'people may not be able to make informed or balanced decisions about gambling due to a mental impairment, alcohol or drugs.'
	b	Is there a clear understanding of the way in which proposals applied in the same way can have unequal impact on different groups?	N/A	
4		**Mitigation and Improvement Action Plan**		
	a	Is there an agreed action plan?	Yes	The policy will be agreed by the full Council. All local authorities have to review and adopt a gambling policy every three years which defines how they will administer and exercise their responsibilities under the Gambling Act 2005.
	b	Have alternative options been explored	Yes	The Gambling Policy is prescribed by the central government and the Gambling Commission.
5		**Quality Assurance and Monitoring**		
	a	Are there arrangements in place to review or audit the implementation of the proposal?	Yes	All local authorities have to review and adopt a gambling policy every three years which defines how they will administer and exercise their responsibilities under the Gambling Act 2005.
	b	Is it clear how the progress will be monitored to track impact across the protected characteristics?	Yes	The policy includes a number of measures to prevent children from taking part in gambling and restriction of advertising so that gambling products are not aimed at or are attractive to children.

			The licensing authority will consider whether specific measures are required at particular premises, with regard to this licensing objective. Appropriate measures may include supervision of entrances/ machines, segregation of areas. The policy also states that local risk assessment may include arrangements for monitoring and dealing with under age persons and vulnerable persons.
6	Reporting Outcomes and Action Plan		
a	Does the executive summary contain sufficient information on the key findings arising from the assessment?	Yes	

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Commissioner Decision Report – 27th Sept Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 26th Sept Grants Scrutiny Sub-Committee – 20th Sept	TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Melanie Clay, Director of Law, Probity and Governance and Zena Cooke, Corporate Director Resources	**Classification:** Unrestricted
Review of Grants Scrutiny Sub-Committee and work programme report	

Originating Officer(s)	Vicky Allen, Corporate Strategy and Equality Steve Hill, Head of Benefits Service
Wards affected	All Wards
Key Decision?	No
Community Plan Theme	All

Executive Summary

The Grants Best Value Action Plan was developed to address the findings of the Best Value (BV) Inspection. A key Best Value action is to review arrangements, post Commissioners, for future executive decision-making. The Grants Scrutiny Sub-Committee (GSSC) was established in April 2016 to provide cross party pre-decision scrutiny as part of revised governance arrangements.

A report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee, from the Corporate Director, Resources, to establish the GSSC also recommended that a report be presented within three months of the first meeting, to review the work of the Sub-Committee, identifying whether changes are needed to its composition and Terms of Reference. This report sets out the findings of the review of the operation of the Grants Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Recommendations:

The GSSC / Commissioners are recommended to:

1. Comment on the findings of the review of the Grants Scrutiny Sub-Committee to date; and
2. Agree the report is taken to Overview and Scrutiny Committee for agreement.
3. The OSC agree the revised Terms of Reference for the Grants Scrutiny Committee.

1. **REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS**

1.1 As part of the establishment of GSSC it was agreed a review would be

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undertaken after three months; this report presents the findings of that review.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

2.1   Whilst the Council could choose not to change the GSSC in light of the review's findings, this may not support the Council's priority to promote transparency and strengthen governance arrangements.

3. DETAILS OF REPORT

3.1   The Council's Grants Best Value Action Plan (BVAP) was developed to address failings that were identified and to respond to the requirements of the Secretary of State's Directions. The Grants BVAP includes within the heading 'Governance Arrangements' two recommendations that relate specifically to a transparent, executive and cross party decision making process. The two recommendations are as follows:

1. Ensure and embed open and transparent decision-making
2. Review arrangements post Commissioners for future executive decision making

3.2   The Overview and Scrutiny Committee, at its meeting on 4th April 2016, agreed to the establishment of the GSSC which will act as the cross party member forum that will scrutinise the proposed award of grants prior to their consideration at Commissioners Decision Making Meetings. The terms of reference for the GSSC are attached in Appendix A. The OSC also agreed that a report be presented to the Committee in 3 months to review the work of the GSSC and whether changes need to be made to its terms of reference or composition.

3.3   Since its establishment the GSSC has met three times; twice for training purposes and one full meeting:

Date	Key Items for Consideration
7th April 2016 & 23rd May 2016	Informal meetings for training purposes (Legal Services provided training on governance and scrutiny, specifically (1) Declaration of personal interests and (2) What are grants followed by consideration of Commissioners Decision Making agenda items)
29th June 2016	• GSSC Terms of Reference • Local Authority Grants Programme (Affordable Housing) • Whitechapel High Street • Annual Report on the Event Fund Awards 2015-16 • Can Do Outcomes • MSG 2015/18 Performance Report • Exercise of Commissioner Decision • Grants Review Commissioning Indentions • Grants Decision making – Transitional Arrangements

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| | • Grants Forward Plan |
| | • Adult Services Small Grants for Pensioners Group 2016-17 |

3.4 The review of GSSC is based on meetings held so far and on-going discussions with scrutiny members and officers. The work of the GSSC has been well received with the Commissioners who welcomed the contribution of GSSC at Commissioners Decision Making Meeting (CDMM) on 5th July 2016. The review has identified a number of actions which are outlined below.

Chair
3.5 The GSSC terms of reference identify the Chair of OSC as the Chair of the GSSC. In recent months, there have been a number of significant changes to Overview and Scrutiny, including the establishment of a Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee and the development of an ambitious work programme for 2016/17. The Council's lead Directorate for Grants is Resources. Given both the existing significant responsibilities of the Chair of OSC, and the potential benefit of aligning the Grants Scrutiny Lead Portfolio with the relevant Directorate, it is proposed that Chair of GSSC be the Scrutiny Lead Member for Resources. Members are asked to endorse this proposal which would then be presented to the next meeting of OSC for formal approval. This is reflected in the revised terms of reference which is attached in Appendix 1.

Recommendation 1: That the Scrutiny Lead for Resources, Cllr Abdul Mukit, be appointed Chair of GSSC.

Dates and deadlines:
3.6 Reports for the first GSSC meeting were delayed because some report authors were working towards the Commissioner Decision Making Meeting (CDMM) rather than GSSC deadlines. This issue has now been resolved; dates and deadlines are now aligned to GSSC which has brought report deadlines forward by around one week.

Membership
3.7 There are five Members on the GSSC, made up of Members of the OSC. It is important there is cross-party cooperation on this Committee because of its vital role in the grants process to ensure that an objective, fair and transparent approach is taken. The Independent Group has expressed concern about their level of representation (one Member) on the Sub-Committee.

Recommendation 2: That Group Leaders ensure members appointed to this Committee attend meetings or send deputies.

Recruitment of Co-opted Members
3.8 OSC, at its meeting in April 2016, agreed that GSSC's membership should include non-voting co-opted members. The Council's constitution allows the appointment of co-opted members who bring expertise, the voice of local people and independence to the scrutiny process. As part of the review process it was noted that the current education co-opted members on OSC

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and the co-opted members of the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee contribute significantly to the work of the Committees. The co-opted members will be local residents with relevant experience of grants and / or a good understanding of the local authority grant processes and procedures.

3.9   The recruitment will be a competitive process aiming to attract an excellent calibre of candidates. These roles are being advertised through a wide range of avenues such as the Council's website, social media accounts and through the Tower Hamlets Council for Voluntary Services and other local grant giving bodies such as the East End Community Foundation. Individuals will be required to submit an application and shortlisted candidates will attend an interview. The recruitment process followed will be similar to that used for identifying independent members of Standards Committee. The appointment will be confirmed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

3.10   The GSSC co-opted members term of office will be fixed and follow that for OSC co-opted members i.e. a period determined by the Council that is not less than 2 years and not more than 4 years. Training and support from Legal Services will be provided to co-opted members on the code of conduct including a focus on conflicts of interest, as well as an induction on the Council's grants programme.

Work Programme
3.11   The focus of meetings so far has been on training and development of the Members of the Committee and pre-decision scrutiny of papers being considered by the Commissioners Decision Making meeting. Report authors introduced their reports and were on hand to answer questions.

3.12   As well as commenting on specific reports presented at the meeting, the sub-committee made a number of observations which included a greater focus on outcomes, monitoring reports to include more analysis and a stronger focus on problem issues.   The sub-committee also highlighted the benefit of ensuring that grants are joined-up with other arrangements, including commissioned services.

3.13   The importance of ensuring that grant schemes are effective, including targeting where appropriate, was also raised and, where necessary, support should be provided for or signposted to community groups who lack the capacity to apply (for example, because of language barriers).

3.14   The Chair of OSC has then attended meetings of the Commissioners Decision Making meeting to provide feedback from the Committee's consideration of reports. Generally, the comments were welcomed by the Commissioners and informed the decision making process.

3.15   The GSSC work programme is mainly made up of pre-decision scrutiny of grants decisions which in future will be made by the Grants Decision Making Meeting which will be chaired by the Mayor and include the Deputy Mayor (Cllr Saunders, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and the Lead for Third Sector) and one other Cabinet Member. The Commissioners

will also be present at the meeting and have the ability to exercise the power of accountability under the directions. The GSSC is considering developing a work programme which enables them to use other scrutiny methods within the committee which will include scrutiny spotlights focusing on a particular area of grant and the relevant Cabinet Member and / or Commissioner are held to account on the pertinent issue within that area. A key way of ensuring scrutiny has an impact on any particular area of work is through ensuring their early involvement in the planning and development stage. In this instance engaging GSSC in the development of the grants programme will enable them to contribute in a way that ensures local needs and concerns are addressed.

Recommendation 3: That GSSC enhance their work programme by developing a range of methods to scrutinise the grants development process.

Recommendation 4: That the grants performance reports provide greater clarity on outcomes, more analysis and a stronger focus on problem issues

Training
3.16 In addition to the training provided to Overview and Scrutiny members at the beginning of the municipal year, training was also provided to GSSC members on what grants are, members code of conduct and members interests. Additional training has been suggested with the Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS). This training can be tailored to the needs of the committee and can cover areas such as assessment and questioning skills.

Recommendation 5: That the council organises grants scrutiny training with external experts which will help the GSSC undertake its role effectively.

Move to commissioning
3.17 A key theme in the Council's Voluntary and Community Sector Strategy (approved by Cabinet in April 2016) is to maximise the value from its resources. To this end, the Council is moving towards an outcome based and commissioned approach. All funding to the VCS is being reviewed to ensure it is contributing to priority outcomes and with a general preference for commissioning rather than grants. The commissioning model will help ensure that provision is contributing to outcomes. A coordinated process for the transition from grants to commissioning is currently being undertaken.

Recommendation 6: The GSSC could consider looking at the arrangements the council puts in place to support local organisations with the move to a more Commissioning-based approach.

Grants Register
3.18 The development of a Grants Register was part of the BVAP and acts a central database for all grant funding that the council awards. There are currently 55 grants identified on the Grants Register totalling £35,461,962; this includes grants to individuals such as hardship grants, grants for capital funded projects and discretionary grants to community groups. The value of mainstream grants for this year is £3.2m.

3.19   The register is updated on a monthly basis and currently also includes Government grants which the Council has no control over such as grants to individuals (for example school grants and fuel grants) and grants for capital projects. The register also distinguishes between the grants which have been delegated to officers and which have been delegated to Commissioners.

3.20   A piece of work is currently being undertaken to identify which of the current grants will be moved to a commissioned service at the end of the period. The GSSC should therefore take these issues into consideration and focus its attention on those areas where grants will continue and where the Council has discretion on the grant giving to community organisations, for example, mainstream grants and events. It is estimated that there will be fewer than 20 such grants streams. To help GSSC better understand the grants process it was requested that an overview be presented to the Committee meeting which should include why we have grants, the different types of grants and the differences between grants and commissioning.

Recommendation 7: That the GSSC be provided with an overview of grants in Tower Hamlets and include the Grants Register as a standing item on the GSSC agenda.

Grants Management

3.21   The service has commissioned an external review of the end to end management, monitoring and reporting of grants, which includes looking at how the council's grants management system (GIFTS) can be used to maximise the efficiency and effectiveness of the grants function. This will also support greater efficiency in the analysis and reporting of grants. The review which will identify how this work will be achieved is due to be completed and reported on by December. It was noted that to help Members of GSSC better understand how the grants management process works in the council it will be useful to consider the findings of the end to end review of grants management at a future meeting.

Recommendation 8: The GSSC should include the external review as a future agenda item.

Cabinet Members Engagement

3.22   As part of the transitional arrangement the Mayor and Cabinet Members will take a greater role in the Grants Decision Making Meetings. It is therefore important to engage Cabinet Members with GSSC and it is proposed a standing invitation for all GSSC meetings is sent to the Mayor and Cabinet Lead Member for Third Sector. As part of the agenda planning for each meeting, discussions will be held with the Chair to identify any other relevant Cabinet Members that should be invited to each meeting. This is in recognition of the number of reports that will be presented to GSSC as part of the pre-decision process and the need to only invite those Cabinet Members where there will be greater focus by the Committee. This will need to be reviewed on an on-going basis throughout the year.

Recommendation 9: That a standing invitation for all GSSC meetings be sent to the Mayor and Cabinet Lead for Third Sector and as part of the agenda planning discuss with the Chair the relevant Cabinet Member that should be invited to meetings.

Public Engagement

3.23 All meetings of the GSSC are open to the public and papers of meetings are published on the council's website. The Committee will consider the engagement of local people in delivery of its work programme, for example by inviting people to speak at the Committee meetings and comments on strategic issues on grants within the Council. Further work may need to be undertaken to raise the profile of the Committee. At present local people are able to make submissions to the Grants Decision Making meeting on any items being considered by that meeting. The revised terms of reference attached in Appendix 1 states individual issues on grants be directed to the Commissioners and the Executive to ensure people do not have to make representation on the same issue twice.

Recommendation 10: That further work be undertaken to develop public engagement in the work of the GSSC and how this fits into the Grants Decision Making process.

Next Steps

3.24 Following consideration by the GSSC the report will be presented to OSC for agreement and the recommendations identified in the review will be implemented. As the grants decision making process evolves it will be important to review the role of GSSC to ensure it remains fit for purpose.

4. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

5. LEGAL COMMENTS

5.1. By virtue of Directions made by the Secretary of State on 17 December 2014, the Council's functions in relation to grants are exercised by appointed Commissioners acting jointly or severally.

5.2. By virtue of Directions made by the Secretary of State on 17 March 2015 the Council was required to draw up and agree with the Commissioners a strategy and action plan for securing the Authority's compliance with the best value duty. The agreed Best Value Strategy and Action Plan includes a Grants Action Plan which contains provision to review arrangements post Commissioners for future executive decision making, to include a cross-party forum to participate in the process.

5.3. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has duties to review and scrutinise decisions made or other action taken in the discharge of executive functions which already includes pre-decision scrutiny of recommendations to Cabinet and it can extend that remit to specific pre-decision scrutiny of grant

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applications. The Committee has power under Section 9FA of the Local Government Act 2000 to arrange for the discharge of its functions by a Sub-Committee and has appointed the Overview and Scrutiny Grants Sub-Committee to undertake its role in this respect and to be the cross-party forum. This approach was approved by the Commissioners.

5.4. Significant progress has therefore been made in relation to grant management, including transitional arrangements towards Executive decision making. This includes a proposal for the Mayor (or his nominee) to chair a Decision Making Meeting in public to consider officer recommendations on grants. Discussions are ongoing with the Commissioners on being in a position for the relevant Direction of 17 December 2014 to now be lifted

5.5. The work of the Overview and Scrutiny Grants Sub-Committee will continue to play an important role in relation to grant management and the recommendations in this report will strengthen that role.

5.6 When making decisions, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (the public sector equality duty). A proportionate level of equality analysis is required to discharge the duty and information relevant to this is contained in the One Tower Hamlets section of the report.

6. **ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS**

6.1. The reports make a number of recommendations to improve the functioning of the GSSC and thereby enhance the role of members. It also recommends the recruitment of co-opted members which will help develop the community leadership role of local people. The GSSC will consider equalities and cohesion implication arising from grants decision and will report this accordingly to the decision making body.

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

7.1 As part of the Directions, a Grant Action Plan was developed and agreed. As part of that Plan, a recommendation was to review arrangements post Commissioners for future executive decision-making and the action arising was to establish a cross party working group to develop proposals for future arrangements. The OSC has established a GSSC to act as a scrutiny panel to undertake reviews of Officer recommendations regarding grants and award of grants prior to their consideration at the Grants Decision Making Meeting.

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

8.1 There are no direct sustainability or environmental issues arising from this report.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

9.1 An effective GSSC will ensure the council maintains good governance and transparency to grants awards process and therefore reduce the reputational risk.

10. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no direct crime and disorder reduction implications arising from this report.

11. SAFEGUARDING IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no direct safeguarding implications arising from this report

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Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report
- List any linked reports [if Exempt, Forward Plan entry MUST warn of that]
- State NONE if none.

Appendices
- List any appendices [if Exempt, Forward Plan entry MUST warn of that]
- State NONE if none.

Background Documents – Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012
- List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.
- These must be sent to Democratic Services with the report
- State NONE if none.

Officer contact details for documents:
Or state N/A

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Overview & Scrutiny Grants Sub-Committee　　　　　　　　　　　　　**Appendix A**

Terms of Reference

1.　Introduction and Aims

1.1　Member input is vital at the development and delivery stage of the grants process by ensuring that the overall objectives of the grant scheme are being met based on identified need, that a fair geographical distribution of funding is being proposed, and that the full range of community needs are being met.

1.2　The Grants Sub-Committee will support an objective, fair, transparent and co-ordinated approach to grant funding across the Council including but not restricted to the following.

　　(a) overseeing the process and arrangements for awarding and administering grants and related procurement processes to ensure a strategic approach;
　　(b) overseeing the processing arrangements for developing grants criteria and assessment methodology
　　(c) overseeing the monitoring, performance management and evaluation arrangements in relation to funded projects; and
　　(d) ensuring fairness and transparency in the grant awarding process.

1.3　The Grants Sub-Committee will be mindful of the Council's objective to create an environment for a thriving Third Sector. In this context, the following are key factors:

　　(a) improve partnership working between local organisations;
　　(b) provide longer-term funding to organisations;
　　(c) ensure that funding is aligned to the Strategic Plan and Community Plan;
　　(d) ensure that the Council achieves value for money from its grants; and
　　(e) ensure that funding supports appropriate services for the benefit of local residents.

2.　Responsibilities

2.1　The Overview & Scrutiny Grants Sub-Committee will discharge the Council's statutory functions to undertake overview and scrutiny, insofar as these pertain to grants matters. This will include:

　　(a) Reviewing and/or scrutinise recommendations, decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of the council's grants;
　　(b) Advising the Mayor, DCLG Commissioners or Executive of key issues/questions arising in relation to grants reports due to be considered by the Mayor, DCLG Commissioners or Executive; and
　　(c) Making reports and/or recommendations to the full Council and/or the Mayor, DCLG Commissioners or Executive in connection with the discharge of grants functions

2.2　The Grants Sub-Committee will have a broad range of responsibilities. This will include scrutinising adherence to grant eligibility, appraisal, and monitoring arrangements.

2.3   Other areas of responsibility for the Grants Sub Committee include but are not restricted to the following:

(a) monitoring and reviewing all grant programmes across the Council;
(b) maintaining an overview of performance and value for money for all London Borough of Tower Hamlets grant funding;
(c) support an appropriate, fair and transparent commissioning and appraisal process is followed when allocating any grant funding;
(d) ensure that the Service agreements used in relation to the various Council grant regimes are fit for purpose and that appropriate monitoring and assurance systems are implemented and in place; and
(e) receive grant programme performance, monitoring reports and agreeing appropriate action to be taken in respect of projects which are under-performing.

3.   Membership

3.1   The membership of the Grants Sub-Committee will consist of the Lead Member for Resources (or his nominated Deputy) as Chair of the Grants Sub-Committee, with the composition consisting of three Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from the administration and one each from the opposition parties (5 in total).

4.   Actions and Responsibilities

4.1   Below are some of the specific actions and responsibilities required to ensure the effective operation of the Grants Sub-Committee.

4.2   **Servicing of meetings**. The servicing of meetings will be undertaken by the Council's Democratic Services Team and which work will include:

(a) dispatch of reports;
(b) taking of minutes and recording of actions/decisions;
(c) dissemination of minutes and decisions; and
(d) audio recording of meetings.

4.3   **Meeting frequency.** The Grants Sub-Committee will meet as required in order to consider grant awards in a timely manner.

4.4   Officers preparing reports for consideration must liaise with Democratic Services in good time to ensure that meetings are able to be convened as required to consider reports.

4.5   **Preparation and presentation of Reports.** The Lead Manager/Officer of the appropriate grant/funding programme will be responsible for preparing and presenting reports to the Grants Sub-Committee. This will include:

(a) preparing reports and recommendations;
(b) obtaining legal and financial clearance of reports;
(c) sending completed reports to Democratic Services for dispatch;
(d) presenting reports ; and

(e) implementing actions/decisions agreed.

4.6 **Record of attendance**. All members of the Sub-Committee present during the whole or part of a meeting must sign their names on the attendance sheet before the conclusion of every meeting to assist with the record of attendance.

5. Proceedings

5.1 The Grants Sub-Committee will generally meet in public and conduct its proceedings in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure contained in the Council's Constitution such as the:

(a) Council Procedure Rules;
(b) Access to Information Procedure Rules, and
(c) The Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

5.2 For the purposes of the Grants Sub-Committee, Rule 19 of the Council Procedure Rules (Petitions) applies.

6. Declaration of Interests

6.1 In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct for Members, Members are reminded that it is a requirement to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and any other interest that they may have within the published register of interests.

7. Decision making

7.1 Currently the Council is subject to Direction from the Secretary of State and Commissioners are responsible for decision making on Grants.

8. Public Engagement

8.1 The Sub-Committee will engage local people in the delivery of its work programme and strategic issues on grants within the Council whilst directing representations on individual issues to the Commissioners and the Executive.

Updated: September 2016

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