

Committee/Meeting: Overview & Scrutiny	Date: 3 rd April 2012	Classification: Unrestricted	Report No:
Report of: Stephen Halsey, Corporate Director CLC		Title: Community Safety Plan 2012-13	
Originating officer(s) Emily Fieran-Reed		Wards Affected: All	

Lead Member	Deputy Mayor, Cllr Ohid Ahmed
Community Plan Theme	A Great Place to Live, A Healthy & Supportive Community
Strategic Priority	Improving the Public Realm, Helping People to Live Healthier Lives

1. **SUMMARY**

- 1.1. Community Safety Partnerships have a statutory duty to produce a Community Safety Plan which investigates challenges and opportunities for the borough and identifies its priorities for the term of the plan. This year the Executive Steering Group recommended to the Community Safety Partnership that the next plan should cover the 2012-13 financial year only given the unique environment that the Olympics and Paralympics will create in the borough.
- 1.2. The Plan outlines the Strategic Framework within Tower Hamlets, its links to the Community Safety Plan, the newly approved Community Safety Partnership Delivery Structure / membership and the Corporate and Partnership Olympic Impact Planning infrastructure. It identifies key crime drivers for 2012 based on both local and national research/knowledge and sets out the Community Safety Partnerships priorities for 2012. These are :
- Violence
 - Serious Acquisitive Crime
 - Youth
 - Violence Against Women and Girls
 - Drugs / Alcohol
 - Integrated Offender Management
 - Anti-Social Behaviour
 - Cohesion and Hate Crime
 - Public Confidence
 - Olympics

- 1.3. The subgroups of the Community Safety Partnership will produce action plans (January – February 2012) that will engage with the CSP priorities throughout 2012 and each will be monitored at both Sub-Group and Community Safety Partnership level. The Plan must be considered by Cabinet before progressing to Full Council which it is scheduled to do on 18th April.

2. **DECISIONS REQUIRED**

Overview & Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

2.1 Consider and comment on:

- the Community Safety Plan 2012-13 (Appendix A) and the priorities set out within it;
- the Development and Consultation Plan for the Community Safety Plan 2013 onwards, which is appendix 1 to the 2012-13 Plan.

3. **REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS**

- 3.1 Full Council must adopt a Community Safety plan in order to meet statutory requirements set by the Crime and Disorder Act (1998). The priorities and governance structure outlined in the Plan are based on the statutory strategic assessment exercise that was carried out by statutory partners to consider data on safety in the Borough. They have been agreed by the Community Safety Partnership to be the best model to deliver a safer and more cohesive community in Tower Hamlets.

4. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 4.1 It is a statutory responsibility for Community Safety Partnerships to produce a Community Safety Plan and this is what the Community Safety Partnership have agreed will be their plan and priorities for the period 2012/13, thus there are no alternative options.

5. **BACKGROUND**

- 5.1 This Plan was produced by an executive steering group including senior representatives from the Police, Council, Probation, Health, Fire Service, Youth Services and policy officers from CLC.
- 5.2 It has been produced in line with the Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007.

- 5.3 A strategic assessment on crime and disorder data was carried out in September 2011 and the findings of this assessment were considered by the Executive Steering Group and the Community Safety Partnership. The Strategic Assessment was approved by the Community Safety Partnership in October 2011.
- 5.4 Engagement with residents has taken place via the Tower Hamlets Police and Community Safety Board (PCSB), which has obtained their views on the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and substance misuse in the borough. The Board has used a number of engagement methods to achieve this, including large public meetings, events targeted at particular sections of the community e.g. older or younger people and regular meetings of the PCSB members themselves, who are local residents. The CSP priorities of anti-social behaviour, drugs and alcohol and the Olympics, were particularly strong features of the feedback from this engagement and are therefore reflected in this plan's priorities.
- 5.5 To summarise, in arriving at the priorities and governance structure in this plan, the executive steering group with responsibility for producing the plan met, and specifically considered a number of key matters. These were i) the Strategic Assessment (which included data from partner agencies); ii) Relevant existing or emerging plans of partner agencies, including the Tower Hamlets Policing Plan and control strategy; iii) Existing or emerging performance indicators monitored by partner agencies; iv) Existing or emerging priorities of partner organisations and v) Feedback recorded from engagement with residents via the Tower Hamlets Police and Community Safety Board (this was also considered as an agenda item at the Community Safety Partnership).
- 5.6 As of 1st June 2011, through the amended Crime and Disorder Regulations, Community Safety Partnership's were given the opportunity to set the term of their Community Safety Plan for the coming period locally, as opposed to it previously being set by central government. This year the Executive Steering Group recommended to the Community Safety Partnership that the next plan should cover the 2012-13 financial year only, for a number of reasons which include the current economic and public sector funding conditions and the unique environment that the Olympics and Paralympics will create in the borough. The CSP agreed that the new plan would be for 2012-13 only during their October meeting and approved the Community Safety Plan 2012 in its draft form.
- 5.7 None of the sections are mutually exclusive and impacts will be addressed in more detail in the Delivery Action Plans for each Priority. The Delivery Action Plans may include some detailed analysis of data relating to particular priority areas.

6. BODY OF REPORT

6.1 The Community Safety Plan 2012-13 (see appendix A) identifies the priorities for the Community Safety Partnership to tackle in the financial year 2012/13. Based on public consultation and analysis of the Community Safety Partnership Strategic Review 2011, the Community Safety Partnership has agreed that the following areas of work will be their priorities for 2012/13.

- Violence – including assaults and gun and knife crime
- Serious Acquisitive Crime – including burglary, robbery and motor vehicle crime
- Youth – including a particular focus on young offenders
- Violence Against Women and Girls – including domestic violence and sexual offences
- Drugs and Alcohol – including treatment, as well as links to violence and acquisitive crime
- Integrated Offender Management – including reducing reoffending around an identified cohort of offenders
- Anti-Social Behaviour – including a wide range of nuisance causing, harassment, alarm and distress
- Cohesion and Hate Crime – including addressing prejudice and discrimination under all equalities strands and preventing violent extremism
- Public Confidence - including satisfaction of service users and perceptions of crime
- Olympics – identifying and recognising the impacts associated with this major event and the changes in population that result.

6.2 The Plan links these priorities to other existing frameworks across the Partnership, including the Community Plan, One Tower Hamlets, Localisation/Service Integration and the Victim, Offender, Location, Timed (VOLT) model of community safety management.

6.3 The governance structure for delivering against these priorities is set out, with the roles of the partnership forums and the diversity of their membership being highlighted. The links to operational delivery and to the community are identified. The Partnership Boards which reflect these key priority areas and report to the CSP are shown diagrammatically and consist of: -.

- Drug & Alcohol Action Team Board
- Youth Offending Team Management Board
- Safeguarding Boards (Children & Adults)
- Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour Reduction Board
- Integrated Offender Management Board
- Equality & Cohesion Board
- Domestic Violence Board
- Confidence & Satisfaction Board

- 6.3 The next Community Safety Plan after this one will cover the period from 1st April 2013 onwards. The Development and Consultation Plan relating to this is contained in Appendix B. It outlines the methodology for public consultation, production of the Strategic Review and the Community Safety Plan.

7. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

- 7.1 The report sets out the Community Safety Plan 2012-13 (Appendix A) detailing the priorities for the year. Whilst there are no specific financial implications emanating from the plan, the period covering the Olympics and Paralympics will impact significantly on resources and the Services ability to respond. The delivery of the plan through the Community Safety Partnership is expected to have a positive effect on the environment and will be contained within existing budgets.

**8. CONCURRENT REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE
(LEGAL SERVICES)**

- 8.1. On 13 July 2011, the Council adopted a revised Community Plan, which contains the Council's sustainable community strategy as required by section 4 of the Local Government Act 2000. A key theme of the Community Plan is to make Tower Hamlets a safe and cohesive community, that is, a safer place where people feel safer, get on better together and where difference is not seen as a threat, but a core-strength.
- 8.2. The Council is one of the responsible authorities for Tower Hamlets, within the meaning of section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. 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 re-offending. 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.
- 8.3. 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 Safe and Cohesive Community Plan Delivery Group discharges these functions in Tower Hamlets. The report indicates that the Community Safety Plan is the relevant partnership plan and has been prepared in accordance with the Regulations.
- 8.4. The making of a crime and disorder reduction strategy pursuant to section 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 is a function that is required not to be the sole responsibility of the Council's executive. This is the effect of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000. The requirement is reflected in the Council's Constitution, which makes the crime and disorder reduction strategy part of the Council's policy framework.
- 8.5. When planning action under the Community Safety Plan, it will be necessary for officers to have regard to the Council's statutory functions and ensure these are not exceeded.
- 8.6. Before adopting the Community Safety Plan, 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. An equality analysis is set out in the proposed Community Safety Plan that may form the basis of these considerations.

9. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

- 9.1 Equalities analysis has been carried out on the priorities identified in the Plan (see appendix 2 of Community Safety Plan) with recommendations made for further considerations when supporting action plans are developed.

10. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

- 10.1 Implementation of the Community Safety Plan 2012 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.

11. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 The Community Safety Plan sets out an overarching structure and framework of priorities within which management of risks will take place. There are no particular risk management implications attached to the plan itself.

12. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 The Community Safety Plan 2012 will help to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and meet the Mayors priorities whilst reducing fear of crime and contributing to relevant community plan commitments.

13. EFFICIENCY STATEMENT

- 13.1 There are potentially significant efficiency gains from working in partnership to reduce crime and disorder in the borough. The Community Safety Plan 2012 is a partnership document and brings together key crime and disorder reduction agencies to work together and share resources.
- 13.2 There are also further efficiencies from addressing problems before they escalate, requiring less resource than would be necessary in dealing with a more serious problem at a later stage. These efficiencies would be spread across the Council and key partner agencies. This work is integrated in to the corporate efficiency planning processes supporting the Medium Term Financial Plan.

14. APPENDICES

Appendix A – Community Safety Plan 2012/13

Appendix B - Community Safety Plan 2013 onwards* Development and Consultation Plan

Appendix C – Equalities Analysis

Appendix D - Membership of Community Safety Partnership and Delivery Structure

**Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)
List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report**

Strategic Review 2011

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