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| <b>Committee/Meeting:</b><br>Overview & Scrutiny                                      | <b>Date:</b><br>10 September 2013 | <b>Classification:</b><br>Unrestricted                     | <b>Report No:</b> |
| <b>Report of:</b><br>Corporate Director Stephen Halsey                                |                                   | <b>Title:</b><br>Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16 |                   |
| <b>Originating officer(s)</b><br>Colin Hewitt<br>Community Safety Partnership Officer |                                   | <b>Wards Affected:</b> All (Borough-wide)                  |                   |

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| <b>Lead Scrutiny Member</b> | Councillor Helal Uddin                                            |
| <b>Lead Member</b>          | Deputy Mayor Ohid Ahmed                                           |
| <b>Community Plan Theme</b> | A Safe and Cohesive Community, A great Place to Live              |
| <b>Strategic Priority</b>   | Focusing on Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour, Reducing Fear of Crime |

### **Reasons for Urgency:**

The Community Safety Plan is a statutory document that the Council is obliged to deliver at the earliest available opportunity. A request was made by the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny to clarify the public consultation section of the plan; this was done by amending the appendices requiring additional legal input.

Deferment would adversely impact on the Council's ability to engage with the Partnership to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.

### 1. **SUMMARY**

- 1.1. Community Safety Partnerships have a statutory duty to produce a Community Safety Partnership Plan (formerly known as a Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy) which investigates challenges and opportunities for the borough and identifies its priorities for the term of the plan.
- 1.2. The Plan (appendix 1) outlines the Strategic Framework within Tower Hamlets and how the Community Safety Partnership Plan fits into this, specifically through the 'Safe and Cohesive Community' theme of the Community Plan.
- 1.3. It includes highlights of partnership performance during 2012/13, it also describes the methodology and the findings of the Partnership's Strategic Assessment 2012, which includes performance trends over 2009-12.

- 1.4. It summarises the results of the Public Consultation Report (Appendix 2 of this report) which identifies the public's top three crime priorities for the Plan.
- 1.5 The Community Safety Plan is required by the constitution to go before Full Council for ratification.

## 2. **DECISIONS REQUIRED**

Overview & Scrutiny Committee is requested to:-

- 2.1. Consider and comment on the Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16 (Appendix A) and the priorities set out within it.

## 3. **BACKGROUND**

- 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.
- 3.2 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.
- 3.3 It has been produced in line with the Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007.
- 3.4 A strategic assessment on crime and disorder data was carried out in October 2012 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 December 2012.
- 3.5 This Plan includes a summary of partnership performance against previous CSP priorities and identifies emerging trends taken from the Strategic Assessment 2012.
- 3.6 This Plan includes crime and anti-social behaviour levels in the borough over the period 2000/01 to 2012/13, it also compares Tower Hamlets levels with those of surrounding London boroughs.
- 3.7 Engagement with partners and members of the community has taken place in line with the Development and Consultation Plan which accompanied the 2012 CSP Plan through the full council approval process.
- 3.8 In arriving at the priorities and governance structure in this plan, the executive steering group specifically considered i) the Strategic Assessment (which

included data from partners agencies); ii) Relevant existing or emerging plans of partner agencies, including the Tower Hamlets Policing Plan and control strategy; iii) Existing and emerging performance indicators monitored by partner agencies; iv) Existing and emerging priorities of partner organisations and v) Public Consultation Feedback (Appendix 2). This was also considered as an agenda item at the Community Safety Partnership.

- 3.9 As of 1<sup>st</sup> June 2011, through the amended Crime and Disorder Regulations, Community Safety Partnerships were given the opportunity to set the term of their Community Safety Plan for the coming period locally. Previously this had been set by central government. The Community Safety Partnership has agreed that the new plan be for 3 financial years (2013-16). The decision was based on the recommendations from the Strategic Assessment 2012 and feedback from the Executive Steering Group.
- 3.10 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. It is important to note that the Plan itself sets the strategic framework that guides the subsequent work of the partnership sub groups who develop the detail of the delivery action plans which are annually reviewed over the term of the plan to adapt to what is a very dynamic environment.
- 3.11 The Community Safety Plan Report and Appendices have been approved at the following meetings:
- Community Safety Partnership 13<sup>th</sup> March 2013
  - CLC DMT 18<sup>th</sup> April 2013
  - Corporate Management Team 14<sup>th</sup> May 2013
  - Mayor's Advisory Board 19<sup>th</sup> June 2013
- 3.12 The Community Safety Partnership is also known as the Safe & Cohesive Community Plan Delivery Group, the Community Safety Plan is the Strategic document of this CPDG and therefore aims to fulfil the 'Safe and Cohesive Community' elements of the Tower Hamlets Partnership's Community Plan, ultimately making the borough a safer and more cohesive place.

#### **4. BODY OF REPORT**

- 4.1 To produce this plan, an executive steering group (CSP Strategy Group) was established which included senior representatives from the 5 Responsible Authorities ( Police, Council, Probation, Health, Fire Service) in addition to the Chairs of the CSP Subgroups and policy officers from LBTH CLC.
- 4.2 This plan has been produced in line with 'The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2011', which include reference to the production of a strategic assessment for the partnership and community engagement in terms of identifying priorities. An amendment to the law on 1st June 2011 made the decision on the length of the plan a local one.

- 4.3 Community Safety Partnerships have a statutory duty to produce a Community Safety Partnership Plan (formerly known as a Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy) which investigates challenges and opportunities for the borough and identifies its priorities for the term of the plan.
- 4.4 The Plan outlines the Strategic Framework within Tower Hamlets and how the Community Safety Partnership Plan fits into this, specifically through the 'Safe and Cohesive Community' theme of the Community Plan.
- 4.5 It includes highlights on partnership performance during 2012/13 and describes the methodology, the findings of the Partnership's Strategic Assessment 2012, including performance trends over 2009-12. It summarises the results of the Public Consultation Report (Appendix 2) which identifies the public's top three crime priorities for the Plan.
- 4.6 The Plan describes the newly approved Community Safety Partnership Delivery Structure including its sub groups and documents the make-up of those subgroups.

### **Consultation and Partnership Involvement**

- 4.7 A public consultation exercise was conducted from April to August 2012, this asked members of the public, third sector, elected members and partner agencies to identify their top 3 community safety priorities for 2013 onwards. In total 1,013 responses were received, 862 by the dedicated mytowerhamlets web-survey and the remainder at the public meetings. Further details on the public consultation can be found in Appendix 2 of this report. A summary of the public consultation meetings is as follows:
  - 12 public meetings were hosted by the local Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams (one in each ward unless the ward shared a ward sergeant). Overall 114 members of the public attended and completed the survey.
  - A borough-wide public consultation event was held by the Community Safety Partnership on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2012. In total 33 members of the public attended and completed the survey.
  - A consultation event for elected members took place on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2012. All elected members were invited via the members bulletin, in total 6 elected members attended the meeting, with 4 of them staying for the entire meeting and completing the survey.

### **4.8 Strategic Assessment**

- 4.8.1 A Strategic Assessment on crime and disorder was carried out in October - December 2012 and the findings of this assessment were considered by the CSP Steering Group and the Community Safety Partnership. The Strategic Assessment was presented to and approved by the Community Safety Partnership in December 2012, where both the draft Community Safety Plan and Strategic Assessment were presented and discussed.

## **4.9 Term of Plan and Priorities**

4.9.1 This year the CSP Strategy Group recommended to the Community Safety Partnership, that the next plan should cover 2013-16 and the CSP agreed at its meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

4.9.2 The Community Safety Partnership Plan 2013-16 and its priorities, was approved by the Community Safety Partnership on the 13<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

4.9.3 The Plan sets out the Community Safety Partnership's priorities (7 in total) for 2013-16:

- Gangs and Serious Youth Violence
- Anti-Social Behaviour (including Arson)
- Drugs and Alcohol
- Violence (with a focus on Domestic Violence)
- Hate Crime and Cohesion
- Public Confidence
- Reducing Re-offending

4.9.4 It is important to note that the subgroups of the Community Safety Partnership produce their own action plans. These explain how they will address the CSP priorities annually throughout the term of the Plan. Each Subgroup Action Plan will be monitored at both the individual Sub-Group and Community Safety Partnership level. These are organic plans that follow the adoption of the Plan itself.

4.9.5 The Mayor of Tower Hamlets and the Council recognise the importance of tackling crime and ASB (including prostitution and drugs) which are key concerns for the borough residents. The Council continues to fund the Police to deliver the Partnership Task Force (PTF). The PTF is currently made up of two teams, one dedicated to tackling drugs, gangs & ASB and the other dedicated to tackling prostitution. The team works in partnership with the Council and other key partners to coordinate interventions to maximum effect.

4.9.6 The Plan not only takes into account local policy and priorities across the partnership agencies, it also includes both national and regional (pan London) policy and priorities.

4.9.7 A number of changes have occurred since the drafting of the CSP Plan that whilst not materially impacting on the content of the Plan will have implications for the development of the relevant action plans. The Local Policing Model, for example, was proposed in the MOPAC Policing and Crime Plan, which was still in draft for public consultation at the time of writing this CSP Plan. The model restructures Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams into wider

Neighbourhoods, reducing the number of ring-fenced officers per ward. It also includes changes to opening hours of front counters at police stations. Overall the number of police officers in the borough has been stated by MOPAC as 715, and under the plan may increase to 717 by 2015, however this figure disguises the fact that it includes officers that are not funded by the MPS, in particular the LBTH funded Partnership Taskforce.

## **5. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

- 5.1 There are no specific financial implications emanating from the priorities set out in the CSP 2013-16. The implementation of the new 3 year Plan will need to be managed within the existing budget in view of shrinking Council resources.
- 5.2 The report also highlights the Council's funding contribution to the Police for the Partnership Task Force (PTF) teams which adds to the overall number of police officers in the borough. Each agreement with the Police covers a two year funding commitment. PTF1 covered the period 7th July 2011 to 6th July 2013 at a cost of £685,000. The cost of PTF2 is £495,000 and covers the period 1st October 2012 and will expire 30th September 2014.

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

- 6.1 Under the Council Constitution, the Community Safety Partnership Plan (also known as a Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy) is required to be approved by the formal council approval process, culminating in Full Council.
- 6.2 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.
- 6.3 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.
- 6.4 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.

- 6.5 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.
- 6.6 When planning action under the Community Safety Partnership Plan, it will be necessary for officers to have regard to the Council's statutory functions and ensure these are not exceeded.
- 6.7 Before adopting the Community Safety Partnership 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. Equalities considerations and an Equalities Analysis Initial Screening Document are at appendices 3 and 4 respectively.

## **7. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS**

- 7.1 The Community Safety Partnership (Safe and Cohesion Community Plan Delivery Group) aims through its plan, to make Tower Hamlets a more cohesive place to live, work, study and visit. The work of the No Place For Hate Forum; Community Cohesion, Contingency Planning Tension Monitoring Group and the Preventing Violent Extremism Programme Board, all subgroups of the CSP aim to carry-out this important part of work for the Partnership. Hate Crime and Cohesion remains an important priority for the Partnership, please see Priority E on page 41 of the CSP Plan for further details.
- 7.2 Equalities analysis has been carried out on the priorities identified in the Plan (see appendix 3 of this report) with recommendations made for further considerations when supporting action plans are developed.

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

- 8.1 Implementation of the Community Safety Plan 2013-16 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. There are no particular risk management implications attached to the plan itself.

**10. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 The Community Safety Plan 2013-16 will help to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and re-offending; it will also meet the Mayors priorities whilst reducing fear of crime and contributing to relevant community plan commitments.

**11. EFFICIENCY STATEMENT**

11.1 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 to work together and share resources.

11.2 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.

**12. APPENDICES**

- Appendix 1 – Community Safety Plan 2013-16
- Appendix 2 – Community Safety Plan – Public Consultation Report
- Appendix 3 – Equalities Considerations
- Appendix 4 – Equalities Analysis – Initial Screening Document
- Appendix 5 – Borough Crime Statistics and Trends 2000/1 – 2012/13

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**Local Government Act 1972, s.100D**

Brief description of “background papers”

Name and telephone number of holder and address where open to inspection.

None

n/a