

	<p><b>Council</b></p> <p><b>14 April 2015</b></p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Title</b></p>	<p><b>Barnet Community Safety Strategy 2015-2020</b></p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Report of</b></p>	<p>Interim Commissioning Director for Environment</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Wards</b></p>	<p>All</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Status</b></p>	<p>Public</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Enclosures</b></p>	<p>Appendix One: Barnet Community Safety Strategy 2015-2020 Appendix Two: Equalities and Cohesion Data Summary 2015</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Officer Contact Details</b></p>	<p>Kiran Vagarwal, Head of Community Safety <a href="mailto:Kiran.vagarwal@barnet.gov.uk">Kiran.vagarwal@barnet.gov.uk</a> Tel: 0208 359 2953</p>

<p><b>Summary</b></p>
<p>Barnet Safer Communities Partnership Board (SCPB), oversees the development, delivery and monitoring of Barnet’s Community Safety Strategy.</p> <p>On the 11 September 2014, the Community Leadership Committee was updated on the progress of Barnet’s 2011-2014 Safer Communities Strategy and the findings of the 2014 strategic crime needs assessment.</p> <p>On 10<sup>th</sup> November 2014, the Community Leadership Committee was updated on the findings of the Community Safety Consultation which identified a number of themes important to local residents. The consultation has, together with the findings of the Strategic Crime Needs Assessment, informed the development of the 2015- 2020 Community Safety Strategy, attached as appendix 1 of this report.</p> <p>The strategic objectives set out in the strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide a victim centred approach to victims of crime and anti-social behaviour.</li> <li>• To maintain reductions in Crime and Anti-social behaviour.</li> <li>• To improve the perception of Barnet being a safe place to live, work and visit.</li> </ul>

The final strategy was signed off by partners at the Safer Communities Partnership Board on 20 January 2015.

Barnet Community Safety Strategy 2015-2020 is a policy by law and therefore this report seeks to secure formal adoption by Full Council.

## **Recommendations**

### **1. That the Community Safety Strategy 2015-2020 is adopted by Full Council.**

#### **1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED**

- 1.1 Under Section 6 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998, the Council with other partner authorities (chief of police, fire & rescue authority, probation service, CCG and Local Health Board) has a duty to formulate and implement a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social behaviour adversely affecting the local environment). The Safer Communities Partnership Board remains a statutory responsibility and allows the Council to both work with, and holds to account, crime and criminal justice agencies.
- 1.2 This report seeks to secure formal adoption of Barnet's Community Safety Strategy 2015-2020 by Full Council.

#### **2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Barnet Community Safety Strategy 2015-2020 is a policy by law and therefore this report seeks to secure formal adoption by Full Council.

#### **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED**

- 3.1 Not relevant in relation to this report

#### **4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION**

- 4.1 The strategy will be formally launched and publicised on Barnet Council Website and promoted across the partnership and the community. Barnet Safer Communities Partnership Board will continue to work towards delivering on the strategy, establishing a robust performance management framework to ensure performance is monitored and the impact of the strategy is evaluated.

- 4.2 The strategy is also subject to an annual review which is informed by conducting an annual strategic crime needs assessment and community consultation.

## **5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION**

### **5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance**

The Corporate Plan 2013-16 outlines the Council's commitment to support families and individuals that need it, promoting wellbeing and improving the satisfaction of residents and businesses with the London Borough of Barnet as a place to live, work and study. This commitment will be delivered through focussing the Council's efforts on a number of outcomes including promoting family and community well-being and encourage engaged, cohesive and safe Communities

- 5.1.2 The work of the Safer Communities Partnership delivers on the following corporate performance outcomes:

- Reducing the number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10 to 17.
- Increasing community confidence in police and the local authority dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Achieve a reduction in adult re-offending for those under probation supervision and increase young offenders in education, training, or employment.
- Reduce the level of domestic burglary to 24.80 per 1,000 household.

### **5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)**

- 5.2.1 On behalf of the Safer Communities Partnership, Barnet Council receive funding from the London Crime Reduction Fund which is administered by the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC). This is a four year grant which commenced in 2013/2014 and totals £1,026,946 over four years.

- 5.2.2 The grant is used to fund projects that were submitted for funding in 2012/13 and were aligned to the previous Community Safety Strategy.

- 5.2.3 The proposed Community Safety Strategy will be shared with MOPAC in order to ensure the future alignment of funding to support delivery and address potential resource implications. The grant agreement is currently being reviewed by MOPAC and Barnet Council. Financial impact and resources will be reviewed annually as part of the strategies annual review.

- 5.2.4 There will be no impact on the council resources for Barnet Community Safety Team.

### **5.3 Legal and Constitutional References**

- 5.3.1 Under s.6 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998, the Council with other partner authorities (chief of police, fire & rescue authority, probation service, CCG and Local Health Board) has a duty to formulate and implement a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in its area (including antisocial behaviour adversely affecting the local environment), a strategy for combating the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the area and a strategy for the reduction of re-offending in the area.
- 5.3.2 In formulating the strategy, the partner authorities must have regard to the police and crime plan for the area.
- 5.3.3 Under Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy Regulations 2007 (SI 2007/1830), the partner authorities must set up a strategy group who are collectively responsible for preparing strategic assessments and preparing and implementing the partnership plan. The partnership plan shall set out the following:
- a) a strategy for the reduction of re-offending, crime and disorder and for combating substance misuse in the area;
  - b) the priorities identified in the strategic assessment prepared during the previous year;
  - c) the steps considered necessary for the responsible authorities to take to implement the strategy and meet those priorities;
  - d) how the strategy group considers the responsible authorities should allocate and deploy their resources to implement that strategy and meet those priorities;
  - e) the steps each responsible authority shall take to measure its success in implementing the strategy and meeting those priorities;
  - f) the steps the strategy group proposes to take during the year to comply with its obligations in respect of community engagement, considering the extent that people in the area can assist in reducing re-offending, crime and disorder and substance misuse, and publicising that partnership plan.
- 5.3.4 Under s.17 of the above Act, it is also a duty of the Council (and other partner agencies, including police, fire & rescue, GLA, TfL) when exercising its functions to have 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 (including anti-social behaviour), misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances and re-offending.
- 5.3.5 Council Constitution, Article 4 – The Full Council, states that the Safer Communities Strategy forms part of the policy framework which is required by law to be adopted by the Council.

## 5.4 Risk Management

### 5.4.1 Not Applicable

## 5.5 Equalities and Diversity

- 5.5.1 The commitment to equality and diversity is a fundamental to the Community Safety Strategy. The Strategy fully supports and is expected to contribute to Barnet's aim to keep Barnet as a good place to live, work and study where every resident, service user and employee is entitled to a safe environment free from discrimination and harassment.
- 5.5.2 The strategy includes priorities which specifically have an equalities dimension such as domestic violence, violence against women and girls and hate crime. It takes full account of the diversity of the Borough as set out in the Equalities and Cohesion Data Summary 2015 (See Appendix 2).
- 5.5.3 Each of the priorities in the Safer Communities Strategy will have an equalities dimension in that it may impact on communities in different ways. The performance management of these priorities considers disproportionality of victims or offenders as it relates to equalities and diversity (this includes gender, age, ethnicity, disability and faith, sexual orientation), building on the data contained in the annual strategic crime needs assessment.
- 5.5.4 In line with the Barnet Equalities Policy 2014, The Community Safety Strategy includes objectives and outcomes to ensure it delivers improvements for all Barnet residents including reducing the impact of the crime and anti-social behaviour on the most vulnerable and disadvantaged.
- 5.5.5 In addition to being a legal requirement to treat people fairly, address inequality and challenge discrimination: by upholding equality and diversity the Community Safety Strategy aims to contribute to promoting a healthy, cohesive community, a community where people feel and are safe and are able to support each other. A community that is resilient, dynamic and well equipped to take advantage of new opportunities.
- 5.5.6 During the development of this Community Safety Strategy the Safer Communities Partnership has been proactive in engaging with the rich diversity of Barnet's communities, people who use services, residents and employees to ensure that the Strategy reflects the needs, concerns and aspirations of Barnet's residents. This has included seeking out the voices of people who are not always heard and those who need extra help to access our services.
- 5.5.7 During the last two years the Safer Communities Partnership has received over 5000 responses from Barnet residents taking part in consultation surveys that have either been focused specifically on crime and community safety or else contained a significant section on that subject. Of these around 3300 of

these responses were received during the last 18 months. One of the main surveys used, the Residents Perception Survey used representative quota sampling (quotas were set on age, gender, ethnic origin and housing tenure) and results were weighted to correct any discrepancies in the sample to better reflect the population of Barnet.

- 5.5.8 The most recent community safety consultation took place between July and October 2014. This Consultation set out to understand the views and concerns of Barnet residents and provided an opportunity for residents to have their say about Barnet's 2015- 2020 Community Safety Strategy. To ensure a wide and representative range of views were received the July to October 2014 consultation included an online survey, public meetings, engagement events on each of the boroughs 21 wards and presentations to Partnership Boards (i.e. Physical and Sensory Impairment Board, Learning Disabilities Partnership Board).
- 5.5.9 The development process of the Community Safety Strategy has been transparent – in addition to the public consultation process the Safer Communities Partnership has engaged internal and external partners including the Safer Neighbourhood Board and Communities Together Network. Updates and decision making have taken place at the Safer Communities Partnership Board quarterly which is open to the public and all minutes and papers relating to the meeting are published online. In the same way progress against the Objectives and Outcomes in the Strategy will be monitored and reported on in an open and transparent way.
- 5.5.10 This Strategy has assessed and considered evidence to support the delivery of needs led, appropriate and accessible services which reflect the diversity of need at different stages in people's lives. This has included reflecting the fact that, as would be expected, the level of crime and risk of becoming a victim of different kinds of crime and not distributed uniformly across the borough. Therefore, the Strategy allows for appropriate adjustments where appropriate in order to best target our prevention efforts to reduce the risk of harm
- 5.5.11 The Strategy is committed to tackling hate crimes such as racist crime, Domestic Violence and homophobic crime and to work to strengthen community cohesion through building relationships with partners and community organisations, for example the Communities Together Network which is made up of a wide range of community organisations, including faith groups, youth representatives, schools and key professional partners and will report to the Safer Communities Partnership Board.

## **5.6 Consultation and Engagement**

- 5.6.1 The Safer Communities Partnership has a statutory responsibility to consult with residents on their Crime and Anti-social behaviour priorities and share the findings of the annual strategic crime needs assessment. This was completed in between July and October 2014 and findings were set out in the report presented to the Community Leadership Committee on 10 November 2014.

## **6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 6.1 Cabinet 14 September 2011, Item 5 approved draft Safer Communities Strategy 2011 to 2014 for recommendation to Council
- 6.2 Council 1 November 2011, Item 4.1 approved Safer Communities Strategy
- 6.3 Cabinet Resources Committee 24 June 2013 agenda item 5 approved the Outline Business Case for partnership initiatives to enhance delivery of the Safer Communities Strategy and that the four proposed initiatives be implemented.
- 6.4 Community Leadership Committee, 11 September 2014 – noted the findings of the strategic crime needs assessment and emerging themes. Members provided comments on the priorities for the Community Safety Strategy 2015-2020 and noted the consultation process to be followed in order to develop the strategy.
- 6.5 Community Leadership Committee, 10 November 2014, endorsed the objectives and outcomes set out in the draft Community Safety Strategy 2015-2020 and the Council's contribution in delivering the strategy. Noted the final strategy will be agreed at the Safer Communities partnership Board on 20 January 2015.
- 6.6 20 January 2015 – Partners sign off the final strategy at the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership Board.