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| Meeting | Budget and Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee |
| Date | 7 March 2013 |
| Subject | Initiatives to Contribute to the Safer Communities Strategy |
| Report of | Cabinet Member for Safety and Resident Engagement |
| Summary | This report provides outlines how the authority's leadership role for community safety is developing and provides an update on proposals to implement number of initiatives to support delivery of the Safer Communities Strategy 2011-14. |

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| Officer Contributors | James Mass, Family & Community Well-being Lead Commissioner Ruth Murphy, Project Manager, Deputy Chief Executive's Service |
| Status (public or exempt) | Public |
| Wards Affected | All |
| Key Decision | N/A |
| Reason for urgency / exemption from call-in | N/A |
| Function of | Committee |
| Enclosures | None |
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1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 That the Committee considers the update on the One Barnet project considering Enhancements to the Safer Communities Strategy and Future CCTV Service as set out in the report and makes appropriate comments and recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Resident Safety and Engagement as appropriate.**
- 1.2 That the Committee notes that the Outline Business Cases for the Enhancements to the Safer Communities Strategy and Future CCTV Service are scheduled for decision at Cabinet Resources Committee on 18th April 2013.**

2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

- 2.1 Cabinet, 29 November 2010 (Decision item 6) – approved the One Barnet Framework and the funding strategy for its implementation.
- 2.2 Cabinet, 14 September 2011 (Decision item 5) – approved the Safer Communities Strategy.
- 2.3 Cabinet, 20 February 2012 (Decision item 6) – approved the Business Planning Report 2012/13 – 2014/15 which included within the report the five projects to be developed through strategic outline cases.
- 2.4 Cabinet Resources Committee, 20 June 2012 (Decision item 6) – approved the Strategic Outline Case for the strategic review of Community Safety.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 Crime reduction and community safety are top priorities for Barnet residents. One of the new Corporate Plan priorities is “to promote family and community well-being and encourage engaged, cohesive and safe communities”.
- 3.2 The Council is a provider and commissioner of community safety services but also has a more significant local leadership role. Through chairing the Safer Communities Partnership the Council exerts strategic leadership, provides accountability to other agencies working in Barnet and is the driving agent of development in the system.
- 3.3 Two outline business cases have been developed which help the Council to fulfil this role and to build on partnership activity and alignment of resources to deliver against the priorities set out in the Safer Communities Strategy 2011 – 2014. This includes tackling the following issues:
 - Property Crime, with a focus on domestic burglary
 - Anti-social behaviour
 - Violent crime, with a focus on domestic violence
 - Focus on the places where offences take place
 - Building Reassurance and Confidence

In line with the Safer Communities Strategy, the proposals aim to reduce the fear of crime through greater engagement with citizens around community safety and involving them in the design and delivery of community safety initiatives.

- 3.4 The recommendations in the outline business cases fit within the corporate change principles. In line with these principles, the enhancement of the strategy and refresh of CCTV will deliver:

A new relationship with citizens

- Improved victim satisfaction through the use of restorative justice approaches.
- Improved public confidence with visibility of crime and ASB being tackled, through community-led schemes.
- Individual and community ownership of community safety in their local area.
- Citizens will feel safer and there will be less fear of crime as a result of confidence in CCTV to prevent and detect crime.

A one public sector approach

- Reduced crime and anti social behaviour
- Reduction in re-offending levels due to multi agency offender management.
- Improved crime prevention as CCTV is more effectively deployed and is more of a deterrent.
- Improved technology and a more flexible camera estate which can be used to respond to crime and anti-social behaviour hotspots.

Relentless drive for efficiency

- More efficient multi-agency working: more visible and citizen centred community safety initiatives resulting in reduced customer contact.
- A more efficient CCTV monitoring service.
- Improved crime prevention as CCTV is more effectively deployed leading to a reduction in economic and social costs of crime.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 Risks associated with the delivery of this project are managed and reported in accordance with corporate risk and project management processes and will also be reported through existing democratic processes.

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 5.1 The Council and all other organisations exercising public functions on its behalf are required under the Equality Act 2010, to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act; advance equality of opportunity between those with a protected characteristic and those without; promote good relations between those with a protected characteristic and those without. The relevant protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual

orientation. It also covers marriage and civil partnership with regard to eliminating discrimination.

- 5.2 As part of the implementation stage, the initiatives to enhance the Strategy must incorporate a well-designed insight, consultation and engagement programme, to identify and understand the varied needs of the diverse communities and user groups within the borough. Officers will ensure that consultation events and activities are established as required. In addition, the appropriate equality impact assessments will be completed and included in the decision-making process.

6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 6.1 To date approved expenditure from the One Barnet Transformation Reserve of £149,000 has been allocated to develop the business cases for enhancements to the Strategy.

New initiatives

- 6.2 It is proposed that a number of new initiatives are piloted at relatively low cost, on a low risk basis initially.
- 6.3 There are expected to result in significant financial benefits across partners, including substantial savings to the Police and Probation services.
- 6.4 There is a need for the council to invest to kick-start these initiatives given the budgetary constraints of other partners. The intention is that initiatives will be evaluated and then rolled out more widely based on initial learning. Wider roll-out will improve the cost benefit ratio delivered by these initiatives.
- 6.5 It is proposed that the Council's contribution for the set up costs and operation for the first two years is met through a bid to the Mayor's Office of Policing and Crime (MOPAC) for the London Crime Prevention Fund.
- 6.6 There is agreement from partners that after the benefits of these initiatives have been proven that costs will be apportioned in line with the benefits attributed to each agency.

CCTV

- 6.7 The CCTV service has a net operating cost of £811,700 (of which £623,990 is staffing). The anticipated annual running costs for 2014/15 are likely to increase to £836,700, due to a £25,000 reduction in income from Barnet Homes and Transport for London.
- 6.8 A capital budget of £477,000 is allocated to the upgrade of CCTV and forms part of the Council's capital programme for 2013/14.
- 6.9 The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) savings requirements have been taken into account in assessing options for the future delivery of the CCTV service. The Outline Business Case sets out plans to ensure that there is a sustainable financial position for the Council.

- 6.10 A number of different service models are being considered and evaluated based on criteria agreed with partners. It is intended that the recommended option will both enhance performance and sustainability, in addition to resulting in a decrease in the overall cost of the service.

7. LEGAL ISSUES

- 7.1 Under s.6 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998, the Council with other partner authorities 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), 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. Under s.17 of the above Act, it is also a duty of the Council (and other partner agencies) 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.
- 7.2 The outline business cases will support the Council's strategy to reduce crime and disorder and anti-social behaviour and to reduce re-offending.
- 7.3 The Council will need to ensure compliance with Data Protection Act 1998 in relation to Information sharing.
- 7.3 The Council will also need to consider and comply with its Contract Procedure Rules.

8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS (Relevant section from the Constitution, Key/Non-Key Decision)

- 8.1 The scope of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees is contained within Part 2, Article 6 of the Council's Constitution.
- 8.2 The Terms of Reference of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees is set out in the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules (Part 4 of the Constitution). The Budget and Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee has within its terms of reference the following responsibilities:

“To perform the overview and scrutiny role in relation to the One Barnet transformation programme, particularly performance and financial issues.

To receive and consider options appraisals, business cases and closure reports for One Barnet projects.

To monitor the implementation of One Barnet projects throughout the programme lifecycle.

To engage with partner organisations, other relevant public sector bodies, private sector organisations, trade unions, local residents or any other

appropriate witnesses when fulfilling the overview and scrutiny role in relation to the One Barnet programme.”

9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 9.1 The Safer Communities Strategy was ratified by the Safer Communities Partnership Board (SCPB) in September and Council in November 2011 covering a three year period until 2014.
- 9.2 Through chairing the Safer Communities Partnership the Council exerts strategic leadership, provides accountability to other agencies working in Barnet and is the driving agent of development in the system. Two outline business cases have been prepared which help the Council fulfil this role and will enhance delivery against the priorities set out in the Safer Communities Strategy 2011 – 2014.

New Initiatives

- 9.3 The purpose of the project is to assist the Safer Communities Partnership in achieving the key outcome of the Strategy, a reduction in the level of crime and anti-social behaviour.
- 9.2 In June 2012, a Strategic Outline Case was approved by Cabinet Resources Committee which assessed the effectiveness of the work that is taking place to deliver the strategy, identified where short and medium term changes to the work plan could contribute to the delivery of the agreed strategy and considered how to extend the ambition of the strategy in the short and longer term.
- 9.3 The Strategic Outline Case set out four themes to explored further:
- Commissioning model
 - Enhanced Integrated Offender Management
 - A Community based approach to dealing with anti social behaviour and domestic violence
 - A new deal with citizens
- 9.4 Through the development of the Outline Business Case, these themes have been subject to further evaluation, using criteria agreed with local partners.
- 9.5 Based on this evaluation, the outline business case will propose a package of initiatives to tackle anti-social behaviour and crime, aiming to prevent and reduce offending through introducing appropriate interventions at different stages in the justice continuum from prevention through to release from prison.
- 9.6 These include:
1. Neighbourhood Justice Panels
 2. Community Coaches (targeted at individuals with a risk of offending)
 3. Extended use of conditional cautions where appropriate.
 4. Enhanced Integrated Offender Management

- 9.7 The model is designed to deliver interventions at critical points of transition along the criminal justice continuum to deliver better outcomes and reduce demand on the system.

CCTV

- 9.8 The Council's CCTV service makes an important contribution towards delivering Barnet's Safer Communities Strategy, by helping the Council and Police to prevent and tackle priority issues such as anti-social behaviour, violence and theft and by making a significant impact on residents' perception of safety.
- 9.9 However, the CCTV system in Barnet is out of date, expensive relative to more modern systems, and will very quickly no longer be fit for purpose. In light of significant saving pressures across the Council, a cost effective solution for future management of the monitoring service and technical platform is required, with the primary aim of improving delivery against the service's community safety objectives.
- 9.10 The outcomes Barnet wishes to achieve in part through CCTV are:
- A reduction in crime / ASB.
 - An increase in successful prosecutions for crime / ASB.
 - A reduction in fear of crime / ASB.
 - More effective response to emergencies & business continuity issues.
- 9.11 The levels of crime vary significantly between the current CCTV sites. A detailed review is required in conjunction with the police to determine which sites in the Borough would most benefit from CCTV. There would also be significant benefit in a more flexible technology that allowed some of the cameras to be cheaply relocated to respond to changing crime patterns or emerging events.
- 9.12 The review identified opportunities for more cost effective monitoring service through better use of technology. Improvements in remote monitoring technology now offered by the market should enable the police to access live footage remotely (62% incidents are police-driven).
- 9.13 It is proposed that the procurement of new CCTV technology includes an option to include Automatic Number Plate Recognition to assist the police with detection of crime, in particular burglary and vehicle crime. A more detailed business case is currently being developed for this with the police to ensure any additional investment will be effectively utilised by the police.
- 9.14 The main application of CCTV for enforcement in the UK is with parking. When implementing a new CCTV service we will explore how CCTV could assist the council in delivering its existing enforcement activities more effectively.
- 9.15 There are potential opportunities for LBB from the commercialisation of the service based on a traded service model. This could include selling CCTV services to private and public sector organisations to further deliver the core Community Safety aspirations in lower priority areas and to enhance security

on private property. Clear principles as to who the service would be offered to and how it would be operated will need to be agreed.

- 9.16 A number of different service models have been considered and evaluated based on criteria agreed with partners, including price, pace of transformation, citizen focus, flexibility to respond to changing priorities and performance.

10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 None

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| Cleared by Finance (Officer's initials) | JH |
| Cleared by Legal (Officer's initials) | SW |