

ITEM [5]

Report Name:	Community Safety Strategy 2018/19 update Annual refresh of the Barnet Safer Community Partnership's Community Safety Strategy	
Meeting:	Barnet Safer Communities Partnership Board (SCPB)	
Meeting Date:	27/07/2018	
Enclosures:	Appendix 1 – Safer Communities Governance Chart Appendix 2 – Background papers	
Report of:	Barnet Community Safety Team	
Outcome Required:	Information Only: Decision Required: Feedback/comments required: X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Restricted	[no]	

Executive Summary

The Barnet Safer Communities Partnership Board (BSCPb) is a statutory partnership set up under Section 5-7 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The board includes senior officers from the Council, MPS, Fire Brigade, Public Health, Victim Support, CommUnity Barnet, Middlesex University, National Probation Service (NPS), Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) and Barnet Safer Neighbourhood Board.

BSCPb partners are required to work together to protect their communities from crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse. The duty includes producing a local borough Community Safety Strategy setting out how the partnership will respond to local issues and conducting an annual strategic crime needs assessment that measures impact, trends and supports the annual review of the local strategy.

Since the drafting of the strategy in 2015 there have been a number of strategic, policy and operational changes that have taken place which the strategy now needs to reflect. This includes a greater emphasis on the Safeguarding of vulnerable adults and children, and to ensure the strategy considers the findings and recommendations of the Barnet OFSTED inspection.

This report sets out the key changes/additions required to the strategy in order to ensure the strategic approach meets the future emerging trends of crime and ASB in Barnet and the future strategic and operational landscape. These proposed changes to the Community Safety Strategy have been shared with the Community Leadership and Libraries Committee (CLLC) on 12th June 2018. The CLLC endorsed the council's support and commitment to the proposed strategic priorities. This report asks the BSCPb, in its role as holding the overall statutory governance of the partnership strategy¹, to provide comments and feedback on the proposed changes to the strategy.

Officers Recommendations

1. That the BSCPb to note and provide comments on the contents of this report.
2. That the BSCPb confirm their support of the revised priority objectives and outcomes for the Community Safety Strategy as set out in this report.

¹ The Community Safety Strategy

The local and national landscape

Since the development of the 2015-2020 Community Safety Strategy there have been a number of local, regional and national strategic, policy and operational changes relating to how we respond to crime and disorder. Therefore, it is necessary for BSCPb to review the current strategy and ensure it is in line with these changes.

National changes

Examples of national changes include:

- Serious and Organised Crime Strategy (Home Office March - 2015)
- Modern Crime Prevention Strategy (Home Office - March 2016)
- Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy (Home Office – October 2016)
- Serious Violence Strategy (Home Office – April 2018)
- New Drug Strategy to Safeguard vulnerable and stop substance misuse (Home Office- July 2017)
- Drug Strategy (Home Office - July 2017)
- Counter-Extremism Strategy (Home Office - October 2015)
- Hate Crime Action Plan (Home Office – October 2016)
- The Mayor's Police and Crime Plan (2017-2021) which sets out the London Mayor's priorities for the safety of London.

Local changes

Locally the changes include:

- Safeguarding of Children and young people involved with or impacted by crime and anti-social behaviour
 - Following the Barnet OFSTED inspection, BSCPb has reviewed the strategic objectives set out within Barnet's current Community Safety Strategy and have agreed to an additional objective focussing on violence, vulnerability and criminal exploitation.
 - The partnership will also continue to have a greater focus on the safeguarding of vulnerable adults and children across the outcomes set out in the strategy, supported by the collection of specific data and information that will be shared with the

Safeguarding Adult Board and the Safeguarding Children Partnership.

- Environmental Crime
 - The increase in unlawful encampments and environmental crime such as fly-tipping also indicate that moving forward there needs to be an increased partnership focus on preventing environmental crime, focussing on the areas where there is persistent enviro-crime and ASB, and working with partners to deliver localised interventions that balance prevention and enforcement.
- Enforcement
 - Following the introduction of the council's Corporate Enforcement Policy in 2016 there has been an increased effort to deter individuals from committing environmental crime in order to improve the local environment and reduce unnecessary service demands and costs across the partnership from having to respond to repeat incidents.
 - The partnership needs to utilise all available tools and powers to prevent and deter offending and repeat offending of crime and ASB, including domestic violence. Reducing offending will result in reduced incidents of crime and a reduction in the victims subjected to crime.
 - The use and impact of enforcement will be monitored by the partnership.
- Continued focus responding to violence against women and girls
 - The new *Barnet Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy* launched in 2018 and better represents the council's focus to deliver the right services at the right time to victims of domestic abuse, and to ensure a greater focus on safeguarding vulnerable adults and children who are in households where there is domestic abuse.
 - In the new strategy, there is also a greater focus on the way in which the partners respond to perpetrators (i.e. as well as considering the criminal route, considering interventions that encourage behaviour change or utilising broader tools and powers that prevent repeat offending).

- Currently there are two live domestic homicide reviews taking place which, when completed, will provide further learning and recommendations to the partnership in the way we respond to domestic violence.
- Closer working with the councils Regulatory Services delivered by Re and Barnet Homes
 - To sustain the good partnership working with Re and Barnet Homes with the wider Safer Communities Partnership – the Director of Regulatory Services of Re and the Head of Housing Management at Barnet Homes are now statutory Barnet Safer Communities Partnership board members.
- Increased focus on the role of public health within the Safer Communities Partnership
 - Mental health and substance misuse continues to be a cross cutting issue that affects victims, offenders, children and young people. It adds to the vulnerability of the individuals who are victims of crime and can hinder the ability of offenders to change their behaviours (it can also add to their vulnerability).
 - With Public Health now being a part of the council there are positive opportunities to strengthen the joint working and achieving some positive outcomes.
 - Barnet Community Safety Team will work closely with Barnet Public Health to develop the joint working to ensure areas such as substance misuse and mental health are responded to across the partnership.
- Police Borough Command Unit (BCU) merger with Barnet, Harrow and Brent
 - The BCU merger brings along with it some challenges but also some opportunities for the local partnership to work differently and where required for us to improve our joint working.²

² A report providing details in relation to the police BCU merger can be found at:
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s46643/Update%20on%20the%20Metropolitan%20Police%20Merger%20Barnet%20Brent%20Harrow%20and%20local%20partnership%20working.pdf>

- Reducing offending
 - Organisational changes in the National Probation Service, the introduction of the Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) to manage non-statutory offenders, changes in the way offenders are managed have impacted on performance and local partnership working. The impact of this has also been felt in Barnet.
 - In March 2018, the HMIC published the results³ of a 2017 pan London inspection of the CRC (which itself followed from a HMIC inspection of the CRC in North London in 2016)
 - The 2017 pan London inspection of CRC found that there had been some considerable improvements since the 2016 inspection, however further progress and improvement was still required across many areas of the work (see table below).

Theme	Finding
Protecting the public	The inspectors found the quality of public protection work was variable and not of an acceptable standard overall. Inspectors also noted that the evidence suggested the CRC was not treating child safeguarding work as a priority.
Reducing re-offending	Inspectors found the quality of work was not acceptable. Findings showed that the quality work was close to the national average for those CRC's that were inspected. Although that level of performance is not in itself acceptable.
Abiding by the sentence of the court	The quality here was acceptable overall – with the exception of poor supervision of unpaid work orders – and most individuals abided by the conditions of their sentence. Dame Glenys added 'Critical relationships with local strategic partners suffered under the CRC's previous operating model, but CRC leaders are taking the opportunity now to re-energise these essential networks.'

- In the report, Dame Glenys Stacey (HM Chief Inspector of Probation) commented that "*[the CRC] was now turning its attention to two other key tenets of good probation services: local strategic partnerships, and the range of specialist services (interventions) required to make a real difference to people's*

³ www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmiprobation

lives and prospects” reflecting that: “Critical relationships with local strategic partners suffered under the CRC’s previous operating model, but CRC leaders are taking the opportunity now to re-energise these essential networks.”

- The Barnet Community Safety Team are working closely with partners especially the MPS, NPS and CRC to ensure locally we have effective partnership working in place to manage offenders, especially those who re-offend.

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Existing strategic priorities

Barnet's 2015-2020 Community Safety Strategy has three overarching objectives, and seven priority outcomes which support the delivery of the three overarching objectives. The current objectives and outcomes are set out below.

Overarching objectives:

- To provide a victim centred approach to victims of crime and anti-social behaviour.
- To maintain reductions in crime and anti-social behaviour.
- To improve the perception of Barnet as a safe place to live, work and visit.

Priority outcomes:

1. Residents and businesses feel confident that the police and council respond to crime and ASB in their area.
2. Residents and businesses are engaged and informed about community safety and the action we have taken in their area.
3. Victims of Domestic Violence and Hate Crime are confident in reporting incidents and the Partnership intervenes to prevent repeat victimisation.
4. The Partnership will work to reduce Serious Youth Violence with a focus on young people as victims and offenders.
5. Sustained reductions in re-offending.
6. Sustained reductions in Burglary and other high-volume crime types, such as: Violence with Injury, Robbery, Theft of Motor Vehicle, Theft from Motor Vehicle, Theft from Person, Criminal Damage
7. Effective and wide-ranging partnerships are in place between the local authority, statutory and non-statutory partners, community groups and faith institutions, to help mitigate risks from terrorism and extremism and to support the boroughs diverse communities.

Proposed revisions to the priorities

The proposed amendments and additions to the Barnet's 2015-2020 Community Safety Strategy's overarching objectives, and priority outcomes are set out in the table below.

Type of change	Details
Addition of a fourth overarching objective	<p>Proposed fourth overarching objective: <i>The Safer Community partnership ensures the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults affected by crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse.</i></p>
Amendment to priority outcome 3	<p>Existing text: <i>Victims of Domestic Violence and Hate Crime are confident in reporting incidents and the Partnership intervenes to prevent repeat victimisation.</i></p> <p>Proposed revised text: <i>The Safer Communities Partnership prevents violence against women and girls, improves outcomes for victims and their children and holds perpetrators to account.</i></p>
Amendment to priority outcome 4	<p>Existing text <i>The Partnership will work to reduce Serious Youth Violence with a focus on young people as victims and offenders.</i></p> <p>Proposed revised text: <i>The Safer Communities Partnership provides a co-ordinated multiagency response to violence, vulnerability and the criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults.</i></p>
Amendment to priority outcome 5	<p>Existing text <i>Sustained reductions in re-offending.</i></p> <p>Proposed revised text: <i>Sustained reductions in offending and re-offending.</i></p>

<p>Amendment to priority outcome 6</p>	<p>Existing text <i>Sustained reductions in Burglary and other high-volume crime types, such as: Violence with Injury, Robbery, Theft of Motor Vehicle, Theft from Motor Vehicle, Theft from Person, Criminal Damage.</i></p> <p>Proposed revised text: <i>Sustained reductions in high-volume crime types (for Barnet this will be Burglary).</i></p>
<p>Amendment to priority outcome 7</p>	<p>Existing text <i>Effective and wide-ranging partnerships are in place between the local authority, statutory and non-statutory partners, community groups and faith institutions, to help mitigate risks from terrorism and extremism and to support the boroughs diverse communities.</i></p> <p>Proposed revised text: <i>The Safer Communities partnership supports the boroughs diverse communities by ensuring there are effective and wide-ranging partnerships in place between the local authority, statutory and non-statutory partners, community groups and faith institutions that help mitigate risks from terrorism, extremism and hate crime.</i></p>

Proposed revised priorities

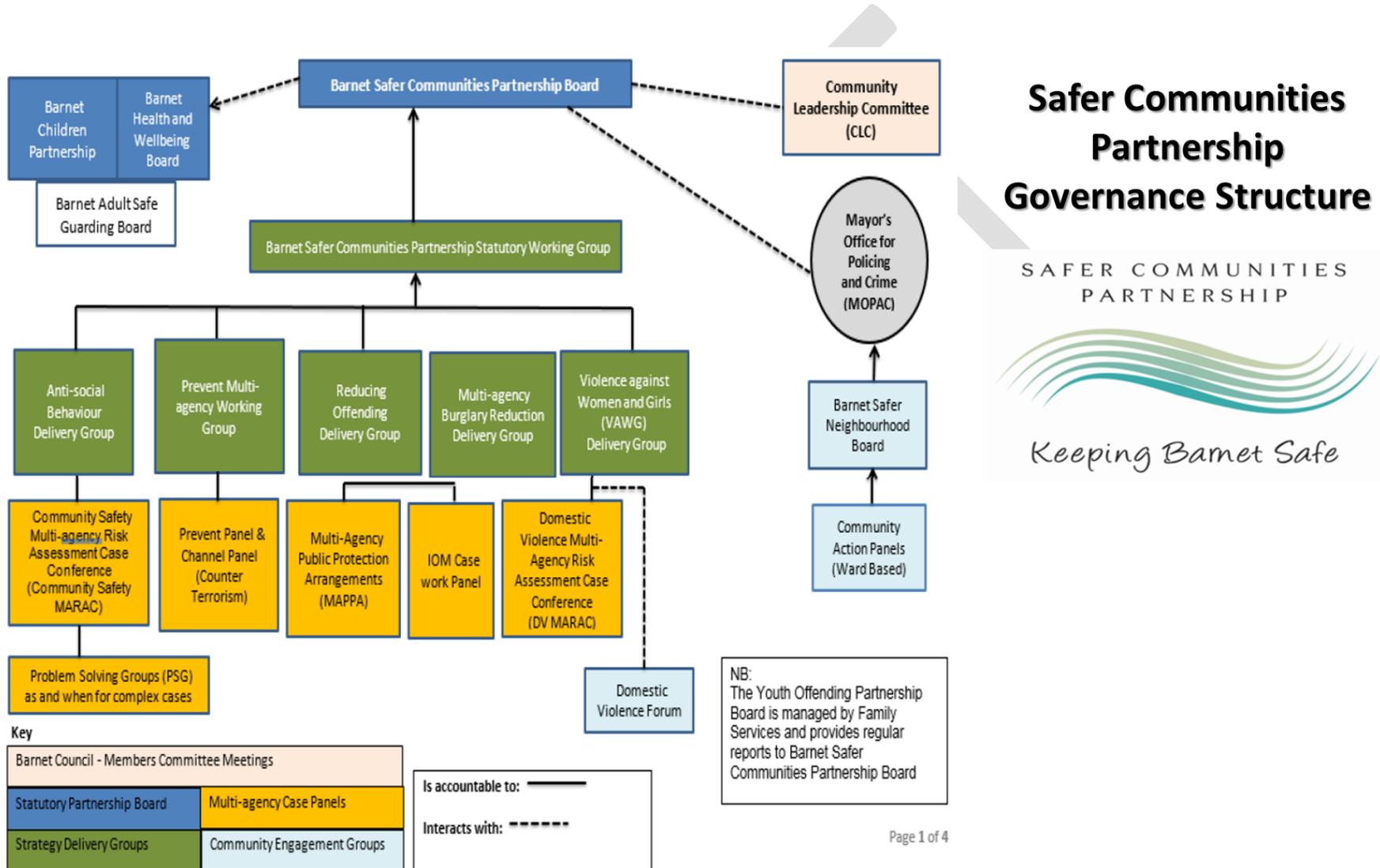
Overarching objectives:

- To provide a victim centred approach to victims of crime and anti-social behaviour.
- To maintain reductions in crime and anti-social behaviour.
- To improve the perception of Barnet as a safe place to live, work and visit.
- The Safer Community partnership ensures the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults affected by crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse.

Priority outcomes:

1. Residents and businesses feel confident that the police and council respond to crime and ASB in their area.
2. Residents and businesses are engaged and informed about community safety and the action we have taken in their area.
3. The Safer Communities Partnership prevents violence against women and girls, improves outcomes for victims and their children and holds perpetrators to account.
4. The Safer Communities Partnership provides a co-ordinated multiagency response to violence, vulnerability and the criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults.
5. Sustained reductions in offending and re-offending.
6. Sustained reductions in high-volume crime types (for Barnet this will be Burglary).
7. The Safer Communities partnership supports the boroughs diverse communities by ensuring there are effective and wide-ranging partnerships in place between the local authority, statutory and non-statutory partners, community groups and faith institutions that help mitigate risks from terrorism, extremism and hate crime.

Appendix 1 – Safer Communities Partnership Governance Structure



Appendix 2 – Background papers

Community Leadership Committee 21st June 2017

Agenda item 7 “*London borough of Barnet Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy 2017-2020*”

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s40298/london%20borough%20of%20barnet%20violence%20against%20women%20and%20girls%20strategy%202017-2020.pdf>

Community Leadership Committee 6th September 2017

Agenda Item 10 “*Community Safety Strategy - Annual Review and Refresh / Crime and Disorder Scrutiny*”

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s41920/Update%20on%20the%20annual%20strategic%20crime%20needs%20Assessment.pdf>

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