

Item No. 8	Classification: Open	Date: July 18th 2006	Meeting Name: Executive
Report title:		Safer Southwark Partnership annual performance report 2005/6 and priorities for 2006/7	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Assistant Chief Executive	

RECOMMENDATION(S)

Recommendations for the Executive

1. That the Executive considers the performance report and priorities for 2006/7.
2. That the Executive endorses the priorities for 2006/7 as summarised and set out below (see paragraph 10 below).

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. The Safer Southwark Partnership (SSP) Board is Southwark's crime and disorder reduction partnership (CDRP) and Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) with responsibility for reducing crime, anti social behaviour and substance misuse.
4. CDRP's and DAAT's are required to produce a joint three year strategy following audit and consultation. This is a statutory requirement under the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act, as amended by the Police Reform Act 2001 which requires a joint crime and drugs strategy.
5. The strategy was presented to Council Assembly 25/05/05. The priorities at set out at paragraph 7 below.
6. This report provides a commentary on the annual performance report for 2005/6 and the proposed priorities for 2006/7.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

Key performance information

7. Southwark's 2005-8 crime and drug strategy priorities:
 - **Drugs and alcohol**
Improving access to and numbers who enter drug treatment and developing a public health education approach to alcohol
 - **Anti social behaviour**
Develop one point for reporting asb and improve the response complaints and victims receive
 - **Violent crime, including domestic violence**
Reduce levels of violent crime, improving the statutory agency response to domestic violence victims and perpetrators
 - **Victims and witnesses**
Ensure a high level of services available for all victims of crime and better support for witnesses
 - **Young people**
Continue to provide early intervention and diversion services and rollout current services across the whole borough

8. The performance report (attached as appendix 1) looks at the above priorities and provides detailed performance information. In 2005-2006, the level of total recorded crime fell by 5% and means that the downward trend over the last four years continues, from 45,960 recorded offences in 2002-03 to 41,432 in 2005-06. Progress has been made on the Home Office public service agreement (PSA1) target, with British Crime Survey comparator crime down by -8% on 2004-2005 and we are on target to achieve our overall 20% reduction by 2007-2008 (from baseline of 2003-2004).

9. Within the ten crime indicators, which form PSA1, there have been differences in performances. We have performed very well on: domestic burglary: -9% reduction; common assault: -23% reduction; and criminal damage: -28% reduction. However, we have not performed as well on: wounding (ABH and GBH): +10% increase; personal robbery: +23% increase; theft from motor vehicles: +9% increase; and theft of pedal cycles: +11% increase

10. Southwark faced a challenge in the early part of 2005-2006 with significant rises in violent crime, particularly actual bodily harm, wounding and grievous bodily harm. One of the strengths of the Safer Southwark Partnership has been the ability of its agencies to refocus and redirect resources swiftly to address the problem. In the summer of 2005 the partnership developed a violent crime action plan, which was delivered by an agreed, co-ordinated approach, orchestrated by the partnership operations group. The result has been a continuous reduction of actual bodily harm (ABH) and grievous bodily harm (GBH) since July 2005 followed by reductions in robbery from the early part of 2006. These reductions have continued into this financial year (2006-2007) with

Southwark achieving above average reductions in actual bodily harm (ABH) and grievous bodily arm compared to other MPS borough command units.

11. Southwark's performance compared to other similar boroughs is considered in more detail in the performance report. For the overall Home Office PSA1 basket of indicators Southwark is just above the average with a rate of 21.5 reported crime per 1000 residents compared to the CDRP most similar grouping average of 20.5 per 1000 residents. Traditionally, our position has been above the family average. However, we are now narrowing the gap between our rate and that of the family average in a number of areas.
12. Increasing levels of violence is a particular concern and this has been recognised as a London wide issue. The continuing focus on violent crime is recognised below in the priorities for 2006/7.

Key challenges for 2006/07

13. Key challenges and recommendations are set out in the table overleaf.

Current challenges	Recommendations to improve outcomes
<p>Overall violent crime</p> <p>Use of LAA to take forward activity on violent crime and linking across other thematic areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilise the LAA to bring together a range of agendas, which interface with violent crime such as early identification and prevention, family support and health. • Develop and deliver an effective multi agency partnership aimed at addressing the underlying social causes of low level violence such as common assault. • Carry out specific targeted work to reduce alcohol related violence • Bringing together police enforcement action, PPO and YOT activity to ensure higher levels of integration and case management
<p>Domestic violence</p> <p>A better understanding of confidence in reporting and use of services</p> <p>Review of funding and service provision</p> <p>Setting up of domestic violence specialist court</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of new opportunities for reporting domestic violence and hate crime • Increase investment in the early identification and intervention particularly as domestic violence presents itself in the behaviour of young people • Increase intensive work for repeat victims particularly in terms of counselling support • Scope and review an effective domestic violence family justice centre, led by Young Southwark
<p>Gangs and weapons</p> <p>Continued emphasis on serious gang gun and knife related activity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate the intensive gang intervention programme and consider its future direction • Expand the gangs enforcement team • Establish a Southwark gangs mediation programme, using models of good practice • Establish a cross borough strategic and operational group with Lambeth, Croydon, Lewisham and Greenwich to develop and deliver joint programmes to identify, prevent and take enforcement action to tackle gang related violence • Develop and deliver a structured programme to tackle knife and weapon violence, involving businesses, schools, families and communities voluntary and statutory partners
<p>Young People</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to improve our services to achieve the Every Child Matters outcomes led by Young Southwark and as detailed in the Children and Young People's plan

Policy implications

14. The performance report indicates good overall progress and re-inforces the need to continue to focus on violent crime. In this respect there is no overall change of emphasis from the strategy as agreed in 2005.
15. Policy implications as and when required will be reported through to the Executive, the most recent being the development of the alcohol control area.

Operational implications

16. During 2005/6 the council strengthened how we use our resources in relation to tackling crime and anti-social behaviour through improved partnership work, co-ordinated through the partnership operation group (POG). The group was set up in July 2005 with a focus on violent crime. This has been done within existing

resources but the analytical work required to support the POG has been increased.

17. The analytical function is delivered by the community desk, a joint council/police team of analysts and researchers. The desk provides operational intelligence analysis for the POG as well as supporting strategic activity (for example, through crime audits, strategic assessments and informing problem solving) and operational activity (ward based reports for safer neighbourhood teams and other area based analysis to support targeted activity eg the Elephant and Castle which has been the focus of recent work to reduce robbery).

Community Impact Statement

18. The following impacts have been identified:
 - All areas of the borough are affected by crime and fear of crime. The major areas affected by crime are the main town centre hotspots. Analysis of crime types indicates that crime is not spread evenly across the borough and that a targeted approach is required.
 - Analysis of crime victims and perpetrators is undertaken by the police and this information is used to target intervention and preventative measures.
 - The approach adopted to tackle and reduce crime has been through a combination of enforcement, prevention, and wider community action to engage communities in crime prevention and community safety. This approach is typified by the work of the youth offending team, which works across all levels.

Consultation

19. Consultation is an on-going activity. During 2005/6 the major consultation activity was in relation to the DPPO. Further consultation will take place during 2006. Three key pieces of work are planned:
 - Quantative work on victims and victims views of overall service provision and satisfaction with services.
 - The council's residents' survey which includes questions relevant to crime, fear of crime and anti social behaviour.
 - Qualitative work planned to take place later this year to better understand residents concerns and on all community safety issues.
20. Community consultation and feedback has been expanded and developed in 2005/6 with the expansion of the warden schemes, roll out of safer neighbourhood teams and specialist consultation seminars which have been undertaken with various interest groups.

Resource implications

21. The Southwark Alliance has approved NRF funding for 2006-8 for a programme of activity to tackle violent crime. This provides additional funding for activity which is not currently mainstreamed. A number of budgets are made available

from central government to the SSP to tackle crime and community safety. Many of the budgets are for specific areas of activity and these are reflected within the SSP priorities and activities.

22. In addition the council has prioritised community safety and mainstream budgets are used for crime prevention and community safety, namely the YOT, SASBU and the community wardens.
23. The areas of activity which are prioritised for 2006/7 all have budget allocation. Any additional costs will be contained within existing budgets.
24. Additional funding for specific projects is currently being negotiated with the Home Office in relation to Respect activities.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Finance Director

25. The performance report priorities recommend a range of actions some of which will need to be undertaken by the Council. The actions identify the need for service improvement and targeted activity, which at this time do not have detailed costs developed.

Borough Solicitor

26. The Executive is advised to consider and endorses the performance report and priorities for 2006/7 as set out in the report.
27. The Executive is further advised that the Local Government Act 1999 imposed a positive duty on local authorities to deliver services to clear standards and set improved performance targets for the functions of the Business unit in respect of economy, efficiency, and effectiveness by drawing up action plans as to how this could be achieved.
28. It recommended that when the Executive considers and endorses the performance report and priorities, to apply the best value principle to:
 - (i) Challenge why and how the service is provided
 - (ii) Compare performance with other bodies across a range of relevant indicators.
 - (iii) Consult with local residents and stakeholders
 - (iv) Compete in the sense of demonstrating that the preferred means of delivering service is competitive.
29. If the Executive is satisfied after consideration of the performance using the above indicators that it represents value for money, it may proceed with the approval of priorities for the 2006/2007.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Safer Southwark Partnership's crime and drugs strategy 2005-8	Community Safety Alpha House	Susan Crisp 02078633112

LIST OF APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	SSP Annual performance report 2005/6

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Sarah Naylor, Assistant Chief Executive	
Report Author	Susan Crisp Principle Community Safety Officer	
Version	Draft 2	
Dated	5 July 2006	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / EXECUTIVE MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Borough Solicitor	Yes	Yes
Finance Director	Yes	Yes
List other officers here		
Executive Member	Yes	Yes
Date final report sent to Constitutional/Community Council/Scrutiny Team	10/07/06	