

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Wednesday 12 February 2025

6.30 pm

Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London
SE1 2QH

Supplemental Agenda No. 4

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Date: 12 February 2025

Southwark Community Safety Partnership Priorities and Refreshed Plan

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

12th February 2025



Probation
Service



South East
London
Integrated Care System



Community Safety Partnership

- **Responsible authorities:**

- Police, Fire and Rescue Authority, Local Authority, Health and Probation Services.

- **Role of the Community Safety Partnership:**

- Crime Prevention – Coordinates multi-agency efforts to reduce crime and disorder.
- Statutory Compliance – Meets legal requirements under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Serious Violence Duty etc.
- Strategic Leadership – Sets priorities, oversees strategies, and aligns with national and regional crime plans. **Currently refreshing the 25/26 priorities and developing 2025-2030 partnership plan.**
- Community Engagement – Engages with residents through numerous community feedback and consultation mechanisms to inform decision making.

- **Evidence-Based Priorities:**

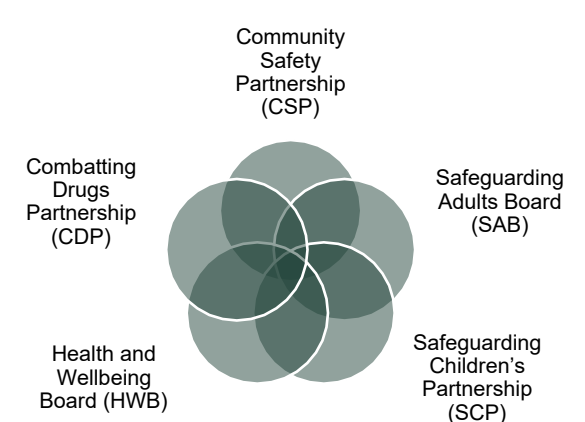
- Annual Strategic Assessment identifies crime trends
- Priorities informed by crime data and emerging challenges, ensuring a responsive and risk-aligned approach

- **Alignment Across Partners:**

- CSP priorities complement partner strategies
- Southwark Council's "Keeping You Safe" and Southwark 2030 "A Safer Southwark".
- Embedded within broader council initiatives (Southwark Stands Together, Streets for People, Town Centre Plans).

- **Connected Partnerships**

- Part of a broader statutory partnership network
- Ensures strategic alignment and shared learning



Community Safety Partnership: 2024/25 Priorities and Delivery

- **Tackling violence against women and girls (VAWG) and promoting women's safety**
 - Commissioned Support Services – Advocacy and support to any member of the community who is a victim-survivor of VAWG, including domestic abuse.
 - Safe Spaces and Havens – 20 Safe Havens and 71 Safe Spaces for domestic abuse support
 - Nighttime Safety Initiatives – Ask for Angela, Women's Night Safety Charter (49 business)
 - Awareness campaigns – 'Through Her Eyes' anti-misogyny campaign (1 million+ views)
 - Education and activism – Healthy relationships education, VAWG 16 days of action.
- **Reducing and preventing violence and vulnerability**
 - Robbery Prevention and Awareness – Multi-agency approach to tackling phone snatching and school-related robberies through patrols, initiatives like *Our Routes*, and public awareness campaigns.
 - Youth Violence Support – The Community Harm and Exploitation Hub currently supports 105 young people with mentoring, housing, and mental health services.
 - Southwark Young Advisors – Influence policing and community safety strategies, working with leaders and delivering training.
 - Offender Management and Rehabilitation – The Integrated Offender Management (IOM) Board oversees 150 high-risk offenders, coordinating interventions to reduce reoffending.
- **Reducing drug related harm***
 - Increased Treatment Access – Highest number of adults and young people in drug and alcohol treatment since pre-COVID, meeting key strategic goals.
 - Drug-Related Harm Mapping – New borough drugs profile with location-based data and multi-agency response actions.
 - Enforcement and Intervention – *Project ADDER* and *Operation Yamata* tackle drug-related harm, disrupt supply chains, and provide diversionary support.
 - Prevention and Preparedness – Cannabis awareness campaign in development, new drug-related death panel convened, and synthetic opioid response in place.

**Four of the five 2024/25 priorities align with the three priorities under Southwark 2030's "A Safer Southwark" goal. Although not directly aligned, reducing drug-related harm can also be seen as relevant, given the role of drugs in driving ABS, crime, violence and exploitation within the borough.*

Community Safety Partnership: 2024/25 Priorities and Delivery

- **Increasing trust and confidence in policing**
 - Trust and Confidence Plan – Developed in line with the Casey Report, Mayor’s Police and Crime Plan, and New Met for London Plan.
 - Southwark Policing Oversight Board – Launched with eight independent members, meeting quarterly – the only model of its kind in London.
 - Community Engagement – Dedicated inbox for public concerns; board communications shared via resident newsletters.
 - Youth Independent Advisory Group – 964+ young people engaged in workshops, mentoring, and initiatives on stop and search, youth violence etc.
- **Creating safe and sociable estates and neighbourhoods**
 - CCTV Expansion - £3M investment from Southwark Council; 500+ camera monitoring 24/7; 20% increase in CCTV operators.
 - Complex Case Support – Review panel and specialist roles improving case management for residents with complex needs.
 - Enhanced Enforcement – Training updates to strengthen enforcement-based responses to anti-social behaviour.
 - Data-Driven Patrols – Crime & ABS survey insights reshaping warden patrols; new data dashboard in development for better resource deployment.

**Four of the five 2024/25 priorities align with the three priorities under Southwark 2030's "A Safer Southwark" goal. Although not directly aligned, reducing drug-related harm can also be seen as relevant, given the role of drugs in driving ABS, crime, violence and exploitation within the borough.*

Strategic Assessment 2023/24: Key Findings

Crime and Disorder

37,816 total offences, an 18.2% increase from 2021/22 (London: 12.2%).

The increase is mostly driven by 14,638 theft incidents.

Theft has risen by 51.8% since 2021/22 (London: 41.8%), making Southwark the 3rd highest in London for thefts.

Burglary has decreased slightly from 2,490 in 2021/22 to 2,484 in 2023/24.

Hate crime has remained consistent (943 in 2021/22 to 949 in 2023/24). There were increases in Islamophobic and Antisemitic incidents.

Tackling VAWG and Promoting Women's Safety

VAWG (excluding Domestic Abuse) has increased from 1,141 in 2021/22 to 1,234 in 2023/24 (8.2%).

Driven by increases in sexual offences, and exposure and voyeurism, including in North Bermondsey and North Walworth wards.

Domestic Abuse reported offences have declined from 2,983 in 2021/22 to 2,818 in 2023/24.

A decrease could underline a reduction in willingness to report.

Reducing Violence and Vulnerability

Violence Against the Person increased from 5,648 in 2021/22 to 6,130 in 2023/24 (8.5%), driven by violence without injury offences..

Serious Violence rose from 2,140 (2021/22) to 2,309 (2023/24), with notable increases in ABH and Threats to Kill.

Knife-related offences increased slightly from 225 (2021/22 to 230 (2024), with 52.6% involving injury.

Gun-crime offences jumped from 32 (2021/22) to 72 (2023/24).

Personal robbery cases rose from 1,042 (2021/22) to 1,765 (2023/24), making Southwark the 2nd highest in London.

Strategic Assessment 2023/24: Key Findings

Drug Related Offences

Total drug offences fell from 1,938 (2021/22) to 1,252 (2023/24), driven by a drop in possession cases.

Drug trafficking offences increased from 187 (2021/22) to 324 (2023/24), a 73.3% rise.

In 2023/24, 84.2% of drug possession offences involved cannabis.

More people are accessing substance misuse treatment, with rising use of club drugs like ecstasy and GHB.

Potent synthetic opioids, linked to past drug-related death spikes, pose a growing threat.

Trust and Confidence in Policing

Trust and confidence in the Police has continued to decline for all measures both in Southwark and across London.

Women and Black residents are significantly less likely to trust the police.

Only 57% of Black Londoners trust the Met Police, compared to 71% of White Londoners.

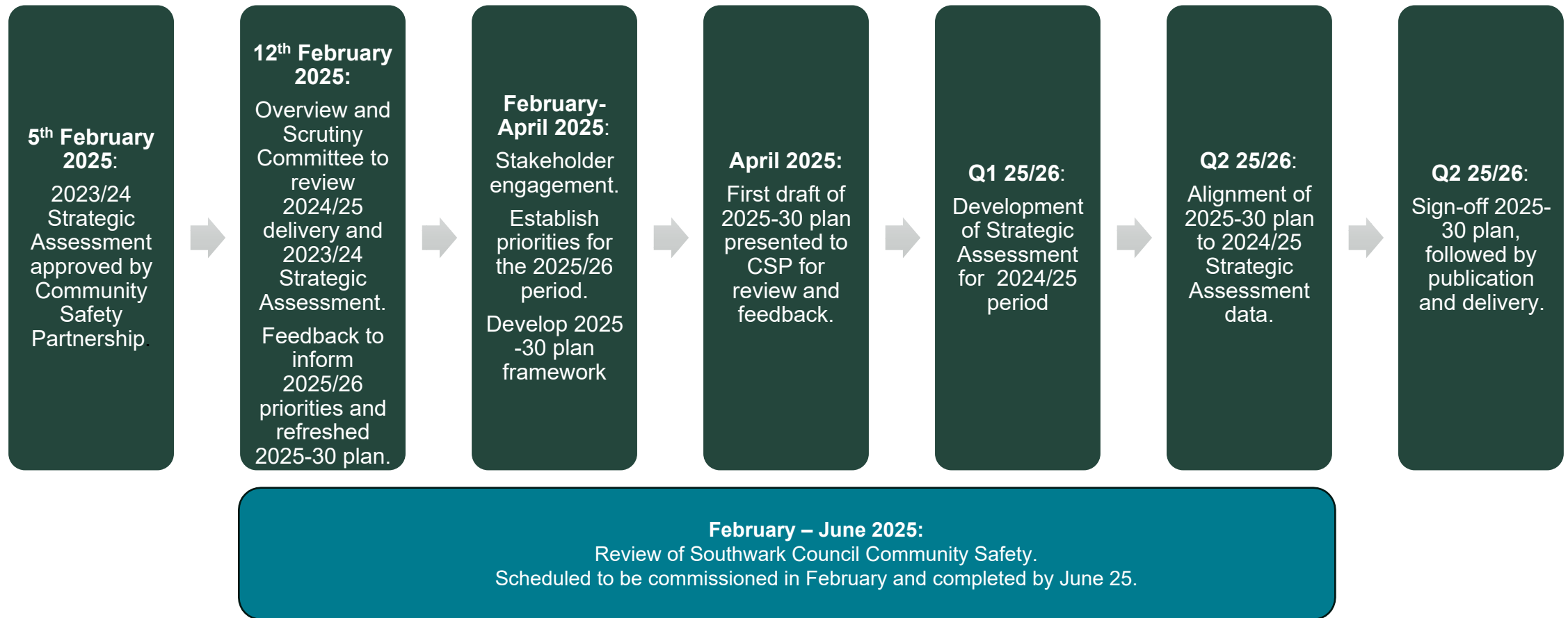
Safe and Sociable Estates and Neighbourhoods

Police received 9,011 ASB complaints in Southwark in 2023/24, a 20% decrease from 2021/22 but a 9.9% increase from 2022/23.

Southwark ranks 8th highest for ASB reports in London, consistent with previous years (8th in 2021/22 and 10th in 2022/23)..

The Council received 2,835 ASB reports in 2023/24, a 15.7% increase from 2021/22 and the highest in the last 10 years, aside from 2020/21 (3,396).

Timeline: Determining 2025/26 Priorities and 2025-2030 Plan



Opportunity for Discussion with Strategic Partners

Police

Fire and
Rescue
Authority

Local
Authority

Integrated
Care Board

Probation
Service

Q&A

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