Manchester City Council Report for Resolution

Report to: Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee - 21 June 2018

Subject: Police and Crime Plan and additional police resources

Report of: Deputy Chief Executive (Growth and Neighbourhoods)

Summary

This report was requested by the Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee to detail the priorities of the Police and Crime Plan and an overview of how it is envisaged the additional police resources agreed to be funded through the precept will be prioritised.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to note the contents of the report.

Ward Affected: All

Alignment to the Our Manchester Strategy Outcomes (if applicable)

Manchester Strategy outcomes	Summary of how this report aligns to the OMS
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	This report will highlight how the Police and Crime Plan contributes to this outcome ensuring neighbourhoods are clean, safe, attractive and cohesive and therefore a destination of choice for people to live, visit and work
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	

Contact Officers

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

Standing Together – Police and Crime Plan.

Greater Manchester Police and Crime Panel

Date: 22 February 2018

Subject: Standing Together, Our plan for police, community safety, criminal Justice services and citizens in Greater Manchester

Report of: Beverley Hughes, Deputy Mayor, Policing and Crime

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

The purpose of the report is to present the Police and Crime Plan 2018 - 21 to the Police and Crime Panel and summarise the process of developing the plan and the results of the public consultation.

Updates on the development of the plan have previously been reported to the Panel and Steering Group on the run up to the plan's completion with a draft of the priorities most recently presented on the 12 December 2017.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Police and Crime Panel is asked to:

- note the work that has been undertaken in relation to the development of the Police and Crime Plan and provide any comments;
- consider the results of the public consultation on the proposed priorities, following the Police and Crime Panel on the 12 December 2017;
- agree to receive further information on the development of the outcomes framework and Greater Manchester wide perception survey;
- support the refresh of the existing GM work plan and receive a further report that will also include a district level summary of local delivery plans for each community safety partnership.

CONTACT OFFICER:

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INTRODUCTION

1.1. This report sets out the progress made to date in developing the Mayor's Police and Crime Plan 2018-2021 and follows the most recent update to Panel on the 12 December when the draft priorities for the plan were proposed and a period of public consultation then followed.

2.0. BACKGROUND

2.1. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 sets out the detail which must be included in a Police and Crime Plan as follows,

2.1.1. the Mayor's police and crime objectives for the area;

2.1.2. the financial and other resources which the Mayor is to provide to the chief officer of police;

2.1.3. the means by which the chief officer of police will report to the Mayor on the chief officer's provision of policing;

2.1.4. the means by which the chief officer of police's performance in providing policing will be measured;

2.1.5. the crime and disorder reduction grants which the Mayor is to make, and the conditions (if any) of those grants.

2.2. In producing the Police and Crime Plan the Mayor must,

2.2.1. consult with the Chief Constable;

2.2.2. send a draft to the Police and Crime Panel, who must make a report or recommendations on the draft plan;

2.2.3. have regard to and publish a response to any report or recommendations of the panel;

2.2.4. issue the plan within the financial year in which the Mayor is elected.

3.0. DEVELOPMENT OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN

3.1. The plan is issued by the Mayor but in order for its ambitions to be achieved the plan must be agreed and owned by all the agencies who contribute to building safe and strong communities, including our communities themselves.

3.2. A strategic needs assessment was undertaken by the GMCA Research team to build upon our evidence base for the plan. This included,

3.2.1. Initial meetings in each district with each community safety manager and executive member (where they were able to attend);

3.2.2. A survey of frontline staff from across community safety partnerships and the voluntary sector in every district. This produced 715 responses which have been shared with community safety managers;

3.2.3. An analysis of the GMP annual force threat assessment;

3.2.4. An analysis of existing and emerging plans and strategies;

3.2.5. Submissions from the districts of emerging issues, such as changes to Universal Credit, which could impact on the community safety agenda.

3.3. An equalities impact assessment is currently being drafted. This has been produced following two community review panel meetings which brought together representatives of a wide variety of communities, including those with protected characteristics under the Equalities Act, from across Greater Manchester. These review panel meetings were designed to provide an opportunity for representative groups to identify any issues which could disproportionately impact on communities across Greater Manchester if included or omitted from the plan.

3.4. Consultation events have been held in each of the districts to provide headline feedback from the strategic needs assessment and discuss emerging themes and priorities. These events have been well attended and positive about the high level outcomes of the needs assessment.

4.0. DRAFT PRIORITIES

4.1. The strategic needs assessment revealed many overlapping commitments and demands which impact on community safety and it is recognised that, rather than contributing to silo working in the ways these issues are addressed, the plan needs to encourage a whole system approach through the public service reform agenda. Through the plan we hope to recognise and explore opportunities to further break down silos, working with police and other partners such as health and social care providers, schools, homelessness and substance misuse support groups and charities to ensure any people needing support are signposted to the services they need at the first opportunity.

4.2. It has previously been reported to Panel that the findings of the needs assessment and discussions with districts suggested that an alternative group of priorities might be considered in order to better draw complementary commitments and demand together. It was also reported that an alternative grouping had been discussed as part of the geographic workshops, and has been well received.

4.3. Over the development of the plan, these priorities have been further developed and were supported by the Panel on the 12 December, after which a period of public consultation took place.

4.4. Following the Panel on the 12 December, the draft priorities consulted on through an online public consultation survey were:

4.4.1. Keeping people safe

Protecting and caring for people who live, work, socialise and travel in Greater Manchester; those who are vulnerable; those who are victims of crime or at risk of being victimised. Building their resilience and confidence in policing and community safety

4.4.2. Reducing harm and offending

Preventing anti-social and criminal behaviour including the most serious offending and terrorism. Adopting a problem solving approach, intervening early and rehabilitating offenders to build confidence in criminal justice

4.4.3. Strengthening communities and places. Helping to build resilient and resourceful communities including online communities and protecting the places where people live, work, play or travel. Supporting the delivery of the infrastructure and facilities needed for a 21st century society.

5.0. CONSULTATION

5.1. Consultation has been integral to the shaping of the plan and its priorities. Stakeholder consultation has taken place with community safety practitioners, geographic workshops in all local authority areas, MPs, Councillors and specific interest groups. The consultation has been significant in the development of the priorities.

5.2. Online consultation ran from 12th December 2017 to 14th January 2018 – a total of 33 days. During the time the survey was open, 3463 responses were received.

5.3. The survey was promoted through radio adverts on Key 102 and Key 103, direct emails to residents, community, voluntary sector and faith groups, and it was also widely shared through social media channels.

5.4. The overwhelming majority of respondents (80%) believe the proposed priorities are the right ones for Greater Manchester; only 10% of respondents felt that they were not. On closer scrutiny of the 10% responses, many of the issues that respondents suggested were covered within the proposed priorities with the exception of road safety (poor road user and pedestrian behaviour) which has now been included in the plan.

5.5. Responses to the online survey were fairly equally spread across each of the local authority areas and were broadly representative of the Greater Manchester population.

5.6. Over the course of the survey, regular updates were provided to community safety lead officers so that additional promotion could be targeted where needed. Social media was also used to encourage responses where required. 5.7. The online survey included questions on crime and antisocial behaviour, a headline summary is outlined below:

5.7.1. The majority of respondents (61%) felt that crime and anti-social behaviour was a problem in their neighbourhood, whilst a third (32%) felt that it is not much of a problem but still recognise its existence.

5.7.2. The majority of respondents (63%) believe that crime and anti-social behaviour has gone up in their neighbourhood – of these, 59% think that it has gone up a lot. Just under a third (27%) believe that the level of crime and anti-social behaviour has stayed the same in their neighbourhood.

5.7.3. Just over half of respondents (51%) said they feel safe in their neighbourhood, compared with 49% who report feeling unsafe.

5.7.4. 59% of respondents reported feeling that crime and antisocial behaviour had an effect on their lives. Just over a third (35%) felt that crime and antisocial behaviour was having not much of an effect.

5.7.5. The majority of respondents (67%) disagreed that crime and antisocial behaviour was being dealt with effectively by community safety partnerships in their local area. A similar percentage (68%) disagreed it was being dealt with effectively across Greater Manchester as a whole.

6.0. OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK

6.1. The development of an outcomes framework for the plan is ongoing and will be further advanced through meetings in each district that are scheduled to take place in early March.

6.2. The plan identifies overarching outcomes against each priority which will be measured through a Greater Manchester wide perception survey. It is the intention that the survey will be commissioned by the GMCA and report at GM and local authority levels at quarterly, half yearly and annual intervals. The detail of the survey is yet to be developed and will be a priority action following the launch of the plan.

7.0. FINANCE

7.1. Since 2010 the government has cut the funds they provide to Greater Manchester Police by £215 million. This has resulted in the loss of 2,000 police officers – a 25% reduction – and 1,000 police staff and PCSOs.

7.2. As part of the public consultation, people were asked about their priorities and how much they would be willing to pay towards policing; the majority of respondents (74% of 1872) said they would support an increase in the policing element of council tax by on average £9.66 per year, because they do not want the police service to be cut further.

7.3. The Mayor is proposing to include funding in the budget to;

7.3.1. Recruit a minimum 100 additional police officers (min. 50 in 18/19 and min. 50 in 19/20)

7.3.2. Maintain PCSO numbers

7.3.3. Ensure that Greater Manchester Police are able to attend child protection case conferences

7.3.4. Invest in the digital forensics unit to ensure that evidence is gathered quickly and cases progressed, improving the service for victims of crime

7.3.5. Meet unexpected demand to ensure that the police are able to deal with unexpected events while maintaining neighbourhood policing

7.3.6. Increase the pace of improvements to public contact including the 101 line and reducing levels of sickness absence

7.3.7. Simplify how complaints against the police are dealt with building on work to build a customer service approach

7.3.8. Support the transformation of GMP through the new Target Operating Model

7.3.9. Fund the capital programme, including refurbishment of buildings and investment in a new forensics laboratory.

7.4. In relation to the Community Safety Fund, it was reported to Panel members on the 18 January 2018 that 'it is intended that the Community Safety Grant continue to be earmarked to fund the work of Community Safety Partnerships across Greater Manchester, and for 2018/19 to maintain the funding at 2017/18 levels.'

7.5. Work is also ongoing to identify funds which could be delegated to Community Safety Partnerships and initial proposals will be discussed with each lead member at the district meetings in March.

8.0. NEXT STEPS

8.1. Work to further develop the outcomes framework with the Chief Constable and wider partnership will continue into March with local meetings and a proposed framework reported back to the Police and Crime Panel.

8.2. To scope the process of commissioning a Greater Manchester wide survey for police and crime, aligned to the outcomes framework.

8.3. Following the launch of the plan, the existing GM work plan will be refreshed and reported to Panel. This work will run in parallel with local discussions concerning the refresh of district level delivery plans.

9.0. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1. Recommendations appear at the front of this report.