

Committee(s)	Date(s):
Police Authority Board – For decision	22 nd January 2020
Subject: Draft Policing Plan 2020-2023	Public
Report of: Commissioner of Police Pol xx-20	For Decision
Report author: Stuart Phoenix Head of Strategic Development	

Summary

This report presents the draft revised Policing Plan 2020-23. The Plan informs the community, stakeholders and staff how the City area is to be policed.

The Force and Court of Common Council (in its capacity as a police authority) are required to continue to publish a policing plan by the Police Act 1996 due to being exempt from the legislative requirement to publish a police and crime plan. A revised plan must be published by 31st March 2020.

Members considered and endorsed proposals regarding the updating of the plan for 2020 at a workshop on the 18th October 2019. Working with the Town Clerk's department, the revised plan mirrors more closely the legislative requirements of Police and Crime Plans. The principal revisions are:

- Inclusion of enhanced contextual/demand information
- Clearer link between community consultation and priorities
- Redrafting of how the priorities are presented, as follows:
 - Counter terrorism
 - Violent and acquisitive crime
 - Serious organised crime (includes fraud, cyber-crime, drugs, child criminal abuse, modern-day slavery and human trafficking)
 - Neighbourhood priority (includes anti-social behaviour, public disorder and roads policing).
- A new Force structure that reflects the emerging target operating model (Transform) (*note, this might change*).
- Inclusion of references to HMICFRS¹ inspections and recommendations where relevant.

The Force is still working with the Town Clerk's Department to finalise measures for the plan, which will be incorporated once agreed. At the time this draft was developed the budget and medium term financial plan were not finalised. Once approved by your Board, that information will be incorporated prior to publication of the Policing Plan. Similarly, outturn performance information will be incorporated prior to publication as this is not yet available.

¹ Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services

Recommendation(s):

- Your Board adopts the Draft Policing Plan 2020-23 appended to this report as the Policing Plan for the City of London, subject to any further amendments agreed by your Board and the Commissioner;
- Following approval the plan is published on the internet by 31st March 2020.

Main Report

Background

1. Legislation requires Police and Crime Commissioners to publish police and crime plans in place of traditional policing plans². That requirement does not apply to the Court of Common Council in its capacity as policy authority for the City of London. The Force and your Board continues to be governed by the relevant sections of the Police Act 1996 with respect to the publication of policing plans.³ However, where possible the Force and Authority has resolved to align the format of its policing plan with the general requirements of policing and crime plans.
2. The responsibility for drafting the policing plan and advising a police authority on its contents remains with the Commissioner of Police. However, guidance and legislation is clear that the police authority must approve and subsequently own the published plan.

Current Position

3. The Police Act 1996⁴ requires the police authority to issue, before the beginning of each financial year, a policing plan setting out:
 - (a) the proposed arrangements for the policing of that area for the period of three years beginning with that year; and
 - (b) its policing objectives for the policing of its area during that year.
4. Although the plan covers a period of three years, there is a requirement to review and republish the plan annually. The current 2017-2020 plan is coming to the end of its three year term, providing an opportunity to fundamentally review the plan. This has been done in close liaison with the Town Clerk's department, resulting in a draft plan that is much closer in style and content to Police and Crime Plans.
5. There is a requirement that policing plans (and their policing and crime plan equivalents) must have regard to any national strategic policing priorities stipulated by the Home Secretary.⁵ Such priorities are currently articulated by the

² Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

³ S. 6ZB Police Act 1996 (as amended by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011)

⁴ S.6ZB as above

⁵ As determined under s.37A of the 1996 Act

Strategic Policing Requirement; the Force's approach to this appears prominently in the draft plan. Additionally, the plan takes account of Government policy statements regarding reducing crime, addressing antisocial behaviour (ASB), supporting the vulnerable, accountability and value for money.

Developing the plan

6. Although the plan covers 3 years, a comprehensive policing plan review process is conducted each year which informs its ongoing development. That process considers any changes to legislation and Government policy, the Force's and City of London Corporation's risk registers, formal partnership obligations and the results of consultation and engagement activities. Benchmarking against a broad range of Police and Crime Plans is also carried out.
7. Members of your Board continue to be instrumental in shaping the plan through participation at workshops, the last one was held on 18th October 2019. Members attending that workshop endorsed the proposals regarding the plan, which were to:
 - Include enhanced contextual/demand information relating to the City of London;
 - Show a clearer link between community consultation and priorities; and
 - Include references to HMICFRS⁶ inspections and recommendations where relevant
8. Members will be aware from participation in the policing plan workshop that the priorities were only set following a robust review of intelligence, threat, national drivers and results of engagement activities. The resulting range of priorities mirrors the range of roles fulfilled by the Force, from pan-London and national responsibilities (counter terrorism, fraud and public order) to addressing City-specific, community concerns around volume crime and road safety. The order of the priorities reflects the threat, risk and harm posed by each area and corresponds with the Force Control Strategy (the principal operational delivery document that is used to prioritise activity, based on threat, risk and harm). Members agreed the policing plan priorities should be:
 - a. Counter terrorism
 - b. Violent and acquisitive crime
 - c. Serious organised crime (includes fraud, cyber-crime, drugs, child criminal abuse, modern-day slavery and human trafficking)
 - d. Neighbourhood priority (includes anti-social behaviour, public disorder and roads policing).
9. In keeping with the format and style of Police and Crime plans, there is less tactical information relating to delivery of the priorities than has been included in previous years.

⁶ Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services

10. Community engagement also shapes the plan; with the results of the annual community survey considered at the 18th October 2019 workshop.

Measures

11. Members will be aware that the Force has not set or relied on targets over the past four years. This accords with the majority national stance that is wary of the unintended impact that targets can have on officer behaviour, crime recording and resource allocation and which is considered contrary to the Police Code of Ethics. The Force, however, is considering setting a target-style aspiration in relation to some of the priorities, particularly violent and acquisitive crime. The measure will be to reduce crime in these areas, however, a numerical level (e.g. 'by x percent') will not be set. The measures are currently being considered by the Force and Town Clerk's Department and will be incorporated once agreed. The measure 'areas' included in the draft plan are therefore indicative only and are subject to change.
12. Performance against the measures, will continue to be submitted to the quarterly Performance and Resource Management Committee.

Finance

13. The plan must contain details of the Force's budget and medium term financial plan. At the time the draft plan was developed, neither had been finalised nor approved. Once set and agreed, a high level summary of both will be included in the final plan prior to publication.
14. The plan additionally includes details of how the Force intends to address its continuing budgetary challenges, including additional references to the Transform programme.

Publishing the plan

15. It is very rare for forces to produce hard copies of policing plans with the norm being for plans to be published on force and authority websites. Hard copies can be made available on request, although this is usually limited to a simple print of the PDF document on the website. There have not been any external requests for hard copies of any of the policing plans over the past ten years.

Consultation

16. Members, Chief Officers and City of London Corporation Officers were included as part of the process at the workshop on the 18th October 2019 and consultation with the Police Authority Team has been ongoing with the most recent meeting w/c 6th January 2020.
17. This is a draft document and Members and officers' feedback will be considered and the plan finalised subject to any further amendments agreed by your Board and the Commissioner. Comments may be fed back to the Head of Strategic Development at stuart.phoenix@cityoflondon.pnn.police.uk or via the Town Clerk's officers.

Proposals

18. This Report proposes:

- Your Board adopts the Draft Policing Plan 2020-23 appended to this report as the Policing Plan for the City of London, subject to any additional amendments agreed by your Board and Commissioner.
- Following approval the plan is published on the internet by 31st March 2020.

Strategic Implications

19. The Policing Plan directly supports the City of London Corporation's Corporate Plan for a safe and secure City.
20. The Policing Plan also has regard to the priorities of the Safer City Partnership.

Conclusion

21. Issuing and publishing a Policing Plan remains a statutory obligation on the Force and Court of Common Council in its capacity as police authority. The Policing Plan appended to this report is compliant with current guidance on those matters policing plans must address. Accordingly, your Board is invited to adopt the proposed Plan as the Policing Plan for the City of London.

Attached Papers:

Draft City of London Police Policing Plan 2020-23

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