

Committee(s): Police	Date(s): 15 th February 2013	Item no.
Subject: Policing Plan 2013-2016	Public	
Report of: Commissioner of Police Pol 13/13	For Decision	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Summary</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This report presents the proposed draft Policing Plan for the City of London, informing the community and staff how the City area is to be policed. 2. The Force and Court of Common Council (in its capacity as a police authority) are exempt from the requirement to publish a police and crime plan but must continue to publish a policing plan as required by the Police Act 1996. However, in developing the revised policing plan, regard has been had as to what is expected to be included in police and crime plans. 3. There remains a national policing priority for police forces to continue to reduce crime. Additionally, there is a requirement to support the national strategic policing requirement, which sets how the government expect forces to deal with the most serious criminality that impacts across force boundaries. The priorities proposed in the plan, detailed immediately below, support both national requirements. The priorities are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To protect the City of London from the threat of terrorism and extremism; • To protect the City of London and the UK from fraud; • To respond effectively to public disorder; • To reduce crime; • To improve road safety; and • Together with our partners, to tackle antisocial behaviour associated with the night time in the City of London. 4. Members endorsed the revised priorities at a workshop meeting on the 31st October 2012. A draft plan together with supporting measures was considered by Members at a second workshop meeting on 18th January 2013, and was agreed subject to some minor amendments, which have been incorporated within the plan. Performance against the targets will 		

be reported quarterly to your Police Performance and Resource Management Sub Committee.

5. High level financial information is included within the plan, showing a decrease in income over the term of the plan.

6. It is recommended:

- Your Committee adopts the Draft Policing Plan 2013-16 appended to this report as the Policing Plan for the City of London, subject to any further amendments agreed by your Committee and Commissioner; and
- Following approval the plan is published on the internet by 31st March 2013; and
- Performance against the plan is reported quarterly to your Police Performance and Resource Management Sub Committee.

Main Report

Background

1. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 introduced a requirement that Police and Crime Commissioners will publish police and crime plans in place of traditional policing plans. 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 Committee will continue to be governed by the relevant sections of the Police Act 1996 with respect to the publication of policing plans.¹ 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.

¹ S. 6ZB Police Act 1996 (as amended by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011)

Current Position

3. The Police Act 1996² 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.
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.³ Such priorities are currently articulated by the Strategic Policing Requirement, and details those serious threats and criminality that impacts across force borders and which require a co-ordinated approach to tackle effectively. The Force's proposed priorities directly support the Strategic Policing Requirement; references have been made throughout the plan highlighting specific initiatives. Additionally, the plan takes account of Government policy statements regarding reducing crime, accountability and value for money.

Developing the plan

6. Members of your Committee have been instrumental in shaping this year's plan through participation at two workshop sessions hosted jointly by the Commissioner and Chairman. The first event was held on 31st October 2012, providing a platform for dialogue between Members and the Force to review factors influencing the next iteration of the policing plan. Those factors included consideration of emerging issues raised by the Force's Strategic Assessment, the results of engagement activities, legislative requirements and benchmarking with other forces. As a result of that meeting, Members endorsed the general approach of the plan's development and the policing priorities to be adopted, as detailed at paragraph 8.
7. At the second workshop meeting with Members, held on 18th January 2013, a largely completed draft plan was presented together with the detail of the measures and targets developed to support delivery of the priorities. The

² S.6ZB as above

³ As determined under s.37A of the 1996 Act

plan and measures were endorsed subject to some minor amendments, all of which have been incorporated into the plan presented by this report to your Committee for formal approval.

Policing Priorities for 2013-14

8. The policing priorities for 2013-14 presented in the plan are:
 - To protect the City of London from the threat of terrorism and extremism;
 - To protect the City of London and the UK from fraud;
 - To respond effectively to public disorder;
 - To reduce crime;
 - To improve road safety; and
 - Together with our partners, to tackle antisocial behaviour associated with the night time in the City of London.

Setting the priorities

9. Members will be aware from participation in the policing plan workshop meetings that the priorities were only set following a robust review of intelligence, threat, national drivers and results of engagement activities. The range of the priorities naturally 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, road safety and antisocial behaviour associated with the night time economy.

Targets and measures

10. The targets and measures proposed to support delivery of the plan were shared with Members at the second workshop meeting on 18th January 2013, where they were informally approved subject to some minor amendments being made to wording. At that meeting, the Deputy Chairman, Simon Duckworth (in the Chair for the Committee meeting), stated that he was reassured that the Force had been through such a robust process in devising meaningful measures and including involvement by Members. A document detailing the rationale for each target, baseline information and how it would be reported was considered at that workshop. That document was subsequently presented for information to your Police Performance and Resource Management Sub Committee.

Finance and Value for Money

11. The plan contains high-level details of the Force's anticipated income and expenditure over the term covered by the plan. The figures included are those associated with the latest approved Medium Term Financial Plan. The tables show planned approved use of resources to address the anticipated funding gap for 2013-14.

Publishing the plan

12. It is very rare for forces to produce hard copies of policing plans with the norm now 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 five years.
13. It is proposed to include end of 3rd quarter performance data to publish the plan on the internet by 31st March 2013. This can be easily updated during April/May 2013 with end of financial year performance data once available, and thereafter an amended version of the plan published on the intranet.

Proposals

14. This Report proposes:
 - Your Committee adopts the Draft Policing Plan 2013-16 appended to this report as the Policing Plan for the City of London, subject to any amendments agreed by your Committee and Commissioner; and
 - Following approval the Plan is published on the internet by 31st March 2013; and
 - Performance against the Plan is reported quarterly to your Police Performance and Value for Money Sub Committee.

Strategic Implications

15. The Policing Plan directly supports the City of London Corporation's Vision to support and promote the City of London as the world leader in international finance and business services, maintaining high quality, accessible and responsive services benefiting its communities, neighbours, London and the nation.

16. The Policing Plan also has regard to the priorities of the Safer City Partnership and the City Together strategy.

Conclusion

17. 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 Committee are invited to adopt the proposed Plan as the Policing Plan for the City of London.

Attached Papers:

Draft City of London Police Policing Plan 2013-16.

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