

Cabinet 19 March 2018

Report title: Tackling Violence against Young People: First steps

Wards: All

Portfolio: Cabinet Member for *Healthier and Stronger Communities*: Councillor Mohammed Seedat

Report Authorised by: Sue Foster: Strategic Director for Neighbourhoods and Growth

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Report summary

Following the rise in serious youth violence in Lambeth, the Safer Lambeth Executive has convened a new board specifically to tackle this ongoing issue. This will lead on the development of the borough's first "Tackling Violence against Young People" strategy that will bring together all the work of the statutory agencies and the community in one place to change and improve how we help prevent violence against young people. It will be led by the community, and focus not just on the immediate crisis but also how we prevent the next generation of young people involved. It will adopt a public health approach to fundamentally change how Lambeth address's violence against young people. This report outlines the draft "first steps" and vision for this work, but it will be developed and changed by the community and young people as the work progresses. This report is supported by the Safer Lambeth Executive, the Young Lambeth Co-Operative, the Chair of the Safer Neighbourhood Board and the Chief Executive of Black Thrive.

Finance summary

This report has no direct financial implications. The strategy will lead to recommissioning of existing work and reconfiguration of services, but not at this stage.

Recommendations

1. To endorse the proposed vision and agree the first steps to developing Lambeth's "Tackling Violence against Young People" strategy

1. Context

- 1.1 Lambeth has historically suffered from high levels of serious youth violence, and recently has seen significant rises that threaten to return the borough to the peak levels last seen in 2009 to 2012. Lambeth has suffered the highest volume of serious violence crimes in London over the last 10 years, with over 7000 victims of youth violence. It particularly impacts on black people, who make up almost half the victims of serious youth violence (47%) but are only a third of the population in Lambeth.
- 1.2 Although much work has been done to tackle this problem, clearly a new approach is needed if we are to make Lambeth safer for young people. Historically this area has suffered from a fragmented response, where multiple agencies across the statutory partnership and third sector are working to tackle the same issue in different ways, alongside regional and national agencies who are not linked to any local level work. Therefore we will build upon the work done in the last two years through the Violence Needs Assessment from Public Health, the Young People at Risk work in Lambeth's Children's Safeguarding Board, the Safer Neighbourhood Board, the Young Lambeth Co-Operative and Black Thrive to develop the borough's first "Tackling Violence against Young People" strategy

2. Proposal and Reasons

- 2.1 We propose to create the borough's first "Tackling Violence against Young People" strategy, which will set the overarching vision and goals for how Lambeth stops youth violence, not just for young people now but for future generations as well.
- 2.2 Although much good work has taken place in this area, and many individual lives have been improved and turned around by work in both the community and the partnership, if we are to effectively tackle this it is clear we need to take a new approach as outlined in the "First Steps" document. This will involve fundamental system change in how the statutory sector, our residents and community, and the third sector work together to help protect young people. It will need to be developed and led by the community and young people if it is to be effective.

3. Finance

- 3.1 The strategy is currently in its initial development phase, and currently there is no associated cost other than officer time.
- 3.2 As the strategy develops, this will lead to reconfiguration of existing services and re-commissioning of services. It will also need resource support to develop the strategy. This will be agreed at the next meeting of the Safer Lambeth Task and Finish Group.

4. Legal and Democracy

- 4.1 No comments from legal.
- 4.2 This proposed decision was entered in the Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions on 19 February 2018 and the statutory 28 clear days' notice has been given. The report will be published for five clear days before the decision is considered by Cabinet. Should it be approved, a further period of five clear days, the 'call-in period', must then elapse before the decision becomes effective. If the decision is called-in during this period, it cannot be enacted until the call-in has been considered and resolved.

5. Consultation and co-production

5.1 Currently three community organisations are represented in the strategy development group – Black Thrive, the Young Lambeth Co-Operative and the Safer Neighbourhood Board. Engaging with residents, local community groups and young people is a key strand of work and a priority for the strategy development. The attached draft vision & first steps document was developed with those organisations., and will have further input and development from young people and the community over the course of the strategy's development.

6. Risk management

6.1 This paper outlines the start of the strategy development process. A risk management matrix will be developed as part of the strategy governance to minimise risk.

7. Equalities impact assessment

7.1 This work directly addresses one of the key themes of the Equalities Commission, and attempts to improve the substantial disproportionality present in youth violence which affects black people far more than it should based on our population numbers. An Equalities Impact Assessment will be drawn up and developed alongside the strategy.

8. Community safety

8.1 This proposed work will directly improve the borough's most significant crime and disorder issue – violence against young people. As such it will positively impact on our community safety priorities.

9. Organisational implications

9.1 Health

The proposed strategy will adopt a public health approach to tackling violence against young people. It directly contributes towards our Health and Wellbeing strategy, and will improve the health of our residents.

10. Timetable for implementation

10.1 Following agreement of the attached vision and first steps document, the Task and Finish group will agree a timetable for the development and delivery of the strategy.

10.2 Although it is anticipated that the strategy will take a year to fully develop, we have several immediate commitments in the strategy to deliver on – we know there are areas of improvement we can address now. These are contained within the draft vision and first steps document attached. These will be overseen by the Task and Finish group.

| Audit Trail | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Consultation | | | | |
| Name/Position | Lambeth directorate / department or partner | Date Sent | Date Received | Comments in paragraph: |
| Councillor Mohammed Seedat | Cabinet Member for Healthier and Stronger Communities | 15.02.18 | 15.02.18 | Throughout |
| Councillor Jim Dickson | Cabinet Member for Healthier and Stronger Communities | 15.02.18 | 15.02.18 | |
| Sue Foster | Strategic Director for Neighbourhoods and Growth | 31.01.18 | 31.01.18 | Throughout |
| Annie Hudson | Strategic Director for Children and Young People | 06.02.18 | 06.02.18 | Throughout |
| Andrew Travers | Interim Chief Executive | 06.02.18 | 06.02.18 | |
| Andrew Ramsden, Finance | Corporate Resources | 08.03.18 | 08.02.18 | |
| Jean-Marc Moccarme, Legal Services | Corporate Resources | 08.03.18 | 08.03.18 | |
| Wayne Chandai, Democratic Services | Corporate Resources | 09.03.18 | 09.03.18 | |
| Nick Mason | Safer Neighbourhood Board Chair | 07.03.18 | 07.03.18 | |
| Richard Parkes | Young Lambeth Co-Operative Chair | 07.03.18 | 07.03.18 | |
| Patrick Vernon | Chief Executive Black Thrive | 07.03.18 | 07.03.18 | |
| Conrad Hollingsworth | Chief Executive, LVAC | 07.03.18 | 07.03.18 | |
| Richard Wood | Borough Commander, Lambeth Police | 07.03.18 | 07.03.18 | |
| Ruth Hutt | Director, Public Health | 07.03.18 | 07.03.18 | |
| Maria Jerram | YOS Head of Service | 07.03.18 | 07.03.18 | |
| Raj Mistry | Director, Environment | 31.01.18 | 31.01.18 | |

| Report History | |
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| Original discussion with Cabinet Member | 12.10.17 |
| Report deadline | 09.03.18 |
| Date final report sent | 09.03.18 |
| Part II Exempt from Disclosure/confidential accompanying report? | No |
| Key decision report | Yes |
| Date first appeared on forward plan | 19.02.18 |
| Key decision reasons | 3. Community Impact |
| Background information | Lambeth violence Needs Assessment: https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/sites/default/files/serious-violence-in-lambeth-needs-assessment-june-2015.pdf |
| Appendices | Appendix A – <i>Tackling Violence Against Young People: First Steps</i> |