

## Agenda item 9

<b>TITLE OF REPORT</b> <b>Developing a Whole Systems Approach to Violence Reduction</b>	
<b>HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD - 24th March 2021</b>	<b>CLASSIFICATION:</b> <b>Open</b>
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED</b> <b>All</b>	
<b>Group Director</b> Stephen Haynes, Strategic Director of Inclusive Economy, Policy and New Homes	

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

- a. 'Reducing Harm' is one of 7 strategic priorities in the Corporate Plan for 2018-2022.
- b. In Hackney, our approach to violence reduction is framed within the context of our Community Strategy, which sets out a vision for Hackney as a borough -
  - *Where everyone can enjoy a good quality of life as part of an open, cohesive, safe and supportive community.*
  - *Where children are given a good start in life, we protect and improve outcomes for the most vulnerable, and the whole community benefits from the growth and change we have experienced across the borough,*
  - *Where the community, businesses and local services work together to reduce violence and its impact so that everyone can feel healthy and safe, at home, at work, and on streets, parks, and estates.*

- c. In order to tackle the complex causes of serious violence effectively and sustainably an approach that recognises and addresses that complexity is needed. It is important to look at the whole system of causes and how they interact, develop a coherent whole partnership approach and direct attention and resources to where they will be most effective.
- d. This document pulls together all of the individual strategies and action plans that contribute towards a whole systems approach to violence reduction in Hackney. It aims to support a shared understanding of the existing strategic landscape and to serve as a basis for further analysis to identify those areas where we are directing sufficient resources and those that might require additional focus.
- e. In this document, the existing strategies and plans are also assessed against our strategic principles to highlight alignment or lack thereof between these principles and our current plans and strategies.

## **2 . RECOMMENDATIONS**

- a) For the board to provide comment and reflection on the utility of the document and how it might be developed further.
- b) For the board to provide input on any areas that may have been omitted or require additional focus.
- c) For the board to consider how the shared strategic understanding of our approach to tackling violence in the Borough can be embedded so that it provides an effective framework that all partners recognise and adhere to.

## **3. BACKGROUND**

- a. In June 2018 the Mayor of Hackney hosted an event in response to a spate of serious violent incidents and murders in the borough. The event brought together the voluntary and community sector (VCS), council, education, health and housing partners alongside senior politicians and young people involved in the inspirational leaders programme. The event was successful in bringing together partners to express both their concerns and commitment to tackling serious violence and its traumatic impact on our communities.
- b. A number of key issues were raised at the event, including -
  - Concern about the communication and response of authorities in the immediate aftermath of an incident.

- The need for better joined up working and co-ordination between VCS organisations, and VCS and statutory partners
  - The need to understand the partnership as a whole and the role each agency plays in the partnership to address serious violence.
- c. A subsequent mapping exercise also raised a number of issues and challenges - including the need to improve strategic join up as it relates to tackling violence in the Borough - whilst also highlighting many examples of excellent work undertaken across the partnership in Hackney.
- d. The need to take a whole systems approach to tackling violence in the Borough is also an ask of the Council by the Young Futures Commission, which consulted over 2500 young people about their lived experience in Hackney.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

**In accordance with The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) England Regulations 2012 publication of Background Papers used in the preparation of reports is required**

Single Violence Plan Working Draft

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