

Title of Report	CHE S292 Hackney Serious Violence Duty Strategy (SVDS) 2024- 2027	
Key Decision	CHE S292	
For Consideration By	Cabinet	
Meeting Date	22nd January 2024	
Cabinet Member	Cllr Susan Fajana-Thomas OBE, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Regulatory Services	
Classification	Open	
Ward(s) Affected	All	
Key Decision & Reason	Yes	Significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards.
Implementation Date if Not Called In	31 January 2024	
Group Director	Rickardo Hyatt, Group Director, Climate, Homes and Economy.	

1. Cabinet Member's introduction

- 1.1. I am very pleased to introduce the Hackney Serious Violence Duty Strategic Plan 2024- 2027, which sets out the Serious Violence Community Safety multi-agency priorities over the next three years. The Hackney Serious Violence Duty Strategic Plan focuses on those serious violent crimes that are of most concern to our residents in Hackney to ensure that their voices are heard and effectively responded to.
- 1.2. In Hackney, we have been at the forefront of reducing serious violence for a number of years through the work of our Community Gangs Team (Formerly the Integrated Gangs Unit), the Youth Justice Service and our innovative approach to reducing violence against women and girls, through our Domestic Abuse Intervention Service (DAIS) and the work at our Night Time Economy.
- 1.3. Our commitment is to deliver on our residents' main priorities and that is why our Serious Violence Duty Strategy 2024 to 2027 has taken account of

residents' surveys, feedback from community meetings and partnership data to identify the following serious violence strategic priorities:-

- Violence Against Women and Girls.
- Domestic Abuse.
- Serious Sexual Violence.
- Gangs and Serious Violence against Young People (including Robbery and knife crime).
- Hate Crime.
- Serious Violence in the Night-Time Economy.

1.4. We know that intervening early to tackle the causes of violent behaviour is crucial in helping to prevent young people from entering the criminal justice system in the first place, and preventing adult offenders from reoffending. Tackling the 'drivers' of violent behaviour can help to break cycles of violence and enable individuals to lead positive lives free from crime. We also know that supporting victims of violence and their families is fundamental to improving the quality of life for those who have been directly affected. Work will by necessity, need to be across the board from prevention, early intervention and education through to bringing offenders to justice.

1.5. Therefore, I recommend to you that the Hackney Cabinet adopt the Hackney Serious Violence Duty Strategy for the period of 2024 to 2027. The objectives contained within the strategy will be reviewed each year to optimise a real focus on serious violence priorities in Hackney.

2. **Group Director's introduction**

2.1. The Serious Violence Duty Strategy (SVDS) contains six objectives as outlined above. These objectives have been decided upon following the completion of a strategic needs assessment of serious violence partnership data and local consultation.

2.2. In addition, reducing serious violence is one of the main priorities for residents of Hackney as outlined in the Resident Survey and in particular, robbery and knife crime. Therefore, the SVDS 2024 to 2027 aims to deliver on local priorities, and its implementation will be supported by a communications and media strategy.

2.3. The SVDS objectives will be supported by a tier 2 strategic board chaired at Director level to optimise delivery towards our goals. The Community Safety Statutory Officers Group will act as the Tier 1 strategic board to support partnership cross-cutting and delivery.

2.4. A Serious Violence Duty Action Plan will incorporate our pledges and outputs towards reducing serious violence in Hackney.

2.5. Therefore, I recommend that the Hackney Serious Violence Duty is approved by Cabinet.

3. **Recommendations**

- 3.1. It is recommended that Hackney Cabinet approves the Hackney Serious Violence Duty Strategy 2024 to 2027.

4. **Reason(s) for decision**

- 4.1. This is a statutory responsibility and the SVDS 2024 to 2027 will significantly support our Community Safety Partnership's response to reducing serious violence in Hackney.

5. **Details of alternative options considered and rejected**

- 5.1. This is a statutory requirement and therefore an options analysis is not applicable.

6. **Background**

Policy Context

- 6.1. The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act, 2022, places a statutory duty on Community Safety Partners to work together to share information to allow them to target their joint interventions to prevent and reduce serious violence within their local communities.
- 6.2. The Hackney Community Safety Partnership will adopt a multi-agency approach to understand the causes and consequences of serious violence, focusing on prevention and early intervention, and informed by evidence.
- 6.3. The SVDS 2024/2027 contains the Hackney Community Safety Serious Violence Objectives:-
- Violence against women and Girls
 - Domestic Abuse
 - Serious Sexual Violence
 - Gangs and Serious Violence against Young People (including Robbery and knife crime)
 - Hate Crime
 - Serious Violence in the Night-Time Economy
- 6.4. The Hackney Serious Violence Duty Strategy will be accompanied by a Serious Violence Duty Action Plan (SVAP), which will be delivered through a number of Serious Violence Strategy Boards, reporting into the Hackney Community Safety Partners Statutory Officers Group.
- 6.5. Underpinning all of these priorities is the need to embed a strong communication strategy to ensure that residents feel well informed about what is happening to tackle issues of crime and disorder, promote reporting

mechanisms and make best use of data available to the partnership to ensure resources are effectively utilised to achieve successful outcomes for people in Hackney.

Equality impact assessment

- 6.6 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has been undertaken to assess the potential of an adverse positive or negative impact of the proposed PSPO on protected groups. A copy of the EIA is attached as Appendix 2 of this report.
- 6.7 In completing the EIA the Council has complied with the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty , which was created by the Equality Act 2010.
- 6.8 The equality duty was developed in order to harmonise the equality duties and to extend it across the protected characteristics. It consists of a general equality duty, supported by specific duties which are imposed by secondary legislation. In summary, those subject to the equality duty must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Sustainability and climate change

- 6.9 Not applicable

Consultations

- 6.10 In preparing the the Serious Violence Duty Strategy 2024 to 2027 the Council has undertaken the following consultation:-
- An analysis of the Hackney Residents Survey 2022.
 - Violence against Women and Girls survey 2022.
 - Safer Young Hackney consultation through the Young Future Commission, Youth Parliament and Young Black Men's Meeting.
 - Late Night Level Board and Hackney PubWatch Schemes.
 - Hackney Safer Neighbourhood Board (SNB). The Serious Violence Duty Strategy was an agenda item at the SNB meeting attended by a variety of community representatives including, Ward Panel Chairs, Shomrim, Community LGBTQI Plus, Police, Neighbourhood Watch, Victim Support.
 - Hackney CVS- LGBTQI plus forum. This was taken to the LGBTQI forum and the HCVS representative and feedback provided to inform the strategy.
 - A Community event attended by key community stakeholders and councillors. Representation was from a cross section of our diverse communities in Hackney. This event was held within Hackney Town

Hall and attended by representatives from all of our diverse communities. This event was primarily focused on scrutinising the Serious Violence Duty with improvement in mind.

- The Hackney Shomrim were consulted via the President of Shomrim taking the document to the Shomrim Forum and providing them with the opportunity to feed back any areas suitable for amendment.
- The Hackney Advisory Round Table was consulted with by our Prevent Programme Officer and feedback provided.
- Hackney Policy and Strategy Group. The SVDS 2024 to 2027 was an agenda item at the Policy and Strategy Group and all members were given the opportunity to provide amendments to the document.
- Hackney Community Safety Statutory Officers Group. The Serious Violence Duty was agreed at the meeting on 11th October 2023.
- Muslim Communities via our North London Mosque network were consulted at the SNB and during the Hate Crime Community event.
- Hackney Women's Safety in Hackney Consultation Report – 2022.

7. **Comments of the Interim Group Director, Finance**

- 7.1. The SVDS will be delivered by partners working in an integrated way through their existing resources. Funding to support the implementation and delivery of the SVD has been confirmed until 2024/25.

8. **VAT implications on land and property transactions**

- 8.1. Not applicable

9. **Comments of the Acting Director of Legal, Democratic and Electoral Services**

- 9.1. Central Government introduced the Serious Violence Duty in order to ensure that councils and local services work together to share information and target interventions to prevent and reduce serious violence.
- 9.2. Currently the Mayor's scheme of delegation reserves to the Mayor and Cabinet, approval of all corporate policies and strategies, and all formal service strategies.
- 9.3. The Mayor and Cabinet are authorised to approve the recommendation set out in 3.1 of this report.

Appendices

Appendix 1 Hackney Serious Violence Duty Strategy 2024/2027

Appendix 2 Equality Impact Assessment

Background documents

None

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