

Decision Maker: PUBLIC PROTECTION AND ENFORCEMENT POLICY
DEVELOPMENT & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date: Tuesday 19 March 2024

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Key

Title: SAFER BROMLEY STRATEGY 24-27

Contact Officer: Karen Proudfoot, Projects Manager
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Chief Officer: Colin Brand, Director of Environment and Public Protection

Ward: (All Wards);

1. Reason for decision/report and options

- 1.1 This report sets out the proposal to adopt the Safer Bromley Strategy 2024-27 on behalf of the Council, which is one of the five statutory partners of the Community Safety Partnership. The Safer Bromley Strategy sets the partnership priorities for the next 3 years, in accordance with the [Crime and Disorder \(Formulation and Implementation of Strategy\) Regulations 2007](#).
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2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

The Public Protection & Enforcement Policy Development & Scrutiny Committee to:

- 2.1 Note and provide comment to the Leader.

The Leader to:

- 2.2 Approve the adoption of the Safer Bromley Strategy 2024-27.

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. The Safer Bromley Partnership (SBP) brings together local partners to formulate and deliver strategies to tackle crime and disorder in their communities.
2. The role of the SBP is to ensure that the statutory agencies, (Bromley Council, Metropolitan Police, London Fire Brigade, South East London Integrated Care Board and National Probation Service) commissioned services and community and voluntary representatives are working together at a strategic and operational level to reduce crime and disorder.
3. The SBP develop preventative and early intervention approaches using intelligence and insights to minimise the impact and trauma caused by crime and reduce re-victimisation and repeat offending.

Policy Status:

1. Making Bromley Even Better Priority: Existing Policy
 - (1) For children and young people to grow up, thrive and have the best life chances in families who flourish and are happy to call Bromley home.
 - (2) For adults and older people to enjoy fulfilled and successful lives in Bromley, ageing well, retaining independence and making choices.
 - (3) For people to make their homes in Bromley and for business, enterprise and the third sector to prosper.
 - (4) For residents to live responsibly and prosper in a safe, clean and green environment great for today and a sustainable future.

Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Not Applicable
2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable
3. Budget head/performance centre: Not Applicable
4. Total current budget for this head: Not Applicable
5. Source of funding: Not Applicable
6. The Safer Bromley Strategy seeks to enable partner agencies to coordinate their existing resources better together. Consideration will be given by the Safer Bromley Partnership to the resources required to deliver activity and the funding routes that may be available through the member agencies.

Personnel

1. Number of staff (*current and additional*): Not Applicable
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Not Applicable
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: In accordance with the [Crime and Disorder \(Formulation and Implementation of Strategy\) Regulations 2007](#) the SBP have been developing the Community Safety Strategy for the next 3 years.
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable
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Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable
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Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: Not Applicable
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Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: Not Applicable
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Impact on the Local Economy

Summary of Local Economy Implications:

1. Keeping Bromley safe supports the economic development of the borough by making it a desirable option for visitors wanting to use local businesses and enabling them to thrive.
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Impact on Health and Wellbeing

Summary of Health and Wellbeing Implications:

1. The SBP consider a range of crimes which are linked to health and wellbeing, including but not limited to serious violence, domestic abuse, sexual exploitation, drug supply and the trauma associated to being a victim of crime. The Integrated Care Board are a statutory partner of the Safer Bromley Partnership to ensure that the impact on the health and wellbeing of those involved affected by crime are considered and represented.
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Customer Impact

1. The role of the Safer Bromley Partnership is to keep Bromley a safe borough for all residents, businesses and visitors.
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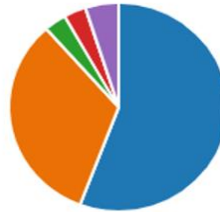
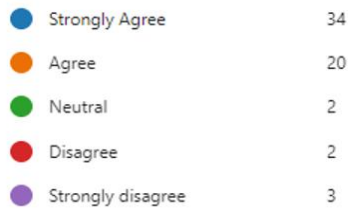
Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Yes
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Ward Councillors were invited to contribute to the survey, as submissions were anonymous it is not possible to extract the responses from Councillors from the wider responses. All responses are reflected in this report.

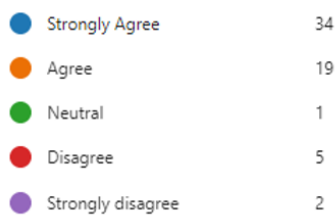
3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 Following the expiration of the Bromley Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2020 to 2023 the Safer Bromley Partnership have been developing the new Safer Bromley Strategy to set the priorities for the next 3 years.
- 3.2 The introduction of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 gives greater focus on working together to prevent and reduce violence, both within and outside the home, and on the collective ability to effectively safeguard and protect those within our communities who are vulnerable to these forms of harm. To ensure a holistic approach is taken the Safer Bromley Strategy has incorporated the requirement to develop strategies to reduce serious violence and tackle domestic abuse.
- 3.3 To inform the development of the Safer Bromley Strategy the 2023 Community Safety Strategic Assessment was completed in draft and circulated to SBP partners on 24 August 2023, and a summary of the draft findings were presented to the SBP meeting on 19 September with a request for partners to consider the draft assessment and advise of any amendments or additional information they may be able to provide.
- 3.4 A Strategic Development Workshop took place on 16 November. The workshop was facilitated by the SBP Co-Chair Panel, Louise Watkinson, Assistant Director of Public Protection, Metropolitan Police Superintendent Luke Baldock and London Fire Brigade Borough Commander Chris Line.
- 3.5 Those who were unable to attend the session in person were provided an online opportunity via a survey in advance of the meeting to feed into the process. The survey was updated following the workshop and recirculated to allow further comment.
- 3.6 The high-level priorities that were developed at the Workshop and the cross-cutting principles were presented at the SBP meeting on 6 December and these were agreed in principle to proceed to public consultation.
- 3.7 An online public survey commenced on 5 January 2024 and concluded on Monday 12 February 2024. The link and QR code were promoted to community and voluntary groups known to be involved with community safety issues, such as the Safer Neighbourhood Board, Community Links and Neighbourhood Watch, who were encouraged to circulate these to their members. The consultation was also promoted.
- i. on the Bromley Council website.
 - ii. by the Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams to residents and businesses in their Wards.
 - iii. to Councillors to respond and share with their constituents.
 - iv. by officers when engaging with public at the Community Impact Days.
- 3.8 The survey was completed anonymously and there were 61 respondents. Respondents were asked if they lived, worked or regularly visited the borough of Bromley and could give more than one answer. Fifty-five respondents live in the borough of Bromley, 20 work in the borough and 16 visit the borough regularly.

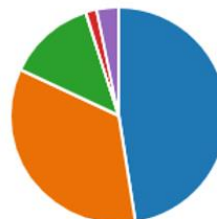
3.9 90% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that building resilient communities by delivering a comprehensive crime prevention programme to improve safety should be a priority for the London Borough of Bromley.



3.10 86% of respondents agreed that protecting people by delivering targeted early intervention to people who are at risk of being impacted or affected by crime should be a priority for the London Borough of Bromley



3.11 82% of respondents agreed that being stronger together by designing targeted crime and disorder reduction measures, in collaboration with communities, in areas with the highest levels of reported crime and disorder should be a priority for the London Borough of Bromley.



3.12 Respondents were asked to explain their responses, these are given in full in Appendix B. It is important to understand the reasons those who did not support the proposed priorities gave and how these will be addressed by the SBP, these are summarised below:

Ref.	Reason	SBP Response
Q1.a	Concern that any new measures to improve safety may have harmful consequences on the environment and climate.	Activity that may involve significant physical changes to public spaces will go through the local authority authorisation and scrutiny processes. These processes include the requirement to explain how the project may support carbon reduction and social values, health and wellbeing and the impact it will have on children and vulnerable adults.

Ref.	Reason	SBP Response
Q1.b	That the proposed wording uses 'buzzwords' that are 'meaningless'.	The proposed wording is a high-level strategic statement which is supported by a delivery plan to ensure that it is translated into meaningful activity.
Q1.c	Public confidence in the criminal justice system is low and until this is addresses other action is unlikely to be successful.	It is intended that the local strategy will complement the pan-London and national strategies adopted by the Police and government to improve confidence in the criminal justice system.
Q2.a	All people should be protected.	Bromley is consistently one of the safest London boroughs. All SBP partner agencies continue to provide their core duties to the public, however, it is important to acknowledge that the large majority of the Bromley community are unlikely to be directly affected by crime. However some groups of people are at higher risk of being affected by some offence types, for example due to their age, and require a focussed approach to reduce that risk.
Q2.b	It is unclear who will be the focus for this proposed priority.	The complexity of criminality means people affected by crime can sometimes be both victim and offender.
Q2.c	Tackling offenders should be a priority, through intervention and enforcement.	The focus will vary depending on the type of crime. The SBP will use an intelligence led approach to develop appropriate initiatives under this priority.
Q3.a	More Police activity is needed.	It is intended that the local strategy will complement the pan-London and national strategies adopted by the Police and government to improve confidence in the criminal justice system.
Q3.b	Local communities have other priorities and may not get involved.	The SBP is working closely with community and voluntary groups that are already active across the borough and will support them to continue to engage and deliver locally designed activity with local communities.

3.13 The draft Safer Bromley Strategy was presented to the Safer Bromley Partnership on 29 February 2024. Partners were asked to consider the proposed priorities for the 24-27 Strategy and the consultation responses and, after undertaking their own approval processes, confirm acceptance of the SBP Strategy 2024-27 by 31 March 2024.

3.14 Due to the costs associated to professional design and printing, and subsequent storage and distribution it was agreed that hard copies will not be produced, and the Safer Bromley Strategy 24-27 will be provided on-line.

- 3.15 SBP members were asked to consider the contribution they can make to the delivery plan to support the delivery of the agreed priorities in preparation for the first Delivery Group meetings.
- 3.16 The SBP will monitor the progress of the Delivery Plans, which will incorporate the requirements of the Violence and Vulnerability Action Plans to reduce serious violence and continue to deliver and build on the Domestic Abuse Strategy which expires this year.

4. IMPACT ON VULNERABLE ADULTS AND CHILDREN

- 4.1 The Safer Bromley Partnership (SBP) brings together local partners to formulate and deliver strategies to tackle crime and disorder in their communities.
- 4.2 The role of the SBP is to ensure that the statutory agencies, (Bromley Council, Metropolitan Police, London Fire Brigade, South East London Integrated Care Board and National Probation Service) commissioned services and community and voluntary representatives are working together at a strategic and operational level to reduce crime and disorder.
- 4.3 The SBP develop preventative and early intervention approaches using intelligence and insights to minimise the impact and trauma caused by crime and reduce re-victimisation and repeat offending.

5. TRANSFORMATION/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The adoption of the Safer Bromley Strategy supports the 'Making Bromley Even Better Priority' by focusing on preventing crime, protecting people and creating safer places. These priorities will help:
- children and young people to grow up, thrive and have the best life chances in families who flourish and are happy to call Bromley home.
 - adults and older people to enjoy fulfilled and successful lives in Bromley, ageing well, retaining independence and making choices.
 - people to make their homes in Bromley and for business, enterprise and the third sector to prosper.
 - residents to live responsibly and prosper in a safe, clean and green environment great for today and a sustainable future.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Safer Bromley Strategy seeks to enable partner agencies to coordinate their existing resources better together. Consideration will be given by the Safer Bromley Partnership to the resources required to deliver activity and the funding routes that may be available through the member agencies.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no personnel implications for the Council.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 Legal Requirement: In accordance with the [Crime and Disorder \(Formulation and Implementation of Strategy\) Regulations 2007](#) the SBP have been developing the Community Safety Strategy for the next 3 years.

9. PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no procurement implications.

10. PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no property implications.

11. CARBON REDUCTION/SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

11.1 The adoption of the Safer Bromley Strategy will have a neutral impact on carbon reduction.

12. IMPACT ON THE LOCAL ECONOMY

12.1 Keeping Bromley safe supports the economic development of the borough by making it a desirable option for visitors wanting to use local businesses and enabling them to thrive.

13. IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELLBEING

13.1 The SBP consider a range of crimes which are linked to health and wellbeing, including but not limited to serious violence, domestic abuse, sexual exploitation, drug supply and the trauma associated to being a victim of crime. The Integrated Care Board are a statutory partner of the Safer Bromley Partnership to ensure that the impact on the health and wellbeing of those involved affected by crime are considered and represented.

14. CUSTOMER IMPACT

The role of the Safer Bromley Partnership is to keep Bromley a safe borough for all residents, businesses and visitors.

Non-Applicable Headings:	7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14 & 15
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	<p>Bromley Community Safety Strategic Assessment Executive Summary</p> <p>Safer Bromley Strategy 2024-27</p> <p>Safer Bromley Strategy 2024-27 Plan on a Page</p> <p>Full public consultation responses</p>