

## LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

**Meeting of the Full Council**  
18<sup>th</sup> April 2005

### Report from Director of Policy and Regeneration

For action

Wards affected:  
All

### Report Title: Brent CDRP Crime, Disorder and Misuse of Drugs Strategy 2005-2008

#### 1.0 Summary

1.1 The Crime, Disorder and Misuse of Drugs Strategy gives strategic direction to the efforts of the Brent Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) over the next three years. This report seeks Members' agreement to adopt the strategy as part of the Council's Policy Framework.

#### 2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That the Council adopts the CDRP Crime, Disorder and Misuse of Drugs Strategy 2005-2008 as part of its Policy Framework.

#### 3.0 Detail

3.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a duty upon the 'responsible authorities' in each local authority area of England and Wales to: "formulate and implement a Strategy for the reduction of crime, disorder and the misuse of drugs"

The Act prescribes the process by which the Strategy will be developed. It stipulates that the responsible authorities must:

- Carry out a review of patterns of crime, disorder and the misuse of drugs in the area
- Prepare and publish an analysis of the review

- Seek the views of people and agencies in the area about the report and analysis
- ***Develop and publish a strategy identifying objectives to be pursued and long and short term targets.***

The 'responsible authorities' who are legally required to undertake this work in Brent are:

- ***Brent Council***
- Metropolitan Police Service
- Brent Teaching Primary Care Trust
- London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority
- Metropolitan Police Authority

These agencies, together with other partners such as the London Probation Service, Brent Magistrates Court, British Transport Police and representatives of the voluntary sector in Brent operate under the title of the Crime Prevention Strategy Group (CPSG) as the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership for Brent. The CPSG acts as a community safety and crime reduction strategic delivery group for the Local Strategic Partnership in Brent – known as Partners for Brent. Partners for Brent have identified the development of safer and stronger communities as one of the key themes of the community strategy and tackling crime and improving community safety is one element of this theme.

This document completes a process that began in February 2004 when the review or audit of crime in Brent was begun. A summary report called "Spotlight on Crime in Brent" was published in September 2004. In August 2004 a questionnaire on the audit and its recommendations was distributed via the Brent Magazine to 98,000 households and further copies were given out at public meetings, via the police, libraries and One Stop Shops. They were also sent to all councillors. The returned questionnaires were analysed, along with feedback from the public who attended meetings to hear about the audit.

The audit results and the feedback from the public and partners were also compared to the national crime reduction objectives and targets set by the Home Office.

All these factors were considered by the Partnership and used to develop the key targets and objectives for crime reduction in Brent for 2005-2008

3.2 This Strategy was adopted by the CPSG on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2005.

3.3 The Strategy contains the following information:

- Partnership achievements over the past three years.
- Overall strategic aims, which are to ***reduce crime and the fear of crime over the next three years.***
- Priority areas and associated targets:

- Anti-social behaviour
- Acquisitive crime
- Violent crime
- Drugs and alcohol
- Partnership development
- An explanation of delivery mechanisms for the above priorities.
- An acknowledgement of various 'cross-cutting' issues that are of relevance to all priority areas, and how those issues will be addressed.

A pictorial representation of this structure is contained in appendix A

- 3.4 The CDRP will produce an executive summary, which, along with the full document will be placed on the Community Safety web pages and the MPS website. It may also be reproduced on CD.

#### **4.0 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no additional financial implications, as costs will be borne through a combination of existing resources and external funding (Police BCU Fund and Building Safer & Stronger Communities Fund).

#### **5.0 Legal Implications**

- 5.1 The legal requirement to develop and publish a strategy is explained in the body of the report. There is an additional requirement to keep the Strategy under review in order to monitor its effectiveness and make amendments where necessary. The Strategy must also set out measurable performance targets. An operational delivery group, chaired by a member of the CPSG, will have responsibility for performance management of the Strategy
- 5.2 The Strategy forms part of the Council's Policy Framework with which all other plans, policies, strategies and decisions must (generally speaking) be compatible. Once adopted it is the responsibility of the Executive to implement the Strategy.
- 5.3 Although CPSG has adopted the Strategy, Members need to make their own decision, as part of which they must be satisfied that the Strategy addresses the issues identified in the audit/review (referred to at paragraph 3.1 above).

#### **6.0 Diversity Implications**

- 6.1 Equalities, particularly the needs of vulnerable communities, are recognized as a cross-cutting issue, which has implications across the whole of the Strategy. To ensure these issues are addressed, a member of the Community Safety Team will have responsibility for quality assuring all interventions, with lead officers held to account through the performance management framework.

## ***Background Papers***

Brent crime audit:

<http://www.brentbrain.org.uk/brain/brainzones.nsf/0/68A9C66C36CAA1C680256F190043AC0D?opendocument&Z=6>

## ***Contact Officers***

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