Welcome to the Community Safety Partnership Board Chair’s Report

We have refreshed the Chair’s Report to present news items to the Board and raise some emerging policy. In this edition I give details of the very well attended MOPAC Roadshow, and we say goodbye to Dan Hales who will be leaving in January 2015. I also discuss upcoming policy which may impact upon community safety and the way we deal with crime and disorder. I would welcome Board Members to comment on any item covered should they wish to do so.

Best wishes,
Anne Bristow, Chair of the LBBD CSP Board

Mayor’s Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) Roadshow

The Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Stephen Greenhalgh, visited the Borough on 10 November 2014 to discuss local policing following London-wide changes over the last year. The panel was chaired by the Leader of the Council, Cllr Rodwell, and included Helen King Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) Assistant Commissioner Territorial Policing and MPS Barking and Dagenham Borough Commander Andrew Ewing.

The meeting was extremely well attended, with over 80 attendees, and the panel commented that it was one of the biggest meetings hosted in London. This shows how passionately our residents feel about crime and policing. The panel also commented on how positive it was to see a group of young people at the meeting asking questions about how to get young people feeling more confident about reporting crime.

The meeting set out the changes which have been made as MOPAC have implemented the Local Policing Model (LPM) in the last year. The key MOPAC target, the 20/20/20 challenge, was outlined – reducing seven key neighbourhood, high victim crimes by 20%, increasing public confidence in the Police by 20% with a budget reduction of 20% over 4 years.

Chief Superintendent Ewing noted the strong partnership work which has taken place to reduce crime in the Borough and reported that with 18 months left of the 20/20/20 challenge; the Borough is in a very good performance position. He set out the main priorities in the Borough as domestic abuse, violence with injury and improving confidence. He noted that in early 2015 the Borough will have exceeded its full complement of Police Officers.

The meeting also discussed the successes in youth justice across London, where there have been major reductions in first time entrants to the youth justice system and a reduction in re-offending for young people leaving the youth secure estate. It was noted that the Borough’s preventative work has reduced youth offending in LBBD.
Dan Hales Leaving

Dan Hales, LBBD Group Manager Community Safety and Offender Management, will be leaving before our next CSP Board meeting. He will be taking up a role at MOPAC as Head of Strategy and Corporate Planning, which is a very exciting opportunity.

Dan took up his current post in April 2012. In the two and a half years since then the CSP has made significant reductions in crime in the Borough and Dan has played a key role in many of these successes. Dan has also taken on the role of Youth Offending Service (YOS) Manager and managed the joint service with the London Borough of Havering, contributing to the many successes and improvements which the joint service made to Havering YOS.

Dan has made a big contribution to the CSP and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all his hard work and to wish him every success in his new role. I will provide information on how Dan will be replaced in LBBD once appointments have been made.

Upcoming Policy

Unpaid Work

The Youth Justice Board (YJB) have announced that the Serco contract for Unpaid Work ends on 31 December 2014 and from 1 January 2015 the responsibility for delivering Unpaid Work will fall to local authorities. Unpaid Work Court Orders made up to this point will be delivered by Serco. £87,457, ring-fenced for two years, is being made available to YOSs to assist with funding this. Each YOS will receive a share of this fund according to Unpaid Work statistics for their area. The amount awarded will be absorbed into the YOS grant.

The London Community Rehabilitation Company has offered to deliver unpaid work from 31 December 2014 to 31 March 2015 at no additional cost to each individual YOS. LBBD have turned down this offer as the YOS Management feel that LBBD are able to deliver effective Unpaid Work from 1 January 2015.

Junior Attendance Centres (JACs)

The YJB have sent letters to Chief Executives asking if their Borough wants to take over the running of JACs from 1 April 2015. Funding from YJB to run JACs will be based on recent throughput numbers and will be protected for two years.

The YJB stated that if the Local Authority decides to take a JAC over, the Authority will have control over how they are run and who attends them. Local Authorities and YOSs which use JACs located in another (host) borough have no say in this decision, unless invited to comment by the host borough. There is no JAC in LBBD, the nearest centres are in Rainham and Stratford. A paper will be presented to the 15 December 2014 YOS COG to outline the potential impact of this change. The transfer of JACs was discussed at the 7 May 2014 YOS Chief Officer Group (COG), and partners commented that JACs are currently underused. JACs operate only on Saturday mornings and offer similar work to existing in-Borough interventions such as involvement in team sport and teaching life skills.
On 13 November 2014 the Home Office published a guide to Serious and Organised Crime Local Profiles. This provides an overview of the development, distribution and effective use of Local Profiles on serious and organised crime. The full document can be accessed at this link.

The guidance is addressed to the Police and local partnerships who should be using local profiles to inform their action to tackle serious and organised crime. The guidance reflects learning from the development of Counter-Terrorism Local Profiles.

The Home Secretary introduces the guidance by stating that the response to serious and organised crime requires focussed and coordinated action from local partnerships. The guidance recommends the creation of local profiles of serious and organised crimes so that local partnership are aware of these issues in their area and take coordinated action against them.

The guidance emphasises the four main objectives of the Serious and Organised Crime Strategy (which can be accessed at this link), which are:

- pursue – prosecuting and disrupting people engaged in serious and organised crime;
- prevent – preventing people from engaging in serious and organised crime;
- protect – increased protection against serious and organised crime; and
- prepare – reducing the impact of this criminality where it takes place.

The guidance states that Serious and Organised Crime Local Profiles should:

- develop a common understanding among partners of the threats, vulnerabilities and risks of serious and organised crime;
- provide information on which to base the local response and action plans to these crimes;
- be written by the Police, with commissioning meetings held with local partners to understand the needs of the wider partnership. Consultation on its content, direction and use should take place with the partnership at an early stage of writing;
- have its actions feed into the local multi agency programme of action. These actions should be monitored by the policing lead at local partnership group meetings;
- cover local activity linked to: trafficking of arms, people and drugs, organised illegal immigration, modern slavery, high volume fraud and financial crimes, counterfeit goods, cyber crime and child sexual exploitation; and
- be shared with and used to brief local multi-agency partnerships on the threat from serious and organised crime within a specific local area.

The guidance recommends that the Local Profile includes data from Organised Crime Group mapping, fraud and cyber crime profiles, neighbourhood profiles and maps, local authority demographics, Troubled Families programme, Ending Gang and Youth Violence programme, child exploitation analysis, National Referral Mechanism and local assessments of community tensions.
Latin American Visit to Youth Offending Service

A group of delegates made up of heads of the juvenile system of Latin American countries paid a visit to the Borough to learn firsthand about the work of Barking and Dagenham’s Youth Offending Service (YOS). Councillor Laila Butt, Cabinet Member for Crime and Enforcement welcomed the delegates who viewed a presentation from Dan Hales on Barking and Dagenham’s YOS, how it functions and its many successes.

The delegation chose Barking and Dagenham as the UK destination not just because of its successes with youth offending but also on the recommendation of colleagues from a previous visit to the borough by a delegation from Panama. In addition, the service has also hosted visits from Japan, Sweden and the European Union. Another feather in the cap for the service was its management of Havering Council’s Youth Offending Service from 2012 which saw the Havering service taken in that time to performing well, work which included a restructure and management change. These lessons are not just being shared with other authorities across the country but across the world.

Before visiting Barking and Dagenham, the Latin American delegation also visited the Youth Justice Board in London. The visit helped the delegates to find out more about different European juvenile justice systems and good practice. The visit from was sponsored by EU funding (www.programaeurosocial.eu) and facilitated by the International Observatory of Juvenile Justice.

Cllr Laila Butt, said: “It was a pleasure and honour to welcome the delegation from Latin America to Barking and Dagenham. We are proud to have held successful visits from countries across the globe and are thrilled that other countries look to Barking and Dagenham as a place in the UK where they feel they can explore practices and systems. The YOS helps to instil in our young people a sense of social responsibility and encourages them to play an active role in making our Borough a safer and more resilient place while helping young people who have committed offences to raise their aspirations. We are extremely proud that our work in Barking and Dagenham has not only been recognised nationally but also by our peers both in and outside Europe.”