

Date of meeting:	11 December 2023
Title of Report:	Serious Violence Duty – Model for Violence Prevention in Plymouth
Lead Member:	Councillor Sally Haydon (Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Libraries, Cemeteries and Crematoria)
Lead Strategic Director:	Gary Walbridge (Interim Strategic Director for People)
Author:	Laura Juett
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Your Reference:	LJ/02/11/23
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I- official

Purpose of Report

To provide an overview of the Model for Violence Prevention in Plymouth proposed by Safer Plymouth. The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 introduced a new statutory Serious Violence Duty (the Duty) that commenced on 31 January 2023. This Duty requires local areas to take co-ordinated action to prevent and reduce serious violence. To complement the Duty, the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 has been amended to ensure that Community Safety Partnerships have an explicit role in evidence based strategic action on serious violence. Local areas are required to publish a serious violence needs assessment and response strategy by the end of January 2024.

Recommendations and Reasons

That Cabinet agree to endorse Safer Plymouth's Model for Violence Prevention in Plymouth and Strategic Needs Assessment.

Reason: To work with authorities and create governance through existing partnership structures, namely Safer Plymouth This will ensure we are meeting out statutory duties, aligning resource and expertise with partners, and meeting the needs of the city.

Alternative options considered and rejected

1. Do nothing, this option was rejected as Community Safety Partnerships have a legal duty to deliver a Serious Violence Prevention Strategy, and Strategic Needs Assessment and to provide regular reporting on progress. Failure to do this could lead to the council incurring financial and legal penalties and could cause reputational damage
2. Create a stand-alone Plymouth City Council strategy, this option was rejected as this would not achieve best outcomes for residents and would not comply with the duty.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

This vision aligns with the Corporate Plan in that we are “**Working with the Police to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour**” and that we are “**Keeping children, adults and communities safe**” and that we are doing this by “**Trusting and engaging our communities**” and “**Focusing on prevention and early intervention.**”

The Council’s Corporate Plan sets out our ambition to be one of Europe’s most vibrant waterfront cities, where an outstanding quality of life is enjoyed by everyone. Taking action to eradicate violence aligns with all our corporate values;

- Democracy – because we listen and hear what people want;
- Responsibility – because we care about the impact of our decisions and actions;
- Fairness – because we want to address inequality and inequity in our city;
- Co-operation – because we achieve more together than we would alone.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

There are no financial implications linked to delivering this new duty. The OPCC holds a small amount of Home Office funding for allocation. Amounts for allocation are not yet known.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

No direct carbon/environmental impacts arising from the recommendations.

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

No other implications or adverse impacts associated with this proposal.

Appendices

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant exemption paragraph number.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Serious Violence Duty. Model for Violence							
B	Serious Violence Duty. Strategic Needs Assessment.							

Background papers:

*Add rows as required to box below

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are **unpublished** works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable)						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Sign off:

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Matt Garrett (Service Director for Community Connections)											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes Date agreed: 21/11/23											
Cabinet Member approval: Date approved: 20/11/2023 Councillor Sally Haydon (Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Libraries, Cemeteries and Crematoria)											