

REPORT TO: Safer Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 11th June 2024

REPORTING OFFICER: Executive Director - Environment and Regeneration

PORTFOLIO: Community Safety

SUBJECT: Serious Violence Duty

WARD(S) Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To present to Members the approach to Serious Violence Duty introduction led by the Police & Crime Commissioners Office (PCC).

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That Members receive the presentation and comment on any key matters.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Serious Violence Duty became a statutory requirement as of 31st January 2023, the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 has been amended to include the priority for Community Safety Partnerships and places a duty on a range of organisations to work together to have a strategy for preventing and reducing serious violence. The PCC Office has co-ordinated this work across Cheshire and developed a strategic needs assessment and strategy. Additional funding to support this area of work is also managed through the PCC Office who have commissioned services in responding to this area of work.

3.2 The PCC Office will provide an overview presentation and update on work to date including services commissioned to assist Halton responding to the objectives outlined in the strategy <https://www4.halton.gov.uk/Pages/health/healthandsocial.aspx>

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 has been amended to include the serious violence priority for Community Safety Partnerships and places a duty on a range of organisations to work together to have a strategy for preventing and reducing serious violence.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no new financial implications as a result of this report, funds to support Serious Violence Duty are received by the Police & Crime Commissioners Office who have commissioned services at County

level.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children & Young People in Halton

There is a direct causal link between children at risk of crime, involved in criminal behaviour and serious violence. The strategy and delivery plan aims to disrupt and provide diversionary activities to enable improved outcomes for young people.

6.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton

The commissioned services impact on skills development for young people in Halton.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

How safe a community is directly impacts health and wellbeing of the population. The approach and services aim to positively impact residents' wellbeing.

6.4 A Safer Halton

Levels of crime directly impacts residents, communities, neighbourhoods, and environments. The multi-agency approach to understanding and tackling challenging behaviours and criminal activity in the Borough will assist with enabling safer environments and building strong, resilient communities.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

The Enforcement responsibilities directly impact on the physical environment. The overall function strives to reduce crime, protect vulnerable residents, and create safer neighbourhoods, all of which contribute to building strong and vibrant communities.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 Failure to tackle serious violence and pro-actively work collaboratively to disrupt and improve the challenges would negatively impact the resident experience and the attractiveness of Halton.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 None to report.

9.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

9.1 None identified.

**10.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF
THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

None identified