| DECISION-MAKER: | CABINET |
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|  | COUNCIL |
| SUBJECT: | SAFE CITY STRATEGY 2022-2027 |
| DATE OF DECISION: | 14 MARCH 2022 (CABINET) |
|  | 23 MARCH 2022 (COUNCIL) |
| REPORT OF: | **COUNCILLOR VASSILIOU** |
|  | **CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES, CULTURE & HERITAGE** |

| CONTACT DETAILS | | | | |
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| **Executive Director** | **Title** | Executive Director, Communities, Culture & Homes | | |
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| STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY | | |
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| N/A | | |
| **BRIEF SUMMARY** | | |
| The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the Council to work together with representatives from the police, fire and rescue services, health, and probation to make Southampton safer. Working in partnership, these organisations must formulate and implement a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in Southampton (known as the 'Safe City Strategy'). | | |
| A new Safe City Strategy has been prepared for the period 2022-27 ("the Strategy"). The Strategy has been informed by the findings of the 2019/20 and 2020/21 Safe City Strategic Assessments as well as the annual public Community Safety Survey and sets out the priorities for keeping Southampton safe. | | |
| **RECOMMENDATIONS:** | | |
| **Cabinet** | | |
|  | (i) | To approve the final strategy and recommend the strategy is adopted at Full Council. |
| **Council** | | |
|  | (i) | To adopt the Safe City Strategy 2022-2027. |
|  | (ii) | To delegate authority to the Executive Director Communities, Culture and Homes, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Communities, Culture and Heritage, to make minor changes to the Safe City Strategy 2022-27 during its period of effect. |

| REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS | |
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| 1. | To ensure that the Safe City Partnership has a coherent and strategic approach to reducing crime and disorder in Southampton. |
| 2. | Under section 5-7 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 the Safe City Partnership (of which Southampton City Council is a statutory member) has a legal obligation to formulate and implement: <br><br> (a) a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in the area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and <br><br> (b) a strategy for combatting the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the area; and <br><br> (c) a strategy for the reduction of re-offending in the area |
| **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED** | |
| 3. | Not applicable, the Safe City Partnership is required to have a safe city strategy by law. |
| **DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)** | |
| | **Background information** |
| 4. | Community Safety Partnerships ("CSPs") were established in law under sections 5-7 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. In Southampton, the CSP is known as the 'Safe City Partnership' ("the SCP"). The SCP is managed by the Council's Stronger Communities team on behalf of the following statutory partners: <br><br> • Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary. <br> • Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service. <br> • Hampshire, Southampton and Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group. <br> • National Probation Service (Southampton). |
| 5. | In addition to the statutory partners, membership of the SCP includes organisations from the voluntary, community and business sectors, including Southampton Voluntary Services and GO! Southampton which represents the Business Improvement District. |
| 6. | The SCP is a statutory board that the Council will administer and facilitate. |
| 7. | The Strategy is aligned to the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Police & Crime Plan and also the vision for Southampton as set out in Southampton City Council's Corporate Plan. This also complements the key aims, objectives and activities of other key strategic boards, including the Childrens and Adults Safeguarding Boards, the Health and Wellbeing Board and the recently established Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership Board. |
| 8. | The current strategy was due for renewal on 2020, however this was delayed due to the pandemic and the existing strategy was extended until December 2021. |
| 9. | The SCP has identified three main priorities for keeping Southampton safe over a five-year period. These are: <br><br> Priority 1: Keeping people safe from harm; <br><br> Priority 2: Preventing and reducing offending; and <br><br> Priority 3: Creating safe and stronger communities. |

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| 10. | In order to deliver on these priorities, a series of intended outcomes have been agreed for each priority:<br><br>Priority 1: Keeping people safe from harm<br><br>• Make Southampton a place where all people feel safe.<br>• Children and young people are at the heart of our response.<br>• Ensure communities, visitors and business have the confidence and the appropriate tools to report anti-social behaviour and crime.<br>• Strengthen support for victims of domestic abuse and work together to tackle violence against women and girls.<br>• Work together to reduce modern-day slavery.<br>• Raise awareness of hate crime.<br><br>Priority 2: Preventing and reducing offending<br><br>• Improve crime prevention and reduce reoffending.<br>• Continue our public health approach to understand and tackle the underlying causes of serious violence in our city, by defining and measuring the problems, to implement effective strategies and evaluating their impact.<br>• Implement the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.<br>• Ensure rehabilitating offenders can access the support they need including on release from custody or prison.<br><br>Priority 3: Creating safe and stronger communities<br><br>• Build resilience in our residents, communities, and businesses, to build safer, stronger and more cohesive communities.<br>• Keep residents in the city safe from the risk of fire.<br>• Reduce the harm to community safety and public health from drugs, alcohol, and tobacco.<br>• Protect the most vulnerable adults in society from being scammed through financial and online crime.<br>• Develop collaborative partnerships, to support evidence-based initiatives that can help reduce the risk of crime and disorder.<br>• Develop data and intelligence gathering to enhance understanding of crime issues and community tensions.<br>• Work together to minimise the risks caused by radicalisation and extremism.<br>• Strengthen our collective responses to address all forms of anti-social behaviour across our city. |
| 11. | The Strategy has been developed by:<br><br>• Reviewing data and intelligence from the Safe City Strategic Assessments 2019/20 and 2020/21.<br>• Reviewing and integrating the aims of the Strategy with other council and partner strategies.<br>• Engagement with partners. |
| 12. | The Council undertook public consultation of the draft Strategy. This consultation took place between 10 August 2021 and 08 November 2021. The aim of this consultation was to: |

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| | <ul><li>Communicate the draft strategy clearly to residents and stakeholders.</li><li>Ensure any resident, business or stakeholder who wished to comment on the proposals had the opportunity to do so, enabling them to raise any impacts the proposals may have.</li><li>Allow participants to propose alternative suggestions for consideration which they feel could achieve the objectives in a different way.</li></ul> |
| 13. | The agreed approach for this consultation was to use an online questionnaire as the main route for feedback; questionnaires enable an appropriate amount of explanatory and supporting information to be included in a structured questionnaire, helping to ensure respondents are aware of the background and detail of the proposals. Respondents could also write letters or emails to provide feedback on the proposals; emails or letters from stakeholders that contained consultation feedback were collated and analysed as a part of the overall consultation. The consultation was promoted in the following ways:<ul><li>Promoted to the Peoples Panel (3,700 members)</li><li>Council e-bulletins</li><li>Social media channels</li><li>The link was shared with partner organisations</li></ul> |
| 14. | In total, 208 people responded to the public engagement exercise, including 179 residents and 55 respondents who work and/or study in Southampton. |
| 15. | Of those who responded, 64% felt that the draft Strategy will have a positive impact on themselves. There was high overall support for Priority 1, with 91% of respondents in agreement. There was high overall support for Priority 2, with 87% of respondents in agreement. There was high overall support for Priority 3, with 91% of respondents in agreement. A full analysis of the public engagement exercise feedback, and a record of changes made in response to the feedback, is included in the members room documents. |
| 16. | The Safe City Partnership Board will provide oversight and governance of the Strategy. The Council will monitor a range of key crime and disorder indicators on behalf of the SCP that will be available on the Council's data observatory. This data will be used to monitor progress and inform the ongoing development of actions to achieve the strategic objectives. A strategic assessment based on this data will be produced and form an annual review of the Strategy. |
| 17. | The following topics are examples of where the SCP will use data to monitor and understand the city's situation:<ul><li>Crime, volume and severity</li><li>Changes by crime type</li><li>Distribution of crime</li><li>Crime prioritisation</li><li>Victims and offenders, including equality, diversity and inclusion</li></ul> |
| 18. | Arrangements will require Leads or their designates, to attend and participate in the SCP to provide updates from:<ul><li>Youth Justice Management Board</li><li>Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership Board</li></ul> |

|  | • Violence Reduction Unit and Weapons Action Group<br>• Health and Wellbeing Board (Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco and Public Health)<br>• Southampton Safeguarding Adults Board (Modern Day Slavery) and Hampshire Modern Slavery Partnership,<br>• Hate Crime Reporting Network<br>• Southampton Prevent Partnership Board<br>• Anti-social Behaviour, Licensing and Fly-tipping<br>• Better Care Southampton<br>• Business Crime Reduction forums<br>• Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner<br>• Southampton Safeguarding Children's Partnership<br>• New Drugs Strategy Board |
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| 19. | The performance management framework for the Strategy will comprise:<br>• A dashboard of key crime and disorder indicators<br>• An annual report delivered to the Overview Scrutiny and Management Committee setting out the findings from the annual strategic assessment and update on the Safe City Partnership covering<br>    ○ delivery against the plan<br>    ○ key economic events affecting delivery, and<br>    ○ any proposed changes to the delivery plan and/or strategy |

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

**Capital/Revenue**

| 20. | The SCP currently has no dedicated budget of its own. All costs associated with facilitation, administration, analysis and communications are born by the Council alone.  This includes the annual production of a strategic assessment, community safety survey and analysis of those documents. This will come from existing budgets within Stronger Communities, Communications, and Intelligence, Innovation and Change. For the SCP's benefit we will aim to quantify those costs so the SCP can consider contributions in the future. |
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| 21. | In order that the SCP can be more agile discussions have begun with SCP partners about support for the costs of administering the SCP, in line with other statutory partnerships such as the Southampton Safeguarding Children's Partnership and Southampton Safeguarding Adults Board. |

**Property/Other**

| 22. | N/A |
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**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

**Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:**

| 23. | Under section 5-7 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 the Council has a statutory obligation to formulate and implement<br>(a) a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in the area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and |
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| | (b)a strategy for combatting the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the area; and |
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| | (c)a strategy for the reduction of re-offending in the area |

| **Other Legal Implications:** | |
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| 24. | In exercising its duties, regard will be paid to the council's obligations under the Equality Act 2010, in particular, the Public Sector Equality Duty ('PSED') set out in s 149 of the Act. An Equality and Safety Impact Assessment has been carried out supporting the proposed strategic changes and is included as an appendix. |

| **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS** | |
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| 25. | Failure to have a strategy in place would be high risk and leave the council exposed to legal challenge for non-compliance with its statutory duty to have a strategy in place as defined in sections 5-7 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. |

| **POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS** | |
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| 26. | In developing the Strategy, a review has been conducted to ensure the Strategy is in accordance with relevant Policy Framework policies and strategies. The Strategy is consistent with the council's corporate objectives as set out in the Corporate Plan 2021-2025. The Strategy also aligns with the Youth Justice Plan and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. |

| **KEY DECISION?** | **No** | |
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| **WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:** | | All |
| **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION** | | |
| **Appendices** | | |
| | None | |

**Documents In Members' Rooms**

| 1. | Southampton Safe City Strategy 2022-27 |
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| 2. | Equality and Safety Impact Assessment |
| 3. | Public Consultation Summary Report |
| 4. | Record of actions taken by the Council in response to the public consultation. |

| **Equality Impact Assessment** | |
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| **Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.** | **Yes** |
| **Data Protection Impact Assessment** | |
| **Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.** | **No** |
| **Other Background Documents** **Other Background documents available for inspection at:** | |

| Title of Background Paper(s) | Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable) |
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| 1. None | |