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SERIOUS VIOLENCE REDUCTION STRATEGY 2021/2024

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Purpose of Report:

The Partnership is asked to note the Serious Violence Strategy which sets out plans to tackle serious violence ahead of the forthcoming Serious Violence Duty.

FOR INFORMATION

Background

In April 2018, the government published its Serious Violence Strategy in response to increases in knife crime, gun crime and homicide across England. The strategy called for local partners to work together across different sectors including the police, local authorities, health services and the voluntary sector to adopt a multi-agency approach to reduce serious violence in their area.

The government announced in December 2019 that it would bring forward legislation to create a new Serious Violence Duty. This followed a consultation on the new legal duty. Section 6(1) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, which sets out the strategies that responsible authorities must formulate and implement, will also be amended to explicitly include serious violence.

The Serious Violence Duty is expected to come into effect in 2022/23. The exact date is dependent on the Parliamentary timetable however draft guidance was published in May 2021.

A new local Serious Violence Strategy (attached as an **Annex** to the report) has been developed by the MK Together Risk Board in anticipation of the new duty. Funding has been secured via the Thames Valley Violence Reduction Unit to appoint a Violence Reduction Coordinator for one year. The postholder will work with a multi-agency delivery group to progress the strategy and liaise with the Thames Valley Violence Reduction Unit on regional projects.

Background Papers:

Serious Violence Strategy

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/serious-violence-strategy>

Serious Violence Duty draft guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/serious-violence-duty-draft-guidance>