

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety

SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME STRATEGY1. Purpose of Report

To seek approval for the updated Serious and Organised Crime Strategy.

2. Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to RESOLVE that the updated Serious and Organised Crime Strategy be approved.

3. Detail

Serious and organised crime is defined in HM Government's 2018 Serious and Organised Crime Strategy as "*Individuals planning, coordinating and committing serious offences, whether individually, in groups and/or as part of transnational networks.*" The strategy goes on to state that the main categories of serious offences covered by the term are child sexual exploitation and abuse; illegal drugs; illegal firearms; fraud; money laundering and other economic crime; bribery and corruption; organised immigration crime; modern slavery and human trafficking; and cyber-crime.

According to the Government's strategy, "*serious and organised crime affects more UK citizens, more often, than any other national security threat and leads to more deaths in the UK each year than all other national security threats combined. It costs the UK at least £37 billion annually. It has a corrosive impact on our public services, communities, reputation and way of life.*"

Although the National Crime Agency leads the UK's fight to cut serious and organised crime, it is essential that the approach involves action and input from all relevant partner agencies. Public sector organisations and law enforcement agencies, including councils, police, health, social care, education services and immigration enforcement, have a duty to protect the wellbeing of their local communities.

The updated strategy, attached as an appendix 1 to this report along with the change table attached at appendix 2, sets out the actions Broxtowe Borough Council will take to contribute to the targeting and disruption of serious and organised crime.

4. Financial Implications

The comments from the Head of Finance Services were as follows:

There are no additional financial implications for the Council with any costs being contained within existing budgets

5. Legal Implications

The comments from the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal Services were as follows:

Whilst there are no direct legal implications that arise from this report, it is important to note that the law makes available a broad set of powers to prosecute and punish individuals for committing any of the criminal offences that could be considered as serious or organised crime and the importance to be aware of the legal powers that are available and are used to deal with the threat from serious and organised crime

6. Human Resources Implications

The comments from the Human Resources Manager were as follows:

N/A

7. Union Comments

The Union comments were as follows.

8. Data Protection Compliance Implications

There are no data protection issues.

9. Equality Impact Assessment

An Equalities Impact assessment is included as appendix 3 to this report.

10. Background Papers

Nil.