



haringey strategic partnership

**Meeting:** Safer Communities Executive Board  
**Date:** 17 February 2011  
**Report Title:** Project Progress Report April – December 2010  
**Report of:** Claire Kowalska, Community Safety Strategic Manager

**1. Purpose of the report (That is, the decision required)**

To inform the board of progress against agreed actions and projects

**2. State link(s) with Other Plan Priorities and actions and /or other Strategies:**

- 2.1. Addressing the prevention and reduction of crime, the fear of crime, the harm caused by drugs and alcohol and anti-social behaviour are all key parts of the cleaner, greener and safer priority. Collectively, these remain top priorities for residents

**3. Recommendations**

That SCEB note delivery successes and outstanding actions

**1. Acquisitive Crime**

**Key actions delivered (successes):**

Most actions are ongoing. Particular successes include:

- The police rapid response to robbery via the Q-car operation, which remains a successful and critical intervention
- Dynamic after school patrols as part of the Youth Crime Action Plan. These are intelligence led and are carried out on a weekly basis
- Establishment of a forum to cover the sharing of information and actions concerning rogue landlords (as an anti-burglary measure)
- Delivery of seasonal and targeted anti-burglary communications information.

**Actions outstanding:**

- Evaluations: specifically, to review and assess the impact of communication campaigns, crime prevention advice and use of tools such as Hermes to upload data on equipment to the database. Also, to review and assess the impact of 2010/11 target hardening projects by March 2011.
- To access relevant local and national resources to support targeted crime prevention
- The development of a motor vehicle crime awareness pack to be delivered to residents in major motor vehicle crime hotspots

#### **Emerging issues and future priorities:**

- Funding to continue use of technology (Hermes) to register items liable to theft is in jeopardy for 2011/12
- Future TKAP funding remains uncertain and after school patrols are resourced from this pot
- Acquisitive crime is starting to rise in line with economic hardship and rises in unemployment. Further increases may be seen as changes occur to the benefit system
- Responses to acquisitive crime will continue to require a holistic and collective approach. The forthcoming single Frontline Service under the Council's Directorate of Place and Sustainability will offer opportunities.

## **2. Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)**

#### **Key actions delivered (successes):**

- Targeted Neighbourhood action: The Haringey Officers Tasking Group (HOT) meets monthly where intelligence and cross-cutting issues are discussed and multi-action action is tasked
- Area-based working groups have strengthened partnership working and joint problem solving around AASB
- Tools and powers training: April – May 2010: Training was provided for approximately 150 LA, Homes for Haringey and Police staff. 'What Have You Done Today' outlining the importance of sharing information with relevant agencies and responding promptly to ASB and harassment.
- The Strategic and Community Housing Team has developed a 'Houses in Multiple Occupancy' (HMO) licensing scheme for the Haringay Ward and part of St Ann's. This will make it an offence not to have a licence for any type of HMO and ensure that the landlord (LL) is compliant. Formal endorsement of the scheme is envisaged April/May 2011 and should be operational three months later. Consultation is currently taking place.
- The partnership provided a dedicated ASB Victims & Witnesses service in court for the first time. Continuation of this service is subject to a bidding process and Haringey is working with Victim Support to prepare applications.

- The ASBAT case team continues its positive record on early intervention and outstanding success in court

#### **Actions outstanding:**

- Parenting: This programme has been adversely affected due to the loss of the two parenting support workers in March this year. The programme is still delivering the 13 week parenting programme but there is no 1-2-1 support available for months after finishing the programme. 160 Parents have now gone through the programme. The Parenting Support worker is only funded until March 2011 via the Department of Education.
- Citizenship: This programme no longer exists as it had to be cancelled due to the loss of funding and subsequently the support workers who delivered this.
- The Community Call to Action: A query concerning this has been emailed to both the Home Office and London ASB Board relating to current best practice/statutory requirements. Hounslow has been cited as a best practice example and we await their feedback although this approach may now prove outdated with the introduction of elected Police and Crime Commissioners.

#### **Emerging issues and future priorities:**

Home Office Business Plan (2011-2015) - November 2010 aims to:

- Simplify and improve anti-social behaviour powers so that the police, local authorities and others have tools that are effective, inexpensive and easy to use, providing a real deterrent. Consultation on proposals will take place during the second half of 2011.
- Community Budgets: The Secretary of State for Communities announced during October 2010 the first 16 areas and their partners that will be put in charge of 'Community Budgets', pooling various strands of Whitehall funding into a single 'local bank account' for tackling social problems around families with complex needs. The 16 pilots are understood to have been selected on the basis that they have demonstrated strong local relationships involving communities, the voluntary sector and public sector players. Haringey was not selected but it will be interesting to see what comes of this, as it has a wide remit. It is anticipated that this funding will be rolled out nationally from 2013-14.
- Mental Health: The Anti-social Behaviour Action Team (ASBAT) is required to protect the community from serious ASB issues, some of which are being caused by mental health patients. Where legal proceedings are undertaken, it is a requirement to obtain a current assessment of the patient from the consultant in charge. On a few occasions there have been long delays in obtaining the information required. There have also been times when the information has never been received and there is a general lack of engagement. In the meantime, the ASB Partnership Board will focus on mental health at its next meeting.

### **3. Drugs and Alcohol (Drug and Alcohol Action Team – DAAT)**

#### **Key actions delivered (successes):**

- This year the DAAT has embedded the new Offender Management Service that was re-tendered last year and has also successfully re-tendered the Young People's Substance Misuse Service, in conjunction with the Children's Service.
- The borough had an excellent 6-month review by the National Treatment Agency (NTA). The borough's treatment agencies are in the top 10% in the region for successful treatment exits, which will become a key measure in the future.
- There is a new safeguarding policy and process for adult drug treatment workers to use when assessing substance misuse clients who have contact with children. A new assessment tool has been devised and rolled out for carers of substance misusers to ensure they get the support they require.
- The DAAT has rolled out the use of brief interventions with alcohol users in GP surgeries.

#### **Actions outstanding:**

- The DAAT is in line to complete its treatment plan for 2010/11. However, an Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) will need to be done to identify the impact of the loss of COSMIC services on Hidden Harm, due to the loss of ABG funding in 2011.

#### **Emerging issues and future priorities:**

- The emerging issues for the DAAT are the changes in policy and reduction in funding from the Coalition Government. The new Drugs Strategy, resulting in a wider remit, the changes in the NHS and Public Health and the government's white paper "Breaking the Cycle: Effective Punishment, Rehabilitation and Sentencing of Offenders" will create an environment of increasing demand with fewer resources.
- Haringey has yet to finalise a Reducing Re-offending Strategy and make a reality of Integrated Offender Management (IOM). This is currently underway and a partnership decision has been made to move towards IOM
- There is a gap around brief and early interventions with alcohol-related violent offenders. This may be a priority action for next year

### **4. Domestic Violence and Gender Based Crime**

#### **Key actions delivered (successes):**

- Seminar on Trafficking and Domestic Servitude:

International Days of Action for Violence Against Women were marked in late November with an afternoon seminar on trafficking and domestic servitude. Contributions were made by speakers from 4 key national agencies, such as the Principal Officer from the Vulnerable Persons Team in the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA). The seminar was attended by over 60 people from local partner organisations.

- Specialist Domestic Violence Court (SDVC):  
A pilot Specialist Domestic Violence Court has been operational in Haringey since October 2009 and it is held on every Tuesday at the Highgate Magistrates' Court. This court model was reviewed by the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) in September but the accreditation process nationally has been postponed and we await the results.
- "I SHALL SURVIVE":  
"I SHALL SURVIVE" a practical guide to domestic & gender based violence in Haringey has been revised and updated and the 8th Edition was launched this autumn and is available on the Council's website.
- Rape Crisis Serviced Launched:  
In December a new Rape Crisis Service was launched. Haringey Council is one of 8 north London boroughs to run Rape Crisis services with the work centrally co-ordinated by an existing women's service provider funded by the GLA. This means that women in north London will not have to travel across boroughs but can access services locally. Services are provided in Haringey from Children's Centres.
- The Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) focusing on victims of domestic violence continues to meet once a month and has developed an updated operational protocol.

**Actions outstanding:**

None reported.

**Emerging issues and future priorities:**

Loss of funding:

Haringey Council and partners are currently bidding for additional Home Office funding to support Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVAs), Independent Sexual Violence Advocates (ISVAs) and a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) coordinator. However, all this new funding must be supported by matched funding which is a challenge at this time; existing funding and resources are being used to support bids.

The ABG grant funded a significant range of projects and partnership support work in the borough around domestic violence. This is no longer available despite these offences remaining a priority.

## **5. Other Violent Crime**

### **Key actions delivered (successes):**

The focus of this year's work has been on the Gang Action Group (GAG) outcomes and it is widely believed that this work has played a major part in substantially reducing the most serious violence in the borough through:

- A cross-borough approach and sharing of information and expertise
- A multi-agency focus on 20 key individuals
- 7 ASBOs
- Successful referrals to family intervention and youth inclusion projects
- Intensive support in the community

### **Actions outstanding:**

- The Group Co-ordinator is in the process of organising a Professional Networking Event for the Haringey and Enfield GAG. The idea is to promote multi-agency intelligence sharing, cross-borough input and reduce duplication. In addition, the professionals involved are being encouraged to invite colleagues to attend. The work of the GAG will, therefore, have wider recognition and place it in a more resilient position to sustain the work.
- A further priority is to further improve information sharing with A&E departments. The group coordinator has now established a link with the Whittington Hospital and colleagues from the Violence and Alcohol Harm Reduction section of the Department of Health. The information sharing is due to be in place by April 2011. It is envisaged that this will include information about incident type, weapons, time and location of assaults, repeat victimisation and police involvement.

### **Emerging issues and future priorities:**

The emerging issue remains the future of the partnership group, attendance and engagement especially if current roles are discontinued or altered in future.

## **6. Youth Offending Service (YOS)**

### **Key actions delivered (successes):**

The Triage scheme became fully operational in August 2009. The aim of the scheme is to divert young people arrested for low level offences from the youth justice system – this means that they do not have a

criminal conviction, which can be a barrier in later life. It also reduces the number of young people in the youth justice system. Haringey has always had a high number of first time entrants to the youth justice system, but the expected outturn for 2010-11 is now 181 against an annual target of 422. This represents a 38% reduction on the previous year and coincides with the Triage scheme becoming operational. The majority of the offences are theft (shoplifting) and the second highest offence is possession of cannabis. These young people are referred to the YOS substance misuse workers for further assessment and drug education. To date, 251 young people have been referred to the scheme.

### **Actions outstanding:**

Attention is needed to address a reduction in the number of young people in full time, suitable education training and employment as this is a major risk factor in relation to offending. Resources in this area have already been reduced as Connexions workers are no longer based in the YOS and only one ETE mentor is currently operating rather than two. Now that Triage has been operational for some 18 months, further work is needed to analyse any subsequent offending of those “triaged” in order to improve practice in the future.

### **Emerging issues and future priorities:**

- The Youth Justice Board (YJB) is to be abolished and the functions moved to the Ministry of Justice. There is likely to be a new performance framework which will determine priorities for 2011. Reducing the number of first time entrants, reducing offending and reducing the use of custody are likely to be the main focus areas. Currently there is already pressure to reduce the number of young people in custody in order to reduce costs. Haringey's custody rate has remained fairly steady over the years against a background of increasingly serious offences being committed.
- Funding for the YOS is still unknown but will come to the Local Authority via the YJB as a new Youth Justice Grant. The grant will not be ring-fenced but the expectation is that it should be spent on youth justice services. A new national funding formula will be drawn up in 2011 to be in place by 2012. The YOS will be re-structured once the full funding is known to focus on statutory cases with the resultant loss of the prevention work. The Green Paper on 'Breaking the Cycle' has now been published for consultation and the section on youth justice is largely positive. The YOS will contribute to the LA response, but will need to be mindful that any suggestions in relation to future work will have to be at nil cost.