

**Report for:** Environment & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel, September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020

**Item number:** 8

**Title:** Young People at Risk Strategy Update

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**Ward(s) affected:** All

**Report for Key/  
Non Key Decision: Non Key Decision**

### **1. Describe the issue under consideration**

This report provides an update to the Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel regarding the Young People at Risk Strategy 2019-29, which was approved by Cabinet in March 2019. It sets out progress made in the delivery of commitments made in the strategy and the Young People at Risk Action Plan and in terms of governance arrangements.

### **2. Recommendations**

That the Panel note the contents of this report for information

### **3. Background information**

The Haringey Young People at Risk Strategy was approved by Cabinet in March 2019. It represents an extensive programme of activity across the whole partnership, including the police, schools, health providers, and community groups, the overarching objective of which is to reduce and prevent serious youth violence in the borough. It adopts a public health model, designed to address the risk factors that may make young people more vulnerable to involvement in violent crime while building the protective factors that keep them safe and prioritising preventative and early interventions.

An Action Plan was noted alongside the strategy at Cabinet, which sets out the partnership's medium-term priorities and the actions that will be taken forward to work towards the strategy's long-term outcomes. These range across the partnership and include Council-led and partner-led activity.

Both the strategy and the action plan, including the long-term outcomes and medium-term priorities, were informed by extensive engagement with partners and young people in Haringey.

## Youth Violence in Haringey

In the 12 months to July 2020, there were 283 victims of serious youth violence in Haringey. While any number is too high, this figure represents a decrease on the previous year, in line with other London boroughs.

Haringey now ranks fifth among the 32 London boroughs in terms of the number of serious youth violence victims. Enfield is first, followed by Westminster, Southwark, and Newham.

Rank	Borough (Year to July 2019)	Borough (Year to July 2020)
1	Westminster	Enfield
2	Enfield	Westminster
3	Haringey	Southwark
4	Newham	Newham
5	Southwark	Haringey

A significant proportion of the reduction in serious youth violence is attributable to Covid-19 and the lockdown. There are early indications of increases in some crime types correlating with easing of lockdown restrictions. Analysis is ongoing under the auspices of the North Area Violence Reduction Group, which comprises representatives of North Area BCU, Haringey Council, Enfield Council, and partners.

## Covid-19

The Covid-19 outbreak and the lockdown have disrupted delivery of the Young People at Risk Action Plan in recent months. Much activity that was previously face-to-face has been temporarily halted. Nevertheless, partners have continued to deliver as much as possible, making adaptations where possible. Notable examples of delivery during the Covid-19 period include the following:

- Haringey Community Gold has continued to deliver support remotely and online
- The team at Bruce Grove Youth Space have developed a critical list of young people who use the centre and have maintained frequent phone contact with them. The team has also been providing food vouchers to those in need and held virtual open access sessions on cookery, fitness, and music production
- Primary to secondary transition sessions for Year 6 pupils have been held via Zoom
- Recruitment of apprentices to the Council has continued, with onboarding and induction happening remotely
- Professional training on topics such as mental health and substance use is now being delivered online

## Delivery

The Young People at Risk Action Plan commits partners to delivering an ambitious range of activity. Delivery of the Young People at Risk Action Plan is co-ordinated through an Operational Group, chaired by the Assistant Director for Stronger Communities and consisting of officers from Council services responsible for delivering projects noted in the Action Plan.

This section provides an overview of the outputs and outcomes of key programmes and projects over the first year of the Action Plan's timeframe:

- Haringey Community Gold
  - The detached and outreach youth work team has engaged with over 1,800 young people in Haringey. Over 1,000 of those young people have taken part in a positive activity
  - 472 young people have been engaged through school-based workshops, reducing their risk of exclusion
  - 147 young people have completed a course or training, increasing their employability. An additional 13 were engaged in internships that were put on hold due to Covid-19
  - 39 young people have secured paid employment with support from Haringey Community Gold
  - Sports provision at Broadwater Community Centre has seen at least 50 young people participating every week
  - Haringey Play activity at Sommerford Grove site in Tottenham has seen 100 young people participating every week
  - The Thinking Space project has completed its first cohort of mental health training for professionals working with young people in Haringey
  - 70% of the young people known to the Haringey Exploitation Panel are being supported by HCG youth workers
  - Haringey Community Gold has worked with over 50 children at the Octagon PRU since the programme started. The team also had regular contact with 30 students from Octagon during lockdown
- CAMHS Trailblazer
  - Mild to moderate mental health services provided in 36 schools in the East of the borough
  - 179 young people supported individually, 255 supported in group interventions, and 103 parents supported in group interventions
  - CAMHS waiting times have reduced. BEHMHT see 49% CYP seen within 4 weeks of referral to treatment (increase of 22% from April 2019)
  - Expansion underway of Kooth online counselling for 11-18 year olds and those aged 19-25 with SEN
- Community Parenting Support
  - The Council and Bridge Renewal Trust were awarded a grant from MHCLG to develop a comprehensive programme of support for children, young people and families affected by serious youth violence. 12 programmes have been delivered over the last year including community engagement activities, mediation, whole family mental health support, Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities parenting programme, peer support groups, parents together, domestic violence and abuse

- programmes, targeted fathers support group. A full evaluation will be completed at the end of the programme.
  - A lead officer is in the planning stages to roll out the Caring Dads Programme, which was delayed due to COVID-19. 10 facilitators have been trained. The programme will take place in the evenings in Tottenham.
  - A parent champion programme has been rolled out in the Children's Centres. There have been two successful training and development days.
- Summer Programme
  - The Council and partners delivered a Summer Programme through July and August. Covid-19 meant that it was not possible to use leisure centres, but good use has been made of the borough's parks.
  - The 2020 Summer Programme is currently being evaluated. A report will be presented to senior officers and Members in October.
- Alternative Provision Review
  - Cabinet agreed in March 2020 to implement the recommendations of the Alternative Provision review. The Cabinet report and the Model for Change are accessible here: <https://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=118&MID=9158#A163769>
- Youth Homelessness
  - The Housing First service for care leavers and the Family Mediation service have both commenced delivery
  - The Housing First team are supporting several at-risk care leavers
  - The Family Mediation service has been engaged in 21 cases of family difficulties and prevented 16 instances of youth homelessness

## Feedback

An innovative aspect of the Haringey Community Gold programme has been an adaptive approach to young people's needs, interests, and feedback. This ensures the programme can reach the young people most in need.

Haringey Community Gold partners have received positive feedback from young people:

"A Youth Worker got me an interview at Sainsburys, and I got the job!!" - T, 17

"Today was fun and exciting because I got to speak about my thoughts and emotions out loud and got to learn a lot of new things" - S, 13

"I learnt today that I can't take money from people I don't know because they give you money and want something back. I want to learn more from the Community Gold team" - R, 13

“Today I learnt to hang around the right people. I learnt what to do in pressurising situations” – L, 15

“Today I have learnt what to do and what not to do in my life” – O, 13

“Today I learnt to make good choices in life and be careful. I am pleased I attended the session because it was fun” – N, 13

### Case Study: M

#### **Overview before Haringey Community Gold Engagement:**

M is a 17-year-old who was referred to Children’s Services after being arrested. M was at risk of being asked to leave college due to low attendance, behavioural issues, and difficulties with authority figures. Children’s Services asked the Haringey Community Gold Outreach Team to support M.

#### **Haringey Community Gold engagement:**

M met with the HCG Specialist Detached Outreach Worker in a community youth space to discuss how M could be supported. M wanted to be supported to find employment and so the outreach workers supported to attend training and employment workshops, and once M had begun applying for work, to attend job interviews. During this time, M became able to talk about how he wanted to make changes to his life.

M improved his attendance at college and enrolled for another year. Through liaison with the outreach worker and college, M was able to access support for learning needs and was offered a referral to a mental health service that offers mentoring. M has been engaging with this support and the mentoring has been supporting M to find employment and to further build his confidence.

### Case Study: D

#### **Overview before Haringey Community Gold Engagement:**

D is 17 years old, has been known to Children’s Services, and was a looked after child. D engaged with Haringey Community Gold through street outreach and wanted to find employment.

#### **Haringey Community Gold engagement:**

D attended HCG training and employment workshops and secured paid employment. D contacted a Specialist Detached Outreach Worker a few months later to say that she had had to leave her home. The outreach worker referred D to the MASH for housing support. The outreach worker supported D to source emergency accommodation and then a more stable placement.

D has been residing out-of-borough in semi-independent accommodation. The outreach worker has facilitated regular contact between D and other professionals. D has engaged with NHS mental health provision.

## Funding Bids

The Council has recently been successful in securing over £500,000 in funding from the Department for Education for a team manager and seven social workers to work in our schools in Haringey. The initiative, led by the What Works Centre, aims to embed social workers in secondary schools to reduce referral rates to children's social care, reduce the number of children in care, and improve educational attainment. Haringey's bid was overseen by the Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care and the project will be operational from September 2020.

The Council is currently working with colleagues from North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust on a bid to the Healthy Communities Together Fund, a partnership initiative between the King's Fund and the National Lottery Community Fund. The proposed project will support families with young children in Edmonton and North Tottenham who are disadvantaged or at risk of adverse childhood experiences. It represents an early intervention approach to address risk factors for involvement in youth violence that may occur within families and therefore a long-term measure to prevent youth violence and increase young people's life chances.

## Governance

A Joint Executive Group lead the delivery of the Young People at Risk Strategy across the partnership. The Group is chaired by the Director of Children's Services and other members include:

- The Cabinet Member for Communities and Equalities,
- The Cabinet Member for Children, Education, and Families
- The Assistant Director for Commissioning
- The Assistant Director for Stronger Communities
- Metropolitan Police North Area BCU Borough Commander
- Representatives from Haringey CCG, Barnet Enfield Haringey Mental Health Trust, North Middlesex Hospital NHS Trust, Haringey Education Partnership, Haringey Primary and Secondary schools, Homes for Haringey, and Bridge Renewal Trust

The Group has continued to meet through the Covid-19 outbreak in order to promote the safety of Haringey's young people across the partnership and plan and co-ordinate joint initiatives.

## **4. Contribution to strategic outcomes**

The Young People at Risk strategy supports the following Haringey Borough Plan (2019-23) outcomes:

- **Best Start in Life:** The first few years of every child's life will give them the long-term foundations to thrive
- **Happy Childhood:** All children across the borough will be happy and healthy as they grow up, feeling safe and secure in their family, networks and communities

- Every young person, whatever their background, has a pathway to success for the future
- All residents will be able to live free from the fear of harm
- Strong communities where people look out for and care for one another
- A proud, resilient, connected, and confident place
- A safer borough

Haringey works in partnership with the Mayor of London's administration to tackle youth violence through liaison and joint working with the Mayor's Office of Police and Crime and the Metropolitan Police Service. The strategy fully aligns with the Mayor's Knife Crime Strategy and is integrated with the North Area Violence Reduction Plan

**5. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)**

**Finance**

N/A

**Procurement**

N/A

**Legal**

N/A

**Equality**

N/A

**6. Use of Appendices**

Appendix 1: Haringey Young People at Risk Strategy 2019-29

Appendix 2: Haringey Young People at Risk Action Plan 2019-23

**7. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**