

Report for: Community Safety Partnership, October 19th 2020

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

Report

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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 Community Safety Partnership 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

1. That the CSP note the contents of this report for information
2. That CSP members consider how they can contribute to a refreshed Young People at Risk Action Plan

3. Background information

The Haringey Young People at Risk Strategy was approved by Cabinet in March 2019. It represents a whole-systems approach to reducing and preventing serious youth violence in the borough, including the police, schools, health providers, and community groups. 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 actions that work towards the strategy's long-term outcomes. These 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](#)

After remaining stable for the 12 months following the approval of the strategy, levels of youth violence decreased sharply from March 2020. A significant proportion of the reduction is attributable to Covid-19 and the lockdown. There are indications of increases in crime correlating with easing of lockdown restrictions, but levels of serious youth violence remain below 2019 levels.

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 programme is currently being evaluated, but early data analysis suggests a good level of engagement considering the context of ongoing Covid-19-related restrictions
- 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

Funding Bids

The Council has recently been successful in securing over £500,000 in funding from the Department for Education for the Social Workers in Schools (SWIS) programme. A team manager and seven social workers will work in our schools in Haringey 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 has been 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.

The Council is also working with colleagues in the NHS and the voluntary sector and with counterparts in Enfield to develop a bid to develop a VCS-led bid to the Department of Health and Social Care's Health and Wellbeing Fund. This fund seeks to build on existing provision to support community projects aimed at tackling obesity, reducing smoking and improving learning among mothers and young babies.

The Council is currently working with colleagues in the VCS to submit a bid to the 'My Ends' programme, administered by the Mayor of London's Violence Reduction Unit. The programme is looking to provide support, capacity, and funding for locally-designed interventions run by VCS consortia in neighbourhoods affected by high and sustained levels of violence.

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, BEH 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.

Action Plan

It is important that the Young People at Risk Action Plan reflects the collective work of the whole local partnership to prevent and reduce serious youth violence. In this way we can build on successes, identify gaps, and ensure that we are delivering the right support for our young people.

The Council is keen to refresh the Action Plan to reflect changes that have taken place since March 2019. Our ambition is for a refreshed Action Plan to include new introductions from the Cabinet Member for Communities and the Borough Commander, updating the introductions that accompanied the original strategy in March 2019. In this way we hope to clearly articulate our ambitions for our young people, our approach, and our plan for delivery.

Community Safety Partnership members are therefore asked to consider:

- 1. What ongoing activities could be included in the refreshed Action Plan?**
- 2. What new or planned activities could be included?**
- 3. What could we plan together in order to strengthen the local response to serious youth violence?**

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