

**Title:** Haringey Crime and Violence Overview March 2025

**Report**

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**Ward(s) affected:** Key crime wards

**Report for Key/**

**Non Key Decision:** Non key decision

**1. Crime, Clear-Hold-Build and Borough-Wide Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)**

1.1 This report should be read in conjunction with the presentation attached. The presentation shows Haringey's crime and violence performance, including key wards and seasonal trends.

1.2 Overall, just over 28,000 crimes were recorded in the borough in the 12-month period to January 2025, which is a 6% reduction compared to the previous year. London as a whole experienced a 2% increase in crime.

1.3 Reductions have been noted in a number of key crime types, including knife crime, robbery and violence with injury.

1.4 The 'Clear-Hold-Build' initiative is currently running in Northumberland Park and in Finsbury Park (tri-borough Clear-Hold-Build area).

1.5 Clear-Hold-Build - Northumberland Park

Operation Pisces is the 'clear' phase of the Clear Hold Build project in Northumberland Park and Edmonton and began on the 1st June 2024. Serious and organised crime threats exist around drugs, gang violence and sex work.

To date there have been a total of 424 arrests which includes, 8 for firearms offences, 13 for burglary, 9 for robbery, 7 for sexual offences, 123 for drugs offences and a total of 67 for knife or weapons offences.

There is a downward trend in total crime after the start of Op Pisces in NA BCU. The total number of crimes in December 2024 (4283) has only been lower during the COVID period in the last 5 years. The December total is 706 crimes lower than the May 2024 total when Op Pisces started.

As we move towards the end of Op Pisces (planned for the end of March) we will then end the 'Clear' phase and officially move into the 'Hold' phase, where we work far more collaboratively with partners to prevent crime returning to the area.

#### 1.6 Love Finsbury Park

A coalition of local authorities, police and partner organisations have worked together for over a year to significantly reduce violent crime, robbery and burglary in the Finsbury park area.

Love Finsbury Park was launched on 6 December 2023 as a partnership between the Metropolitan Police, British Transport Police, three local authorities and other organisations determined to work together and make the area safer.

In the project's first year, violent crime, robbery and burglary have significantly reduced in the Finsbury Park area, including:

32% reduction in Robbery

21% reduction in Violence with Injury.

16% reduction in non-residential burglary; and

4% reduction in residential burglary.

During the year, officers from the Met and British Transport Police made over 600 arrests as the number of police patrols in the area was significantly increased. Local authority 'Parkguard' staff also supported with patrols in Finsbury Park itself.

Police officers have seized a significant number of weapons, stolen phones and drugs, as well as locating individuals in the area who were wanted on warrant for previous offences.

#### 1.7 Public Spaces Protection Order - (PSPO)

The borough-wide PSPO was agreed upon at the Cabinet meeting on 10 December 2024. This decision builds on the success of the borough's existing PSPOs in addressing anti-social behaviour (ASB) and reflects extensive consultation with residents and stakeholders.

The borough-wide PSPO extends measures that have proven effective in 11 pre-existing PSPO areas to cover the entirety of Haringey.

It is designed to tackle specific behaviours that negatively impact public spaces, including alcohol-related ASB, public urination, defecation, and other nuisance activities.

The PSPO ensures consistent enforcement across the borough and mitigates the risk of ASB displacement both within Haringey and from neighbouring boroughs with borough-wide PSPOs.

### PSPO Prohibitions

**Prohibition 1** - Consuming intoxicating liquor (alcohol) in a public place and acting in a manner that is causing or is likely to cause alarm, harassment or distress, commits an offence.

**Prohibition 2** - This relates to the offence of fouling of land by dogs. The public health implications of dog fouling are well documented.

Exemptions: This prohibition is not to be enforced against  
A person who is registered as a blind person in a register compiled under section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948; or  
a person with a disability that affects their mobility, manual dexterity, physical coordination, ability to lift, carry or otherwise move everyday objects, who are in charge of an assistance dog trained by a relevant charity.

**Prohibition 3** - Any person who urinates in a public space, in the restricted area, without reasonable excuse, commits an offence.

Exemptions: This prohibition is not to be enforced against a person who is verified street homeless and/or any person who has a mental or physical condition, which would prevent them from being able to adhere to this restriction

**Prohibition 4** - Any person who defecates in a public space, in the restricted area, without reasonable excuse, commits an offence.

Exemptions: This prohibition is not to be enforced against a person who is verified street homeless and/or any person who has a mental or physical condition, which would prevent them from being able to adhere to this restriction

**Prohibition 5** - Any person who rides a bicycle, moped, e-scooter or e-bike on pavements or footpaths, in the restricted area, in a dangerous or reckless manner, that is likely to cause obstruction, alarm, distress or annoyance to members of the public or cause criminal damage by their use, commits an offence.

Exemptions: This prohibition is not to be enforced against any electrically powered scooter designed for people with restricted mobility, including those who are elderly or disabled person, children. Discretion will be used if cyclists lack confidence to ride on the road or are intimidated by traffic.

**Prohibition 6** - Any person who lights a firework in any public space in the restricted area commits an offence unless that person or organisation, has a licence or appropriate authorisation, from Haringey Council permitting this to happen in that location.

### Success of existing PSPOs

Haringey had 11 PSPOs in place, addressing alcohol-related ASB and other issues in specific areas. Due to the niche nature of some PSPOs (e.g., individual roads), proxy zones were used to assess overall trends.

Analysis of four proxy zones—Noel Park, Northumberland Park, Seven Sisters, and Tottenham Green—demonstrates:

27% reduction in alcohol-related ASB incidents (2023–2024).

6% increase in non-PSPO areas, highlighting the effectiveness of PSPO enforcement and the need for broader coverage.

## 1.8 Phone Thefts/Snatches

Phone thefts/snatches are a significant challenge for all London boroughs. Through the Partnership Problem Solving Group (PPSG); monthly Precision Crime Fighting Forum (PCFF) and North Area Violence Reduction Group (NAVRG) we work in partnership with the police and other key partners to identify priority crime hotspots in Haringey and work collaboratively to reduce and mitigate the impact of mobile phone snatches on our communities.

Over the years we have seen some significant success in reducing phone snatches (most notably Tottenham Hale), however we are noting recent increases in some locations in the borough relating to this type of offending.

To counter this, we are working with the police to support their look up, look out campaign: (<https://www.met.police.uk/police-forces/metropolitan-police/areas/campaigns/2020/look-up-look-out/>)

This provides for pavement stencilling outside of tube stations, bus stops etc and is designed to encourage people to keep their phones out of sight.

The MPS announced in early Feb 2025 that they are cracking down on recent nation increases in mobile phone thefts/snatches:

(<https://news.met.police.uk/news/met-seizes-one-thousand-stolen-phones-in-a-week-493558>)

## 2. **Young People at Risk Strategy**

2.1 In 2019, Haringey launched a ten-year Young People at Risk Strategy (Refer to Appendix B: [Haringey Young People at Risk Strategy 2019- 2029](#)) that set out our long term approach to reducing youth violence in the borough. The Young People at Risk Strategy sets out our commitment to use data to understand the scale of youth violence as well as the wider context that can both drive young people towards, and protect them from, risk.

2.2 The Young People at Risk Partnership Network (YPAR) is made up of a range of partners who have a key role and remit in working together to protect children and young people from serious youth violence. The YPAR Partnership Network has been meeting over the past 18 months to:

- a) foster collaboration between those affected by, or working closely with residents affected by, youth violence. Including: children and young people, community practitioners, schools, council officers, health staff and police,
- b) Centre children and young people, families, and communities in our approach to youth violence,
- c) Share good practice, build on progress and celebrate success,
- d) Promote funding bids and encourage opportunities for organisations to do collaboration on bids,
- e) Build a sustainable and agile partnership approach to community/critical incidents, with the aim of reducing serious youth violence,
- f) Share and gain an understanding of the relevant serious youth violence data intelligence within Haringey and identify specific hotspots and need for services.

2.3 We are now in the second half of the life cycle of the strategy and one year into the second action plan covering the period 2023-2026 and has 20 priorities for action captured across five outcome areas: (Refer to Appendix C: [Haringey Young People at Risk Action Plan 2023- 2026](#))

- Communities
- Families
- Mental Health
- High Achievement and Opportunity (Education, Employment and Training)
- Reduction in Serious Youth Violence

2.4 This Young People at Risk Annual Impact Report 2023-2024 (Refer to Appendix D: [Haringey Young People at Risk Annual Impact Report 2023-2024](#)) captures the key data (pages 22- 20) and some delivery successes which includes case studies and initiatives of the past year since the new action plan was launched (pages 13 – 21). This is the first of three annual Impact reports that will capture progress of this current action plan, following this the learning from these impact reports will be used to develop the third and final action plan of the ten-year strategy.

2.5 Since the launch of the strategy in 2019, the data has moved positively in support of the core objective of the Young People at Risk strategy: to reduce serious youth violence in Haringey. The data shows that between 2019 and 2021, the number of

'Serious Youth Violence', 'Robbery of Personal Property' and 'Knife Crime' incidents, all key crime statistics reflecting youth violence levels in the borough, fell significantly. There has also been a positive reduction in the number of knife injury victims aged under 25. This means that fewer young people are now coming to harm by youth violence than they were in 2019.

2.6 However, these factors all reached their lowest point in 2021 and have either remained static since or, in some cases, have begun to increase steadily, all be it at a rate much slower than the decrease. This is likely because the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns resulted in an unprecedented decrease in serious youth violence. Reflecting the work done across the borough since the pandemic, increasing rates may peak below those in 2019.

2.7 Youth Justice statistics provide critical insight into the number of young people interacting with the criminal justice system for the first time and those reoffending. Since the start of the strategy, the number of first-time entrants into the youth justice system in Haringey has reduced by 25% but has been climbing steadily since summer 2021. In the last three years, the rate of Haringey young people sentenced to custody has more than halved. Haringey has seen a dramatic fall in the rate of young people sentenced to custody to align with boroughs with a similar profile. The percentage of young people that re-offend after one year of their original conviction or disposal is 31% which is far lower than the peak of 50% in 2018 prior to the launch of the strategy.

2.8 In addition to the above indicators for serious youth violence and youth justice, the new action plan uses a wider range of contextual indicators based on community, family, mental health, education, employment, and training. This is essential to our broad approach in the Young People at Risk strategy, where we seek to strengthen protective factors in communities, families, and educational settings. High levels of trust in a neighbourhood can be a protective factor against serious youth violence.

2.9 However, despite falling levels of crime, the number of young people feeling unsafe in the borough has increased. In the School Health and Education Unit Survey (SHEU) conducted across schools in 2024, 66% of secondary school pupils rate their safety as good or very good when going out during the day, compared with 71%. The survey also found that approximately 30% of pupils in Haringey say that they worry about Gangs, Crime, Knives/guns 'quite' or 'very' often, with rates again being slightly higher in boys.

2.10 A caring, supportive family home with parents able to manage challenging behaviour is a robust protective factor against serious youth violence. We know that challenging socioeconomic conditions, such as those that exist in parts of Haringey, have been exacerbated by the cost of living crisis and can significantly impact the level of stress within family households and drive complex needs.

2.11 Positively, over the past year, the number of children having an ‘open episode of need’ to children's social care or early help has fallen by nearly 200. Similarly, since 2023, we have seen a slight decrease in the number of families where ‘child criminal exploitation’ or ‘socially unacceptable behaviour’ was identified as part of an assessment with children's social care and early help services.

2.12 Young people having good mental health and a trusted adult to talk to are protective factors against youth violence. The after effects of the covid-19 pandemic and the ongoing cost of living crisis continue to directly impact many young people. Despite this though, the percentage of secondary school pupils who always have a trusted adult they can talk to has stabilised at 60%. Additionally, the number of young people satisfied with their lives has increased slightly in the past year, and two-thirds of young people are now satisfied. This suggests that there are positive signs of resilience and recovery in the face of significant challenges.

2.13 Finally, data for engagement with education, training and employment, a critical protective factor for young people is mixed. The legacy of the pandemic has impacted young people’s education, and persistent absence rates continue to rise slowly. While suspensions have increased, permanent exclusions have reduced, with both rates are lower in Haringey than the national average. Attainment remains strong, with over 60% of pupils achieving five or more GCSE passes in grades 9 - 5, including English and Maths, and 1.9% of 16- and 17-year-olds are not in education, employment or training, approximately the same as in 2023.

2.14 In 2025 the YPAR will continue to develop its mapping of interventions across the borough and to identify potential gaps of provisions whilst, also attempting to capacity build better alliances between organisations and services. The other key focus will be aligning with national campaigns with the first being on week of the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025 which is the national anti-knife crime campaign week. Our ambition is to develop Haringey’s anti knife crime campaign with a week of action that includes key partners and different systems coming together.

2.15 Moreover, we be finalising our final roll out of serious youth violence training which consists of in person and webinars which ends in April 25. There will be an impact report following the 1 year project to review learning and next steps. Lastly, the annual YPAR annual report will be dev2024-25 will be developed in the autumn/winter period.

### **3. Recommendations**

2.1 That the Board note the content of the accompanying pack, which highlights key crime and violence trends.

### **4. Reasons for decision**

n/a

## 5. **Alternative options considered**

n/a

## 6. **Background information**

- 5.1 Haringey has a signed agreement with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime to contribute to tackling the Mayor's priority crimes. The agreement is accompanied by a grant of £553K per year for 2022-2025. This is allocated across seven areas: Drug treatment intervention to reduce reoffending; an integrated Gang Exit Programme; Hate crime prevention; Advocacy and support to victims of domestic violence; Cross-borough support to ASB victims and witnesses (Haringey and Enfield); A dedicated Pentonville Prison worker; Gangs outreach training.
- 5.2 Quarterly returns are required which give considerable detail about our expenditure and performance to date. Haringey has an excellent reputation for compliance on both fronts.
- 5.3 Performance monitoring occurs in between Community Safety Partnership board meetings and attendance includes the holders of KPIs, the budget holders and statutory partners such as the police.

## 7. **Contribution to strategic outcomes**

- 6.1 This work contributes to the Mayor of London's Policing and Crime Plan and the Haringey Community Safety Strategy (2024-2027). It will also help to deliver Haringey's Borough Plan, Serious Violence Duty, Young People at Risk strategy, as well as the North Area Violence Reduction Group (NAVRG), Violent Crime Action Plan and the Community Safety Strategy.
- 6.2 Officers and partners work strategically across related work areas and boards such as Youth Offending, Safeguarding Children and Adults, Health and Wellbeing, Tottenham Regeneration, Early Help and the Community Strategy.

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

n/a

### **Finance and Procurement**

The LCPF funding supports existing Community Safety workstreams. Quarterly returns are required which give considerable detail about our expenditure and performance to date. Haringey has an excellent reputation for compliance on both fronts.

### **Legal**

n/a

### **Equality**

There is an inherent impact on equalities of much of our community safety work and this is presented and discussed at the Community Safety Partnership



meetings. This includes the peak age of offending being between 16 and 24; a very high percentage of young black males (mostly of African-Caribbean origin) involved in street-based violence (approx. 80%); the impact of domestic and sexual violence on women and girls; high concentrations of crime occurring in areas of deprivation; and vulnerable individuals and communities becoming victims of hate crime.

This report considers the areas of challenge in direct correlation with the impact on victims, especially vulnerable victims. In this respect, significant attention is being given to the disproportionate impact.

## **9. Use of Appendices**

Appendix A – Haringey Crime and Violence Overview March 2025 pack

Appendix B: [Haringey Young People at Risk Strategy 2019 -2029](#)

Appendix C: [Haringey Young People at Risk Action Plan 2023-2026](#)

Appendix D: [Haringey Young People at Risk Annual Impact Report 2023-2024](#)

## **10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**