

Safer Communities Briefing – (Quarter 1 2010-11) – Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion

April – June 2010

Crime Performance

At the year end (2009-10), Haringey saw its seventh consecutive year of reductions in overall crime. Notable highlights were a 10% reduction in acquisitive (or property-related) crime despite the economic downturn and a significant reduction in the numbers of young people entering the youth justice system (down by 37.5% against a London average of 23%).

The ongoing concern during the year was gang-related violence, especially among young adult males. This, too, saw a dramatic reduction but remained high and well above the actual target. The first quarter of 2010-11 has seen similar problems recur and intense work is underway in Haringey and with neighbouring boroughs.

The latest performance scorecard up to and including 13th June is showing improved performance across the board in relation to the same time last year. All acquisitive crime is down by 14% with robbery down 27% and burglary 18%. Most serious violence offences are also down by 17% but this news must be tempered by the fact that these crimes are extremely volatile and there has been further serious offending committed in the borough since this data period. Every possible effort is being made across the partnership to address this priority.

Anti-Social Behaviour

The Anti-Social Behaviour Action Team currently has a 94% success rate of enforcement action following surveillance and a 97% rate on other legal proceedings to protect the community.

ASBAT enforcement rates to protect the community still remain high and well above the national average. Since 2003, the ASBAT has taken the following actions;

- 191 closure orders on crack houses
- 22 anti social behaviour orders
- 183 acceptable behaviour contracts
- 165 injunctions
- 46 evictions
- 150 Families receiving ASBAT parenting support
- 12 brothel closures
- 1 premises closure order

During April 2010, the ASBAT instigated its first Premises Closure Order. Premises closures allow the ASBAT to close down any dwelling or business for a period of 3 months should there be ongoing and persistent ASB activity. 11

intimidating men had been squatting there for 4 years and there were high levels of ASB activity affecting other residents. An application was made to Highgate Magistrate's court and although the case was defended by the owners, the court awarded the order. On the same day the property was secured.

The ASBAT has taken 3 ASBOs against the street drinkers outside Morrison's Supermarket. Tottenham Magistrate's Court heard the case and commended the ASB officer on the work undertaken in gathering the evidence. The drinkers have been banned from the area for a period ranging from between 2-5 years. Since this action, there have been no further complaints made by the public. The ASBAT is now focusing its attention on the street drinkers who are congregating outside the Peace Gardens.

ASB Summit

The Anti- Social Behaviour Action Team (ASBAT) has clear processes and procedures regarding enforcement action and is above the national average in terms of use of orders. The team deals with serious and/or intractable cases. There, however, remain issues with investigating low level cases via Homes for Haringey. In response to this, an ASB Summit was held (during March) where partners and external agencies (Home Office / Social Landlords Crime and Nuisance Group – David Lammy MP also attended) inputted how we can make improvements to ensure there is a clear process for tackling low level ASB. Jackie Thomas (HfH) is to run the action plan that followed by the ASB Partnership Board. This will cover aspects such as improvements in recording, investigating and keeping victims informed of action taken.

ASB Delivery Improvement Plan (DIP)

We have in place an action plan for 2010/11 which includes activity to assist efforts to improve peoples perceptions of how well the police and council are tackling ASB. This has been approved by the Home Office.

ASB Minimum Standards

Part of the work under the above mentioned DIP was to publicise a set of minimum standards the public can expect if they experience ASB or hate crime. The publication was disseminated in the borough at the end of March 2010. The leaflet details services available and standard they can expect

Domestic and Gender Based Violence

Specialist Domestic Violence Court (SDVC)

In Haringey a pilot Specialist Domestic Violence Court has now been operational from October 2009 and it is held on every Tuesday at the Highgate Magistrates Court.

Special domestic violence courts are magistrate's courts that bring together police, prosecutors, magistrates, and probation service and specialist support agencies to help ensure more domestic violence offenders are prosecuted.

Magistrates in these courts are specially trained in dealing with domestic violence cases

- Specialist Domestic Violence Court training took place on 23rd November 2009 and was delivered to partner agencies. Following on from the group workshops, a further action plan was created and identified improvements to some operational matters: Data and Monitoring, Communication of Decisions and Relevant Information, Protocol between the witness support agencies, Safety at Court and Court Management. All these have now been developed
- Haringey's Specialist Domestic Violence Court will be reviewed by the Ministry of Justice's (MOJ), Specialist Domestic Violence Court Programme Steering Group in six months time when we hope to gain accreditation.

"I SHALL SURVIVE"

"I SHALL SURVIVE" a practical guide to domestic & gender based violence in Haringey has been revised and an 8th Edition will be released in July 2010.

Sexual Bullying Training

The NIA project delivered Sexual Bullying training for professionals on 7th and 25th June 2010 to all the partner agencies and the aim of the training was:

- A clear understanding of what sexual bullying is.
- A clear understanding of why sexual bullying happens.

IDVAs (Independent Domestic Violence Advisers)

IDVAs (Independent Domestic Violence Advisers) work alongside high risk domestic & gender based violence victims to assess their level of danger, discuss options open to them and develop safety plans.

IDVAs are proactive in implementing the plans, which address immediate safety, including practical steps to protect victims and their children from harm, as well as longer term solutions. They support victims of domestic violence who do not want police involvement. They will help address any issues around domestic violence, such as Housing, Civil and Criminal Law as well as safety measures.

At present Haringey Council has one full time post and one part time post for Independent Domestic Violence Advisers, which are managed by the NIA project.

Domestic & Gender Based Violence Strategy Action Plan

The overall vision of Haringey Domestic Violence and Gender Based Violence Strategy is for all agencies to work together to reduce Domestic Violence and Gender Based Violence, providing high quality support and services to those experiencing or witnessing Domestic Violence in Haringey whilst holding abusers accountable.

The Haringey Domestic Violence and Gender Based Violence Strategy is a plan that sets out how the issues around Domestic and Gender Based Violence will be tackled over a four-year period. The Strategy sets out key aims and priorities that are compatible with the London Domestic Violence Strategy and government objectives.

The 4 key strategic priorities are:

- Improve the support and safety of those who experience or are threatened by Domestic or Gender Based Violence.
- Further reduce the tolerance of Domestic Violence and Gender Based Violence in our local communities.
- Hold abusers accountable.
- Further increase children and young people's safety and welfare.

An action plan has been developed for these priority areas. This shows what each partner agency will achieve until 2012 tackle Domestic and Gender Based Violence and who will be responsible for achieving the actions.

- The delivery of services based on the ambitious Action Plan is going well with most actions being achieved and contingency plans are in place for areas that have encountered problems. We have no actions at red status.
- CAADA (Co-ordinated Action against Domestic Abuse) recognised Haringey's as a MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) **Champion**. (CAADA is a national charity supporting a strong multi-agency response to domestic violence. and their work focuses on saving lives and saving public money. CAADA provides practical tools, training, guidance, quality assurance, policy and data insight to support professionals and organisations working with domestic violence victims. The aim is to protect the highest risk victims and their children – those at risk of murder or serious harm)
- The Domestic Violence Co-ordinator has worked with partners to ensure that services are functioning better for victims particularly when perpetrators are released from prison, this is now flagged at MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference)

- Police CSU (Community Safety Unit) and LBH (London Borough of Haringey) is working on how to improve their handling of serious cases, Domestic Violence homicide, and issues with the safety of children are high priorities.

Examples of good practice include:-

- Multi agency risk assessment and safety planning training was provided to all statutory agency teams.
- Awareness raising events held at 6 day centres
- Attitudinal survey completed by Hearthstone

Honour based violence and Forced Marriages

So-called Honour based violence is a crime or incident, which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the perceived honour of the family and/or community. Women are predominantly (but not exclusively) the victims of 'so called honour based violence', which is used to assert male power in order to control female autonomy and sexuality.

Honour Based Violence can be distinguished from other forms of violence, as it is often committed with some degree of approval and/or collusion from family and / or community members.

Forced marriage 'is a marriage conducted without the valid consent of one or both parties where duress is a factor'.

16 reports of Forced marriage were made to the Police in Haringey in 2009/10. Only 6 were recorded as offences of which 4 offences were repeat/linked offences. In other words there were only 4 different victims for the 6 offences, 1 was detected (16%) Reports often relate to Domestic Violence after a Forced Marriages_rather than Honour based violence. We have had no reports in the first quarter this year

In May 2010 the MPS in Haringey have run 2 one day training conferences on honour based violence and forced marriage with over 170 people from the council and local partner agencies taking part.

Trafficking

The Poppy Project worker from Eves Housing Association gave presentation at the Domestic violence partnership board meeting which was held in June 2010.

In the presentation it was highlighted that 2 cases of trafficking from Haringey have been referred to Poppy project by Hearthstone.

The POPPY Project was set up in 2003. It is funded by the Office for Criminal Justice Reform (reporting to the Ministry of Justice) to provide accommodation

and support into prostitution or domestic servitude. It has 54 bed spaces in houses nationally.

The POPPY outreach services works to improve the safety and wellbeing of women from all over the UK who have been trafficked and who are in need of short-term support and advocacy.

FGM (Female Genital Mutilation)

Female genital mutilation (FGM), also known as female circumcision or female genital cutting, is defined by the World Health Organisation (WHO) as "all procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons".

A new Female genital Mutilation service was launched in Haringey on 9th June run by the Manor Gardens Health Advocacy Project

In 2009/10 the police in Haringey received 2 reports of suspected FGM. Both involved Somali girls the offences believed to have taken place prior to entry to the UK. 1 case Female Genital Mutilation has been ruled out following medical, the other case Female Genital Mutilation has been confirmed, investigation on going. We have had no new cases in the first quarter of this year.

Domestic & Gender Based Violence Police Performance

MPS (Metropolitan Police Service) – statistics for Haringey Borough from 2009/2010 TP (Total Performance) scorecard (1/4/09 to 31/3/10)

The MPS (Metropolitan Police Service) target for domestic violence sanctioned detections (a **sanction detection** is any notifiable offence dealt with and resulting with a charge, summons, caution, taken into consideration, fixed penalty notice for disorder) for the year 2009/2010 was 45.7 %, Haringey BOCU (Borough Operational Command Unit) For the first quarter of 2010/11 the rate has improved as we achieved was 46.4%. We have met the MPS (Metropolitan Police Service)_target.

Victims with 3 repeat victimisations, are referred to MARAC, (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference), as laid down in CAADA (Co-ordinated action against domestic abuse) checklist.

Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT)

In April, Haringey DAAT was selected by the Department of Work and Pensions and the National Treatment Agency to run a pilot project with Job Centre Plus which aims to identify those on employment benefits who have a drug problem. Haringey is one of only 3 DAATs that were chosen nationally to run this pilot and this is in recognition of the excellent partnership that has already developed between Job Centre Plus in Tottenham and Eban the local crack cocaine drug service.

During 2009/10 Haringey's drug treatment services were in the top quartile nationally for successful completion of treatment, meaning people are leaving services drug free. Given the complexity of need in our local community this is an excellent achievement.

Emergency Planning & Business Continuity

The severe weather at the beginning of the year was effectively managed ensuring the Council was able to maintain services to residents. These efforts were led by the Risk and Emergency Planning Steering Group. The launch of a public warning and informing initiative took place in March with residents now signing up to receive alerts in the event of an emergency. A pan-London exercise was carried out in March which involved the co-ordination of the Council's response to a flooding scenario which was a success and the Multi-Agency Flood Plan has now been approved by the Haringey Emergency Planning Partnership.

Neighbourhood and Community Input

Crime and Justice Programme

Haringey is a national pioneer borough for the above programme which is now in its second year. There have been many early successes and Haringey has been praised by the Home Office for being 'ahead of the game'. Achievements in the borough include: 30 local people trained as Community Crime Fighters; delivery of Community Payback schemes of highest priority for residents; appointment of the first ASB Victim and Witness Worker to assist with civil cases. Quarter 1 has seen an agreement with partners for a communications plan to deliver localised reassurance messages and one joint annual publication. The focus of the work this year will be to co-ordinate and mainstream this activity into everyday partnership work.

ASB Champions

The project aims to strengthen community leadership through increasing resilience amongst local communities. The initial stage comprised of two days training (during May) for a group of residents covering the tools and powers available. The second stage involved their designing a project to tackle ASB in their local area with guidance from partners. The project is being run in Northumberland Park (selected on the basis of partnership intelligence) with neighbourhood management, community safety and police linked into it. The final idea is to be confirmed by the end of June. The project also assists efforts to improved joint working with communities around solutions to ASB.

'What Have You Done Today' ASB Training

Comprised of training (during May) for front line officers around the importance of appropriate handling of reported ASB/hate crime and harassment cases and sharing information with partner agencies. This supports aims to have more confident/ informed officers and reduce the number of escalating issues. As well as to ensure cases are resolved at the earliest opportunity.

Victims Champion

A new Victim Support champion was appointed during December 2009 to provide improved support for victims and witnesses of ASB going through the civil process.

Prevention Work

As part of the ongoing burglary partnership plan, neighbourhood Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) have received training from the Crime Prevention Design Advisors. The training was designed to prepare them to provide targeted home security advice to victims of burglary and their neighbours. Burglary information cards providing details of how to secure front doors, back doors and windows have been produced and are being distributed by the trained PCSOs following face-to face contact with residents. These cards can be taken to local hardware stores to ensure that the most suitable items are purchased.

In anticipation of a seasonal increase in 'open-window' burglaries, six Safer Neighbourhood Teams have been provided with window locks for distribution to residents living in hotspot areas. This work has been accompanied by a press release providing top tips about burglary prevention.

Haringey submitted a successful plan for the Home Office Tackling Knives Action Programme 3 (TKAP3). This delivery plan includes all activity in the borough addressing serious violence among people aged 13-24 years. The following areas of work are included in the plan: A&E data sharing and use in relation to violent crime, knife crime prevention programme, offender management, test purchase operations, alcohol and the night time economy, domestic violence, prevention, diversion and education for young people, communication and gangs. The plan is being monitored locally through the Other Violent Crime Partnership Board. In addition, the valuable work of the proactive, multi-disciplinary Gang Action Group continues in Haringey.

Haringey and Enfield are working together to address cross border violence and gangs issues. The local partnership group set up to address gang-related violence was expanded to include representatives from Enfield and a range of local partners ranging from the Police to the Benefits and Taxation Team. Over the past few months this group (known as the Gang Action Group) has been sharing information about individuals known to be involved in serious violence and identifying a lead agency for each individual and devising bespoke action plans to divert them from gang activity.

The key advantage of this partnership approach is that it offers: support, diversion and enforcement. The work of this group forms part of a joint action plan with Enfield which is closely monitored by senior officers from both borough's partnerships.

Some 150 parents have participated in the ASBAT Parenting Programme with no further enforcement action required. This has resulted in increased parenting skills and families not becoming involved in ASB activity. This also saves the

Council significant costs in relation to otherwise necessary legal proceedings against families, pressure in having to re-house families who may be evicted and costs associated with vandalism on estates and in the general area.

The ASBAT has been working in primary schools (year 5 & 6), delivering ASB workshops to over 33 classes in 17 schools. Approximately 900 pupils completed the programme. Following additional funding received via the *Justice Seen, Justice Done Campaign (Home Office)* further work was carried out in secondary schools where 8 schools participated in the ASBAT '**your life, your choice programme**'. A further session is to be held at John Loughborough School. From June this year a further programme of ASBAT '**RESPECT**' workshops is to be rolled out to secondary schools up to the end of March 2011. Engagement in schools relating to ASB is a key Labour Group manifesto.

Reducing re-offending

The Haringey reducing re-offending conference took place in March 2010. The conference brought together senior partners and frontline staff from the public and voluntary sectors to introduce the Haringey Reducing Re-offending Programme (HARRP). This programme is designed to reduce re-offending among a target group of adult non-statutory offenders (i.e. those sentenced to less than 12 months in prison) through a case management approach. Since the conference, the Haringey Reducing Re-offending Network (HARREN) has been established; this network is managed through an online facility and acts as a vehicle for partnership working across different organisations delivering resettlement services in the borough.

Youth Offending Service (YOS)

The weapons awareness course continues to be run in partnership with the Red Cross. This course focuses on raising awareness among young people of the consequences of carrying a knife as well issues relating to peer pressure, the law, conflict resolution and attitudes. The course has been adapted to run in selected primary schools and has recently been run in the secondary Pupil Support Centre due to increasing numbers there.

The YOS was highly commended for its 3 minute DVD on victims of knife crime which the Home Office requested us to complete under its "It doesn't have to happen" branding. The DVD also came second in the Wood Green Youth Film Festival.

November 30th 2009 saw the introduction of the Youth Rehabilitation Order (YRO) as the central community sentence for all young people appearing in the Youth Court. The Scaled Approach where resources follow levels of risk was also introduced then. There will be a Court/Pre-sentence report Team and 3 Casework teams in the intervention section of the YOS from August as a result of these changes.

An analysis of risk and vulnerability data has led to the setting up of a VMP - vulnerability management panel - (similar to the risk management panel). The

VMP will look at all cases where a young person is assessed as high or medium vulnerability and discuss any actions needed to protect the young person.

The key issue facing the YOS, which was again identified by the Youth Justice Board during a recent self assessment validation visit, is its over-reliance on short term funding grants. This will need to be addressed once the results of the coming budget are known. The results of the YJB validation should be available in July 2010.

OTHER

Home Office Visit

Stephen Rimmer (Home Office Director General Crime and Policing Group) met with senior managers and borough commander during June and was please to see the positive work the Council was doing, in partnership with residents and the Police. Feedback received detailed that he was clear that Haringey's leadership remains very committed to tackling all forms of ASB, and its links to other crimes – including gang-related and organised crime – with real vigour