THE PROBLEM - Non DA VWI overview

Current PIB data indicates that during 2014 London recorded a considerable increase on non DA Violence with Injury (VWI). As of the 13th November 2014 Haringey was showing the largest increase in non DA VWI across London at 40.1%. Analysis indicated that about 46% of non DA VWI offences occur on the street with just 2% being recorded as occurring inside licensed premises.

Alcohol related non DA VWI

Analysis has been attempted into the significance of alcohol in particular, to non DA VWI. Alcohol has been consumed by either victim or suspect or both in at least 16% of offences. - However it is estimated this figure is inaccurate due to data reporting standards.

Gang Related violence (VWI and MSYV)

Haringey Borough has an established problem concerning Gangs and associated Serious Youth Gang Violence (SYGV). In summary there are at least eleven (11) recognised groups that meet the criteria of street gangs. There are at least 2 OCNs that operate in Haringey (Turkish Mafia and Jamaican Yardie Gang). GRITS currently shows two Haringey Gangs in MPS Top 20, namely the (a) WGM: Wood Green Mob - Ranked 12th, and (b) NPK: Northumberland Park Killers - Ranked 20th

Operation Equinox was a MPS plan to reduce VWI. Haringey supported this initiative and undertook a detailed policing plan, with partnership support, under 3 clear strands

Prevention (by means of visibility and proactive activity)

- supported by Haringey NPT, ERT and MSC officers in primary patrol areas;
- Safer Transport Command (STC), British Transport Police (BTP) and Transport for London (TfL) operatives at known transport hubs and routes;
- Deployment of highly visible Dog Units and Mounted Branch
- Licensed visits and advice at known locations
- Inclusion of proactive CCTV methods and observations
- Use of mobile phone Apps re information and crime prevention

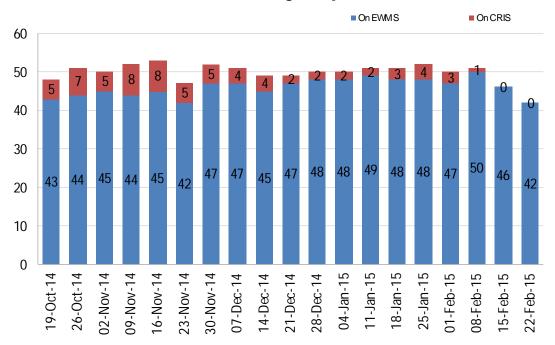
Intervention (by means of partnership working and offender management)

- ASB and Environmental Noise teams from LA partners;
- Licensing teams (linked with Police teams above);
- Local Youth and Gang Service workers
- Drug and alcohol workers
- Deployment of DJ Bus
- Homes for Haringey representatives (private premises offences/incidents);
- Street Wardens
- Deployment of an SOS Community Bus
- Enhanced Offender Management

Offender Management

Much work has been instigated to improve our offender management processes. Whilst this has taken time we are now beginning to see the benefits of reducing outstanding offenders for VWI offences, as well as the management of live cases. As of last Friday we have made significant reductions in persons wanted for VWI offences on the Emerald Warrants Management System as well as Crime Reporting Systems. When considering this data it should be borne in mind the churn of offenders

Outstanding Suspects



The SOS Community Bus

Haringey Police secured the services of the Open Road (Essex) SOS Community Bus. The vehicle, equipped as a fully functional first aid facility (supported by a Medic in attendance) as well as a safe haven for discussion, diversion and signposting was deployed in Noel Park and Northumberland Park on eight nights - Friday and Saturdays in the lead up to Christmas. Social media and partnership meetings were utilised to promote the bus and favourable commentary was received.

On the Launch night Councillor Vanier attended and this ensured media interest. From a policing perspective I am in no doubt the Bus became a visible safe haven for the local community as well as affording Police, Drug and Alcohol partners; Gang partners and Youth services partners an opportunity to be seen working together in support of community safety. It is without doubt no coincidence that across Haringey, Noel Park Ward (where the bus was positioned 7 of the 8 nights) as well as a highly visible policing presence was deployed, VWI crime has fallen from an average of 5.3 offences per week to 2.4 offences per week (date taken from PIB 27/2/15).

Particular gains were the Health Service providers - seven persons were treated by the Medic working on the SOS bus across the eight nights, each patient thus not attending local A&E's. At an average cost for an A&E admission being £114 alone this represents a saving to A&E of over £1000. However should the SOS Bus become better known the opportunities for further savings to A&E providers may grow.

HAGA, our Substance Misuse partner supported the SOS Bus incredibly well. The following is a summary of HAGA's work on the SOS Bus and the successes it presented.

HAGA participated in 7 of the 8 nights of the SOS Bus initiative.

We provided an average of 4 staff per session with 2 early finishers and 2 late finishers staying until close. The manager form partner agencies did not attend so we deployed our day centre manager to oversee the project.

Stats:

Contacts brief interventions: 69

IBA on bus: 14

Accessed treatment at HAGA: 7 Referrals to night shelters: 6

Overall the bus initiative was very successful for us in terms of engaging a large number of potential clients and achieving good street referrals.

IBA
Males: 10
Females: 4
Achievements:

1 street homeless lady attended the bus and was supported by both Police and HAGA as she was essentially on the run from gangs and at risk of exploitation. She was signposted to hostel accommodation and engaged into BUBIC support.

A lady was brought to the bus by her teenage daughter who had seen then bus on TV and got IBA and has engaged in some follow up work with HAGA.

Review:

The ability to meet gone to ground, hard to reach and isolated drinkers and their carers was excellent as was the chance to put harm reduction advice directly into the hands of 69 members of the public seen affected by alcohol.

We would like to continue a project of this type but would need to pride more staff and volunteer deployment as this success was achieved by static delivery. With more staff and the potential to patrol we could canvas more venues, localities and engage a much wider group. We saw 73 individuals directly and 13 have had further intervention and treatment for their identified issue.

In comparison we see up to 50 street drinkers a year in outreach so this ability to see 73 in essentially 49 hours as a static service does suggest enormous potential for us to engage large numbers of drinkers outside unaware of treatment or their health needs.

Long term crime reduction utilising the above.

With the above facets so with a continuation of services, the Long term crime reductions will be achieved and maintained by a continuation of:

- Drug and alcohol services;
- Closure of problematic premises and venues;
- Detailed reactive investigations
- Continued visible policing methods
- Media campaign and reassurance

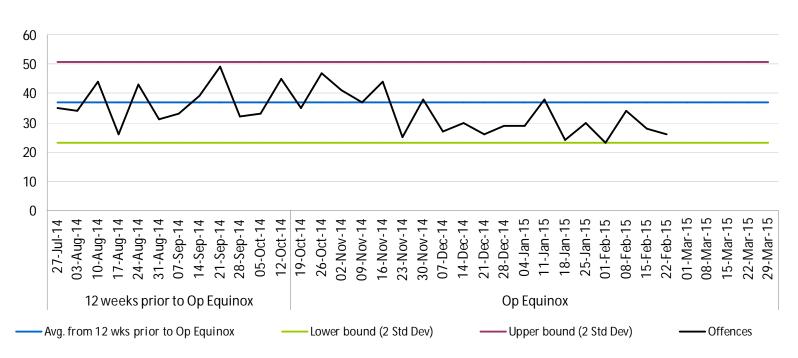
Summary

Over the period of Op Equinox there has been a sustained investment of NPT, ERPT, MSC and CID officers (including Haringey Gangs Unit and Proactive Team) into supporting the Op Equinox objectives. This has included significant numbers of officers patrolling our key wards - Noel Park, Northumberland Park and Tottenham Green.

Additionally partners including BUBIK; HAGA, Gang Workers, Youth Workers and Veolia (Street cleaners) have supported the operation with their own visible presence across Haringey to reduce and prevent crime; to offer disruption and diversion opportunities.

During week commencing 16th February 2015 the MPS Daily scorecard highlighted that Haringey was showing a 29.1% rise in VWI - this is a fall of 12% resulting from the Op Equinox activity. The current chart of VWO offences below shows a continued pattern of decline in VWI across Haringey - with 17 of the 19 weeks of Op Equinox showing reported VWI to be less than the previous weekly average.

Offences



OP Equinox will continue to run for the foreseeable future. Funding has been secured to allow increased visibility to be maintained and our focus remains across Noel Park, Northumberland Park and Tottenham Green wards; however all other wards are being monitored by the three cluster Inspectors to ensure any pattern of change in VWI is identified immediately.

Paul Trevers
Detective Chief Inspector
Operation Equinox lead.