

Report to the Community Safety Partnership  
1<sup>st</sup> March 2012

Ending Gang and Youth Violence funding 2012/13

**PURPOSE:**

To detail the plans proposed by the Gang Action Group for the allocation of the Ending Gang and Youth Violence funding 2012/13.

**BACKGROUND:**

Under the Home Office Ending Gang and Youth Violence programme, Haringey has been offered a provisional allocation of £199,074. This funding is to be used to develop long-term and sustainable violence reduction strategies that focus on early intervention as well as enforcement and routes out of violent lifestyles.

Half of the funding allocation is for onward distribution to the voluntary and community sector.

**FUNDING PROPOSALS:**

The proposals set out below are based on the key findings of the problem profile produced for the Ending Gang and Youth Violence funding application.

Over 60% of the funding has been allocated to the voluntary and community sector.

The attached table sets out how these proposals fit within the existing and planned projects to address gang related crime and serious youth violence.

**1. Mentoring Programme £70,000:**

At present individual gang members are referred to a number of disparate projects and programmes. To capitalise on the success of these programmes and to bring them together into one coherent strategy, it is proposed that an accredited mentoring programme be commissioned. This programme would offer practical support rather than peer mentoring.

The scheme providers will be expected to identify and train professionals to support mentees to access services and manage changes in their lives that will enable them to move away from gang activity. The providers will also be expected to develop a sustainability plan exploring alternative funding sources to ensure that the programme can be delivered beyond 2013.

The programme will be designed to support up to 40 mentees at one time, each for a minimum of 6 months.

The Voluntary and Community Sector will be invited to tender for this programme.

**2. Targeted support for victims of serious youth violence and gang crime £25,000:**

46% of Haringey victims of gang related crime are aged 10-19 years. In 9% of the total gang flagged incidents victims refused or even obstructed police investigations. Targeted support to address the needs of young victims (particularly those involved in gangs) is required. This allocation will be used by Victim Support to recruit a part time Young Persons Project Worker. Their role will be to promote support services available to young people, provide practical and less 'risky' ways to stay safe, to discourage the belief that retaliatory violence is acceptable and to identify innovative approaches to encouraging young victims to support police investigations.

**3. Matched funding for the Safe and Secure Programme £10,000:**

The Safe and Secure Programme is an MPS led programme that aims to rehabilitate gang members by re-housing them away from their usual locality. Individuals referred to this programme are provided with a 12-week intensive support package and follow up support for up to one year after the move. The scheme is managed by the Safer London Foundation. The provision of this matched funding will ensure that Haringey is able to refer at least two individuals to the programme.

**4. The Ben Kinsella Anti-Knife Crime Exhibition £6,000:**

This is an interactive exhibition that is designed to educate 10-18 year olds about the consequences of knife crime. The Trust also provide complementary resources such as teaching packs, workshop ideas and visits from members of the Trust to embed the important messages and guidance it promotes.

**5. Analytical and Administrative Support for the Gang Action Group £25,000:**

The Gang Action Group is co-ordinated by the Community Safety and Engagement Team. The GAG meets on a six weekly basis and works with 34 current referrals. There is a significant amount of administrative work associated with the preparation for each meeting and the exchange of information between partners. This part time role will be responsible for maintaining gang member profiles, keeping an audit trail of information exchange and for examining the journey taken by gang members referred to the group.

This allocation will be match funded using PREVENT funding to create a full time post that will support the work of the GAG and the PREVENT Co-ordinator.

**6. Investment into the enhanced local Gangs Unit £6,000:**

Haringey is one of the 19 priority boroughs under the MPS Gang Command. As part of this the local gangs unit has been enhanced to include 2 Sergeants and 14 Police Constables. This specialist unit will include dedicated engagement officers who will work with the Gang Action Group. The purchase of a stand-alone computer will allow them to access open source intelligence, to monitor nominals' online activity and tensions between gangs. The purchase of new location software will enable the Gangs Unit to increase their surveillance capability.

Further details of the proposed investment into the local gangs unit will be available at the Community Safety Partnership meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> March.

**7. Matched funding for the environmental improvements identified by the Operation Connect Crime Prevention Design Adviser £10,000:**

The Operation Connect Partnerships Team includes a dedicated Crime Prevention Design Adviser with specialist experience of designing out gang related crime. During 2011/12 she has carried out several surveys directed by the local Police Problem Solving team. This allocation of funding will be used to match fund / pump prime the improvements made by Homes for Haringey, Registered Social Landlords and Highways services in response to the recommendations of the environmental surveys.

**8. Violence reduction programme for YOS Clients £15,000:**

In 2011/12 Khulisa UK were commissioned to deliver their 'Face-it' programme for GAG and Op Connect nominals known to the YOS. This 5-day group work programme uses cognitive behavioural therapy to deliver significant behaviour change, self-awareness and motivation on the part of participants. Two group work sessions are being held in Haringey during February and March 2012. Assessment of the effectiveness of this intervention will be completed to allow for a decision as to

whether to fund the programme in 2012/13 or to explore other avenues for delivering similar outcomes.

**9. Prison In-reach £18,000:**

One of the key gaps in intelligence identified as part of the self-assessment for the Ending Gang and Youth Violence problem profile is intelligence from prisons regarding gang tensions and affiliations. This information is provided on an ad hoc basis to London Probation in relation to offenders sentenced to over 12 months in prison but it not readily available for 'non-statutory' offenders.

A system for sharing and responding to this intelligence is necessary. This allocation will be used to develop a mechanism for better identification and intervention with gang members in prison and on release.

**10. Further Commissioning of the Voluntary and Community Sector £14,000:**

This allocation will be used to commission local voluntary and community sector organisations to deliver projects with a proven track record for addressing the needs of young people involved in serious violence and gangs.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Community Safety Partnership approve these plans and accept quarterly updates about the progress of the Ending Gang and Youth Violence work throughout 2012/13.