Summary of Barnet's Community Consultations

Community Safety related consultation activity during (2015 and 2016)

During the last 24 months approximately 7000 Barnet residents have taken part in consultation surveys that have either been focused specifically on crime and community safety or else contained a significant section on that subject. Of these around 3000 residents were consulted during the last 18 months. These are summarised in the table below.

2014 Residents Perception Survey (RPS) Feb – April 14	 Survey conducted by ORS, (independent market research) Interviews (telephone) were conducted with over 2, 000 residents (adults, 18+) from across the Borough Representative quota sample (Quotas re age, gender, ethnic origin and housing tenure) Results weighted to correct any discrepancies in the sample to better reflect the population of Barnet 	General perception survey but incudes significant community safety related section Geographic Focus: Borough wide Number of respondents: 2000
Public Attitude Survey FY 2015 – 2016 (Qtr. 1-3)	 London wide survey for the MPS conducted quarterly by BMG Research - an independent company Conducted on a continuous basis via interviews in respondents homes Based on random probability sample of residents Results broken down to borough level 	Exclusively focused on crime and community safety Geographic Focus: Borough wide Number of respondents: 400
2014 Residents Perception Survey (RPS) Sept – Nov 2014	 Survey conducted by ORS, (independent market research) Interviews (telephone) were conducted with over 1, 600 residents (adults, 18+) from across the Borough Representative quota sample (Quotas re age, gender, ethnic origin and housing tenure) Results weighted to correct any discrepancies in the sample to better reflect the population of Barnet 	General perception survey but incudes significant community safety related section Geographic Focus: Borough wide Number of respondents: 1600
2015 Residents Perception Survey (RPS) Mar – May 2015	 Survey conducted by ORS, (independent market research) Interviews (telephone) were conducted with over 2,000 residents (adults, 18+) from across the Borough Representative quota sample (Quotas re age, gender, ethnic origin and housing tenure) Results weighted to correct any discrepancies in the sample to better reflect the population of Barnet 	General perception survey but incudes significant community safety related section Geographic Focus: Borough wide Number of respondents: 2000
2015 Residents Perception Survey Nov – Dec 15	 Survey conducted by ORS, (independent market research) Interviews (telephone) were conducted with over 2,000 residents (adults, 18+) from across the Borough Representative quota sample (Quotas re age, gender, ethnic origin and housing tenure) Results weighted to correct any discrepancies in the sample to better reflect the population of Barnet 	General perception survey but incudes significant community safety related section Geographic Focus: Borough wide Number of respondents: 500
2015/16 Barnet Crime and Community Safety Survey Oct 15 - Feb 16	 A self-completion online and paper 428 Barnet residents took part Community safety focused survey created by the Community Safety Team carried out at the 8 different locations during clock, locks and lights event Respondents self-selecting rather than random sample 	Exclusively focused on crime and community safety Geographic Focus: Borough wide Number of respondents: 428

Relevance to the Community Safety Strategy

The below table identifies the coverage of Barnet's consultation surveys in relation to key areas of understanding that help inform the review of the Safer Communities Partnership Strategic priorities.

The resident perception survey

Council run survey asking questions on resident's views on the council's performance and engagement as well as having questions focused on specific service areas. The responses to the following questions have been taken into consideration:

- Which three things are you personally most concerned about?
- How safe do you feel in your local area after dark?
- What are you concerned about in relation to Anti-Social Behaviour?
- How satisfied are you that Barnet police and Barnet council are dealing with Antisocial behaviour and crime in the local area?

2015/16 Community Safety Survey

Partnership survey promoted by the Safer Communities Partnership, the survey covered a number of areas with the primary aim to establish:

- Residents perceptions of crime and anti-social behaviour in their local area
- Residents feelings towards how well the Safer Communities Partnership is tackling crime and anti-social behaviour in their area
- What people think the 2016 2017 priorities should be for the borough and for their local area

Public Attitude Survey

Police survey carried out quarterly, focusing on the confidence in police and in relation to different factors behind public confidence trends:

- Dealing effectively with Crime
- Engaging with the community
- Fair treatment
- Alleviating local ASB
- Providing information on service and action taken

The resident perception survey

Crime is consistently in the top 3 things that concern residents when asked to identify "which three things are you personally most concerned about?" out of 17 possible priorities.

Since 2012 residents' concerns about crime using this measure have usually been stable remaining around 28-32%.

The concern about crime has increased 7 percentage points in the autumn 2015 Survey from the previous survey carried out in spring 2015.

When residents were asked what they are concerned about in relation to Anti-Social Behaviour: 'rubbish or litter lying around' continues to be the top anti-social behaviour concern when ranked against the level of concern about other ASB issues.

The Public Attitude Survey

Like the RPS survey, in the Public Attitude Survey rubbish and litter lying around, ranks higher than other issues as a problem in the local area (although down 3% points from 2014/15). There has also been an increase in the concern expressed by this survey's respondents about people using or dealing drugs, this ranks as the second concern in this survey after rubbish and litter.

Community Safety 2015/16 consultation

This consultation was undertaken in two forms: an online survey and street based survey. 428 surveys were completed. Of those 341 were from the online survey completed by people who live, work, visit or study in the Borough. 87 people had submitted their response though completing a hard copy of the survey. 69 of the 87 responses were completed during the Clocks, Locks and lights partnership day at engagement stalls across the borough.

Those taking part were asked a series of questions to establisher their views on crime and Anti-Social Behaviour. When asked if people thought overall of crime has gone up, down or stayed the same: 50% thought crime in the local area had gone up, with only 6% thinking it had gone down. 34% thought it had stayed the same.

People were asked what they thought the Partnerships priorities should be to improve safety within Barnet. The top five responses in order of descending frequency were:

- Reducing high volume crime such as residential burglary
- Reducing Antisocial Behaviour
- Preventative work with young people
- Tackling drugs and Alcohol related issues
- Reducing Violent crime

Learning from the Consultations

The common themes which emerged from the Community Safety Public consultation highlight the importance of making sure that the strategy addresses the following points:

- **Improving confidence** Improve community confidence that Partnership listens and acts on concerns about crime and ASB.
- **Keeping the community informed** about what we are doing about crime and ASB; the Barnet Crime and Community Safety Survey indicated this was the aspect where there is most room for improvement.
- Hate Crime Increase public awareness of the ways of of reporting ASB and Hate crime and providing clear feedback highlighting the involvement police and Council have had in acting to address such concerns.
- Focus on rubbish and litter in response to the long term level of concern about this issue demonstrated from resident's survey responses. This issue is linked to particular ASB for example rough sleeping, street drinking.
- **Supporting repeat victims** of crime and anti-social behaviour, problem solving ongoing ASB issues and providing clear updates about what has/is being done.
- Focusing on hotspots and repeat locations of crime and anti-social behaviour.
- **Communicating and engaging effectively** this means providing clear information so people know exactly how they can report their issues; ensuring the concerns are listened to and responded to in a coordinated way; feeding back to the community about what is being done to address concerns.
- **Repeats** Focusing on repeat victims, offenders and locations.
- **Reducing under-reporting** of Hate Crime and hidden harm issues such as Domestic Violence and Abuse, Violence against Women and Girls, and all forms of Hate Crime.
- **Preventing burglary** a long term community concern.

Appendix 1 – Summary of public consultations

• Keep young people safe – Young people have told us, through the consultations we have carried out, that safety is one of their top priorities. Our survey results showed that compared to the population average, people aged 19 year or under: were over 55% more likely to feel 'very worried' about the risk of being physically assaulted.