

<p><u>MEETING</u></p> <p>SAFER COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP BOARD</p>
<p><u>DATE AND TIME</u></p> <p>FRIDAY 27TH JANUARY, 2017</p> <p>10.00AM – 12.00PM</p>
<p><u>VENUE</u></p> <p>HENDON TOWN HALL, THE BURROUGHS, LONDON NW4 4BQ</p>

TO: MEMBERS OF SAFER COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP BOARD (Quorum 3)

Chairman: Councillor David Longstaff

Members

Jamie Blake, London Borough of Barnet	Douglas Charlton, Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)	Dr Simon Harding, Middlesex University
Kiran Vagarwal, London Borough of Barnet	Sam Denman, National Probation Service	Tim Harris, North West London Magistrates Court
Jon Dickinson, London Borough of Barnet	Steve Leader, London Fire Brigade	Julie Pal, Community Barnet
Tina McElligott, London Borough of Barnet	Bridget O'Dwyer, Barnet Public Health	Caroline Birkett, Victim Support
Simon Rose, Metropolitan Police	Jamie Keddy, MOPAC	Laura Featley, Department for Work and Pensions
Paula Light, Metropolitan Police	Roger Kemp, Barnet Safer Neighbourhood Board	

You are requested to attend the above meeting for which an agenda is attached.

Andrew Charlwood – Head of Governance

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ASSURANCE GROUP

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item No	Title of Report	Pages / Timing
1.	Welcome and Introductions <i>Cllr Longstaff – Chairman of SCPB and Chairman of the Community Leadership Committee</i>	Items 1 – 4 10 minutes
2.	Apologies for Absence	
3.	Minutes of Previous Meeting	5 – 10
4.	Matters Arising	
5.	Domestic Violence and Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls 1. Update from the DVA VAWG Sub Group 2. Update on the development of the new DVA and VAWG Strategy 3. Strategic Direction <i>Kiran Vagarwal – Strategic Lead Safer Communities, Barnet Council</i>	11 – 32 20 minutes
6.	Update from the Community Rehabilitation Company Progress update on the CRC's organisational restructure <i>Douglas Charlton – Head of Stakeholders and Partnerships North London Rehabilitation Directorate</i>	Verbal Report 10 minutes
7.	2017/18 MOPAC funding 1. Update on the post March 2017 MOPAC London Crime Prevention Fund 2. Priority areas for funding 3. Timeline for delivery <i>Kiran Vagarwal – Strategic Lead Safer Communities, Barnet Council</i>	Verbal Report 20 minutes

8.	<p>Public Health Substance Misuse</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Substance misuse interventions update 2. Public Health insight and analysis – overview of trends and patterns <p><i>Bridget O’Dwyer – Senior Commissioning Manager, Substance Misuse Service, Barnet & Harrow Public Health Team</i></p>	<p>33 – 36</p> <p>20 minutes</p>
9.	<p>Update from Youth Matters</p> <p><i>Tina McElligott – Assistant Director, Family Services, Barnet Council</i></p>	<p>Verbal Report</p> <p>10 minutes</p>
10.	<p>Performance Dashboard</p> <p><i>Peter Clifton – Community Safety Manager</i></p>	<p>Verbal Report</p> <p>5 minutes</p>
11.	<p>Future Work Programme</p> <p>Proposed items for next SCPB on 28 April 2017:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understanding and Responding to the Trends and Performance of Community Confidence 2. Community Safety Alternative Delivery Model 3. Communication Strategy Update 4. CCTV and ANPR Update 5. Anti-Social Behaviour Enforcement Strategies <p><i>Kiran Vagarwal – Strategic Lead Safer Communities, Barnet Council</i></p>	<p>15 minutes</p>
12.	<p>Any other items the Chairman decides are urgent</p> <p><i>Cllr Longstaff – Chairman of SCPB and Chairman of the Community Leadership Committee</i></p>	<p>10 minutes</p>

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Decisions of the Safer Communities Partnership Board

28 October 2016

AGENDA ITEM 3

Members Present:-

Councillor David Longstaff (Chairman)
Kiran Vagarwal – London Borough of Barnet
Jamie Blake – London Borough of Barnet
Duncan Tessier – London Borough of Barnet
Bridget.O'Dwyer – Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group
Laura Featley – Department for Work and Pensions
Helen Twigg – Victim Support
Sam Denman – National Probation Service
Steve Leader – London Fire Brigade
Wendy Manuel – 23red
Superintendent Paula Light – Metropolitan Police

Apologies for Absence:

Roger Kemp – Barnet Safer Neighbourhood Board
Julie Pal – CommUNITY Barnet
Peter Clifton – London Borough of Barnet
Chief Superintendant Simon Rose – Metropolitan Police
Jamie Keddy – MOPAC
Temi Mwale

1. **INTRODUCTIONS, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Chairman of the Safer Communities Partnership Board, Councillor David Longstaff welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 22 July 2016 be approved as a correct record.

The first item on the agenda was a presentation from the Police around the Be Safe project.

2. **VERBAL UPDATE FROM THE POLICE ON THE BE SAFE PROJECT**

Wendy Manuel introduced the project and outlines that the Be Safe project is a crime prevention campaign using insight behavioural and data analysis to tap into Londoners' concerns and help overcome behavioural barriers in order for them to take control of their own and their families' security.

She outlined that there would be a focus on burglary where there was an element of fear. People preferred not to think about the possibility of burglary. There was also an element of helplessness, the fact that people don't know what to do and choose to do nothing.

The project aimed to motivate Londoners to take steps to protect themselves and create a collaborative environment where Londoners see it as their job to protect themselves. The 'be a hero' initiative was a fun and simple way to get people into the habit of protecting themselves.

Ms Manuel also outlined the timeline of the communications campaign and the channels through which they were going to target the audience. The aim was to change people's mind-set and the perception of what they could do to protect themselves.

They were also going to work with partners so that partners could disseminate the message to their communities. There would be newsletters, leaflets, physical material and work with partners to identify the best way deliver this message. They would try to make this as easy as possible for partners to participate in this project.

Councillor Longstaff asked how this project is related to the locks, clocks and lights project. Superintendent Paula Light replied that the locks, clocks and lights project was focused on burglary. Councillor Longstaff mentioned that there needed to be a focus on burglary because this was a major issue in Barnet.

Ms O-Dwyer said that she is happy to liaise with Ms Manuel if there is any work with drug and alcohol with other boroughs.

Councillor Longstaff asked how they would ensure that the message was distributed effectively. Ms Manuel responded that they planned to test, evaluate the message and tailor it to ensure that it was effective. Ms O-Dwyer asked whether they were liaising with any local housing services and Ms Manuel responded that any information regarding partners would be useful.

Finally, it was agreed that Ms Manuel would attend a future Board meeting to report results on performance.

3. DEVELOPING THE PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Kiran Vagarwal introduced the report which related to the performance management framework.

Ms Vagarwal stated that crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) rates were low in Barnet. The approach was to be victim and community centred and focus on the perception of crime. ASB remained low and community confidence remained high.

It was reported that there is a statutory duty to perform the annual Strategic Crime Needs Assessment and produce a report on results on what has been achieved during the last 12 months.

Ms Vagarwal outlined that they would put in place delivery groups, multi-agency action plans, ensure that KPIs had been identified and that there was a partnership dashboard for each objective. There would be a dashboard presented for every quarter that would

demonstrate how the high level objectives had been achieved. There will be an annual report which will be presented to the Adults & Safeguarding Board, Children's Safeguarding Board, Community Leadership Committee and Health & Well-Being Board.

Ms Vagarwal outlined what was required from the Board:

1. Relevant victim, offender, location service data for every quarter in order to decide which data should be included in the performance dashboard coming to this Board;
2. Report on relevant future targets to integrate into the strategy but not duplicating work;
3. The Community Safety Team will analyse and produce the performance reports and produce cross partnership data;
4. Provide input and interpretation of data and provide recommended action; and
5. Consider deeper cross agency data analysis that can add value to more targeted work

Ms Vagarwal agreed to send the analysis form which outlines what analysis is required and how can community safety support by producing this analysis. **(Action)**

Mr Douglas Charlton from the Community Rehabilitation Company added that they are developing a new system to gather data that would go live in March 2017 and would help with the accuracy of data.

Councillor Longstaff asked what was relevant to Barnet and that the Partnership needed to be clear on the direction of travel. Targets were useful but there needed to be clarity on the work that was required to be done.

Ms Vagarwal mentioned that there needed to be more focus on performance, quality and outcomes. The strategy had resulted from local consultations to make sure that they were relevant to Barnet.

Violence against women and young girls is a London wide policy. However, the strategy needed to be focused on elements which were relevant to Barnet.

The next step was for the different delivery groups to be in place and then tasked to put together a performance dashboard and nominate high level indicators. Updates regarding this would be reported at the next meeting.

Ms Vagarwal reported that there was no update regarding MOPAC funding. On 10 November the Heads of Community Safety would meet to look at the Police and Crime Plan before the consultation went live. Ms Vagarwal outlined the core values and priorities of set out in the proposed policing plan.

Councillor Longstaff asked how the Police and Crime Plan fitted with Barnet. Ms Vagarwal responded that they were going to make the Plan relevant to Barnet across different service areas.

4. UPDATE FROM THE COMMUNITY REHABILITATION COMPANY

Douglas Charlton from Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) stated that there had been disjointed working between partners because it had been difficult to identify which partners are responsible for each piece of work. Feedback had also been received from

Chief Executive meetings and London Councils.

CRC currently work on a cohort model which was being refined. There was a custody cohort which focussed on people in custody and ensures that there are links back to the community. There was also a male and female cohort.

The male custody cohort excluded Integrated Offender Management and there would be separate work taking place that was going to be tailored for each borough.

The operational structure of this model would include managers for Barnet, Brent and other areas and it would be geographically focused. There was currently no update on the strategic structure. Douglas informed the Board that he would be sending out information to keep partners updated. There were currently no updates on the external strategy.

Ms Vagarwal added that one of the priorities was to reduce re-offending and increased the cohort from 70-200 and this would be reflected in the KPIs for the strategy.

Douglas added that CRC was looking at how IOM can be incorporated into this model.

Finally, he said that there was going to be a pilot that would start in early January and if that proved to be a success and was aligned with the Metropolitan Police strategy, then it would be adopted. This pilot would also need to be aligned with priorities from other partners such as the Metropolitan Police and DWP.

5. MOPAC UPDATE

Ms Vagarwal said that there was no update from MOPAC. She added that as there was a four year funding allocation, they would issue money for two years so that there would be a roll over within these two years. There would be no bidding process; local priorities would be assessed to decide on funding allocations.

Ms Vagarwal agreed to share with the group any information as soon as it was available
(Action)

6. UPDATE FROM YOUTH MATTERS

Duncan Tessier updated the Board on youth matters.

Over the summer there had been a number of incidents including a serious incident. The figures around offending were lower than the London average. However, there was a small cohort that had been causing problems. There had been an increase in gun discharges.

As there had been some worrying trends around Barnet, the Council has been looking at this and had decided to put some additional resource to work with this cohort.

Mr Tessier said he would bring an update in a future meeting when the plans were more concrete to have a further discussion regarding these issues.

Superintendent Paul Light said that the incident in Finchley was going to Crown Court and as a result the Gangs Unit would work closely with the council.

Ms O-Dwyer said that drug and alcohol played an important role and they looked at children with adult substance misusers. She added that partnership work was valuable.

7. PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

Superintendent Paula Light said that burglary was affecting particular wards.

One of the measures that could assist to prevent burglary is if the look of the property was altered, burglars were likely to go somewhere else. There was also going to be a focus on properties that had already been burgled.

There was a system which captures footprints after a burglary incident and footprints could be compared with other incidents.

Ms Vagarwal said that there had been 33% reduction in the latest report a year ago and a 22% reduction in the last 12 months.

Barnet was the 8th lowest in comparing with London boroughs and 9th in comparison with 15 neighbouring boroughs. There was good overall performance. However, one incident does affect perception.

There had been serious youth violence incidents. Regarding domestic violence there had been a decrease for the first time in the last 12 month period. There had been a 3% reduction.

Superintendent Paul Light said that the Community Safety Unit that dealt with domestic assault was back in Barnet.

Ms Vagarwal suggested that the Board could recommend that the next Domestic Violence Board should consider the performance on sanction detection rates and enforcement. The Board unanimously **AGREED**.

Finally, it was also outlined that there had been a downward trend on Anti-Social Behaviour.

8. FORWARD PLAN - PROPOSED ITEMS FOR NEXT SCPB: 27 JAN 2017

Councillor Longstaff added the following items on the forward work programme:

- Update on Be Safe
- Update from Duncan on Youth matters
- Performance dashboard development
- New Young people substance misuse service
- CRC update and focus on Barnet priorities
- MOPAC funding update

The Board unanimously **AGREED** the above items to be added to the forward work programme.

9. HATE CRIME - REPORTING

Ms Vagarwal introduced the report which related to hate crime reporting. There had been a review around hate crime reporting centres. There had also been recruitment of new centres and there was a model that was looking at a variety of different types of hate crime such as disability and racial hate crime.

Ms Vagarwal confirmed that Barnet Community Safety Team had been working closely with Ray Booth, CEO, Barnet Mencap, in improving the reporting centres in Barnet and that she was keen to enable Barnet Mencap to continue to lead on this. The support included the submission of a bid to secure funding and recruit a Hate Crime Co-ordinator for Barnet based within Mencap.

The next step is to look on how Safer Neighbourhood teams could be engaged. During the next 12 months there would be an increase in the number of reporting centres and the work around violence against women and girls will be included.

If Full Council passes the motion around hate crime then this work will be linked to that.

10. ANY OTHER ITEMS THAT THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

Ms Vagarwal requested an update from Steve Leader around the bid they had submitted. Mr Leader updated the Board and mentioned that were currently finalising the bid about mobile fire suppression systems for bed-bound and chair-bound people. In the incident of a fire the fire suppression system sprays water over a defined area. The bid is for six mobile fire suppression systems and there was one currently in the borough.

Ms Vagarwal mentioned that there were cases that were referred from Adults & Communities and that they should be in contact with them to see whether there is anyone particularly in need so that this equipment can be allocated.

Mr Leader added that there should be promotion around this equipment such as speaking to doctors, presenting to social services and Barnet Homes in order to spread the message as widely as possible. This type of communication would help the fire brigade service to respond immediately when a vulnerable person was identified as having that particular need.

The meeting finished at 11.26 am

Report Name:	Preventing and Responding to Violence against Women and Girls & Domestic Violence and Abuse (VAWG & DVA) in Barnet 2017-2020	
Meeting:	Barnet Safer Communities Partnership Board (SCPB)	
Meeting Date:	27/01/2017	
Enclosures:	None	
Report Author:	Kiran Vagarwal, Safer Communities Strategic Lead	
Outcome Required:	Information Only: Decision Required: Feedback/comments required: X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Restricted	No	

Summary

Preventing and responding to Violence against Women and Girls and Domestic Violence and Abuse (referred to as VAWG from hereon) remains one of the key priorities for Barnet Safer Communities Partnership and its current strategy ending in 2020.

The strategic approach proposed for Barnet, takes into account recent local, regional and the national strategy frameworks for VAWG and new legislation. There will also be changes in the government's future funding and commissioning arrangements for VAWG services and programmes delivered at regional and local borough level. Developing a local strategy that takes these changes into account will ensure Barnet Council and its partners are prepared for the new approach, and are in line with the developing strategic and legal framework responding to VAWG.

The current DVA and VAWG Strategy will continue to be in place until March 2017 with the new strategy going live in April 2017. This is to enable Barnet to take into consideration the various strategies, policies and future funding regimes that have been and are being introduced post March 2016, for example the new Home Office Strategy was not released until March 2016 and we are awaiting the new Crime and Policing Plan which will set out a new priority in the Police and Crime Plan focussing on VAWG. It will also enable us to fully consult with our statutory and voluntary partners, the public, victims, survivors, families and perpetrators.

The agreement process for this strategy is as follows:

Date	Who/Meeting	Comments
22 March 2017 Sign off of the final draft VAWG and DVA Strategy	DVA and VAWG Delivery Board	Partnership Sub group of the Safer Communities Partnership Board leading on the delivery and monitoring of the Boroughs Partnership Strategy
28 April 2017 Sign off of the final Barnet partnership VAWG & DVA Strategy 2017-2020	Safer Communities Partnership Board	Statutory Partnership Board leading in the delivery of Barnet's Community Safety Plan and linked Strategies.

Vision:

By 2020, identifying and preventing violence against women and girls is everyone's business where:

- Victims who suffer domestic violence and abuse feel confident in reporting it to us
- Victims are provided with the right services at the right time and in the right way
- Families are more resilient
- Fewer victims reach crisis point
- Perpetrators are held to account through enforcement, with the onus on them to change their behaviour.

Partnership Objectives:

1. **Preventing Violence against women and girls** by changing attitudes and behaviour that foster violence against women and girls and intervening earlier

2. **Improving outcomes for victims and their children** by intervening in the right way, at the right time with the right services building victim and family resilience to stop problems escalating to crisis point

3. **Holding perpetrators to account** through enforcement and putting the onus on them to change their behaviour

4. **Enhancing joint working practices** between agencies by understanding local need and providing a consistent, co-ordinated response to victims and their children

This report seeks the views of members on the vision, objectives and the approach proposed.

Recommendations

1. That the SCPB comment on each of the following, which are set out in this report:
 - a. Vision
 - b. Partnership strategic objectives
 - c. Approach for Barnet's 2017-2020 VAWG & DVA strategy.

Why this report is needed

Barnet Council's Community Safety Team are leading on the development of the new VAWG & DVA strategy for Barnet (2017-2020). This report shares the vision, partnership strategic objectives and approach proposed in the new strategy in order to seek the views of Safer Communities Partnership Board.

The strategy will set out how statutory partners, together with the voluntary and community organisations will prevent and respond to VAWG and DVA in Barnet from 2017 to 2020.

The overall outcomes we want to achieve by 2020 is a reduction in of VAWG DVA in Barnet, matched by increased reporting, police referrals, prosecutions and convictions for what can still be hidden crimes. We want to see earlier intervention and prevention that builds victim and family resilience so that fewer victims reach crisis point with every victim (and their children) receiving the right support, at the right time, in the right way.

Strategic Context

Addressing violence against women and girls is already recognised as a priority area regionally, nationally and internationally. The UN Declaration was adopted by the General Assembly in 1993. This was followed by a resolution of intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women in 2009. In 2010, the Mayor of London published 'The Way Forward'; a London wide plan aimed to end all forms of violence against women in the capital and followed this with a refreshed strategy in 2013. The 2017-2020 Police and Crime Plan will also include a priority on tackling violence against women and girls'.

In March 2016, the Government published its 'Ending Violence against Women and Girls Strategy 2016 to 2020' which outlines their commitment to make tackling violence against women and girls everyone's business.

Locally this strategy will sit alongside a broader set of strategies and business plans including the Community Safety Strategy, Family Services Early Intervention and Prevention Strategy, Community Engagement Strategy, Adult Safe Guarding Business Plan and Children Safeguarding Business Plan.

Definition of VAWG

Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) is both a form of discrimination and a violation of human rights. Locally we have adopted the United Nations

Declaration on Elimination of Violence against Women¹, which defines violence against women as:

‘Any act of gender based violence that results in or is likely to result in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women [or girls], including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty’
(1993, Article 1)

The definition incorporates a wide range of abusive behaviours including physical, sexual, financial, emotional and psychological abuse. It is important that Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) is not seen as a series of incidents or assaults which an individual experiences. Violence against women and girls describes violent and oppressive patterns of behaviour and practises, which achieve power and control over women and girls. It impacts on the physical safety, health and emotional well-being of individuals and impacts on families, carers, children and the community as a whole.

Violence against Women and Girls includes violence that is targeted at women or girls because of their gender or affects women and girls disproportionately.

Examples of this type of violence are:

- Sexual violence, abuse and exploitation
- Sexual harassment and bullying
- Stalking
- Trafficking and forced prostitution
- Domestic violence and abuse
- Coercive and controlling behaviour
- Female genital mutilation (FGM)
- Forced marriage (FM)
- Crime committed in the name of ‘honour’

Proposed Partnership Objectives

Partnership Objective 1:

Prevent Violence against women and girls by changing attitudes and behaviour that foster violence against women and girls and intervening earlier

Prevention and early intervention will be a core foundation of our approach to tackling VAWG, taking a life course approach to ensure all victims – and their families – have access to the right support at the right time to help them live free

from violence and abuse. This will continue to increase victim confidence in reporting domestic violence and abuse and seeking support earlier.

Schools and Education:

We will continue to work with our schools and higher education establishments to educate young people and teenagers about healthy relationships, abuse and consent and raise awareness of key issues like 'sexting' and online manifestations of abuse.

Protecting people online:

We will consider any further local or national risk analysis on the use of online dating services by perpetrators to target and abuse women and to ensure the appropriate safety advice is provided and that all victims have the confidence to report these crimes. This includes raising the awareness of:

- The new law, introduced in 2015, making 'revenge porn' a specific criminal offence.
- The dedicated 'revenge porn' helpline launched nationally
- The Stop Online Abuse website established in 2015, providing practical advice for women and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender (LGB&T) adults on how to recognise abuse, steps to take to report it and how to get online content removed.

Challenging and responding to harmful practices: Female Genital Mutilation, Forced Marriage, Honour Based Violence

Locally we will continue to challenge the cultural attitudes that may underpin practices of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage (FM) and ensure professionals are supported and have the confidence to identify and confront these issues.

These crimes have historically been hidden and we want to ensure that more victims have the confidence to come forward to get the support they need and that perpetrators are brought to justice.

To do this, we must make sure that our local police and partnership response is as good as it can be and seeks the support of the central FGM and (FM) Unit that can share good practice and provide local outreach support.

Locally we will continue to care for survivors of FGM and take action to safeguard girls from harm. We will also monitor and understand the levels of FGM and forced marriages in Barnet.

Earlier identification and intervention to prevent abuse

We will make VAWG 'everyone's business' across all agencies in Barnet and the wider public, ensuring women can seek help in a range of everyday settings as they go about their daily lives – for example with housing providers, job centres, community organisations and employers – and secure appropriate support from specialist victim services. Every point of interaction with a victim will be seen as an opportunity for intervention and not be missed.

Identifying victims and offenders at the earliest opportunity, intervening effectively to prevent violence and abuse from escalating and tackling high rates of repeat victimisation and re-offending will be a key priority across the partnership.

We will also engage with the public through a number of awareness campaigns and consider new and emerging programmes for Barnet that will provide additional opportunities for victims of violence and abuse to receive the help they need at an earlier point.

Moving to an integrated approach that builds on family and community resilience

We recognise how domestic violence and abuse impacts on different family members and that stopping violence from escalating and reducing the harm to victims and their children are vital.

We will ensure that this happens more widely and consistently, and that we develop an approach where the risk and need identification for all members of a family takes place at the same time.

We will consider best and innovative practice² being developed elsewhere and locally where health, schools, and housing providers work together to identify and support victims and their families at an earlier stage and provide effective wrap-around support.

The role of our Local Health Service

Abused women use health care services more than non-abused women and they identify health care workers as the professionals they would be most likely to speak to about their experience¹.

GPs, midwives, health visitors, mental health, drug and alcohol services, sexual health and Accident and Emergency staff are all well placed to identify abuse. They have the opportunity to intervene early and direct victims to the most appropriate statutory and non-statutory services. The new NHS Mandate recognises the vital role of the NHS in tackling abuse and violence and expects NHS England to ensure the NHS helps to identify violence and abuse early and supports victims to get their lives back sooner.

We will continue to support our local health service, making it easier for the service to play their part in responding to VAWG & DVA. For example, funding and commissioning a local Identification & Referral to Improve Safety (IRIS) model for Barnet.²

We will also continue to work closely with our mental health and substance misuse services to improve our local response to both victims and perpetrators of domestic and sexual violence.

Women and girls affected or involved in gangs

Women and girls can experience significant harm as a result of their association with gang members, including sexual violence and exploitation. Barnet Council's Family Services will continue to work with partners to address girls and gangs and child sexual exploitation through our local Gang's Strategy and Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy.

Perpetrators: Changing behaviours to prevent abuse and re-offending

A sustainable approach to preventing abuse is dependent on changing the attitudes and behaviours of perpetrators. Previously the evidence base for perpetrator interventions has been mixed. However, we recognise the importance of tackling perpetrators as the root cause of abuse, drawing on growing evidence base for their value as illustrated by the Mirabal project findings³.

¹ http://www.domesticviolencelondon.nhs.uk/uploads/downloads/DH_4126619.pdf

² (IRIS) model in health practices - a domestic violence and abuse training, support and referral programme to support GPs in asking about and responding to such disclosures.

³ <https://www.dur.ac.uk/resources/criva/ProjectMirabalfinalreport.pdf>

Following a service review, in 2016, Barnet Council commissioned an adult and young person's domestic violence perpetrator programme. The outcomes of which, will be monitored by the boroughs VAWG & DVA Delivery Board.

Locally we expect to see an increased use of the range of protection orders available to tackle domestic abuse, forced marriage, sex offenders and those who pose a risk of sexual harm – these are critical tools for our frontline agencies to manage risk of and prevent offending.

Partnership Objective 2:

Improve outcomes for victims and their children by intervening in the right way, at the right time, with the right services

There will be a continued focus on improving outcomes for victims and their children by intervening in the right way, at the right time with the right services.

Embedding VAWG as every one's business and improving agency responses in identifying abuse at an earlier stage and supporting further increases in reporting will inevitably place a greater demand on local services.

There is no generic approach to providing services to victims of violence and abuse. Needs may be complex and may include, for example, housing provision, assistance with debt or support for mental health problems.

Provision will meet the needs of the diverse range of victims whether long term residents of Barnet or victims who have moved in more recently.

Specialist services responding to violence against women and girls are listed below:

Central Government Funded Services

Services funded by central government that support Barnet victims are:

- The North London Rape Crisis Service – supporting Barnet victims of rape
- Forced Marriage Unit – supporting victims and survivors of forced marriage
- National Domestic Violence Help Line – Providing advice and emergency accommodation for victims wanting to flee domestic violence

Services Commissioned by Barnet Council

- Refuge provision
- Independent Domestic Violence Advise
- Perpetrator Programmes (adults and young people)
- Barnet Domestic Violence multi-agency risk assessment panel (DV)
- MARAC)
- Multi-agency training programme

Services Commissioned by pooling of partnership budgets

- IRIS programme (funding secured, to be commissioned)
- In-house specialist partnership services
- Specialist Domestic Violence Court (led by our local court)
- Barnet One Stop Shop (led by Barnet Homes)
- Sanctuary Project (delivered by Barnet Homes)

Future commissioning

Our commissioning will be based on our local needs assessment and the best available evidence of what works, innovating where necessary to meet new or complex challenges; We will involve local third sector organisations in commissioning, recognising that they have important insight into victims' needs, including those from BME backgrounds;

Where possible we will work together to pool budgets across different agencies to make the best use of available resources.

Our local strategic approach will support models of earlier integrated interventions with victims, perpetrators and their families, at the same time as maintaining crisis provision.

For most high risk victims at crisis point, refuge and rape crisis centres will continue to be provided as it is a proven source of support. But such services are only part of the answer. In order to meet the needs of our victims arising from increased disclosure and better early identification of abuse, we need to help more victims at the earliest opportunity and ensure fewer suffer repeat abuse.

Our services will also consider that women may travel far from home when fleeing violence, so we will work towards making our local provision open to all (recognising that some women from our own area are likely to seek support elsewhere). Our provision will be flexible to meet the needs of women therefor we will consider future opportunities of collaboration across local authority boundaries and services.

Commissioners across the local partnership will:

- Understand what ‘success’ looks like for victims and their families and engage directly with victims themselves and consult with service providers;
- Calculate the costs of VAWG on different agencies to support cross-sector buy-in to commissioning;
- Support clearly defined outcomes and indicators based on prevention and early intervention; and
- Understand their duties and responsibilities enshrined within the Equality Act 2010 and victims’ legislation, which take account of the particular needs that black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME), LGB&T and disabled women may have and the barriers they may face.

Partnership Objective 3:

Hold perpetrators to account through enforcement and putting the onus on them to change their behaviour

While we want to stop violence and abuse happening in the first place, where it does happen, perpetrators must be brought to justice. We will continue to ensure that effective sanctions are taken against perpetrators and that they are prevented from influencing children and other vulnerable people from becoming perpetrators in turn.

We will also support sustainable behaviour change and robust disruption to reduce re-offending. This will not be possible for all offenders but is a critical element in stopping the cycle of perpetrators moving from one victim to the next.

In investigating and prosecuting VAWG and DVA crimes, we will promote an even stronger focus on ensuring every report of violence and abuse is treated seriously from the time it is reported, every victim is treated with dignity, and every investigation and prosecution is conducted thoroughly and professionally. We will also ensure evidence-led prosecutions are the focus of our approach.

The introduction of the new domestic abuse offence of coercive or controlling behaviour in an intimate or family relationship should lead to a further increase in referrals and prosecutions for these offences.

The court process can be lengthy but victims may not be able, nor want, to proceed to that stage if their first experience of the criminal justice system is negative. It is imperative that the first response by the police to all victims, particularly those who are vulnerable, is right first time, every time.

Supporting victims through the criminal justice system

Victims of VAWG can find it challenging and often distressing going through the process of bringing an offender to justice.

The Serious Crime Act 2015 provides for the anonymity of victims of FGM, making it an offence to publish any matter that would be likely to lead members of the public to identify someone as the alleged victim. The prohibition lasts for the lifetime of the alleged victim. This could be an important factor in encouraging women to come forward due to the personal and sensitive nature of the offence.⁴

Vulnerable victims and witnesses are also being provided with a greater opportunity to give evidence from a location away from the court.

While victim testimony is important, we must make sure that all the possible evidence is considered when building a case so that more evidence-led prosecutions can ensure perpetrators are brought to justice without victims needing to go through unnecessarily adversarial court procedures.

To support local victims in the criminal justice process and hold perpetrators to account, Barnet police will be using body-worn cameras to gather evidence at a domestic abuse incident. They will be used to record the behaviour of the offender, the responses of adult and child victims, and the scene itself. The cameras will be powerful sources of evidence in any prosecution

On-going contact with key workers and professionals, and being kept up to date with development of final outcomes has been highlighted by victims as something that they feel is very important. Better use of technology is allowing victims access to information about the status of their case.

For example, TrackMyCrime is a secure online system, hosted on police.uk which allows victims of crime to receive updates from the police on the investigation of their case. The system does not replace existing forms of communication, but provides greater choice for victims about when they receive an update on their case and how they interact with the police.

Prostitution

We remain committed to tackling the harm and exploitation that can be associated with prostitution, whilst giving those who want to leave prostitution every opportunity to find routes out.

⁴ At the time of writing this strategy the government is also considering providing lifelong anonymity for victims of forced marriage.

Our priority in this context is public protection: people involved in prostitution can be particularly vulnerable to sexual and other violent crime, and may in fact be victims of child sexual exploitation or modern slavery.

Supporting female offenders affected by violence and abuse

We know that many victims of sexual, physical and emotional abuse can also be drawn into offending behaviour. The proportion of female prisoners that report experiencing some form of abuse during their childhood is twice as high as among male prisoners with many reporting that their offending was to support their partner or someone else's substance misuse.

Models where there is a more effective joined-up approach to addressing. These models aim to develop a whole system approach to managing female offenders which can help improve victim outcomes.

The National Offender Management Service (NOMS) published 'Better Outcomes for Women'⁷ earlier this year which sets out the commissioning principles for developing services for women in the criminal justice system.

A new national helpline will also be rolled out for female offenders so that they can obtain support whilst in custody and on release. This follows a pilot helpline delivered at HMP Holloway by Women's Aid and Refuge.

Locally reducing re-offending is one of the key priorities of the Safer Communities Partnership Board (SCPB). This priority is delivered through a sub group of the SCPB – The Reducing Re-offending Delivery Group. Barnet also has in place an Integrated Offender Management Scheme – IOM, providing increased engagement and interventions with the most persistent offenders in Barnet. This group will ensure that Barnet female offenders of abuse can access the help they need to rebuild their lives and the break the cycle of offending.

Sharing intelligence

Sharing intelligence across agencies enables better protection of those who might be at risk. Border Force works closely with the police and airlines on joint FGM operations to target high risk flights and raise awareness, especially during the school holidays when girls may be most at risk. Border Force Officers, both in the UK and abroad, provide crucial extra intelligence and carry out additional checks on passengers in support of these operations.

In addition, Border Force's Safeguarding and Trafficking Teams have been given advanced training on FGM and forced marriage, including on what to look out for on the equipment which may be used to carry out FGM, so they have the right

skills to spot potential perpetrators and deal sensitively with potential victims of FGM.

Tackling online offending

The internet has revolutionised how we communicate and share information but it has also been used as a vehicle for online abuse, harassment, bullying and stalking.

An 'online flag' allows police forces to record instances of crimes such as stalking and harassment taking place online. New questions in the Crime Survey for England and Wales mean that VAWG crimes with an online component will be identified. This data will be published in due course.

Legislation to deal with internet trolls, cyber-stalking and harassment, and perpetrators of grossly offensive, obscene or menacing behaviour has been strengthened. The Government has also acted in response to new kinds of online offending, for example by introducing a new law making the fast growing incidence of 'revenge porn' a specific criminal offence.

Partnership Objective 4:

Develop joint working practices between agencies to provide a consistent, co-ordinated response to victims and their children

Ensuring we remain an effective partnership

Standing Together's 'Guide to effective domestic violence partnerships' provides a useful overview of the components of 'Excellent Partnerships' based on research with 10 partnerships across the UK8, including London.

Taking this into account the VAWG Delivery Board will ensure:

- We have shared objectives, vision, joint responsibility and equality between partners
- We have clear structures and governance in place where there is effective links with two way information flow, accountability and space for both strategic and operational input
- We have a partnership strategy and action plan setting out who is doing what and when and outputs and outcomes are measurable
- The partnership has good representation from all agencies where individuals/agencies including the voluntary sector provide effective

- leadership to respond to VAWG in Barnet
- We maximise the resource capacity and potential for investment
- There is clear co-ordination across the partnership supported by the
- Community Safety Team
- There is continuous training and a continuous commitment to effective
- change, raising awareness, raising awareness and skill development
- across the partnership workforce
- We use data to measure and define success
- We have partnership and agency specific policies, protocols and processes in place that make complex areas understandable and ensure continuous delivery
- We have specialist services to respond to VAWG that include services aimed at different risk levels and needs
- Our approach considers and meets the needs of Barnet's Diverse community
- Ensuring victims and survivors are consulted on all areas of the strategy and service provision

Multi-agency working

The multi-faceted and complex nature of VAWG means that it cannot be addressed by any one agency alone and requires a number of organisations in both the statutory services (Including health, local authorities, police, the Crown Prosecution Service and Probation) and voluntary and community services to work together.

Future inspections will consider how individual services contribute to keeping victims safe, but also the quality of the partnerships and the ways in which joint working is scrutinised. Multi-agency working also has a positive impact on tackling VAWG and it's a model that locally we will continue to develop.

We will develop a more integrated approach to multi-agency working that looks at victims, their families and perpetrators in the round where there is earlier intervention, building resilience, swifter, pre-emptive multi-agency action and risk identification for all members of a family at the same time.

Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs)⁵ are statutory and led by Barnet SCPB and co-ordinated by the Council's Community Safety Team as a multi-agency response to domestic violence and abuse. We will continue to promote learning from the two DHRs conducted in Barnet in 2015/2016.

⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/revised-statutory-guidance-for-the-conduct-of-domestichomicide-reviews>

In addition, a new FGM mandatory reporting duty that requires regulated health and social care professionals and teachers to report 'known' cases of FGM in under 18s to the police is now in force. The national multi-agency guidance for all frontline professionals on FGM will be reviewed and put on a statutory footing.

The aim of this statutory footing is to increase the number of referrals to the police, increase prosecutions⁶ and help strengthen our understanding of this form of abuse. The VAWG Delivery Board will monitor the local implementation of this duty and the statutory guidance.

Effective multi-agency responses are also critical in managing adolescent to parent violence. An information guide is available to support police, youth justice, health, education, social care, safeguarding and housing service providers and practitioners to respond to and prevent adolescent to parent violence. We will ensure this is promoted locally.

Making VAWG 'everyone's Business'⁷

A recent Home office review of services indicated that around 85% of victims of domestic abuse seek help from professionals at least five times before getting the support they need.^{8,12}

It is vital that locally, better use is made of these critical opportunities for identification and support.

We will make VAWG 'everyone's business' across all agencies and the wider public, ensuring women can seek help in a range of everyday settings as they go about their daily lives – for example with housing providers, job centres and employers – and secure appropriate support from specialist victim services. Every point of interaction with a victim will be seen as an opportunity for intervention and not be missed.

Domestic Abuse and Housing

A housing officer may be a victim's first port of call and are ideally placed to identify those carrying out domestic abuse and also those at risk, including children. We will continue to support local housing professionals so they have the

⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mandatory-reporting-of-female-genital-mutilationprocedural-information>

⁷ Taken from the HMIC report in domestic abuse:
<https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmic/wpcontent/uploads/2014/04/improving-the-police-response-to-domestic-abuse.pdf>

⁸ Review led by Department of Communities and Local Government

necessary knowledge and skills to recognise domestic abuse at an early stage and help victims get the right support quickly so that residents can live safely and free from abuse.

Public transport

The Government, in partnership with the British Transport Police (BTP) commissioned a Rapid Evidence Assessment entitled 'What works in reducing sexual harassment and sexual offending on public transport nationally and internationally?' to provide greater safety for women and girls. One outcome was the 'report it to stop it' campaign, which is encouraging more active engagement from bystanders and will be supported by a wider range of technological options to improve mechanisms for reporting. We will work with our local British Transport Police to understand the prevalence of this in Barnet transport networks, ensure there is a local response in place and our local public transport remains a safe mode of travel for our women and girls.

Delivering the Strategy

Governance

This strategy will be overseen by Barnet's VAWG & DVA Delivery Board - a sub group of Barnet's Safer Communities Partnership Board (the statutory board overseeing delivery of Barnet's Community Safety Partnership Plan, which includes a priority on responding to and preventing violence against women and girls).

Measuring Success

The VAWG DVA Delivery Board will agree a set of partnership indicators that will measure and define success and be reported to the VAWG and DVA Board quarterly. High level indicators will also be reported to the Safer Communities Partnership Board quarterly with a proposed annual report to the Community Leadership Committee.

Co-ordinating Delivery

A three year (2017-2020) partnership action plan will support this strategy setting out who is doing what and when and providing measureable outputs and outcomes.

Implementation Timetable

By February 2017:

- Consultation (statutory partners, voluntary community organisations, victims, survivors and perpetrators).
- An equalities impact assessment conducted.
- Multi-agency key performance indicators agreed to measure performance and outcomes of the strategy.
- 2017/2018 multi-agency action plan developed.

8th March 2017:

- A final draft presented to the Community Leadership Committee.

22 March 2017:

- A final draft agreed by the VAWG and DVA Delivery Board.
- 28 April 2017:
- The final strategy agreed by the Safer Communities Partnership Board.

May 2017:

- On the council website supported by annual communications plan

Resources

The council's annual budget for DV and VAWG services is £771,210.00. This covers two posts and a commissioning budget of £650,806.02. Families Services also commission a young people's perpetrators programme listed under commissioned service 3 and 4 from their departmental budget.

	Commission	Budget	Over 4 years prior to savings (£)	Savings over 4 years (£)
1	Advocacy services	Community Safety Team	£1,073,432	£48,616
2	Refuge Services	Community Safety Team	£1,099,221	£276,039
3	Perpetrator Services	Community Safety Team	£430,570	Reduction in unit costs
4	Risk Assessors	Family Services	£140,000	Reduction in unit costs
5	DV MARAC (new commission)	Community Safety Team	£35,000	New commission

The perpetrator Services and Risk Assessors are spot purchased as and when needed so not a block contract, with early intervention. Any savings made in the re-commission will be re-invested into VAWG and DVA.

Barnet Homes in partnership with the council Jewish Women's Aid submitted a bid to the 2015-16 Department For Communities and Local Government (DCLG - Strengthening accommodation based specialist domestic abuse service provision) were awarded £100,000. This was one year's funding for the One Stop Shop and the additional refuge spaces.

Once the funding came to an end, in 2016/2017 Barnet Homes agreed to allocate the refuge rental income to be used to fund the refuge. For 2017/2018 the funding for the refuge will be an approximate shortfall of £70,000 and the One Stop Shop a further approximate £30,000.

Barnet Homes will be submitting a bid to the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) to secure 2 years of funding for the refuge and a separate bid to the Prevention Trailblazer Fund¹⁴ for the One Stop Shop.

Apart from these two funding streams, if funding is not secured for the refuge, Barnet Homes will no longer be able to providing a refuge service post March 2017. The OSS is being run on the good will of all partners and there are issues of capacity in terms of administering/managing the service which means that a dedicated part time coordinator is required to continue to support, monitor and publicise the good work of the OSS as an effective early intervention and prevention tool. Bar the council there are currently no other funding streams that Barnet Homes can explore to support these services.

Community Safety is working with Barnet Homes to identify options to cover any funding shortfall.

Partnership budgets are not included in this paper, however we would like the SCPB to note the positive contributions made by all partners both financial, operationally and strategically. However, the strategy will set out the budgets for VAWG across the partnership.

Sylvia Walbys report estimates that providing public services to victims of domestic violence and the lost economic output of women affected costs the UK £15.8 billion annually. The cost to health, housing and social services, criminal justice and civil and legal services is estimated at £3.9 billion. In Barnet reported violent and sexual crime against women counts for an estimated 28% of the total cost of crime on the borough: amounting to an average of £20.7 million per year.

Therefore a collaborative, multiagency approach to tackling violence and abuse is essential. In 2017 the government will also launch a dedicated Service Transformation Fund, to encourage new approaches, and establish and embed the best ways to help victims, and their families, and prevent perpetrators from reoffending. Partners have also pooled resources of £87k to fund the IRIS project – A GP identification and training programme.

Background Papers

11 March 2014

Agenda item 10: Crime and Disorder Scrutiny

<http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=119&MID=7470#AI6563>

Agenda item 10: Update report on Domestic Violence and the police

https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s24006/DV_VAWG%20Update%20%20FINAL%2024JUNE2015.pdf

9th March 2016

Agenda Item 9: Annual update on the 2016 Community Safety Strategic Assessment

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s30235/Final%20Update%20on%20the%202016%20Community%20Safety%20Strategic%20Assessment.pdf>

https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s30236/Appendix%201%202015_16%20Action%20Plan%20Review%202.pdf

24 June 2015

Agenda item 10: An update on Domestic Violence and Violence against Women and Girls <https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s24006/>

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Report Name:	Public Health Substance Misuse Service Insight	
Meeting:	Barnet Safer Communities Partnership Board (SCPB)	
Meeting Date:	27 th January 2017	
Enclosures:	Appendix 1: Barnet Substance Misuse Service Treatment Population Heat Maps: 1.10.2015 – 30.9.2016	
Report Author:	Bridget O'Dwyer Senior Commissioning Manager Substance Misuse Service Barnet & Harrow Public Health Team	
Outcome Required:	Information Only: Decision Required: Feedback/comments required: X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Restricted	No	

Introduction

This presentation will provide the Safer Communities Partnership Board an overview of the Barnet's drug and alcohol treatment population. The period covered 1.10.2015 – 30.9.2016 captures the first year of Barnet's new Adult Substance Misuse Service and includes eleven months of Barnet's old Young People's Substance Misuse Service plus one month of the Service.

This is the first time a heat map format has been used to show treatment data, in this case - age and substances used by partial post code.

Please note: the long time period and partial post code has been used to avoid producing client identifiable data. However this aggregated data will provide a starting point for discussion i.e. other useful data that the Board may suggest be included. Areas currently being followed by the commissioner:

- Substance Misuse Service Satellite activity across the borough including needle exchange programme
- Possible gaps in access to treatment
- Drug paraphernalia hot spots
- Licencing

The presentation also includes a short oversight of New Psychoactive Substances for the Board's information.

Summary of key points

The areas with the highest number of treatment episodes are:

- EN5
- HA8
- NW9

Followed by:

- NW4
- NW11
- N12

The peak age group for being in treatment is 40s and 50s however:

- There is a dip in treatment in late teens/early twenties and was highlighted during our Barnet Young People's Drug and Alcohol Needs Assessment. The New Service provides treatment up to the age of 24 to avoid cliff edge of support.
- There is a clear gap in treatment of the population from 60 years onwards – this is currently being addressed including work with the Alcohol Liaison Team at Barnet Hospital to identify people presenting with alcohol related injuries or conditions and commence the community treatment pathway there. Joint work with G.P. Practices continues to be developed and work with Social Care is to be further developed.

Barnet Treatment Population – Substances Reported

The Heat Maps highlight the three main substances that are reported (by the Service User) during a treatment episode to give a picture of the different substances used across the borough.

- Alcohol is the highest reported substance used followed by heroin, crack and cannabis
- Although at a lower level, there is reported use across the borough of other drugs i.e. cocaine, other opiates, illicit methadone, ecstasy, amphetamines, benzodiazepines, solvents, hallucinogens and others.
- In common with the age data, the areas with the largest number of Service Users is HA8, NW9 and EN5 however this does not mean there is not additional need in other areas.

Work is currently underway between the Substance Misuse Service Commissioner and Safer Communities Partnership with regards to sharing intelligence of alcohol and drug use across the borough to enable Barnet Substance Misuse Service to undertake further outreach work with CJS i.e. street drinking

Identification and Brief Advice (IBA)

Simpler 'brief intervention' approaches, typically lasting not more than 5 or so minutes, are commonly referred to as 'IBA' Identification and Brief Advice on alcohol. IBA is aimed at identifying increasing risk drinkers and obviously those who are dependent. Those drinkers who are drinking at any elevated level of risk will benefit from accurate identification and advice from their professional. The evidence base for the effectiveness of IBA is strong - the World Health Organisation and the Department of Health have both acknowledged over 50 peer reviewed, academic studies that demonstrate IBA is both effective and cost effective in reducing the risks associated with drinking.

Barnet Adult Substance Misuse Service is rapidly expanding IBA across the borough to Barnet stakeholders in the shared objective to improve the wellbeing and quality of life of residents. IBA training will be provided to frontline staff including:

- Criminal Justice Service including Custody and Neighbourhood Police (including role in CSMARAC, Community Safety Hub and improve engagement with individuals who may not normally access a Drug and Alcohol Service)
- Mental Health Services
- Domestic Violence Agencies
- Sexual Health Services
- Children and Family Services (including supporting family members to respond to change resistant drinkers, making family members more aware of barriers to change, harm reduction and impact of physical effects - this will be in conjunction with WDP Hidden Harm Service)
- Midwifery and Health Visiting and School Nursing Services
- Adult Social Care Services
- Housing Services
- Fire and Rescue Services