

SAFER COMMUNITIES  
PARTNERSHIP



*Keeping Barnet Safe*



# **Community Safety Strategic Assessment 2014/15**

**A summary of the key findings**

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# Introduction

The Barnet Safer Communities Partnership (BSCP) brings together the key agencies involved in crime prevention and community safety work. It includes Barnet Council, the Metropolitan Police, Fire Service, the Probation Service, Public Health, Victim Support, CommUnity Barnet, Middlesex University and the Safer Neighbourhood Board.

Our aim is that everyone who lives or works in, or visits Barnet will feel and be safe. Barnet is one of London's safest boroughs in which to live and work. Since 2005 overall crime in the borough has fallen by over 25%; over the last year there have been significant reductions in the number of burglaries and robberies.

In order to ensure that we continue to address crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) issues impacting on Barnet, we:

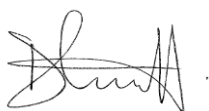
- conduct an annual **Community Safety Strategic Assessment** to collate data and analyse the crime pattern of the borough
- listen to the views and concerns of Barnet residents on the crime and community safety issues that matter to them
- monitor performance and delivery against our objectives.

The annual Community Safety Strategic Assessment is a snapshot of crime and community safety, supported by factual data from across the partnership and feedback from residents. We will use this to help us identify our priorities for the forthcoming three-year Barnet Safer Communities Strategy 2015-18.

Many of our priorities do not change from year to year as they follow long-term trends. We may, however, need to re-focus the priorities in response to:

- emerging or changing trends in crime and ASB
- the impact of previous interventions
- emerging external national and local factors, and
- learning gained through the delivery of the existing priorities.

This report is a summary which shares the key findings of the Community Safety Strategic Assessment 2014/15. I hope that you find it informative and useful. If you would like more information about the assessment please contact the Community Safety Team at [BarnetCST@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:BarnetCST@barnet.gov.uk)



**Councillor David Longstaff**  
Community Leadership Committee Chair  
Chair of Barnet Safer Communities Partnership Board

# Our headline performance

## Barnet – one of London’s safest boroughs and getting safer

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### Topline facts – crime in Barnet

- Overall reduction – from approximately 35,000 crimes in 2005 to fewer than 25,000 last year <sup>1</sup>
- Overall, crime in Barnet has fallen by 11% compared to one year ago <sup>2</sup>
- 8th lowest crimes per 1,000 population of all 32 London boroughs <sup>3</sup>
- 2nd lowest rate of violence out of all 32 boroughs in London boroughs <sup>4</sup>
- 12.7% reduction in ASB related calls <sup>5</sup>

### Fewer victims of crime in Barnet

Reduced offending is translating into less crime and fewer residents of Barnet becoming victims of crime. Based on the 12 months to 25 February 2014 compared to the 2011/12 baseline there are now, per year:

**865** fewer victims of burglary  
**603** fewer victims of theft from motor vehicle  
**462** fewer victims of criminal damage  
**452** fewer victims of robbery  
**191** fewer victims of theft of motor vehicle  
**74** more victims of theft person

### Rate of residential burglary has fallen sharply

Burglary has long been an issue of significant community concern. The rate of residential burglary in Barnet is above the London average. We are pleased, however, that over the last year Barnet has achieved some of the largest burglary reductions in London (19% reduction in residential burglary and 6% reduction in non-residential burglary).<sup>6</sup>

### More offenders are being caught

The ‘Sanction Detection rate’ is a measure which indicates the proportion of crimes which the police are ‘solving’. A high Sanction Detection rate implies that the police are being effective in identifying and catching the perpetrators of crime. Barnet’s sanction detection rate for residential burglary (19.7%) is the highest of all 32 London boroughs.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Feb 2013 – Jan 2014

<sup>2</sup> Mar 2013 – Feb 2014 vs. Mar 2012 – Feb 2013

<sup>3</sup> Based on the 12 months up to Jan 2014

<sup>4</sup> Based on the 12 months up to Jan 2014

<sup>5</sup> In last 12 months (to 25th Feb 2014) vs. one year ago

<sup>6</sup> In the 12 month period Feb 2013 - Jan 2014 compared with one year ago

<sup>7</sup> financial year to date Apr 2013 - 16 Feb 2014

# Community Safety Partnership actions

## Performance assessment against the 2011-2014 strategic priorities

<i>Priority</i>	<i>What we have been doing</i>
<b>Property crime with special focus on burglary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dismantling criminal networks</li> <li>• Improving our offender management</li> <li>• Targeting people handling stolen goods</li> <li>• Delivering prevention campaigns</li> <li>• Catching more burglars – Barnet police have a high ‘sanction detection’ rate for burglary</li> </ul>
<b>Anti-social behaviour (ASB)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reducing ASB through Tri-borough Dispersal Zone in Cricklewood, and Designated Public Place Orders in town centres to reduce alcohol-related ASB</li> <li>• Co-ordinating Multi Agency Problem Solving Groups to tackle long-term ASB problems</li> <li>• Closing down squats and illegal encampments linked to crime and ASB</li> </ul>
<b>Violent crime with specific focus on domestic violence (DV)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making concerted efforts to tackle under-reporting</li> <li>• Supporting high risk victims of domestic abuse through safety plans created at MARAC<sup>8</sup></li> <li>• Supporting women and children where conflict is a feature of family life (Barnet Safer Families Team)</li> <li>• Providing advocacy and support to victims of DV (SASS Barnet - Solace Advocacy and Support Service)</li> <li>• Undertaking assessments, group work and 1-2-1 interventions with adult perpetrators of DV (Delivering Domestic Violence Intervention Project)</li> <li>• Striving to capture the best possible evidence at the scenes of DV crimes (the Police Total Evidence Programme)</li> </ul>
<b>Improving integrated offender management (IOM)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Established Barnet Integrated Offender Management (IOM) Programme<sup>9</sup></li> <li>• Co-locating police, probation, Job Centre Plus and re-settlement officers in the IOM</li> <li>• Reducing offending by those on the IOM programme (which is translating into less crime and fewer people becoming victims of crime in Barnet)</li> </ul>

<sup>8</sup> Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) creates safety plans to support high risk victims of DV

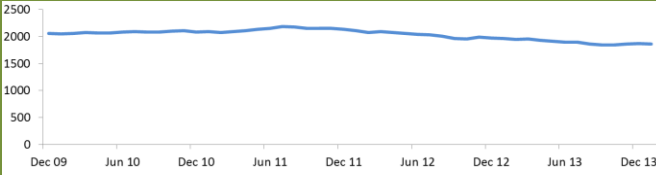
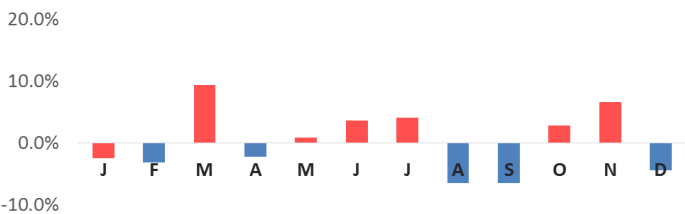

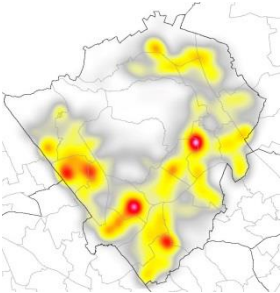
<sup>9</sup> The IOM Programme involves local partner agencies working together to ensure that the offenders whose crimes cause most damage and harm locally are managed in a co-ordinated way

<b>Priority</b>	<b><i>What we have been doing</i></b>
<b>Broader cost-effective early intervention</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivering the Troubled Families Programme which aims to turn around the lives of families who have multiple complex needs</li> <li>• Working with the borough's most vulnerable young people to support them to resolve difficulties and re-engage with education, employment, or training (Youth Support Service - targeted youth workers)</li> <li>• Established the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) - the single point of entry in Barnet for all referrals regarding concerns for a child or young person</li> </ul>
<b>Focus on where offences take place</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focusing over the last three years on reducing crime and burglary in hotspot areas</li> <li>• Reducing ASB through Dispersal Zones and Designated Public Place Orders</li> <li>• Extending our CCTV coverage so it focuses on the areas where crime takes place</li> </ul>
<b>Tackle repeat victimisation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing the referral rate of DV cases to MARAC and implementing co-ordinated plans to safeguard the victim</li> <li>• Reducing the risk faced by victims of DV (CAADA<sup>10</sup> analysis found that the Barnet MARAC is reducing the risk towards victims)</li> <li>• Making homes more secure (for example fitting more secure locks) to guard against burglary (The Safer Homes scheme)</li> <li>• Reducing the risk of repeat victimisation through police victim care packages (including the installation of temporary cameras to catch and deter offenders, and case management using the Airspace ASB system<sup>11</sup>)</li> </ul>
<b>Building reassurance and confidence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall community confidence in the police and local authority in Barnet is strong and most indicators show this has improved over the last year</li> <li>• Confidence in policing is above the London average</li> <li>• Community cohesion remains strong</li> </ul>

<sup>10</sup> Co-ordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse (CAADA) is a national charity focused on reducing DV

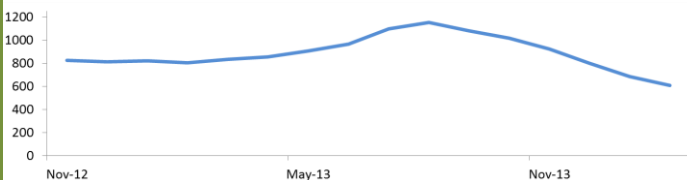
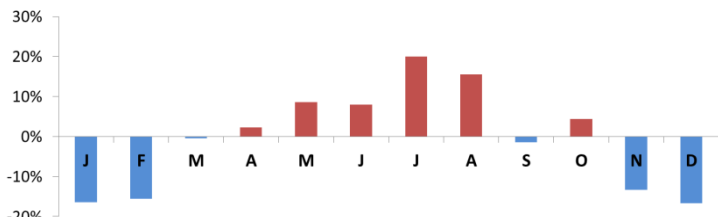
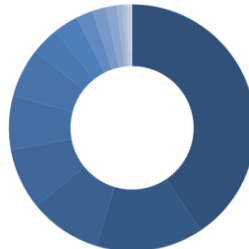
<sup>11</sup> A software system used by police to track repeat incidents of ASB and help manage the response

# The crime picture

Quick facts – all recorded crime											
Current figures refer to the 12-month period ending 31 Jan 2014											
Level of crime	<b>22,837 crimes</b> / 62.75 per 1,000 residents										
Peer comparison	8th/32 in London and 4th/15 in 'Most Similar Group'										
Annual change	Reduction of 2,804 crimes / 10.9% compared to one year ago ( <i>this figure is for 12 months to Feb 2014</i> )										
General trend											
Seasonality	 <p>March and November are the peak months</p>										
Breakdown of crime types	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Violence - ABH and GBH 31%</li> <li>Sexual Offences 18%</li> <li>Burglary in A Dwelling 15%</li> <li>Robbery -Personal Property 8%</li> <li>Burglary in Other Buildings 8%</li> <li>Theft/Taking Of Motor Vehicle 5%</li> <li>Theft from Motor Vehicle 4%</li> <li>Other Theft 4%</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>										
Hotspots	 <p><b>Top Five Wards (All crime, to Feb 2014)</b></p> <table> <tr> <td>West Hendon</td><td>1,890</td></tr> <tr> <td>Childs Hill</td><td>1,775</td></tr> <tr> <td>Coppetts</td><td>1,403</td></tr> <tr> <td>Hendon</td><td>1,339</td></tr> <tr> <td>Golders Green</td><td>1,289</td></tr> </table> <p>These account for 34% of the total.</p>	West Hendon	1,890	Childs Hill	1,775	Coppetts	1,403	Hendon	1,339	Golders Green	1,289
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Childs Hill	1,775										
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Hendon	1,339										
Golders Green	1,289										
VOL(T) analysis	<p><b>Victim</b> The top locations where victims of crime live (irrespective of where the offence occurred) in descending order are HA8, NW9, EN5, NW4, NW11</p> <p><b>Offender</b> Peak age for arrests in Barnet is 16-24 year old (35% of all arrests). Most arrested suspects are male (86.5%). Because of repeat offending a small proportion of offenders are responsible for a disproportionately large amount of crime</p> <p><b>Location / Time</b> The top five areas based on the offence location are (in descending order): HA8, NW4, EN5, NW9 and N12</p>										

## Quick facts – ASB

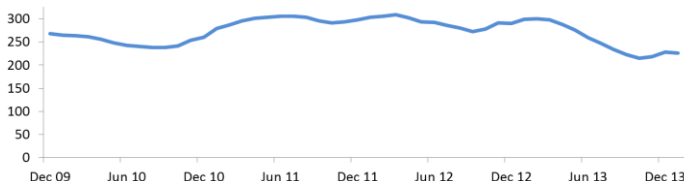
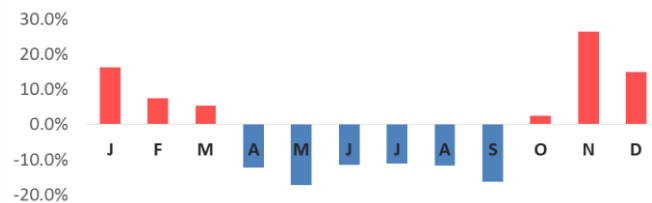
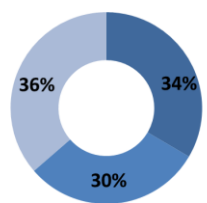
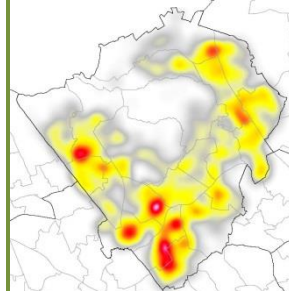
Current figures refer to the 12-month period ending 25 Feb 14 unless otherwise stated

Level of crime	11,798 incidents / 32 per 1,000 residents													
Peer comparison	8th/32 in London (in 12 months up to Dec 2013)													
Annual change	Decrease of 1,710 incidents / 12.7% compared to one year ago													
General trend		Sharp decline since mid-late 2013 (Date to Feb 2014)												
Seasonality <i>Based on data (Jan 2011 to Nov 2013)</i>		July and August are the peak months												
Breakdown of ASB types (by calls to police in 12 months to Nov 2013) <i>excluding calls with non-ASB primary type classification</i>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rowdy or inconsiderate Behaviour 40.6%</li><li>Rowdy / Nuisance Neighbours 14.0%</li><li>ASB - Nuisance 9.5%</li><li>Veh Nuisance / Inappropriate Use 8.0%</li><li>Noise 7.1%</li><li>Malicious / Nuisance Communications 6.4%</li><li>Veh - Abandoned Not Stolen 3.7%</li><li>ASB - Personal 3.2%</li><li>Begging / Vagrancy 2.2%</li><li>Trespass 1.8%</li><li>Animal Problems 1.4%</li><li>ASB - Environmental 0.7%</li><li>Littering / Drugs Paraphernalia 0.5%</li><li>Street Drinking 0.3%</li></ul>	Rowdy/inconsiderate behaviour followed by nuisance neighbours, ASB nuisance, and vehicle nuisance are main contributors												
Hotspots	<b>Top 5 wards for volume of ASB calls</b> <table><tr><th>Ward</th><th>Volume (last 16 months to Feb 2014)</th></tr><tr><td>Childs Hill</td><td>1,336</td></tr><tr><td>Colindale</td><td>1,048</td></tr><tr><td>Hendon</td><td>929</td></tr><tr><td>Edgware</td><td>807</td></tr><tr><td>Burnt Oak</td><td>765</td></tr></table> <p>The top 5 account for 35% of the borough total (data to Feb 2014)</p>		Ward	Volume (last 16 months to Feb 2014)	Childs Hill	1,336	Colindale	1,048	Hendon	929	Edgware	807	Burnt Oak	765
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VOL(T) analysis	<table><tr><td><b>Victim</b></td><td>There is very broad range of victims of anti-social behaviour spread across all age groups and communities</td></tr><tr><td><b>Offender</b></td><td>For Public Order related offences the peak age is between 19 to 21 years old</td></tr><tr><td><b>Location / Time</b></td><td>Childs Hill, Colindale and Hendon are the top three wards for volume of ASB-related calls to the police</td></tr></table>		<b>Victim</b>	There is very broad range of victims of anti-social behaviour spread across all age groups and communities	<b>Offender</b>	For Public Order related offences the peak age is between 19 to 21 years old	<b>Location / Time</b>	Childs Hill, Colindale and Hendon are the top three wards for volume of ASB-related calls to the police						
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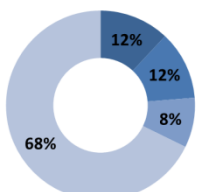
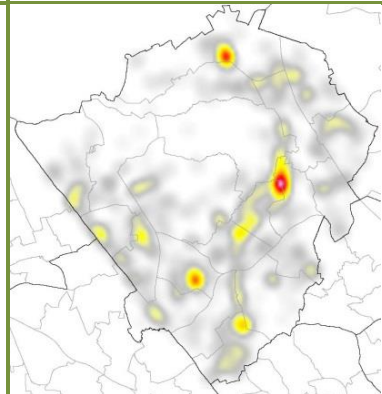
## Quick facts – residential burglary

Current figures refer to the 12-month period ending 31 Jan 2014

Level of crime	2,830 crimes / 20.8 per 1,000 households											
Peer comparison	28th/32 in London and 14th/15 in 'Most Similar Group'											
Annual change	Reduction of 679 crimes / 19% compared to one year ago											
General trend		High in 2011 and 2012, significant fall during 2013, now stable										
Seasonality		High in winter, November is the absolute peak month										
Breakdown by suspect category	 <div><div>Suspects from 'off borough' 34%</div><div>Suspects from 'on borough' 30%</div><div>Unknow 36%</div></div>	A significant proportion of suspects are from off borough										
Hotspots	 <div><div>Top Five Wards (residential burglaries in last 12 months to Feb 2014)</div><table><tr><td>Golders Green</td><td>177</td></tr><tr><td>Oakleigh</td><td>174</td></tr><tr><td>Childs Hill</td><td>169</td></tr><tr><td>West Hendon</td><td>167</td></tr><tr><td>Brunswick Park</td><td>166</td></tr></table><div>These account for <b>31%</b> of the borough total</div></div>		Golders Green	177	Oakleigh	174	Childs Hill	169	West Hendon	167	Brunswick Park	166
Golders Green	177											
Oakleigh	174											
Childs Hill	169											
West Hendon	167											
Brunswick Park	166											
VOL(T) analysis	<div><div>Victim</div><div>Most commonly suburban streets near hotspot areas. Houses backing onto parks, allotments, open space, alleys have a higher rate of burglary than average</div><div>a) Cross-border burglary groups (youthful, use cars)</div><div>b) Local burglary groups (youthful)</div><div>Offender</div><div>c) Burglars from overseas</div><div>d) local repeat lone offenders (older males, offending to support a substance abuse habit)</div><div>Location / Time</div><div>Most burglaries happen during the daytime. During the winter seasonal high the peak time is in the late afternoon when it is dark but many people are not at home</div></div>											

## Quick facts – non-residential burglary

Current figures refer to the 12-month period ending 31 Jan 2014

Level of crime	1,291 crimes / 3.55 per 1000 residents	
Peer comparison	21st/32 in London and 10th/15 in 'Most Similar Group'	
Annual change	Reduction of 76 crimes / 6% compared with 1 year ago	
General trend	<div></div> <div>Stable, slight fall during second half of 2013</div>	
Seasonality	<div></div> <div>Seasonal peak: May &amp; June</div>	
Types of property stolen	<div></div> <div><div>Cash 12%</div><div>Cycles and Accessories 12%</div><div>Power hand tools 8%</div><div>Other 68%</div></div>	
Hotspots	<div></div> <div><div>Top Five Wards (in last 12 months to Feb 2014)</div><div><div>Childs Hill98</div><div>Colindale82</div><div>High Barnet80</div><div>Mill Hill80</div><div>Woodhouse79</div></div><div>These account for 33% of the borough total</div></div>	
VOL(T) analysis	<div>Victim</div>	<div>Shops and commercial premises, e.g. restaurants etc. within concentrated town centre hotspots. Other common locations are allotment sheds and building sites.</div>
	<div>Offender</div>	<div>Adult, male repeat offenders, often to support substance misuse habits</div>
	<div>Location / Time</div>	<div>Peak time is overnight. Significant concentration in a few small town centre hotspots (North Finchley, High Barnet, Finchley)</div>

## Quick facts – robbery

Current figures refer to the 12-month period ending 31 Jan 2014

Level of crime **772 crimes / 2.1 per 1000 residents**

Peer comparison **12th/32 in London and 9th/15 in 'Most Similar Group'**

Annual change **Reduction of 382 crimes / 33% compared to one year ago**

General trend



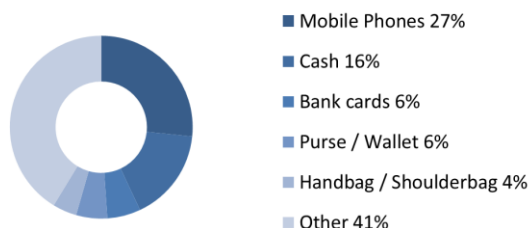
Downward trend since mid-2012, accelerated further in 2013

Seasonality

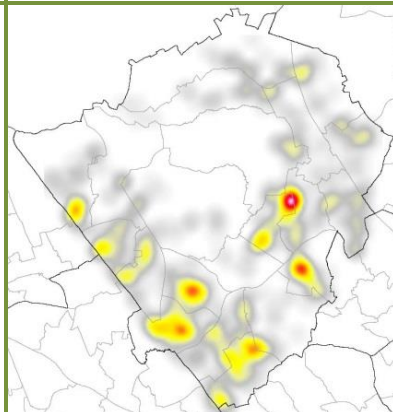


Substantial peak in March

Types of property stolen



Hotspots



**Top Five Wards** (last 12 months, to Feb 2014)

Childs Hill	76
West Hendon	61
Woodhouse	48
Golders Green	44
Hendon	44

The top 5 account for **37%** of the borough total

VOL(T) analysis

**Victim**

70% of victims are male, mostly aged between 11 to 28 years (71% of male victims)  
Sudden jump at age 11, the peak risk years are 14 to 18 (account for 33% of all male robbery victims)

**Offender**

90% are male. Offending starts at 13 years; absolute peak is 15 to 16 years (almost 1 in 3 suspects)

**Location / Time**

Hendon NW4 (overlapping onto Golders Green NW11) and North Finchley N12  
Peak time is afternoon to early evening, notably at the end of the school day

# What has been changing?

## Changing crime trends and changing environmental conditions

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### Stolen property trends

- The number of crimes where cash or Sat-Navs are stolen has reduced.
- The number of laptops stolen increased over most of the last decade (with a peak in 2011) but has since been falling slightly.
- Last year (2013) the volume of catalytic convertors stolen increased.
- Over the last three years there has been an upward trend in the volume of power tools stolen.

### Residential burglary trends

Between 2008 - 12 the market value of gold increased by over 400%. In the same period, demand for vehicles stolen with their own keys increased. As a result, more burglars started travelling to target places where they can find gold and cars.

These burglars favour areas where they are most likely to find houses (not flats) with gold jewellery inside, expensive cars on the drive and a relatively low concentration of police officers compared to other parts of London. The reversal of the upward trend in the price of gold around April 2013 has helped reduce the cross-border and vehicle-related element of Barnet's burglary problem.

### Domestic violence (DV) trends

More DV offences are being reported. This is likely to be due to an increase in the reporting and recording instances of DV appropriately rather than an underlying increase in the actual prevalence rate.

This is a positive development and reflects some years of concerted effort at the national, London and borough level to raise awareness and reporting of DV. Efforts to raise awareness amongst practitioners about the importance of making referrals to MARAC have also yielded positive results - the number of cases risk-managed by MARAC increased significantly in 2013/14.

### Offending trends

The Integrated Offender Management programme has helped to reduce re-offending among some of the most prolific offenders (the IOM 'cohort'), and this is contributing to crime reductions in Barnet.

Between April to September 2013 around 60 of the 336 fewer residential burglaries in Barnet were likely to have been due to reduced criminal activity by the IOM cohort.

Tackling repeat offending successfully will be pivotal to achieving further crime reductions. Based on our figures, we estimate that the top 200 offenders in the borough are, between them, committing around 5,000 crimes every two years.

# Emerging themes

## Key themes that have emerged from the Strategic Analysis

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Our research and analysis of the Community Safety Strategic Assessment has identified a number of emerging themes, which have a considerable impact on crime, ASB and community safety in Barnet. Below is a summary of each theme.

### **Residential burglary**

Barnet has one of the highest per 1,000 population rates of burglary in London; this is an issue of community concern.

Overall residential burglary has fallen in London over the last two years, helped by the favourable recent conditions, i.e. a general reduction in the trend of cross-border vehicle borne burglars targeting gold. Due to the intensity of the police and partnerships focus on burglary, however, Barnet's reductions over the last two years have exceeded the reductions seen in London.

The recent strong performance in reducing burglary in Barnet has been due to combination of successful local interventions including:

- successes dismantling criminal networks involved in burglary
- Barnet Police's exceptionally high sanction detection rate for burglary
- increasingly effective offender management
- increased targeting of handlers, and
- a Partnership-wide crime prevention campaign (including anti-burglary roadshows where free window alarms were handed out and experts from the police, Barnet Council and Neighbourhood Watch provided crime prevention advice).

We are committed to building on the recent successes in order to sustain a long-term reduction in burglary in Barnet; this aim will be reflected in the Safer Communities Strategy 2015-18.

### **Anti-social behaviour (ASB)**

Anti-social behaviour covers a wide range of unacceptable activity that blights the lives of many people on a daily basis. It often leaves victims feeling helpless, desperate and with a seriously reduced quality of life.

- Barnet residents made 11,798 ASB-related calls to police in the last 12 months (to 25 Feb 2014); 308 of these were repeat callers.<sup>12</sup>
- These figures represent a 12.7% reduction in total ASB calls and 13.2% reduction in ASB repeats compared to one year ago.
- According to Barnet's Residents Perception Survey (Spring 2014): 68% are very or fairly satisfied that police and council are dealing with crime and ASB in their local area (an increase of 1% from the Autumn 2013 RPS).

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<sup>12</sup> MPS crime stats

Some ASB issues are pervasive and general, e.g. graffiti on buildings, discarded litter in streets while other ASB issues are individual and specific, e.g. somebody suffering from repeated anti-social harassment.

Our research has recognised that litter and rubbish left around is one of the top ASB concerns of Barnet residents. Another key area to focus on is repeat victimisation due to the risk of harm towards victims. The Community Safety Strategy 2015-18 will seek to respond effectively to both these areas and will consider prevention and enforcement options as part of a balanced approach.

### **Re-offending**

A reduction in offending has translated into less crime, fewer victims of crime and a reduction in the costs relating to crime. We know that a small proportion of the most prolific offenders are responsible for a disproportionately large amount of crime. National studies and local analysis show that substance misuse (drugs and alcohol) is a significant causal factor for both acquisitive and violent offending.

By focusing on reducing the offending of this prolific cohort, in particular through the work of the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) Programme, we have been able to drive down overall crime and so reduce the number of people in Barnet who become victims of crime. We intend to continue developing this programme to deliver further reductions in offending and crime.

### **Domestic violence (DV) and violence against women and girls (VAWG)**

Women account for only 13.5% of suspects for crime overall. However, 51.5% of victims of violent offences (violent crime, robbery, sexual) are female. 87% of victims of sexual crimes are female. Even these figures are likely to understate the situation as both under-reporting and repeat victimisation are common features of domestic violence.

Efforts to raise awareness amongst practitioners about the importance of making referrals to MARAC has also yielded positive results with the number of cases being risk managed by MARAC increasing significantly in 2013/14.

Nationally, the VAWG agenda is rising in prominence, reflecting national concerns. It is important that Barnet both understands the local picture of violence towards women and girls and is able to act to reduce harm towards women and girls who are at risk.

It is shocking that responding to domestic violence alone costs Barnet an estimated £38 million a year. By responding to VAWG early on and even preventing it, we can make significant savings and, most importantly, reduce the harm it causes to victims, their families and the wider community.

### **Youth crime**

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

Some key facts about youth crime in Barnet:

- The peak victim age for offences with violent contact between the victim and offender (robbery, violence, sexual offences) is 15 to 33 years (52% of victims are in this range).
- The peak victim age for robbery is 14 to 18 years old (33% of male victims in this range).

Barnet is one of the safest boroughs in London (Barnet's rate of violence with injury rate of 4.2 per 1,000 population in the last 12 months<sup>13</sup> is the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest out of all London boroughs, and the lowest out of the 15 comparison areas in Barnet's 'Most Similar Group').

As would be expected, however, violent offences (including violence towards young people) are not distributed uniformly across the borough. Therefore, in order to best target our prevention efforts to reduce the risk of harm and violence towards young people, it makes sense to have a focus on the areas in the borough with higher rates of violence. An example of this in action is the 'Keeping Young People Safe' pilot project, which is focusing on Burnt Oak and surrounding areas.

In order to ensure the Safer Communities Partnership continues to address both adult and children safeguarding, the partnership will continue to focus on keeping young people safe, preventing them from being victims and/or offenders of crime, especially for the more serious offending.

### **Cross-cutting themes and hidden harm**

Two further themes are relevant to each of the above emerging themes and so can be thought of as 'cross-cutting themes':

- **Community confidence:** Engaging with people who live or work in or visit Barnet to understand their concerns and work together effectively together to keep Barnet safe
- **Repeat victims, offenders and locations:** Working in partnership to reduce the risk of people being repeatedly victimised and to change the offending behaviour of repeat offenders.

In addition, there are some hidden issues that often have the greatest effect on the most vulnerable people in our communities. These issues include:

- preventing violent extremism as part of the UK-wide 'Prevent' strategy
- tackling hate crimes such as racial crime
- tackling the under-reporting of crimes

We need to gain greater understanding of these issues in order to safeguard against and respond to them effectively and, in this way, increase people's confidence in services and encourage more reporting.

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<sup>13</sup> Figures for 12 months to Jan 2014

# Listening to you

## Feedback from Barnet residents about community safety

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During the last two years some 5,100 Barnet residents have taken part in consultation surveys, which either focused specifically on crime and community safety or included a significant section on the subject.

The main surveys which have guided our assessment are the Residents Perception Survey (RPS) and the Public Attitude Survey (PAS), both have been carried out by separate independent market research companies.

In addition, there have been a number of smaller or one-off consultations that are highly relevant to community safety issues.

### Key findings from this research

- Overall community confidence in the police and local authority in Barnet is strong and most indicators show this improving over the last year.
- Confidence in policing is above the London average.
- Confidence that the police understand community concerns and can be relied upon to be there when you need them is above the London average.
- Community cohesion remains strong.
- Litter and rubbish left around is a top ASB concern.

### Young people's perspective

Views of young people about youth crime and safety provide a perspective of the perceptions and circumstances surrounding this peak victim age group:

- Safety is a priority for many young people.
- Young people said they were particularly less likely to feel safe in some of the more isolated, poorly lit locations in the winter months when it gets dark early.
- Young people can feel the pressure to engage in negative activities for various reasons, which include peer pressure and family circumstances.

### What you have told us

Barnet residents have told us that they want us to:

- keep the community informed about what we are doing to tackle crime and ASB
- work together with the community to reduce rubbish and litter concerns.

We will ensure both of these are reflected in the in the Barnet Community Safety Strategy 2015-18.



# Getting involved

## Your views helping to shape our Community Safety Strategy

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Between September to December 2014 the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership Board will be updating its Community Safety Strategy.

This strategy will identify crime, anti-social behaviour and community safety issues for the partnership to prioritise and focus on.

Consultation with residents plays a key part in the development and annual review of the strategy. We consult to ensure that:

- the council works together with its partners and residents to sustain the low levels of crime and anti-social behaviour in the borough
- we understand the views and concerns of Barnet residents and provide an opportunity for residents to have their say about how we tackle and prevent crime and disorder, substance misuse and anti-social behaviour
- the annual review of Barnet's Community Safety Strategy takes into account the concerns residents have around crime and anti-social behaviour.

We will seek resident feedback through:

- Barnet Council's Resident Attitude Survey
- the Metropolitan Police quarterly Public Attitude Survey
- consultation on Barnet's Safer Communities Strategy 2015-18.

## How to take part

Visit Barnet's Consultation Hub <http://engage.barnet.gov.uk>

Here you will be able to take part in any surveys which are currently active.

The 'Consultation on Barnet's Safer Communities Strategy 2015-18' runs until 3 October 2014. Once the responses have been analysed we will publish the results of the survey on the Hub.

## Glossary

Term	Explanation
<b>Anti-social behaviour (ASB)</b>	Behaviour by a person which causes or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more people, not of the same household as the person. ASB is a key community concern and also a risk generator, i.e. in cases where low level repeat ASB victimisation escalates to the point of resulting in significant harm towards the victim.
<b>CSP</b>	Community safety partnerships (CSPs) are made up of representatives from the 'responsible authorities'. The responsible authorities work together to protect their local communities from crime and to help people feel safer. They work out how to deal with local issues like antisocial behaviour, drug or alcohol misuse and reoffending. They annually assess local crime priorities and consult partners and the local community about how to deal with them.
<b>London Rank</b>	A peer comparison (as above) comparing Barnet's rate of crime to the other boroughs in London (1 is best, 32 worst).
<b>MARAC</b>	Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences - creates safety plans to support high risk victims of domestic violence.
<b>Most Similar Group</b>	A peer comparison (see above) comparing Barnet to similar boroughs / areas that have been selected due to demographic similarities (1 is best 15th worst).
<b>Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)</b>	Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) is the single point of entry in Barnet for all referrals regarding concerns for a child or young person or where it is felt they would benefit from additional support.
<b>Public Attitude Survey (PAS)</b>	Public Attitude Survey – a London-wide survey of Londoners' opinions carried out on behalf of the Metropolitan Police, which breaks down results to borough level. It covers a wide range of community safety issues including crime, ASB and public confidence.
<b>Sanction Detection rate (SD rate)</b>	A Sanctioned Detection occurs when a suspect has been identified and charged, reported for summons, cautioned, issued with a penalty notice or the offence has been taken into consideration when the offender is sentenced. The sanction detection rate is the proportion of offences that result in a sanction detection.
<b>Violence against women and girls (VAWG)</b>	The United Nations defines violence against women as "any act of gender-based violence that is directed at a woman because she is a woman or acts of violence which are suffered disproportionately by women."

### **Useful links**

For more information about CSP and community safety in Barnet visit  
[www.barnet.gov.uk/community-safety](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/community-safety)

### **Alternative formats**

If you need this information in another format such as Easy Read, audio CD or large print, please contact the Adults and Communities Communications Team.

Tel: 020 8359 7150

Email: [adultsocialcare@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:adultsocialcare@barnet.gov.uk)