

Safer Communities Partnership Board

Minutes of meeting held on 26 July 2019
Hendon Town Hall, The Burroughs, London NW4 4BQ

Superintendent Louis Smith Metropolitan Police
(Chairman)

Board Members Present:

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| Steve Leader | London Fire Brigade |
| Kauser Mukhtar | Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) |
| Amlan Kumar Ghoshal | Safer Neighbourhood Board |
| Kiran Vagarwal | Assistant Director, Community Safety and Regulatory Services, LBB |
| Peter Clifton | Community Safety Manager, LBB |
| Richard Norfolk | Reducing Offending Officer, LBB |
| Ben Norfolk | Community Safety Data Analyst, LBB |
| Tamara Djuretic | Director of Public Health, LBB |
| Linda Somerville | Public Health Strategist, LBB |
| Matt Leng | Community Safety Manager, LBB |
| Sam Rosengard | Prevent Coordinator, LBB |
| DI Jason Moseley | Metropolitan Police |
| Adam Breyer | National Probation Service |
| Amanda Quinn | Barnet Homes |
| Tracy Scollin | Governance Officer, LBB |

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman, Superintendent Louis Smith, deputising for the Vice Chairman, Chief Superintendent Sara Leach, invited all attendees to introduce themselves.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from the Chairman, Cllr Roberto Weeden-Sanz and Tina McElligot, Director of Family Services, London Borough of Barnet (LBB).

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 April 2019 were **APPROVED** as a correct record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

None.

5. LONDON CRC AND NPS - PROBATION REFORM

The Chairman introduced the item.

The Contracts and Partnerships Lead, London North Area CRC provided an update. She reported that the process of renationalising probation services was due to begin in early

2020. CRC would be working closely with the National Probation Service (NPS) on this. The CRC's priorities were to ensure appropriate objectives had been set as well as focusing on workforce planning and restorative justice and working with victims.

The Chairman noted that after spring 2021 most of CRC's remit would return to NPS. He asked whether some areas of work that would be put to tender to the third sector or private bidders. Ms Mukhtar confirmed that small pieces of work would be put out for tender.

The Assistant Director for Community Safety stated that the last time a restructure had taken place the Integrated Offender Management Scheme had fallen from achieving a good performance to being rated as poor and she asked for this to be fed back for colleagues to note.

Action: Contracts and Partnerships Lead, CRC

The Assistant Director for Community Safety noted that substance misuse services would be put out to tender. She asked whether there would be an impact on service provision and what interventions would be available for service users. The Contracts and Partnerships Lead responded that the partnership would focus on 3 areas:

- The Integrated Offender Management Model
- Community payback - a pilot had already been undertaken and there should be no disruption to this. Barnet was being used as an example for other Boroughs.
- Mental health and substance misuse – services are available but in relation to substance misuse it was difficult to know for certain what would happen until more information was available on how the service would be tendered.

Mr Breyer reported that whilst proposals for a new probation operating model were being finalised it would be 'business as usual' for both the NPS and CRC. He added:

- The HM probation inspection in January 2019 had resulted in a 'requires improvement' grading for London although this had been one point below a 'good' rating. The NPS had been running with reduced resources for some time.
- An action plan for NPS London was in place which included regular risk assessments.
- The other area that had been criticised was work with victims. The Victim Liaison Unit was working on its own plan and the NPS hoped to see an overall improvement in future inspections.

6. KNIFE CRIME AND SERIOUS VIOLENCE REDUCTION PLAN

The Chairman introduced the item.

The Director of Public Health spoke to the report on the proposed primary legislation as part of the Government's Serious Violence Strategy. Further to a consultation the Government has decided on a new legal duty to support a local multi-agency approach to preventing and tackling serious violence and has set out the strategies which Community Safety Partnerships must formulate and implement, to explicitly include serious violence. Funding is available and Barnet would bid for this.

Currently in Barnet preventing serious youth violence was overseen by the Children's Safeguarding Board, with strategic oversight by the Safer Communities Partnership Board. A paper from the Insight and Intelligence Network would be put to Barnet's Council Management Team and discussions would be held on the potential gaps and how to strengthen partnership working.

The Community Safety Manager provided an update on the ongoing work which formed the Barnet Community Safety Knife Crime Reduction plan, which was mandated for all London Boroughs by MOPAC. In Barnet over 40 partnership teams had contributed to this and over 40 actions had been agreed. These included intelligence-led stop and search and use of Section 60, plus meetings between the police and community to monitor these, weapons sweeps (Operation Sceptre) – the police had completed over 180 in the past three months. The plan also included prevention, protection and educating young people as part of the Growing Against Violence scheme.

Barnet had launched Barnet REACH (Resilient Engaged Achieving Children) to support young people to reduce their vulnerability to gangs and serious violence and had so far worked with 45 young people (ages 11-17) every quarter.

NHS England had provided funding for liaison services in collaboration with the police, to assess young people and to provide relevant interventions to offer ways out of crime.

The Community Safety Manager outlined updates to the plan since May 2019:

- In March 2019 there had been a multi-agency learning event 'Adolescents at Risk' with Art Against Knives, the police and others.
- Additional support has been made available for children in care leavers, including counselling
- The Youth Offending team is delivering one-to-one sessions with all young people identified at risk of carrying knives being referred to the 'No Knives Better Lives' initiative
- 0-19 delivery hubs; to support community and school-based activities; linked to Growing Against Violence scheme.
- Forensic psychologist collocated with Youth Offending Team; funding until March 2020
- Police working to engage schools in anti-knife crime activity.
- CRC and NPS has team of 3 practitioners; safer streets interventions in north London. Focussed on violent crime service users.

The Community Safety Manager presented recent MOPAC data on knife crime in Barnet:

- 5% increase in Barnet in the past year and there had been a gradual increase over the past 3 years though this increase had been slower than that across London overall. 19% of knife-crime related offences in Barnet had involved robbery which was close to the London average.
- Barnet had the 7th lowest incidence of knife crime across all London boroughs over the past 12 months
- 51% of knife crime in Barnet had happened in four wards: Childs Hill, Burnt Oak, Colindale and Hendon. 61% of knife crime with injury where the victim was under

25 were in six wards: Burnt Oak, Edgware, Coppetts, Hendon, Underhill and Child Hill

Public perception in Barnet showed less fear and concern about crime than in London overall. The Chairman asked Inspector Jason Mosely to update the Board on public perception and the use of stop and search.

Inspector Mosely reported that additional funding had been granted providing Safer Neighbourhood Boards with the opportunity to undertake proactive work. One of these would be Ward walk alongs - he had circulated an email to 21,000 Barnet residents inviting them to meet with their local police officers and had received 200 expressions of interest so far. The Ward walk along would become business as usual.

Inspector Mosely noted that there would be a focus on the Wards with higher crime rates which would have plain clothes officers patrolling six days per month and working with the Council's CCTV to target perpetrators. Stop and search and dispersal notices would be used. More offenders would be brought to justice and more knives taken off the streets.

The Director of Public Health asked whether it tended to be the same perpetrators in those Ward with higher rates of knife crime. It would be helpful to understand the reasons for the public perception on knife crime in Barnet as it was high in relation to actual knife crime.

The Assistant Director for Community Safety responded that a decision had been made to refer habitual knife carriers to the Offender Management Scheme for more intense intervention. Also a piece of work would be undertaken around county lines and gangs and brought back to a future meeting.

Inspector Mosely added that the Ward walk alongs should help to provide more reassurance to residents and the Police would continue to increase engagement with schools across Barnet.

7. ANNUAL UPDATE ON THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS 2015-2020 STRATEGY

The Chairman introduced the item.

The Assistant Director, Community Safety and Regulatory Services, presented her report – an update on the delivery of the Barnet Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) 2017-2020 Strategy.

The four priorities of the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership in relation to VAWG Strategy are: prevention of VAWG, improving outcomes for victims and their children, holding perpetrators to account and enhancing joint working practices between agencies.

The Assistant Director, Community Safety and Regulatory Services noted that Barnet's rate of domestic violence (DV) and abuse is 13 per 1,000 population – the third lowest of the 32 London Boroughs. There had been an increase in the number of offences by 5.6% in the past year. The Sanction Detection Rate was 13%.

Barnet's interventions included:

- continued funding of specialist services for victims such as refuges and the Domestic Abuse MARAC.
- Commissioning of RISE Mutual CLC to deliver an adult and young people's perpetrator service to support perpetrators in behavioural change.
- Barnet's One Stop Shop (OSS) a drop-in service for early intervention and advice for victims of Domestic Abuse.
- Barnet council and its partners including Victim Support; has provided support to 486 victims of DA in 2018/19.

8. FAMILY SERVICES

The Chairman introduced the item.

The Community Safety Manager presented the slides on Family Services:

- 3990 families had been attached to the Troubled Families Programme which would end in March 2020. Barnet was on track to meet its targets.
- The number of cases open to the Youth Offending Team (YOT) was the lowest ever but many of the cases had complex needs and were more frequent offenders. There had been a 60% reduction in the number of offenders entering the criminal justice system in 2018/19.

The Chairman noted that the majority of crime was caused by 17-21 year olds; often offending ceased at a later stage so causes for the behaviour did not always get reported. Transitional safeguarding was a London-wide issue. Contracts and Partnerships Manager, CRC, reported that CRC would be holding an event to discuss transition from youth to adult services.

The Director of Public Health noted that it would be useful to do some work in this area. For most young people Domestic Violence (DV), school exclusions and substance misuse were factors. The Assistant Director, Community Safety and Regulatory Services agreed to take this back after the meeting for consideration.

Action: Assistant Director, Community Safety and Regulatory Services

The Assistant Director, Community Safety and Regulatory Services noted that information on prevention around first time entrants would be provided at the next update. The Community Safety Manager would look into reasons behind arrests in this cohort.

Action: Community Safety Manager

9. SUBSTANCE MISUSE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The Chairman introduced the item.

The Barnet Public Health Strategist gave a presentation on Adults' and Young People's Substance Misuse Needs Assessment.

The Public Health Strategist noted that the contract would end in April 2020 so substance misuse services would be re-commissioned. The needs assessment recommended:

- focus on prevention, effective treatment and recovery
- improved performance in particular with alcohol clients

- review of provision of GP shared care and needle exchange
- improvement to criminal justice pathways to increase clients in treatment
- improvement with clients with trigger trio issues of DV. Substance misuse and mental health issues
- An integrated model for treatment and prevention for adults and young people was proposed with increased focus on prevention, particularly for school-age children
- Improved continuity of care between prisons and the community.
- Continuing the provision of hospital-based alcohol services such as Identification and Brief Advice (IBA)
- Commissioning for Quality and Innovation being used to reduce A&E attendances.

The Chairman asked whether supporting data were available to show life outcomes as well as completion of treatment programmes. The Public Health Strategist would investigate and bring this back to the Board.

Action: Public Health Strategist

The Chairman reported that the Met Police had set up a Drug Related Violence Strategy to focus on the outcomes of drug use and to try to reduce violent outcomes due to drug use and drug dealing. Partners would be invited to discuss this with the Police. The focus would be on enforcement around long term medium level suppliers and on street dealers, as well as prevention around first use of drugs.

The Director of Public Health added that this also could provide an opportunity to strengthen referral pathways to ensure that referrals are being followed through.

10. REPORT ON PROGRESS OF DELIVERING THE PREVENT STRATEGY

The Chairman introduced the item.

The Prevent Coordinator spoke to his slides, giving an overview of the local Prevent Strategy's key action areas:

- Barnet's Prevent Delivery Group oversees the work and reassesses the risk on a quarterly basis as well as reviewing the Action Plan each quarter
- Channel Panel sits beneath the Delivery Group and provides risk assessments; if individuals do not meet the criteria for Prevent interventions they will be referred to another workstream
- The Local Authority leads assessments on the risk of extremism, radicalisation and community tensions. The CEO of Barnet reviews the risk assessments and submits these to the Home Office. Actions are put in place to address areas of risk, based on the Counter Terrorism Local Profile
- Training has been delivered to Local Authority staff and staff operating across the Barnet partnership including Barnet Homes, Re, NPS, CRC and Barnet Mencap since the launch of Prevent in 2017.
- Prevent training is being offered to all Barnet schools.
- Venues owned by Barnet Council are being checked to ensure they do not provide a platform for extremists' views.
- An annual audit of schools is carried out by the Prevent Education Officer on each school's use of web filtering
- Home Office funding had been provided to map voluntary supplementary education in the Borough

- Prevent has become business as usual, integrated into existing safeguarding strategies.

The Chairman enquired about the number of individuals the Channel panel had been involved with over the past year. The Prevent Coordinator stated that 15 had gone through the process and high numbers were not expected. The Chairman asked about any changes since the fall of ISIS. The Prevent Coordinator responded that over the past year ISIS-related referrals had reduced to 50% of cases. There had been a considerable increase in far-right extremist cases which made up a quarter of referrals. A quarter were 'unspecified ideology' maybe due to mental health or other issues. The Home Office had directed that the 'unspecified ideology' group should be taken on by Channel Panel.

11. PERFORMANCE UPDATE

The Chairman introduced the item.

The Community Safety Data Analyst presented the report:

There had been an increase in the number of burglaries over the past 12 months, which was in line with the London average increase. Business and commercial burglary had increased by 17% in the last quarter in Barnet. The Police had provided a robbery profile to the Council which had been shared with relevant colleagues.

The Chairman noted that the top priority of the Police in Barnet is serious violent crime including aggravated burglary. Robbery was also high priority.

The Community Safety Data Analyst noted that there had been a slight increase in Barnet in violent crime over the last year but it remained the second lowest in London for this type of crime.

12. FORWARD PLAN

This was noted.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Friday 25th October 2019 – **please note earlier start time of 09:00hrs**

The meeting finished at 11.50 am