

Appendix A



Safer Communities Partnership Board Annual Report 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023



1. Executive Summary

The Barnet Safer Communities Partnership Board (SCPB) brings together agencies and organisations involved in crime prevention and community safety within the borough of Barnet. It includes Barnet Council, the Metropolitan Police, Fire Service, the Probation Service and Public Health; as well as other statutory and non-statutory organisations that play an essential role in tackling and reducing crime and anti-social behaviour in Barnet.

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a requirement on Safer Community Partnerships to develop a Community Safety Strategy that sets out how they will tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in their area. This report demonstrates how the priorities within that report have been worked towards during 2022-2023.

2. Purpose of this report:

The purpose of this document is to provide an end of year summary report on the workstreams of the members of the Safer Communities Partnership Board, against the 2022-27 strategy and its outcomes for the following five priorities:

- Tackling and reducing anti-social behaviour.
- Early intervention and prevention of domestic abuse and violence against women and girls.
- Reducing offending including violence, vulnerability and exploitation, with a focus on acquisitive crime.
- Safeguard and support those vulnerable to radicalisation.
- Access to justice for those affected by hate crime.

The report also provides the opportunity to thank all partners and council teams for their hard work and commitment with delivering the priorities within the Safer Communities Partnership Community Safety Strategy.

3. Barnet Community Safety Strategy 2022-27:

Barnet's Community Safety Strategy was refreshed in 2022. The new Community Safety Strategy outlines the priorities and outcomes that the Safer Communities Partnership Board will focus on over the next five years.

The priorities have been identified through considering the findings of a detailed assessment of crime and anti-social behaviour trends and a consultation with the residents of Barnet conducted from January to March 2022. The consultation included an online survey that

focused on the perceptions and experiences of Barnet residents around crime and anti-social behaviour, and what their key concerns are.

Our strategy focuses on supporting victims of crime and directing partnership resources to the areas of high crime and anti-social behaviour in the borough; whilst our overarching priority is to safeguard victims and protect the public.

This report will go through each of the 5 priorities focusing on the outcomes laid out in the 2022-27 strategy to give an update of progress so far from the relevant teams responsible for delivering on those priorities. The progress is focused on the commitment Barnet has made to its residents and this report will outline key partnership outcomes during the financial year 2022-23 towards our overall strategic aim.

4. Priorities

4.1 Priority 1 – Tackling and reducing anti-social behaviour

Outcomes:

- Ensure victims understand how to report the different types of ASB to the right service to get the best possible response to their complaint.
- Ensure victims are aware of the Community Trigger and how to initiate it.
- Provide a more visible Police and council officer 'on street' presence.
- Maintain the multi-agency response to ASB using the Community Safety Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (CS MARAC) process.
- Increase the use of the ASB tools and powers related to the partnership activity to tackle ASB.
- Tackle environmental crime in all its forms

4.1.1 Ensure victims understand how to report the different types of anti-social behaviour to the right service to get the best possible response to their complaint.

Community Safety Hubs

A Community Safety Hub is a drop-in centre which allows residents to report issues around community safety and anti-social behaviour.

The hubs were introduced in Qtr3 of 2022/2023, as part of a range of pilot projects to further increase the feeling of safety and to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in the borough of Barnet. The hubs are accessible for all who live in, work in, and visit Barnet, to anonymously report or raise concerns about crime and anti-social behaviour.

The Community Safety Hubs occur four times per week at four different venues across Barnet; Chipping Barnet, Edgware, North Finchley and West Hendon. The Community Safety Hubs are managed and staffed by the Community Safety Team, with 2 Investigation and Enforcement Officers attending for 3 hours per hub.

Pop up hubs have also been introduced to enable the model to be used at community events and where reassurance and engagement maybe needed within communities.

Communications

The Community Safety Team developed ‘How to report’ leaflets (Fig.1) in Qtr3 of 2022/23 to promote the community safety hubs and encourage an increase in reporting levels to the council and the police.

The strategy priorities were also included on the leaflet to highlight to residents the council’s commitment to working together to making Barnet a safer place for all.

Fig.1 Report ASB leaflet



The Community Safety Team worked very closely with the Communications Team during 2022/2023 to promote the work of the team. We have utilised social media, the Council website, and resident newsletters to show key results, including before and after pictures of areas where the team’s intervention has resulted in significant improvements to an area.

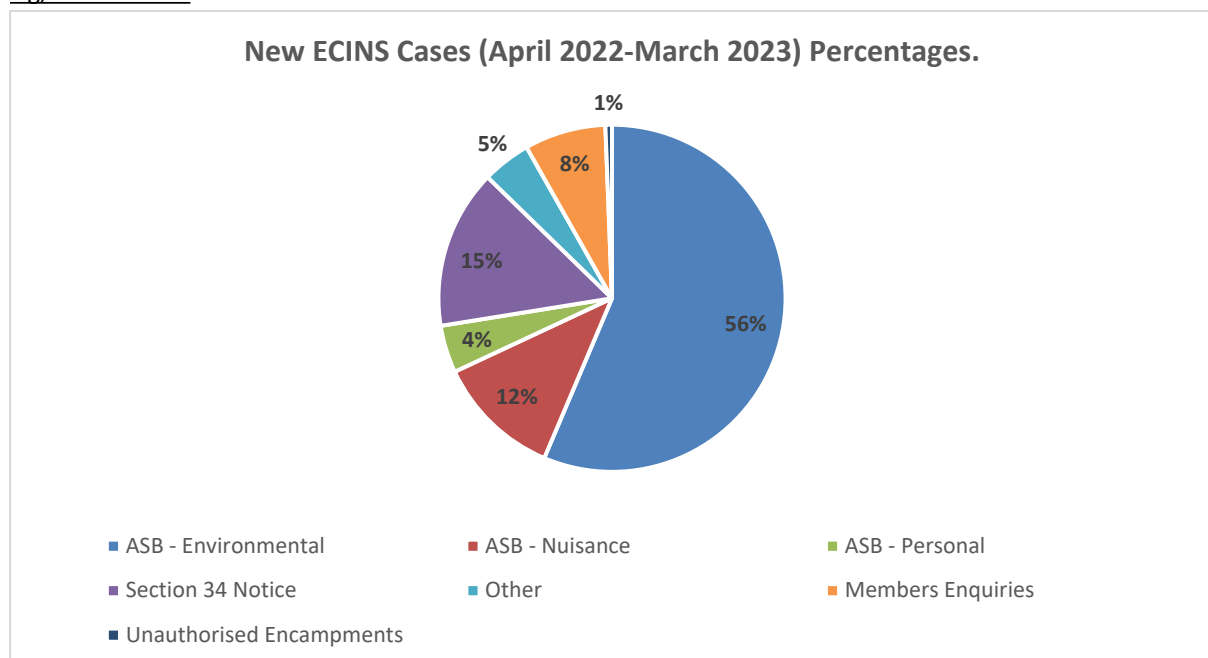
Key community safety projects, such as Ward Walks (see 4.1.3), and Community Safety Hubs have also been promoted using the same platforms, with a dedicated email address (saferstreets@barnet.gov.uk) being created for community safety issues to be raised as part of the Ward Walks programme to hear the voice of the residents ahead of their areas Ward Walk and what they are concerned about.

Community Safety Team Case Volumes

The Community Safety Team received and logged 3602 cases between Apr 2022 – Mar 2023. This compares to the previous reporting year of 2495 cases and represents a 44% increase in cases¹. It could be assumed that the significant increase in cases is due to an increase in reporting levels, however this may also be due to higher levels of cases in general.

The cases shown in Fig 2. cover the team’s multi agency workstreams such as the Community Safety Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (CS MARAC); Unauthorised Encampments; Members Enquiries for the Community Safety Team; Environmental Crime Investigations (Fly tipping, ASB – Personal, ASB – Nuisance and ASB – Environmental).

Fig,2 ECINS cases



*'Other' Includes 36 different categories that were not included in the main subheadings above.

** Section 34 Notice – Duty of care waste offences

¹ 2022/23 Data verified by ECINS (Empowering Communities with Integrated Network Systems) secure web-based case management system.

Location Problem Solving Groups

Location problem solving groups look at a specific area/estate where multiple complaints of anti-social behaviour and crime have been received by the council from residents, with a commitment to make a positive change for the residents living there. The complaints are then cross referenced with intelligence from the council database and the appropriate agencies/council departments and policing teams are invited to identify the main areas for improvement and the action they can take individually and as a group to improve the lives of those living on the estate and experiencing issues.

The first location PSG in Barnet was held in August 2022 and has continued each month to date. A resident from the estate was present at the first meeting to describe first-hand how the issues on the estate were affecting her, her family, neighbours and community. The first-hand account was extremely powerful and helped to remind all attendees of the focus of the meeting.

The meetings are held in person, with no online meeting option provided, this has helped to ensure that everyone is engaged and accountable in the meeting and contribute on behalf of their service area/agency.

The location PSG has proved to be very successful so far with members of the meeting expressing their gratitude and that of their residents and contacts within the community. Partners and internal teams have expressed their passion and commitment for the PSG and expressed their willingness for the PSGs to continue and be rolled out throughout the borough for relevant areas.

4.1.2 Ensure victims are aware of the Community Trigger and how to initiate it.

Community Trigger

The Community Trigger aims to support victims and communities and reduce the number of repeat victims of anti-social behaviour. If a victim/complainant has reported instances of anti-social behaviour to the police, council, a housing association or other agency but the problem is still continuing, they can apply for the Community Trigger. It gives the victim/complainant the right to call for the Barnet Community Safety Partnership to work together to review the problem and devise an action plan to resolve it.

During April 2022 to March 2023 there was a total of 11 Community Triggers submitted to the Community Safety Team. Five of the triggers were accepted and responded to and 6 of the triggers were rejected, however they were still responded to and subject to a case review.

Community Trigger promotion

In order to raise awareness of the Community Trigger and encourage it's use by victims of anti-social behaviour, a section regarding the process and how to apply has been added to the council website. The Community Safety Team also actively promote the use of the Community Trigger within their email signatures (see Fig.3).

The Community Trigger has also been promoted online via the Barnet First magazine with a commitment to further promote it a minimum amount of four times per year.

Fig.3



In February 2023, the Community Safety Team shared a briefing note and the signature block with all relevant frontline officers that have direct contact with victims/complainants of anti-social behaviour, such as Environmental Health Teams and Barnet Homes Housing Teams, to promote its use.

Community Trigger Case study

The case was brought to the Community Safety Team ('the Team') after the victims felt they had exhausted all other avenues with reporting and applied for a community trigger case review.

The case was accepted and several multi-agency meetings with relevant partners were held. The partnership agreed the pathways towards enforcement to address the reported anti-social behaviour and the support plan for the victims of the anti-social behaviour that wanted to remain anonymous.

The reported anti-social behaviour included drug dealing, drug smoking, shouting in the street, vehicles turning up and 'exchanges' taking place, threats and foul or offensive language in the street.

The Team began with a letter of engagement to the residents in the road coupled with door-to-door enquiries with the objective of securing statements regarding the behaviour.

The Community Safety Team secured several witness statements and issued a Community Protection Notice Written Warning with conditions outlining the anti-social Behaviour / Nuisance at the address and the recommended actions to avoid the continued unreasonable and detrimental behaviour impacting the community.

Further complaints were received, and witness statements were obtained to support a breach of the issued warning. A full Community Protection Notice was then served, which received no appeals.

Unfortunately, the affected residents were unwilling to disclose their name or address in court proceedings due to a fear of reprisals. This meant that exhibits taken such as photographs and videos and named statements had to be redacted and anonymous evidence offered to the court by the officers acting as professional witnesses to the events. Whilst this slowed criminal proceedings for a partial closure order prosecution breach, it was agreed to pursue a full closure order on the address to give residents respite from the ongoing anti-social behaviour.

Conclusion

The Court granted a full Closure Order against the privately owned property, and it was boarded up for the duration of the order.

This case study demonstrates the effective teamwork within Barnet Council and with our local Police Service to help to combat anti-social behaviour in the community to achieve beneficial outcomes for local residents.

4.1.3 Provide a more visible Police and council officer 'on street' presence

Barnet Community Safety restructure

The new Community Safety Team structure was implemented from 1st April 2022 with the following changes contributing to the increased visibility of the team:

- A uniformed and highly visible, patrolling presence in the community by seeking to reduce environmental crimes including fly tipping, littering and anti-social behaviour, as well as combat the fear of general crime by providing reassurance and assistance.
- A new 7-day shift based working pattern to ensure the streets of Barnet are patrolled by uniformed council officers between the hours of 8am-8pm Monday to Friday, 10am – 5pm Saturdays and 10am – 4pm on Sundays.
- A named Investigation & Enforcement officer for each ward from May 2022.
- Increased resource to create a ward-based approach to deal with community safety issues.

Police partnership

The Community safety Team works very closely with the Metropolitan Police Northwest Basic Command Unit, attending weekly partnership meetings to discuss concerns and emerging issues/crimes within the borough. This ensures a joined-up approach within the partnership to understand local problems relevant to residents and visitors of Barnet, and to identify areas where the partnership can work together on dedicated neighbourhood priorities.

Ward Walks

Ward Walks are a programme of walks throughout the borough that enable residents to raise concerns about their area with Investigation and Enforcement officers from the Community Safety Team and police partners. Concerns include community safety issues and several other council services e.g., Street Scene, Green Spaces, and Public Health, with lead officers from those teams also joining the walks to address the issues where possible. Officers from the Highways team have also recently joined the walks following resident and councillor feedback and to increase efficiency and tracking of issues in that area.

Residents are able to report issues they wish to see addressed on the walks in advance; they can raise these via the 'safer streets' inbox saferstreets@barnet.gov.uk, their local Councillors or ward panel chair, their resident association or local community groups.

The ward walks are managed by the Community Safety Team with two Investigation & Enforcement officers attending and contributing to each ward walk. Each ward is scheduled to receive two ward walks per year, with 22 wards visited since November 2022.

The main issues raised during these walks are listed below:

- Absence of CCTV
- Blind spots/hidden areas
- Drugs / Alcohol abuse
- Empty/derelict/isolated buildings
- Feeling like you are being followed
- Graffiti
- Overgrown bushes/trees
- Poor or no streetlighting
- Street Cleansing issues
- Highways issues
- Public Health concerns
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- External Partner Association responsibilities
- Fly-Tipping
- Parking issues

CCTV investment

A report submitted to the Communities Leadership and Libraries Committee (CLLC) on the 6th of October 2021 set out the commencement of a strategic review of Barnet's Community Safety CCTV requirements, including the procurement requirements for new CCTV contracts for the Community Safety Team and the Libraries Service. A further report: CCTV Programme – Revised Outline Business Case & Update on the Strategic Review was presented to the June 2022 CLLC which detailed the work to date and update to the overall

project, covering details of the decommissioning of the Enfield site for CCTV monitoring, a new monitoring contract for public space surveillance (PSS) cameras and libraries, and the installation and maintenance of the control room at Colindale (Barnet council offices).

On 1st September 2022 Barnet council entered into a contract with Enigma for the monitoring of the PSS and library cameras within the borough from the Enfield council site. Due to this there has been a change in control room operating hours from 1200 – 0400hrs to 24hours a day/7 days a week. The control room process police generated CCTV enquires (reactive) and control room operator identified incidents (proactive); which are then relayed to the police control room for assistance and in some cases the apprehension of offenders.

As part of this review and in line with the Community Safety Team's restructure implemented from April 2022, the Investigation and Enforcement officers are issued with Body Worn Cameras (BWC) which are worn whenever the officers deploy into their wards on duty. This is to assist with evidence gathering, crime prevention, officer and public safety, and to support prosecutions.

The Community Safety Team has also procured a dedicated CCTV car which can be deployed to areas of interest to capture activity where required, which supports a further visible presence within the borough.

4.1.4 Maintain the multi-agency response to anti-social behaviour using the Community Safety Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (CS MARAC) process.

CS MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference)

The Community Safety MARAC is a 6 weekly multi-agency meeting where information is shared, and action plans developed to manage and resolve complex, high-risk cases of anti-social behaviour. The primary focus of the Community MARAC is to safeguard victims and witnesses and prevent further victimisation.

Relevant information is shared about victims, witnesses and those causing risk or harm. Representatives discuss options for increasing the safety of the victims and addressing the behaviour of perpetrators causing risk or harm through co-ordinated action plans to offer immediate support.

Table 1. MARAC data

Month	Apr-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Jan-23	Feb-23
Cases on CS MARAC	26	23	23	16	16	19	20	16
New Cases on CS MARAC	7	5	3	2	2	6	3	1
Closed Case on CS MARAC	8	3	10	2	3	2	5	1

Table 1. above shows that for the period of April 2022 to March 2023 there were 8 Community Safety MARAC meetings held. Out of those 8 meetings there was an average of between 19 to 20 cases heard per meeting, with an average of between 3 to 4 new referrals of cases to Community Safety MARAC, and an average of between 4 and 5 cases being successfully closed each Community Safety MARAC meeting.

CS MARAC Case Study 1

The case was referred to Barnet Community Safety Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (CS MARAC) due to the seriousness of the behaviours being reported.

The persistent anti-social behaviour caused by a neighbouring couple had been causing issues within the immediate local community for over two years including issues of domestic abuse and child welfare concerns. This conduct had been affecting many of the neighbours and had prompted a local petition to have the couple removed.

This case was deemed complex in that the main victim did not wish to give evidence because of the fear of repercussions from the neighbouring family. The anti-social behaviour had been reported on multiple occasions to the landlord, the police and then finally to the council's Community Safety Team. The landlord had been trying to recoup the property back for over 6 months and was currently in court with the matter, however there was no official timescale as to when this would be concluded.

After conducting an initial investigation review it was established that issues reported included verbal (racial) and physical abuse to the victim; multiple criminal damage incidents, vandalism, and fly tipping incidents at the victims' property, forcing entry to the property, persistent trespassing and allowing dog fouling on the victim's property. Consistent anti-social behaviour noise disturbances caused by internal domestic arguments and general anti-social behaviour.

Alternative lower-level interventions were considered but rejected due to the serious and persistent nature of the anti-social behaviour, therefore a closure order by the Council was

implemented. The victim was referred and utilised victim support services by the Community Safety Team.

Conclusion

A closure notice was served on the perpetrators address within less than a month of the team being aware of ongoing at the property. The perpetrators did not attend the court hearing. As a result of further direct intervention by the Community Safety Team with Barnet Homes Housing Options team, they were relocated to another address outside of the borough as a final chance to maintain their accommodation rather than face eviction.

The victim had been considering having to move however, since the action was taken, they have now chosen to remain in their family home. The Community Safety Team liaised with the landlord of the perpetrators and arranged to have the victim's garden cleared from the damage and waste caused by the perpetrators.

The follow up victim support welfare visit was made by the lead officers from the Community Safety Team and the victim confirmed they were very grateful for Barnet Council's assistance and professionalism throughout the case and confirmed that their faith has been restored in the Council.

During the process the perpetrators were referred to Family Services for appropriate support and safeguarding of the children and partner regarding the allegations of domestic abuse and child welfare concerns, with details transferred accordingly to the appropriate local authority ahead of their move.

4.1.5 Increase the use of the Anti-Social Behaviour tools and powers related to the partnership activity to tackle ASB

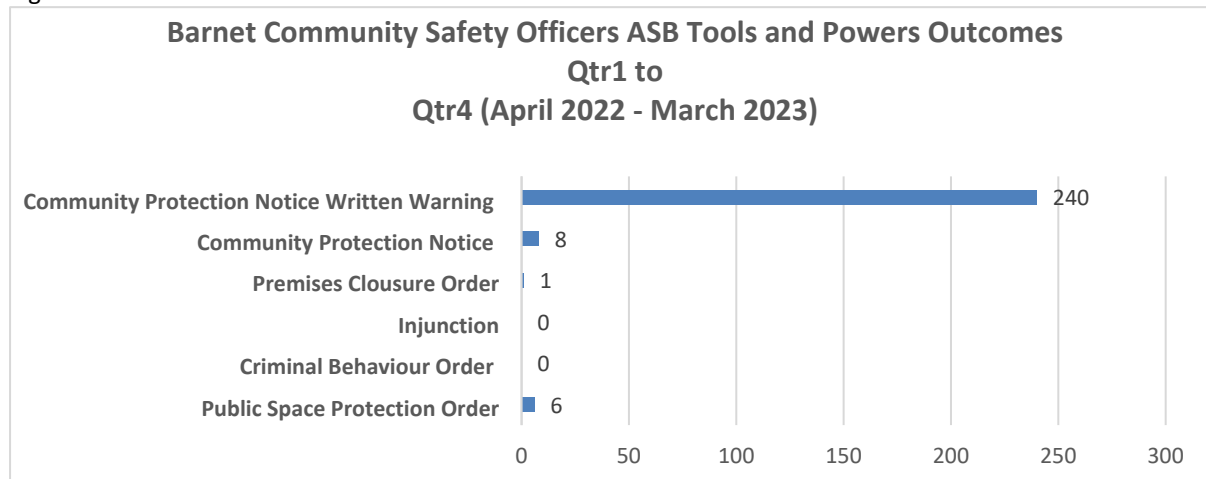
Tools and Powers

The data below shows the use of the anti-social behaviour tools and powers used by the community safety officers during the period April 2022 – March 2023.

The table in Fig.3. below shows that during the reporting period there was a high use of the early intervention power Community Protection Notice Written Warnings (240). The use of this power in this period was linked to various behaviours including a fly tipping prevention project in partnership with Barnet Homes, unauthorised music events, neighbour disputes and the associated ASB, the clearing of waste from private land and managing the behaviours of the occupants of unauthorised encampments in the borough.

Breach rates for the Community Protection Notice Warnings during the period was low leading to only eight full Community Protection Notices being served. In some cases, this also contributed to the case management progression in applications for Criminal Behaviour Orders or Closure Orders.

Fig.3 – Tools and Powers²³



4.1.6 Tackle environmental crime in all its forms

Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO)

A borough wide PSPO with eleven conditions was implemented in Barnet in December 2022 and is in place for 3 years. A (PSPO) is a power under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. It is intended to allow a council (and police) to deal with a particular nuisance or problem behaviour that is detrimental to the local community’s quality of life in a particular area. It allows councils to impose restrictions or requirements in that particular area, or across a wider area such as the whole borough. They are designed to ensure that people can use and enjoy public spaces safe from nuisance, anti-social behaviour and environmental crimes.

Breach of a PSPO is a criminal offence with a maximum penalty of £1000 in court or a £100 fixed penalty notice (30% reduction if paid within 14 days). The PSPO is enforced by authorised council officers, police officers and police community support officers. The eleven conditions of the PSPO which apply across Barnet are:

1. Not to commit alcohol related nuisance /anti-social behaviour.
2. Not to cause harassment, alarm, or distress to any individual(s) by committing anti-social behaviour.
3. You must pick up all dog fouling belonging to a dog under your control.
4. Not to drive any vehicles on/in green spaces without prior written permission of the council.
5. Not to be in possession of, or misuse fireworks in any public space in Barnet unless individually licensed by the council.
6. You must not have any more than 6 dogs under your control at any time.

² Significant increase due to fly-tip prevention work with Barnet Homes during the Garrowsfield and Millbridge Estate move

³ Premises closure order obtained in partnership with Barnet Police.

7. Not to urinate/defecate, spit or litter in a public place.
8. Not to beg in an aggressive or intimidating manner.
9. Not to promote or deliver any music events unless individually licensed by the council.
10. Not to misuse, nor share with others, or be in possession of any intoxicating substances.
11. Not to start or attempt to build any open fires or BBQs in Barnet's green spaces.

Fixed penalty Notices

A fixed penalty notice (FPN) can be issued by Barnet's Community Safety Enforcement Officers when they have reason to believe an offence has been committed. Officers were issued with Fixed Penalty Notice pads at the end of January 2023 which enabled them to issue 'on the spot' FPN's. There was a total of 32 FPN's issued between January 2023 and March 2023. Fig 5. shows the type of offences that occurred by code type and the total percentage of those offences.

Fig.5. Offence percentages

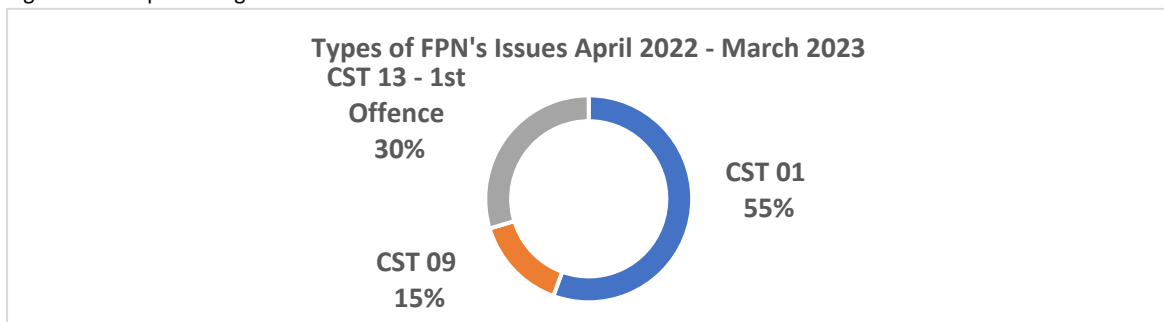


Table 2. below details the types of Environmental crime and PSPO (Public Space Protection Order) offences that can be dealt with by the Investigation and Enforcement officers using Fixed Penalty Notices.

Table 2. Offence codes

Offence Code	Offence
CST01	Environmental Protection Act 1990, Section 87/88 Littering
CST02	Environmental Protection Act 1990, Section 46 Domestic Waste Presentation Notices
CST03	Environmental Protection Act 1990, Section 47 Business and Commercial Waste Presentation Notices
CST04	Environmental Protection Act 1990, Schedule 3A, Paragraph 7 Distributing Free Literature Without Consent
CST05	Control Of Pollution (Amendment) Act 1989, Section 5B Failing to Produce Authority
CST06	Environmental Protection Act 1990, Section 34 Failing to Produce Waste Transfer Notes

CST07a - 1st Offence	Environmental Protection Act 1990, Section 34 (2A) Household Duty Of care Breach - Unauthorised Deposit Of Waste
CST07b - 2nd Offence	
CST08	Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime And Policing Act 2014, Section 48 Breach of A Community Protection Notice
CST09	Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime And Policing Act 2014, Section 63 And 67 Breach of a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)
CST10	Refuse Disposal (Amenity) Act 1978, Section 2A Abandoned Vehicles
CST11	Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003, Section 43 Graffiti And Fly Posting
CST12	Cleaner Neighbourhoods And Environments Act 2005, Section 3 And 4 (S:3) Exposing Vehicles For Sale Upon A Road (S:4) Repairing Vehicles Upon This Road
CST13 - 1st Offence	Environmental Protection Act 1990, Section 33 (1)(a) Unauthorised Deposit Waste (Fly Tipping)
CST14 - 2nd Offence	
CST 15	Highways Act 1980 Section 137 (1) Wilful Obstruction of the Highway
CST 16	Highways Act 1980 Section 148 (c) Interruption of the user
CST 17	Health Act 2006 Section 7 Smoking In Smoke Free Premises or Business Vehicle

4.2 Priority 2 - Early intervention and prevention of domestic abuse and violence against women and girls (VAWG) – (Family Services Lead and update)

Outcomes:

- Early intervention and prevention of domestic abuse and VAWG
- Support all victims and survivors to report, access help and recover.
- Pursue perpetrators and improve their engagement with behaviour change interventions to reduce harm to victims and their families.
- Strengthen the partnership response to improve multi-agency working and information sharing to deliver improved outcomes.
- Work together for safer streets, community and public spaces.

The Annual Report Domestic Abuse & Violence Against Women and Girls 2022/23 can be found at Appendix B; it provides a comprehensive overview of activities to meet the priorities for Year 1 of the Domestic Abuse & VAWG Strategy 2022-25. A summary of key activity and outcomes is below:

4.2.1 Early intervention and prevention of domestic abuse and VAWG

- There are 50 GP surgeries in Barnet, of which 28 are fully trained IRIS practices. A further 15 are partially trained and only 7 have yet to engage in IRIS training. Solace have linked with the Barnet Primary & Community Care Training Hub to support the remaining GP's to engage as they have responsibility for training for GP surgeries.
- Public Health are leading on a piece of work to map all support, resources and training for schools, and their pupils and families in relation to prevention of domestic and sexual abuse.
- Operation Encompass is led by the Metropolitan Police (MPS) in partnership with the local authority and schools and allows the Police to share information with schools following a reported domestic abuse incident. The approach ensures school staff have immediate awareness so they can practice silent observation, assess needs and/or provide appropriate support to children and young people who have experienced domestic abuse.
- 139 practitioners attended 4 multi-agency DA training sessions organized by Barnet Council during 2022/23. Attendees totaled 37 for Domestic abuse awareness level 1, 27 attended level 2, 'Responding and Recognising DA', 38 attended DA MARAC and 37 attended 'Understanding the coercive control and economic abuse' training.

4.2.2 Support all victims and survivors to report, access help and recover.

- Barnet Solace Advice Support Service (SASS) supported 512 service users – 80 of which were assessed as high risk, 285 were medium risk, and 97 were standard risk and provided 116 consultations with professionals regarding domestic abuse support over 2022/23.
- Barnet Homes has a dedicated Domestic Abuse Team that manages the most complex and high-risk housing cases for survivors through dedicated floating support that is available to hand-hold individuals through their recovery and resettlement pathway. From October 2022-31st March 2023, the DA Team supported 43 victims with multiple needs and assessed as high and medium risk.
- SASS Arise Group Programme was delivered 8 times to 68 women with a reported increase in understanding of what a healthy relationship looks like. Picking Up the Pieces (PUTP) was delivered 3 times to 20 women with a reported improvement in understanding of the impact of domestic abuse on children.

- Barnet Council commissions 2 refuges offering 18 adult bed spaces with 20 children's bed spaces. Minerva House provides 6 adult bed spaces and 10 children's bed spaces for homeless women fleeing domestic abuse and approaching Barnet Homes for housing assistance.
- For the period 2022/23 Barnet Refuges supported 38 women and 26 children with 19 departures. Minerva House accommodated 14 women and 16 children with 8 departures. Survivors living at the refuges provide peer support by accompanying new arrivals to the GP, hospital and local shops enabling them to settle into the refuge which alleviates feelings of isolation.
- The Barnet Homes Sanctuary Scheme is a housing option available for survivors of domestic abuse who want to remain living in their properties with extra security measures; the scheme received 130 referrals and secured 88 properties between during 2022/23.
- Barnet Enfield & Haringey (BEH) Mental Health Team appointed a Domestic Abuse and Sexual Safety Co-ordinator (DASSC) in August 2022 to improve the Trust's response to domestic abuse and sexual abuse and to have an expert point of reference within the safeguarding team.
- A sexual health Independent Sexual Violence Advocate (IDSVVA) is now based in Edgware Community Hospital providing emotional and practical support for survivors.
- AVA CODA - Against Violence & Abuse | Children Overcoming Domestic Abuse Community group programmes are delivered by Child and Family Early Help Services for children and mothers that are not living with a perpetrator of violence with the aim of helping children share experiences, express feeling and identify coping strategies. In 2022/23 more than 20 women have attended AVA Women's Group.

4.2.3 Pursue perpetrators and improve their engagement with behaviour change interventions to reduce harm to victims and their families.

- Led by Barnet with 9 other boroughs (Brent, Harrow, Newham, Tower Hamlets, Haringey, Enfield, Hammersmith & Fulham, Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea and Westminster) we were successful to a Culturally Integrated Family Approach (CIFA) to Domestic Abuse perpetrator programmes for an amount of £1.46 m starting April 2023 for 2 years.
- Police in Barnet have issued 26 DV Protection Notices (DVPN) and 22 DV Protection Orders (DVPO) in rolling 12 months to March 2023.
- Probation have fully utilized the capabilities of the MOPAC 'Tagging pilot' for individuals presenting a high risk of serious harm in a domestic abuse context and has been impactful in ensuring that the increased monitoring and control measures have

served to protect survivors and victims; 9 cases completed successfully and only 2 perpetrators have been recalled.

- RISE worked with a total of 79 perpetrators in 2022/23. 64 of these were newly referred in the reporting year.
 - 93% were successfully contacted and booked for an Initial assessment and of these;
 - 85% were assessed suitable. 91% started a DV programme. The retention rate on the programme up to the midway point was 83%.
 - 100% of those who reached the midway point of the programme went on to complete.
 - 19 completed the full intervention, either the groupwork programme, Safe Relationships or the 1:1 programme, Preparing Men for Change.

4.2.4 Strengthen the partnership response to improve multi-agency working and information sharing to deliver improved outcomes.

- Partnership webinar delivered on the new offence of non-fatal strangulation and suffocation.
- Barnet's One Stop Shop (OSS) resumed face to face drop-in services in February 2023 with an official re-launch in March 2023; the service has seen 391 individuals during 2022/23.
- #HearMyVoice partnership event with Middlesex University successfully delivered student's work in collaboration with specialist DA/VAWG services.

4.2.5 Work together for safer streets, community and public spaces.

- A transformation project lead has been appointed to develop a Safer Spaces Network Pilot and will reach out to engage local businesses, town planners, housing providers, open spaces and a range of council services and launch in Autumn/Winter 2023
- Barnet Council has signed up to the Mayor's Women's Night Safety Charter. The resources and training through the charter will be linked to the Safer Spaces Network Pilot for business operating in the night-time in the borough.
- The setting up of a survivor forum is in progress.
- Barnet Safer Transport Team run a twice a month Violence Against Women and Girls events, providing advice and support on Female safety, travel safety and personal safety.
- At present 57 of Barnet's 73 licensed venues are participating in "Ask for Angela".

4.3 Priority 3 - Reducing offending including violence, vulnerability and exploitation (VVE), with a focus on acquisitive crime (Family Services lead and update)

Outcomes:

- Implementation of the MOPAC approved Violence, Vulnerability & Exploitation Action Plan
- Implementation of The Youth Justice Plan
- Sustained reductions in offending and early intervention for those identified at risk of VVE
- A reduction in the Ministry of Justice 'Proven adult reoffending rate' offenders in the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) cohort
- An increase in the number of offenders supported by the IOM programme.
- A reduction in the numbers of offenders that are classed as high risk/vulnerable, that due to their complex needs also need support from other services e.g., NHS/Public Health, Mental Health Service
- Training the children's workforce to recognise vulnerabilities to exploitation in order to be able to intervene early and coordinate multi-agency interventions
- Providing VVE guidance to Barnet schools
- Recognising and responding to the dynamic affiliations and group/gang offending in Barnet, including adopting a public health approach to reducing violence
- Maintaining a continued emphasis on transition cases and supporting statutory services to coordinate the continuation of services into adulthood
- Working in partnership with the Combatting Drugs Partnership to reduce drug supply

4.3.1 Implementation of the MOPAC approved Violence, Vulnerability & Exploitation Action Plan

Victims Hub Coordinator Project

- Barnet Victims Care Hub (BVCH) was established in November 2022 and has triaged 88 referrals between December 2022 to March 2023.
- Of the 88 referrals, 95% have been informed about their rights around Victims Code of Practice and 89% have been supported with safety items for themselves and their homes.

- 65% of the victims that were referred into the hub were assisting with investigations, ensuring Victims have support through the Criminal Justice Service (CJS).
- Barnet Victims Care Hub (BVCH) has provided victims with food vouchers, trauma support as well as further signposting.
- BVCH has established communication with 26 front facing services, increasing referral routes and allowing tailored victim care pathways.
- Calm Mediation has been commissioned for 1-year to support 10 incidences of community/neighbour mediation as well as interfamilial issues, where threshold is met.
- Presentations and briefings for both the Victims Code of Practice and awareness of the BCVH continue.
- A victim service network will be set up by the newly appointed coordinator who replaces the previous post-holder; this will be held quarterly to ensure the potential of resources is maximized for victims.

Restorative Justice Project - Restorative Barnet

- The Restorative Justice (RJ) Project has been established to build restorative conferencing approaches across the borough and to increase the number of victims being offered restorative justice interventions from 10% (December 2022) to 25%
- 8 of the referrals into BVCH since January 2023 have had a Restorative follow up informing victims of their right to access RJ, representing a 100% increase on the previous year.
- 100% of victims of crime contacted by the BVCH are now informed of their rights under the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime.
- 100% of victims of crime referred directly to RJ Coordinator are informed of Rights 1, 3 and 4.
- All electronic correspondence from RJ Coordinator contains a link to the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime.

Raising awareness through training and networking

- Restorative Approaches Training for Schools offered at BELS Heads Forum in February 2023 has led to 11 schools being actively engaged; 4 are currently participating in training (this is full capacity for RJ Coordinator).
- All resources and programme content has been developed by the RJ Coordinator who is an experienced practitioner with a teaching background.
- The RJ Coordinator has presented at 20+ meetings since February 2023 and made explicit reference to the rights of victims to access RJ via Victim Code of Practice

(VCOP) and provided resources containing a link to the document. Training opportunities, referral pathway and RJ support offered in these forums.

Planned for 2023

- 1 Restorative Justice Network Meeting and Training Event hosted in April 2023 for more than 30 professionals from education, police, social care, public health, Early Help, BELS and Youth Justice Services
- Seven non-school training events to be scheduled in 2023 to Early Help Hubs; MOPAC; Children's and Young People's Care Provision; Unitas and Centre of Excellence. The training events will include Restorative Justice Conference Facilitation, conflict de-escalation and community building for up to 150+ participants.
- 1:1 training to be delivered to the children's workforce over three sessions with bespoke restorative practice resources.
- Restorative Justice refresher course to commence delivery on 7th July for 50 Metropolitan Police officers, including those based in Barnet.
- Organisational Membership of the Restorative Justice Council is being worked towards for Barnet to become an Accredited Restorative Organisation.

Serious Incident Response Meetings | Community Impact

- The Serious Incident Response Meeting (SIRM) Protocol has been updated to strengthen the Community Impact aspect. This has broadened attendance to Councillors and wider community partners using restorative approaches to listening to residents and developing whole system responses following incidents in the borough.

NW BCU intelligence sharing with partners

- Daily NW Partners Meetings continue to be held with representation across all three boroughs and Police to share information and concerns arising in relation to offending or tensions emerging in the borough.

Knife Crime Prevention Order

- On 5 July 2021, the Metropolitan Police commenced a 14-month pilot of Knife Crime Prevention Orders.⁴ which ended in March 2023

⁴ Source: [Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill \(Fifteenth s - Hansard - UK Parliament\)](#)

4.3.2 Implementation of The Youth Justice Plan.

The Youth Justice Plan 2021 to 2023 sets out how the multi-agency partnership of Barnet's Youth Justice Matters Board will meet its 8 key priorities

- Strategic & Operational Multi-Agency Leadership
 - Education
 - Over-representation of Black and Global Majority children
 - Prevention & Diversion
 - Serious violence and exploitation
 - Resettlement & Transitional Safeguarding
 - Restorative Justice (RJ) and Victims
-
- Barnet re-offending and custody rates remain lower than the National and London Average.
 - In May 2023, Barnet opened the first London Accommodation Pathfinder alternative to custody in Barnet for Black and Global Majority boys aged 16–17 years.
 - Barnet YJS is delivering the 'Turnaround' and 'Engage' programmes, providing early support to children on the cusp of the Youth Justice System, with the aim of preventing offending.
 - The Youth Justice Service (YJS) in partnership with Early Help Services, organised and delivered the Women and Girls Group Programme for 13 girls, three of which were known to YJS. The programme will also be delivered at the Pavilion Pupil Referral Unit.
 - Continued delivery of the 'No Knives Better Lives' and Weapon Awareness Programme with Street Doctors.
 - Development of a Restorative Justice Practice Group Programme which aims to support children and young people in their statutory restorative/victim work.
 - Launch of a new Barnet Out of Court Disposal assessment tool in December 2022.
 - Trained all YJS staff in Youth Justice Effective Practice, AIM3 and AMBIT training.
 - Tottenham Hotspur Football Club in partnership with Metropolitan Police Youth Engagement Team, Early Help Services, REACH Team and Children's Social Care Services delivering football sessions for children every Monday.
 - Barnet YJS in partnership with the Volunteer-It-Yourself (VIY) Project, Early Help Service, REACH, Pavilion and Southgate College delivered a 4-week trade and employability skills to children aged 14-18 years, with 13 YJS children completing the programme and receiving a Level 3 City and Guilds qualification.
 - Out of Court Disposal joint decision making has been consistently positively scrutinised by NW BCU Metropolitan Police Scrutiny Panel with good evidence of agency attendance, recording of decisions and plans for young people.
 - Implementation of the Barnet YJS and Multi-agency Partnership Disproportionality Action Plan in December 2022. A Race Disparity audit has been undertaken and used with partners to tackle disproportionality. Educational exclusions for Black boys have reduced

with targeted support and alternatives to exclusion being considered for those young people at risk.

- Barnet YJS has provided training with the Crown Prosecution Service and local Courts to promote 'child first, offender second' principles and anti-racist approaches. Magistrates and District Judges have undertaken Unconscious Bias Training as part of their induction.
- The Wipers Project has completed a 12-week programme of mentoring and desistance work for young people open to YJS from minoritized backgrounds, supported by groupwork delivery from St John's Ambulance
- Liaison and Diversion post has ensured all children detained in Police Custody have a mental health screening and are signposted promptly for services.
- Reparation activities have been delivered in partnership with the council's Town Centre Planning Team
- Co-production activities have continued with young people involved in Whiteboard Projects and development of user leaflets which are now available in Court and on-line for young people to access and understand different sentencing outcomes.
- Custody rates remain lower than the London average with stringent Bail Intensive Supervision and Surveillance packages being offered as alternatives to custody.
- Continued success of the annual YJS Residential Programme, with peer mentors being developed to support future programmes. The programme in 2022 was supported by peer mentors from the 2019 and 2021 groups.
- Barnet Mencap presented the report 'Autism and the Criminal Justice System'⁵ to the Safer Communities Partnership Board in January 2023. Barnet's Autism Action Plan has a key priority to improve the outcomes of autistic people in the criminal justice system (CJS) through improved understanding of autism by CJS professionals and for them to better support autistic people, for the police to make reasonable adjustments to standard police practice for autistic people, to increase the alternatives to prosecution and custody, and out of court disposals. The Youth Justice System is working closely with young people with additional needs, including autism to improve their experience of arrest, police custody, victim experience and journey through the criminal justice system.
- Barnet Mencap have provided Autism and Learning disability awareness training to 27 Probation staff and 10 Victim support staff
- The Youth Justice Plan for 2023 – 25 has been submitted to the Youth Justice Board.

4.3.3 Sustained reductions in offending and early intervention for those identified at risk of Violence Vulnerability and Exploitation (VVE)

- The VVE team continues to collate analysis adhering to the VOLT Mnemonic (Victims,

⁵ [Criminal Justice - a guide for police officers and professionals \(autism.org.uk\)](https://www.autism.org.uk)

Offender Locations and Themes) and support both operational planning and strategic partnership responses to both children and adults.

- The Barnet Vulnerable Adolescent at Risk Panel is a multi-agency forum established in 2018 to manage Child Sexual exploitation (CSE), Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB) and Child Criminal Exploitation risk management to coordinate agency activities in disruption, planning, prevention and intervention activities.
- The Panel builds an understanding of the links between victims and perpetrators, identifying themes and trends, and using these to inform diversionary measures and interventions.
- The VARP focuses on young people under the age of 18 years; however, will consider care experienced and other vulnerable adults to the age of 25 years.
- Early Help Child Exploitation & Missing (CEAM) Tool has been developed with children for use in Early Help to identify risks and vulnerabilities early.

4.3.4 A reduction in the Ministry of Justice ‘Proven adult reoffending rate’ offenders in the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) cohort.

- Barnet re-offending and custody rates remain lower than the National and London Average.
- Barnet’s IOM continues to deliver bespoke interventions to reduce re-offending – On average working with 100 persistent/violent offenders, **reducing proven reoffending by 24-26%**.
- A hugely significant factor to recognize of the handful of the 100+ IOM Offenders that have been convicted for reoffending, **is the seriousness and frequency of reoffending has been drastically reduced**. This is particularly pertinent to the reduction of Violent Crime, Safeguarding not only the IOM individual but Barnet Community.

4.3.5 An increase in the number of offenders supported by the IOM programme

- **Barnet IOM has an Adult cohort of 105** (An increase of 4, from 101 in Q3) of the highest risk, most prolific, persistent and violent offenders.

4.3.6 A reduction in the numbers of offenders that are classed as high risk/vulnerable, that due to their complex needs also need support from other services e.g. NHS/Public Health, Mental Health Service

- Adults at risk of violence and exploitation have been notified to MASH through

coordinated internal/external services and consultations. The Tackling Violence and Exploitation Team support professionals to identify flags for sharing information with Police.

4.3.7 Training our frontline staff to recognise vulnerability and exploitation in order to be able to refer to appropriate risk panels and intervention pathways

Best practice forums

- Best Practice Forums have been delivered to practitioners across children's and adult services to ensure reflexive practice and shared learning in relation to issues and themes arising from practice:
- Prevent awareness/referral routes
- Considering learning disabilities in both children and adults
- Ending violence against women, changing culture
- CALM: What is mediation/ benefits/referral routes
- Gallop: LGBT+ support

The creation of several resources for staff to use with their cohorts where appropriate.

- 6 session programme for affirming identity in group work
- Victim awareness sessions
- Impact statement sessions on how to support individuals to create impact statements

4.3.8 Providing VVE guidance to Barnet schools.

- A Community Capacity Coordinator has been appointed to commence a programme of work in 2023 aimed at building capacity for the development of co-produced plans aimed at reducing community tensions, providing diversionary support and promoting healing.
- Restorative Approaches Training being rolled out across schools.
- Development of a refreshed Tackling Violence & Exploitation Strategy and the Serious Violence Duty Strategic Needs Assessment to inform programme of work for 2024 – 2027

4.3.9 Recognising and responding to the dynamic affiliations between violence, drugs and group/gang offending in Barnet, including adopting a public health approach to reducing violence

- The Combatting Drugs Partnership Strategic Needs Assessment will inform the development of a Tackling Violence and Exploitation Strategy and Serious Violence Action Plan to work alongside a local 'From Harm to Hope' Drugs Strategy.
- CALM mediation has been commissioned to deliver interfamilial, community and anti-social behaviour mediation to support conflict resolution.

4.3.10 Maintaining a continued emphasis on transition cases and supporting statutory services to coordinate the continuation of services into adulthood.

- The Adults at Risk Panel provides a space for consideration of older adolescents at risk including care experienced adults, resettlement from custody, IOM and probation to work in close partnership with housing, health and community providers to disrupt and tackle emerging risks.
- Resettlement & Aftercare Panel is coordinating support arrangements for young adults leaving custody.
- MOPAC funding has enabled the development of mentor/detached youth worker roles for older adolescents
- London Crime Prevention Funding is providing mentoring support to older adolescents/young adults being supported via Integrated Offender Management approaches

4.3.11 Working in partnership with the Combatting Drugs Partnership to reduce drug supply

- The Tackling Violence & Exploitation Team are working with Public Health to align strategic needs assessments that will inform strategic plans for 2023 and beyond.

4.4 Priority 4 – Safeguard and support those vulnerable to radicalisation

Outcomes:

- Prevent vulnerable individuals being radicalised by individuals and/or groups promoting extremist ideologies online or in the community
- Work with the community to raise awareness of Prevent, the risks of radicalisation and extreme right-wing groups.
- Reduce the threat from lone actors with mental health considerations or no obvious

fixed ideology becoming a risk to themselves and others.

- Monitor returnees and travellers to high risk countries who could present a risk to the communities within Barnet.
- Mitigate the risk of vulnerable people being radicalised in unregulated spaces, out of school education and during home schooling
- Safeguard vulnerable people being released from prison into the Barnet communities to ensure they receive the correct support once back in the community

4.4.1 Prevent vulnerable individuals being radicalised by individuals and/or groups promoting extremist ideologies online or in the community

- Barnet's Prevent Coordinator and Prevent Education Officer deliver a continuous programme of training for frontline staff to enable them to recognise, refer and respond to risks of radicalisation that emerge. In 2022/23 **1733** education professionals, LA frontline staff and commissioned partners received updates and awareness workshops of the Prevent Duty. In addition, **267** parents attended online safety risk and threat awareness sessions. A programme is also delivered which focusses on strengthening the critical thinking of young minds. **2830** pupils received online safety advice that covers areas such as conspiracies, fake news, and disinformation.
- A training plan is delivered that ensures all individuals who are working with potentially vulnerable people possess the skills required to safeguard those who may be susceptible to exploitation. This includes those working in a social care role, housing, and foster carers. **43** foster carers attended workshops in 2022/23.
- **74%** of all enquiries to the LA of a Prevent nature were under the age or 18, **81%** male. **35%** were for Islamist ideology and **44%** for Mixed, Unclear and Unstable mindsets (including Misogyny and obsessions of mass school shootings) an increase of **41%** on last year.
- **10** Channel Panels, a multi-agency panel that discusses and considers the safeguarding of susceptible individuals, was held throughout 2022/23. **9** individuals were safeguarded in Channel.
- A high proportion of accepted Channel cases across all forms of extremism appeared to suggest a subject's risk levels were driven by their engagement with extremist ideologies and influencers online. This is especially so with young people.

4.4.2 Work with the community to raise awareness of Prevent, the risks of radicalisation and extreme right-wing groups

Voluntary sector and staff are empowered to identify and refer service users potentially vulnerable to radicalisation through a series of workshops and information days.

- **38** groups were given targeted support for Prevent related issues, tailored advice about a specific issue, which would include concerning behaviour of an individual.
- Funded by the Home Officer and in partnership with The Young Barnet Foundation, [Exposure](#) (a young person centered media literacy charity) and Shout Out UK (a social enterprise that aims to strengthen democracy through media and political literacy) Prevent in the Community was developed. **10** social media posts were shared in a campaign known as "[Extreme Caution](#)". Each looked at areas such as Misogyny, Online Grooming, White Supremacy and Radicalisation.
- Shout Out UK delivered **8** workshops for young people and parents with information that countered extremism and disinformation. **389** individuals attended these sessions. A Social Impact report of these workshops showed 68% of pupils were aware of misinformation techniques used by far-right wing groups, pre-survey, rising to 93% after. After the workshop 75% of participants agreed or strongly agreed they should fully read online articles before sharing, compared to 36% before. 18%, prior to the workshop strongly agreed with checking the credibility of information sources compared to 62.5% after. In the same survey, 35% were aware of the online problem of hate speech on social media prior to the workshop and 64% after.

4.4.3 Reduce the threat from lone actors with mental health considerations or no obvious fixed ideology becoming a risk to themselves and others

One third of terror suspects considered by a study, carried out by The Ministry of Justice, suffered from mental health problems or personality disorders.

- Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Team clinical practitioners are core members of Channel and are available for information sharing and case management on cases referred or considered. This ensures that individuals with identified mental health vulnerabilities are appropriately understood and safeguarded.
- During 2022/23 core members of the Channel panel received awareness training focusing on Autism Spectrum Disorders and Learning Difficulties to aide with a greater understanding of how these conditions can increase vulnerabilities.
- Workshop raising awareness of Prevent (WRAP) have been delivered to Inclusion Barnet, Mencap and Mental Health Practitioners.

4.4.4 Monitor returnees and travellers to high-risk countries who could present a risk to the communities within Barnet

- Trigger plans are in place to manage the range of circumstances in which any returnees from a conflict zone may arrive in the borough, to ensure that children and vulnerable adults can be safeguarded.

4.4.5 Mitigate the risk of vulnerable people being radicalised in unregulated spaces, out of school education and during home schooling

- The Prevent Education Officer developed strong links with the Young Barnet Foundation, the National Resource Centre for Supplementary Education and other voluntary organisations that deliver support and capacity building of school education providers.
- A register has been in place since 2018. Working with supplementary school's support organisations, such as Paiwand and NRCSE have proven to be effective with engagement.
- Prevent awareness training was delivered to **3** out of school settings.
- Prevent training for schools and the Elective Home Education Coordinator.
- An out of school register is held and work continues to understand and work with this sector.

4.4.6 Safeguard vulnerable people being released from prison into the Barnet communities to ensure they receive the correct support once back in the community

- The Prevent Coordinator attends multi-agency public protection arrangement (MAPPA) where concerns of a Prevent nature have been identified since imprisonment or upon release of an individual who was imprisoned for a Terrorist Act offence.
- Representatives of the National Probation Service have attended all Prevent Delivery Group.
- Five individuals were referred to Barnet Prevent in 2022/23 by the National Probation Office.

4.5 Priority 5 - Access to justice for those affected by hate crime

Outcomes:

- To increase the engagement with community-based groups at a neighbourhood level, building a resilient network of voluntary and community organisations that have increased awareness of crime and ASB affecting their communities, and are enabled to work with us to protect the most vulnerable in their communities.
- To support victims of hate crime, who may not have the confidence or know how to report incidents to the police or statutory services, so that they can report to a trusted organisation and receive the appropriate advice and support aimed at increasing their confidence in reporting and accessing support services.
- To contribute towards addressing the issue of under-reporting of hate crime by increasing the confidence of victims.
- To improve access to justice for disabled people by addressing the links between adult safeguarding and hate crime; contributing towards the prevention of repeat hate crime against vulnerable adults by improving identification and intervening early.
- Increase awareness of hate crime and increase reporting to the Police by delivering staff training on identifying and reporting hate crime and organising community events and specialist workshops.

4.5.1 To increase the engagement with community-based groups at a neighbourhood level, building a resilient network of voluntary and community organisations that have increased awareness of crime and ASB affecting their communities, and are enabled to work with us to protect the most vulnerable in their communities.

The Barnet Zero Tolerance to Hate Crime Project is delivered by Barnet Mencap and has the overarching aim of *“To keep the people of Barnet safe by reducing hate crime in the borough. This continues to be achieved by increasing people’s confidence to report hate crimes in Barnet; improve the support for victims of Hate Crime; and raise awareness of how to report Hate Crime in Barnet while safeguarding the most vulnerable in the community who are impacted”*.

- We have partnered with over 15 community-based groups to share information and awareness of racist and religious hate crime, anti-LGBT hate crime, disability hate crime and transgender hate crime.
- We have supported initiatives to maintain safe, strong and cohesive communities where people get along well and have confidence in reporting crime and anti-social behaviour against the most vulnerable in their communities.
- Barnet's Hate Crime Reporting Centre Network operates closely with Barnet's Community Safety Hubs and Victim Support Hub to create and maintain a community that keeps the people of Barnet safe by reducing crime, increasing people's confidence in reporting crime to the Police and providing safe places where people can access support to report crime.
- The Safe Places Scheme was relaunched in 2022. A Safe Place helps people (particularly those with learning disabilities, autism, or other care needs) if they feel scared, anxious or at risk when they are out in the community. The Safe place could be, for example, a café, a shop or supermarket, a library or a community centre. Trained staff can help vulnerable adults to phone a family member or carer and/or offer them somewhere safe to wait. Safe Place sites are identified via an official window sticker.
- Over 40 businesses/venues in Finchley, Edgware, Burnt Oak, Hendon, West Hendon and High Barnet have joined the scheme. The Scheme will be extended to cover all parts of Barnet in 2023. Details of each of the registered Safe Places will be available via the Barnet Council and Barnet Mencap websites. Registered sites are working in partnership to protect the most vulnerable in our communities.

4.5.2 To support victims of hate crime, who may not have the confidence or know how to report incidents to the police or statutory services, so that they can report to a trusted organisation and receive the appropriate advice and support aimed at increasing their confidence in reporting and accessing support services.

- Co-ordinated and monitored 12 Hate Crime Reporting Centres
- Barnet continues to operate a network of third-party Hate Crime Reporting Centres where victims and witnesses of hate crime, in particular our more vulnerable members, can access support to report offences to the Police and be

referred or signposted to local community organisations for ongoing support. Barnet's Hate Crime Reporting Centres are selected to represent a diverse cross-section of the community and are in accessible locations across the borough.

- Reporting Centres operate a physical and virtual system of reporting hate crimes and incidents. Reporting Centres include: Barnet Homes, Barnet Mencap; Barnet Multifaith Forum; Community Barnet; Community Security Trust; GALOP; Hft; Homeless Action Barnet; Inclusion Barnet; Middlesex University; and Your Choice Barnet. A full Directory of Barnet's Hate Crime Reporting Centres is available via the Barnet Council and Barnet Mencap Websites.
- We continue to monitor and provide support to all Hate Crime Reporting Centres to ensure partnership in identifying and responding to all forms of hate crime that emerge in Barnet.
- Information about the Community Hate Crime Reporting Centres is communicated to Barnet residents via awareness raising events including community Hate Crime Information Stands and free workshops for residents. Information is also communicated online via social media platforms and on Reporting Centres' websites. Resources such as leaflets and newsletters include information about reporting hate crime via these trained and trusted community organisations.

4.5.3 To contribute towards addressing the issue of under-reporting of hate crime by increasing the confidence of victims.

- Engaged with over 300 residents at Hate Crime Awareness Week Information Stands and signed up 32 Hate Crime Reporting Champions.
- In October 2022, the Project delivered its fifth annual **Hate Crime Awareness Week** for Barnet residents. Hate Crime Awareness and Information Stands were set-up in Finchley Central (Albert Place), Barnet Hospital, Islamic Centre Edgware, Golders Green Bus Station, Edgware Bus Station and Hendon Central Underground Station.
- Staff and volunteers from Barnet Mencap, Barnet Council and the Metropolitan Police engaged with over **300** residents and signed up **32** Hate Crime Reporting Champions. The events were supported by Barnet's Councillors and Community Leaders.

- The focus of awareness raising events such as those delivered during Hate Crime Awareness Week is to encourage reporting of hate crime by offering a multi-agency response to tackling hate and by sharing positive outcomes of reported hate incidents.
- In 2022, all 32 of the residents who registered to be Hate Crime Reporting Champions said that they felt more confident in the reporting systems and procedures following the training and information shared at Hate Crime Awareness Stands.

4.5.4 To improve access to justice for disabled people by addressing the links between adult safeguarding and hate crime; contributing towards the prevention of repeat hate crime against vulnerable adults by improving identification and intervening early.

- Barnet Mencap recorded 12 disability hate crime incidents and supported victims to report these incidents to the Police. Clients have been offered ongoing support. Residents have been signposted to appropriate community support organisations.
- Barnet Mencap is working in partnership with the Barnet Council Community Safety Team to support residents who identify as being or autistic or having learning disabilities and who have been victims, witnesses or involved in hate crime incidents and/or anti-social behaviour, particularly those relating to neighbour/community disputes.
- There will be a review of Disability Hate Crime cases in Barnet as recorded by the Metropolitan Police in 2021 as compared to 2022. The progress and Outcomes of this review will be reported to the Access to Justice Group (Sub-group of the Adults Safeguarding Board) and to the Safer Communities Partnership Board.
- Regular awareness raising workshops are delivered for people with learning disabilities in the borough of Barnet. These workshops contribute towards the prevention of repeat crime against vulnerable adults. The following workshops were delivered for people with learning disabilities, autistic adults and clients of the Barnet Learning Disability Service and other learning disability service providers in Barnet.
 - 6 Anti-Racism and Cultural Awareness Workshops; and
 - 3 Financial Abuse, Fraud and Scams Workshops.

4.5.5 Increase awareness of hate crime and increase reporting to the Police by delivering staff training on identifying and reporting hate crime and organising community events and specialist workshops.

- Delivered Staff Training Workshops for 87 staff at 7 organisations / service providers.
- Delivered 9 Hate Crime Awareness Raising Workshops/Webinars for 85 residents, clients and carers.
- A key outcome is to train our frontline staff to identify hate crime and know how and where to report it so that they can effectively support clients and patients. In 2022/23 Staff Training Workshops have been delivered to teams at the following Barnet organisations including: Victim Support; Jewish Care; Stonegrove Community Centre; and Solace Women's Aid.
- A Webinar was delivered as part of Hate Crime Awareness Week in October 2022. This focused on Hate Crime and Gender and panel guests discussed whether *"Women are targets of hate crime more than men?"*. Speakers included Councillor Sara Conway (Chair of the Safer Communities Partnership) and Fiona Bateman (Chair of the Adult Safeguarding Board).
- A Hate Crime Information Stand was held at the Barnet Together Alliance Conference at the RAF Museum on 3rd October 2022. The Hate Crime Lead (Barnet Council Community Safety Team) and the Hate Crime Reporting Co-Ordinator (Barnet Mencap) engaged with representatives from 15 organisations. This has led to opportunities for training workshops for staff and awareness raising workshops for residents.

Report ends

The logo for Barnet Safer Communities Partnership is located in the top right corner. It consists of a teal square containing the text "Barnet Safer Communities Partnership" in white. Behind this square are several overlapping, semi-transparent geometric shapes in shades of blue and pink, creating a layered, abstract effect.

Barnet
Safer
Communities
Partnership

Further Information:

Please contact:

Barnet Safer Communities Partnership

2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, London NW9 4EW

Email: BarnetCST@Barnet.gov.uk

Telephone: 0208 359 2000