

Serious Violence Duty Strategy 2024-2027

London Borough of Barnet Safer Communities Partnership
Police Crime Sentencing and Courts Act 2022



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Foreword

The Serious Violence Strategy 2024-2027 has been developed by members of the Safer Communities Partnership Board together with young people, residents, and communities in Barnet.

Through consultation, focus groups and surveys, our strategy has been built around an understanding of the lived experiences, views, and suggestions of local people. This has supported the development of our priorities and objectives, providing the framework within which we will focus our efforts and build on our progress in combatting serious violence.

The Safer Communities Partnership Board would like to thank the vast array of services, community groups and volunteers that work to make Barnet a safer place for all its residents - it is through your care, commitment, and tenacity, that the ambitions of the Partnership are made possible.

The Serious Violence Strategic Needs Analysis conducted in 2023, has shown a positive reduction in incidences of serious violence over the past year, and has also highlighted the areas in which we need to focus our shared efforts, so we can continue to reduce prevalence together, through the framework of this 3-year strategy.

The devastating impact of Serious Violence on victims, their families, and the communities that they live within requires a whole system response from our Partnership. It requires a commitment to continuing to engage, listen and work with local communities, to learn about their experiences, strengths, and challenges so we can build solutions to preventing violence together.

It also requires a continued commitment to ensuring those in our community who are disadvantaged by racial, social, and economic inequalities are not disproportionately affected by Serious Violence - we make clear these commitments in our Serious Violence Strategy.

Through the development of a Violence Reduction Action Plan, the Partnership will drive effective and outcome-focused activities to prevent incidences of serious violence in the community with progress monitored through the Safer Communities Partnership Board.

On behalf of the Safer Communities Partnership Board, I am pleased to present Barnet's Serious Violence Strategy 2024-2027.

Cllr Sara Conway

Chair of Safer Communities Partnership Board



2. Executive Summary

Under the statutory guidance issued by the Secretary of State within Chapter 1, Part 2 of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 (the PCSC Act). This Strategy has been produced on behalf of Barnet's Safer Communities Partnership to support organisations and authorities exercising functions in relation to the Serious Violence Duty 2023.

Community Safety Partnerships were introduced by Section 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and bring together local partners to formulate and deliver strategies to tackle crime and disorder in their communities. Responsible authorities that make up Barnet's Safer Communities Partnership are the Metropolitan Police, London Fire Brigade, Barnet Council, Public Health, and Probation Services.

The strategy has been developed using information collated from a comprehensive strategic needs assessment (SNA) completed in October 2023 which provides an evidence-based analysis of the local profile, causes and contributing factors of serious violence. It has been informed by data and feedback collated from specified authorities, local communities and organisations providing support in Barnet, the guidance set out in the Serious Violence Duty 2023 and national research. The SNA sets out priorities for the Safer Communities Partnership ('the Partnership') to prevent and reduce serious violence.

Throughout this strategy a child is up to the age of 18 and a young person is between the ages of 18 to 25.

Support the development of universal and standardised support that is place-based in local schools and communities.

Key recommendations:

- Strengthen partnership working for a coordinated whole system approach to preventing and tackling violent offending in the borough.
- Learn from and build on the successes of existing local projects and services that are targeted at preventing and reducing crime, violence, and exploitation.
- Build on the early success of the “Clear Hold Build” approach to improve community safety and reduce crime and anti-social behaviours in areas with higher levels of violent offending.
- Support the development of universal and standardised support that is place-based in local schools and communities, with a focus on:
 - Empowering parents and carers
 - Preventative education approaches
 - Pro-active and evidenced-informed support for 10 to 25-year-olds at the greatest risk of exploitation, offending and violence.
- Ensure robust and early support is in place for those most vulnerable to serious violence including 10–24-year-olds with special educational needs (SEN) and/or additional needs arising from neurodiverse conditions.
- Proactively monitor and tackle disproportionate representation in communities affected by violence by building data into key performance indicators and evaluation of all services.
- Effectively engage and coproduce solutions to local problems with local people
- Promote the development of victim support services for males as a high-risk group.
- Monitor and proactively intervene to reduce the risk of exclusion from education (including children subject to ‘managed moves’), employment and training.
- Develop a public awareness campaign aimed at reducing knife-enabled offending.
- Align the strategic priorities wider partnership initiatives and workstreams including the Combatting Drugs Partnership, Community Safety Strategy, Reducing Offending Partnership, Youth Justice Partnership, Health and Wellbeing Board, Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls, Tackling Exploitation Strategy with the Serious Violence Strategy



3. Introduction

Following public consultation in July 2019¹, the Government announced that it would bring forward legislation introducing a new Serious Violence Duty (“the Duty”) The Duty is a key part of the Government’s programme of work to prevent and reduce serious violence; taking a multi-agency approach to understand the causes and consequences of serious violence, focused on prevention and early intervention, and informed by evidence².

The Government’s growing concerns with the rising incidence of serious violent crime in England and Wales is attributed to the surge in weapon-related offences, domestic abuse, and sexual offences.

These offences not only have a profound negative impact on those involved, on their families and the community but also impose a substantial financial burden on public services.

As a ‘duty holder’, the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership (BSCP) is required to work together to prevent and tackle violent offending. Using local knowledge, the partnership will maintain open and genuine dialogue that enables active listening and joint problem-solving with local communities to develop effective prevention, diversion and targeted approaches that improve the safety and wellbeing of all residents.

To achieve lasting change organised criminal groups must be disrupted, the normalisation of violent offending, weapon carrying and belief that violence is inevitable must be challenged and the fear of reprisals and distrust in reporting must be broken down so there are no barriers to change.

The Strategy will be underpinned by a Violence & Vulnerability Reduction Action Plan that will draw on relevant research³, best practice and local insights to deliver its aims.



- 1 Serious Violence New Legal Duty
- 2 Serious Violence Duty Guidance
- 3 The role of systems of support in serious youth violence: evidence and gaps (publishing.service.gov.uk)

3.1 Definition of Serious Violence

Serious Violence is defined by the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) as:

Any violence and exploitation affecting young people under the age of 25, domestic abuse, and sexual violence. Within the context of these types of violence, it encompasses homicide, grievous bodily harm, actual bodily harm, rape, assault by penetration, sexual assault, personal robbery, threats to kill and violence against property caused during the commission of one of these offences. Domestic abuse is as defined in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

The impact of the pandemic and subsequent cost of living crisis has increased financial hardship for many. Social isolation and limited access to key services during the pandemic led to a reported increase in drug and alcohol use and mental health needs. Further, the disruption to organised criminal groups involved in the sale and supply of illicit drugs created new opportunities for territory and business.

Between October 2022 to October 2023 there were:

485 knife-related offences, a rate of 1.2 per 1000 population - a 31% increase in the rolling 12 months.

63 gun-related offences, a rate of 0.2 per 1000 population - a 94% increase in the rolling 12 months.

1,184 drug-related offences, a rate of 3 per 1000 population - an 8% increase in the rolling 12 months.

3,583 domestic abuse-related offences, a rate of 9 per 1000 population and - an 8.5% increase in the rolling 12 months.

753 sexual offences, a rate of 1.9 per 1000 population - a 3.3% decrease in the rolling 12 months.

3.2 Barnet Context | Summary of SNA Findings

Barnet's Serious Violence Strategic Needs Assessment sets out the local profile of violent offending. Between October 2022 and October 2023, there were 35,753 offences, resulting in an offence rate of 89.6 per 1000 population in the borough. In the rolling 12-month period to October 2023, offence rates in the borough increased by 5%. Barnet, alongside many other London boroughs saw an increase in violent offending following the relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions on movement in public spaces.

3.2.2 Violent Offending - Under 25s

Police data identifies under 25's to have a greater prevalence of violent offending.

This can be attributed to a higher prevalence of involvement in street gangs/group offending and/or the exploitation of children and young people by organised criminal groups.

Weapon - Related Offences

Knife crime in the borough poses a particular concern for the community and disproportionately affects young adults, particularly those from Black and other racially minoritised communities. There was a notable increase in the volume of knife crime offences between April and July 2023 and 46 individuals aged under 25 years were victims of knife-related crimes between October 2022 to October 2023.

Adverse life experiences such as exposure to domestic abuse, parental mental health, adult offending, social and educational exclusion are well-documented causal factors to youth offending. Barnet's Youth Justice Service (YJS) data shows an increase in robbery incidents within the 10-18-year-old group in addition to an increase in robbery, theft and burglary offences with bladed articles used for threat rather than causing actual injuries.

In the rolling 12 months to October 2023, stop and search was conducted on 3,515 occasions; 93% of individuals stopped and searched were males⁴. Young adults aged 18-25 years accounted for 31.4% of stop and search incidents, of which 65.3% were for searches for drugs, and 17.5% for weapons and bladed articles. 530 children aged 14 to 17 years were subject to stop and search, of which 43% were searches for drugs and 26.4% for weapons and bladed articles.

This strategy will align to the strategic priorities and action plans of Barnet's Community Safety Strategy 2022 - 2027⁵, Youth Justice Plan 2023 -25⁶ and Reducing Offending Partnership.

⁴ MPS Stop and Search Monthly Report | Tableau Public

⁵ Community Safety Strategy 2022-27

⁶ Youth Justice Plan 2023-25

London Ambulance Service data shows that responses to serious violence crimes in Barnet predominantly involve young males aged 16-25 years.

In 2022, those aged between 16-20 years had the highest prevalence; the age range increased to 16-25-year-olds in 2023. Similarly, hospital admissions in England increased for 18-24-year-olds, with knife injuries increasing by 62% from 2021.

The data provides evidence of increased risk and vulnerability for the 16-24-year-old age group as victims of violent crime.

The correlation between individuals carrying offensive weapons for protection and victims of serious violence is high, alongside an increased risk of violence escalation, injury, and fatality.



Drug-Related Offending

The Combatting Drugs Partnership has conducted a Strategic Needs Assessment which underpins the Combatting Drugs Partnership Delivery Plan⁷.

The SNA shows that the number of drug offences in Barnet is 2.4 per 1000 population is lower than the London rate of 4.8 in 2023.

There is a higher rate of drug related offending in the west of the borough (Fig.2), although recorded crime rates can be directly affected by proactive neighbourhood policing.

In the year February 2022 - January 2023; data reports 67% of drug-related offences pertain to possession, and 33% involve the supply of controlled drugs. 25% of drug trafficking offences led to sanction detentions and 56% of possession offences resulted in sanction detentions. The data shows a higher prevalence of drug users facing criminal charges than drug dealers/traffickers.

62% of stop and search incidents between October 2022 - October 2023 were searches for drugs; 47% were searches on individuals aged under 25 years, of which 94% were male. Positive outcomes were made in 49% of the stop and searches conducted with community resolution, penalty notice, postal charge requisition, or caution outcomes. Barnet's Combatting Drugs Partnership Delivery Plan has been developed to tackle the impact of drug use/dependency, drug dealing, including county lines, and wider impact of social harm caused by drug related offending in the borough.



Rate of drug offences

- less than 1 per 1,000
- 1 to 1.5 per 1,000
- 1.5 to 2 per 1,000
- 2 to 3 per 1,000
- 3 to 5 per 1,000
- over 5 per 1,000

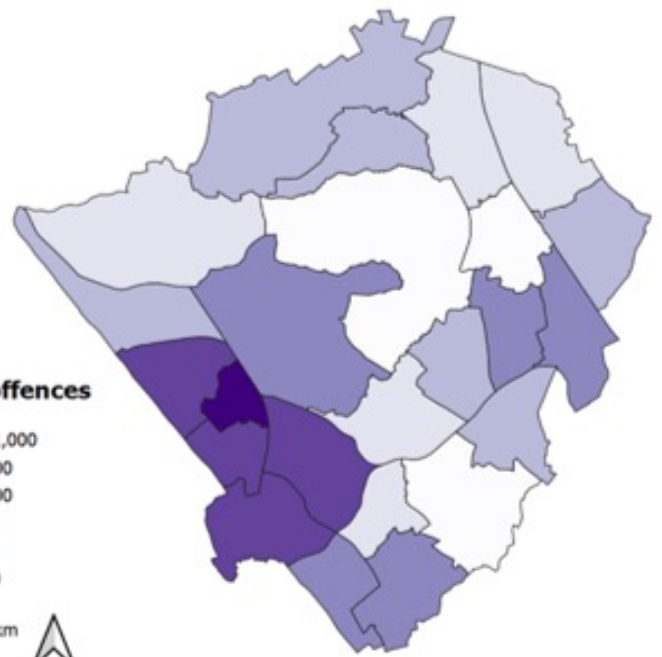


Figure 1. Heat map showing drug offences by ward.

Demographics



Figure 2. Summary of key demographic findings for under 25's

- 8 Academic Insights 2021/13: Serious youth violence and its relationship with adverse childhood experiences (justiceinspectorates.gov.uk)
- 9 Young people's experiences of serious youth violence: Care not criminalisation - His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (justiceinspectorates.gov.uk)
- 10 National protocol on reducing criminalisation of looked-after children - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Males commit more crime than females and young males are over-represented in both victim and offending data for incidences of serious violence. Over the two-year period between 2021 and 2023, there has been a 7% increase in females involved in serious violence incidents, rising from 8% to 15%. Many of these incidents are associated with various forms of criminal exploitation and it should be noted that females face similar risks of physical harm and violence as males as victims of exploitation.

Youth Justice data indicates that males accounted for 84% of violent offences in the period 2021 to March 2023, with half of all violent offending in the cohort being aged 10-14 years. Children from Black and racially minoritised communities are disproportionately represented in the criminal justice system and this is addressed in Barnet's Youth Justice Plan.

Children involved with YJS are also more likely to have adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) including exposure to domestic abuse, parental offending/substance misuse and mental health needs and structural inequalities which are well evidenced as risk factors for offending⁸. Barnet Council has invested in the provision of Child and Family Early Help Services and children and young people's mental health provision with the aim of identifying early those at the greatest risk of entry statutory services including Children's Social Care, the youth justice system mental health services with the aim of intervening early to minimise the risk of problems escalating.

Children in care and care experienced young people can be criminalised by the care system⁹. A national protocol has been developed to reduce unnecessary criminalisation of children in care¹⁰ by recognising that children in care experiences can contribute to behaviours that make them particularly vulnerable to involvement in the Youth Justice System and sets out a need for preventative approaches, early intervention and appropriate responses when children and young people do offend.

Incident Involvement

Young people are more likely to be a victim, than perpetrator of a serious violence offence. Data shows a 43% reduction in the number of young people in Barnet being identified as suspects in the period 2021 to 2023.

Victims of violent offences are more likely to become perpetrators of violent crime and often starts with carrying a knife to protect themselves from further victimisation. The council developed a Victim Hub Coordinator role with London Crime Prevention Funding 2022 – 2025 which has enabled a sufficient response to the Victims Bill (2023) and aims to improve the experience of victims of serious violence.

The Victims Hub Coordinator project is underpinned by three key objectives:

- To improve victim satisfaction and feelings of safety across the borough
- Victims receive better support from the Police and Criminal Justice System, including in online interaction.
- Increase the use of the Victims Code of Practice, revised 2021.

Incident Locations

Incidents of serious violence has reduced by 40% in street locations, against a rise in incidents in parks and public open spaces.

The locations are isolated to areas where drug dealing activity and gang tensions are more prevalent. Some incidences of serious violence have taken place in areas where there is an active nighttime economy or high footfall i.e., public transport hubs.

The Victims Hub triaged 127 referrals in the period December 2022 to September 2023, with 95% receiving information about their rights in relation to the Victims Code of Practice, 89% being supported with safety personal and home safety measure and 67% being signposted to trauma services.

The Victims Hub commissioned Calm Mediation in 2023/24 to work with up to 10 cases that require and meet the threshold for community/ neighbour mediation and/or inter-familial conflict.

Since its development in December 2022, the Victim Hub has worked with 26 partner services to raise awareness, deliver training, improve referral pathways, and enable tailored victim care pathways.



School Exclusions and Serious Violence

In Barnet there are 132 schools, and as Barnet's Children and Young People's Plan 2023 -2027¹¹ sets out the strong attainment and educational provision for most children living in the borough.

In the 2022/23 academic year, 65 students were excluded from education, an increase from 24 in 2021/22. The increase reflects an increase in social, emotional and behavioural difficulties arising from the disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Exclusion reasons are primarily:

- **Physical assault/Grievous Bodily Harm (GBH)**
- **Possession of a knife or sharp object**
- **Possession of illicit drugs and substances**

20% of those children and young people excluded from school have either Special Educational Needs (SEN) or an Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP). Children with SEN and/or social, emotional and behavioural needs are particularly vulnerable grooming and exploitation.

This strategy aims to ensure that children and young people with SEN and/or neurodiverse conditions are provided with the support they need early to prevent exclusion, exploitation and vulnerability to incidences of serious violence.

Barnet is the regional lead for SEND and the Youth Justice Service has Quality Lead Status for SEND. To strengthen this work further, this Strategy will align to ambitions of Barnet's Special Educational Needs Strategy 2021-2024¹².

11 CYP Plan 2024 (barnet.gov.uk)

12 SEND Strategy 2021 - 2024

3.3 Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences

In the rolling 12 months to October 2023, there were 3,583 instances of domestic abuse-related offences equating to a rate of 9 per 1000 population and reflecting an 8.5% increase. Out of these, 805 cases (22.4%) led to injuries for the victims.

In the rolling 12 months to October 2023, there were 752 instances of sexual offences equating to a rate of 1.9 per 1000 population and reflecting an 18.8% decrease. Out of these, 286 cases (38%) were rape-related offences.

Barnet's Domestic Abuse (DA) & Violence Against Women & Girls Strategy 2022-25¹³ is underpinned by a multi-agency action plan to prevent violence against women and girls (VAWG), support victims and engage perpetrators in change behaviours.

The VAWG Delivery Group is a subgroup to Barnet's Safer Community Partnership which drives and monitors progress against the five partnership priorities within Barnet's DA & VAWG Strategy 2022-25, which are:

1. Early intervention and prevention of Domestic Abuse and VAWG.
2. Support all victims and survivors to report, access help and recover.
3. Pursue perpetrators and engage them in behaviour change interventions to eliminate harm to victims and their families.
4. Strengthen the partnership response to improve multiagency working and information sharing to deliver improved outcomes.
5. Working together for safer streets, community, and public spaces.



Figure 3. Barnet support services offered to victims and perpetrators of DA and VAWG

13 Barnet VAWG strategy.pdf



4. Consultation & Engagement

The Serious Violence Strategic Needs Assessment and Strategy have been developed through inter-agency data sharing and consultation with key stakeholders and residents.

This has included focus groups, online surveys and ward walkabouts that have promoted engagement with 50+ children and young people, 200 professionals, and input from residents, businesses, and members.

Feedback from local communities highlight the need for engagement and consultation to be ongoing rather than one off process, and for the engagement to be open to challenge and lived experience but to also celebrate the richness and diversity of the borough.

Barnet’s Community Participation Strategy¹⁴ and ‘My Say Matters’: Child Participation and Family Involvement Strategy 2022-25¹⁵,” set out the council’s commitment to engagement with residents of all ages.

Engagement is an ongoing and not one-off process.

14 Community participation strategy | Barnet Council

15 Barnet Child Participation and Family Involvement Strategy 2022 - 2025

Violence will never be a deemed “a normal or accepted” occurrence.

Through this strategy, this commitment will be met in the following ways:

- Leadership and participation by the Partnership in community engagement meetings, including resident ward meetings, community walkabouts and public facing events.
- Regular liaison with local ward councillors to listen and respond to local concerns about serious violence.
- Providing opportunities for community representation in partnership meetings focused on addressing serious violence.
- Supporting accessible reporting pathways for residents, young people, and businesses for rising community tensions, leading to proactive engagement to reduce incidences of serious violence.

The consultation highlighted a difference between the resident’s perception and fear of violence and the likelihood of incidents taking place, which are devastating but rare. The long-term impact on communities affected by serious violence can erode confidence in professional systems of help and support and feed into collective and harmful narratives that violence is inevitable and commonplace.

The Partnership will work to ensure there are ‘no go areas’ in the borough by supporting safer streets in which local communities are able to move freely without fear of violence.

The Partnership will achieve this by:

- Preventative and proactive presence in the community, not just when things go wrong, or an incident has taken place.
- Challenging narratives that serious violence is inevitable and a ‘normal’ occurrence in local communities.
- Partnership presence in community events, including those that celebrate the rich diversity of people living in the borough.
- Clear and accessible mechanisms to report concerns about resident safety, crime, and incidences of violence.
- Ensure incidences of violence recognise collective grief and respond to collective trauma when incidents of violence occur.



Prevention and Early Identification

Grassroot providers, faith groups and local voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations provide trusted and safe spaces for many young people and residents. Their place in the community provides insights into community strengths, concerns, and local tensions. Through this strategy the Partnership will:

- Work with and support local communities to develop localised plans to meet local need and address local concerns.
- Work in partnership with local communities to proactively deploy available resource aimed at providing outreach support to young people aged 18-25 years.
- Share information and intelligence aimed at coordinating and targeting resource to prevent and reduce risk of serious violence.
- Develop awareness raising and training materials aimed at reducing serious violence in partnership with parent champions, young people, key stakeholders, and local businesses.

Build capacity in services and communities to respond to violence and escalated.

The partnership will support sustainability of approaches to prevention, diversion, and disruption by building capacity in local communities, the Partnership will achieve this by:

- Building confidence and skills in restorative approaches and raising awareness of support and services available for victims of both reported and unreported incidents of serious violence.
- Facilitating clear escalation pathways for reporting concerns about serious violence leading to proactive partnership activity and deployment of resources aimed at promoting safer communities including CCTV, proactive patrols, community health programmes and special measures on properties.
- Communicating clearly on how it is keeping residents safe from serious violence, listen and respond to feedback on the progress it is making.
- Building capacity in existing partnership forums addressing serious violence to incorporate community voices that can influence local planning and delivery of services to prevent and tackle serious violence.
- Engaging with resident associations, parents, and local communities in the development of new services to prevent and/or tackle serious violence.
- Ensuring marginalised communities can access information, support and services and enabled to have a voice in how the partnership responds to issues of serious violence that affect them.



5. Funding and Resources

5.1 Prevention and Reduction Activities

Capacity and Development and Delivery

The SNA sets out the risk to delivery of short-term funded projects, without which, the challenges to meeting the aims of this strategy are increased.

Through this strategy the Partnership will:

- Develop Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to review the effectiveness of services and localised projects to assess their impact and value.
- As far as possible we will ensure that services and projects with time-limited funding are sustainable through local capacity building.

Development of Services

Several local projects have been developed by the council to tackle offending, anti-social behaviour, perpetrator behaviour and serious violence. Currently, external funding provides c.£1m per annum for short term and ring-fenced projects that supplement delivery of core council services.

The Community, Voluntary, Faith and Social Enterprise Sector rely upon bids and charitable donations to deliver the excellent range of place-based support available to communities and young people throughout the borough.

The externally funded projects delivered by the council are outlined below, most are funded to 2025. Monitoring and KPI information against the projects is shared with funders through quarterly returns:



Project Delivery 2022-2025

Name and source of fund	Amount per annum	Description of funded activity	Funding breakdown (if possible)	
London Crime Prevention Fund (MOPAC)	£40,750	Restorative Approaches/Justice Capacity and Network Coordinator – Support the development of Restorative approaches through training to key stakeholders	2022/23 2023–25	£42,050 £81,500 Total £123,550
	£45,000	Victims’ Rights Capacity and Network Coordinator – Support the development and capacity of key stakeholders to understand Victims’ Rights and victims’ access to services.	2022–25	Total £135,000
	£65,000	Transitional Safeguarding Youth2Adult Offenders – Supportive & Preventative Pathways provided by a Barnet-based Ex-Offender Mentoring Academy. Focused on the most persistent, prolific, and violent offenders open to Integrated Offender Management Services providing outreach support 7 days per week and out of hours. Mentoring is provided by ex-offenders with lived experience of the CJS. Building trust, empowerment, offering training qualifications and hands on support to complete & work with Housing, MH, Drugs/Alcohol, benefits, demystifying application processes and assisting with CV writing and eventually employment. Supporting individuals to make positive life choices.	2022/23 2023–25	£67,000 £131,000 Total £198,000
	£30,000	Hate Crime Reporting Project – Recruiting, training, and supporting community and voluntary organisations as 3rd party reporting centres for Hate Crime – expanding reporting to support all forms of hate crime including ASB/VAWG. The centres will also receive a package of training including Hate Crime reporting, safeguarding, and WRAP training.	2022 –25	Total £90,000
	£158,000	ASB Project – Responding to repeat, persistent ASB locations and supporting repeat victims. Putting victims at the heart of the Council’s response to ASB and delivering enhanced multi-agency interventions to bring relief to neighbourhoods suffering from persistent and complex ASB.	2022 –25	Total £475,00

Name and source of fund	Amount per annum	Description of funded activity	Funding breakdown (if possible)
Violence Reduction Unit (MOPAC)	£85,435	Community Capacity Network Coordinator – Supporting the development of capacity in community organisations to respond to localised tensions and incidents of violence.	2023/24 - £85,435 One year funding
	Variable	Detached Engagement Youth Workers – Detached engagement work in our key areas of emerging violence and crime to engage with young people an adults’ up to the age of 25. To signpost to advice information and positive activities.	2023/24 £6,456 2024/25 £19,496 2025/26 £9,888 Total £35,840
	£145,000	MOPAC – Risk of Exclusions – Youth work support in partnership with schools to identify children and young people most at risk or vulnerable to exclusion from education and/or anti-social behaviour, criminal, or sexual exploitation.	2022 –25 Total £435,000
	£82,000	Engage Mentoring - Mentoring Project at the critical moment of a young person being arrested, mentoring is provided to establish a relationship and understand wider needs and vulnerabilities that possibly lead to causal factors of the arrest. Mentoring supports diversion and engagement in positive activities.	2023/24 £194,000 One year funding
	£100,00	Turnaround – Youth Workers based in NW BCU police custody suites, providing early intervention for children and young people who have been arrested, diverting them towards positive activities	2023 -25 Total £200,000
	£31,250	Parent Champions – In partnership with Active Successful Engagement (ASÉ)to engage parent champions from local communities in training to become mentors and peer support networks for other parents	2022-25 Total £62,500
	Variable	Your Choice – Providing Clinical Supervision and Training to practitioners in the REACH (adolescents at risk Social Work Team) and Youth Justice Team to deliver CBT interventions and tailored packages of support to young people at risk of violence and offending	2022/23 £116,000 2023/24 £97,777 2024/25 £30,000 Total £187,777
	Variable	Serious Violence Duty – Expand Detached Targeted Violence Reduction Youth Workers to reach young adults. Deliver SNA on behalf of CPSB and produce a Serious Violence Strategy with a multi-agency delivery plan	2022/23 £10,767 2023/24 £39,728 2024/25 £29,148 Total £79,643

Name and source of fund	Amount per annum	Description of funded activity	Funding breakdown (if possible)
Health Education England	£101,000	Liaison & Diversion/Clinical Practitioner Barnet Youth Justice Team – providing mental health screening and signposting to mental health services for children who in police detention and/or open to the Youth Justice Service	£101,000 annually
Ministry of Justice (MoJ)	£81,000	Turnaround Programme - Providing support to all children at risk of entry into the Youth Justice System, to prevent them from offending and offer a needs-assessment and the earliest opportunity for support.	2023/24 £81,000 One year funding
Home Office	Pan-London - £895,466	Drive is an intensive, coordinated multi agency response to domestic abuse (DA) perpetrators to change their behaviour with a focus on increasing victim safety, working alongside and complimenting existing interventions. Drive has secured £1,790,932 funding from the Home Office DA Perpetrator Fund to support delivery of services pan-London	2023-25 (Pan-London - £1,790,932.20)
MOPAC plus match funding from 10 partner boroughs	£697,385 across 10 boroughs	CIFA (Culturally Integrated Family Approach) provides targeted, multi-faceted domestic abuse services for racialised, marginalised communities, through a coordinated family and community approach. Individuals' risks and needs are identified through a specialist suitability assessment, and considered for culturally grounded interventions, delivered by Rise Mutual CiC, and led by Barnet Council The current funding ends March 2025.	2023-25 - £1,394,770 (across 10 boroughs)
Youth Justice Board	£342,887	Annual Youth Justice Grant – to support crime prevention and desistance activities provided by the Youth Justice Service	2023/24 -£342,887 (variable annual grant)

Externally funded services are monitored and evaluated by the There are more than 200 community groups and charity organisations working with children and young people in Barnet and who are members of Young Barnet Foundation; these include a number of community-based organisations working with youth, and those affected by violence including, but not exclusive to Art Against Knives, Centre of Excellence CiC, Colindale Community Trust, FUSE, Khulisa, Lift CiC, MAC-UK, Mencap, The 4Front Project, The Flowerbank Project, Unitas Youth Zone, Volunteer-it-Yourself, and Youth Realities.

Many of these organisations have operational links to Child & Family Early Help Services and Youth Justice Services, there are some strategic links to the Partnership, but these should be strengthened through this strategy to support whole system working for communities.

6. Delivering the Strategy

6.1 Local Partnership Arrangements

Barnet's Safer Communities Partnership works to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and offending, and promote social cohesion. It acts as the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and is required to:

- Formulate a Community Safety Strategy for agreement by the Council; and
- Ensure that resources are effectively deployed across the Police, Council, criminal justice agencies and other public services in support of the strategy to make the maximum impact.

More information on Barnet's Safety Community Partnership Board and the membership can be found here: [Barnet Safer Communities Partnership Board](#).

The Barnet Safer Communities Partnership will lead on the implementation of the strategy and ensure compliance with the Serious Violence Duty 2023.

The Community Safety Partnership reports to the Crime & Disorder Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet. As the Serious Violence Strategy is focused on young people under the age of 25 years, it is intersectional with the Children's Education and Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee and several local strategies and plans, including:

- Community Safety Strategy 2022 – 2027¹⁶
- Children and Young People's Plan 2023 – 2027¹⁷
- Youth Justice Plan 2023 – 2025¹⁸
- Child & Family Early Help Strategy 2023 – 2027¹⁹
- Domestic Abuse & Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2022 - 2025²⁰
- SEND Strategy 2021 -2025²¹
- Combatting Drugs Partnership Delivery Plan²²
- Tackling Exploitation Strategy 2024 – 2027 (in development for publication in 2024)



16 Community Safety Strategy 2022 - 2027

17 Children and Young People's Plan 2023 - 2027

18 Youth Justice Plan 2023 - 2025

19 Child & Family Early Help Strategy 2023 - 2027

20 Domestic Abuse & Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2022 - 2025

21 SEND Strategy 2021 - 2024

22 Combatting Drugs Partnership Delivery Plan



Barnet's Safer Communities Partnership works to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and offending, and promote social cohesion.

Governance & Board Interface Framework

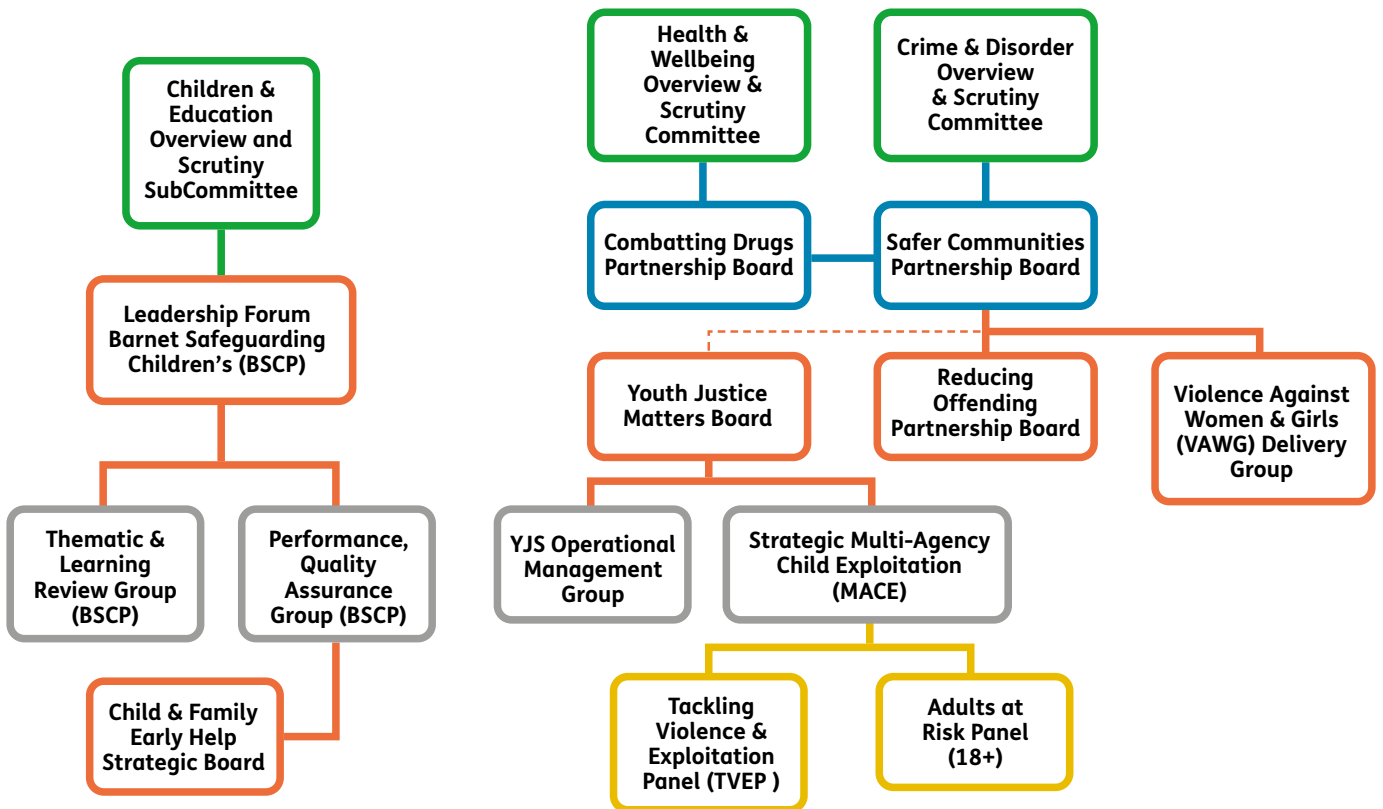


Figure 4. Governance & Board Interface Framework

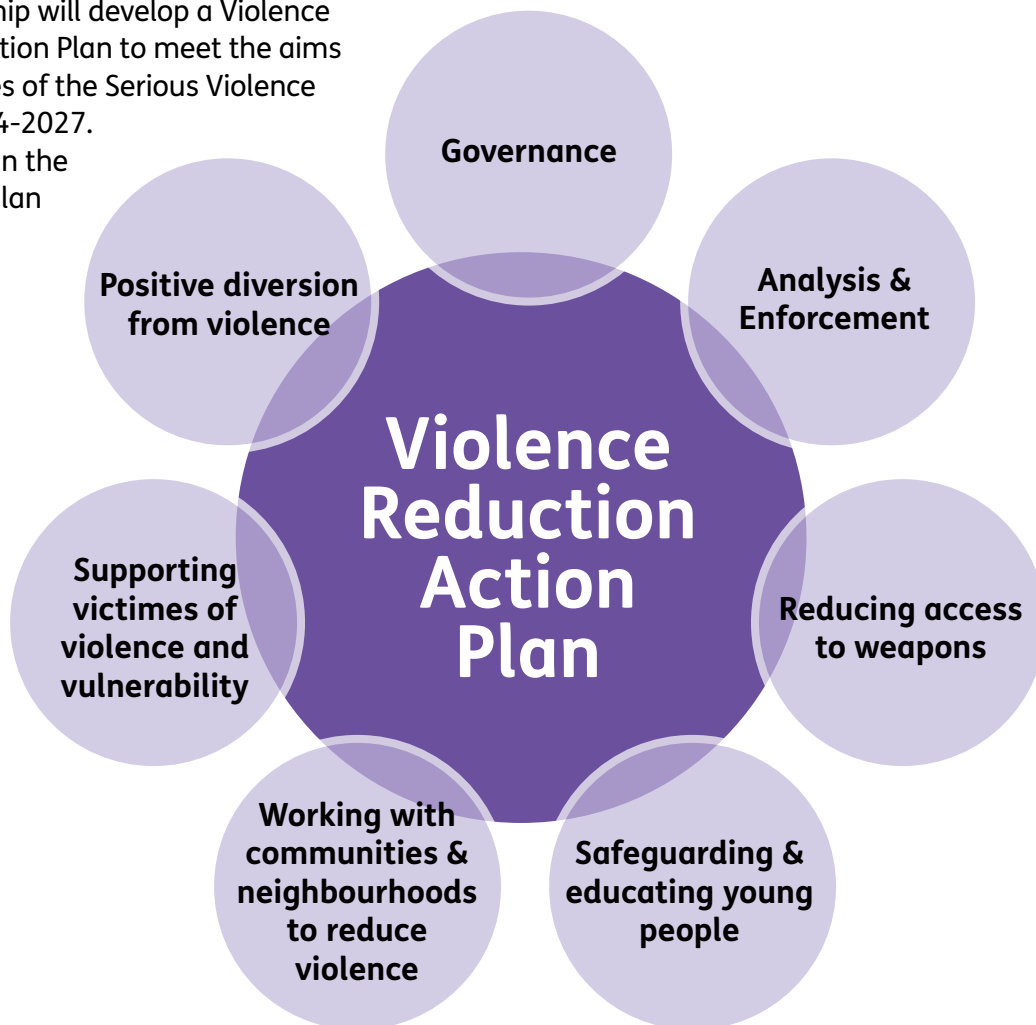
7. Action to Prevent and Reduce Serious Violence

The Strategic Needs Assessment has informed the following strategic objectives for the Safer Communities Partnership to prevent and reduce serious violence:

Objective 1	Build upon and strengthen existing partnership initiatives through a coordinated and whole system approach, aligning local strategic ambitions for combatting drugs, tackling, modern slavery, violence against women & girls, reducing offending, tackling exploitation and serious violence.
Objective 2	Build upon local community, child and parent participation approaches to engage local communities in coproduced problem-solving activities.
Objective 3	Raise public awareness of the individual, community and social harm caused by violence through targeted campaigns
Objective 4	Engage perpetrators of all forms of violence in behaviour change programmes and ensure justice is served.
Objective 5	Support the development of a place-based approach in local schools and communities, with a focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowering parents and carers • Preventative education approaches • Meeting the emerging needs of children and young people with special educational needs • Pro-active and evidenced-informed support for 10 to 25-year-olds at the greatest risk of exploitation, offending and violence.
Objective 6	Strengthen victim support, ensuring accessible and trauma-informed support is available to all victims of serious violence
Objective 7	Share and use data across the partnership to inform and monitor the development and effectiveness of services aimed at preventing and tackling serious violence.

The Partnership will develop a Violence Reduction Action Plan to meet the aims and objectives of the Serious Violence Strategy 2024-2027.

Themes within the local action plan will focus on:



The responsible authorities ('duty holders') of the Serious Violence Duty are:

- Metropolitan Police (NW BCU).
- London Fire Brigade
- London Ambulance Services.
- London Borough of Barnet Adult Services, Community Safety, Family Services (including Youth Justice, Domestic Abuse & VAWG and Reducing Offending)
- London Probation Services
- Health bodies (Integrated Care Boards)
- Housing
- Public Health
- Education

Date for review/annual review mechanism:

This Strategy document will be reviewed annually; with the next review due by 31st March 2025.

Progress of this strategy, the objectives set out within it and the local action plan, will be reviewed at quarterly Barnet Safer Communities Partnership Board meetings.

Summary of annual assessment of progress:

This section will be populated 12 months after the Strategy is produced and will provide a summary of the annual assessment of the partnership's performance against the previous years' strategy.

8. Appendix

8.1 Common Acronyms

ACE	Adverse Childhood Experiences
ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour
BSCP	Barnet Safer Communities Partnership
BSCPb	Barnet Safer Communities Partnership Board
CHB	Clear Hold Build
DA	Domestic Abuse
EHCP	Education, Health, and Care Plan
GBH	Grievous Bodily Harm
IRIS	Identification & Referral to Improve Safety
KPIs	Key Performance Indicators
MACE	Multi-Agency Child Exploitation
MARAC	Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MOPAC	Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime
MPS	Metropolitan Police Service
SEN	Special Educational Needs
SEND	Special Educational Needs & Disability
SNA	Strategic Needs Assessment
SVD	Serious Violence Duty
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
VCOP	Victims Code of Practice
YJS	Youth Justice Service

9. Acknowledgments

The London Borough of Barnet would like to thank the individuals, organisations and partner agencies who contributed to the development of this strategy, including:

- Barnet children and young people
- Residents
- Councillor Pauline Coakley Webb
- Met Police (NW BCU)
- London of Barnet – Community Safety Team, Violence and Exploitation Team, Early Help, Youth Justice Service, DA MARAC, DA and VAWG team, Strategy and Engagement team
- Barnet Education & Learning Services (BELS)
- London Probation Service
- The many voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise organisations involved in the consultation.
- Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust.
- Public Health Team
- Barnet Combatting Drugs Partnership Board
- The Chair and Members of the London Borough of Barnet Safer Communities Partnership Board



Serious Violence Duty Strategy 2024-2027

London Borough of Barnet Safer Communities Partnership

Police Crime Sentencing and Courts Act 2022



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