

## Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea

# RBKC Safer Neighbourhood Board

## Reports from Executive Members

### Report from the Chair Kensington & Chelsea Safer Neighbourhood Board November 2020

Kim Howell

#### Meetings

Government restrictions in London with regard to the pandemic means we cannot hold any public meetings at this time. So, we will not be holding the meeting scheduled for the 4th quarter 2020 or in January 2021. We still hope to be able to hold our Annual Crime Summit at the end of March 2021. In the meantime, these written reports are being provided to residents to keep them updated. We will also discuss the possibility of holding a public Zoom meeting. Otherwise please submit any questions or concerns via the SNB email.

#### Project Funding

MOPAC (London Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime) has approved the six community projects submitted by our SNB for the budget year 2020/21 and has recently confirmed funding after an emergency review of the London Mayor's funds. Although most of the projects have begun, the delivery of each project will be conditional on what is possible within the Government guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic. The projects and themes are as follows:

- Safer neighbourhoods for vulnerable and older residents (delivered by Age UK K&C)
- Mental health and safe space support for young men (Rugby Portobello Trust)
- Post-lock-down re-engagement activities for at-risk teenagers (The Harrow Club)
- North Kensington anti-crime youth film project (Kids on the Green)
- Community pride and youth canal history project (SPID Theatre Company)
- Annual Crime Summit for borough residents hosted by the SNB and NHW

#### Met Call Centre & Response Performance

The SNB Chair is a member of the MetCC Steering Group and London-wide Community Forum, which is set up to challenge and support, and review performance, of the Police Call Centre and Emergency Response. The most recent findings indicate the following:

- Digital 101 (online crime reporting) is being strongly promoted by the Met as a potentially better alternative to phoning 101. See attached Guide.
- With the ending of the lockdown, the number of 999 calls in London has started to increase, although still lower than previously and equivalent to two years ago.
- The MetCC has continued good performance answering most 999 calls within 10 seconds.
- Emergency response in Kensington & Chelsea is above target with ~924% attendance within 15 minutes from ~700 callouts in October 2020.
- Response to K&C Domestic Abuse emergency calls has continued to be above target.
- However, response in K&C to non-emergency Domestic Abuse calls is still below target with only 75% attendance within 60 minutes (versus a target of 90%). We are discussing this issue with the BCU Response Team leaders.

#### Miscellaneous

- Ward Panels are finally back on track with virtual meetings (see NHW Report below).
- Abstraction of Dedicated Ward Officers has increased to 6.7% in the BCU.
- Unfortunately, the Met has decided to close the Kenway station (at Earls Court) this quarter. The staff and officers will be working out of the Kensington Police Station.
- MOPAC is developing a community engagement Action Plan to address Black Lives Matter issues. We have participated in a workshop to help advance this.

*Kim Howell, Chair K&C SNB*

# Reporting Crime Online

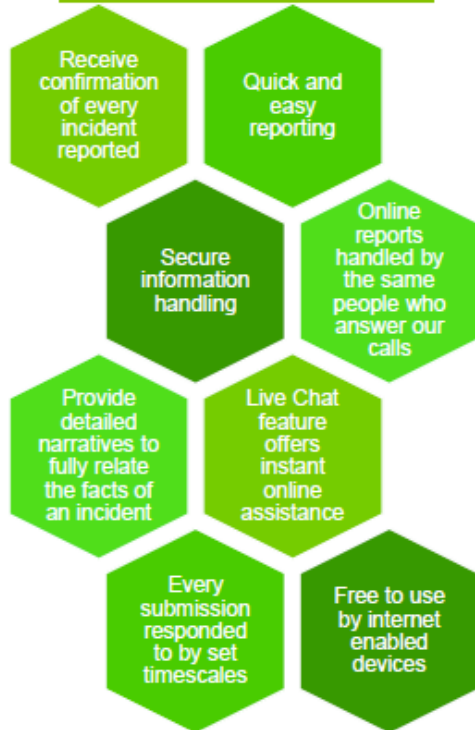


**METROPOLITAN  
POLICE**



(Slide 1 of 7)

## Why Report Non Emergency Crime ...Online?



This guide provides information on where you can find and contact the Met Police via their website to report crime.

In an emergency always call 999. Call 999 when...

A *serious offence* is in progress or has just been committed

Someone is in *immediate* danger

Property is in *immediate* danger of damage

A *serious disruption* to the public is likely



METROPOLITAN  
POLICE



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## How to Report Crime On The Metropolitan Police Website



1 Find the Met Police website



2 The homepage offers you several options to click on and select

3 Select the 'Report' tab and choose the option that best suits what you are reporting



(Slide 3 of 7)

Answer the step by step questions to help us offer you the right help

If you've witnessed or been the victim of crime, please report it here. It will help us to bring the offender to justice and make sure this doesn't happen to anyone else. Just answer a few quick questions below to find out the best way to get in touch. The kind of information you provide here plays a huge part in how we plan our policing.

< Back

Step 1

Is a crime happening right now, is the suspect still at the scene, or is anyone seriously injured or in immediate danger?

Yes

No



Live Chat

Click on the Live Chat icon if you need help with technical support or guidance with the web site



METROPOLITAN  
POLICE



(Slide 4 of 7)

Once you have answered the initial screening questions, click 'Start' to begin reporting your crime related incident

< Back Complete

Report stolen property

Thank you. You can report this crime online.

Click 'Start' below to complete our quick and simple online form. Please give as much information as you can so we have everything we need to start an investigation.

You'll be able to download a copy of your report for your own records.

Our team will review your report and get back to you within 48 hours, with a crime reference number or further advice.

**Average completion time: 15 minutes**

Please have the following details ready, if possible:

- the date and time of the crime
- unique details of all items stolen (eg specific marks or colours, a registration number, a phone's IMEI number)
- contact details of anyone who witnessed the crime
- information about any evidence that could help our investigation

**Start**



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Tell us what happened, and add anything you feel could be useful or relevant to an investigation, *include any previous related incidents*

### What happened?

Please tell us what happened, and the events leading up to it, to help us identify if an offence has been committed.\*

A male came into the shop on his own, took a bottle of wine from the shelf, put it inside a bag he was carrying and then ran out the shop without paying for it.

He dropped his some paperwork he was holding, i have this in a bag at the shop|

He's been in here before taking stuff before without paying for it and we've reported it previously as follows:  
01/05/2020 - police ref 12344567/56  
02/05/2020 - police ref 11234566/56  
3rd May - police cad 4567/03MAY

Once you have completed all the questions and submitted them to us you will be provided with a receipt code.

The receipt code is not a crime reference number.

We will review the information you provided and get back to you using the contact details you provided, either with a crime reference number, or for further guidance.



**METROPOLITAN  
POLICE**



(Slide 6 of 7)



**Report a crime online**  
The safe and secure way to tell us about a crime.  
Online service

Select **Contact us** if you want to update a crime report with any more information

**Metropolitan Police**

- Contact us
- Find a police station
- Careers at the Met
- About the Met
- News
- Privacy notice
- Cookies
- Terms and conditions
- Accessibility
- Metablog

**Online**

Looking for help or information? Want to tell us something or report an incident? Use our simple tool below to find the best way to get in contact.

I need to contact you about...

- a crime that has already been reported
- a matter involving driving, vehicles or a road traffic incident
- contacting a member of staff or team
- saying thanks or making a complaint
- something else

**METROPOLITAN POLICE**

NEW SCOTLAND YARD

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## Stop & Search Community Monitoring – Lucy Smith-Ryland

As lockdown came to an end in the summer months the Police were battling endless unlicensed Music Events popping up all over the capital. The drugs industry had suffered a lean time during Covid/lockdown and the UME's were a good way of kick starting it again. It was also a nightmare scenario for Covid infection. Carnival was cancelled but many UME's were expected to replace it. Myself and our usual group for Carnival monitoring, patrolled with the Police during Carnival weekend engaging and persuading those who were thinking of going down the UME track not to. It turned out to be a peaceful weekend.

The figures for Stop & Search are as follows from October 2019 to September 2020:

- 6,407 2.1% of MPS volume
- 1428 (22.6%) positive outcomes which includes arrests, penalty notices for disorder, postal charge requisition (charge which does not involve going into custody) and community resolutions (admission of wrong doing which stays on Police system for 5 years for purpose of disclosure and baring check – it will show on an enhanced check when seeking employment).
- 11% arrested, 1.6% penalty notices for disorder, 1.1% Postal charge requisition and 8.8% community resolutions.

Interestingly this data excludes Carnival 2019 and there was no Carnival in 2020, removing approximately 2000 searches.

### What are searches for?

Number	Percentage	Reason for search
3853	60.1%	Drugs
1091	17.0%	Weapons points and blades
701	10.9%	S.1 Stolen property
378	5.9%	Going equipped
2882	4.4%	S. 60 (a lot of these will be from Carnival)
29	0.5%	Firearms
25	0.4%	Other
20	0.3%	Items for commission of criminal damage
8	0.1%	Psychoactive substances
0	0.0%	Fireworks

### Outcomes

62.54%	Drugs
12.89%	Theft, fraud, counterfeit offences
7.42%	Weapons
6.16%	Other
3.43%	Road Traffic Offences
2.10%	Criminal Justice
1.75%	Public Order
1.40%	Violence
0.84%	Criminal damage
0.56%	Firearms
0.42%	Immigration
0.35%	Psychoactive substances

### Ethnic Appearance

White	2346 positive	24.85%
Black	2265 positive	20.7%
Asian	594 positive	18.18%
Other	1116 positive	24.01%

## Age

10-14	203	25 positive	12.19%
15-19	1 639	317 positive	19.34%
20-24	1 639	360 positive	21.64%
25-29	1 068	275 positive	25.74%
30-34	646	186 positive	28.79%
35-39	389	96 positive	24.67%
40-44	274	73 positive	26.64%
45+	436	96 positive	22.02%

## Gender

Male	5850	1322 positive	22.59%
Female	471	106 positive	22.50%

Over the Summer there has been a lot of bad publicity on how Stop & Search has affected the BAME Community. As Monitors we have been putting a lot of pressure on intensive training for new and old officers in UNCONSCIOUS bias. We have had the very good news recently that The Community Monitoring Group viewing of body worn video has been reinstated. We shall hopefully be watching that in the coming weeks.

There has been a Report at the end of October from the IOPC after having completed five investigations. It was found that Stop & Searches were being undermined by a lack of understanding about the impact of disproportionality, poor communication, consistent use of force over seeking Cooperation, failure to use body worn video from the outset of contact and continuing to seek further evidence after initial grounds for stop and search were unfounded. The Met have accepted all recommendations made by the IOPC and have made a suitable response.

There are a number of issues being addressed by the Met at the moment, better Engagement being one of them. There are a number of ideas being rolled out to help unconscious bias which has become an immensely important issue in the last few months as I have already said and will continue to be so. It was pointed out by the IOPC and has been accepted by the MET but we as Monitors have to keep the pressure on this subject and make sure that those recommendations are followed through with. We have of course now got back the ability to watch body worn video which will be enormously helpful.

## Independent Custody Visiting Panel update – Vassiliki Stavrou

- Custody visiting has faced its challenges over the last few months with many visits now being done virtually.
- Virtual visits are of course not ideal as at the moment they cannot be announced and also visitors do not get the same situational information as they would during a regular visit. There is a plan from MOPAC to be able to conduct unannounced virtual visits in the future.
- Risk assessments are currently being undertaken to see if some face to face visits can resume. The aim in London is for each panel to undertake 1 face to face visit and 2 virtual visits each month.
- ICVs continue to observe provision of AAs, number of juveniles in detention, use of spot guards and staffing as well as a number of other key issues.
- A few months ago, a visit was observed by the UN Sub-Committee on the Prevention of Torture and there is a further visit planned for later this year.

## Safer Neighbourhoods Ward Panel Meetings in RBKC - Caryl Harris, RBKC Safer Ward /Watch Coordinator

My last Report on Safer Neighbourhood Ward Panel Meetings was in June 2020 and we were then in a more optimistic position as we had emerged from Lockdown and were hopeful that all would soon be back to normal, coining the phrase “whatever the new normal is?” But here we are, back again in Lockdown and still hopeful that soon, some vaccine will be available and things may return to a better normal.

Certainly, there are elements in Lockdown that do add a benefit. Particularly to the routine meetings I always try to attend in person. In these dark winter days I am still attending all SN Ward meetings, and there are 18 wards in RBKC to cover, but now, due to lockdown/SD, I do them from the comfort of my studio chair which does have a real benefit, as I save time travelling to the police station or venue and I don't have to brave the dark nights nor wet weather.

To date, I have attended **139 meetings** which in normal times would have been closer to 150 meetings, but it has taken some time to get the Local Neighbourhood Police teams comfortable with the Microsoft-Teams link and virtual meetings and until recently they have been rather sporadic.

I actually hold a unique position in the Safer Neighbourhoods function, because I am the only person that is privileged to attend every ward meeting and therefore have the benefit of an “overview of the full SN Panels for RBKC.

I can map their progress in my data collections and note taking books, compare their abilities, check on their ward priorities, and gain insight on the trending shape of crimes on a very local perspective. I can clearly see things that are well managed by one team that could be shared with someone else experiencing similar problems to improve their performance.

This week I attended three virtual meetings, and once again, I am noticing some new patterns emerging, probably due to the Covid-19 pandemic;

- Theft seems to be much higher (both from opportunist in the long summer weather we enjoyed and also from business premises as they are more attentive to SD than perhaps their usual scrutiny of customers activities so pick-pocketing shop lifting and petty theft has increased
- Fraudulent /stolen credit cards with a repeat pattern x 3 as the offender moves to another high street or shopping area to use the cards again is a repeating pattern
- More anger and violence is being reported (especially on the streets) and sometimes very personal to the general public
- Burglary seems to be going up (although during the first lockdown it dropped dramatically) the hot summer was the usual problem with doors and windows open and the opportunist taking advantage

**But the one major crime, because it is illegal, and it is mentioned at every ward meeting I have attended recently, and a worry for all the ward residents who attend the panels, is the concern about the increase of Cyclists and Motorised Scooters using the pavements.**

Bikes and motorised scooters are very quiet so when they approach from behind a pedestrian, they not only give pedestrians a fright, which may result in a fall, but they also confuse the person or child and the result is a collision and this can seriously hurt an older person or a young child or a dog for that matter. There is not enough time nor space on a pavement to avoid the collision. I can also report that panellists all confirm the additional abuse when they warn the offender off using the pavement, and responses are often threatening.

The general feeling amongst the residents who attend the ward panel meetings, is the understanding that cycling is a sensible way to overcome the worry of crowded public transport, although with so few people using the underground and buses, hours of work staggered, this system is by far the safest

and fastest. No doubt, it will return to the over-crowded operation it was in February 2020, but for now, using a bike or scooter is a very sensible alternative for health and environmental reasons.

But as the Ward Panel residents all point out, obeying the Road Users rules and acting within the Law requires enforcement probably backed up by new legislation that meets this new requirement.

The prediction is that more cyclists will remain on the roads and pavements and probably increase when this pandemic is over and a non-applied £50 fine is not going to discourage them from using the pavements.

Before the system returns to the 'old' normal, this loop-hole in the law does need to be addressed. Cycle lanes are helpful, but they do not and will not solve the problem. Cyclists prefer to use the pavement because it skips traffic lights and is safer. And we do know they rarely obey traffic lights anyway and for that matter, one-way streets.

The suggestion has been made that all bikes must be registered and their number displayed. If they transgress the law and it is reported, like any other road-user, it results in a graded list of penalties.

For those who are aware of the ward panels and the valuable work they do with their local Neighbourhood Police Teams they are the backbone of the community, with both teams working hard towards safer streets and healthier communities.

For those that may be unaware of the Ward Safer Neighbourhood Panels, these are held every three months by the Dedicated Ward Police Teams that serve their Wards aided by their groups of volunteer residents, interested in police work and progressing safer neighbourhoods throughout the Borough. In RBKC the Safer Neighbourhood Ward Panels thrive and do a marvellous job.

Not every panel operates in the same way. Some are run entirely by the Ward Police Team and the format includes the ward statistics on the selected **ward priorities**, and include an update on identified problems and finally, any good news that has occurred in the past three months. Others are chaired very ably by a resident, and they make sure the panel is well briefed and balanced and in my experience, drill-down to the real experiences in their Ward because it is fuelled by the people that live there.

The Ward priorities are the selected high-interest items that each Ward Panel selects to put as their 'top-concerns' which for me, are very often very similar, and from my unique position of seeing and hearing almost every meeting and the contents/outcomes are frequently experienced - but never shared.

This year, I am determined to place a simple platform and APP for every Ward Safer Neighbourhood panel to be able to post on, and for every resident (whether they are a member of the Ward panel or not) to be able to view and share this information more readily with their neighbours.

With IT at everyone's fingertips, particularly in the post Covid-19 times award **online service** that anyone can access is needed. It will allow all the useful learnings to be available to every ward member and local resident in RBKC. And It would provide a Notice Board for the Council, Safer Neighbourhood Ward Police Teams and local residents - offer greater support to every ward structure across the Borough and a higher degree of safety within the Borough.

## Update on Crime – Report from Metropolitan Police



### Kensington & Chelsea Covid-19 Update 21/09/2020

Crime Comparison 2019 v 2020.				
		Last 14 Days (20/Sep)	Last 20 Weeks (10/May - 20/Sep)	Last 12 months (Aug)
Total Notifiable Offences	2019	976	10,281	23,939
	2020	786	6,605	20,425
	var.	-19%	-36%	-15%
Burglary	2019	83	857	2,002
	2020	64	542	1,881
	var.	-23%	-37%	-6%
Robbery	2019	48	431	989
	2020	30	209	995
	var.	-38%	-52%	1%
Sexual Offences	2019	11	140	368
	2020	7	134	373
	var.	-36%	-4%	1%
Violence With Injury (Non Dom)	2019	48	491	1,069
	2020	49	334	916
	var.	2%	-32%	-14%
Violence With Injury (Domestic)	2019	15	148	371
	2020	8	139	366
	var.	-47%	-6%	-1%
Domestic Abuse	2019	50	484	1,251
	2020	35	583	1,449
	var.	-30%	20%	16%
Knife Crime	2019	16	157	334
	2020	18	97	351
	var.	13%	-38%	5%
Theft	2019	379	4,267	9,791
	2020	240	1,864	7,137
	var.	-37%	-56%	-27%
Vehicle Crime	2019	178	1,377	3,390
	2020	175	905	3,126
	var.	-2%	-34%	-8%

BCU Emergency Calls in Target	Last 12 months	87.2%
	Last 12 weeks	93.3%
	Last 14 days	90.9%

BCU Hate Crime	Last 14 Days	Last 12 Weeks	Last 12 Months
2019	125	1,205	2,959
2020	118	1,214	2,928
	-5.6%	1%	-1%

ASB – Key Issues: Social gatherings, neighbour disputes and homelessness
07/09/2020 to 20/09/2020 – 368 calls. 67% increase on previous year
Key locations: include Linden Gardens, W2

## RBKC Community Safety Services update – Report from Stuart Priestley

### Purpose

This report provides an update for SNB members regarding some of the key priority programmes of the Council's Community Safety Services. It does not reflect all of the work or priorities of the service. If you have any questions about the Council's Community Safety Services please contact Stuart Priestley, Chief Community Safety Officer, via [stuart.priestley@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:stuart.priestley@rbkc.gov.uk)

### CCTV Capital Development

The Council has an existing network of 58 Fixed CCTV cameras and 13 demountable CCTV cameras. In 2019 the Council agreed to allocate £536,000 to upgrade some of its existing CCTV stock and increase its CCTV network. A resident-led CCTV Advisory Group was established as a sub-group of the SNB to guide this work. The Group met on six occasions between November 2019 and September 2020 and agreed the purpose, scope and priorities for the Councils CCTV expansion which will see an additional 27 CCTV cameras in the following locations:

- Kings Road = 8 fixed camera, 1 deployable
- Portobello Road = 3 fixed cameras, 1 deployable
- High Street Kensington = 6 fixed cameras, 1 deployable
- Ladbroke Grove = 6 fixed cameras, 1 deployable

A deployable camera allows for the camera to be moved from location to location.

For more information on the CCTV development programme please see the Council's Leadership Team papers, item A6, via the link below.

<https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/committees/Meetings/tabid/73/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/669/Meeting/8365/Committee/1593/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx>

The CCTV Advisory Board will continue to support the Council to develop its first CCTV Strategy which will likely include the following:

- Sustainable financial model of CCTV Investment
- Supporting resident and business CCTV systems to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour
- Effective use of existing CCTV and quality assurance

### The Community Wardens

The Community Warden Service provides a uniformed presence to tackle anti-social behaviour, including street-based enviro-crime, through engagement, behaviour change and enforcement. The service is comprised of two supervisors and 12 wardens and has been operational since early July 2020.

The Service operates peripatetically across the borough and the Warden's focus is directed by crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) analysis as well as requests from council departments and the police for joint patrols and actions. The Wardens also support the enforcement of the Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) which the Council have enacted to tackle specific issues. These include the PSPO to tackle noisy cars covering a section of Brompton and Hans Town ward, the PSPO to tackle nuisance busking in key locations and the PSPO to tackle antisocial behaviour associated with the consumption of alcohol in public places.

For more information about the work of the Wardens please see the report item A5 to the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 12 November via the following link:

<https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/committees/Meetings/tabid/73/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/669/Meeting/8276/Committee/1613/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx>



## Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

Unfortunately, whilst crime in its totality has reduced under the two Covid lockdowns (-30% for the past 20 weeks from 23/11/20) reports of VAWG related incidents have increased:

- Domestic Abuse +7% previous 20-week period from 23/11/20
- Violence with injury (Domestic Abuse) +9% previous 20-week period from 23/11/20

A VAWG specialist services re-tender process had commenced in March when the Government announced the first lockdown. This process was abandoned in recognition of the impact that Covid-19 was having upon specialist VAWG service providers. Officers are currently considering when best to relaunch this process.

Covid-19 placed considerable strain upon some families and relationships as is reflected in the increase of reports to the police. It further hampered the ability for victims to access the support they need. In response, a poster campaign in the borough's pharmacies was successful in highlighting the issue and where to access help locally. Specialist services working with survivors of domestic abuse report that the levels and complexity of the need have increased under Covid-19. Community safety officers are working to support services and survivors.

## Tackling Serious Youth Violence

Serious youth violence (SYV) offending has declined under Covid-19.

In comparison to London boroughs as a rate per 1000 residents, RBKC has experienced offences in the middle tier of boroughs. It experiences the highest rank for all Knife Crime offences (10<sup>th</sup> out of 32 London Boroughs) and lowest for Gun Crime (20<sup>th</sup> out of 32 London Boroughs). For SYV Offences the borough has the 17<sup>th</sup> highest, which is lower in comparison to its neighbouring boroughs (Westminster is 1<sup>st</sup> in London, and LBHF 8<sup>th</sup> highest). Table 1 below provides details.

Table 1

Offence	JAN – AUG 2019	JAN – AUG 2020	Change	London Comparison Rank (rate per 1000 residents: 1 = highest, 32 = lowest)
SYV <sup>1</sup>	91	74	-19% (17 offences)	17
All Knife Crime	227	188	-17% (39 offences)	10
Knife Crime with Injury	73	46	-37% (27 offences)	15
Knife Crime with Injury, victims 1 – 24	31	17	-45% (14 offences)	15
Gun Crime	26	14	-46% (12 offences)	20

<sup>1</sup> Serious Youth Violence includes all serious assaults where the victim is under 19.

The Council and Safer K and C Partnership's response to serious youth violence is coordinated across four themes. These are:

- Prevention and early intervention
- Targeted interventions
- Enforcement
- Engaging with communities

For detailed analysis of the crime data and activities and projects undertaken to tackle serious youth violence please refer to the Serious Youth Violence Update Report distributed with this report.

## Modern Slavery and Exploitation

Modern Slavery and exploitation (MSE) is an umbrella term for human trafficking and servitude. It is used when somebody is forced or coerced to do something, and another person gains from this.

The most common ways people are exploited are:

- forced labour – being made to work for little or no money
- sexual exploitation – being coerced or forced into selling sex
- domestic servitude – being made to work within a home environment for little or no pay
- criminal exploitation – being forced to break the law for someone else (begging, selling drugs)
- forced/sham marriage – being made to marry someone you don't want to marry

The Council lead a multi-agency, Tri-Borough MSE group to tackle modern slavery across London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster City Council. An annual work programme focus upon:

- Victim identification and support
- Awareness raising and campaigns
- Supply chains are slavery free
- Establishing referral pathways to support victims
- Gathering and analysing data

The Council is one the first Council's in London to publish a Modern Slavery Procurement Statement. More information can be found via:

<https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/community-and-local-life/community-safety/modern-slavery>

## **Serious Youth Violence Community Safety and Family and Children's Services update - Stacie Smith – Senior Community Safety Officer**

### **1. Purpose and Background**

1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Family and Children's Services Scrutiny Panel with updated information and performance ahead of the Family and Children's Select Committee (FCSC) on 20th October 2020. It is intended for information only and is not an agenda item at the FCSC meeting.

1.2. The report provides an update on the extent and nature of the borough's Serious Youth Violence and the multi-agency response which is delivered within the framework of the Safer K&C Partnership Serious Youth Violence Strategy 2019 - 2021.

1.3. The report focuses on Serious Youth Violence, Knife Crime and Gang offending. The definition of Serious Youth Violence in the borough's strategy includes recognition of all individuals who are affected by gang and knife violence, whether they are victims and perpetrators up to the age of 25 years.

1.4. The Strategic Lead for the Safer K&C Partnership's response for Serious Youth Violence is the Director of Communities, but the Council's response has a significant emphasis on safeguarding those aged under 18 years which falls within the responsibility of Director for Family and Children's Services. The Youth Crime Partnership Group, provides strategic oversight of the annual Youth Justice Plan, the Violence Reduction Action Plan and also the Serious Youth Violence Strategy and is Chaired by Director for Families and Children's Services. It is accountable to the Safer K and C Partnership Board. Therefore, there is considerable joint responsibilities and delivery across the two Directorates. This report has been written by Community Safety, with contributions from colleagues and reports produced within Family and Children's Services.

### **2. Serious Youth Violence Offences**

2.1. To date in 2020 there has been reductions in offences linked to Serious Youth Violence (SYV), as well as Knife Crime and Knife crime with injury offences (Table 1). The largest reduction has been within Gun Crime (46%) and Knife Crime with Injury offences for victims aged 1 to 24 years old (45%).

2.2. In comparison to London boroughs as a rate per 1000 residents, RBKC has experienced offences in the middle tier of boroughs. It experiences the highest rank for all Knife Crime offences (10th out of 32 London Boroughs) and lowest for Gun Crime (20th out of 32 London Boroughs). For SYV Offences the borough has the 17th highest, which is lower in comparison to its neighbouring boroughs (Westminster is 1st in London, and LBHF 8th highest).

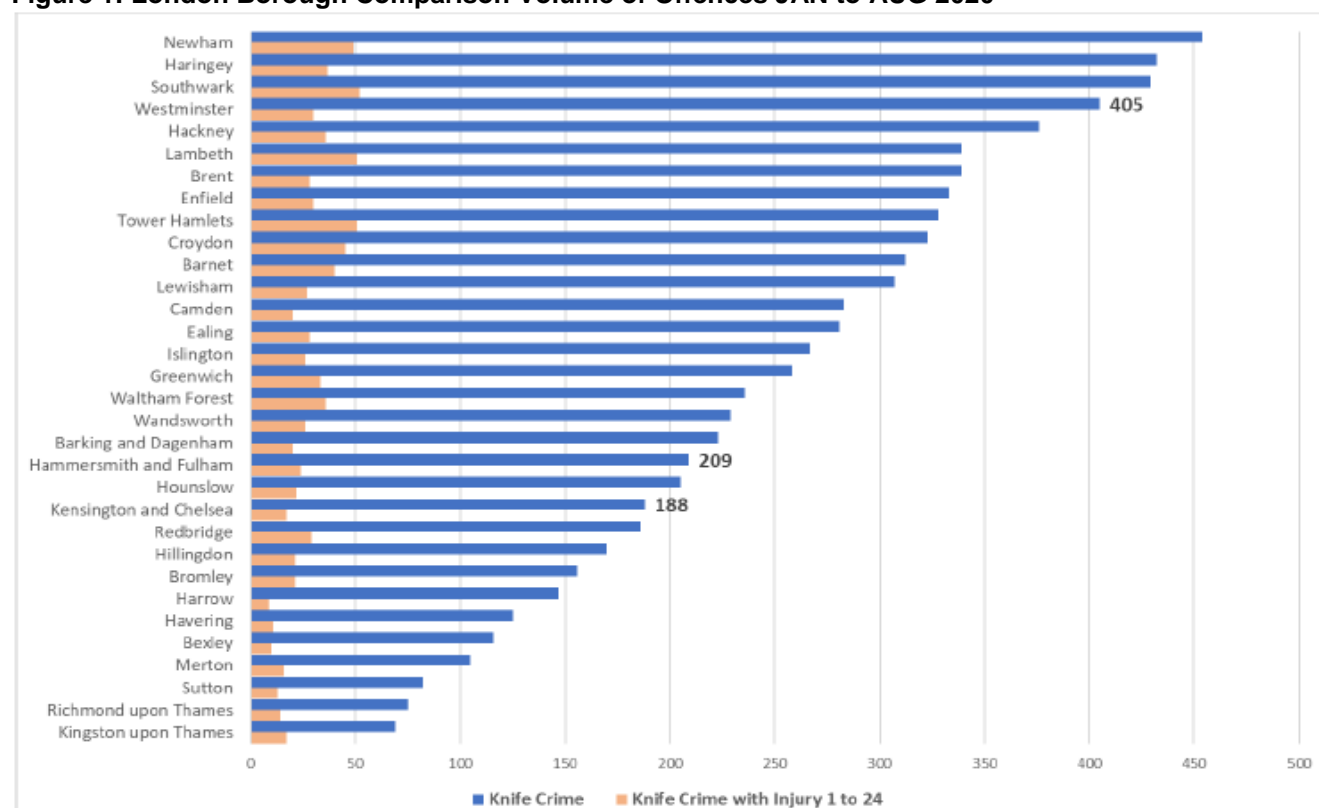
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Gun Crime	26	14	-46% (12 offences)	20

1 Serious Youth Violence includes all serious assaults where the victim is under 19.

2.3. Figure 1 shows the London Comparison of Knife Crime and Knife Crime with Injury Offences by volume of offences during 2020 (January to August), as opposed to rate per population. The borough experiences levels in the lowest third of London Boroughs (22nd out of 32 London Boroughs for all Knife Crime). Figures for Westminster and Hammersmith and Fulham are also included to show how the borough compares to our neighbouring boroughs; RBKC has the lowest volume of knife crime offences of the three boroughs.

Figure 1: London Borough Comparison Volume of Offences JAN to AUG 2020



1 This is a project which coordinates support to those identified as involved with County Lines activity across London.

2.4. Figure 2 shows the monthly trend for this group of offences. The impact of the pandemic lockdown can clearly be seen in the steep decline in Knife Crime and SYV offences in April 2020; 9 Knife Crime and 5 SYV offences in comparison to 27 Knife Crime and 13 SYV in April 2019.

2.5. However, due to relatively low month numbers of Knife Crime with Injury offences monthly reductions are not significant, with exception of August due to the absence of a physical Notting Hill Carnival. In July and August there has been a slight rise in offences, but the volume remains low in comparison to the borough average prior to lockdown.

2.6. In recent months there have been a few serious violent assaults in RBKC where the victim is over the age range that falls within the Police definition for Serious Youth Violence offences (i.e. over 19 years old). However, the Knife Crime with Injury offences include all stabbing offences of victims of any age and gun crime (possession and shooting/ discharge) are included in Figure 2. These have also declined during lockdown, with slight increases in July and August. There have been 2 shootings in the borough in June 2020 (the victims have been over the age of 21).

**Figure 2: Offence Volume by Month**



2.7. The gang presence in RBKC is divided into between 3 and 5 groups. There are three distinct named gangs called Golborne Malis, CGM/ 1011 and LA Malis. The two remaining groups which are active in Earl’s Court and Chelsea Riverside have strong group associations but are not classified as an organised gang like the others.

2.8. Firstly, the Golborne Malis, which are located at the border of Harrow Road. Despite the name, those associated are not just from Somali background, but also North African. They have close associations with Mozart in North Westminster originating from their shared cultural heritage. The Golborne Mali’s also have close associations with CGM/ 1011 which is a street gang alongside very popular drill artists with music videos shared on social media which receive millions of views. Thirdly, there are the LA Mali’s, which are active in the West Side of North Kensington in the area surrounding Latimer Road. This group have significant conflict with CGM/1011 and Mozart, which has been associated with recent violent assaults.

2.9. In south of the borough, there are strong group associations within Earls Court and Chelsea Riverside. However, these two groups are not classified as an organised gang like the other groups described. These groups tend to have younger membership and have associations with groups in Hammersmith and Fulham and drug supply in South of borough.

2.10. Data on the number of young people with connections to these groups is not available, but there are currently 41 individuals discussed at the Serious Youth Violence Partnership Panel (details below) which incorporates those individuals (children and adults) that are most active or at risk of violence within these groups. There is likely to be a much wider impact on young people affected by the offending behaviour and exploitation of these groups.

2.11. Data provided by the pan London Rescue and Response project<sup>1</sup> found that in 2019/20 there were 70 residents of RBKC that had an identified or suspected link to county lines activity<sup>2</sup>; 18 of these individuals were children under age 18 and 93% of them were male. During this period the ethnicity of the 70 individuals was Black or Black British/African (49%); White British/Other (19%); Asian/Asian British (7%); Mixed (4%) and Unknown (21%). Between April and August 2020, there have been 14 individuals identified (3 of which are under 18) which is a reduced monthly average from 5.8 people per month to 2.8.

2.12. Individuals from Kensington and Chelsea have been linked to County Lines in 18 Counties, with the top 10 being Cambridgeshire, Dorset, Sussex, Hampshire, Humberside, Essex, Surrey Avon & Somerset, Devon & Cornwall and Kent. Top 10 towns affected by county lines activity (based on available intelligence) are: Cambridge, Brighton, Bath, Bridport, Crawley, Oxford, Portsmouth, Andover, Bournemouth and Bracknell.

2.13. The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is a process of identifying victims of modern slavery to the Home Office to ensure they get the correct support. County Lines exploitation is a form of human trafficking and falls within the remit of NRM referrals. In 2019/20, there were 9 NRM made for RBKC residents, 1 of which was under age 18.

2.14. A sign that a child is at risk of exploitation, or indeed being exploited, is that they are reported missing from home. There have been 16 children reported missing in RBKC between April and June 2020<sup>3</sup> (12 Male and 4 Female), with 6 children reported missing more than once during the 90-day period. This is a slight reduction of the 18 children reported missing between January and March 2020, with 8 children missing more than once. Information from return home interviews indicates that the most prominent push factor during March to June 2020 for children missing from home was family conflict/breakdown. This is considered to be reflective of Covid-19 and children and adults struggling with staying in and not socialising with others. For those who go missing from care, mental health is a significant factor followed by criminal exploitation. Criminal exploitation remains a consistent theme in all missing children.

Five children (two from home and three from care) reported missing between March and June 2020 have been linked with criminal exploitation.

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<sup>2</sup> County Lines is where illegal drugs are transported from one area to another, often across police and local authority boundaries (although not exclusively), usually by children or vulnerable people who are coerced into it by gangs. The 'County Line' is the mobile phone line used to take the orders of drugs. Importing areas (areas where the drugs are taken to) are reporting increased levels of violence and weapons-related crimes as a result of this trend.

<sup>3</sup> Missing data is reported quarterly and Q1 April – June 2020 most recent data available.

### **3. The Serious Youth Violence Partnership Response**

3.1. The Community Safety Partnership governs the approach to Serious Youth Violence in RBKC, and the Safer K&C Partnership and the Youth Crime Partnership Group oversee delivery. The Borough has a Serious Youth Violence Strategy and a Violence Crime Reduction Plan which sets out the response. The Serious Youth Violence Strategy has four themes and this report provides updates on each of these.

#### **➤ Theme 1: Prevention and Early Intervention**

### **3.2. Public Health Joint Strategic Needs Assessment**

3.3. Public Health have produced a joint strategic needs assessment entitled “What can we do as a partnership to prevent and reduce youth offending and serious youth violence?”. This needs assessment responds to the Youth Crime Partnership Groups’ (of both Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster) recognition that a public health approach to reducing youth offending and serious youth violence is important, focusing as it does on a strong partnership approach to the early intervention and prevention of offending and violence. The aim of this assessment was to provide a better understanding of the health and wellbeing needs of those children and young people in contact with, or at risk of entering, the youth justice system. It helped to provide evidence-based insights and recommendations for action from key stakeholders. The recommendations of the report were agreed by the Health and Wellbeing Board in July and the Safer K&C Partnership Board and Youth Crime Partnership Group will work with public health colleagues to take forward the recommendations which will also feature in the revised SYV Strategy in 2021.

### **3.4. Detached Outreach Team (DOT)**

3.5. Whilst initially Detached and Outreach work had to stop due to the risk to public health and national guidelines, the team were able to quickly return to street engagement in a project which collaborated with youth workers from the Harrow Club. Youth engagement and outreach work has commenced and has been engaging young people into services since May 2020. Since August, the DOT returned to their business as usual service model only utilising staff employed by RBKC. The team have now resumed their normal working pattern of 5 sessions a week either 3 – 6pm or 6 – 9pm to include two Saturdays a month. The weekend sessions will be reviewed during the month of September to include additional Sunday sessions if required or emerging need identified by young people, local community, residents, businesses or partner agencies.

3.6. The DOT are timetabled across the week to include identified hotspot areas; Ladbrooke Grove, Latimer Road, Henry Dickens Estate, Lancaster West Estate, Portobello, Golborne, Dalgarno, Holland Park, Emslie Horniman Pleasance Park, Meanwhile Gardens Skate Park, Earl’s Court area and World’s End Estate. Locations are identified jointly with Community Safety to cover areas with concerns related to anti-social behaviour and serious youth violence. The DOT attend the weekly Community Safety Partnership Tasking meeting.

3.7. In September, DOT have also undertaken some earlier outreach sessions during the day to support students returning to school with staggered finish times and establishing contact with key school staff at the end of the school day.

3.8. Table 2 includes DOT data from Jan to March from 36 deployments. The team estimate that they engaged with 440 young people who were predominately aged between 11-19 years (only five young people were aged 19+). During the COVID lockdown and easing of public health restrictions the team working in partnership with the Harrow Club connected with over 770 young people.



Table 2: DOT Data Jan to Mar 2020

Number of Young People engaged	Deployment occasions (JAN to MAR 2020)	Approximate number of CYP seen
0-5	10	50
5-10	9	90
10-15	10	150
15-20	6	120
30+	1	30
Total	36	440

3.9. Some successful examples of the DOT include working with retail businesses in a location which was being targeted for overt and intimidatory theft and robberies of high value goods by young people. From this the DOT increased visible guardianship of the area with their presence, visited and spoke to retailers and helped to identify and engage with the young people alleged to be involved and their parents. The problem-solving was effective and stopped the spate of crime at the location. Secondly, very recently, DOT has negotiated free access to Westway sports provision at agreed times for young people who were coming to notice in the vicinity for anti-social behaviour.

### 3.10. Targeted Prevention Team

3.11. Targeted Prevention Team (TPT) support children and young people aged 16 -19 years who are Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET) (up to 25 years if they have special educational needs with an active Education, Health and Care Plan). This work is important to the Serious Youth Violence prevention as we know that young people who are NEET are at increased risk of exploitation and is a factor in young people who are reported missing.

3.12. During initial stages of lockdown, the team adapted their work, maintaining regular contact and supporting young people already open to them. Additionally, they established systems to enable the team to identify young people who became NEET during the lockdown. The Team undertook most of their work from home during the lockdown period, providing weekly contact with their young people via telephone, online, email depending on the preferences of the young person. In addition to their weekly intervention and activities they were able to:

- Support young people into positive outcomes such as, education, employment, and apprenticeship or traineeship.
- Provide tailored sessions to meet the needs and aspirations of young people.
- Deliver regular one-to-one or interactive groupwork sessions in youth hubs and community settings. During lockdown while many of the appointments were via telephone, TPT also conducted some 'door stop' visits, as well as some scheduled home visits with a small number on their caseload.
- Facilitated several group sessions during the summer on areas such as employability and apprenticeships.
- Undertake consistent data collection which helped to monitor the impact of the lockdown on young people
- Continue regular liaison and partnership work with professionals and key workers.
- Produce weekly TPT careers information and training bulletins which were sent to NEETs via emails, WhatsApp message and text.
- Identify young people and families made vulnerable through Covid-19 and refer them to the appropriate RBKC Covid-19 support.
- Develop a NEET Offer with local colleges and training providers during lockdown. The Team were able to help young people access short taster courses delivered online, providing new opportunities to engaging young people into longer term EET.
- Commenced the promotion of TPT services to young people on social media with the support of colleagues from Youth Participation. This is now live on Instagram and TPT have been

advertising the GCSE helpline, TPT services for NEET young people and top tips taken from the weekly bulletin

- The Team provided a GCSE Helpline which ran from 20th August to 25th August for year 11 students who may not have achieved the grades they had hoped for and to access extra help in planning their next steps. The Helpline was shared and promoted with schools and academies as an additional offer. At the end of the academic year, schools and academies TPT have worked closely with, provided a list of students at risk of becoming NEET and these students were contacted by telephone to make them aware of the service available.

### **3.13. Missing Children's Coordination**

3.14. The Missing Coordinator works across the three boroughs of RBKC, LBHF and Westminster ensuring a robust approach is undertaken for young people who go missing. Missing is an indicator of risk, whether the child is experiencing abuse at home or within a community setting. All contexts should be considered when a child goes missing and the Missing Coordinator supports the borough in this. The missing protocol details the Local Authorities response to missing children and the Missing Coordinator supports workers in promoting good social work practice for missing children.

3.15. The Missing Coordinator is responsible for identifying vulnerable missing children and to coordinate a response in order to reduce long-term risk. Tracking and monitoring missing incidents and the Return Home Interviews provided to children is paramount, to ensure the child is provided with the opportunity to talk and to ensure the child's voice is heard. Identifying trends and patterns across the boroughs is an ongoing part of the role as well as contributing to the strategic understanding of missing children and to report to senior management. The role works in partnership with Police from many different teams as well as different partner agencies to ensure our response to missing children is robust. Quarterly reports on missing children are provided to senior management as well as regular audits on specific case work to ensure we are improving and learning from good case examples.

### **3.16. Bank Holiday Weekend Planning**

3.17. Each year the Serious Youth Violence Partnership coordinates a contextual safeguarding approach ahead of Notting Hill Carnival, which has often experienced higher than average volume of knife crime, as well as other safety risks to young people in the borough. This year, with the carnival event cancelled the partnership coordinated, through Community Safety and Family and Children's Services, a number of preventative measures which included:

- Safety planning conversations with families and young people across family and children's services regarding the risks and consequences of attending unlicensed music events (UME). This included sharing information on alternative safe events available during the weekend and the online carnival offer.
- Joint visits with police targeted at young people involved serious youth violence to have the same safety conversations and consequences of UME attendance.
- Delivering leaflets on UMEs and how to report concerns to areas where police intelligence suggested events might take place.
- Deployable CCTV cameras located in areas of the borough that have experienced UMEs during the summer and were at increased risk of ASB during the weekend.
- The Detached Outreach Team worked weekend shifts to offer support to any young people in the borough during the weekend.
- Promotion of organised events that were safe to attend and complied with public health restrictions in place.

## ➤ Theme 2: Targeted Interventions

### 3.18. Serious Youth Violence Panel

3.19. The Serious Youth Violence Panel is a monthly multi-agency professional meeting, which reviews the risk and coordinates the response to those who have been affected by serious youth violence, gang and county lines offending. This includes those over the age of 18 and the panel is divided into children and adults' sections. It is jointly Chaired by Family and Children's Services and Community Safety and it takes a contextual safeguarding approach to risk management and safety planning for all individuals referred. It has representatives from Family and Children's Services (Social work and Early Help), Police, YOT, Community Safety, Probation and youth services in the voluntary sector.

3.20. The Serious Youth Violence Panel has continued to meet virtually every month during the pandemic. In September there were 27 young people and 14 adults discussed. All of the referrals except one are male and the majority are from BAME backgrounds. All victims of serious assaults are referred to specialist targeted services and all agencies are held to account for their agreed actions that will help to reduce risk of violence. Services must be represented, and non-attendance is monitored to ensure accountability. The professionals that attend act as experts from their services to ensure that there is a collaborative approach to reducing risk with a variety of innovative approaches.

### 3.21. Senior Gangs Worker

3.22. RBKC has one Senior Gangs Worker in the Community Safety Team who has a caseload of 12 young people under the age of 18. This support work was delivered remotely during lockdown, until face to face (socially distanced) work was able to return in June 2020. The young people referred to the worker are those that are deemed most at risk by Family and Children's Service Criminal Exploitation Lead and Community Safety SYV Coordinator. The work delivered with young people and their families includes safety planning, ETE support, health and wellbeing, criminal justice advocacy and addressing patterns of offending behaviours. The worker addresses any needs which are identified by their assessment with the young person and their guardians.

3.23. Examples of the Senior Gangs Worker successful outcomes and delivery include:

- Arranging street doctors for peer groups directly after serious assaults to teach street based first aid.
- Support with school attendance and identifying further education placements for long term NEETs
- Working with other statutory services to provide detailed evidence for National Referral Mechanism applications
- Visiting young people in hospital following serious assault and supporting family with trauma and recovery
- Successful engagement with families that have shown repetitive lack of engagement with other services.
- Work with young people to manage risk in relation to drug debts which are used to further exploit young people
- Referred families for special police schemes on home addresses as well as target hardening referrals to improve security works.
- Bereavement support for young people who have experienced loss of family members or peers.
- Conflict resolution and mediation between rival perpetrators of violence.
- Visiting young people that have been exploited in county lines outside London, including when released from custody outside our borough.
- Being an appropriate adult for young people whilst in custody.

### **3.24. St Giles Trust Gangs Workers**

3.25. The Community Safety Team commission two St Giles Projects which provide case work support to young adults affected by serious violence. These officers focus with a specialism of supporting young adults (although they do accept under 18s into their service). These workers provide support to individuals and families affected by violence, especially Safety planning, ETE and offending behaviours. Referrals are reviewed by Community Safety SYV Coordinator to ensure those most in need are supported by these projects. This work has also returned to socially distanced face to face support since July 2020.

### **3.26. Meeting the needs of girls and women caught up in gangs**

3.27. Community Safety is currently advertising a Request for Tender for a new Female Gangs worker to provide support for girls affected by serious youth violence and exploitation. This closed on 18th September, and evaluation of applications will take place during September and October with the service provisionally planned to commence in November 2020.

### **3.28. Intelligence sharing**

3.29. Intelligence sharing takes place daily between police, community safety and youth offending teams. Any incident that involves a known gang member, or associate, or a serious incident assault is shared with statutory partners. This allows strategy meetings and other partnership responses to be instigated. It also allows for an understanding of risk and safety planning for consideration by staff who work with individuals and groups affected.

3.30. On a weekly basis the Police Borough Command Unit (BCU), which represents Hammersmith and Fulham and Westminster alongside Kensington and Chelsea hold a review of all incidents that have taken place over the previous seven days across all three boroughs. This allows for collaborative working as well as understanding risk affected behaviours and offending from outside RBKC borders.

3.31. It is widely recognised by professionals working with victims and offenders of violence, that cross border tensions and groups are important when responding to risk with RBKC residents and communities. Intelligence mapping across West London shows risk how groups which have hostile relationships as well as those which have close associations and links. Therefore, the Community Safety and local authority SYV Leads across West London have established a regular meeting to share information, identify trends, learn from other successful responses in other boroughs and build a professional network. This West London meeting includes representatives from the Tri-borough as well as Brent, Ealing and Wandsworth.

3.32. The three boroughs of RBKC, London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (LBHF) and Westminster also hold a quarterly Gangs and Multi Agency Child Exploitation Meeting (GMACE), the purpose of this is to ensure effective multi sharing of practice and strategic oversight and learning in relation to exploited children and active gang members and/or perpetrators and or persons of concern across Westminster City Council , Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea , London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham .

3.33. The focus of GMACE is on children and young people subject to exploitation including but not limited to sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation, harmful sexual behaviour, county lines drug dealing, serious youth violence. Within each borough, operational meetings take place where individual young people and locations of concern are discussed. GMACE seeks to bring themes from these meetings to a broader, strategic discussion, with the purpose of sharing practice and creating multi-agency responses to wider themes emerging. Themes emerging from GMACE will then be fed up to the Local Safeguarding Partnership's Safeguarding Adolescent Meeting.

3.34. GMACE does not replace existing statutory safeguarding processes or sovereign meetings across the three boroughs that already identify and manage cases of concerns. The aim of GMACE is to disrupt criminal and harmful exploitative behaviour using the varied powers, responsibilities and roles of multi-agency partners within GMACE.

➤ Theme 3: Enforcement

3.35. The Central West BCU, which covers RBKC, Hammersmith and Fulham and Westminster have a police Integrated Gangs and Exploitation Unit (IGXU) who lead on enforcement against identified gang's members and those involved with violent offending of this nature.

3.36. Alongside, detection of crime the Serious Youth Violence Panel also considers other enforcement options within its review of incidents and risks brought to the panel. This can include joint working to apply for Closure Orders for premises associated with drug supply, Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs) for those convicted of violent offences, Child Abduction and Warning Notices (CAWNs) for those involved with child exploitation, as well as appropriate restrictions as part of licence conditions and their appropriate responses to breach of orders when they occur. It is through information sharing and coordination at a multi-agency setting that these responses often get identified and prioritised. There have been 4 CAWNs and 6 CBOs delivered by the IGXU Police Team (June 2020).

3.37. Operation Sceptre, which is the MPS response to tackling Knife Crime, has continued with actions delivered during lockdown. This include knife weapons sweeps (regularly completed by Safer Neighbourhood Teams), test purchasing, and enforcement aimed at known knife carriers and in locations where knife crime is highest in the borough.

### 3.38. Youth offending team

3.39. The Youth Offending Team (YOT) is a multi-agency team, with key partners co-located and working together to support children and young people who are proven to have committed an offence, as well as with their parents and families. It is required to deliver against three national performance indicators of:

3.40. In addition, the Youth Offending Team in RBKC continues to monitor performance against young people in *Education, Training or Employment* and the level of *Disproportionality* in sentencing and outcomes for children who are of black or minority ethnic origin.

- Reducing the number of children entering the youth justice system (*first time entrants*);
- Reducing the level of *reoffending* by children;
- Reducing the number of children who go to *custody*.

3.41. Focusing on Serious Youth Violence, the YOT serves as the representative for the local authority in the Criminal Courts, supporting the child and parent/carer to navigate court hearings, sentencing and bail applications whilst advising the Court on options available, based on assessment. The YOT will seek to explore all reasonable avenues to provide the Court with a viable alternative to custody whilst giving honest assessments of risk and vulnerability but seeking, where possible, to manage any risks within the community. If a child is involved in serious youth violence, this can present challenges but by keeping the child as the focus and working with the family and with key partners, we are proud to have sustained low numbers of remands to custody and custodial sentences. Often the YOT officer in Court may be the first point of noting potential criminal exploitation and raising this with the Safeguarding lead to consider a referral to the National Referral Mechanism

3.42. The YOT coordinate the Risk of Serious Harm Panels, for those children open to YOT who are assessed as presenting a high risk of serious harm (based on the Youth Justice Board and AssetPlus criteria) inviting all practitioners involved to the meeting to encourage a shared plan of support and intervention. The purpose is to ensure that the risk assessment is reviewed regularly, that it is based on recent and relevant evidence and to review interventions so that if there is no change, then to identify what support may be provided to help reduce the risk factors. Where relevant, it is through this panel that young people who are eligible for MAPPA (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements) will be identified and referrals made by the YOT Probation Officer. It will be the YOT officer presenting a new case to MAPPA for a young person.

3.43. For those children involved in serious youth violence who do go to custody, the YOT officer and the CAMHS nurse seconded to the YOT will be liaising with the Youth Custody Service and with the secure establishment to ensure that the child's safeguarding needs are met. This will include identifying tensions with young people from other areas or gangs and ensuring that the young person is kept apart from those potential conflicts. There will be regular liaison with the health wing in the estate to ensure that the child is monitored, supported to education and has regular access and contact with their family and with professionals. The YOT will also then liaise with the caseworker in the secure estate and plan for the child's release and negotiating the terms of the Notice of supervision or the conditions of the licence ensuring that any assessed risks are managed effectively whilst ensuring the restrictions are commensurate to the age and offence committed.

#### **3.44. Restorative approaches/conflict resolution in schools**

3.45. One of the aims of the Restorative Intervention Justice Project, funded by MOPAC last year, was to embed restorative practices in a mainstream school with a view to reducing exclusions and the risks created for a child following an exclusion. The YOT offered Chelsea Academy a six-day training programme, working with both staff and students around conflict resolution.

3.46. The aim of Conflict Competence was to encourage the pupils to build an understanding of themselves so this self-awareness could also lead to self-management in times of stress or crisis. We worked with a group of twelve students from Years 8 and 9 with two Academy staff over six weeks. Six months after the training out of the twelve pupils most at risk of being excluded, seven pupils are still in school. We have also recently met with the school to continue to support them in the future and are creating a tailor-made training package for the Academy so that they will be able to hold this training independently of us.

3.47. Since this piece of work, the project has been replicated with Kensington Aldridge Academy although the training has had to be kept on hold during lockdown. Nevertheless, the early stages of training have elicited some positive feedback from teaching staff and trainer alike and arrangements are being explored as to how this might be delivered in the new school year.

3.48. The Safer Neighbourhood Board through its small grants programme has also funded projects to be delivered in primary and secondary schools which address age appropriate workshops about exploitation, knife crime and keeping safe.

3.49. There is additional extensive project work delivered by the Early Help Service that works in partnerships with schools and families to support children at risk of school exclusion to help keep them in mainstream schooling. This falls within Theme 1: Prevention and Early Intervention within the SYV Strategy.

#### **➤ Theme 4: Engaging Communities**

##### **3.50. The Serious Youth Violence Voluntary Community Network**

3.51. RBKC has a very strong network of youth providers and youth clubs who work with families, children and adolescents across the borough. The Community Safety Team have established a regular meeting (now held virtually) to understand patterns of risk and behaviour identified by youth



services alongside sharing the current assessment and understanding of SYV from the local authority. This group has met on 3 occasions in 2020 and gets between 25 and 35 attendees from approximately 15 different services. It is an opportunity for all to share information on services provided and it is very helpful to collaborate with youth providers as well as identifying gaps and needs. The ambition of this group is to ensure the borough has an informed, locally designed and collaborative approach to serious youth violence.

### **3.52. Parent Advice and Guidance Brochure on Serious youth Violence and Knife Crime**

3.53. In July, a brochure that provides helps to improve knowledge and understanding through facts about knife crime, as well as where families can go for support was published. This is available on the RBKC website and hard copies have been delivered community settings during the summer. The brochure is currently being translated into other languages to help make the material more accessible.

### **3.54. One Life, No knife Campaign**

3.55. The One Life No Knife Campaign (OLNK) is the current branding for community engagement events run by the Safer K&C Partnership with the ambition to ensure the SYV response is co-designed with residents. The most recently planned event was cancelled due to COVID restrictions and Community Safety are now working with Community Engagement colleagues to redesign this work.