

RBKC Approach to tackling Serious Youth Violence

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What does recorded crime tell us?

- In 2018, **49 under 25 years olds were killed in London**, 35 of them were stabbed.
- There were 36 under 25 year olds who were victims of reported knife crime injury in 2018/19 in RBKC and **101 victims under 19 year olds who were victims of serious violence**.
- Knife crime offences in RBKC are increasing, although a significant proportion are possession without injury. **30% of knife crime results in an injury**.
- A considerable trend is an increase in **personal robbery offences** where a knife is used to threaten the victim (228 offences). It is fortunate that a low number of these result in injury (14 offences).
- Knife crime proportionally affects more young residents; 34% of victims and 68% of accused were **under age 24** in the previous 12 months.
- Knife crime is a crime which **affects more male residents**; 90% of victims and 100% of males accused under age 24 are male

County Lines

The National Crime Agency has shown that groups are exporting their drug supply (Class A) business into new areas away from where they live. Involves exploitation of vulnerable adults, with regional and national level response required.

Drug possession & supply
common convictions for those involved with serious violence and gangs.

Hidden risks to females
Intimidation, hiding drugs or weapons, sexual violence or domestic abuse

Child Sexual Exploitation
a link between perpetrators and vulnerable victims. There is a link between county lines offending, children that are regularly reported missing and those likely to be a victim of CSE.

Trends in Serious Youth Violence

Knife crime is not just a 'gang' issue.
Met Police study in 2016 showed that only 11% of knife crime was linked to individuals identified as gang members and Many young people who habitually carry knives do so out of a misplaced sense of protection.

Mental Health Illness
Public Health evidence shows that young people with violent offending histories have a high incidence of mental health issues.

Community Safety Partnership Strategic Priority

Tackling serious youth violence and knife crime is a strategic priority for the Community Safety Partnership

The Partnership have adopted a **Public Health** informed response which draws in a breadth of services to tackle the causes of violence and seeks to impact upon violence across multiple organisations.

Underlining our approach is **contextual safeguarding**. This recognises that the relationships and experiences young people have beyond their families inform their safety.

Includes the impact of-

- Family
- Friends
- School
- Neighbourhood

The Serious Youth Violence Strategy 2019 - 2021

- Development of Youth Services – wider range of activities and programmes/ pop up provisions.
- Young people shape services
- Minimising school exclusions
- Identification and information sharing; SYV Periphery meeting.

Prevention

- Serious youth violence safeguarding meeting.
- Case work; ETE, mediation/ conflict resolution, finances, psychological wellbeing
- The detached outreach team and St Giles Trust outreach.
- Hospital interventions by youth workers.

Targeted Interventions

- Detection of crime and police proactive responses
- Close working with offender managers and housing enforcement
- Criminal Behaviour

Enforcement

- Providing support and advice to communities, young people and families.
- One Life, No Knife Campaign to raise awareness

Engaging Communities

What do young people tell us?

Future & Ambition

Crime and Safety

Community & Environment

Living Happy, Healthy Lives

Perceived imbalance
between North and
South

Need for flexible and
weekend provision

50/50 of not enough structured and
meaningful youth activities vs places
to go for unstructured leisure

Safety in the Borough,
especially post code
issues, gang and knife
crime

Employment,
mentoring,
entrepreneurship and
training

Future ambition and
personal development

Health and wellbeing,
respite such as trips &
therapeutic support

- ▶ Young people can feel unsafe when travelling around the Borough, even in their own area at times for different reasons (Eg: fear of being a victim of crime, perceived unsafe open spaces)
- ▶ Safety concerns due to witnessing violence or anti-social behaviour, hearing about negative experiences of peers
- ▶ Young people want access to safe spaces to congregate
- ▶ Youth Workers/Outreach/Detached workers need to be more visible in the community: afterschool, evening and weekends.
- ▶ Young people want access to advice on a range of support services: emotional wellbeing, knife crime, gangs, substance misuse, etc.
- ▶ Safety concerns can be a barrier to accessing services.

Tackling Serious Youth Violence

A public health approach to tackling SYV in response to feedback with a new Detached and Outreach Team (DOT) to support this agenda

June:

Stakeholder co-design workshop event

July:

Recruitment of Detached and Outreach Team

September:

Workers in post and starting to connect with local community and voluntary groups and stakeholders. Reconnaissance and deployment underway (pilot area)

DOT....



DOT....

- One Deputy Team Manager
- One Senior Detached and Outreach Worker
- Four Detached and Outreach Workers

Priorities

- Listening and responding and deployed via Community Safety in areas of concern across the borough
- Supporting young people, families and communities in locations affected by serious youth violence
- Targeted and flexibly delivered programmes and activities in a range of settings and street-based.
- Building connections with stakeholders, community networks, local business
- Visible presence in locations highlighted by partners

Discussion for Group

- What are your concerns in relation to SYV?
- What do you think is needed to bring about change?
- What do you think is your role in tackling SYV?
- Would you know where to go if a young person needed support that you were not able to provide?

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