

Safer Brent Partnership Report 2019-2020



SAFER BRENT

PARTNERSHIP REPORT 2019-2020



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Foreword by Carolyn Downs

Chair of the Safer Brent Partnership and Chief Executive of Brent Council

Welcome to the 2019/20 edition of the Safer Brent Partnership Annual Report. Here you can read about the wide-ranging work that the board has overseen in the last year as we strive to make Brent a borough in which we all feel safer and more secure.

As in previous years, the impact of gangs and knives continues to be a top priority for us and it is heartening to see both knife and gun crime reduce significantly over the last year.

Despite London as a whole seeing an increase in knife offences, Brent saw a reduction of over 13%, which is testament to the careful and diligent collaborative work of the partnership through initiatives such as the Violence and Vulnerability Programme. Knife offences that resulted in an injury fell by almost a quarter. We should all be very proud of the impact that strong partnership work is having in our most at risk communities.

This cannot be the time however for complacency to step in. The Covid-19 pandemic confronts us with unprecedented challenges, particularly in the area of domestic abuse. Last year, DA offences decreased, but sadly as lockdown gradually eases we expect to see a significant rise in the numbers of cases reported, with those who have suffered immensely other the past few months at last able to seek help.

The work of the partnership over the last 12 months leaves us in a good position to get that support to everyone who needs it. Domestic abuse has been a huge priority for us and - as you will read about in this report - we have worked tirelessly to raise awareness, increase our co-ordinated responses and commission new services to support victims.

The other significant event of recent months has been the remarkable Black Lives Matter campaign. We in Brent are very proud of our diversity, but we also know that the gloomy picture highlighted by this movement must be addressed at all levels, including locally. That young black boys and black men are disproportionately affected by crime is reflected in the numbers of children and families that we support. Collectively we are always seeking new ways to empower communities; to ensure those most in need have access to interventions, development programmes and opportunities to break down preconceptions.

This is all only possible because of strong partnership work, so I would like to thank all who have contributed to making Brent a safer place to live.

Foreword by Cllr Tom Miller, Lead Member for Community Safety and Engagement

Thank you for taking the time to read the 2019/20 Annual Report of the Safer Brent Partnership.

As always, the partnership strives to put the most pressing issues of our residents at the centre of what it does, and this can be seen in our action to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour. We know that leaving ASB unchallenged in our neighbourhoods leads to people feeling more at risk and more concerned about their safety which can have negative effects on general wellbeing and mental health. It can also result in people disengaging with their neighbourhoods, which has a damaging impact on society.

Therefore, this year we have continued with intelligent, evidenced based partnership work that we know can be so successful. The Brent Joint Action Groups (BJAG) works in local areas to prevent ASB occurring through diversion, support and enforcement where necessary, while our Community Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (CMARAC) brings all these different agencies together to discuss those most at risk, allowing us to take a holistic approach to every individual. Our annual ASB satisfaction survey indicated that the vast majority of people rated the service highly, which goes to show just how valued good partnership working is in Brent.

We have also made use of good intelligence to target action and use the powers we possess to make our communities safer. We have implemented various Public Space Protection Orders in key hotspots to protect town centres and parks so that everyone without fear can enjoy them.

Drugs and county lines are still areas of high concern amongst residents and we continue to lead the Rescue and Response County Lines Project. Especially concerning is the fact that 132 of the individuals with confirmed links to county lines were under the age of 25. We are working extremely closely with the council's Children and Young People directorate to ensure that there remains a clear understanding and ability to respond to young people's vulnerabilities and needs.

Finally, the partnership remains committed to listening to residents as the best way to truly understand the challenges and their fears about crime and safety in our communities. Last year we hosted two fantastic events all about 'building a safer Brent for young people' in which young people presented their ideas to over 100 youth-sector experts from across west London. The outputs from these sessions are planned to influence delivery. It is this type of engagement and collaborative work that best serves to make a safer Brent for us all.

So please do continue to let us know how you think we can improve our services moving forwards into 2020/21. Thank you.

1.0. Background

- 1.1 **Brent is a multi-cultural and vibrant North West London Borough** with around 335,300 people living within Brent (the 6th largest population among London boroughs). About 53% of Brent residents were born outside of the UK and over 149 languages are spoken. Around 65% of residents are from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) backgrounds and Brent is home to 66,000 EU citizens.
- 1.2 In 2018, approximately 222,400 people were aged between 16 and 64 years old, and 40,000 residents were over 65 years old, the 7th largest such population amongst the other London boroughs for each of these profiles. Across Brent employment in industries related to distribution, transportation, accommodation, food and retail form the largest part of the local economy. At the same time, poverty, long-term unemployment, and adult skill levels remain key challenges for Brent, as does the low participation of women in the labour market, primarily looking after the family and home.¹
- 1.3 The Safer Brent Partnership (SBP) is the multi-agency strategic group that oversees our approach to reducing crime and antisocial behaviour. It is made up of representatives from multiple agencies including the London Borough of Brent, Metropolitan Police, London Fire Brigade, National Probation Service, Community Rehabilitation Company, Voluntary Services and Victim Support. The SBP also works with other groups such as the Local Adult Safeguarding Board, the newly established Brent Safeguarding Children Forum, and the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 1.4 The SBP aims to ensure that our community can thrive and live with less fear of crime, greater confidence in services and take responsibility for its own actions. It pledges to bring to justice those who cause the most harm, using trauma informed and restorative approaches and out-of-court disposals where appropriate. The work is intelligence-led and evidence-based, identifying real issues and taking a problem-solving approach to reducing them whilst reviewing wider contextual safeguards.
- 1.5 Each year the SBP agrees a set of local priorities for the upcoming year in line with the 2018-2021 Community Safety Strategy. The 2019/20 priorities were the same as in the previous year:
 - Priority 1: Reducing Domestic and Sexual Abuse
 - Priority 2: Reducing the Impact of Gangs and Knives in our Community
 - Priority 3: Reducing Vulnerability and Increasing Safeguarding
 - Priority 4: Reducing Offenders and Perpetrators from Reoffending
 - Priority 5: Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour
- 1.6 The SPB has incorporated the London wide Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime (MOPAC) priorities and in addition has included for 2019/20, the following as local volume crime priorities:
 - Non-Domestic Abuse Violence With Injury
 - Personal Property Offences





¹ Igs-research base 2019-2040 new regeneration

- 1.7 Brent also has a Safer Neighbourhood Board, set up in every London borough by MOPAC. They bring police and communities together to decide local policing and crime priorities, solve problems collaboratively and make sure that the public are involved in a wide range of other community safety decisions. MOPAC has made £1m available for Safer Neighbourhood Boards to fund projects that will help cut neighbourhood crimes and boost public confidence.

2.0. 2019/20 Performance

2.1. Performance Summary

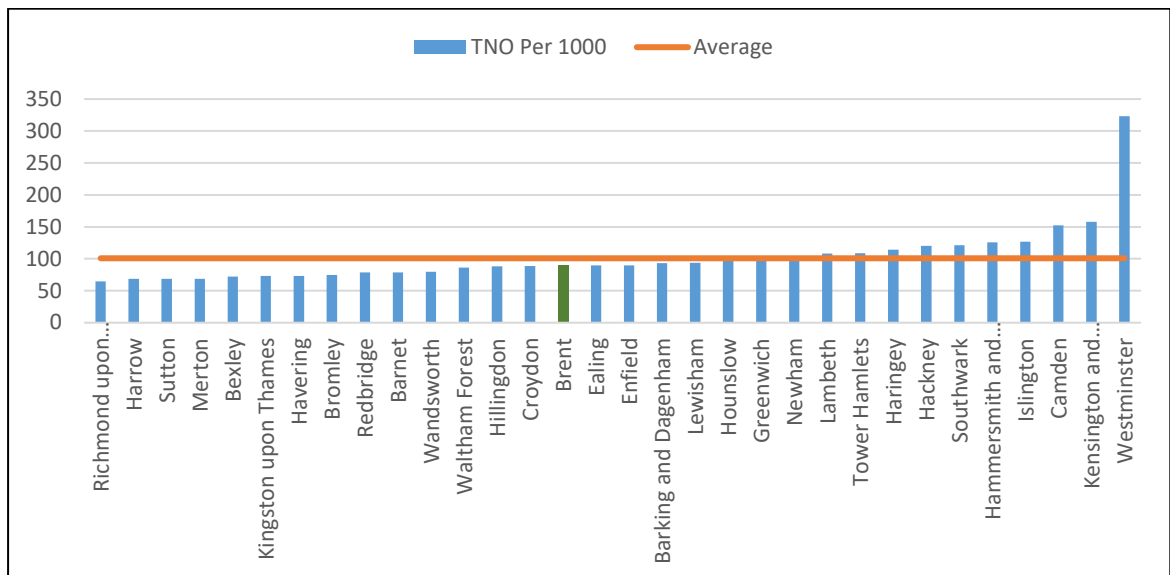
2.1.1. Below is a summary of some of our key outcomes as part of the Safer Brent Community Safety Strategy 2018-21.

Priority	Measure	Reduction and Collection method	Baseline 18/19 outturn	2019/20	RAG
Reducing recorded crime	We will aim to be below the London borough average for the overall crime rate	Total Notifiable Offences per 1000 population, as per Home Office approved statistics	91.6 crimes per 1,000.	89.3 crimes per 1,000.	London Borough Average 100.8 crimes per 1000
Reducing Gang Related Offending	Reduce the number of lethal-barrelled gun discharges	All recorded lethal barrel gun discharges in the borough reported to Brent Police	32	8	
Reducing Gang Related Offending	Reduce the number of under 25 year old victims of knife related injuries (non-domestic)	All recorded victims of knife related injuries by Brent police	72	56	
Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour	Reduce the number of calls to the police for ASB	All calls to Brent Police which have been flagged as ASB related (personal, nuisance and environmental)	10503	11172	
Reducing Violence and Vulnerabilities	Reduce the number of Violence with Injury Domestic abuse offences	All Brent Police recorded violent offences where the victim and suspects are intimate partners or are family members reported to the police and flagged as a	917	884	

Priority	Measure	Reduction and Collection method	Baseline 18/19 outturn	2019/20	RAG
		domestic incident			
Reducing Acquisitive offending	Reduce the number of personal robberies	All Brent Police recorded personal robbery offences	1306	1272	↓
Reducing Acquisitive offending	Reduce the number of knife related robberies	All Brent Police recorded personal robbery offences with a knife crime flag	420	363	↓
Reducing Acquisitive offending	Reduce the number of residential burglaries	All Brent Police recorded residential burglaries	2267	2091	↓

2.2. Total Notifiable Offences (TNO) in Brent

2.2.1. Brent is below the London average for TNOs per 1000 of population. Offences per 1000 have decreased since 2018/19.

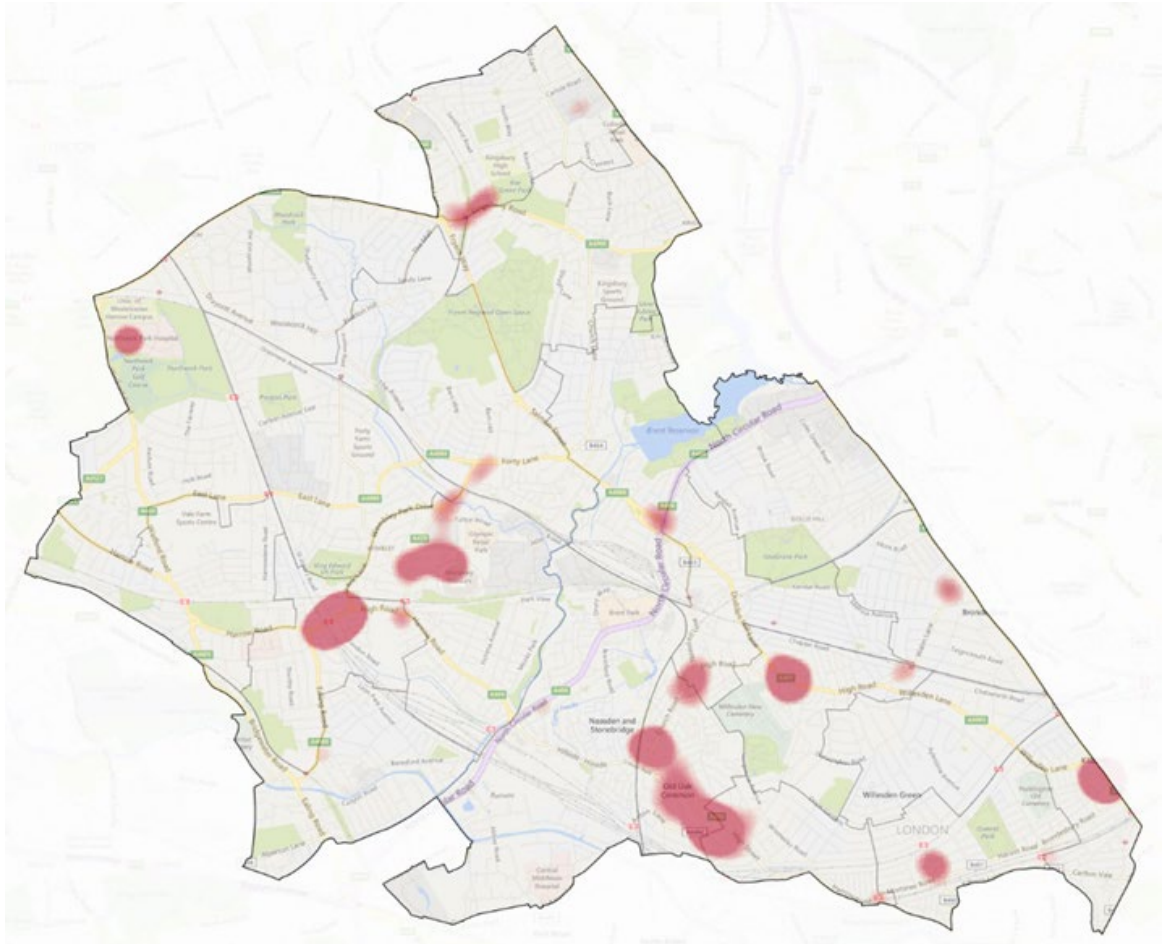


2.2.2. Brent is **the only London borough to record a reduction** in TNOs when comparing 2018 and 2019, despite a 9% increase in London as a whole.

2.2.3. Brent's hotspot for offences are largely unchanged from 2018 to 2019. Hotspots are mainly in the south of the borough with the exception of Kingsbury High Road and Northwick Park hospital. Northwick Park hospital is a hotspot partly due to vehicle crime in the carpark and offences against staff, and theft offences. Hotspots are often

reflective of areas that have high levels of gang activity and deprivation – this applies to South Kilburn and Harlesden.

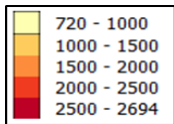
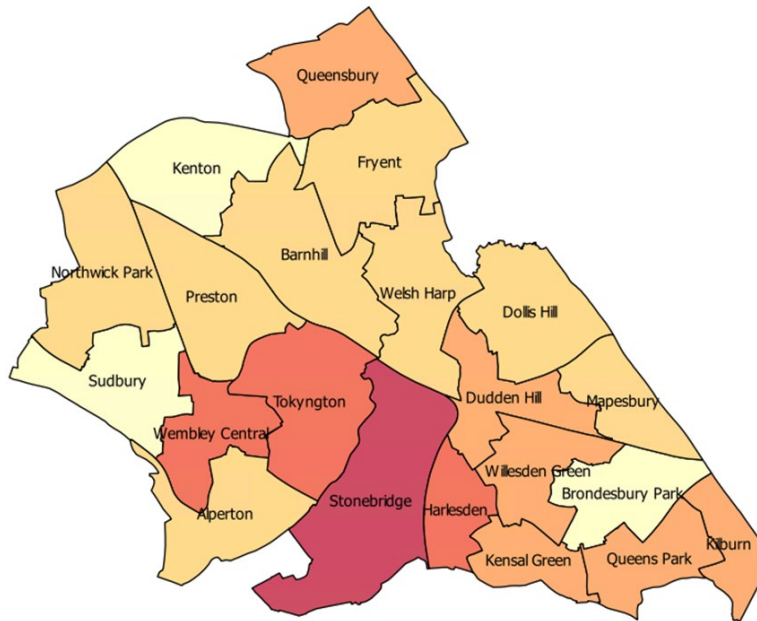
- 2.2.4. Other areas are crime hotspots due to high levels of footfall due to shops and other businesses – Wembley High Road and Wembley Park (particularly on event days). The map below shows these hotspot areas.



The below map highlights TNOs at ward level in 2019:

Ward	% of Total TNO
Stonebridge	8.4%
Harlesden	7.5%
Wembley Central	6.9%
Tokynghon	6.7%
Willesden Green	6.0%
Queensbury	5.8%
Kilburn	5.6%
Kensal Green	5.0%
Queens Park	5.0%
Dudden Hill	4.9%
Barnhill	4.5%
Mapesbury	4.4%
Alperton	3.9%
Dollis Hill	3.9%
Welsh Harp	3.5%

Ward	% of Total TNO
Preston	3.4%
Northwick Park	3.3%
Fryent	3.3%
Brondesbury Park	3.1%
Sudbury	2.8%
Kenton	2.2%



3.0. Priority 1: Reducing Domestic and Sexual Abuse

3.1. Why is it a priority?

3.1.1. There was a recognised priority in the Safer Brent Community Safety Strategy (2018-2021) to address all forms of domestic and sexual violence, with a focus on forms of violence that disproportionately affect women and girls. Brent had the sixth highest number of domestic abuse crimes in comparison to the seven most similar London boroughs in 2019/20. Brent was one of three of these boroughs to record a reduction in domestic abuse offences from the previous year.

3.1.2. Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) incorporates Domestic Abuse (DA), sexual violence, stalking, prostitution, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Honour-Based Violence (HBV), faith-based abuse, Forced Marriage (FM) and human trafficking. To tackle these a multiple agency approach follows the five 'Ps':

- **Prevention;** changing attitudes and preventing violence
- **Provision;** assisting victims to reduce risk and move on to develop their lives
- **Partnership;** effectively working together to challenge all abuse and increased partnership with schools for earlier intervention
- **Protection;** providing an effective criminal justice system and victim response
- **Participation;** assisting perpetrators to reduce risk and move on

3.2. What did we do?

3.2.1. The SBP raised awareness of DA and VAWG to increase co-ordinated response:

- The Community Safety Team worked alongside the Communications team at Brent Council to deliver a communication and promotion campaign across the year and at key periods to highlight DA and VAWG.
- 16 Days of Activism 2019 consisted of a large community event, multiple training opportunities, a social media campaign and key Wembley landmarks illuminated in Orange as part of the UN's Orange the World campaign. During this time over 180 Brent residents and professionals signed the White Ribbon Pledge to never commit, excuse or remain silent about male violence against women.
- Community Safety worked collaboratively with the Gender Equality Network to coordinate the International Women's Day event, the theme of which was 'Each for Equal'. Over 300 people attended this event.
- The locally commissioned domestic abuse support service, ADVANCE have delivered monthly full day training sessions on Domestic Abuse and MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) awareness which is available to all practitioners working in Brent via the Brent Safeguarding training website.

- ADVANCE have also delivered specialist bespoke training days to specific services who require it. This has included Police, Children and Young People services, Adults Social Care, Housing, and Healthcare professionals.
- In January 2020, the Brent General Purposes Committee approved a new Domestic Abuse policy, which sets out the support available to employees experiencing domestic abuse. As part of the new offer of support, Brent Council launched a new Domestic Abuse Champion Programme. The network of champions will be available for staff who do not wish to seek support from their line manager or HR representative.
- Brent Council have signed up to the Mayor of London's Women's Night Safety Charter and have been working with local night-time economy venues to increase the safety of women across the borough.

3.2.2. The SBP supported victims of DA and VAWG:

- Brent Council continues to commission ADVANCE Charity to deliver front line domestic abuse support within the borough.
- Through the Home Office Transformation Fund, Brent continued to commission the non-crimes prevention project and dedicated health based advocacy at Northwick Park Hospital.
- Throughout 2019, Brent Council have been working towards obtaining the Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance Accreditation to achieve best practice for supporting survivors threatened with homelessness.
- Facilitated by Brent Family Solutions, the Freedom Programme is a domestic abuse support course, designed for women as survivors of domestic abuse and those who are currently experiencing domestic abuse.
- Asian Women's Resource Centre have been awarded £1.3m to lead a Pan-London Ending Harmful Practices Partnership. This project will offer long-term support to BME women and girls affected by harmful practices, so called 'honour' based violence, domestic abuse and sexual violence.
- Following the domestic abuse outcome based review in 2018 Brent has developed the Chrysalis one stop shop operating ½ day per week offering specialist multi-agency support.
- The Mayor's Violence Reduction Unit commissioned IRISi across seven London boroughs including Brent until the end of 2020/21. IRISi is a social enterprise established to promote and improve the healthcare response to gender based violence.

3.2.3. The SBP have supported children and young people affected by VAWG:

- The council continues to commission a specialist Children and Young Persons Domestic Abuse Worker to work alongside Children's Social Care Teams to deliver specialist support to school-aged children who have witnessed and/or experienced domestic abuse.
- Tackling Domestic Abuse was agreed as one of three priority areas for the BSCF (Brent Safeguarding Children Forum) in 2018/19 and a further commitment in 2020 to explore. The BSCF has set up a strategic group to identify and develop ways to enhance the multiagency identification and response to tackling Domestic Abuse as it affects children and young people.
- Community Safety continue to oversee and ensure collaborative work between providers of Child Sexual Exploitation and Gang related support.
- Through funding from the Violence Reduction Unit, Brent have commissioned a mentoring project for young women affected by gangs, serious youth violence and county lines.
- Operation Encompass connects police directly with schools as soon as police attend an address for a DA call and find that a child resides there.
<https://www.operationencompass.org/>.

3.2.4. The SBP have pursued and assisted perpetrators to reduce risk and to move on:

- As part of MOPAC's London Crime Prevention Fund Brent Council commissioned RISE Mutual in June 2019 to deliver a perpetrator intervention programme through 121 and group work.
- Community Safety continue to engage offenders through the violence & vulnerability programme utilising the commissioned providers St Giles Trust and Air Sports.

3.2.5. The SBP have raised awareness of FGM and strengthened pathways for support:

- The council continues to commission a Health IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor) through the Home Office Transformation Fund to maintain links between domestic abuse and health services.
- The council has commissioned the National FGM Centre to provide a Specialist Social Worker within Children's Social Care to co-work cases to ensure FGM is being assessed effectively and to deliver interventions through educative direct work.
- Launched the Hibiscus Clinic at Wembley Centre for Health, a FGM clinic for non-pregnant women over the age of 18.

- Weekly FGM Clinics at the maternity ward of Northwick Park Hospital for pregnant women every Friday and a Paediatric FGM Clinic at UCLH once a month.

3.2.6. The SBP have worked to help those exiting from sexual exploitation: (Including human trafficking and prostitution)

- As part of MOPAC's London Crime Prevention Fund Brent Council commissioned NIA in June 2019 to deliver non-judgemental support and advocacy to people involved in prostitution.
- North London Rape Crisis and the Women and Girls Network continue to provide Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) provision for victims of sexual abuse in Brent.

3.2.7. The SBP continues to work closely with partners to reduce domestic and sexual abuse:

- Worked closely in partnership with Victim Support, The Asian Women's Resource Centre, The Eastern European Advocacy Service, and Galop to provide coordinated support to survivors of domestic abuse.
- Brent Council continues to use Domestic Homicide Reviews as an opportunity to improve local service delivery. Reviewing lessons learned to pull together common themes such as risk management, information sharing, and multi-agency working to improve and where possible foresee and prevent future incidents.
- Two Domestic Homicide Reviews have been underway during 2019-20; both of which are ongoing and require Home Office approval.
- The Brent Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) continues to take place once a month. This is chaired by the Metropolitan Police and coordinated by ADVANCE. The MARAC steering group meets quarterly to allow for monitoring and evaluation of the MARAC process and outcomes.
- The Community Safety team continue to attend and deliver several strategic partnership groups to ensure continued improvements to the operational management of the provision of VAWG services through a coordinated, multi-agency and intelligence led approach. This includes the VAWG Forum, VAWG Delivery Group, MARAC Steering Group, and London VAWG Coordinators Meeting.

3.3. How successful have we been?

3.3.1. Brent has seen a **reduction in domestic abuse** when compared to 2018/19.

Types of Offences	2018/19	2019/20	% Change
Domestic Abuse Offences	3368	3339	-0.9%
Domestic Abuse With Injury Offences	917	884	-3.6%
Sexual Offences	682	645	-5.4%

3.3.2. **ADVANCE** is commissioned by the council to deliver front line domestic abuse support to both male and female victims of domestic abuse aged 4 and over. They provide support and advice around crisis intervention, risk management, safety planning, housing options, civil and criminal proceedings, immigration, and advocacy with other agencies. ADVANCE can be contacted on **07398454898** / brent.admin@advancecharity.org.uk

2019/20:

- 1,416 referrals to ADVANCE support services
- 91% of survivors who feel safer after using the service compared with intake
- 93% of survivors who feel confident in knowing how and when to access help and support in the future
- 80% of survivors who feel that their quality of life has improved after using the service
- 83% of service users whose risk reduced during and after using the services.
- 87% reported enhanced sense of control/agency around sex and relationships at exit
- 88% reported positive outcomes in criminal and civil justice after accessing services

3.3.3. **NIA the Exit Sex Work Project** was commissioned by the council in June 2019 to deliver non-judgemental support and advocacy to people involved in prostitution. The aim of the service is to provide support and options around exiting, and the service will work with individuals at whatever their stage. The project will accept self-referrals and referrals from other agencies or anyone concerned who have identified locations of sex work. NIA operate a weekly drop in and a night-time outreach van. NIA can be contacted on **02076831270**/ exiting.advocacy@niaendingviolence.org.uk.

2019/20 (service commenced in August 2019):

- 13 referrals for on-street sex workers
- 100% of referrals received successfully engaged and received intervention
- In 2020/21 NIA will increase their focus on off-street sex work targeting brothels and other similar properties to provide support.

3.3.4. **RISE Mutual** was commissioned by the council in June 2019 to deliver the domestic abuse perpetrator intervention programme. The programme supports perpetrators to change their behaviour and prevent repeat incidents through intervention based group and 1-1 work. RISE can be contacted on 07495099694 / info@risemutual.org.

2019/20 (service commenced in June 2019)

- 96 referrals for perpetrators
- 72 Assessment Reports were successfully completed (77%)
- Of those assessed, 57 perpetrators were assessed as being suitable for intervention (79%)
- 39 successfully started an intervention
- 8 failed to start
- 10 were waiting to start in 2020/21
- 36 victims consented to support from the RISE Domestic Abuse Safety Advisor

3.4. Case Study

Case Study 1

Chrysalis (one stop shop for victims of Domestic Abuse) supported a female who had been the victim of a forced marriage in India. She attended Chrysalis and was able to get instant support from the multiple professional agencies present. She spoke with a specialist domestic abuse housing officer who was able to support her into emergency accommodation. Furthermore, she sought advice from the solicitor around her eligibility for benefits and the Destitution Domestic Violence Concession for victims of abuse on spousal visas. She was informed that she was eligible to apply for universal credit, which the Advance Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) then supported her with. While at Chrysalis she also signed up for the Freedom Program to help her understand domestic abuse and explore her own experiences through structured discussions in a supportive, safe and friendly environment.

3.5. Case Study

Case Study 2

The Social Care Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) successfully supported a woman who had been physically, sexually and emotionally abused by her ex-partner. The survivor was assessed and referrals were made to a solicitor, children's social care and a multi-agency panel for high risk cases of domestic abuse. The IDVA conducted safety planning with the survivor to help her protect herself from possible future harm. The IDVA then liaised with the specialist domestic abuse housing team who were able to support her to move into a refuge. The IDVA also supported the survivor to obtain an emergency injunction against her perpetrator from the family court. The survivor reported that she felt supported and reassured by Social Care IDVA in such a desperate moment in her life.

4.0. Priority 2: Reducing the Impact of Gangs and Knives in our Community

4.1. Why is it a priority?

- 4.1.1. The negative impact of gangs and knives in our community is a key concern for the residents of Brent and a key priority for safeguarding our community. In recent years, gang offending has been primarily linked to drugs markets and related violent incidents. However, gang offending is dynamic and the criminal activity may diversify, as agencies realign resources to tackle open drug market activity. It is therefore important that we continue to monitor other crime type trends, particularly for sudden spikes and for crimes committed by multiple offenders.
- 4.1.2. We continually work closely with the Police to identify and risk-assess those who are involved in gang violence to ensure we are able to offer appropriate support to exit this lifestyle.
- 4.1.3. There are many methods and tools used to identify those at risk. The matrix highlights gang members who live in Brent and which gang they are affiliated with. In Brent, there are 154 individuals on the matrix. Of these, 142 are linked to gangs in Brent. There are 3 main gangs in Brent, which account for the majority of gang-related incidents in the borough, Church Road Soldiers, South Kilburn and Thugs of Stonebridge. These are well-established and entrenched gangs, which have been undertaking criminal activity in the borough and outside of Brent. All individuals on the matrix from Brent are male and the majority (94%) are Black. The average age is 26, which is higher than the London average and reflects the long-standing gang issues known to us in Brent. Only two of the cohort were aged 17 or under.

4.2. What did we do?

4.2.1. The Safer Brent Partnership identified and targeted interventions to those at risk:

- Through the Offender Management Programme (OMP), which includes prolific gang member offenders and knife carriers who were offered interventions to reduce their offending and enhance positive outcomes in relation to their support needs.
- This year, we have tried to encourage greater intervention for those on the periphery of offending for earlier intervention and thus the Violence and Vulnerability Programme (VVP) has replaced the Offender Management Programme. The programme continues to focus on reducing re-offending and serious youth violence through a coordinated, multi-agency and intelligence led approach. This also includes a specific focus on a cohort not yet known to statutory services, increasing earlier intervention and identification of an unknown potentially younger cohort.

- Individuals requiring support can be referred in by professionals or identified through targeted outreach.
- **St Giles Trust** have been commissioned to provide a **Gangs Intervention Programme**, between 2019-2021 to challenge and work with those involved or on the periphery of gangs to change their behaviour, whilst holding them to account, and enabling them to take responsibility for their actions. This programme works with those involved in gangs, to exit gang lifestyle and to provide early intervention to people identified as being on the periphery of gang offending. Through service users' specific targeted support, trauma informed practice and continued review of wider contextual safeguards to assist in achieving positive outcomes. This programme falls within the Violence and Vulnerability Programme, which presently consists of 189 individuals. Via this route, **92 referrals have been received** which includes 6 referrals that have been picked up whilst conducting targeted outreach and fall within the prevention and early identification cohort.
- There is a dedicated Gangs Mentor based within the Youth Offending Service (YOS) Team to provide support and interventions for young people within YOS, the wider Early Help service, the Localities and Looked After Children and Permanency services.
- Between 2019 and 2021, **AIR Network** have been commissioned to deliver a Mentoring, Sports, and Well-being programme and have provided support to offenders on the Violence and Vulnerability Programme. By engaging with offenders prior to, or during release from prison and providing support around the nine pathways of reoffending e.g. housing support, education, training, employment and supporting those with mental health or drug and alcohol needs.
- Specific **Gang Educational programs** have been offered to all Primary schools, Secondary schools, and Pupil Referral Units (PRU) within Brent providing early intervention and prevention information to Brent's young people, to increase awareness and understanding of the risk and consequences of joining a gang. The educational programmes cover different themes linked to gang offending. This year, **St Giles Trust have delivered 11 educational programmes reaching a total of 969 young people.**
- Community Protection have also commissioned **Amani Simpson**, a young man with lived experience, having battled with the consequences of his actions and wider impact on those around him after being stabbed seven times. To deliver an educational intensive 6 week school program, to a school situated in one of our violence hotspots. Amani will engage young people in a programme that will enable them to not only reflect on their behaviour, but also incorporate mindfulness while doing so. Being 'in the moment at that moment' will teach young people to be responsible and aware of their thoughts, feelings and sensations they experience. To date **Amani has successfully delivered 6 awareness assemblies** to support the school programme with a very positive response from schools and pupils. Amani

commenced the 6-week school programme February 2020 within Stonebridge Primary School. Amani was able to complete 3 weeks of the programme before the school was closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The programme will continue when the school re-opens.

- **An additional Family Support Worker (FSW)** has been commissioned to be based within the Brent Pupil Referral Unit (PRU). The intention is to support parents within the home environment, to build on work done by the Youth Offending Service (YOS) and PRU professionals who will be providing a whole family support approach to the young person concerned. There would be support to better engage in Education and Training, building self-esteem and through a Trauma Informed approach offer interventions to help prevent further criminality, violence and vulnerability. The intention is also to work with younger brothers and sisters of young people open to Brent YOS with an outcome that they are prevented, and if needed diverted, from following a similar path into criminality. It will allow greater continuity of support when young people complete their YOS orders to prevent reoffending.
- **20 families supported** and offered diversionary interventions in 2019/20 with a 15% reduction in reoffending following engagement and improved mental health and family functioning.
- **The Family Support Worker is currently supporting 8 young people** including their families. All the young people are still attending the PRU and no further crime has been committed. Behaviours and attitudes have significantly improved at home and at the PRU.

4.2.2. Workshops:

- Community Protection have supported a project delivered by the Metropolitan Police called '**No Knives Better Lives**'. The event is a collaborative event supported by the Court, Police, Local Authority, School, Community and Youth Services to support young people who are experiencing challenges in their lives, which could lead to involvement with the criminal justice system. It is an interactive event with a mock trial, judges, guest speakers and an opportunity for discussion. Speakers include a trauma surgeon, former gang member, Kinsella Foundation, a high-ranking Police Officer, The Recorder for London - HHJ Hilliard, a Barrister and a parent of a young deceased person. The main aim of the event is to show people the effects of knife crime, in a detailed manner from the most suitable agencies and people who deal with knife injuries on a daily basis. There is also opportunities available for young people to divert themselves from this path.
- In July 2019, Community Protection jointly facilitated a '**Working together to build a Safer Brent for Young People**' workshop. The workshop was set up to bring partners together to discuss, and find possible solutions to, reducing crime amongst young people in Brent. Tremendous progress has been made overall in Brent in the last 12 months. There have been:
 - **412 fewer victims of burglary**

- **161 fewer victims of robbery**
 - **33 fewer victims of violence with injury**
 - **19% reduction in knife crime**
- However, we are aware that although we have made progress in this area, there continues to be a high risk across London of serious violent crime, which may impact our borough, this includes local risks of people carrying knives, guns and other offensive weapons. It is important Brent Council maintains' strong links with the community and partners working in collaboration to create solutions to these issue and develop a holistic approach to reducing serious violent crime. Brent Council has commissioned various organisations to deliver services around the reduction of serious violent crime. There are wide varieties of organisations in Brent which work with young people and vulnerable adults in different ways to prevent crime and exploitation. As a council, we are committed to working with and developing these organisations.
 - Following on from the workshop held in July 2019, in February 2020 we held another '**Building a Safer Brent for Young people**' event at the Civic Centre. The event was designed for and by local young people who want to help make Brent a safer place for themselves and their peers. **Over 40 local young people (aged 11-18) participated** in different activities to help generate new insights and shape a borough wide response to the issues that matter to them in community safety. The conclusion of the event provided Brent's young people with a platform to present their ideas back to over 100 youth-sector experts from across West London. Outputs from the event included an awareness raising video and action plan.

4.2.3. Outreach:

- An **Outreach Task Group** has been established alongside the Children and Young People services, Early Help and Westminster Drug Project (WDP) services, which meets fortnightly to discuss areas of concerns where targeted outreach can be conducted by the mentors to engage those at risk of gang affiliation and re-offending behaviour.
- Community Safety participate in the **Ending Gang Violence and Exploitation (EGVE)** Home Office and Local area updates, is a national forum which brings together senior partners / practitioners across safeguarding, violence and crime prevention to review key policy, share intelligence, good practice and ensure coordinated actions to key events. This can include concerns of young people, drug dealing, county lines and the risk of gangs. It has enabled us to gain a greater understanding of the national picture or risk, develop new networks with other local authorities and share key information to safeguard.

4.3. How successful have we been?

4.3.1. Brent has seen a reduction in violent crime when compared to 2018/19.

Type of Offence	2018/19	2019/20	% Change
Violence With Injury (VWI) Offences	2268	2065	-7.4%
Knife Crime Offences	681	589	-13.5%
Gun Crime Offences	103	84	-18.4%

4.3.2. Brent has seen a reduction in the number of knife crime victims under the age of 25.

Type of victim	2018/19	2019/20	% Change
Knife Crime Victims under 25	72	56	-22.2%

4.3.3. The below table shows the ethnic breakdown of knife crime injury victims.

Police Ethnicity Code	% of Total
Afro-Caribbean	41%
Arabian/Egyptian	6%
Asian	22%
Dark European	5%
White European	26%

4.3.4. Early Intervention cohort (aim to divert from criminality):

Convictions	Number	Percentage of Cohort
No convictions since added – successfully diverted from criminality	19	73%
Convicted since added	7	27%

4.3.5. Gangs cohort:

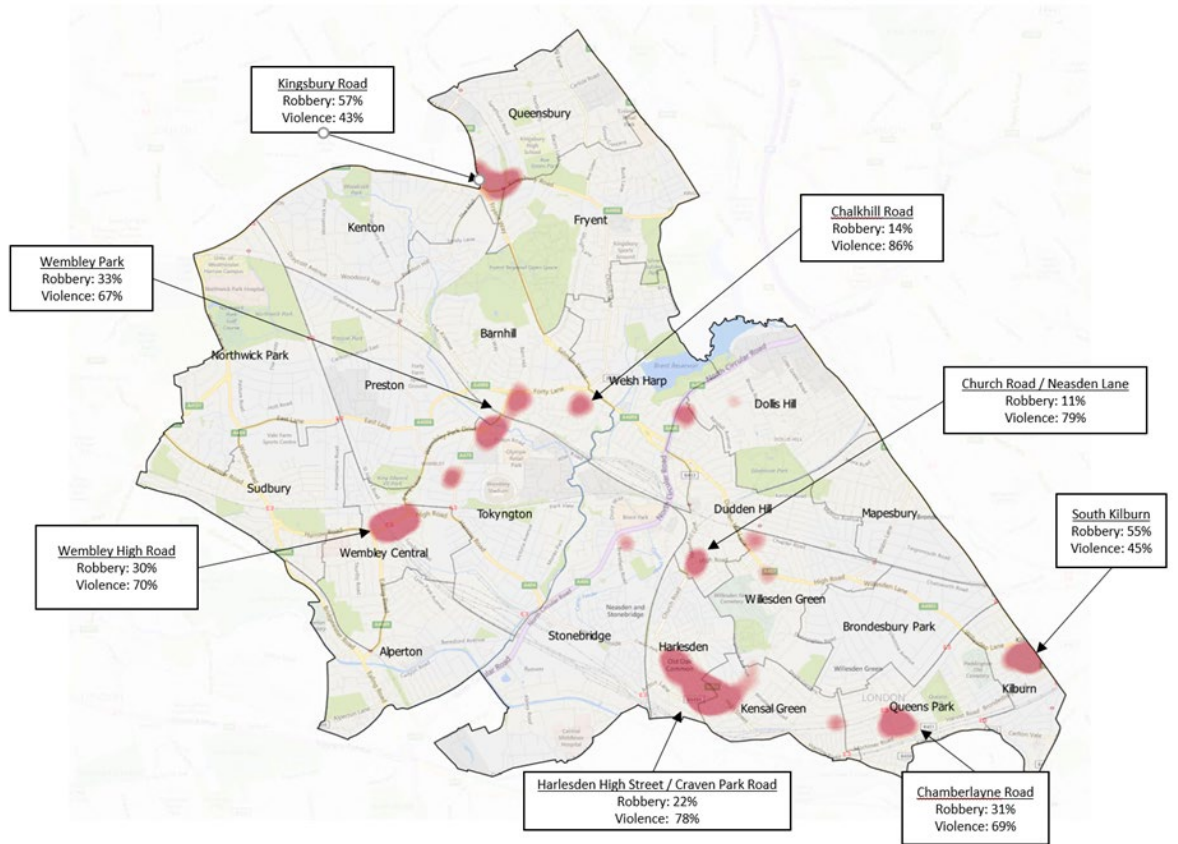
Convictions	Number	Percentage of Cohort
No convictions since added	31	70%
Convicted since added	13	30%

4.3.6. As of June 2020, there are currently 85 offenders on the Violence and Vulnerability Programme that fall under the gangs and knife carrier cohort. This is a fluid number with new referrals being accepted and offenders being removed for successful progression of the program and additional reasons.

4.3.7. Unfortunately there has been **3 knife-related murders in Brent during 2019**, one of which was gang-related, however overall we have seen a **reduction of 13% in knife crime offences** when compared with the previous 12 months.

4.3.8. Alongside some of the successes outlined above, we are still faced with multiple complex challenges, which are often seen within inner London boroughs. Brent has the fourth highest number of lethal-barrelled gun crime offences, in comparison to the most similar London boroughs when comparing 2019 to 2018. However, gun crime has decreased by 13% in the 12 month period.

4.3.9. The map below shows the hotspots for knife crime offences and whether the offence was categorised as robbery or other violence. The hotspots for robbery offences were South Kilburn and Kingsbury High Road.



4.4. Case Study

Case Study 3

Client 'A', 16 years of age, was referred by the Youth Offending Service to the Violence and Vulnerability Programme for intervention from a St Giles Trust mentor, having been gang affiliated. He was involved in County Lines, in trouble with the police for intent to supply drugs and was being exploited by older peers. 'A' had a diagnosis of Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and additional learning difficulties. His relationship with his family was estranged. 'A' had been stabbed, though this had not been life threatening, he still suffered from trauma and had been exposed to violence from an early age.

The St Giles Trust mentor supported 'A' with each support need identified and ensured 'A' was referred to appropriate services and accompanied the young person to appointments. Focus was placed on deterring away from negative activities and peers, encouraging 'A' back into education, with 'A' achieving Basic English and Maths. 'A' was also assisted in accessing and completing courses with the Princes Trust. There was structured work completed around mind-set and decision making.

Following intervention, Client 'A' has successfully completed his Youth Rehabilitation Order and not been in any further trouble with the police. There has been an improvement in his family life and social circle. He is also working full time in construction and is no longer affiliated with gangs and more positive and measured in his decision making.

5.0. Priority 3: Reducing Vulnerability and Increasing Safeguarding

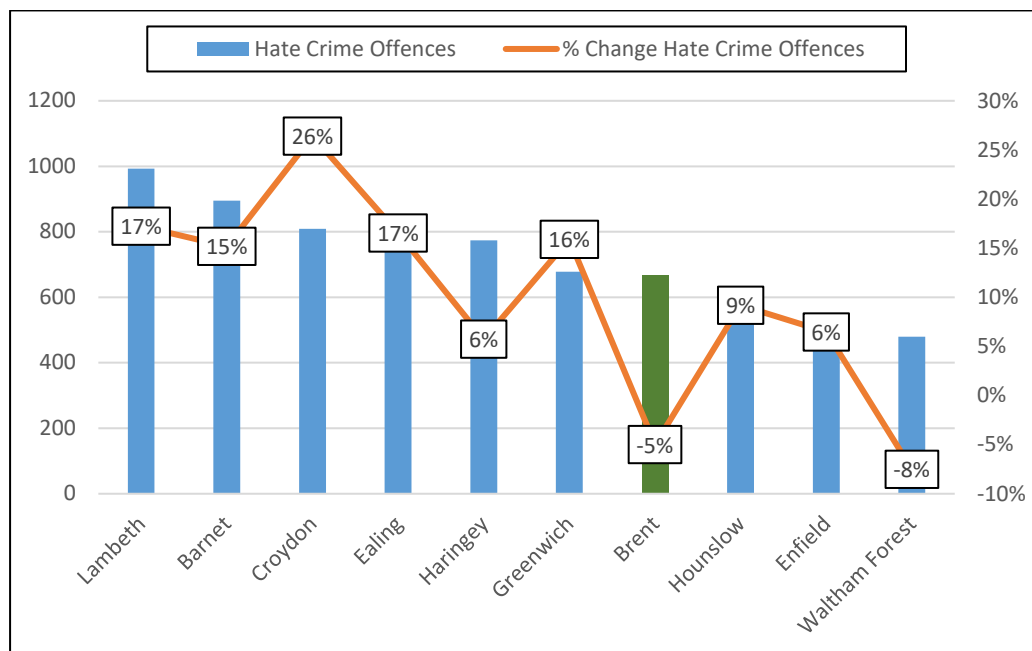
5.1. Why is it a priority?

5.1.1. Community Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (CMARAC)

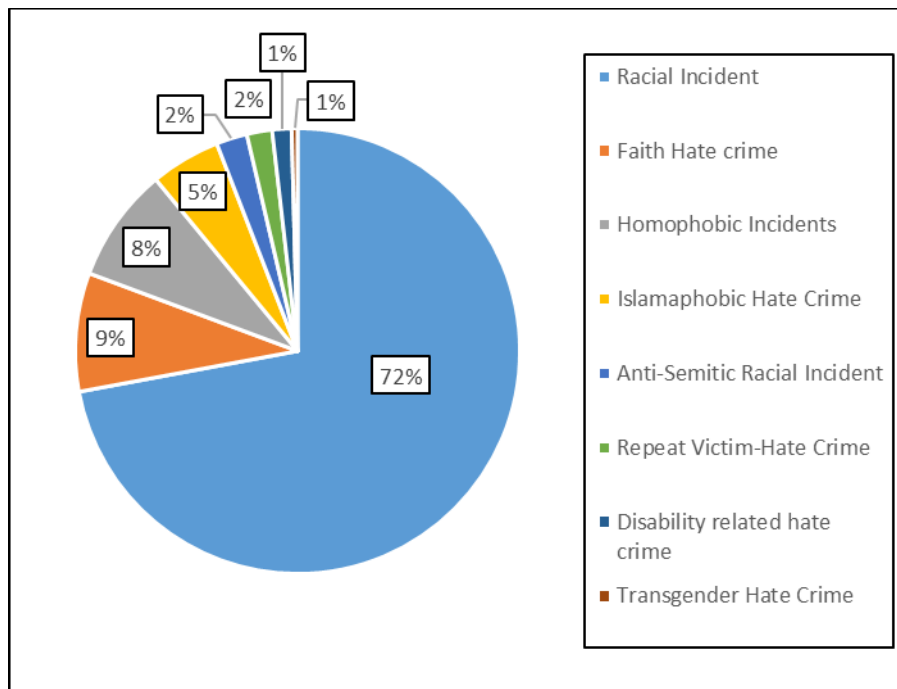
Supporting and protecting the vulnerable in our community continues to be a high priority and we therefore continue to work closely with partners through the Community Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (CMARAC) and Brent Joint Action Group (BJAG). Community Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferencing (CMARAC) provides the opportunity to enhance multiagency working across Brent to support vulnerable individuals.

Hate Crime: Referrals to Community MARAC for individuals who have experience hate crime has been very low, however relationships are starting to be developed with Galop, the pan London hate crime charity, with a view to ensuring support for vulnerable individuals who have been the victim of hate crime.

Hate Crime statistics 2019:



5.1.2. The types of Hate crime:



5.1.3. **PREVENT to safeguarding those most at risk of radicalisation and extremism.**

The borough of Brent is a higher threat, Prevent Priority Area, as identified by the Office for Security and Counter-Terrorism, Home Office. The Prevent strategy forms part of the Government's CONTEST strategy to tackle terrorism, with Prevent focused on identifying and tackling radicalisation before a crime has been committed.

5.1.4. **Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)**

CSE remains a priority as between April and September 2019, 72 individuals (52 females and 20 males) were considered to be at risk of CSE. This is a significant decrease on the previous 6 months (September 2018 – March 2019 saw 110 individuals considered at risk). The sustained decrease in identification of child sexual exploitation in the previous 2 periods in Brent reflects a London-wide decrease as referenced by the Metropolitan Police Detective Investigator for the Child Specialist Crime Unit at the Child Exploitation and Missing Panel on 6 November 2019.

5.1.5. In 34.7% of cases where CSE was identified as a factor, concern around substance misuse was also flagged. Substance misuse (involving both drugs and alcohol) is a common factor identified in vulnerable adolescents and young people have often cited drugs or alcohol as part of the grooming process from those looking to exploit them. Gang concerns were identified along with CSE in 27.8% of cases. Mental health concerns for the young person were identified along with CSE in 11.1% of cases. If the cases identified in the period 01/04/2019 to 30/09/2019, 29.2% of young people have had at least one Missing or Absent episode in the same period.

5.1.6. There is an overrepresentation seen in the data of young people of Black or Black British ethnicity. In April to September, the proportion has decreased (53% as shown in the previous report October 2018 to March 2019, compared with 37.2% of the

current cohort). The proportion of young people of Asian or Asian British has risen significantly to 19.2% from the previous report (2.3%).

Ethnicity	Percentage of Individuals
Black or Black British	37.2%
White	20.5%
Asian or Asian British	19.2%
Mixed/Multiple	15.4%
Other Ethnic Groups	5.1%
Not Stated/Undeclared	2.6%

5.2. What did we do?

- 5.2.1. CMARAC have reviewed and updated key communication methods to streamline referrals and simplify access to support. Through listening to partners, we have introduced this change and anticipate an increase in referrals for support through the CMARAC. An online referral form is in development and we aim to launch this form in April 2020.
- 5.2.2. As part of the partnership working within the CMARAC, we have now introduced the pan-London Restorative Justice Service as a new member, providing an opportunity for communication between victim and offender when a crime has been committed. We also encourage restorative approaches to working, using a foundation of mutual respect to build relationships and improve working practices.
- 5.2.3. The Youth Offending Service (YOS) has a dedicated restorative justice worker in post since January 2019. This role is based within the team to offer Restorative Justice (RJ) interventions to both victims and children who have committed a crime. Victims are contacted following the young person's referral into the service via the courts or the police. Victims are given a choice about participating in RJ but are supported and their story is listened to. If the victim does not wish to take part in RJ they may still require some information about the court or police outcome. Many victims do not want direct contact but will ask for a letter of apology. RJ can only work if there is an acknowledgement from the person who committed the crime they are genuinely sorry. Many of the young people do not express these views at the start of the YOS intervention. The development of empathy and remorse is something the YOS worker develops over time with a period of reflection with the young person. The RJ worker offers a series of different interventions with young people which might include a letter of apology, a letter of explanation or either shuttle or direct mediation. All young people in YOS undertake community reparation whereby they make amends for their offence by undertaking some manual work for a community project.

5.2.4. The Youth Offending Service (YOS) also run a Victim Group whereby young people undertake a series of sessions to examine and develop empathy. Many young people are not ready for such interventions due to their own experience in life, crime and adverse childhood experiences. The YOS approach is trauma informed. This means working with children who have experiences of adversity in childhood such as abuse, poor health, separation and lack of care / neglect. Before the YOS start cognitive and empathy, learning approaches there is the need to develop consistent and trusting relationships and a secure base. After this, we can involve the child in more of the thinking and moral reasoning based work.

5.2.5. Brent is one of 52 **Prevent** Priority Boroughs, identified by the Office for Security and Counter-Terrorism, Home Office. The Prevent strategy forms part of the Government's CONTEST strategy to tackle terrorism, with the Prevent strand focused on identifying and tackling radicalisation before a crime has been committed. Brent receives funding for a Prevent Team and specific project work which aims to build resilience against radicalisation and where possible address identified risks.

Historically, Daesh/Islamic State inspired violent extremism was the dominant threat within the borough. However, over the past year and half we have seen a rise in support for the Extreme Far Right and we are beginning to understand and source ways to address this risk.

5.2.7 **Channel Panel** is a multi-agency Prevent case conference. The Panel meets monthly to discuss those considered most at risk of being drawn into terrorism and supporting terrorist groups.

- Cases heard were complex. Individuals often presented with additional support needs, chaotic backgrounds or historic trauma. Financial Year 19/20, Channel cases suggested that extended family members were those who first introduced identified individuals to terrorist ideologies.
- We see social, political, religious and economic drivers that act as catalysts, encouraging a person to endorse extremist ideologies. However, through the Channel Programme, expert mentors are able to challenge these ideologies and unpick some of the drivers that underpin violent extremism.
- More adults than children were discussed at Brent's Channel Panel this year. Children discussed for channel support were between the ages of 15 and 18 years old.
- Whilst the local authority has a duty to offer support to 'at risk' individuals through the Channel Panel, participation remains voluntary. During Financial Year 19/20, we noted that cases with Extreme Far Right ideologies were more likely to decline the support offered.
- We undertook our bi – annual audit in quarter 2 and quarter 4 of the Financial Year. This allowed us to review cases at referral, triage and onward support stages. Compared to previously years, we have certainly seen an increase in referrals to the Channel Programme. However, we consider that increase, is due, in part, to the referrals relating to the Extreme Far Right.

**Figures for individuals referred to the Channel programme are exempt from disclosure.*

5.2.8 **The Prevent Oversight Board and Prevent Delivery Group oversee Prevent Duty Requirements.** Progress is monitored against a live risk assessment and action plan. This includes reviewing policy and practice in light of the Prevent duty, identifying training needs, emerging risks and strengthening Brent's partnership approach to Prevent.

- At the end of March 2020, Green RAG items stood at 97% green and 2% amber, 1% as red: The Amber items related to:
 - Confirming a standardized approach to Prevent training within Adult Social Care,
 - Updating venue hire guidance,
 - Increasing the local authority's engagement with communities that can counter Far Right ideologies and threat

The red item related to:

- Undertaking a review of commissioned services that should receive Prevent training.
- A key success delivered in financial year 2019/20 was the creation and roll out of a 30-minute online Prevent training module. This training module is accessible to Brent staff through the Learning Hub.
- The Prevent Oversight Board decided that an online Prevent training module would provide a minimum baseline of understanding for staff within the council. It also allows managers time to prioritise staff for attendance to the more in depth, 2 and ½ hour 'in person' Prevent training. The online training also provides a benchmark for the council's Prevent duty responsibilities.
- **Prevent Projects and outreach** aims to address specific risk identified locally, or build resilience against extremism in the relevant areas. Currently, detailed information relating to Prevent Projects is exempt from disclosure under Data Protection Act exemptions.
- As an overview, Prevent projects address a range of issues for example, they seek to protect people from being radicalised within the online space, build resilience against the risk of radicalisation, provide "safe spaces" for discussion and debate within school and community settings. They aim to highlight topics of conflict and address risk, provide family support to relatives of those affected by radicalisation, and work with the faith sector to protect and mitigate against the impact of radicalisation.
- This year the theme of our annual youth outreach event was, 'Identity and Belonging'. There were notable key speakers, Small Steps and St Giles, as well as Scholar Wael Zubi, JJ Roble, 'Rants and Bants' and Mariah Idrissi.
- Pupils in attendance at the event, represented our local secondary schools, 6th forms, PRU's and colleges

5.2.9 **Child Sexual Exploitation**

As part of targeted intervention and preventative work, the Child Exploitation and Missing Panel actively looks at locations, where child exploitation has occurred or that are linked to child exploitation and develops activity to make these areas safer

for children. We continue to work closely with the police and partners in raising awareness, monitoring and safeguarding.

5.3. How successful have we been?

- 5.3.1. For 2019/20 a total of 26 new referrals were accepted onto the Community MARAC, with a 50/50 split of males and females. The primary presenting vulnerability was antisocial behaviour (42%), with the secondary presenting vulnerability being mental health (42%). 15 cases were closed during the same time.
- 5.3.2. OWL has been successful in helping to raise awareness of fraud and scams across Brent with the most vulnerable and reducing the risk of victimisation. On average, a message a day is published on OWL by the police and these messages range from appeals for information to awareness raising. In March, 13 message raising awareness of scams alone were sent out on OWL.
- 5.3.3. The collaborative work across Brent has supported interventions, which have helped towards this outcome. Brent has demonstrated positive outcomes in the work to reduce the number of victims of knife crime through its partnership approaches and engagement with young people. The YOS was inspected by HMIP (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation) in August 2019 and the report was published in December 2019. The YOS was rated as 'Good' across the domains of organisational delivery, court disposals and out of court disposals. HMIP recognised that Brent YOS showed a well-developed understanding of the needs of young people. Good practice was demonstrated with children who have committed offences, which involved a range of partnership services to support children. Inspectors commented on the high level of risk managed by Brent YOS (serious youth violence, county lines and knife crime) in comparison with other Local Authorities. The YOS Board was commended in its recognition of the challenges in Brent concerning serious youth violence, county lines and knife crime and ensuring there was good leadership and joint working to tackle these areas.
- 5.3.4. Prevent success has been outlined above in 5.2.8.

6.0. Priority 4: Reducing Offenders and Perpetrators from Reoffending

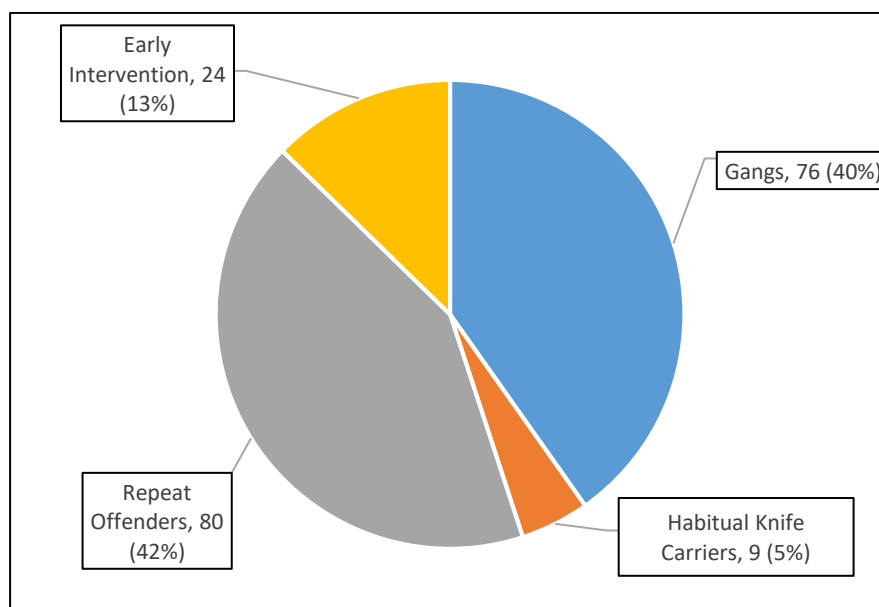
6.1. Why is it a priority?

6.1.1. Whilst the overall number of offenders in London has fallen, the number of people reoffending within London has increased. These are usually identified as prolific offenders (due to committing multiple offences) who cause harm to communities and individuals, and cost London taxpayers the equivalent of £2.2 billion a year in criminal justice costs alone. It requires intensive, targeted and specific support to assist them with breaking the cycle of their reoffending behaviour.

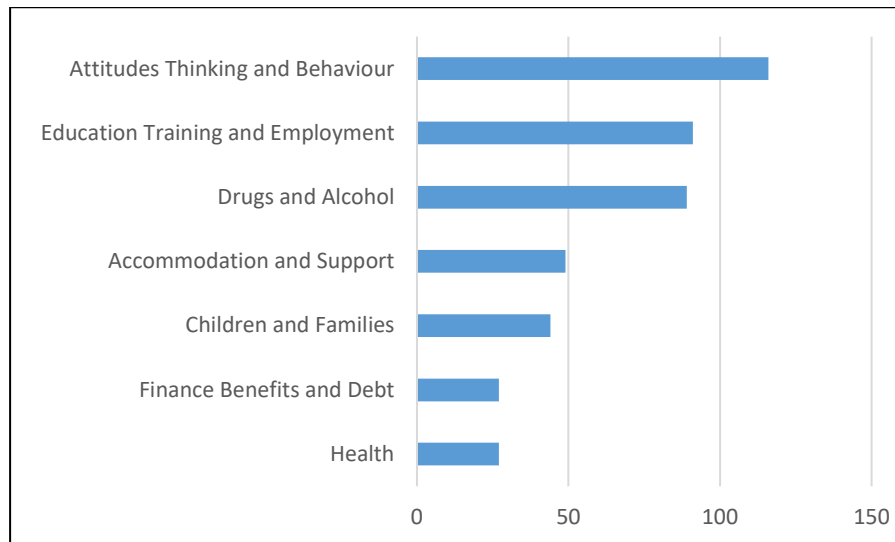
6.2. What did we do?

6.2.1. The Safer Brent Partnership implemented and co-ordinated the multi-agency **Violence and Vulnerability Programme (VVP)** which has replaced the Offender Management Programme. This has ensured that:

- A strong partnership approach to the delivery of the Violence and Vulnerability Programme has been developed to help reduce reoffending.
- Key strategic partnerships and forums are current and effective. Due to gang offenders being part of the Violence and Vulnerability Programme (VVP), we have amalgamated the previous Integrated Offender Management (IOM) delivery group and borough gang's delivery group to one overarching Violence and Vulnerability Delivery Group.
- Offenders that affect our community the most through their offending behaviour have been identified. The below chart provides an overview of the current Violence and Vulnerability cohort:



Support needs for offenders on the VVP were identified. At the initial stage of engagement with services, up to three support pathways were identified as needing immediate intervention. The most common pathways were Attitudes, Thinking and Behaviour for 61% of the cohort; Education, Training and Employment for 48% of the cohort; Drugs and Alcohol for 47% of the cohort.



6.2.2. Between 2019 and 2021, **AIR Network** have been commissioned to deliver a Mentoring, Sports, and Well-being programme and have provided support to offenders on the Violence and Vulnerability Programme in the following ways:

- Accessing the main London prisons to be able to engage with and provide support to the offenders prior to release and during release.
- Providing support around the nine pathways of reoffending e.g. housing support and assistance securing housing, education, training and employment, with the aim of securing employment and supporting those with mental health and drug and alcohol needs.
- 83 referrals have been received and 61 offenders have been supported around the nine pathways of reoffending.
- AIR Network were provided funds for 3 months to support those on the VVP in the evenings and weekends. Delivery provided 59 mentoring sessions, 48 home visits, 53 gym and training sessions, and 366 telephone sessions.

6.2.3. The Safer Brent Partnership (SBP) linked current Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) priorities to the VVP to help reduce Domestic Abuse (DA) Perpetrator reoffending. The monthly Domestic Abuse Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) ensures perpetrators of domestic abuse are being offered support via the Violence and Vulnerability Programme and Domestic Abuse perpetrator programme RISE, and allows the sharing of key information. Further

fortnightly partnership meetings ensures that the VVP is supporting these priorities and that opportunities for intelligence sharing are maximised.

6.2.4. The SBP worked to strengthen existing partnerships by:

- Supporting the MOPAC Pan London bid for the **Advance Minerva Wrap Around service** which assists with reducing reoffending behaviour amongst women with vulnerabilities. To date the project has received 80 referrals from Brent, which includes 9 referrals to the Young Person's Worker who supports women between the ages of 15-24 years.

6.3. How successful have we been?

6.3.1. Since implementation in June 2019, there have been a **total 189 service users on the programme**, with currently 80 prolific IOM offenders on the Violence and Vulnerability Programme. This changes regularly since implementation with new referrals being monitored and offenders being removed due to successfully not offending.

Reoffending is measured on the overall reoffending rate (measured as the percentage of offenders who reoffend) and broken down into cohort types. These are the standard performance measures used across the UK and recommended by the Ministry of Justice.

Ethnicity	Count
Asian	4
Black	62
Middle Eastern	1
Unknown	3
White: North European	24
White: South European	4

Age	Cohort
0-18	20
18-24	33
25-34	15
35-49	26
50+	4

Sex	Count
Female	13
Male	85

6.3.2. The below table demonstrates the impact of the intervention provided from AIR Network for the IOM in 2019/20.

Baseline	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Average
70% of supported offenders have increased motivation to change	100%	88%	91%	100%	94%
10% of those offenders that engage will report improved health and well-being	83%	77%	82%	100%	85%

6.3.3. The below table demonstrates the cost and numbers of offences committed by the IOM cohort before and after intervention through the VVP in 2019/20:

Offenders	Cost of Crime before intervention	Number of Offences before intervention	Cost during intervention	Offences during intervention	Cost after intervention	Offences after intervention
298	£4,119,150	1130	£3,174,423	1193	£630,367	272

6.4. Case study

Case Study

Client 'B', 23 years of old, was referred by the Community Rehabilitation Company - Probation (CRC) via the Violence and Vulnerability Programme for intervention by an AIR Network mentor due to his re-offending behaviour, namely drug offences, robbery and possession of a knife.

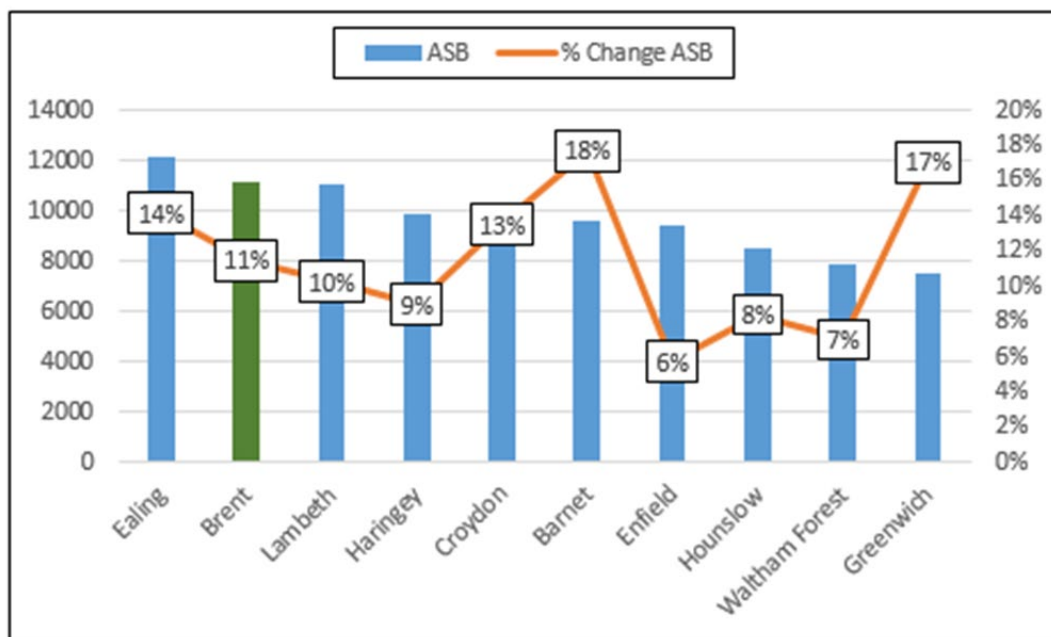
The AIR Network mentor completed a 'meet at the gate' service upon release from prison and ensured appointments set for the day were met. Client 'B' identified that his offending behaviour was linked to his negative peers within Brent and felt a move would be a positive change. Therefore, he was supported with applying for accommodation out of the borough, which was successful. Alongside this, the mentor assisted with applying for benefits and referring client 'B' to education, training and employment opportunities which lead to successful completion of the CSCS course and employment within labouring.

Out of borough support continued with Client 'B' ensuring he was engaged in positive activities such as fitness sessions and improved mental wellbeing and work around resilience, positive relationships/attitudes, making right life choices continued. Client 'B' successfully completed his community order and there has been no offending since mentoring commenced.

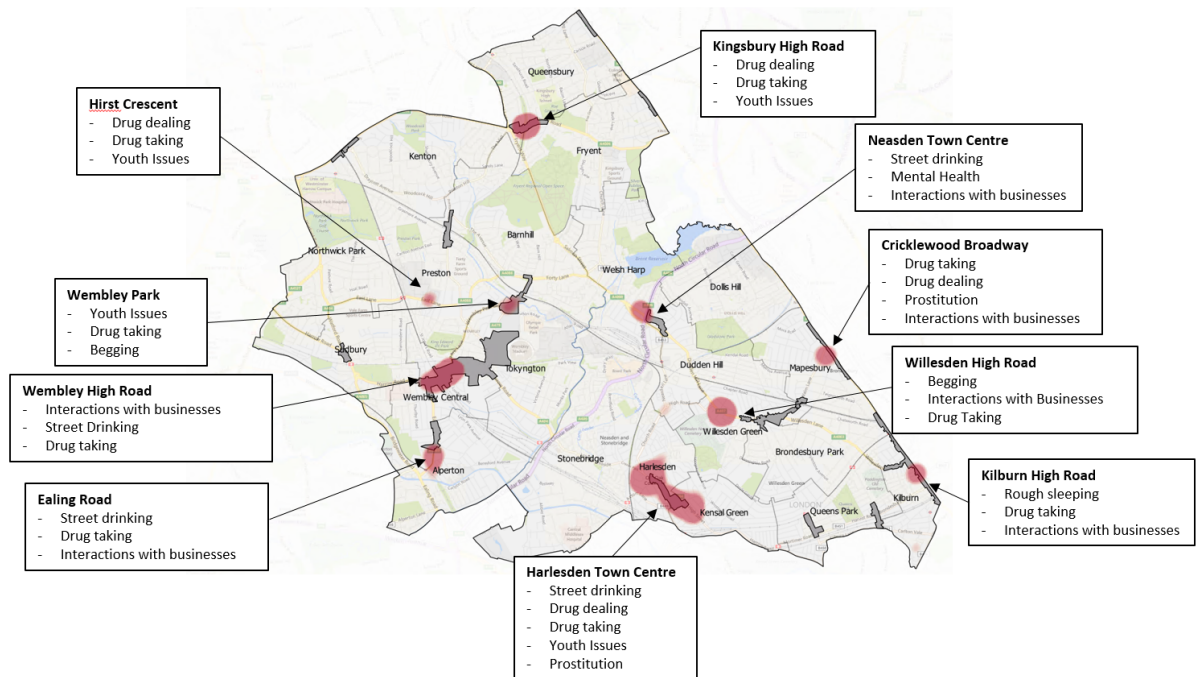
7.0. Priority 5: Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour

7.1. Why is it a priority?

- 7.1.1. Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) is highlighted as a key concern for residents of Brent. Anti-Social behaviour has increased across the borough, and nationally. Locally, this could be down to increased reporting, an escalation in open drug markets and the impact of gang activities in Brent. Visible evidence of disorder through unchallenged ASB leads to less secure communities, and can impact negatively on feelings of safety and mental health. Environmental ASB is expensive to react to and leads communities to consider their neighbourhoods negatively, which in turn leads to social disorganisation.
- 7.1.2. Brent has the third highest number of ASB calls in comparison to the most similar London boroughs in the last 12 months. The number of ASB calls to the Police has increased by 11% from the previous 12 months. All boroughs in the group saw an increase in ASB calls, with Brent showing the fifth largest increase.



7.1.3. The map below shows the relationship between levels of ASB and town centres in Brent. All the hotspots of ASB are in or adjacent to town centres. For each hotspot, the main ASB concerns are highlighted.



7.2. What did we do?

7.2.1. There are two main partnership approaches to tackling ASB in Brent. The **Brent Joint Action Groups (BJAG)** deals with locality-based problems through a multi-agency, evidence-led problem oriented approach and individuals who cause the most alarm, harassment and distress to residents in Brent. This includes prevention through diversion and support and utilising enforcement options where necessary. These are co-terminus with police cluster boundaries and cover Kilburn, Harlesden and Wembley. The BJAG has the ability to direct mobile CCTV resources. Secondly, **The Community Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (CMARAC)** brings agencies together on a monthly basis to discuss those who are most vulnerable.

7.2.2. The BJAG meets monthly and is chaired by the Safer Neighbourhood Inspector for Brent. Monthly hotspot maps provided by the Community Safety Analyst are used routinely to prioritise multi-agency enforcement and engagement in the appropriate areas. Drug related incidents and open drug markets are still the single biggest problem in Brent. Other issues prevalent are the increase of noise and neighbour disputes, rough sleeping, and street drinking.

7.2.3. There is now an established process between Brent police and the Brent Anti-Social Behaviour Team to routinely target prolific perpetrators with Community Protection Notices (CPNs) and Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBOs) on an escalation process should the offending continue.

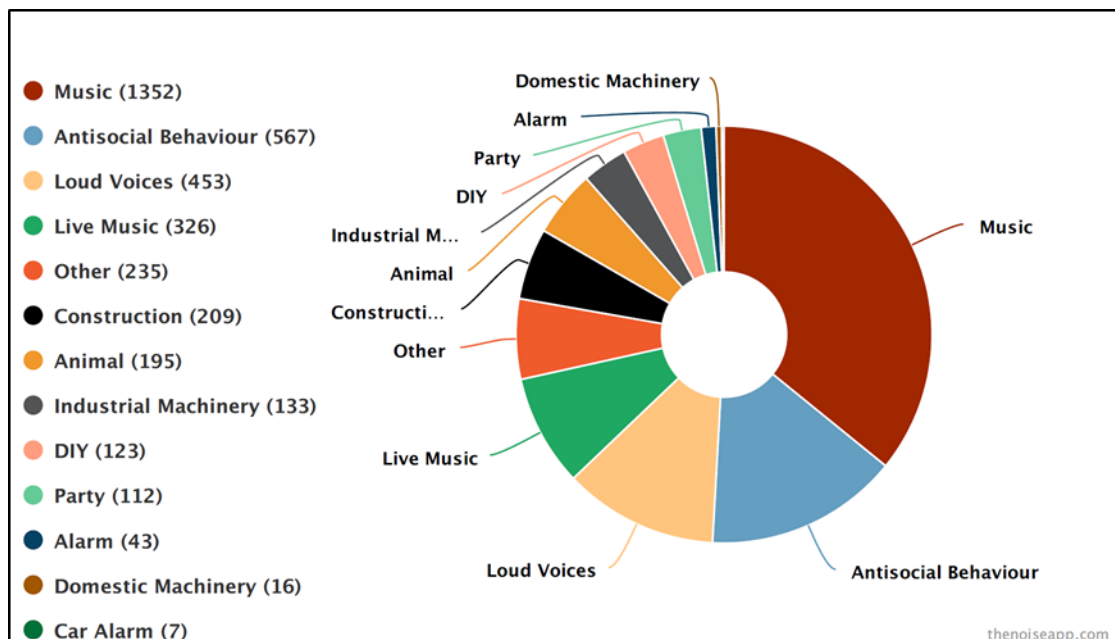
7.2.4. The last 12 months have seen a decrease on use of Public Protection warnings and fixed penalty notices for breach of the warnings, which could reflect the transition from the Partnership Tasking Team to the Neighbourhood Patrol Team. The policy

remains in place to prosecute any repeat offenders with Brent's Legal Team. Use of CPN warnings have also increased and closure notices and orders considered for premises associated with nuisance and drugs. Under the Sexual Offences Act 2003, we regularly support Brent Police in closing down suspected brothels, including working with Westminster Drug Project (WDP) and NIA to support exploited sex workers in Brent.

7.2.5. Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs):

- **Honeypot Lane:** Brent extended the Honeypot Lane Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) in December 2017 to run up until December 2020. The order banned the practice of picking up workers for casual cash-in-hand labour within a specified area. Casual workers hired in this way are often exploited, earning less than the minimum wage and exposed to unsafe working environments. The order was also varied to prohibit those loitering in the area with the intention of seeking casual labour between 06.00 -12.00 hours. The order also gives Brent Council the ability to issue Fixed Penalty Notices, or begin court proceedings against, anyone picking up labourers in those areas, in order to remove the incentive for people to gather there in large numbers looking for work. It also gives the Council the ability to penalise unauthorised coaches for stopping and disembarking passengers within those areas. Fixed Penalty Notices for Breach of a PSPO warning were increased to £100, which is the maximum tariff under the legislation. There have been regular positive joint operations between Harrow and Brent Council in Honeypot Lane where we have a shared border. Harrow Council have discontinued and Brent will be review the current PSPO in August 2020. This review will determine if the PSPO is discontinued or extended.
- **Neasden Town Centre:** Brent implemented a three year Public Spaces Protection Order on 3 September 2018 to prohibit weekly scheduled transport stops, often involved in dropping people and goods. The consequences of these activities has seen an evidenced increase in obstructive parking, harassment, waste accumulation, and noise nuisance. The order also gives Brent Council the ability to issue Fixed Penalty Notices, or begin court proceedings against persistent offenders.
- **Borough wide street drinking:** A Borough-wide Public Spaces Protection Order to prohibit street drinking was implemented in 20 October 2017 up until 19 October 2020. The enforcement programme is conducted predominantly by the Neighbourhood Patrol Team with the assistance of Local Safer Neighbourhood Teams. Brent will be review the current PSPO in May 2020. This review will determine if the PSPO is discontinued or extended.
- **Parks, open spaces, graveyards and cemeteries:** A Borough-wide Public Spaces Protection Order was implemented on 17 September 2019 up until 16 September 2022 to supersede some of the Council's byelaws prohibiting activities around drug use, dog control, alcohol consumption, drones, fires and barbecues etc. The enforcement programme is conducted predominantly by the Neighbourhood Patrol Team with the assistance of Local Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

- 7.2.5. Enforcement of PSPOs: in September 2019. Neighbourhood Patrol Street scene officers were employed by the Council in August 2019 and are the main enforcement pool with the assistance of Safer Neighbourhood Teams. Prosecutions are routinely considered by the Anti-Social Behaviour Team for persistent offenders.
- 7.2.6. Brent's Anti-Social Behaviour Team entered into a service level agreement in July 2018 with Brent Housing Management to manage all medium to high risk anti-social behaviour cases. In 2019/20, 27 high and medium risk cases have been referred and managed. All cases have been managed satisfactorily with the performance measures.
- 7.2.7. The **Nuisance Control Team** was restructured in March 2019 to reduce the out-of-hours service that operated 7 days a week to Friday, Saturday and Sunday. This was informed by analysis of call data showing the service demand to peak at the weekends. The Noise App service was also introduced to Brent residents given them the ability to record noise as it occurs which could sent independently for the team to investigate. This has added great flexibility to the service and ensured cases are effectively triaged once these recording have been assessed. Below is a breakdown of the Noise App cases for 2019/20.



7.3. How successful have we been?

- 7.3.1. The Brent Anti-Social Behaviour Team within Community Protection have seen a 14% increase of anti-social behaviour cases recorded and managed from the previous financial year. The management of Brent Housing Management cases under the existing service level agreement, robust policing by the Partnership Tasking team against this priority and a redesign of the team across Brent's 5 Connect Areas, accounted for the rise from the previous year.

Total cases opened April 2019 to March 2020 = 579

Total cases closed April 2019 to March 2020 = 423

- 7.3.2. There is still a high proportion of anti-social behaviour cases involving open drug markets where there are gang associations. Increased use of Criminal Behaviour Orders are being used to prohibit these groups from associating and banning them from areas of concern. There has been increased compliance with these warnings due to the quick escalation protocol to Criminal Behaviour Order applications for repeat offenders. There are plans to utilise Closure Notices and Orders on commercial and business premises, which meet the nuisance threshold.

- 7.3.3. An annual ASB satisfaction survey was conducted across the top five categories:

- 68% of customers surveyed rated the service received as very good or good
- 21% of customers surveyed rated the service as fair or poor

8.0. Other Developments

8.1. CCTV

8.1.1. Over the last two years there have been a number of improvements to our CCTV operations:

- A large upgrade to full Internet Protocol (IP) cameras with 80 full HD CCTV cameras
- Extensive savings on rented CCTV circuits in region of £115K per year with Borough wide owned wireless connectivity on a redundant ring
- Early notification of faults, ability to save on CCTV maintenance due to operating remotely, engineers can pin point any fault and often remedy without attending site or Civic Centre, a full comprehensive CCTV maintenance contract with items such as putting up 12 deployable cameras per year on this contract.
- 8 new cameras in crime hot spot areas
- Ability to access remotely CCTV systems, full system and Web server which can be accessed remotely
- Full data compliance with confirms to DPA 2018 with secure log in details which are changed every 7 weeks (HTTPS compliant)
- Software and hardware able to work with all systems
- Full use of space in CCTV CR, space for officers to view systems and where necessary training in use of system
- Full DDA compliant desk and work stations and new protective COVID-19 secure space for officers to work from
- Full log systems and evidence locker so we can track our data and who has accessed while being able to share some of this data with colleagues
- Now able to share still images, and work to get cloud based sharing systems operating
- Sharing images to colleagues using shared drives
- Worked extensively with internal Neighbourhood management, using radio to communicate with patrolling officers

8.2. Rescue and Response County Lines Project

8.2.1. The Rescue and Response project is coordinated by Brent Council and operates across London, providing intervention support to vulnerable young people and providing data and intelligence products in the context of county lines. To date, **the project has received 1112 referrals.**

8.2.2. Rescue and Response will publish a second Strategic Assessment in September 2020 building on the findings in year 1 and looking at the wider vulnerabilities of the cohort. The project will be providing Brent with their second borough overview which

will detail the context of county lines in the borough to be used to support strategic and operational planning and delivery.²

- 8.2.3. Due to ongoing demand for the project, additional funding has been secured to increase frontline capacity for the remainder of the project. However, conversations with MOPAC will take place in the next few months regarding possible extension past 2021.
- 8.2.4. Brent currently has the highest number of referrals for the North London cluster with 69 young people referred:
- 19 have been referred for intervention
 - 8 were closed and signposted back to borough as no county Lines involvement
 - 42 were intelligence based referrals (no support needed or local provision can support)
 - 31 of the referrals were noted as Looked after Children at point of referral (this figures includes Children Looked after by other boroughs, but residing in Brent).
 - The project has had 3 requests for Brent young people to be collected from Counties, with 2 of those being conducted.
- 8.2.5. In 2019/20, 189 individuals in Brent were identified who evidence a link to county lines activity. This relates to individuals who have been arrested for offences linked to county lines activity or found in drug addresses in other county forces, where there is intelligence linking individuals to county lines activity, or where the subject has disclosed to a professional or family member that they are involved in county lines.
- 8.2.6. An additional 17 individuals in Brent were identified who show indicator behaviours that the subject is possibly exploited or involved in county lines activity. However, it has not been confirmed whether the potential exploitation/activity is county lines related or local drug supply related, as indicator behaviours for both are similar.

² london.gov.uk/mopac-publications/rescue-and-response-pan-london-county-lines-service

8.2.7. The age of all 206 individuals ranges from 14 to 53 years, with the highest proportion aged 17 to 20 years (35%). Males make up 94% of the cohort.

132 individuals under the age of 25 were identified as having confirmed links to county lines. Of these, 33 were under the age of 18, the majority of which were male. Age	Male	Female	Total
13	-	-	-
14	3	-	3
15	3	1	4
16	8	1	9
17	16	1	17
Total	30	3	33

8.2.8. Data on county lines is continually being cross-referenced with Brent CYP data to ensure that there is a clear understanding and cross-council working to respond to young people’s vulnerabilities and needs.

8.2.9. The Covid-19 social distancing restrictions combined with the increased police presence on public transport and reduced train services will likely affect activity. However, initial reporting is mixed with some areas of London stating that county lines has slowed down, whilst others stating it is thriving due to the demand in lockdown; this may be dependent on how healthy the networks supply is and how well they can meet the demand in their local area. Below are the possible effects of Covid-19:

- Young people are facing higher risk of violence and robbery as networks may force them to sell drugs on rival territories to secure power in that area.
- If further drug lines are forced to shut down as they cannot sustain good quality Class A drug, users will find new suppliers and will lead to further tensions between rival networks.
- Some media outlets have reported on surgical masks being worn by an Organised Criminal Network in a London stabbing. Masks are likely to increase in usage in general public as some restrictions are lifted particularly on public transport and this may give rise to networks similarly wearing them to make themselves less identifiable.
- Media outlets pick up that vulnerable children continue to be attending schools currently in small numbers (DFE reports 5%) and so the risk from

criminal networks to exploit these young people in relation to county lines activity is heightened.

8.2.10. The next steps for the project are:

- Continued development of the quality of referrals in to the project to ensure that appropriate support is in place for young people who are experiencing exploitation on county lines.
- Increased identification of exploitation victims and exploiters by developing the understanding of the networks linked to the R&R cohort, and contextual safeguarding elements; with network analysis, open source research and the increased recording of soft intelligence.
- Supporting boroughs to ensure that the data provided by Rescue and Response is actioned accordingly through safeguarding protocols.

8.3. Data Analysis – Children and Young People (CYP)

8.3.1. Community Safety identified the need to source an additional specialist analyst to review core data across CYP and partner agencies to improve our core understanding of vulnerable adolescents, contextual safeguarding and the impact of interventions. In 2019/2020 focus has been on young people experiencing multiple vulnerabilities, with the highest risk factor of the cohort is being missing children.

8.3.2. The highest number of known vulnerabilities in the borough within this cohort is that the majority are either Looked After Children (LAC) or Child Protection (CP) - 72% LAC, 20% CP and all but one of these young people has had a missing episode since January 2019. 30% of the 40 young people have confirmed links to county lines and 20% have been identified as being at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation.

Overview of multi-vulnerabilities:

Vulnerability	Total young people	Percentage of total
Missing	39	97.5%
Looked after children	29	72.5%
County Lines	12	30.0%
CSE	10	25.0%
Permanent exclusions	9	22.5%
CP	8	20.0%

Multi-vulnerabilities and ethnicity:

Ethnicity	Total	Percentage
Black or Black British	25	62.5%
White	6	15.0%
Mixed / Multiple	5	12.5%
Asian or Asian British	3	7.5%
Other Ethnic Groups	1	2.5%
Total	40	100%

- 8.3.3. Nearly two-thirds (62%) of the young people with most multiple vulnerabilities are Black or Black British. This includes 10 young people (25%) who are from a Black Caribbean background. Overall, this shows a disproportionate representation in comparison to all young people in the borough.
- 8.3.4. Between 01/04/2019 and 30/09/2019 there were 857 incidents of children being absent or recorded missing, relating to 247 young people. There is an 8.9% increase in the number of individual children reported as missing, from the previous 6 months (247 individuals compared with 226) in the period April 2019 to September 2019 when compared to the previous 2 periods of review. The main factors identified as contributing to this increase are improved recording and the continued impact of stronger guidance to parents on reporting children missing from home.
- 8.3.5. With a greater understanding of the cohort at risk, greater focus on return home interviews have increased. A total of 186 Return Home Interviews were undertaken between 01/04/2019 and 30/09/2019 with 90 individual children.

8.4. Data Analytics

- 8.4.1. In 2015, following some serious Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) cases including in Rochdale and Rotherham, Brent - like many councils - started to ask questions around what we knew about CSE locally. The Community Safety analyst was tasked by the Safer Brent Partnership to create a local problem profile on CSE. The accumulation of the risk indicators across the Brent child population was used to understand the potential prevalence of CSE in Brent. The outcome illustrated that a high number of indicators were present.
- 8.4.2. On the back of the initial analysis, Brent carried out a Proof of Concept, building a predictive model to identify vulnerable young people most at risk of engaging in offending. Building the dataset, we developed a six-week prototype.

- 8.4.3. In August 2018, as part of its Digital Transformation Programme, Brent prototyped a dashboard model to support decision making by social workers. The analytics platform created a single view of a child based on risk and service provision, bringing together data from a number of sources. The dashboard presents information about contextual factors, which are known to increase the likelihood of a child experiencing negative outcomes related to engaging in offending and criminal exploitation.
- 8.4.4. The dashboard was tested in parallel to current risk assessing processes by three front line social work teams and feedback was very positive. Of particular value was the ability to see a range of data about a child in one place, which supported professionals in making more informed decisions and reduced time previously spent accessing multiple systems. Work is currently underway to further develop and roll out the single view of a child approach as part of a council wide Data Lake project, part of the programme to deliver the council's Digital Strategy 2019-23.

Abbreviations:

MOPAC	Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime
SBP	Safer Brent Partnership
BAME	Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
DA	Domestic Abuse
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
FM	Forced Marriage
IDVA	Independent Domestic Violence Advisor
PRU	Pupil Referral Unit
YOS	Youth Offending Service
WDP	Westminster Drug Project
CMARAC	Community Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
CP	Child Protection
LAC	Looked After Child