



SAFER BRENT



PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2020 - 2021



Community Safety Team
LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

DRAFT

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Foreword by Carolyn Downs, Chair of the Safer Brent Partnership and Chief Executive of Brent Council.

Welcome to the 2020/21 edition of the Safer Brent Partnership Annual Report. Here you can read about the wide-ranging work that the board has overseen in the past year as we strive to make Brent a borough in which we all feel safe and secure.

Our priorities over the past 12 months have remained the same as previous years: reducing domestic and sexual abuse, reducing the impact of gangs and knives in our community, reducing vulnerability and increasing safeguarding, reducing offenders and perpetrators from reoffending, and reducing antisocial behaviour.

These priorities have taken on a new significance in the light of the past year. From the devastating impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the borough, to violence against women and girls on the streets of our borough and city, and the global Black Lives Matter campaign, this year has challenged Brent in ways that we have not seen before. Events such as these have highlighted more than ever the importance of ensuring that Brent is a borough where we can all feel safe, secure, happy and healthy. They have also brought to light the inequalities that still exist in our borough, and the disproportionate impact that these difficult events have had on certain communities.

Addressing the impact of gangs and knives in Brent has remained a key priority. The recent Home Office weapon surrender scheme ran from 10th December 2020 to 9th March 2021, with Wembley Police Station acting as one of the designated police stations for this scheme. The newly launched Horizons Project will also work to address the causes of violence and antisocial behaviour in Brent, piloting a public health approach to tackling serious violence in NW10.

Gang violence is not the only violent crime concern in Brent. Following on from the tragic deaths of Nicole Smallman and Bibaa Henry and the renewed national focus brought on by the disappearance and death of Sarah Everard, Brent continues its commitment to ensuring women and girls are and feel safe from male violence within the borough. Brent is working with partners specifically on the issues of street based sexual abuse and harassment to raise awareness of these issues and expedite a societal shift in the prevalence and acceptance of male violence against women.

As both the chair of the Safer Brent Partnership and Chief Executive of Brent Council I know that there is still work to be done to address the disproportionate impact of crime on Brent's communities, and to challenge the perceptions of crime in our borough. I am however, hugely proud of the work that is already being done to effectively address these issues. In particular, Brent's Black Community Action Plan, developed in partnership between the Council and the community, will work to support early intervention, strengthen community leadership, and support employment.

Effective partnership working has been key in enabling us to continue to respond to community safety concerns across the borough, and work towards the shared goal of making Brent a safer place to live.

Foreword by Cllr Promise Knight, Lead Member for Community Safety and Engagement.

Thank you for taking the time to read the 2020/21 Safer Brent Partnership Annual Report.

In all of the work that the partnership does it strives to place the concerns of the community at its heart. The Safer Brent Partnership ensures that it works effectively alongside key Council strategies and policies which have been informed by community engagement, including the newly implemented Equality Strategy, Poverty Commission, and Black Community Action Plan, which all aim to tackle the causes and drivers of serious violence.

We know that individuals and communities are best supported when agencies and teams work together. Antisocial behaviour is a key concern of Brent's residents, and we have continued our partnership working to address this. Since September 2020 there have been 18 days of action in Church End, Kingsbury, Harlesden, Willesden and Wembley. Public Space Protection Orders remain in force in locations across the borough, and proactive operations are currently conducted by the Council's Neighbourhood Patrol Team, with persistent offenders facing Fixed Penalty Notices and prosecution.

Working with at risk children and young people is also essential in addressing key community safety concerns in the borough, proactively identifying risk factors and concerns to allow a programme of prevention work to take place. The Youth Justice Board funded BAME Covid-19 Pathfinder supports young BAME people who have had adverse childhood experiences and are at risk of entering the youth justice system to engage with education, and gives them access to a range of positive activities. The work of the partnership has also been able to support children, young people and adults at risk of CCE, CSE, serious youth violence and offending behaviour through the fortnightly Exploitation, Violence and Vulnerability Panel (EVVP). Of referrals into the Violence and Vulnerability Programme, 75% of the cohort have not reoffended since being added to the programme.

The pandemic has led to an increase in domestic abuse nationally, with multiple lockdowns impacting people's ability to seek help and support, and sadly the picture has been no different in Brent. As you will read about in this report, the Safer Brent Partnership has supported and overseen work to raise awareness of this issue through the 'Lockdown is no excuse for Domestic Abuse' campaign, and through partnership working facilitated by Brent's Domestic Abuse Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (DA MARAC). As we begin to emerge from lockdown and recover from the impact of the pandemic, Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and women's night safety will form a key part of Brent's community safety programme, with work underway to support the night time economy to deliver the pledges outlined in the Mayor of London's Women's Night Safety Charter.

We hope you find the information in this report useful in understanding how we are working to make Brent a borough where everyone feels safe and secure. Feedback

and community engagement remains key to ensuring that the programmes and services we offer best meet the needs of Brent's community, so if there is any way that you think we can improve our services, please do let us know.

1. 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 According to GLA population projections, in 2020, approximately 212,000 people were aged between 18 and 64 years old, approximately 42,100 residents were over 65 years old and 77,500 were aged under 18. These are the 10th, 7th and 6th highest in among London boroughs respectively.

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 (Igs-research base 2019-2040 new regeneration - inclusive growth strategy)

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, health, 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 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 reviews and agrees a set of local priorities for the upcoming year in line with the 2018-2021 Community Safety Strategy. The priorities remain as;

- 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 2020/21, the following as local volume crime priorities:

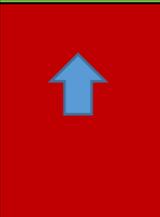
- Non-Domestic Abuse Violence With Injury
- Personal Property Offences

1.7 Brent also has a Safer Neighbourhood Board; the boards have been 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. 2020/21 Performance

2.1 Performance Summary

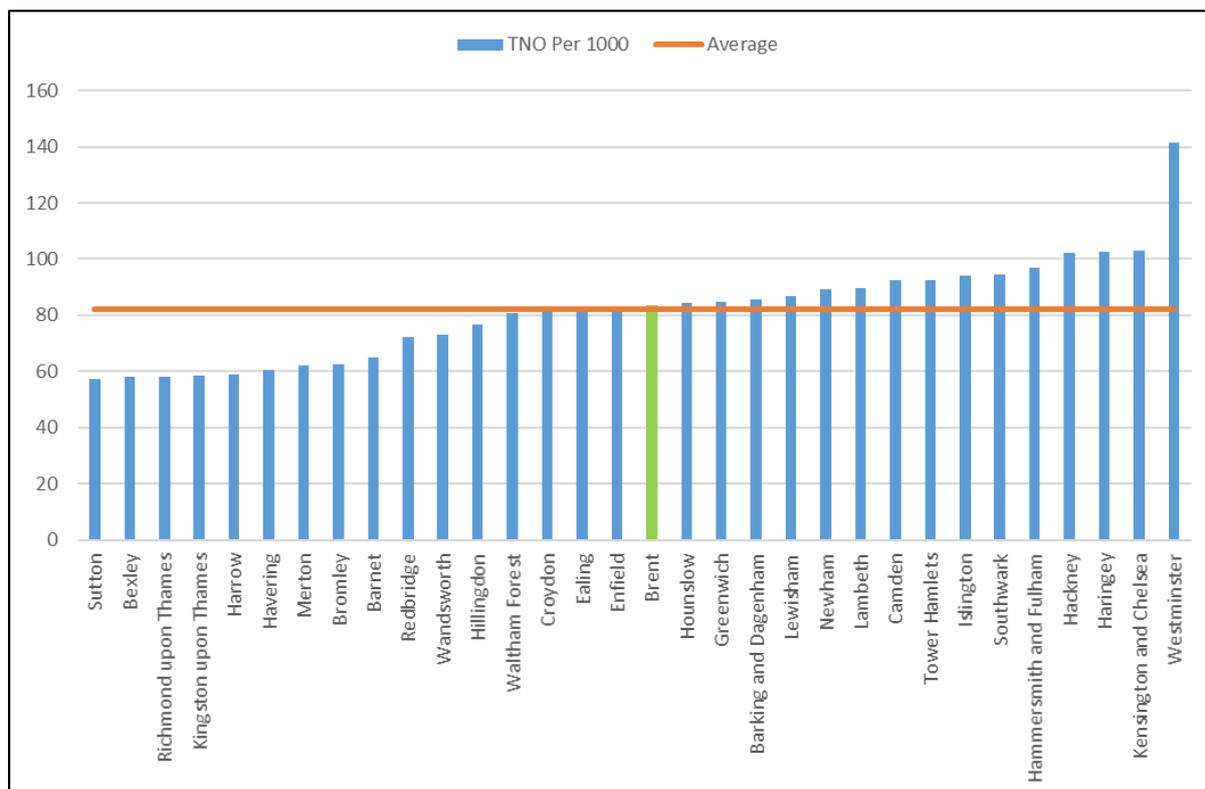
Below is a summary of key outcomes as part of the Safer Brent Community Safety Strategy 2018 to 2021.

Priority	Measure	Reduction and Collection method	Baseline 2019/20 outturn	2020/21	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	91.3 crimes per 1,000.	83.9 crimes per 1,000.	London Borough Average 82.0 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	8	24	
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	55	50	
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)	11174	19874	

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 domestic incident	870	865	↓
Reducing Acquisitive offending	Reduce the number of personal robberies	All Brent Police recorded personal robbery offences	1366	840	↓
Reducing Acquisitive offending	Reduce the number of knife related robberies	All Brent Police recorded personal robbery offences with a knife crime flag	362	179	↓
Reducing Acquisitive offending	Reduce the number of residential burglaries	All Brent Police recorded residential burglaries	2093	1559	↓

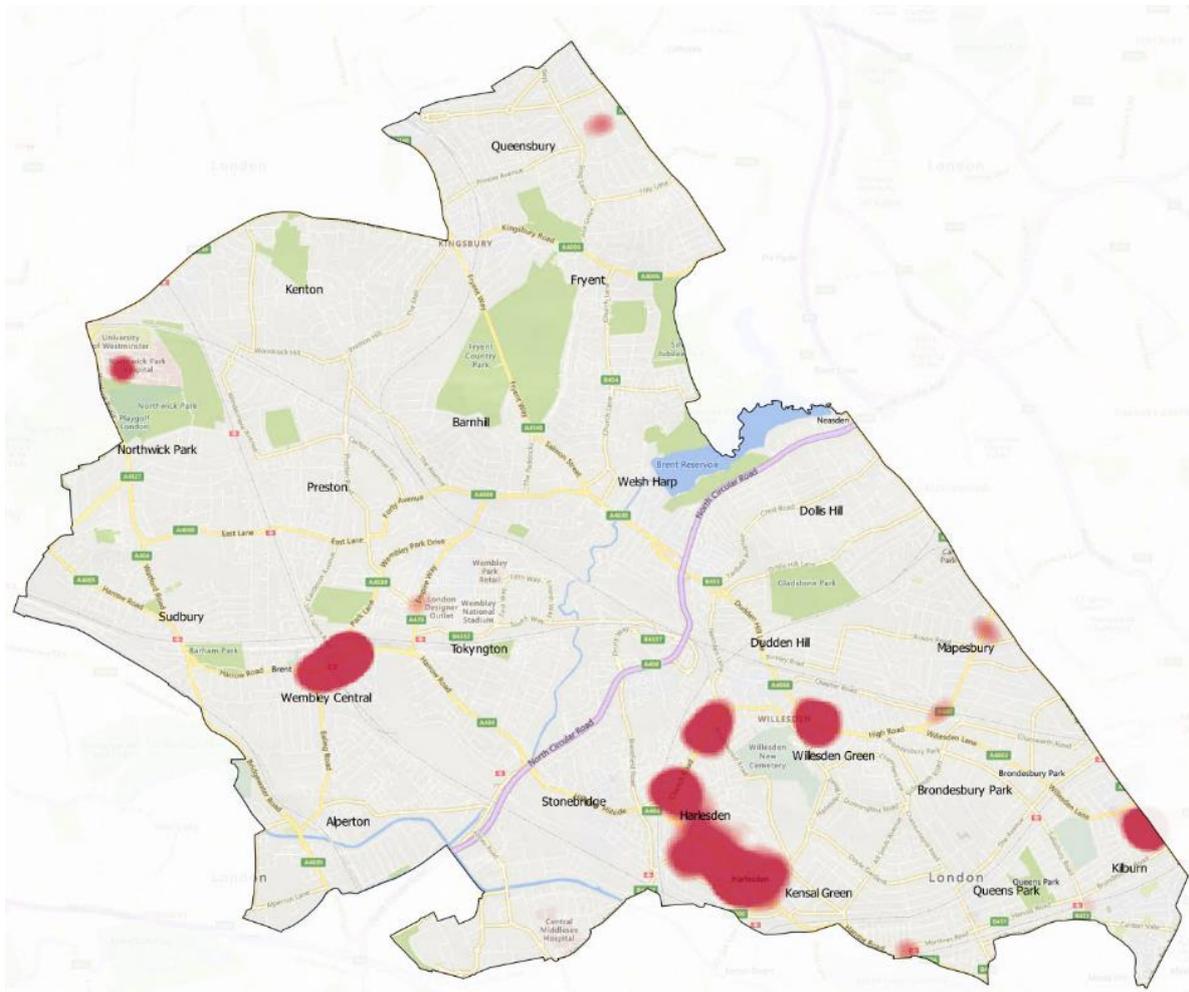
2.2 Total Notifiable Offences (TNO) in Brent

Brent is slightly above the London average for total notifiable offences per 1000 population. However, offences per 1000 have decreased significantly compared with 2019/20.



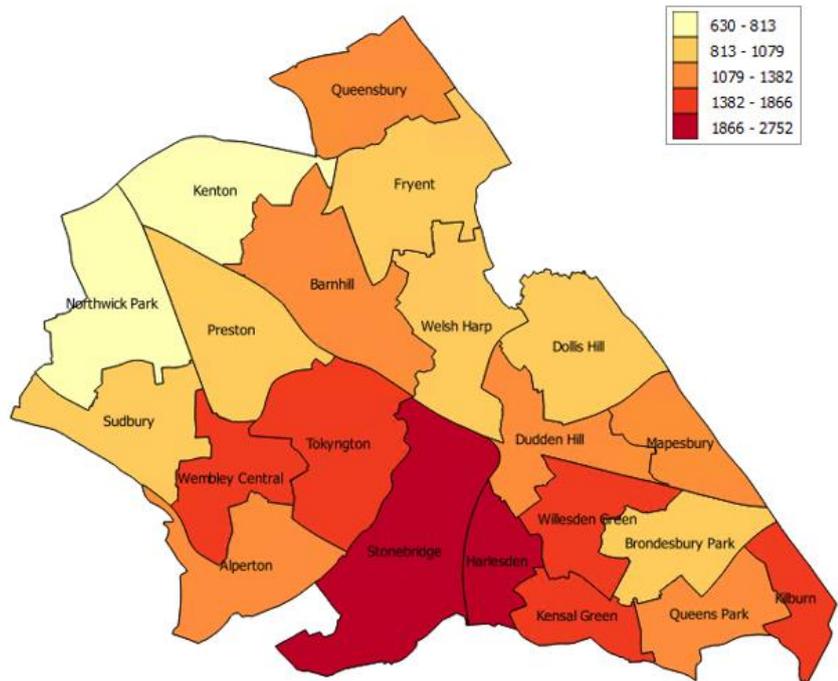
All London Boroughs saw a reduction in TNOs due to government restrictions throughout much of 2020/21.

Hotspot areas are largely unchanged from 2019/20. The only significant change is that the areas immediately around Wembley Stadium and Arena are no longer a crime hotspot – this is due to the cancellation of events in most of 2020/21. Hotspots are often reflective of areas that have high levels of gang activity and deprivation – this applies to South Kilburn and Harlesden. Other areas are crime hotspots due to high levels of footfall – Wembley High Road and Willesden High Road.



The below map highlights TNOs at ward level in 2020/21

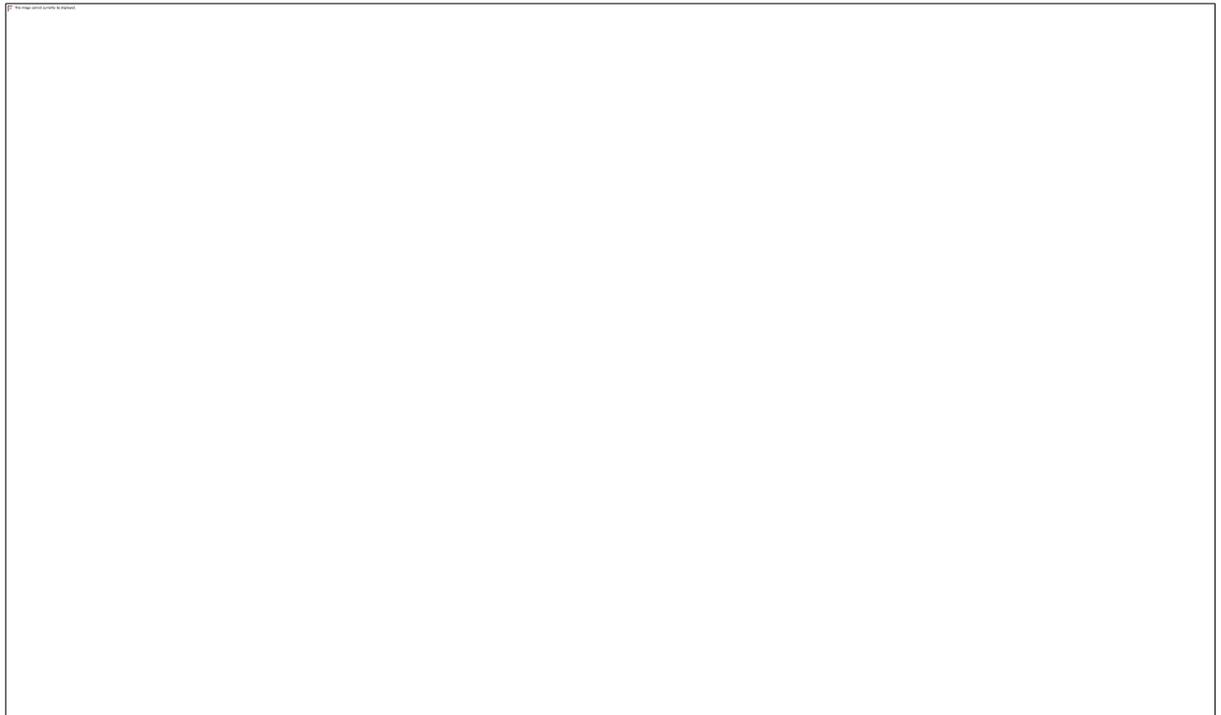
Ward	% of Total TNO
Stonebridge	9.7%
Harlesden	9.0%
Wembley Central	6.6%
Willesden Green	5.9%
Kensal Green	5.4%
Kilburn	5.3%
Tokyington	5.2%
Mapesbury	4.9%
Queensbury	4.8%
Dudden Hill	4.7%
Queens Park	4.3%
Alperton	4.3%
Barnhill	4.3%
Dollis Hill	3.8%
Welsh Harp	3.7%
Preston	3.6%
Fryent	3.3%
Brondesbury Park	3.2%
Sudbury	3.1%
Northwick Park	2.9%
Kenton	2.2%



3 Priority: Reducing Domestic and Sexual Abuse

3.1 Why is it a priority?

There is 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 fifth highest number of domestic abuse offences in comparison to our Most Similar Boroughs in 2020/21. Only one of these boroughs saw a reduction in domestic abuse offences. Brent's 6% increase was the fifth highest of this group.



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?

The SBP raised awareness of DA and VAWG to increase a 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.
- Brent successfully delivered a number of events in support of the 16 days of activism. This included;
 - A video of key members and officers signing the white ribbon promise.
 - The 16 day calendar of local and national activities was promoted across the borough.
 - 4 VAWG Webinars were delivered on survivors voices, coercive control, faith based abuse and prostitution.
 - A domestic abuse pack was provided to schools through CYP and School leads.
 - The domestic abuse champion promotional video was published internally on 10th December to mark the end of the 16 days.
 - Brent professionals and residents were encouraged to sign the White Ribbon Promise to never commit, excuse or remain silent about male violence against women.
- Community Safety supported the work of the Gender Equality Network to deliver a week of virtual events to celebrate International Women's Day 2021. These events included empowering keynote speakers, a panel discussion with inspirational women, a book club session, and more
- The locally commissioned domestic abuse support service, ADVANCE have delivered 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, Housing, and Healthcare professionals. In 2020/21 289 professionals across Brent accessed training programmes delivered by Advance.
- Following on from the tragic murders of Nicole Smallman and Bibaa Henry and the renewed national focus brought on by the disappearance and murder of Sarah Everard, Brent continues its commitment to ensuring women and girls are and feel safe from male violence within the borough. Brent is working with partners specifically on the issues of street based sexual abuse and harassment to raise

awareness of these issues and expedite a societal shift in the prevalence and acceptance of male violence against women.

- Since April 2020, the Community Safety Team has been producing a monthly VAWG Newsletter for local professionals working in the VAWG sector, or coming into contact with VAWG. This Newsletter contains national and local updates including training and employment opportunities as well as a monthly spotlight on a different element of VAWG. Spotlights have included sexual abuse, stalking, economic abuse, harmful practices and prostitution.
- In early 2020, Brent Council signed up to the Mayor of London's Women's Night Safety Charter and commenced working with local night-time economy venues to increase the safety of women across the borough. This work was put on hold during the Covid-19 pandemic and national lockdowns but is due to recommence in line with the re-opening of night-time economy venues across the borough.
- 93 professionals, parents and young people have accessed Global Thinking training since July 2020. This training covers issues related to gender based violence and exploitation among young women and girls.

3.2.1 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. Since October 2020 ADVANCE have extended their opening hours until 9pm three evenings per week to enable victims and survivors to access support outside working hours. The service can now be accessed Mondays and Tuesdays 10am – 6pm and Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 10am – 9pm.
- On 6th October 2020, Brent Housing Needs achieved the prestigious Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) accreditation. The accreditation recognises a national standard in support provided to victims of domestic abuse by housing providers, making Brent one of the first local authorities in the country to achieve this status. Within the feedback, DAHA stated, *"We feel assured that survivors approaching Brent Council will always get the support they need and the DA team are fantastic advocates for so many women."*
- As part of the offer of support to employees outlined in the Domestic Abuse Policy (January 2020), Brent Council now has 29 trained domestic abuse champions who are ready and equipped to provide support to colleagues affected by domestic abuse. This network of champions is available for staff who do not wish to seek support from their line manager or HR representative. The champions can provide

emotional support and signposting and be advocates in raising awareness about domestic abuse across the organisation.

- The Brent Family Solutions team continues to deliver the Freedom Programme; a domestic abuse support course, designed for women as survivors of domestic abuse and those who are currently experiencing domestic abuse.
- Brent Council and partners has continued to deliver the Chrysalis advice centre; a drop in centre operating ½ day per week offering specialist multi-agency support. The aim is to build trust to encourage earlier reporting and use a multi-agency approach to assist survivors and professionals to navigate the system more quickly and effectively, thereby increasing the effectiveness of interventions.
- Brent has also adopted the evidence-based IRIS model, funded by the Violence Reduction Unit. Being delivered in a blended approach in partnership between IRISi, ADVANCE, the Asian Women's Resource Centre and the CCG, this project aims to support clinicians in general practice to recognise and respond to their patients affected by domestic violence and abuse.

3.2.2 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.
- Community Safety continue to oversee and ensure collaborative work between providers of Child Sexual Exploitation and Gang related support through the newly merged Exploitation, Violence and Vulnerability Program.
- Since July 2020, Brent has commissioned Global Thinking; a diversionary project for young women and girls affected by gender based violence, exploitation and youth violence. This project is delivered as a partnership between Young Brent Foundation, Start Easy and Plias Resettlement and supports young women and girls (aged 10 – 25) through group work and 1-1 support.
- The Women and Girl's network secured funding from the MOPAC VAWG fund to deliver CouRAGEus, a partnership project, for black and minoritised young women (aged 14 – 24) who are experiencing/at risk of violence and abuse.

3.2.3 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 continues to commission RISE Mutual to deliver a Perpetrator Intervention Programme with integrated victim support. The programme aids an increase in motivation for change, supporting the service user to reduce and eliminate repeat abuse, supporting healthier relationships through intervention based group and 1-1 work.
- Community Safety continue to engage offenders through the exploitation, violence & vulnerability programme utilising the commissioned providers St Giles Trust, Air Sports and Westminster Drug Project.
- Since July 2020, Brent has commissioned two further violence and vulnerability projects through additional funding from the Violence Reduction Unit. These projects include mental health outreach workers (Westminster Drug Project) and a hospital based intervention (St Giles)

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

- Until June 2020, the council continued to commission 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.
- Brent continues to operate the Hibiscus Clinic at Wembley Centre for Health, a FGM clinic for non-pregnant women over the age of 18. The service, provided by an all-female team in a sensitive and non-judgemental environment, include: general information, physical assessment and treatment, emotional support and counselling, access to FGM Health Advocates and referrals to specialist consultants, if needed.
- During 2020/21, a multi-agency working group produced a 7-minute briefing on Female Genital Mutilation for Brent professionals. The group was coordinated by Brent Community Safety and had representatives from Brent Council, North West London CCG, Brent Safeguarding Children and Adults partnerships, and local voluntary sector partners. The tool is intended to be used as a refresher for all professionals who have already had some formal training on FGM.

3.2.5 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 continues to commission Nia 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.
- Brent Council have built links with other providers of sexual abuse services including The Survivor's Trust which is the largest network of organisations delivering rape, sexual violence and sexual abuse counselling and support services within the UK.

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

- Community Safety have worked closely in partnership with Victim Support, The Asian Women's Resource Centre, The Eastern European Advocacy Service, The Women and Girl's Network 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 prevent future incidents.
- The Safer Brent Partnership concluded and published the Domestic Homicide Review into the death of Elena on the Brent Council website on 3rd September 2020.
- Two further DHRs have been underway during 2020-21; one is due to be heard by the Home Office Quality Assurance Panel in June 2021, the other is still ongoing.
- Community Safety have commenced a quality assurance audit of the previous DHR recommendations of the five published reports to monitor any long lasting impact the recommendations have had.
- The Brent Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) moved to virtual delivery in April 2020. This continues to be 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.

- Following consultation with partners, since February 2021 the Brent MARAC has increased in frequency from monthly to fortnightly. This change was made to respond to increasing case numbers and ensure a more rapid and effective response to those at high risk of domestic abuse and homicide. Since this change, the Brent MARAC has discussed an average of 20 high risk cases of domestic abuse every fortnight.
- 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.
- On 1st October 2020, the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee made a report and recommendations to the Cabinet on Violence Against Women and Girls. The report contained 10 recommendations which have been developed into a partnership action plan.
- Community Safety and VAWG partners to prepare for duties and responsibilities due to be implemented as part of the Domestic Abuse Bill. The Bill is due to become law in April 2021 at which point the Council and partners will have a responsibility to ensure compliancy with statutory changes set out in the Act.

3.3 How successful have we been?

Domestic Abuse Offences

Brent has seen an increase in domestic abuse offences in 2020/21 but a decrease in domestic abuse offences, which resulted in an injury to the victim. Sexual offences also decreased in this period.

	2020/21	2019/20	% Change
Domestic Abuse Offences	3551	3346	6.1%
Domestic Abuse With Injury Offences	868	884	-1.8%
Sexual Offences	600	642	-6.5%

All London

	2019/20	2020/21	% Change
Domestic Abuse Offences	89880	94365	5.0%
Domestic Abuse Offs (Victim With Injury)	23610	23303	-1.3%

Domestic Abuse offences have increased across London when comparing 2020/21 with 2019/20. However, offences have increased by slightly more in Brent.

Offences where the victim has sustained an injury have decreased both in Brent and London but by slightly more in Brent.

Sexual Offences

Brent

	2019/20	2020/21	% Change
Sexual Offences	642	599	-6.7%
Rape Offences	244	244	0%

All London

	2019/20	2020/21	% Change
Sexual Offences	20152	18607	-7.7%
Rape Offences	7889	7453	-5.5%

In 2020/21 there was a decrease in Sexual Offences in both Brent and London as a whole. This is most likely due to periods of lockdown throughout 2020/21. However, rape offences remained the same in Brent despite a 5.5% decrease across London.

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

IDVA and Family Support Services

- 1,167 referrals to ADVANCE IDVA and Family Support services
- 95% 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
- 92% of survivors who feel that their quality of life has improved after using the service

- 98% of service users whose risk reduced during and after using the services.
- 85% reported enhanced sense of control/agency around sex and relationships at exit
- 94% reported positive outcomes in criminal and civil justice after accessing services

Chrysalis

- 264 individuals have been supported by the Chrysalis Advice Centre
- 354 sessions with professionals have been delivered
- An average of 93% of survivors reported satisfaction with the service they received
- An average of 94% of survivors said they would recommend Chrysalis to a friend
- An average of 93% of survivors reported feeling more confident in knowing how and when to access support after attending Chrysalis

IRIS (commenced in October 2020)

- All 51 GP Practices in Brent have been contacted and offered intervention
- 28 practices showed initial interest in engaging
- 12 practices have received Clinical Session 1 including 67 doctors, 14 practice nurses, 4 specialist nurses and 29 other clinicians.
- In the evaluation questionnaires, all participants indicated an increased knowledge in all aspects of domestic violence and abuse.

MARAC

- 668 referrals were made into the Brent MARAC
- 13% of cases were repeat referrals for cases, which had been discussed within the last 12 months.
- 76% of survivors who engaged with ADVANCE reported feeling safer as a result of being subject to a MARAC process.

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.

2020/21:

- 11 referrals received for on-street sex workers
- 91% of referrals received successfully engaged and received intervention
- 27% of those exiting treatment have successfully ceased sex working
- As the Covid-19 restrictions are lifted, Nia will increase their focus on off-street sex work targeting brothels and parlours to provide support

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.

- 102 referrals for perpetrators were received in 2020/21
- Contact has been established with 95 of those referred (93%)
- 79 case assessments were completed
- The attendance rate for 2020/21 was 86% (Attended Assessment stage vs FTA)
- Of the 79 assessment reports, 56 were assessed as suitable for a course (71%).
- 57% of cases were deemed suitable for the 1-2-1 Domestic Abuse intervention for medium to high-risk perpetrators, 38% were assessed suitable for a groupwork intervention and 5% for Female Awareness Domestic Abuse intervention.
- 324 sessions were delivered in this period; a combination of 1-2-1 and groupwork.
- As part of the integrated safety support service, 89 new victims were referred to RISE in 2020/21 and 265 support sessions were delivered for 32 victims.

Global Thinking

Global Thinking was commissioned in July 2020 using uplift funds provided from the Violence Reduction Unit. This is a diversionary project for young women and girls affected by gender based violence, exploitation and youth violence. This project is delivered as a partnership between Young Brent Foundation, Start Easy and Plias

Resettlement and supports young women and girls (aged 10 – 25) through group work and 121 support. nequela.whittaker@youngbrentfoundation.org.uk

July 2020 – March 2021

- 34 referrals received for young women and girls
- 70% of the cohort showing increased motivation for change
- 93 professionals, parents and young people trained in issues around gender based violence affecting young people

The Community Safety Team completed audits of Advance, Rise and Nia in November 2020 with satisfactory outcomes. Each service was provided with an overview report containing recommendations for service improvement.

3.4 What was the impact of Covid-19?

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in three national lockdowns as one of the response measures to halt disease transmission. The lockdowns, whilst successful in helping control the pandemic, added additional risk factors for domestic abuse, means of control and reduced visibility of families who were already at risk of such abuse. Calls and contacts logged by the National Domestic Abuse Helpline increased by 34% to 114,986 between April and December 2020 when compared to the same period the previous year. Additionally, in the first month of lockdown Brent Police saw a marked increase in reported incidents of domestic abuse when compared to the same time period the previous year:

	DA Incidents	DA Offences	DA Offences W/I
27th March 2019 to 24th April 2019	415	258	63
27th March 2020 to 24th April 2020	492	300	97
% Change	+18.6%	+16.3%	+54%

During the Covid-19 Pandemic and national lockdowns all providers continued to ensure support remained available for all those experiencing VAWG. All services implemented measures to safeguard staff and service users in accordance with government and public health guidelines and adapted the support to be delivered remotely. ADVANCE and other local partners reported an increase in the severity and complexity of calls during the Covid-19 lockdown

The VAWG sector is expecting to see a further, significant surge in numbers as lockdown measures continue to ease and victims/survivors have more opportunities

to reach out for support. The majority of government uplift funding went into national services such as the national helpline and online platforms rather than into local domestic abuse support services. The more national services are boosted, the more calls are diverted to local services for support as when survivors call the national helpline they are provided advice and signposted to their local services. Therefore, the domestic abuse recovery board made recommendations to enhance the local provision using local Covid-19 recovery funds. This recommendation was upheld and £163,000 was granted to support the delivery of Brent's IDVA, Family Support, MARAC and Perpetrator provisions.

The Community Protection team also made recommendations to extend the current IDVA, Family Support, MARAC and Chrysalis contract by an additional nine months until August 2021 to ensure service continuity and stability to this vulnerable client group during the Covid-19 recovery phase.

During the Covid-19 lockdown Brent Council launched a campaign entitled "lockdown is no excuse for domestic abuse" to reach out to victims and survivors during this time. Retailers, supermarkets and pharmacies were asked to place a poster in a prominent position to help raise awareness of local and national helplines. Retailers were also asked to install a free, specially designed receipt roll into their card machine readers. The receipt roll had local and national support numbers printed on the back. This enabled people to take away the helpline numbers and keep them in a bag or purse, as an innocent record of expenditure, without raising unwanted suspicion with a perpetrator.

Popping to the shops may have been the only valid excuse and respite for victims to leave the home during Covid-19 restrictions, and we therefore turned these trips into a vital opportunity to reach victims during this time.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, several Brent pharmacies also supported the Home Office **Ask for ANI** (Action Needed Immediately) scheme. This is a codeword scheme to provide a discreet way for victims of domestic abuse to signal that they need emergency help from the safety of their local pharmacy.

3.5 Case Study

RISE

Mr B was referred to RISE by Brent Family Services following reports of two incidents of domestic violence. Mr B's 16-year-old daughter had been present during both incidents and had assisted her mother in reporting the father to the Police. Mother and daughter left the family home, fleeing domestic violence, however they later returned. The child was subject to a Child in Need plan and father was referred to undertake a RISE DV programme in order to address his use of abusive and aggressive behaviour.

During assessment Mr B demonstrated low levels of accountability, stating he was under the influence of a mixture of alcohol and prescription medication and that this was the main cause of his behaviour. He further minimised the concerns by stating

that these were isolated incidents, saying he had since quit drinking and had already made the necessary changes.

Mr B was assessed as being suitable for RISE's 1:1 intervention called Preparing Men for Change.

The following treatment targets were identified:

- Increase levels of accountability.
- Develop levels of victim empathy.
- Increase awareness of the impact of DV on children.
- Develop assertive communication skills and healthy conflict resolution strategies.

Throughout the programme Mr B developed skills in critical self-reflection. He gradually demonstrated an awareness that he was responsible for his past actions regardless of substance misuse. He gained valuable insight into new skills and strategies that he could use to better manage his thinking, emotions, and actions. He was able to develop greater awareness of his patterns of problematic thinking, often linked to his strong and rigid cultural beliefs.

By his own admission, Mr B accepted that in the past he was not good at communicating with his partner, he said he tended to be quiet and shut down during conflict or become aggressive when situations escalated. Following the programme, he said he considered himself to be a better listener, saying he felt he was more understanding of his partner which allowed for improved communication and negotiation.

An area of particular progress for Mr B, has been his increased awareness of the impact of domestic abuse on children. He developed a greater understanding of the negative impact witnessing parental conflict had had on their daughter, saying he did not want her to normalise such behaviour.

Following the intervention, the referring social worker fed back that *"The daughter reports that things are much better at home, and she feels that both parents are much kinder to each other, and Mr B to be supportive towards mother."*

Global Thinking

EK was referred to Global Thinking from the Youth Offending Team due to concerns around her social group and negative influences on how she viewed life and herself. EK was on a Youth Referral Order at the time of referral due to a previous incident. EK had been expelled from four mainstream schools and was attending a Pupil Referral Unit doing online learning; however, she was regularly not attending due to being out with friends during the lesson times.

Since EK has been on Global Thinking, she has attended sessions with her support worker twice a week and has been undergoing activities to help her see her full potential. EK has expressed that there is work she needs to do on herself to explore

her Identity, who she is, and the role she plays within her friendship group. She has reflected back on the opportunities she has missed from not being in mainstream education and being unable to take her GCSEs.

Through the work with Global Thinking, EK has been able to see what she can achieve in the future and has opened up about her interests. She has decided to do a hair and beauty course at college and has spoken about wanting to start her own business relating to hair, weave and wigs. EK and her Global Thinking support worker have been looking for services who can support her to develop her business plan.

EK is now attending her online learning daily and has been showing up on time and engaging positively to all sessions, meetings and appointments. She has been enjoying the work she is doing around her identity and self-esteem and is feeling positive about coming off her Youth Referral Order.

4 Priority: Reducing the Impact of Gangs and Knives in our Community

4.1 Why is it a priority?

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.

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.

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 125 individuals on the matrix. Of these, 117 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. None of the cohort are aged 17 or under. Although the matrix can be a useful tool, it is acknowledged that there are racial biases and assumptions involved that result in young black males being unfairly stigmatised as gang members.

4.2 What did we do?

The **Violence and Vulnerability Programme (VVP)** continues to focus on reducing re-offending and serious youth violence through a coordinated, multi-agency and intelligence led approach. Cohorts monitored include gang nominals, habitual

weapons carriers, prolific domestic abuse perpetrators and prolific repeat offenders (Integrated Offender Management - IOM) as well as 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 in hotspot locations known for serious youth violence, anti-social behaviour and drug use.

It is a partnership approach to support and enforce against offenders when required. A fortnightly meeting – the Exploitation, Violence & Vulnerability Programme is held to discuss those of the most concern on the programme, held alongside Child and Young People colleagues using the 'VOLT' approach (Victim, Offender, Location, Trends) and addressing wider contextual safeguarding concerns through a trauma informed approach of interventions. Alongside this, fortnightly IOM meetings are held with MPS and Probation partners to action plan and dedicate resources to offenders of concern.

Work in conjunction with the Contextual Safeguarding Lead, YOS, MPS, Rescue & Response project and commissioned services to complete mapping exercises on children, young people and adults of concern to put safeguarding measures in place.

St Giles Trust have been commissioned to provide a **Gangs Intervention Programme**, between 2021-2022 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 **216 individuals** (up to April 2021).

Through this referral pathway, a total of **111 referrals have been received** which fall within the Gangs, Habitual Weapons Carriers, IOM and Early Intervention cohorts. **33** referrals were specifically received for those who are gang affiliated and **all 33 engaged with the programme**. Thus far, **24** nominals have become significantly less gang affiliated and **28** improved understanding and awareness of the impact of gangs and gang offending

- 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.

A **Integrated Gangs Unit tri-borough (Brent, Harrow and Barnet)** daily briefing meeting has been set up, chaired by the Metropolitan Police and attended by statutory agencies to discuss serious youth and adult violence incidents that have arisen from the day before, also an overview of current gang tensions and awareness of locations. This ensures smooth communication between all agencies and boroughs with clear targeted actions set.

From July 2020 until March 2022, St Giles Trust have also been commissioned to deliver the **Embedded Youth Violence Hospital Project**. A service to improve the identification and engagement of young people who present at Northwick Park Hospital as a victim of serious youth violence. Training and professional development programmes are also delivered to professionals who have contact with young people. So far this project has seen a **96% increase** in identification and engagement of young victims of violence who present at the hospital. **37 referrals** have been engaged with and all have reported an increased motivation to change and improved mental health and well-being. **60%** of the supported cohort have increased motivation for change. For engagement with the service, consent is required and this is not always gained by the medical professionals in the absence of the mentors (the project does not provide 24/7 delivery). **29 training programmes** have been delivered to medical staff and **84%** have reported to have an increased awareness and knowledge of vulnerability and safeguarding issues in the Emergency Department.

Between 2020 and 2022, **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.

Between July 2020 and March 2022, **the Westminster Drugs Project (WDP)** have been commissioned to deliver the **Mental Health Outreach Project**. The project addresses issues and initiates help for those with either diagnosed and non-diagnosed mental health conditions; reduce re-offending, as well as to focus on cohorts not yet known to statutory services, increasing earlier intervention and identification. To date the project has engaged with **128 young people** via on and off street outreach. Out of the 128 young people engaged, **82%** have reported improved understanding of mental health and **69%** have reported improved family functioning at post-evaluation discharge stage, following their intervention. **59** engaged were not yet known to statutory services. **33** young people were engaged within hotspot and high risk locations such as Stonebridge and Harlesden, Covid-19 lockdown restrictions have had an impact on this figure.

The Young Brent Foundation have been commissioned to deliver a **Young Women's Diversionary Project called Global Thinking** between July 2020 and March 2022. The project delivers a bespoke service for young women affected by gangs, criminal exploitation and county lines. The aim of the project is to ensure that young women feel safe to access help, are no longer a hidden group in our communities and are free from harm, abuse and exploitation. The project also delivers training days for professionals to help increase the awareness of how young women can be affected by threats and to help professionals better identify risk indicators to intervene earlier in the future. To date the project has engaged with **41 girls and young women** with **70%** reporting an increase in motivation to change and overall an increase in Health and Wellbeing. **100 professionals, 20 parents and 20 young people (both girls and boys)** have been reached with training exploring gender

equality and addressing gender-based violence affecting young women and girls. Importantly, this project has identified a gap and need in provision for young women and girls requiring support with addressing serious youth violence, county lines, gender-based violence and inequality as all the focus tends to be on male victims/perpetrators.

We have seen the continuation of the **Enhanced Youth Offending Service (YOS) Triage Programme** which offers assessment and a preventative provision to young people who would otherwise be likely to receive a criminal justice disposal. To date, **73** young people who have accessed the programme have increased their safety and awareness, **65** have increased their victim awareness and **37** families were offered access to family support provided by the Family Solutions support workers.

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.

Partnership working alongside the **Project Horizon** team – MPS project focused on diversion and engagement of young people in the hotspots of Harlesden and Stonebridge. Those engaged will be referred into Violence and Vulnerability Programme and supported via a multi-agency approach.

The VVP has established a link with the **BAME Pathfinder Youth Panel** – a panel led by young people to hear their voices on how we can tackle the areas of concerns they have which includes not only knife crime and gangs but also mental well-being and the Brent community.

Outreach

The Young Brent Foundation in conjunction with Stephen Graham Projects, Connect Stars, and My Romania Community were commissioned by LB Brent (Community Safety, Metropolitan Thames Valley, Hyde Housing and Catalyst Housing) to deliver a 6 week Detached and Outreach Programme, commencing Monday 15th June 2020 until week ending on 26th July 2020. The project was extended for a further 6 weeks commencing with 28th July and ending on the 7th September 2020. The Detached and Outreach Team (DOT) provided a dedicated safeguarding function across the same areas as the previous 6 weeks namely:

- Harlesden (Church End and Roundwood estate)
- Wembley (Hirst Crescent and Chalkhill estate)
- Stonebridge (St Raphael estate)

- Willesden

A total of 36 detached sessions were delivered across the 6-week period with delivery taking place in two blocks daily 2 – 5pm and 5 – 8pm respectively. The feedback from the DOT's has been extremely positive. Young people build up a relationship with the various teams in their respective areas each week. The introduction of the teams (handing out facemasks, leaflets of activities and sharing youth organisations) enable the young people to remain active has proven an excellent outcome. The DOT's reported that having somewhere to refer young people in terms of summer activities on Chalkhill and in Harlesden was truly helpful and well received by the young people.

4.3 How successful have we been?

Brent has seen a reduction in violent crime in when compared to 2019/20.

	2020/21	2019/20	% Change
Violence With Injury Offences	1883	2068	-8.9%
Knife Crime Offences	415	587	-29.3%
Gun Crime Offences	75	88	-14.8%

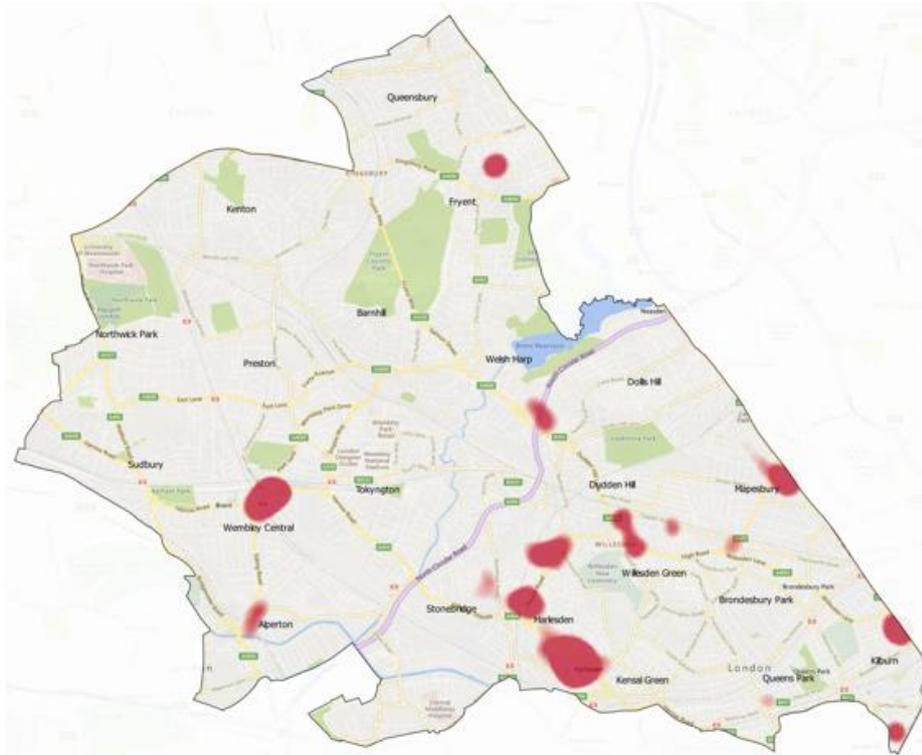
Brent has seen a reduction in the number of knife crime with injury victims aged under 25.

	2020/21	2019/20	% Change
Knife Crime Victims With Injury Under 25	51	56	-8.9%

The table below shows the ethnic breakdown of knife crime injury victims aged under 25.

Police Recorded Ethnic Appearance	% of Total
Black	39%
South Asian	24%
White - Northern European	24%
Arabic or North African	8%
White - Southern European	5%

The map below shows the hotspots for knife crime offences in 2020/21. Despite the significant reduction in offences, the hotspots for offences are largely unchanged. However, Kingsbury Road and Wembley Park are no longer hotspots whereas Cricklewood Broadway and Neasden have emerged as hotspots in 2020/21.



4.4 What was the impact of Covid-19?

Covid-19 and lockdown restrictions impacted service delivery for all commissioned services. Throughout the first lockdown, clients were isolated at home, having little or no access to being able to support their needs be it educational, physical or mental well-being. Only means of engagement was virtual or through telephone contact. Some young people struggled to engage meaningfully through virtual means such as Zoom, Microsoft Teams or FaceTime, which made it challenging to provide interventions to some young people. Families also suffered with internet poverty and agencies were unable to deliver productive group work sessions. However, each agency was able to change and adapt the aspects of their work.

St Giles Trust were able to secure funding to support clients with a variety of resources and help with everyday needs such as food vouchers, supporting with bills, equipment such as laptops, phones, gym equipment, resources for younger siblings, books. Caseworkers were able to overcome barriers in managing contact with clients and normal delivery within the service, using different means to communicate effectively. This was done by the use of video calling, virtual interventions, videos, voice messaging. All caseworkers adapted well to the change in deliverance of service. There was a change in engagement levels but caseworkers persevered which in turn motivated clients to engage.

Outreach was brought to a halt for a period of time, which affected our ability to engage young people directly from street-based settings. Face to face key-work sessions were impacted, which affected the high risk young people who relied on that in-person interaction, as well as for those who enjoyed the face to face sessions as it helped to give their day structure. Onward referrals into Drama group and other positive activities ceased, and so practitioners changed their approach, and gave the young people other ideas in regards to in-house/online/solo activities & exercise.

Lessons Learnt/New Ways of Working:

- Young People Workshops & professionals training can be effectively delivered online.
- Key-work sessions can be conducted over video calls, which worked well for those that are attached to Brent Social Care, but lived outside of London, as well as those with high anxiety levels. Video calls also proved useful for those unable to come into Brent due to the risk involved.
- Resources/Worksheets can be filled out with young people during sessions via screen share.

4.5 Case Study

Client A, a 16 year old male, on a 10 month Referral Order, was referred by the Youth Offending Service into the Violence and Vulnerability Programme following concerns regarding his challenging behaviour at school, possible gang affiliation and substance misuse. He was placed under the Gangs cohort with intervention allocated via the YOS based St Giles mentor.

The St Giles mentor provided intervention via working on client A's attitudes, thinking and behaviour including criminal exploitation, gang affiliations and healthy sexual relationships. On occasions, the mentor met with client A during his lunchbreak to play some basketball. Client A engaged in weekly face – face contact and 2/3 weekly phone sessions. He completed 29 sessions with the Westminster Drugs Project - this included sessions with the WDP Young People's Gangs & Transition worker.

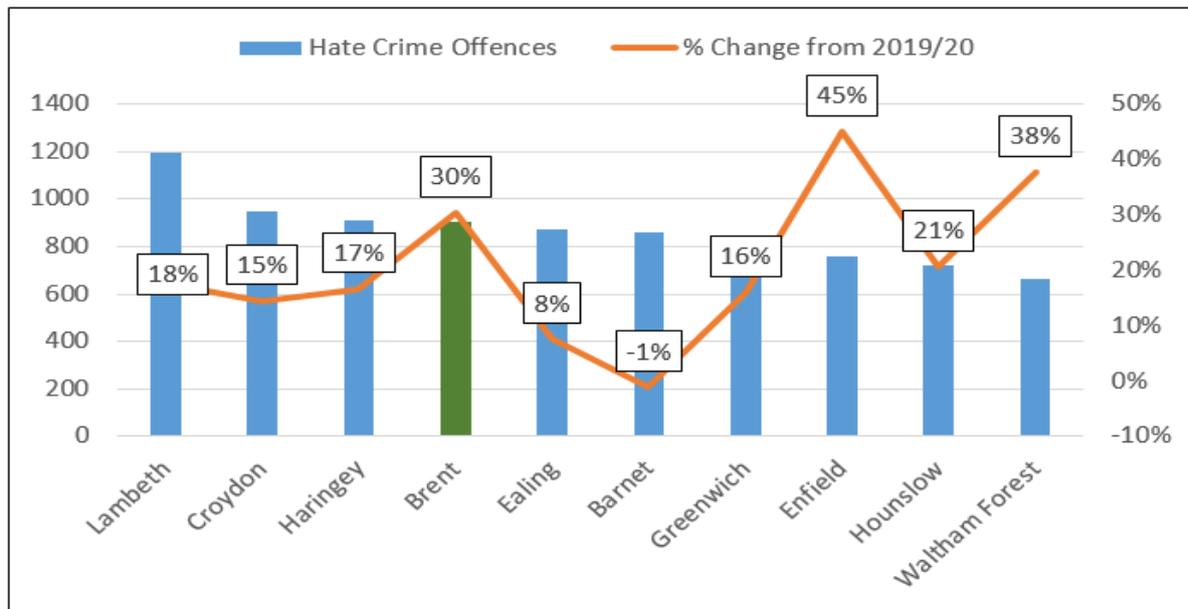
Following intervention from the mentor, school attendance and punctuality improved – he started doing well in lessons. He actively started listening to mum and associating less with negative peers, especially gang nominals. There has been no further offending since original arrest in October 2019. Successfully engaging with Referral Order and completed knife crime awareness sessions via YOS. He is working towards his GCSE's, completing a construction course 1 day a week at the Pupil Referral Unit, he is attending and applying for colleges.

5 Priority: Reducing Vulnerability and Increasing Safeguarding

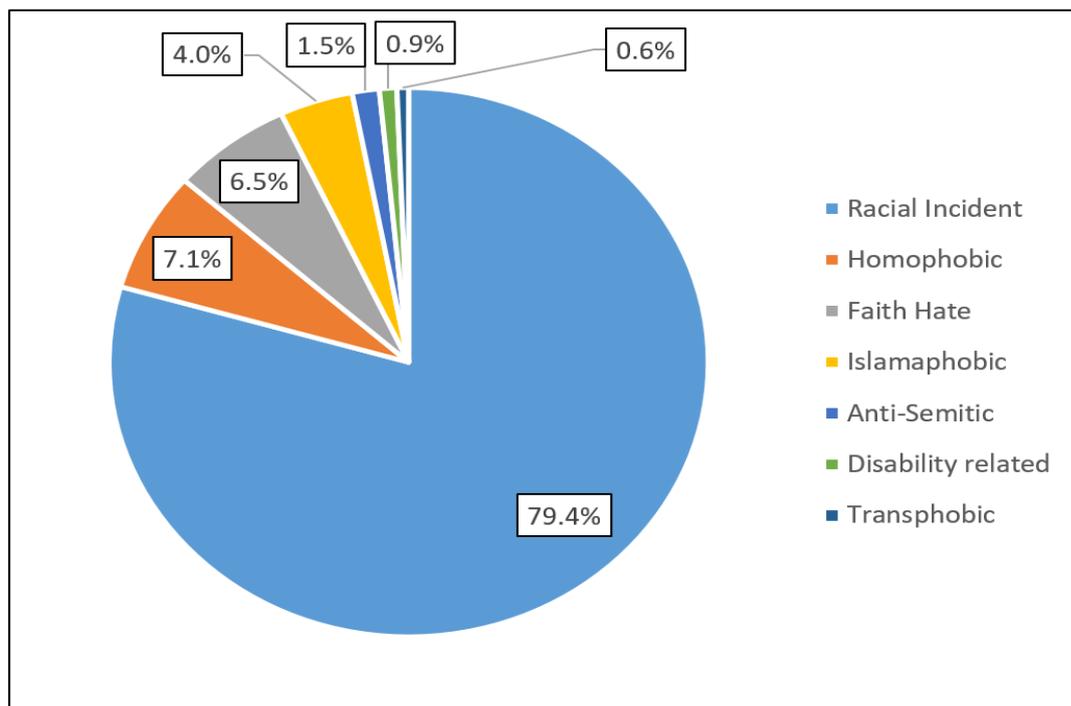
5.1 Why is it a priority?

Hate Crime

Hate Crime Figures 2020/21. Brent saw the third biggest increase in hate crime offences when compared the Most Similar Boroughs. All boroughs recorded an increase in hate crime offences with the exception of Barnet.



The chart below shows the types of hate crime recorded in Brent. Almost 80% of hate crime offences are racial incidents.



Community Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

Supporting vulnerable individuals living in Brent continues to be a priority. The most common vulnerabilities for which individuals are referred to Community MARAC are mental health, Antisocial Behaviour, Substance Misuse and Exploitation.

5.2 What did we do?

Community MARAC - Over the last 12 months Community MARAC have sought to improve multiagency working with partners, engaging well not only with allocated representatives but also individuals within agencies.

The referral process has been simplified to an online referral form, which allows for easy overview of referrals, simplification of risk assessing criteria and quick and easy responses to referrals.

As we move into the new financial year this is to be taken further with a new case management system which self populates with the referral data, as well as ensuring easier tracking of actions and follow up, with a view to adding partners in the coming months.

Brent YOS – The Youth Offending Service (YOS) has a dedicated restorative justice worker. 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. In 2021 there have been 33 victims contacted. The YOS has developed a RJ Community Forum Group, which is a group of professionals, and community volunteers who meet to review the RJ input within YOS and develop practice. The community panel members give direct feedback to children who have completed letters of apology where there is no direct victim / or the victim did not want to engage in the RJ process.

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.

During COVID, lockdowns reparation was unable to take place in the community. Instead, young people have been asked to complete leaflets and posters to raise awareness about crime and crime prevention including anti-knife crime posters. They have also been supported by the reparation workers to undertake more reflective sessions on life goals and looking at ways to restore / make amends to their families for the crimes (based on the premise that a crime affects the family as well as the community). Reparation is be able to start back again once the community projects are happy to have outside visitors which we are now planning for.

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. This identification of trauma and adverse childhood experiences is now embedded in YOS practice in terms of courts reports and assessments.

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.

- Despite the impact of COVID – 19 lockdown restrictions, referrals to Prevent remained steady.
- The Chanel Panel is tabled monthly; however, it sat 20 times across the Financial Year. This was in order to manage not only the volume, but also the complexity of cases discussed
- Referrals predominantly contained concerns around online radicalisation and the accessing of extreme content.
- Cases continue to be complex in nature, having overlapping vulnerabilities with individuals known to existing support services.
- Individuals requiring longer-term support through Channel are predominantly those with chaotic family backgrounds, or history of trauma.
- Social and political issues, taking place in the U.K or abroad, feature heavily as a point of grievance for individuals. It is often these grievances extremist groups see as a ‘cognitive opening’ ripe to exploit.
- Through the Channel Programme, expert mentors are able to challenge these ideologies and unpick some of the drivers that underpin violent extremism.
- The Channel Panel discussed more adult cases, than child related referrals this Financial Year. Those children adopted as cases were above the age of 15 years.
- Whilst the local authority has a duty to offer support to ‘at risk’ individuals through the Channel Panel, participation remains voluntary.
- Brent’s Channel Panel discussed and provides interventions for those with Extreme Far Right and Daesh/ISIS inspired ideologies. Cases with mixed or unclear ideologies, such as a fascination with school shootings and hatred of women have also been discussed.
- The majority of cases referred and discussed this Financial Year were those with Extreme Far Right ideologies

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.

Child Sexual Exploitation –

Between October 2020 and March 2021, 66 individual children (49 females and 17 males) were considered by practitioners to be at risk of CSE based on Child Referrals, Child and Family Assessments, and Section 47 Enquiries completed in the period. This is an increase of 4 children from the previous period.

	April 2019- September 2019	October 2019 - March 2020	April 2020 - September 2020	October 2020– March 2021
Number of Brent children identified as at risk of CSE	72	76	62	66

In 19.7% of cases where CSE was identified as a factor, concerns around substance misuse (both alcohol and drugs) were also flagged. This is consistent with the previous report. Substance misuse (involving both drugs and alcohol) is a common factor identified in vulnerable adolescents, both within thematic discussion as well as individual case studies. This prevalence of substance misuse has been discussed at the CEMP as a vulnerability factor among young people, which offenders often exploit in order to facilitate grooming, or exploitation, and young people have often cited drugs or alcohol as part of the grooming process from those looking to exploit them. Those identified as being at risk of substance misuse are flagged monthly to the Westminster Drugs Project to ensure that these young people are known to and being supported by services.

Gang concerns were identified along with CSE in 16.67% of cases, which is a decrease from the previous period (24% identified in April 2020 to Sept 2020).

Mental health concerns for the young person were identified along with CSE in 24.24% of cases, which is an increase from the previous period (17.7%)

In the cases identified in the period 01/10/2020 – 31/03/2021, 21% of young people identified as at risk of CSE had at least one missing or absent episode also during the period. This is a slight increase on the previous period (16%).

As identified in the previous six monthly report, there is an overrepresentation seen in the data of young people of Black or Black British ethnicity. The proportion of Black or Black British young people considered to be at risk of CSE has decreased slightly from 43% in the previous reporting period to 40% of the total CSE cohort in the current period to March 2021. Representation of all other ethnicities has remained consistent with the previous report, apart from young people of Mixed/Multiple ethnicities, which has increased from 4% to 8.1%.

Ethnicity	Female	Male	Total	Mar 2021 Percentage	Sep 2020 percentage
Asian or Asian British	9	7	16	24%	9%
Black or Black British	21	5	26	39%	43%
Mixed/Dual Heritage	7	1	8	12%	4%
White	10	3	13	20%	30%
Any other ethnic group	1	1	2	3%	12%
Not stated/declared	1		1	2%	2%
Total	49	17	66	100%	100%

During the 6 months October 2020 to March 2021, 39.39% of children were of Black or Black British background which was the highest ethnicity for the cohort of 66 children identified at risk of CSE in the period. This is in line with the previous 6 months where 40.3% of the cohort were of Black or Black British ethnicity.

Consistent with previous reports, there is an overrepresentation seen in the data of young people of Black or Black British ethnicity being identified as at risk of CSE. Representation of all ethnicities has remained consistent with the previous report, apart from young people of Mixed/Multiple ethnicities, which has again increased from 8.1% to 12.12%

5.3 How successful have we been?

Community MARAC

The Community MARAC continues to close cases as individuals are supported into single agency support, with evidence of reduced risk in the risk assessments completed at the time of referral and on closure of a case. For example, we have seen risk reduced in one case from a risk score of 100 to 25 and 110 to 20 in another case.

5.4 What was the impact of Covid-19?

Community Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)

Community MARAC moved swiftly to remote meetings at the start of the pandemic and, following feedback from partners, split into three separate meetings, split according to locality, to make it more manageable for all concerned.

Case numbers have held steady over this time, although when it comes to a more detailed analysis of the progress of cases over this time it would be interesting to see

whether these have been slower than before as all partners who would usually be out engaging with individuals in the community have been limited by the work from home order. In addition, engagement with mental health services was practically non-existent at the start of the pandemic and for a number of months after, making progress impossible.

Contextual Safeguarding

Contextual safeguarding - Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on 24 November 2020, received a report setting out Brent Council's Management of the Impact of Covid-19 on Education Settings and Children's Services.

In response to the pandemic, Brent and Newham have been funded by the Youth Justice Board to establish BAME Covid-19 Pathfinder programmes. Since October 2020, this preventative programme has supported young BAME people who have had adverse childhood experiences and are at risk of entering the youth justice system or other higher level services due to the impact of the pandemic. The programme supports BAME young people to re-engage or engage with education, empowering young people to offer feedback on the services they have used and providing young people with access to a range of positive activities. Initial findings from a local evaluation of project implementation are scheduled to be published in this summer term 2021.

As part of the BAME COVID-19 Pathfinder, a Youth Panel has been created to support young people to voice their views about the impact of COVID-19 and identify and plan community cohesion interventions.

Contextual safeguarding developments: Managing risk for young people outside the family home is a developing area of practice nationally and many local authorities are now using a contextual safeguarding approach to help manage those risks. A contextual safeguarding approach recognises that in some cases parents and carers may be limited in their ability to protect against external influences on young people. This requires us to look beyond the family to the young person's peer group, associations, neighbourhood, schools and colleges and public spaces where young people develop relationships and spend their leisure time.

The Contextual Safeguarding Network Local Authority Implementation Group (LAIG) has brought together learning from local authorities that are official test sites since September 2019. The aims include providing sector leadership for areas developing a contextual safeguarding approach and creating opportunities to share and discuss resources and approaches. Brent has been a member of this group from its inception and is represented by the Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance, Children and Young People. The last LAIG meeting took place on the 11th March 2021. In addition to this, the Contextual Safeguarding Leads Network is establishing links with Brent, Westminster, Barnet, Harrow, Sutton, Ealing, Southwark and Hammersmith and Fulham and meets quarterly.

5.5 Case Study

Community MARAC - Missy was referred to the Community MARAC in 2019 for homelessness, substance misuse and engaging in prostitution. In addition, Missy had some medical and wider support needs.

The case was discussed in a multiagency forum, where a safety and support plan was designed, with partners taking back actions to support Missy. Partners engaged with her directly, as well as via an outreach van working with her to achieve positive steps. Missy was supported by partners into accommodation and received help in setting up access to benefits.

Engagement with the outreach van unfortunately stopped temporarily due to the national impact of Covid 19. When the provider were able to reopen in line with Covid-19, protocols in 2020 sessions began. Telephone contact continued with Missy and ongoing support, she was reported to be doing well with significant improvement. Professional maintained multi agency discussion holding each other to account and monitoring progress through the Community MARAC.

When able to Missy re-engaged with the team from the outreach van who supported her in applying for grants to purchase furniture etc. she was working hard to stay away from prostitution. With stable accommodation, ongoing support for her substance misuse Missy felt in a better place and declined further interventions.

This case was closed to sit with a single agency addressing the reduced needs. The Community MARAC remains open to accepting any re-referral should she wish to utilise any additional support.

Contextual safeguarding and multiple vulnerabilities –

Case Study 2: *Multiple vulnerabilities*

Lucas is a sixteen-year-old boy of mixed heritage. His family have been known to social care since April 2018 and he has been subject of a child protection plan since May 2020. Lucas comes from a family where he has witnessed verbal and physical abuse and his parents used physical chastisement towards him. As Lucas grew older, he began displaying aggression and physical abuse towards his parents leading to a short period in care in 2018. Lucas' parents appear to show little insight into the impact of their own behaviour on Lucas.

Professional's worry about Lucas' substance misuse, negative peer influences, sexually harmful behaviour and mental well-being.

Due to concerns about possible exploitation, Lucas was discussed at the Exploitation, Violence and Vulnerability Panel. This helped to explore potential gang links. The panel agreed that although there are no established gang links or criminal exploitation, but were clear that Lucas is very vulnerable to exploitation.

Through the Child Protection Plan and EVVP coordinated interventions, there is a range of support to protect Lucas from exploitation and support his emotional needs. This includes the Accelerated Support Team providing intensive support to the family to look at the family dynamics and relationships. Lucas is engaging well with a mentor, is working part-time and is being supported to explore his future career possibilities.

6 Priority : Reducing Offenders and Perpetrators from Reoffending

6.1 Why is it a priority?

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?

London Integrated Offender Management (IOM) scheme has introduced a managing persistent and violent offender's framework which came into effect in February 2021 and has been included within the current framework of managing persistent reoffending perpetrators. Across London violent offending within IOM has increased by 30% and the number of IOM eligible cases has grown by 39%. The previous model of IOM in London did not include persistent violent offenders as a referral criteria and therefore with this change, this cohort will now be captured. In preparation for this, the MPS have devised a new High Harm Index, which has introduced 25 of the most High Harm offenders in the NW BCU. From this 25, 9 nominals have been identified in Brent and all have been taken onto the Violence and Vulnerability Programme under the IOM cohort with intervention put in place to divert and deter from re-offending violent behaviour.

There has also been a real focus on the Brent IOM cohort receiving Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBO's) to prohibit anti-social behaviour and will include requirements to address the underlying causes of the offender's behaviour. This is an effective tool with positive feedback received from nominals in supporting with their re-offending behaviour for fear of risk of arrest and deterring from entering high risk locations. So far 10 CBO's have been successfully granted and a further 6 applications are in the process despite the disruption caused by Covid-19.

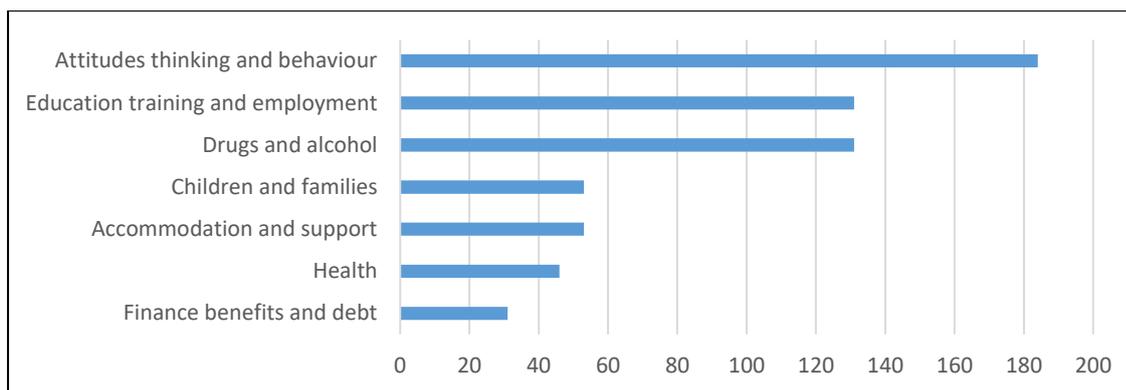
An example includes a prolific burglar being banned from NW10 for a 10-year period, and conditions including the following to not: *Touch or entering any unattended vehicle without the express permission of the owner. *Having any rock or stone or any similar object for breaking glass in his possession. *Not to be in possession of any tool or device used to assist a person committing burglary, examples include but not limited to hammer, screwdriver, door shim, skeleton key, electronic jamming devices, shovel and crow bar. *Enter any garden, shed, outbuildings, driveway or yard of any residential or private premises without the prior permission of the occupier. With the exception of business properties, during the hours of business and when you have business to conduct there or right to attend or without having a reasonable excuse.

During the period of April 2021, The IOM Police Team were involved in Operation INGEMAR. Op INGEMAR was an operation co-ordinated by IOM central which ensured any IOM nominal (not in custody) with an OASys Violence Predictor (OVP) score over 30 is personally visited by IOM officers with the purpose of reducing violent offending post lockdown. These visits were specifically for Op INGEMAR not to be focused on any sort of enforcement but focused solely in offering the offender the services we currently have available that as a collaborative unit believe they would benefit from thereby diverting them from crime and reducing the likelihood of further violent offences.

Between 2020 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.
- 1:1 mentoring and coaching.
- Personal Development Plan for every individual.
- Minimum 3 contacts per week. (Typically 1 face-to-face and 2 phone calls, dependant on service user needs).
- Home visits (dependant on lockdown restrictions).
- Out of hours & crisis support. (Evening & weekends)
- Flexible fitness and sports sessions focused on improved wellbeing, delivered in gyms, sports centres, suitable public park areas or home gardens.
- Food parcel provision (via supermarket links & bakery/bread suppliers).
- Substantial focus on ETE includes signposting, employability support.

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 table below shows the support needs of the cohort.



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.

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?

Since implementation in April 2020, there have been a **total 252 service users on the programme**, with currently **89 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.

The below table demonstrates the cost and numbers of offences committed by the IOM cohort before and after intervention through the VVP during the past 12 months.

Cohort	Offenders	Before		During		After	
		Total Cost of Crime	Total Number Of Offences	Total Cost of Crime	Total Number Of Offences	Total Cost of Crime	Total Number Of Offences
IOM (National)	354	£11,913,439	2789	£10,566,967	2868	£1,717,061	585

Below demonstrates the impact of the intervention provided from AIR Network for the IOM cohort in 2020/21.

- 68/98 service users achieved an ETE outcome **(69%)** KPI (15%)
- 79/98 service users report increased motivation for change **(80%)** KPI (70%)
- 89/98 service users report increased health & wellbeing **(98%)** KPI (10%)
- 27/98 service users received housing support **(28%)** KPI (10%)

6.4 What was the impact of Covid-19?

Covid-19 played a significant role in delivery capabilities within the programme resulting in reduced one to one engagements, reduced prison visit programme and reduced outcomes. Reduced outcomes resulted from reduction in opportunities available from ETE partners, reduced employment market and lockdown restrictions. Despite this, high engagement was maintained throughout the pandemic while remote working due to national lockdown. Even with the barriers of not having face-to-face contact with service users there was still a high number of successful closures. Majority of service users that needed ETE support engaged well with the ETE providers we introduced them to, while a few really pushed on to gain employment. Most young service users that are in education engaged well with online classes. Sadly, the programme saw a greatly increased need for food banks within the cohort, which staff responded to throughout the programme by accessing Fair share and local community food banks.

6.5 Case Study

Client B, a 30 year old male, was referred by the National Probation Office via the Violence and Vulnerability Programme for intervention from an AIR Network mentor due to his re-offending behaviour, namely drug offences and possession of a firearm as well as gang affiliation. Due to Covid-19 and lockdown restrictions, a 'meet at the gate' service was not possible. However, as the referral was completed prior to release from custody, the mentor was able to book a virtual video-link whilst Client B was in custody, build a rapport, and complete a release plan.

To begin with Client B engaged through virtual FaceTime or through telephone contact, this included not only mentoring sessions but also virtual fitness sessions. Client B was supported with engaging with Education, Training and Employment courses, which led to paid employment. Mentoring sessions focused on improving mental wellbeing and work around resilience, positive relationships/attitudes, making

right life choices. Client B successfully completed his licence, is no longer gang affiliated and there has been no offending since mentoring commenced. He continues in paid employment and is engaged to be married and successfully been removed from the Violence and Vulnerability Programme.

7 Priority 5: Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour

7.1 Why is it a priority?

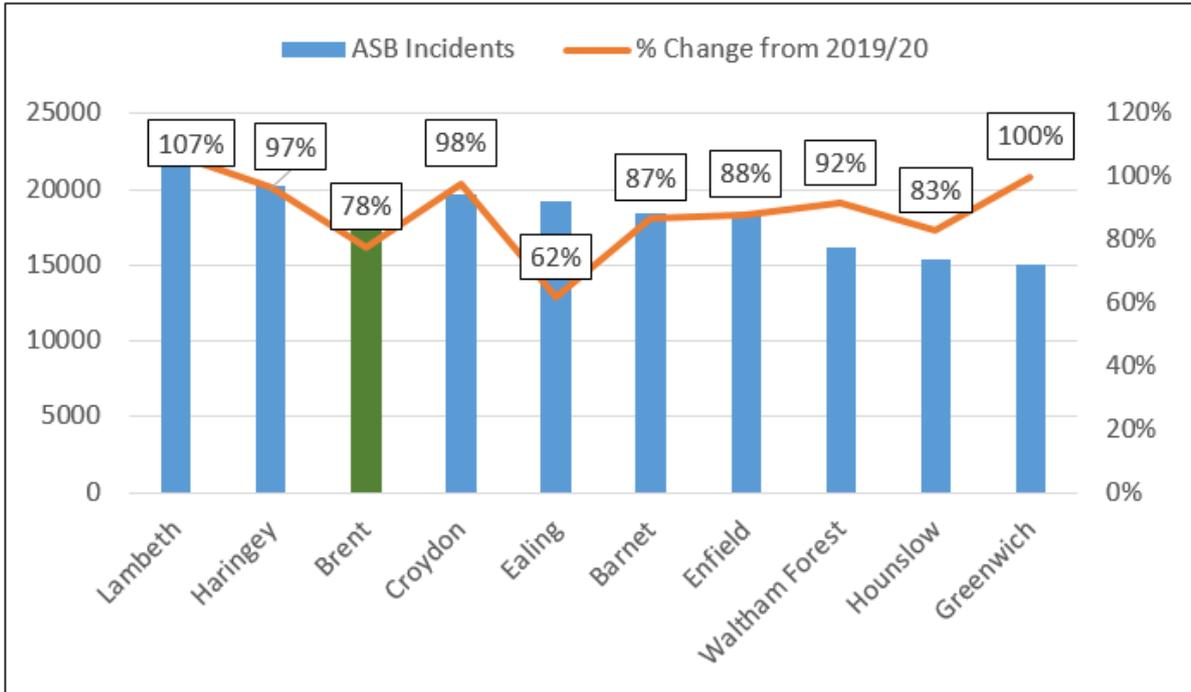
Antisocial behaviour is defined as 'behaviour by a person, which causes, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to persons not of the same household as the person. There are three main categories for antisocial behaviour, depending on how many people are affected:

- Personal antisocial behaviour is when a person targets a specific individual or group.
- Nuisance antisocial behaviour is when a person causes trouble, annoyance or suffering to a community.
- Environmental antisocial behaviour is when a person's actions affect the wider environment, such as public spaces or buildings.

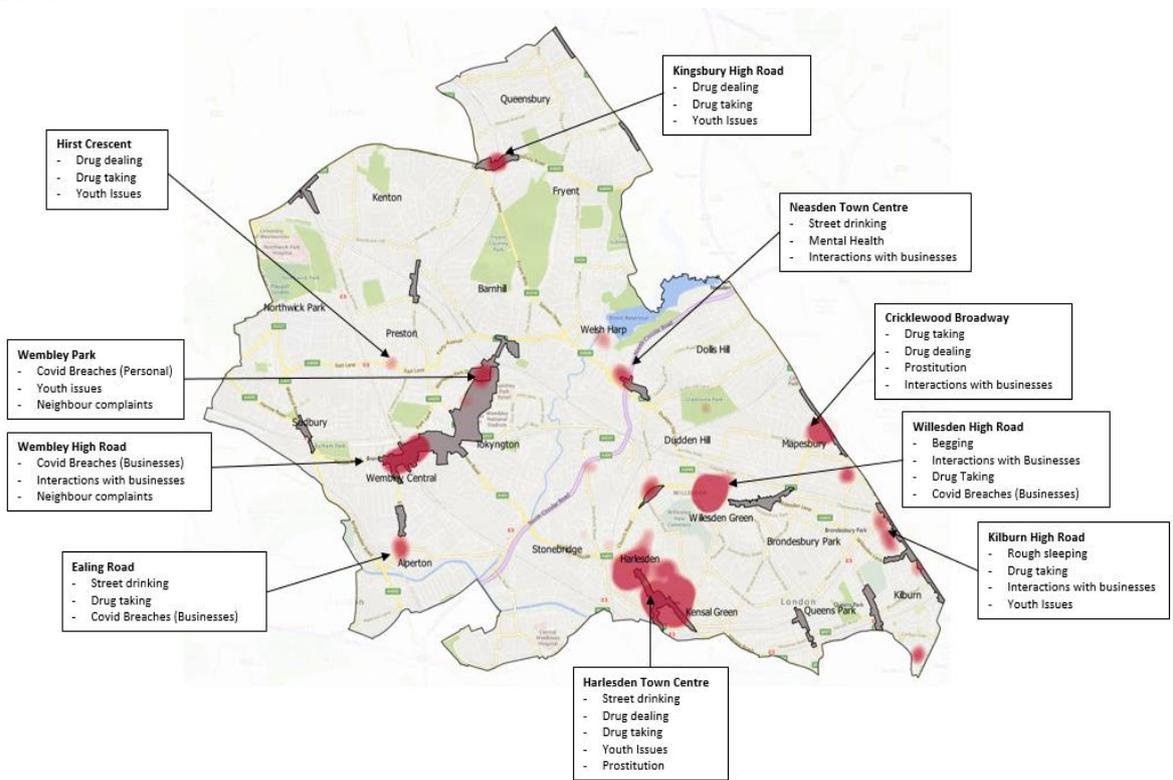
Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) is highlighted as a key concern for residents of Brent and has increased across the Borough, locally and nationally. Visible evidence of disorder that goes unchallenged leads to less secure communities, and can impact negatively on feelings of safety and mental health. Environmental ASB is expensive to react to and leads communities to consider their neighbourhoods negatively, which in turn leads to social disorganisation.

Brent has the third highest number of ASB calls, in comparison to the most similar London boroughs, in the last 12 months.

All boroughs in the group recorded large increases in anti-social behaviour. Brent's increase was the second lowest in the Most Similar Group.



The maps 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. Despite non-essential retail being closed, town centre areas continue to be affected by abusive or difficult customers with mental health or substance misuse issues in the shops and businesses that have remained open.



7.2 What did we do?

7.1.2 The Brent Joint Action Group (BJAG) is CO -chaired by ASB Nuisance and Crime Manager and 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. 13 cases were referred in 20/21 and managed through the BJAG. Drug dealing, cuckooing a drug use where the predominant categories often on estates. Persistent rough sleeping and street drinking in to centres. Design out crime project on estates, targeted days of action and use of ASB tools and powers to deal with nuisance premises have been delivered through the BJAG in 20/21.

BJAG cases referred in 20/21 is as follows:

Kilburn Locality / Case Name: ASB Officer - Noah Okunromade	Issue	Ward:
Chapter Road (Dollis Hill) Tube Station	dealing / smoking drugs, are noisy, intimidate residents	Willesden Green
Joules House	rough sleepers / drug dealing, making noise, and intimidating residents	Brondesbury Park
Solidarity House	Drug use, dealing and suspected cuckooing	Willesden Green
Harlesden Locality / Case Name: ASB Officer – Amar Karia		Ward:
Craven Park (inc Fortunegate Road)	On street prostitution, drug use and dealing	Harlesden
Church Road (bottom end)	Drug use, dealing and street drinking.	Harlesden
Neasden Town	Street drinking	Dudden Hill
Wood Court, Harlesden Road	Resident intimidation ,smoking, drinking and urinating in the communal hallways	Kensal Green
Ethelred Court, The Mall	Rough sleepers	Welsh Harp

Printworks Estate, Press Road	Drug dealing and criminal activity.	Welsh Harp
Mitchellbrook Way	individuals Loitering, smoking drugs, smashing windows and doors to gain entry to blocks, parking which blocks emergency vehicles.	Stonebridge
Wembley Locality / Case Name: ASB Officer - Jackie Pinnock		Ward:
Kingsbury Road	Drug dealing and associated ASB / gangs (TFL)	Queensbury
Alexandra Court	Drug dealing and suspect cuckooing.	Tokyngton

7.1.3 The last 12 months saw an increase in fixed penalty notices for street drinking in town centres and open spaces. Prosecutions for persistent offenders declined as a result court delays due to the COVID outbreak. The Neighbourhood Patrol Team now have established relationships with the local Safer Neighbourhood Teams and triage cases which require escalated interventions to the Anti-Social Behaviour Team. Use of Community Protection Warnings (CPW) Community Protection Notices (CPN), Closure Notices and Orders decreased as a result of the national restrictions, realigned police priorities and consequent decline in visible drug markets. On street intervention from support services such Westminster Drug Project (WDP) and NIA (to support exploited sex workers in Brent) was reduced as a result of the pandemic.

Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs):

- **Wembley Park Public Spaces Protection Order:** A Public Spaces Protection Order was implemented on 1 January up until 31 December 2022 prohibiting: illegal street trading, consumption of alcohol, distribution of free literature without authorisation, littering, flying drone(s) without authorisation, fly-posting, letting off fireworks, including flares and smoke emitters, playing games or competitions

which may cause an obstruction or nuisance to members of the public, busking and use of loud speakers, causing a nuisance without authorisation and vehicle idling without reasonable excuse. The PSPO, which is in the Wembley stadium footprint and surrounding area, will give the Council greater capacity to address such behaviours over the Euro 2020 tournament.

- **Borough wide street drinking:** The Borough-wide Public Spaces Protection Order to prohibit street drinking was extended in 20 October 2020 up until 19 October 2023 because of a favourable consultation and evidenced nuisance threshold. The enforcement programme is conducted predominantly by the Neighbourhood Patrol Team with the assistance of Local Safer Neighbourhood Teams.
- **Honeypot Lane:** The Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) was discontinued in 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. Crime and ASB analysis of the PSPO showed complaints had reduced significantly. Between November 2019 and October 2020, there were only 6 ASB calls to police between 06:00 and 09:00 in the prohibited area. This compares with 64 in the 12 month period originally measured. (April 14 to March 15) and represented a reduction of 90.6%.
- **Neasden Town Centre:** The Public Spaces Protection Order to prohibit weekly scheduled transport stops, often involved in dropping people and goods. Obstructive parking, harassment, waste accumulation, and noise nuisance which is a consequence of this activity was massively reduced with no reported incidents in the prohibited area. The travel restrictions as a result of the COVID outbreak was also a contributing factor.

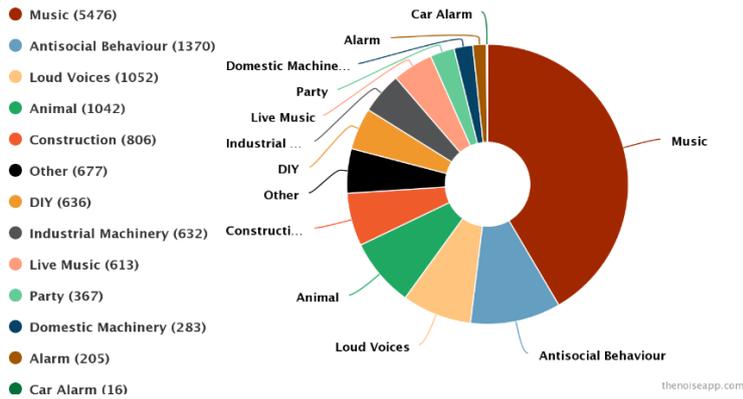
- **Parks, open spaces, graveyards and cemeteries:** Public Spaces Protection Order implemented on 17 September 2019 expires in 16 September 2022. The order supersedes some of the Council's byelaws prohibiting activities around drug use, dog control, alcohol consumption, drones, fires and barbecues etc. There was an increase in unlicensed music events as a result of the COVID pandemic and restrictions on entertainment.

7.1.4 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.

7.1.5 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 201/20, 27 high and medium risk cases have been referred and managed. All cases have been managed satisfactorily with the performance measures. Design out crime recommendations have also been developed by the Police and Anti-Social Behaviour team, for Mapes House, St Laurence Close, Rosedene Alan Preece Court, Joules House and Landau House which will be taken forward under BHM's estate improvement project.

7.1.6 The Nuisance Control Team dealt with an unprecedented demand of noise investigations due to increased footfall at home as a result of the COVID outbreak and the national and local restrictions. Home visits were suspended between March and November 2019 with street level meters routinely used to monitor noise levels. The service was partially suspended from May to July to support the wider enforcement programme on COVID. Legal prosecutions were also heavily disrupted due to huge delays in court scheduling. A joint protocol between the Noise Team and Met Police was established in August 2020 to deal with an increase in Unlicensed Music Events (UMEs) throughout the Borough. A breakdown of cases received under the Noise app and online reports can be seen in the below table.

Noise App cases received 20/21:



Online Complaints received 20/21:

DNAB - Building Alarm	53
DNAV - Vehicle Alarm	32
DNB - Animal Bird Noise	58
DNC – Construction Noise	356
DNCC – Commercial Noise	54
DNCS – S61 Prior Consent Application	39
DND – DIY Noise	49
DNL – Nuisance from lighting	50
DNLF – Low Frequency Noise	30
DNM – Music Noise	1038
DNZA – Other Commercial Noise	47
DPDU – Dust/Steam/Smell	95
DPSFG – Smoke Pollution	214
GCL – Licence Application Consultation	57
GCN – TENS application	17
GCP + MCP – Planning Applications	312

7.3 How successful have we been?

Brent Anti-Social Behaviour Team

The Brent Anti-social Behaviour Team, Community Protection have seen 8% decrease anti-social behaviour cases recorded and managed from the previous financial year.

Number Brent Anti-Social Behaviour Team Cases investigations 20/21 = 410

Number ICMS cases investigated 20/21: 147
Total: 557

Noise and Neighbour disputes where the highest proportion of anti-social behaviour cases reported also involving open drug markets where there are gang associations and links. Increased use of Criminal Behaviour Orders to prohibit these groups from associating and banning them from areas of concern has been used to reduce incidents.

Brent ASB Team Top reported Categories 20/21:

ASB Category	
Noise and Neighbour Disputes	1
Drug dealing/ Drug use	2
Street Drinking	3
Rough Sleepers	4

Year 20/21 has seen an increase in enforcement action under the PSPO and a decrease in other enforcement measures under the ASB Crime and Policing Act 2014.

Enforcement Outcomes 20/21:

Enforcement	Total
PSPO Fixed Penalty Notices	630
PSPO Court Prosecutions	6
Closure Notices	2
Closure Orders and Extensions	4
Community Protection Warnings	5
Community Protection Notice	2
Community Triggers	4

7.4 What was the impact of Covid-19?

The Anti-Social Behaviour Officers supported the wider departmental priorities around monitoring businesses and public spaces in Brent to ensure there compliance with COVID regulations. 51 days of actions were also conducted with the police, Environmental Enforcement and Support Services to deal with anti-social behaviour, street drinking, COVID breaches and substance misuse issues in Brent's town centres. Similarly the nuisance control team saw a 60 percent increase in nuisance complaints from the previous year.

7.5 Case Study

Closure order in a Private rented accommodation

Residents in the block of flats lodged series of complaints of Anti-Social Behaviour against a flat, where tenant sublets his flat via air BnB (Bed and Breakfast) and booking.com to organise parties including drug taking and loud music. On one occasion, there was a fire incident, which involved the London Fire Brigade attending. The landlord of the property approached the council to seek support in tackling issues he is experiencing from his tenant. The Landlord was very proactive and cooperative with the local authority to address the nuisance experienced by the neighbour.

Community Protection Team and Nuisance Control Team tried to engage with the individual first by serving him a Community Penalty Warning, which he breached. Followed with a Community Protection Notice and Fixed Penalty Notice were served on the individual despite these interventions, the parties continued.

Consultation were held with neighbours and stake holders for the property

As a last resort, the council made an application to Willesden Magistrate court for a partial closure order on the 4th Sept 2020 to 3/12/2020.

Since the closure order in place, we have not had any nuisance associate with the property.

Closure order Council Accommodation

Residents living in the block lodged series of complaints regarding activities ranging from noise, intimidation, drug taking and drug dealing from the suspected tenant and his friends

Due to the high volume of calls to the police, the council and Intel the Police executed a search warrant under Section 23 of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971. In the property, a quantity of Class A drugs were found on the occupant. Furthermore, six individuals were found in the property breaching the COVID-19 regulations.

Closure order application was made to the Willesden Magistrate court on Thursday 4 March 2021 under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. The order application was granted until 26/05/2021

8 Other Developments

8.1 CCTV

The London Borough of Brent operates nearly 183 active CCTV cameras from its control room in the Brent Civic Centre. These cameras are used primarily for community safety, but are also used for the purposes of traffic and parking enforcement, housing estate monitoring, and environmental/fly tipping monitoring, among others. Brent also shares video feeds with external stakeholders such as

Transport for London, the Metropolitan Police, and the borough of Camden to assist with their respective operations.

Since the commencement of the period of austerity from 2010 onwards, like most services, the CCTV function has not been immune from the requirement to make savings. The CCTV Control Room went from 8 operators down to 6 in 2017. The CCTV Control Room went from 24 hours a day 7 days a week to 20 hours a day seven days a week. The hours of operation were determined in partnership with the Metropolitan Police based on crime figures for the borough and are agreed with Police colleagues. As a result, while relatively modest savings have been incurred from the service, the impact has been mitigated by provision of a more targeted CCTV service, based on statistical data relating to crime that ensures that the service continues to operate effectively.

The CCTV Manager will be taking voluntary redundancy at the end of March 21, with strategic oversight of the service coming under the ASB Nuisance and Crime Manager.

Partnership working is at the core of ensuring that the provision of CCTV within Brent is effective. The CCTV control room has a direct link with the Police control room and can respond and communicate with police on the ground. The system is regularly accessed by police for investigations. Internally the CCTV is used to monitor staff when working in volatile situations to provide some support and safeguard them.

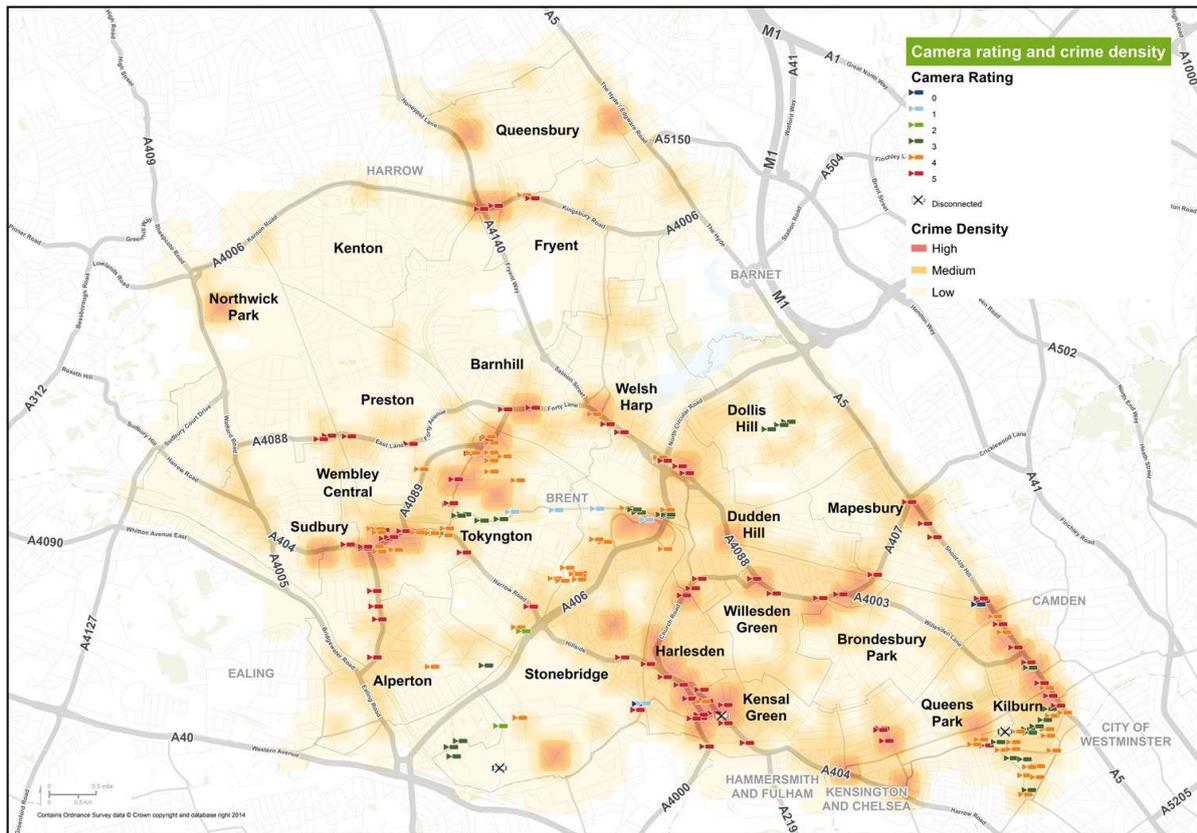
Quintain and Wembley Stadium have linked systems which are primarily used during event days in Wembley Park. On event days the CCTV Control room provides a central point of coordination.

Request for mobile CCTV cameras in hot spot areas are decided monthly by the CCTV committee. 2 moves a month are absorbed within the existing CCTV contract at no extra cost with mobile cameras typically kept in the area for a minimum of 6 months.

The CCTV operative's primary function is to monitor all cameras in Brent areas with CCTV, and in constant dialogue with the police control room to identify report and monitor crime in real time throughout Borough.

The CCTV control room is audited every 3 years by the Information Commissioners Office (ICO). The next audit will be conducted on 21/22.

A map of all fixed cameras in the borough is as follows:



8.1.1 What did we do?

The CCTV operatives also have to provide CCTV requests for evidential footage which could lead assist with criminal, civil investigations or insurance enquires. In 20/21, the total number of such requests completed by the CCTV Team is as follows:

DATE	POL REQUESTS	COUNCIL REQUESTS	M.O.P	INSURANCE	
April	140	45	18	4	
May	108	20	23	4	
June	136	15	28	10	
July	131	18	40	16	
Aug	155	10	43	12	
Sept	55	3	13	8	
Oct	40	0	9	3	
Nov	28	0	0	7	
Dec	21	3	0	3	
Jan	37	0	5	5	
Febuary	61	5	6	2	
March	57	0	0	0	
TOTAL	969	119	185	74	1347

There were 12 deployable cameras moved in 20/21 to emerging anti-social behaviour and crime hotspots. A breakdown of all current mobile camera locations is as follows:

Mobile Deployable camera locations:

Camera ID	Serial Number	Location
800	BT Brnt00001	London Road, alley end
801	BT Brnt00002	Not deployed - held at Civic Centre
802	BT Brnt00003	Newton Road/Temple Road
803	BT Brnt00004	Parkside/Campbell Gordon Way/Gladstone Park Bridge
804	BT Brnt00005	Sudbury Park Mansions/Harrow Road
805	BT Brnt00006	o/s 20 Stapleford Road
806	BT Brnt00007	Carnfield, Neasden
807	BT Brnt00008	Hirst Crescent Shops
808	BT Brnt00009	Ace Café
809	BT Brnt00010	Ace Cafe - at Junction
810	BT Brnt00011	Burnley Road/Hamilton Rd
811	BT Brnt00012	Hassop Road - Car Workshops
812	BT Brnt00013	15 Maybank, Sudbury
813	BT Brnt00014	Keslake Road
814	BT Brnt00015	Queensbury near train station
815	BT Brnt00016	Brampton Road
816	BT Brnt00017	Yates Close
817	BT Brnt00018	Challenge Close
818	BT Brnt00019	Hastings Close/Compton Avenue
819	BT Brnt00020	Brondesbury Villas
820	BT Brnt00021	Skate Park, Roundwood Park Annex
855	UK PSD043	Neasden Lane North
856	UK PSD047	Clarendon Gardens/Meadow Way (Lambert Walk)
857	UK PSD048	Essoldo Way
858	UK PSD044	Townsend Lane
859	UK PSD041	Sellons Avenue/Park Parade
860	UK PSD045	Preston Gardens
861	UKPSD 049	Willesden Library, Grange Road
862	BRENT-RDC003	Kendal Road Bridge
863	BRENT-RDC001	Kingswood Road, Wembley
864	LBB-RDC01	Athelstan Gardens off Kimberley Rd
865	UKPSD 270	Fairview Avenue
850 & 851	UK PSD046	Comber Close
852 & 853	UK PSD060	Willesden Lane
854 & 866	UK PSD042	Chapter Rd / Deacon Rd

The CCTV unit have also dealt with over 150 DVLA requests for vehicles of interest in 20/21.

8.1.2 Case Studies

Case Study 1:

Incident ID: 22165

Type: Fail to Stop, Drink drive/possession of drugs. 29th November 2020

Details: On Met Radio, around 04:45am a Black BMW with an Asian / South Asian male driver failed to stop and made off from police from Sudbury towards Wembley. CCTV picked up vehicle on Harrow Rd speeding towards High Rd Wembley HA9 at 04:50am. Vehicle drove onto wrong lane and collided with stationery vehicle on Ealing Rd, and then the driver a male suspect in a black fur hood jacket and white trouser decamped from the vehicle and made off towards Montrose Crescent HA0.

Updated Met info- later police attended on scene and searched for suspect but was no trace. CCTV scanned around area and later at 05:14am on Station Grove, located suspect male getting inside silver Toyota Prius private hire cab then informed Met police. Police stopped private hire cab and brought suspect male on Ealing Rd to identify then CCTV confirmed. Police arrested male and taken to custody.

Case Study 2:

On Sunday 17th January 2021 a call was received by the London Ambulance Service of a Stabbing Neasden Lane North. Cameras turned to see a female tending to a male near pedestrian underpass. Victim stabbed in back, neck & lungs multiple times. Male who did the stabbing is unknown to victim. Victim was stabbed from behind as he waited at bus stop by random Eastern European male. There is now a section 60 in place as three stabbings are linked on Neasden Lane North. Victim taken by ambulance to St Marys Hospital.

Hours & hours of footage provided to Met Police. Met Police launched an intense operation to find male who attacked the stranger. Two days later male found & arrested for Neasden Stabbings

8.2 Rescue and Response County Lines Project

The Rescue and Response project continues to operate across London providing intervention support to vulnerable young people and providing data and intelligence products in the context of County Lines. There is regular attendance from Rescue and Response at the Exploitation, Violence and Vulnerability Panel, and support continues to be given to partners and professionals to ensure safety plans reflect an understanding of the risk of County Lines.

In line with the previous six monthly report, risks to young people have continued to be increased by:

- An increased risk of arrest, and subsequent debt bondage.
- An increased grooming risk online, in addition to more pressure than usual reportedly being put on young people to help identify other young people for grooming.

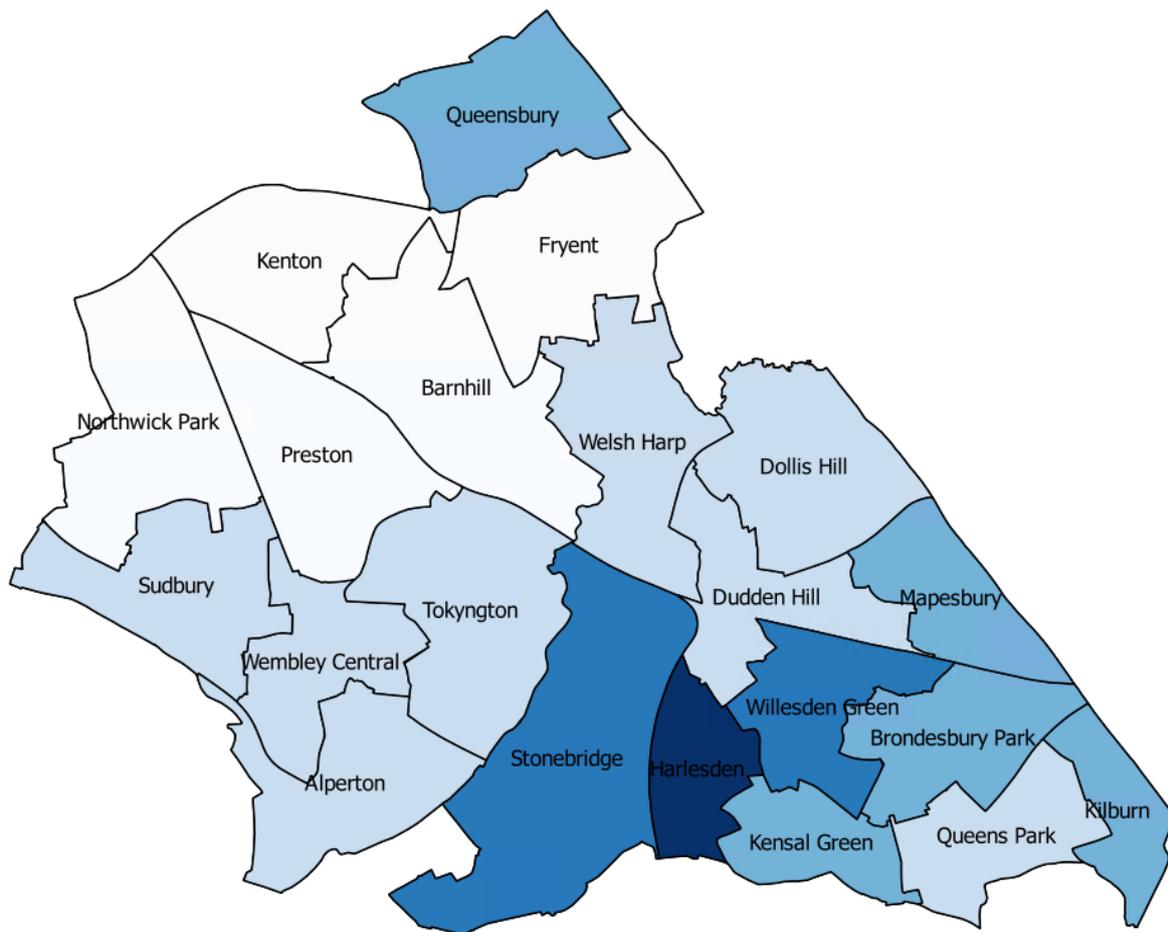
- Young people forced to work on new lines in rival territory faced a higher risk of violence or robbery, and in turn debt bondage.
- Young people were forced to work in the counties for longer and harder to meet the high demand, with some boroughs reporting longer missing episodes during lockdown.
- It is believed some young people were switched to working on local drug lines to meet the local demand, meaning they were less likely to trigger missing reporting despite continuing exploitation.

Further risks have been identified during the reporting period by Rescue and Response activity across London, which are being reviewed through the Exploitation, Vulnerability and Violence Panel:

- In one north London borough a young person was groomed outside of a mosque, leading to him being exploited on a County Line. In another North London borough a young person began showing indicator behaviours for exploitation after making a new set of friends at a mosque. Rescue and Response are reviewing the potential risk that parents and guardians assume that associations made at places of worship are positive, and therefore are less alert to the risk of grooming.
- There are London (non-Brent) case examples evidencing evolving use of social media and online gaming by drug networks and dealers, intended to widen grooming and exploitation opportunities despite social restrictions. Rescue and Response are supporting awareness raising and education regarding these online risks and indicators.

Rescue and Response received 598 referrals this year, with Brent receiving the fourth highest across London and highest in the North quadrant at 34.

The table highlights Harlesden ward featured the highest number of individuals linked to county lines, followed by Stonebridge, Willesden Green and Kilburn wards. 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.



8.3 Data Analysis – Children and Young People (CYP)

The Local Authority and partnership work continues to identify and respond to risks of harm that affects vulnerable adolescents in Brent in the context of their local environment, including identifying and responding to child criminal exploitation, sexual exploitation and going missing. This data set covers the period of September 2020 to 30 March 2021.

Young people experiencing multiple vulnerabilities are being tracked within Brent and some trends are beginning to emerge in regards to those most vulnerable and their risks. The ‘vulnerability tracker’ uses data from the CYP open caseload data and cohort data from YOS, School Exclusions, Missing/Absent reports, CSE, County Lines, young people with an EHCP and young people presented to the EVVP.

Currently there are 2412 children on the tracker. Amongst the top 50 young people in the borough with the highest number of these vulnerabilities, 64% are looked after children and 62% have had a missing/absent episode in the last 6 months. CSE is a prominent factor in over half of the top 50 cases (56%).

Number of "Vulnerabilities" identified September 2020	Proportion of September 2020 caseload	Proportion of March 2021 caseload
0	56.33%	56.47%
1	20.34%	35.59%
2	18.58%	5.46%
3	3.73%	1.35%
4	0.76%	0.82%
5	0.25%	0.22%
6	0%	0.07%

The above table shows the proportion of the March 2021 caseload who have been identified in any of the above cohorts, or are LAC or CP. Over half of the young people have not been identified in any of these cohorts, and the highest number of vulnerabilities is 6, representing 0.07% of all open cases. Compared with September 2020 data, there is a reduction in the proportion of cases where 2 or 3 vulnerabilities are identified and an increase where 1 vulnerability is identified.

Of the top 50 young people taken from the March 2021 caseload identified on 3 or more of the above cohorts, the majority have had a missing/absent episode since January 2021 (82%), followed by 64% being at risk of CSE, and with 50% of them being Looked After Children.

This information helps us to identify young people with multiple vulnerabilities and quality assure interventions. For example, children with the highest number of vulnerabilities are being reviewed monthly to determine if a Vulnerable Adolescents Risk Assessment has been completed and whether a referral to the Exploitation, Violence and Vulnerability Panel is warranted.

Multiple vulnerabilities - Proportion of top 50 (September 2020 cohort compared to March 2021 cohort)

Vulnerability	Total Sep 2020 cohort	Proportion of Top 50 Sep 2020 cohort	Total Mar 2021 cohort	Proportion of Top 50 Mar 2021 cohort
LAC	28	56%	25	50%
Missing	26	52%	41	82%
CSE	22	44%	32	64%
EHCP	21	42%	14	28%
YOS	17	34%	21	42%
School Exclusions	13	26%	7	14%
County Lines	12	24%	17	34%
Child Protection Plan	12	24%	12	24%
Missing Education	8	16%	0	0%

Trends have emerged from the vulnerability tracker in relation to those young people with multiple vulnerabilities, and the links between them. Young people with both missing/absent episodes and LAC status represent 40% of the top 50 young people (compared to 32% in the previous period). Also within the YOS cohort represented in the top 50, 85.7% have had a missing or absent episode since January 2021.

This is partially due to the complexity of children entering care in adolescence. Due to a variety of factors, a high proportion of young people enter care in adolescence. New entrants to care include those on remand, automatically leading to YOS involvement. Nevertheless, Looked After Children who are known to YOS and frequently going missing from their placement is a cohort of young people where a high level of intervention and support is required and provided.

Cross referencing vulnerabilities in top 50

	Missing	LAC	CSE	YOS	County Lines	Exclusions	EHCP	EVVP
Missing	41	20	26	18	15	5	9	17
LAC	20	25	15	13	7	2	9	8
CSE	26	15	32	9	8	3	8	15
YOS	18	13	9	21	9	2	4	9
County Lines	15	7	8	9	17	1	2	7
Exclusions	5	2	3	2	1	7	7	3
EHCP	9	9	8	4	2	7	14	1
EVVP	17	8	15	9	7	3	1	21

Ethnicity in top 50

Ethnicity	Total	Percentage	Percentage from Previous Period
Black or Black British	29	58%	60%
Mixed / Multiple	8	16%	18%
White	5	10%	12%
Other Ethnic Groups	4	8%	6%
Asian or Asian British	4	8%	4%
Total	50	100%	100%

The above table shows the proportion of ethnic groups within the top 50 young people in the vulnerability tracker. The numbers are similar when compared with the previous reporting period, with increases in the proportion of Other Ethnic Groups and Asian or Asian British and a reduction in the proportion of Black or Black British, Mixed/Multiple and White.

This understanding of multiple vulnerabilities is actively informing risk management for these young people and themes from the tracker are explored at a strategic level through the Contextual Safeguarding Strategic Group.

Abbreviations

EVVP	Exploitation Violence and Vulnerability Panel
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
MARAC	Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
DA Offence W/I	Domestic Abuse Offence with injury