

	<p align="center"><b>Resources &amp; Public Realm Scrutiny Committee</b> <b>24 January 2024</b></p>
	<p align="center"><b>Report from the Corporate Director of Communities and Regeneration and the Chair of the Safer Brent Partnership, Detective Superintendent William Lexton – Jones</b></p>
	<p align="center"><b>Lead Cabinet Member</b> Cabinet Member for Safer Communities and Public Protection (Councillor Harbi Farah)</p>
<p align="center"><b>Safer Brent Partnership Annual Report 2022 - 2023</b></p>	

<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All
<b>Key or Non-Key Decision:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Open or Part/Fully Exempt:</b> <small>(If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)</small>	Open
<b>List of Appendices:</b>	Two Appendix 1: Annual Report 2022 – 2023 Appendix 2: GM Case Study
<b>Background Papers:</b>	None
<b>Contact Officer(s):</b> <small>(Name, Title, Contact Details)</small>	Kibibi Octave, Director of Communities 0208 937 4225  Simon Egbor, Head of Community Safety and Prevention 0208 937 5853

## 1.0 Executive Summary

- 1.1. For the Committee to note the Safer Brent Partnership, Annual Report 2022 – 2023 and the activities undertaken to support agreed priorities.

## 2.0 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 For the Committee to note the Annual Report, 2023 -2023 as part of the council’s Crime and Disorder and Serious Violence functions.

2.2 For the Committee to provide any recommendations.

### 3.0 Detail

#### 3.1 Contribution to Borough Plan Priorities & Strategic Context

3.1.1 Thriving Communities is one of our key priorities under Brent's Borough Plan 2023-2027. The Borough Plan states that prevention is essential in tackling the causes of crime. In it we have we have told our residents that we will help people leave criminal lifestyles, pursue justice for victims, work with our communities to build trust, prevent criminality and improve our response to crime. The annual report informs how we have delivered on our objectives.

3.1.2 The Safer Brent Partnership (SBP) is the multi-agency strategic group that oversees our approach to reducing crime and antisocial behaviour. The focus of all of the partnerships' work is intelligence-led and evidence-based. The SBP is made up of representatives from several agencies including the London Borough of Brent, Metropolitan Police, London Fire Brigade, National Health Service, National Probation Service, Voluntary Services such as the Young Brent Foundation and Victim Support. The SBP also works with other strategic boards such as the Safeguarding Adults Board, and the Brent Safeguarding Children Forum.

#### 3.2 Background

3.2.1 The annual report provides an insight into Community Safety activity. Overall, the report highlights an achievement in the reduction of violence with injury, rape, gun and hate crime. Although, we are concerned with an increase in knife crime with the offending cohort getting younger.

3.2.2 Key developments and challenges to delivery in 2022-23 were as follows:

- **Reducing Domestic and Sexual Abuse**

Achievement: In comparison to our most similar boroughs, Brent saw the largest reduction in domestic abuse incidents compared to the previous annual reporting period, sitting at a 6.6% reduction.

Area of development: Enhance community awareness and an understanding of domestic abuse and violence against women and girls, what those behaviours look like, what is unacceptable and how to access support.

- **Reducing the Impact of Gangs and Knives in our Community**

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

Area of development: Knife related incidents have escalated across the borough in comparison to previous reporting periods. We need to do much more

to understand why this is happening, the drivers escalating knife related violence and do more to disrupt the accessibility and normalization of knife carrying.

- **Reducing Vulnerability and Increasing Safeguarding**

Achievement: Multi - Agency attendance to the Community MARAC has improved significantly over the year, partners work well to complete actions to support vulnerable individuals. There has been a -39.4% risk reduction for all cases referred and closed at the Community MARAC.

Area of development: More promotion of the Community MARAC with internal stakeholders and earlier identification of vulnerable cohorts involved in anti-social behaviour and crime.

- **Reducing Offenders and Perpetrators from Reoffending**

Achievement: The Integrated Offender Management (IOM) multiagency panel have continued to work together to deliver support to our IOM cohort. AIR Network have continued to deliver a mentoring, sports and wellbeing programme which has helped to support offenders in accessing education, training and employment opportunities as well as housing support. St Giles specifically provide mentoring to former gang nominals and similarity support individuals with education, training and employment and employment opportunities.

Area of development: More consistent participation from key agencies, Via, St Mungo's and Adult Social Care at panel meetings.

- **Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour**

Achievement: A decrease of 3.5% in recorded anti-social behaviour cases which was the 4<sup>th</sup> biggest decrease in London. There has been increased use tools and powers under the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014, particularly Closure Order Powers to tackle anti-social behaviour and cuckooing in properties.

Area of development: Better understanding of the links between anti-social behaviour, intimidation, gang associations and links. Identify long term strategies to reduce repeat offending and entrenched hotspots.

3.23 Looking ahead, we will take a "Public Health" approach to deliver our Safer Brent –Community Safety Strategy 2024 – 2026; meaning that we will work with key partners to act earlier, identify wider support needs and improve interventions to prevent criminal and anti-social behaviour.

3.24 The Safer Brent Partnership's priorities, 2024 – 2025 are broken down into the following 4 priority areas:

- Priority 1: Tackling Violent Crime

- Priority 2: Challenging Domestic Abuse, Sexual Abuse and Preventing Violence Against Women and Girls.
- Priority 3: Focusing on Incidents Impacting our Community.
- Priority 4: Protecting those most Vulnerable.

#### **4.0 Stakeholder and ward member consultation and engagement**

4.1 The Safer Brent Annual report has been agreed by the Chair and shared with partners that attend the Safer Brent Partnership.

#### **5.0 Financial Considerations**

5.1 Aside from our Domestic Abuse Commissioned Services, that is made up of a contribution from Community Safety, Public Health and Children and Young People, the remainder of our commissioned services and related interventions commissioned are funded by external grants. These include MOPAC's - London Crime Prevention Fund (LCPF) and the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), Serious Violence Duty and Crime Prevention fund awards. The detail of this is laid out under the Community Safety Commissioned Services list within the annual report.

#### **6.0 Legal Considerations**

6.1 As required by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Safer Brent Partnership (SBP) brings agencies and organisations together to develop and oversee local crime reductions strategies. Wider legislation underpinning this activity includes the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015, Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014.

#### **7.0 Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Considerations**

7.1 Data analysis shows an overrepresentation of black and black British suspects under 25, for all crime types. However, a significant number of all crimes recorded, have no suspect profile attached.

#### **8.0 Climate Change and Environmental Considerations**

8.1 N/A

#### **9.0 Human Resources/Property Considerations (if appropriate)**

9.1 N/A

#### **10.0 Communication Considerations**

10.1 Outcomes on the annual report will be publicised through Brent Connects and other localised communication platforms.

**Report sign off:**

***Alice Lester***

Corporate Director, Communities & Regeneration