

	Resources & Public Realm Scrutiny Committee 28 January 2025
	Report from the Corporate Director of Communities & Partnerships
	Lead Member – Cabinet Member for Safer Communities, Jobs & Skills (Councillor Harbi Farah)
Safer Brent Partnership Annual Report 2024	

Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision:	Not Applicable
Open or Part/Fully Exempt: <small>(If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)</small>	Open
List of Appendices:	One: Appendix 1: Safer Brent Partnership Annual Report 2024-25
Background Papers:	
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1.0 Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report outlines the key activities, achievements and challenges of the Safer Brent Partnership over the past year. It highlights the progress made in addressing community safety priorities i.e. in tackling violent crime, addressing domestic abuse and violence against women and girls (VAWG) and protecting vulnerable individuals in Brent. The report also identifies areas for improvement and sets out priorities for the coming year.

2.0 Recommendation(s)

2.1 That the Safer Brent Partnership Annual Report 2024/25 be noted and commented on by the Scrutiny Committee.

2.2 To provide any feedback to shape and strengthen delivery 2025/26

3.0 Detail

3.1 Contribution to Borough Plan Priorities & Strategic Context

3.1.1 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.

3.1.2 The Safer Brent Partnership Annual Report supports the Borough Plan's priorities, by:

- Building a safer Brent: Through initiatives addressing crime, anti-social behaviour, community tensions with focus on knife crime, VAWG and robbery reduction.
- Protecting the vulnerable: Targeted efforts to reduce domestic abuse, exploitation and ASB.
- Empowering communities: By fostering trust and collaboration through ward meetings, community engagement and responding to serious incidents.

3.2 Background

3.2.1 The Safer Brent Partnership is a statutory body tasked with reducing crime and anti-social behaviour in Brent. The partnership includes the Council, Metropolitan Police, NHS, voluntary services and community organisations.

3.2.2 Key developments and challenges to delivery in 2024 were as follows:

Achievements:

- Reduction in violent crime by 3.8%, knife crime by 0.9% and domestic abuse incidents by 8.4%.
- Installation of knife amnesty bins, leading to a significant reduction in knife-related crimes in hotspot areas.

- Continuation of the Violence and Vulnerability Programme and Integrated Offender Management framework to reduce reoffending.

3.2.3 *Challenges:*

- Persistent gang-related activity and youth exploitation.
- Addressing the underrepresentation of marginalised groups in support services.

3.2.4 *Strategic priorities for 2025/26:*

- Tackling knife crime, youth violence, ASB and VAWG.
- Expanding community outreach programs to underserved populations.
- Strengthening early intervention initiatives.

3.2.4 The Safer Brent Partnership's priorities in 2024 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

3.2.5 We will continue on journey of taking a "Public Health" approach to deliver our Safer Brent –Community Safety Strategy 2025/ 26 and continue to work with key partners to act earlier, identify wider support needs and improve interventions to prevent criminal and anti-social behaviour.

4.0 Stakeholder and ward member consultation and engagement

4.1 The development of this report involved consultation with:

- Brent Council's Community Safety team and local policing teams.
- Key stakeholders including the NHS, voluntary organisations and housing providers.
- Feedback from ward meetings, roundtables and residents via community forums.

4.2 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.

6.0 Legal Considerations

6.1 The Safer Brent Partnership operates within the statutory framework set out by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The report complies with annual review requirements and includes data-driven decision-making as recommended by the Cardiff Model for Violence Prevention.

6.2 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 Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Considerations

7.1 Initiatives ensure compliance with the Equality Act and address health inequalities by:

- (a) Supporting marginalised groups, including BAME, LGBTQ+, disabled and elderly individuals, through tailored outreach and partnerships with organisations like AWRC, Young Brent Foundation and Plias.
- (b) Addressing systemic issues, including racial injustice and barriers to reporting violence, with culturally sensitive programs.

8.0 Climate Change and Environmental Considerations

8.1 The SBP supports environmental objectives by:

- Reducing crime hotspots linked to environmental neglect.
- Promoting sustainable practices during community events and projects.

9.0 Human Resources/Property Considerations (if appropriate)

9.1 No specific HR or property issues are noted.

10.0 Communication Considerations

10.1 The SBP's communication strategy includes:

- Publishing key findings and outcomes through Council channels and local media.
- Utilising social media to promote awareness of knife amnesty bins and bleed kit installations.
- Engaging with schools and community groups to disseminate information on safety initiatives.

Report sign off:

Kibbi Octave

Director of Communities & Partnership