

Community Protection

For Information

Community Assurance Operations

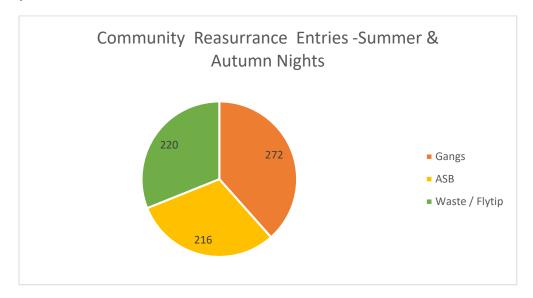
Summary:

1.0 This paper provides an update on Community Assurance operations in known gang hot spots in Brent between July to November 2017.

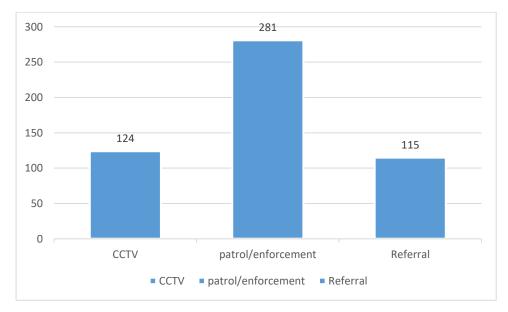
2.0 Community Protection Gang Operations

- 2.1 The previous cycle of operations in July 2016 and the analysis from those operations showed that our primary areas: Kingsbury, Harlesden, Wembley and Willesden Town Centre had a disproportionate volume of criminal, antisocial and waste offences, providing a considerable financial strain on the council. The operations were aimed at sustaining the enforcement activity within those areas and targeting our persistent offenders with appropriate enforcement measures available to the Council and the Police. Equally the operations aimed at increasing public confidence in reporting issues to the Council by providing a visible presence of uniformed (high visibility vests) council officers and branded vehicles during peak gang activity times. Ultimately creating a culture of zero tolerance within these hot spot areas.
- 2.2 Operational activity was monitored via a daily activity sheets completed throughout the evening tasking. Monitoring the period between July to November, the below pie chart shows the breakdown in logs across waste enforcement, gang related activity and anti-social behaviour:

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- 2.3 The breakdown highlights the diverse activity this operation has responded to. Increased Gang activity and gathering key intelligence, was the main driver for this operation, however there was also a disproportionate volume of ASB, and Waste issues identified and mirrored in the same areas.
- 2.4 Officers also utilised the CCTV as a resource with an allocated officer scanning, gathering information and re-tasking officers to respond immediately. In addition the CCTV officers recorded over 100 incidents, referring criminal matters to the police in real time and capturing footage for subsequent fines and prosecutions.
- 2.5 The below chart shows the breakdown in the operation action:



2.6 An increase in gathering key gang intelligence, and waste enforcement in known gang areas were the main outcomes captured from the tasking sheets. A large volume of actionable intelligence around the; gang related activities,

- hot spot areas, where they congregate, individuals of interest and their actions have been captured during the operation.
- 2.7 There was also evidence of licence venues, such as betting shops in the area, which appeared to be a daily hub for some of these gangs to congregate. Through the surveillance of officers and co-ordination with CCTV. The Council recently implemented a Borough Wide Drinking Ban and the operation helped identifying hot spots outside working hours within Brent to develop a robust policing plan in this areas by the PTT, who work a 7 day week, between 6-4am.
- 2.8 The correlation between ASB and Waste Hotspots was particularly evident in the Harlesden and Willesden Ward, emphasising the need for developing more joined up area based operations. The intelligence has been shared with services, and partners including the Brent Police Gangs Unit, and the Metropolitan Police North Intelligence Hub.
- 2.7 Brent's CCTV cameras covered a number of the gang related hot spot areas and Intelligence gained included gang member associations, venues frequented by gangs, antisocial behaviour and drug dealing hotspot. There was also the prevalence of sex working in the Harlesden area which enabled key location and times to be shared with the outreach worker. CCTV operatives proved an invaluable extra resource during these operations, which other partners positively welcomed. Some examples around officer activity are detailed below;
 - The operation and with the assistance of CCTV controllers, captured gang members involved in drug supply outside Bet Fred in Kingsbury High Road and William Hill in church road. This intelligence was logged and passed on to the police licencing team, who contacted both establishments and banned individuals from the venue. Further methods to safeguard organisations were developed and shared with partner businesses. Going forward this case study will be used by the police licensing team to ensure that all betting establishments have their processes reviewed and reporting lines strengthened where needed.
 - The operation identified two locations in Blackbird Hill and Old Church Road where young girls were at risk of child sexual exploitation. CCTV was used effectively to capture images of girls who were potential victims and alleged perpetrators. Officers were also able to speak to other young people. Who shared their concerns for safety. Actionable intelligence was passed on the Integrated Risk Management Panel which has resulted in an ongoing police investigation.
 - The operation targeted prolific individuals involved in ASB and drug dealing in Chapter Road (Willesden Ward), who refused to engage with the police and Council. 3 persistent offenders who were ring leaders in the open drugs market were identified and targeted with Criminal Behaviour Orders banning them from the area.
 - Young offenders were also identified on the operations, this was shared with the YOT and one example resulted in an individual who was on the

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gang matrix and in breach of the conditions of their licence being recalled to prison. This has resulted in the need to further strengthen actionable intelligence with the YOT, going forward. It has also enabled a further ability to enforce and protect.

- The operations have been effective in dealing with anti-social fireworks in the autumn period, working the with CCTV Unit to deploy police into hot spot areas and reassure Councillors, community and residents groups of the council's ability to respond to these seasonal issues. The added use of the CCTV vehicles acted as a further deterrent when deployed into locations
- Feedback from officers on the operation also showed an increased holistic understanding of Waste, ASB and Gangs issues with officers feeling more confident in tackling issues which might fall outside their specialism.
- 2.9 Intelligence has been also been gained on the following:
 - Regular missing/looked after children
 - Vulnerable victims
 - Organised drug networks
 - Problematic venues

Waste enforcement outcomes

- 2.10 The following outcomes regarding Waste Enforcement were also achieved from this operation, highlighting the diverse benefit to the operation.
 - 47 cases were referred to Waste Enforcement.
 - 14 cases issued with S342 invites for interview with clear up costs all these cases were concluded with enforcement action and cost applied.
 - 10 cases were escalated to Fixed Penalty Notice's
 - 1 FPNS was cancelled•
 - 7 FPN's cases were concluded with enforcement action and cost applied
 - 2 FPN case is still ongoing
 - 1 case was issued with a written warning
 - 1 case was issued with a caution without cost no further action was taken.
 - 10 cases were concluded without enforcement action as there was no breach.
 - 6 cases was closed due to insufficient evidence to pursue.
 - 5 case is still on ongoing- issued with S342 invites for interview with clear up costs.

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