

LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

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| REPORT: | Scrutiny & Overview Committee | |
| DATE OF DECISION | 26 March 2024 | |
| REPORT TITLE: | Croydon Community Safety Partnership Annual Review | |
| LEAD OFFICER: | Kristian Aspinall - Director of Culture & Community Safety | |
| LEAD MEMBER: | Councillor Ola Kolade - Cabinet Member for Community Safety | |
| CONTAINS EXEMPT INFORMATION? | No | Public |
| WARDS AFFECTED: | All | |

1. SUMMARY

1.1. Attached This report provides the Scrutiny & Overview Committee with an update on key aspects of the Safer Croydon Partnership, including:

- The current legal duties and structure of the partnership.
- Significant accomplishments against the priorities of the partnership.
- An update from each statutory partner and Public Health on their operational delivery, including case studies where possible.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1. The Scrutiny & Overview Committee is asked to: -

1. Review and note the information provided in the report,
2. Consider its conclusions on Croydon Community Safety Partnership Review,
3. Consider whether there are any recommendations to bring to the attention of the Mayor.

3. CROYDON COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REVIEW

- 3.1. The Safer Croydon Partnership (SCP) is the statutory 'Community Safety Partnership' (CSP) for the London Borough of Croydon.
- 3.2. The core members of the Partnership are the five 'responsible authorities' that have a statutory duty outlined under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to maintain a CSP for the borough and to collaborate in identifying the priorities for reducing crime, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and reoffending. The partners are jointly responsible for the work of the Partnership.
- 3.3. The five 'responsible authorities' are:
 - the Council
 - the Police
 - the London Fire service
 - the local Integrated Care Board (ICB), and
 - the local Probation services
- 3.4. The Mayor of London fulfils the role of Police & Crime Commissioner for London Boroughs, and the CSP works closely with the Mayors Office for Policing and Crime and the London Violence Reduction Unit to identify and deliver its priorities.
- 3.5. The Safer Croydon Partnership Executive is a formally constituted body as outlined in the council's constitution, chaired by the Cabinet Member for Community Safety. As well as the responsible bodies, the board also includes the Shadow Cabinet member for Community Safety as a voting member, and officers in attendance include the Director of Culture & Community Safety, Director of Public Health, and the Head of the Violence Reduction Network.
- 3.6. Beneath the Executive sit several key partnership boards responsible for delivering the identified priorities of the partnership, including:
 - 1) The Community Safety Engagement Board, established in 2022 to provide greater community input and scrutiny to the work of the partnership. Chaired by the Cabinet Member for Community Safety, and open to all residents and third sector groups.
 - 2) The borough's Substance Misuse Partnership Board, to oversee the borough's substance misuse program and funding. Co-chaired by the Director of Public Health and the Director of Culture & Community Safety.

- 3) The Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Board, to oversee the work of the partnership in tackling Violence Against Women and Girls. Chaired by the boroughs Integrated Care Board]
- 4) The borough's Youth Justice Partnership feeds into the SCP Executive, which acts as a "critical friend" and key governance element as outlined in legislation.

4. MAIN JOINT ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023/24

Refresh of the partnership

4.1. Following a review requested by the Executive Mayor of Croydon, the partnership was refreshed to make several key changes to better focus our work to reduce crime and disorder including:

- 1) Reducing the Executive Board to the core statutory partners only, to allow for swift decision making and a focus on the legal duties of the partnership.
- 2) Focussing the partnerships priorities to three key elements from the Community Safety Strategy 2022-24:
 - a. Violence Against women and Girls
 - b. Violence against young people
 - c. Anti-social behaviour in hot-spot areas
- 3) Creation of a new **Community Safety Engagement Board** to allow any member of the public, including third sector groups, to both scrutinise the work of the partnership but also to input in and help co-develop the borough's delivery plans
- 4) Supporting the borough's Safer Neighbourhood Board to resume in person meetings, to allow the community to hold the Police to account

Design and delivery of the borough's first Youth Safety Delivery Plan

4.2. This is the borough's first multi-agency delivery plan to tackle violence against young people on our streets. It is a three-year plan that works across the partnership to make our borough safer for young people, and focusses on the key themes of:

- **Prevention** - how do we stop children and young people being made vulnerable.
- **Intervention** - what we do to help vulnerable children and young people.
- **Disruption** - how we tackle gangs and criminal exploitation of children and young people.
- **Diversions** - our positive offer for children and young people in borough.

Funding for outreach and engagement for Young People

- 4.3. Across 23/24, the partnership has funded local voluntary sector agencies to deliver engagement and diversion work across hot spot areas, including Croydon Town Centre, Shrublands, New Addington and Thornton Heath. This included work in Church Street where large numbers of young people were congregating and committed ASB, to effectively engage with young people and reduce the risk of violence significantly.

Responding to Critical Incidents

- 4.4. Following any serious incident, the partnership works with trusted local community partners to support the ongoing investigation, provide community reassurance, and direct support for affected families and friends. During the last year we have significantly streamlined how we respond to incidents, to allow for very rapid deployment of resources following an incident - within 24 hours of an incident taking place additional resources have been deployed into an area to support the community. Whilst we would prefer to never have to respond in this way, by being faster and working with already established partners we can help mitigate the impacts of a critical incident and reduce the risk of any further violence.

5. METROPOLITAN POLICE UPDATE

Strategic Overview

- 5.1. The “New Met for London” plan was launched in July 2023 in support of the MPS mission of less crime, more trust & high standards. This is a two-year plan to cut crime, rebuild trust & reflect the diversity of London. The plan focusses on solid community crime-fighting, culture change & fixing the foundations of the Met. The plan recognises the urgent need to get the basics right, deliver a solid local policing service to communities & to build trust by officers upholding the highest standards of professionalism. The New Met for London plan was published in response to the review of the MPS conducted by Baroness Casey where she highlighted a number of areas where improvement was urgently required. Several engagement events have been held across the borough to introduce the NMFL plan to communities and gather feedback on how it can be shaped and implemented locally.

Key Priority areas for Croydon Police

- 5.2. Notwithstanding that policing teams will be tasked on a micro level through the well-established ward panel processes to respond to local concerns, the key overarching priorities for Croydon Police are preventing violent crime & reducing robbery offences. While other emerging crime issues will be responded to through our established tasking processes, we know that the issues of violent crime & robbery are very real and long-standing concerns for the communities of Croydon. Integral to these priorities is a determination to be better in our work to prevent violence against women & girls and the criminal and sexual exploitation of children.

Croydon Town Centre

- 5.3. A priority area for Croydon Police is providing an effective policing service to the Town Centre. This reflects significant community concern regarding crime & safety in Croydon Town Centre. We recognise that the issues affecting crime in the Town Centre are complex and in many cases there are deep rooted socio-economic issues and themes such as substance misuse and mental health. There are good working relationships with a variety of partners including the BID & Local Authority.
- 5.4. Key activities include:
- A dedicated Town Centre Team (1 Inspector, 3 Sergeants, 21 Constables) with a focus towards providing a visible policing presence, working alongside partners & tackling anti-social behaviour & violence.

An important aspect of their role is enforcement of the Town Centre Public Space Protection Order (PSPO.)

- Specific operations which over the last 12 months have included: Op Zoedone, Op Zenzura, Operation Nightingale, Operation Mooka & Operation Vigilant. Operation Zoedone alone resulted in the arrest of 10 suspect robbery offenders including a number in Purley where a spike in offending had been noted.
- Deployment of dedicated youth engagement / safer schools officers at key times and locations to provide positive interaction but also ensure safety of young people travelling to/from school through town centre transport hubs.
- Use of new technology such as Live Facial Recognition. Following community engagement, Croydon was the first borough outside Westminster to utilise LFR technology to precisely target wanted offenders in known crime hotspots. Total arrests exceeded 60 wanted persons across five deployments of this tactic in the Town Centre. Some fugitives had been wanted for 5+ years. Arrests were made for a variety of offences including robbery, assault, domestic abuse & drugs offences.

Violence against Women & Girls (VAWG)

5.5. The MPS published their VAWG Action Plan in December 2023 and work is actively underway here in Croydon along the three strands of building trust & confidence, relentless pursuit of perpetrators & ensuring safer spaces:

- The Strengthening Public Protection programme has been launched which will seek to put 500 more officers in to key roles investigating domestic abuse, child protection & serious sexual offences – this recognises in recent years the exponential rise in demand has not been matched by the required level of resourcing.
- New approaches (such as V100) which looks at the most harmful and high risk male perpetrators of violence across London & ensures proper local grip and oversight to effectively mitigate the risk they pose to women & girls.
- Increasing our use of statutory powers such as civil orders and enforcement of powers in support of safer spaces such as the PSPO.
- Ensuring that a meaningful police presence is provided at key hotspots where women & girls have told us they do not feel safe. We are also making use of the StreetSafe product to ensure a feedback channel whereby the police & Local Authority can then take joint action. We also have the “walk and talk” initiative overseen by the local Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

- Establishment of a BCU VAWG oversight board, chaired by the BCU Commander.

Protecting young people

5.6. Croydon has a significant U18 population, and with approximately one third of recorded crime in Croydon involving violence, the protection of young people is a clear community concern.

- A dedicated “safer schools” unit. Comprising of 20 constables, led by a dedicated Inspector. This team attaches a dedicated policing resource to 22 secondary schools and pupil referral units across the borough. The work of these officers is focussed on positive engagement, prevention, early intervention and solutions that wherever possible avoid criminalising children.
- Weapons based prevention activities – for example conducting highly visible knife arch operations in schools & colleges across Croydon. We are also conducting weapons sweeps across the borough on a weekly basis.
- Use of stop & search powers where it is lawful & justified. Ensuring that officers conduct themselves professionally and that there are clear routes of accountability to uphold procedural justice principles. Use of S&S powers is scrutinised by the Police Encounter Panel at monthly meetings.
- Working closely with other statutory partners – attending key boards including Youth Justice Board & Gangs + Serious Violence Groups. We work in close partnership with the Violence Reduction Unit & members of the local authority attend the monthly police tactical tasking group to ensure a joined up approach with good joint situational awareness.
- Use of diversionary activities including a well established police cadets unit and specific projects such as “beyond the court” – promoting better social cohesion between young girls and the police.

Response to emergencies & calls for service

5.7. Croydon is one of the largest boroughs geographically and receives somewhere in the region of 2,700 calls for service on any given month. For Croydon - on average - the response times to an emergency call is 10m:58s against a national target of 15 minutes. The average response time to a priority non-emergency call is 52m:45s against a national target of 60 minutes.

Strongest Ever Neighbourhood Policing

- 5.8. This remains a key feature of the New Met for London Plan – recognising that good community policing, where crime is prevented and a long-term problem-solving approach is implemented will reduce demand & lead to improved trust and confidence in the Met. In Croydon, we have seen the number of Sergeants working in local neighbourhood policing doubled. This now means that the highest demand wards (Fairfield & Broad Green) now have each a dedicated Sergeant to really drive the local policing activity.
- 5.9. Local neighbourhood teams will drive proactive crime fighting activity. It is essential they are responsive to the concerns and intelligence provided by local communities. In this performance year, Croydon has seen an 8.6% reduction in burglary, 23% reduction in theft from motor vehicle but has seen a 22.5% increase in robbery, which remains a key focus of policing activity across the entire borough.

6. CROYDON COUNCIL UPDATE

Violence Reduction Network Overview

- 6.1. The council's Violence Reduction Network fulfils the role of Community Safety within Croydon Council and leads on strategic and operational crime reduction (outside of the statutory duties of Children's and Adult's Safeguarding).
- 6.2. The service is made up of several small teams focussing on the key priorities of the council alongside delivering the statutory duties of the partnership. Following budget reductions through 2020 to 2022, the service is comparatively small compared to other council's and has the lowest spend per head amongst its nearest neighbours. **Anti-social Behaviour**

What do we do?

- 6.3. The team deal with high-risk cases from across the entire partnership, as the final point of escalation from other services and partners. The team investigate reports of ASB such as excessive household noise, drunk and disorderly behaviour, drug using and taking in properties, loud music, verbal and racial abuse, cuckooing (where a vulnerable person's flat is taken over by drug dealers), harassment and intimidation, ASB caused by people vulnerable due to substance and alcohol abuse and mental health, threats of violence and actual violence.
- 6.4. The team acts by using Community Protection Notices (CPN), Injunction, Premises Closure Orders, Public Space Protection Order (PSPOs), Possession Action, Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABC).

Data:

| Measure | April 2023 to March 2024 |
|---|--------------------------|
| Total number of cases currently open to the ASB team. | 55 |
| Number of injunctions | 6 |
| Number of Premises Closures | 11 |
| Number of possession orders applied for | 17 |
| Number of CPNWs issued | 4 |
| Number of ABCs signed | 6 |

Case Study: A resident stored a large trailer at a block of flats. The trailer caused an obstruction and took up parking spaces that were for the use of other residents. When asked to remove the trailer, the resident was not co-operative. In November 2023, the Council served the resident with a Community Protection Notice Warning requiring them to remove the trailer within a given time frame. The resident complied and the complaints of ASB regarding the issue ceased.

Case Study: For several years, residents complained about anti-social behaviour at a property. The perpetrator was accused of shouting, screaming and banging on walls throughout the night keeping residents awake. When one neighbour asked the perpetrator to reduce the noise, they received threats to kill. There was also evidence of drug dealing and drug taking at the property. The Council made an application to the Magistrates Court for a Premises Closure Order. The Court considered evidence from the Council and witnesses and a full Closure Order was granted and later extended to 2024. The Council will now seek possession of the property.

Case Study: A property was regularly coming to the attention of the Council due to serious anti-social behaviour. The behaviours included aggression towards residents, verbal and racial abuse of residents, noise disturbance at all hours of the day and at night into the early hours of the morning. A fire was also started in the property which could have endangered lives. Police and the London Fire Brigade received regular calls to the property. Residents reported the abuse of drugs and alcohol in the property and one resident described the property as “a pub”. Following a call for action from several residents and a full investigation into the issues, the Council sought a Premises Closure Order at the property to give immediate reprieve to the residents and began legal action for possession of the property. The Court considered the evidence and granted a full 3 month Closure Order which has been extended. A Closure Order prohibits any person from entering the property until the Order has expired. Several residents thanked the Council for the action taken. The Council provided full support for the tenant during and after this action.

CCTV Service

What do we do?

- 6.5. The CCTV Control Room (Intelligence Hub) is based at Strand House, Thornton Heath and staffed 24/7, 365 days a year. The CCTV team monitor 94 permanent networked colour CCTV cameras of various designs with Pan, Tilt & Zoom facility. This includes CCTV based on Housing land. Oversee the management and installation of the deployable cameras that can be moved across the borough depending on crime hotspots and partnership

requests. The main partner to use the facilities provided are the Metropolitan Police. Police forces as well as the National Crime Agency have carried out surveillance operations from the Control Room. The Police regularly download footage from the control room and use it as part of their investigation. During covid access was restricted and the team are currently refreshing the "Protocol for CCTV Access".

- 6.6. The team also provides the Council's Out of Hours Emergency Telephony Service which signposts residents with an Emergency need that cannot wait until the next working day.

Data

- 282: Number of incidents the team have assisted with Police investigations.
- 370: CCTV reviews for Police where the service has received a written request but unfortunately there has been an unsuccessful result.
- Over 2000 "Police radio call-assistance given "communications

Case Study: A call was received by the team regarding a group of shoplifters who were operating in the Town Centre and had just stolen from a local shop. Using the description provided by the Police, the team identified the suspects from the description provided. The images were relayed to the Police control room and information was updated as the suspects made their way through the town centre.

As a result the Police identified how the suspects intended to leave the area on a bus and the Police were on scene just after the suspects made their way off the bus and were arrested.

Case Study: Call came out on radio of a group of males that had thrown a machete into a garden. The Police were called and the team identified the suspects running away, images were pushed to the police. Suspect was arrested and machete recovered.

Family Justice Service (FJS)

What do we do?_

- 6.7. The FJC is a centrally located resource offering a multi-disciplinary approach to services for victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence and their children. The service seeks to offer victims wrap around support and to prevent individuals having to go from agency to agency, telling their story repeatedly, in order to access the support they need.
- 6.8. The FJC also lead on the statutory requirement of commissioning domestic violence homicide reviews (DHRs). The team lead on the coordination of

Modern-Day Slavery (MDS) that involve adults as well as transitional safeguarding from children social care to adult social care.

Data

- 1,296 – April 2023 to January 2024 – Referrals to FJS from partners and residents
- 756 – MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) referrals to discuss high harm, high risk to victim/survivors.

Case Study: Due to Croydon being the pilot site for delivering the Drive programme since 2018 and assisting in its roll across the South BCU (Croydon, Bromley and Sutton) in 2021, the Home Office has selected the south BCU to pilot the DAPN/O (domestic abuse protection Notice/order). Croydon will be instrumental in shaping these orders and assist in the roll out pan London.

Prevent

What do we do?_

- 6.9. The Prevent team are responsible for implementing the UK Government's Prevent strand of Counter Terrorism (CONTEST). Prevent is a statutory duty on the public sector and revolves around three main objectives:
- Ideology: Responding to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from it
 - Individuals: Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and given appropriate advice and support
 - Institutions: Work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation which we need to address
- 6.10. The team lead on the coordination of PROTECT agenda where the primary focus is to improve protective security and preparedness measures in publicly accessible locations.
- 6.11. The team supports the Director of Culture & Community Safety as the statutory chair of the Chanel process, the monthly multi-agency preventative group that aims to stop people becoming radicalised. Data from this group is restricted due to Home Office and national security requirements.

Training Data

| Output | Audience | No. of sessions | No. of attendees |
|---|-----------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| WRAP (Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent) | Practitioners | 19 | 800 |
| Briefings | Practitioners | 2 | 40 |
| Bespoke Workshops | Practitioners | 16 | 375 |
| Student Workshops | Students | 13 | 454 |

- 6.12. WRAP - (Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent) is a training programme that discusses the statutory duty of Prevent, extremism and radicalisation, the indicators of concern and where to go to for support. This training is intended for professionals and practitioners with a safeguarding role.
- 6.13. Briefings – Professionals who have already received WRAP training may instead opt for a shorter briefing to serve as a refresher and provide up to date information on local contexts and issues that are important to be aware of.
- 6.14. Practitioner Workshops – These are bespoke workshops for practitioners to deep dive into specific topics within the field of extremism and radicalisation.
- 6.15. Student workshops – These workshops are delivered to students (both at primary and secondary level) in an age-appropriate way to raise awareness of the dangers of extremism and intolerance, and the support they can access if they are concerned.

Case Study: We have secured funding for 7 different projects this financial year, covering target audiences in schools, professionals, community engagement, foster carers and more. The projects were asked to deliver workshops and training to raise awareness of extremism and the support available for concerns to build a more resilient Croydon to the hate and intolerance of extremist messaging.

Performance and Intelligence

What do we do?_

- 6.16. The team carries out the statutory requirements for the Safer Croydon Partnership such as supporting and running the executive, producing and

monitor the partnership plan that has regard for MOPAC's policing plan priorities and producing an annual strategic assessment.

- 6.17. The team also oversees funding streams provided by the VRN (LCPF, VRU) and co-ordinates work on Serious Youth Violence (SYV)

Data

New Addington

- 6.18. Working closely with local schools in the New Addington area, the Youth Engagement service and the Local Policing team. 46 Outreach sessions were delivered to target young people in the area as well as 34 Mentoring sessions held. This resulted in 25 sport based engagement sessions being held. In total 448 young people engaged with the service.

Town Centre

- 6.19. The funding helped to provide 84 outreach sessions being delivered between May and November 2023 in the Town Centre. Where a total of 268 Males and 238 females were engaged with. The purpose of the outreach work was the support young people a risk as they travelled through the Town Centre and congregated in the area.

Thornton Heath

- 6.20. 32 Outreach sessions delivered across the area: targeting the High Street and the local park. Working closely with the Local Policing team and youth engagement service. 265 young people were engaged with through the programme.

7. HEALTH RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY SAFETY AGENDA.

Staff support

- 7.1. The CHS Safeguarding (SG) Team consists of Children's, Adults, Maternity, Children Looked After Advisors and Named Professionals. The SG Team provides a duty line for support and advice, Monday to Friday (9-5pm). The advisors are responsive and attend clinical areas where a need is identified. The SG Adult (SGA) team and Hospital Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (HIDVA) attend the Emergency Department ward round twice daily, and Acute Medical Unit twice weekly to support review of patients and supporting with advice where SG or Domestic abuse concerns arise. There is also a SG Children's advisor present within the Children's Emergency Department supporting staff and patients. The SG team provide SG supervision to staff and services (acute and community) this supports regular case discussion, reflection and advice and support.
- 7.2. Red Thread are present in ED and offer continuing to staff and young people who are involved in, or on the periphery of, serious youth violence.

DASV

- 7.3. The Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (DASV) support worker is funded by a charity, the DASV worker started in November 2023 and the contract will end after a year. The DASV is currently recruiting Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) Champions, the champions receive introductory training and a resource pack to support them being an advocate within their team to raise the profile of the DVA support available. The DASV has developed a DVA Champion badge, this is in progress, the aim will be for staff to wear the badge as a means to communicate with patients non-verbally that they are a safe person to approach for support. The DASV is working closely with Occupational Health, exploring the support available to CHS staff that may be experiencing DVA. Some bespoke training sessions are being arranged for Managers in how to recognise, support and refer.

Hospital Independent Domestic Abuse and Violence Advocate (HIDVA)

- 7.4. The HIDVA is employed by the Family Justice Service (FJS) and works within Croydon University Hospital and closely with the CHS SG Team. The HIDVA is contacted by staff and patients for support, since starting in post in July 2023 151 referrals have been supported.

Iris Programme

- 7.5. SWL ICB has secured funding for the Identification and Referral to Improve (IRIS) programme in GP practices across Croydon. As part of the IRIS

training offer, two advocate educators and a clinical lead are supporting the GP practices.

Meetings

7.6. The Safeguarding Adult Team (SGA) attend the CHS High Intensity User Group, this is a panel that reviews patients who are frequent attenders at the Emergency Department, these patients often have complex needs and DVA and SG concerns are identified and referred onward.

7.7. The SGA team attend:

- **Risk Vulnerability Management Panel Meeting** intermittently where CHS patients have been referred for discussion. This is a multi-agency high risk support panel.
- **Channel Panel**, supporting with research and channel reviews. The SG Named Nurse for Maternity and HIDVA attend the Vulnerable Women's Meeting monthly.
- **CHS Mental Health Group**, and **Right Care Right Person (RCRP) task and finish group**. This is an internal group that looks at themes, trends, activities and improving processes/practice to support this demographic of patients.
- **Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Board**
- **Complex Adolescents Panel (CAP)** attended by CHS safeguarding team.
- The SGA, HIDVA and Safeguarding Children's (SGC) Team attend the weekly **Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)**, supporting with research, review and actions where required.
- **The crossing pathways national meeting**. ICB Designated professionals are engaged with national DASV forums.

Awareness weeks/days

7.8. The SGA team led on Safeguarding Adults Awareness week in November 2023, this included advertisement internally and externally (social media), bespoke training, and leading a public and staff facing stall within the hospital with the HIDVA and guests (fire brigade). CHS promoted White Ribbon Day on the 25th of November on social media raising the profile of the HIDVA and DVA role within CHS. The Calabash service (FGM) led a stall in Croydon Hospital foyer the week of 4/2/24. The ICB promoted the 16 days of Action against Domestic Abuse.

Training

- 7.9. The SG Level 3 training includes slides on Prevent, DVA and FGM. The HIDVA provides training to the junior doctors, ward staff (including emergency department), and services requesting.

SG presenting at Croydon Cares

- 7.10. A session was presented by a guest speaker on the 20th October 2023 on Prevent. The DASV will be presenting a session on DVA and the champion role on the 6th of April 2024. Red Thread (Youth work in health settings) will be presenting a session on their service on the 5th April 2024.

Children Looked After Team

- 7.11. Screening and identification of risk of criminal exploitation and domestic violence is achieved through review health assessments, with specific questions on CSE and DV embedded in the review and ongoing work with young people. Partnership working and ongoing liaison with Youth Justice Service Health Worker, as well as liaison with Redthread ensures that protective measures and adequate liaison is introduced whenever early signs of violence, DV and CCE are present. Named Nurse for CLA attends Transitional Safeguarding Panel, so that early information sharing with community partners such as social care and police is ensured. Close cooperation and liaison between CLA Team, Social Care and CHS Safeguarding Children Team following SCT attendance at Complex Adolescent Panel meetings supports further early identification and safety measures being placed for CLA most vulnerable to violence and DV.

Maternity Safeguarding Team

- 7.12. Screening and identification of risk of domestic Abuse is reviewed at the initial booking appointment with midwifery services. Routine enquiry is also occurs at other times during the pregnancy when appropriate to do so. If any concerns are highlighted, referrals are made to the Vulnerable Women's Meeting (VWM), Children's social care and the HIDVA. The maternity safeguarding team chair a monthly multi-agency meeting which is attended by the HIDVA and other agencies. In this meeting vulnerable pregnant women/families are discussed, actions are set and updates are given.

Sexual Safety Charter

- 7.13. NHSE launched the Sexual Safety Charter for health colleagues in 2023.
- 7.14. All health organisations have been asked to commit to developing a charter. SWLICB and Croydon Health Services have both commenced work which is

being led by Organisational Development and Human Resources colleagues are currently working on an action plan.

Case Study: A father with five children contacted AR&A to seek help with their 14 year-old non-binary child who has been acting out, getting angry and being physically aggressive at home and school. They had received detention and suspension from classes in school.

Dad works part-time (online) from home and his partner is currently waiting for a decision around her right to remain in the UK. Dad is the only one contributing consistently to the family purse, trying to stabilise the family.

The young person had been having difficulty with their behaviour before the close of the summer term. At a meeting at school in June, Dad attended and the young person agreed and signed a contract with the school together with Dad. This gave the young person a chance to think about their behaviour. However, they didn't adhere to the agreed rules and was put into seclusion most days till the end of term.

During the summer holidays, Dad contacted A&RA seeking help/support for his 14 year old as he was not coping at home. Working with the parent, I suggested firstly, to think about mentoring, suggesting Project 4 Youth Empowerment, and secondly, that the young person register for counselling with CDI.

The parent had a conversation with their child and agreed to both options. They signed up for mentoring/P4YE and was assessed for counselling with CDI. During the summer P4YE started to engage with the 14 year-old who fed back at our meeting that they enjoyed the mentoring. The parent kept in contact with A&RA and the question arose about Mum attending a meeting at school in September. Contrary to expectation (because she had never attended school meetings before), on the day, Mum attended.

During the meeting, a video demonstrated the 14 year-olds behaviour in the summer term and the reaction on Mum's face showed all, as she had no clue about her child's behaviour. Following a lengthy discussion, school allowed the young person back into school as long as they attended counselling and continued the work with P4YE.

Since Autumn the young person has gone from strength to strength at home, completed the mentoring, is not at risk of exclusion at school and has stuck with their counsellor at CDI.

8. Probation Services

- 8.1. Following the Probation unification in June 2021, Croydon was established as a single Probation Delivery Unit (PDU) to strengthen partnership working and focus on service delivery, with our key stakeholders to reduce crime. It is one of 18 Probation Delivery Units across London making up the London Probation Region. Our focus is on delivering a service to protect the public and reduce reoffending. To protect our communities, we provide assessments and support and challenge those that we work with to change their lives and move away from crime. We do this using a four – pillar approach: -
- Supervision
 - Monitoring and control
 - Intervention and treatment
 - Victim safety
- 8.2. As a PDU we are clear that whilst we have an important role in the activities to reduce reoffending and manage risk, we cannot do this without the support of our partners. Croydon PDU continues to build relationships with our partners to ensure that we deliver an effective service. Some of the ways that we do this is through Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements and Integrated Offender Management.
- 8.3. Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) – two Level 2 Panels per month with ad hoc Level 3 and standalone panels to be responsive to risk.
- 8.4. MAPPA is a set of arrangements through which the Police, Probation and Prison Services work together with other agencies to manage the risks posed by those convicted of violent, sexual and terrorism offences who are living in the community. We involve a number of other agencies under a duty to co-operate with the Responsible Authority. These include Children's Services, Adult Social Services, Health Trusts and Authorities, Youth Offending Teams, Local Housing Authorities, Job Centre Plus and certain registered social landlords and electronic monitoring providers.
- 8.5. The agencies involved in MAPPA in Croydon are working closely together to ensure that resources are best directed to protect the public and to reduce reoffending.
- 8.6. All MAPPA managed individuals are assessed to establish the level of risk of harm they pose and to whom. Risk management plans are devised for each

individual to manage those risks. These set out the action that need to be taken to minimise the risk. Some measures that can be considered are:

- Ensuring individuals have suitable accommodation, which can include requiring them to reside at a probation run Approved Premises on release.
- Placing controls on the individual's behaviour through strict licence conditions which can include not to have contact with a named individual or not to enter a defined exclusion zone.
- Intensive supervision by a probation officer and/or community public protection police
- Ensure the individual attends identified accredited programmes, structured interventions and other interventions (such as drug and alcohol programmes) aimed at reducing further offending.

8.7. All individuals supervised by probation must comply with the conditions of their order or licence. Any failure to do so will result in action being taken. For those on licence, this could mean a return to prison and for those on community orders a return to court.

Case Study: RT is a young man currently in custody. He is associated with Serious Group Violence and has ADHD. He was previously known to YOS.

Previous release from custody have failed and he has not remained in the community long. This has been assessed as due to the lack of adequate support systems.

Discussed at MAPPA pre-release. In attendance was Leaving care, Gangs worker, Gangs police, PP, and statutory panel members.

Risk Management Plan devised includes

- Leaving care identifying several accommodation options prior to release – suitability to be checked
- Mental health supporting with how to manage/support his ADHD (mother doesn't believe in medication which has impacted his behaviour and decisions in the past)
- Licence conditions discussed to identify what is proportionate and will support the management of risk.
- Partners have supported in identifying the relevant interventions that may help on his release (MH, ETE, support in resettling into the community)

Case remains at MAPPA Level 2, but a more robust release plan and risk management plan will be in place with the aim of resettling him and working with him in the community to reduce his reoffending and the risk that he poses.

Integrated Offender Management (IOM) – Panels held monthly.

- 8.8. IOM focuses on priority acquisitive offences, particularly Robbery and Burglary offences and identifies persistent offenders in the local community who also pose a risk of violent re-offending and harm.
- 8.9. The following criteria is used to identify those that should be part of the IOM cohort –
- 8.10. Those who have a 2-year reconviction score (OGRs) of 75%+ or 50%+ with a robbery or burglary offence in the past 2 years that they were in the community and an OVP (violence predictor score) of 30% plus.

IOM Category

- Fixed -applies to eligibility criteria above.
 - Flex – other cases identified by Probation Practitioners(PP) with a lower OVP and OGRs score, but the borough decides to take them onto IOM – In Croydon this has been applied to the younger cohort of individuals where there are concerns around group violence, it provides discretion locally.
 - Free – other cases not subject to statutory supervision.
- 8.11. Croydon IOM panel meets monthly – Probation Practitioners attend to present their cases. Other agencies present at Croydon IOM – IOM Police Officers, Substance Misuse Service (CGL), CFO Hub, DWP, Representative from Anti- Social Behaviour Team, Croydon, Housing, Mental Health Practitioner from Together, IOM SPOC London Prisons.
 - 8.12. IOM adopts a person-centred approach, Probation and other agencies work together to address the causes of criminal behaviour and reducing incidents of offending behaviour. IOM nominals are told that they have been placed on the scheme and that there will be more intensive supervision of cases via multi agency approach up to 3 appointments per week with a combination of partners including their PP and IOM Police Officer.
 - 8.13. IOM also enables sharing of information daily between the Police and Probation which assists in identifying any new incidences of offending behaviour/coming to notice of Police which assists in the risk management of cases in the community.

Case Study: AB being released from Prison, evidence of poor compliance with Probation previously and interventions – case was discussed prior to release at IOM panel to consider how best to support compliance and engagement on release. Agreed that IOM Police would meet AB at prison gates and take him to initial appointment with his Probation Practitioner (PP) and then assist in transporting him to the identified release accommodation outside of borough.

AB was also subject to GPS tag for additional monitoring on release.

Joint appointments with Probation and IOM Police following release were set up with AB at the probation office. CGL were also in attendance at the office to offer additional support in relation to substance misuse.

Daily intelligence sharing between Police and Probation identified that AB was frequenting properties of vulnerable individuals, in the company of other known drug users, due to concerns about potential risks to individuals and associates, PP was able to use this evidence to vary his licence to include a non-association condition with named individuals and exclusion for the identified address – this assisted in reducing risk of harm and offending.

A few days later the Probation Practitioner was alerted to a further incident at the address which he was now excluded from. As a result of the information received from the intelligence shared, swift enforcement action was taken recalling AB to prison thereby, reducing risks of further offending and harm.

9. Public Health

9.1. Although not a separate statutory partner, Public Health play a critical role in tackling Crime and Disorder in Croydon. Croydon Public health team have worked closely with colleagues in Community Safety and the wider Safer Croydon Partnership, adopting a public health approach to tackling violence. This has meant taking a holistic and wider determinants view of crime and community Safety. This report summarises the work of public health on community safety agenda, grouped by priorities identified in the Community Safety Strategy for 2022-2024:

1. Tackle domestic abuse

- a. **IDVA**: Public Health used some of its grant to support work on Domestic Abuse and Family Justice Centre. The grant has provided funding for six independent domestic violence advocates (3 community, 1 hospital, 1 NRPF and 1 police) to provide specialist support to vulnerable individuals and their families who experience domestic abuse or sexual violence.

2. Protect young people from violence and exploitation

- a. **Youth offer**: Public health is supporting the development of a needs analysis to support the council's work to coordinate and maintain oversight and facilitate collaboration to deliver the Youth offer.
- b. **Outreach Violence Prevention**: Public health is supporting the Croydon Outreach Violence Prevention Grants Program by supporting the assessment of bids from VCS organisations to ensure appropriate organisations are funded to provide effective outreach and produce tangible outcomes for young people in Croydon.
- c. **School survey**: Public health is running a longitudinal health and wellbeing survey of school aged children and young people over ten years since 2023. This anonymous survey includes questions about respondents' feelings about gangs, bullying, sexual harassment and safety.

3. Tackle disproportionality in the criminal justice system

- a. **Youth Justice service health worker**: Public health is part funding (up to 50%) the position of a Youth Justice Service Health worker to support young people in the criminal justice system to access health and wellbeing services appropriate for their assessed needs.

4. Strengthen community resilience, offer trauma-informed services, focusing on Hate Crime, and build trust in the partnership
 - a. **DPH report on LGBT+**: This year's Director of Public Health report focuses on the health experiences and inequalities within Croydon's Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans and Queer, Questioning, Plus (LGBTQ+) community. The report highlights the safety concern and hate crimes experienced by LGBT+ people and made series of recommendations including those aimed at promoting social cohesion and sense of belonging.
 - b. **Creating a Trauma Informed Borough**: Public health has engaged a specialist and renowned Trauma Informed organisation, J3MS, to deliver on a range of objectives to make Croydon a Trauma Informed Borough. This includes delivery of training sessions on Trauma-informed practice aimed at increasing practitioners' awareness of how trauma can negatively impact on individuals and communities, along with coping mechanisms.
 - c. **School health and wellbeing adviser**: Public health has provided funding for School health and wellbeing advisers to undertake a Train the trainer course on consent, violence and harassment to then be delivered in secondary schools across Croydon.
5. Focus on high priority neighbourhoods
 - a. **Substance misuse**: Public health are currently reviewing the offer to young people needing support with substance misuse and how this can be strengthened to enable more under 18 year olds to receive treatment

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