



Strategic Partnership Boards
SAFETY · SAFEGUARDING · WELLBEING

Waltham Forest Combating Drugs Partnership

Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The Waltham Forest Combating Drugs Partnership will bring together criminal justice and health agencies to develop an effective, local whole system response to drug related harms and crimes.

The Partnership will provide a coordinated approach to addressing the complex relationship between drugs, crime and anti-social behavior, health inequalities and deprivation and will provide strategic oversight of criminal enforcement of drug related crimes and delivery of drug treatment and recovery interventions. The Partnership is committed to the vision set out in the Government's [10-year drugs plan, From harm to hope](#).

2. Background and context

- The new 10-year drugs plan recognises that “the old way of doing things isn’t working” and sets out the Government’s plans for the “whole policing system” to prioritise work to disrupt the illegal supply of all drugs across the supply chain as well as committing additional funding to increase quality and provision of substance misuse treatment.
- Over 300,000 people are addicted to heroin and crack cocaine in England and addiction to these drugs is linked to around 40% of all theft, burglary and robbery.
- There are an estimated 1,716 organised crime groups involved in supplying drugs in the UK, including within prisons.
- The London Health Inequalities Strategy commits to working with partners to tackle the causes of poor health and reduce the persistent and in some cases widening health inequalities in London. The strategy highlights the role that physical activity, food, tobacco, alcohol and drugs play in driving health inequalities in London.
- County lines and London lines activity is driving increased violence in the drugs market, as well as exploitation of young people and vulnerable drug users.

3. Objectives

The Combating Drugs Partnership will lead on:

- a joint local needs assessment, reviewing local drug data and involving all relevant partners
- agreement of a local drugs strategy delivery plan that reflects the national strategic priorities, including developing data recording and sharing at a local level
- regularly reviewing progress, reflecting on local delivery of the strategy and current issues and priorities. Progress reports will be produced every 12 months in line with guidance.

4. Governance and operational arrangements

Alcohol and Drugs is an existing priority area under the Health & Wellbeing Board and has a focus on treatment and recovery. A dedicated monthly Combating Drugs task and finish group will take place (virtually) to ensure outcomes from existing workstreams are collated and any areas that require further attention such as disruption of drugs markets are addressed. It will also provide the mechanism for obtaining the service user experiences as well as collating and sharing local data and intelligence in line with the [combating drugs outcomes framework](#).

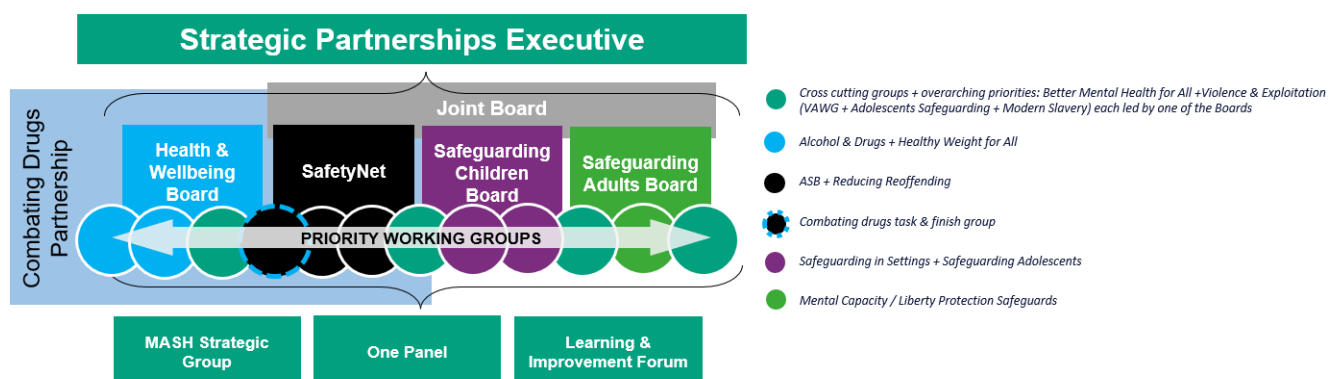
The Health & Wellbeing Board and SafetyNet will merge twice per year to oversee progress with delivering against the requirements outlined in the drugs plan guidance.

The Strategic Partnerships Unit will provide support to convene all the relevant Combating Drugs Partnership meetings which will include assisting with all necessary join up with other subgroups as required.

Meeting dates as follows:

- Wednesday 15 March 2023 - SafetyNet Board partners will join the Health & Wellbeing Board to convene as the Combating Drugs Partnership (virtual)
- The Combating drugs task & finish group will convene virtually on the second Thursday of each month between 10 November 2022 and 11 May 2022.
- Remaining meetings for Alcohol & Drugs Steering Group for 2022 / 23: Tuesday 15 November 2022 / Wednesday 11 January 2023 / Monday 13 March 2023
- Tuesday 28 March 2023 - Strategic Partnership review of priorities will incorporate considerations for how the Combating Drugs Partnership continues to be delivered. (Meeting to take place in person)

Governance Diagram:



5. Membership

Members of the Combating Drugs Partnership will have the authority to participate in the development of a local whole system response to drug related crimes and harms. Members will be responsible for aligning strategic plans within their own agencies with the Partnership's response. Core membership includes senior leaders with influence over strategy and delivery and will include the following named individuals and agency representatives:

<i>Organisation, job title and leadership role in the Combating Drugs Partnership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Part of working group</i>
Barts Health, Whipps Cross Hospital, Chief Executive	Ralph Coulbeck	
CGL, Services Manager - <i>Public involvement lead</i>	Tom Lydiate	✓
DWP - Jobcentre Plus, Advanced Customer Support Senior Leader	Laura Anderson	✓
Elected Lead Member for Adults	Cllr Louise Mitchell	
Elected Lead Member for Children and Families	Cllr Alistair Strathern	
Elected Lead Member for Community Safety	Cllr Khevyn Limbajee	
Elected Lead Member for Health	Cllr Naheed Asghar	
HM Prison & Probation Service, Head of Service	Patsy Wollaston	✓
LBWF, Assistant Director for Enforcement & Safety	Lisa Jones	✓
LBWF, Assistant Director for Housing Strategy and Improvement	John Coker	
LBWF, Assistant Director for Youth & Family Resilience Services	Cheryle Davies	✓
LBWF, Assistant Director, Employment, Business & Skills	Rebecca Davey	
LBWF, Corporate Director for Adult Care and Quality Standards	Darren McAughtrie	
LBWF, Corporate Director for Children's Services	Daniel Phelps	
LBWF, Corporate Director for Community Safety	Dan Greaves	✓
LBWF, Director of Education	Lauren Ovenden	
LBWF, Director of Public Health - <i>Interim Senior Responsible Owner</i>	Joe McDonnell	✓
LBWF, Head of Strategic Partnerships	Zahra Jones	✓
LBWF, Public Health Strategist - <i>Partnership lead</i>	Laura Davidson	✓
LBWF, Strategic Director for People (DCS/DAS)	Heather Flinders	
Met Police, NE BCU, Borough Commander	Simon Crick	
Met Police, NE BCU, TBC - <i>Services Data & digital lead</i>	Jodie Tuff	✓
North East London Health & Care Partnership, Chief Nurse & Caldicott Guardian	Diane Jones	
Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID), Programme Manager Alcohol Drugs and Tobacco	Jo Roebuck	

In addition to the above core membership, representatives from a range of organisations may be invited to attend meetings where relevant to the discussions. For example, additional representatives from within the wider Strategic Partnership and / or service providers.

6. Relationships with other governance structures

Reports to:

Strategic Partnership Executive

The Combating Drugs Partnership will report progress and relevant issues to the Strategic Partnership Executive.

Work is steered through and/or connected to:

- Combating Drugs Task & Finish Group
- Alcohol & Drugs Steering Group
- Reducing Reoffending Subgroup
- Adolescents Safeguarding & Resilience Strategic Group

Influenced by and considers issues and intelligence from:

London Drugs Forum

This Forum led by the Mayor's Office of Policing & Crime (MOPAC) provides an opportunity for any local issues to be escalated to regional system leaders, access to any available city-wide data / intelligence and also to share best practice.

Crime and Community Safety Citizens' Panel

The Citizens Panel helps the SafetyNet Partnership to understand how we can best tackle crime and improve community safety in our borough. In late 2021 the Council recruited 84 demographically and geographically representative residents to the Crime and Community Safety Panel to directly shape community safety policy and plans.

Marmot resident focused research into health inequality

As part of delivering a Fair Deal for Waltham Forest residents the Institute of Health Equity, led by Professor Sir Michael Marmot has been commissioned to work with borough-wide stakeholders to deliver a high-profile and extensive independent piece of research that will focus on understanding and delivering on our commitment to tackle health inequalities.