

# SafetyNet

## Annual Report

### April 2018 – March 2019



Strategic Partnership Boards  
SAFETY SAFEGUARDING WELLBEING



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## Introduction and Purpose of the Report

Section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 imposes a duty on Local Authorities and the Police in England to establish Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, now known as Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs). Which are defined as “An alliance of organisations which generates strategies and policies, implement actions and interventions concerning crime and disorder within their partnership area” The CSP in Waltham Forest is known locally as SafetyNet. The SafetyNet Partnership operates as the key forum to reduce crime and disorder in Waltham Forest.

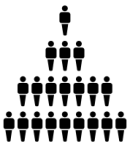









SafetyNet hosts a wide range of activities and is statutorily responsible for

- Set up a strategic group to direct the work of the partnership;
- Regularly engage and consult with the community about their priorities and progress achieving them;
- Set up protocols and systems for sharing information;
- Analyse a wide range of data, including recorded crime levels and patterns, in order to identify priorities in an annual strategic assessment;
- Set out a partnership plan and monitor progress;
- Produce a strategy to reduce reoffending
- Commission domestic violence homicide reviews.

This annual report provides details of the Strategic Priority Action Plans for 2018-2019. It illustrates how effective the SafetyNet has been over 2018- 2019 and outlines how its partners have contributed to the work of the Board. Contributions were sought directly from board members, programme managers and other relevant partnerships.



## About Waltham Forest

	<p>Waltham Forest is home to an estimated <b>271,200</b> residents and <b>104,000</b> households;</p>
	<p>The median age of residents is <b>34 years</b> compared to the UK average of <b>40 years</b>;</p>
	<p>The borough is one of the most diverse areas in the country. <b>48%</b> of residents are from a minority ethnic background;</p>
	<p>The top five countries of origin for residents born overseas are Pakistan (<b>8,200</b>), Poland (<b>8,200</b>), Romania (<b>4,300</b>), Jamaica (<b>4,200</b>) and India (<b>4,200</b>);</p>
	<p>The top five languages spoken locally other than English are Urdu, Polish, Romanian, Turkish and Lithuanian;</p>
	<p><b>93%</b> of the <b>9,940</b> enterprises in Waltham Forest micro businesses employing fewer than 10 people;</p>
	<p>More than <b>135,000</b> working age residents (<b>73.1%</b>) are in employment whilst the unemployment rate is down to <b>6.4%</b>;</p>
	<p>The average annual earnings for full-time working residents increased <b>4%</b> from 2015 to 2016 and is currently at <b>£30,900</b>;</p>
	<p>Waltham Forest is currently ranked <b>35th</b> most deprived borough nationally according to the 2015 Index of Multiple Deprivation (an improvement from <b>15th</b> most deprived in the 2010 edition);</p>
	<p>Life expectancy in Waltham Forest is similar to the England average – <b>79.4</b> years for men and <b>83.8</b> years for women</p>

The Greater London Authority (GLA) 2015 round of population projections estimate that Waltham Forest population will increase from 274,800 residents in 2016 to a total of 291,500 by 2021, an increase of 16,700 (6%). The fastest growing group is projected to be those aged 50 and over

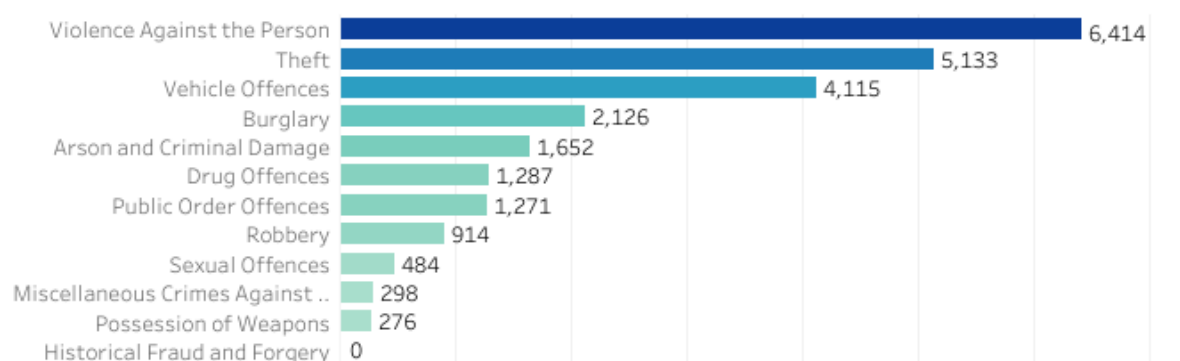
## Key Statistics

From April 2018 to March 2019, a total of **23,907 crimes** were recorded by the Metropolitan Police in Waltham Forest, decreasing by -1,067 (4.66%) crimes on the year before.



Waltham Forest has a crime rate of 85 per 1,000 population which equates to was 7 crimes per month per 1,000 people, which is lower than the average crime rate for London (8). Waltham Forest is ranked **16<sup>th</sup> lowest for crime out of the 32 boroughs**, with the highest three offences being:

1. Violence Against the Person 6,414
2. Theft 5,133
3. Vehicle offences 4,155



## Local Priorities

The Mayor's Police and Crime Plan performance framework consciously moved away from city wide targets to enable local solutions to local problems based upon evidence. The framework incorporates London wide priorities with a focus on high harm crimes and wider issues that affect all of London, alongside local volume crime priorities chosen by local authorities in partnership with local police.

London wide priorities were set as follows:

- Sexual offences
- Domestic Abuse
- Hate Crime
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Weapon based (both knife and gun crime)

At the start of 2018/19, Waltham Forest chose the following as local volume crime priorities:

- Non-Domestic Abuse Violence with Injury
- Personal Property Offences (Robbery)
- Total Burglary

## Violence Against Women and Girls

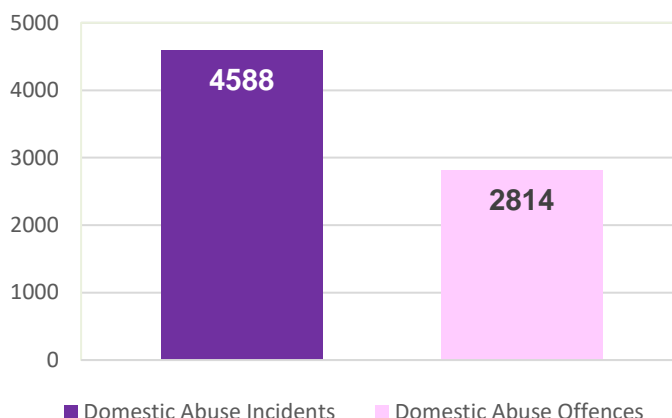


In London Borough of Waltham Forest there were 4,588 domestic abuse incidents in 2019, a reduction of -75 (-1.62%); in comparison the Metropolitan Police Service experienced a reduction of -0.55%.

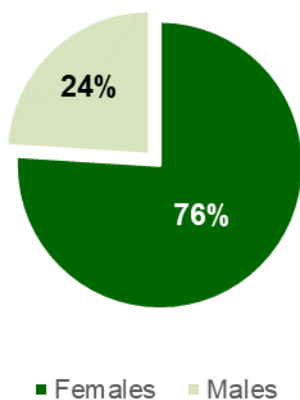
In LBWF there were 2,814 domestic abuse offences, an increase of 248 (9.6%) this is in line with the MPS which experienced an increase of 11.7%.

The increase is thought to be due to more victims coming forward to report this crime.

Domestic Abuse Incidents and Offences

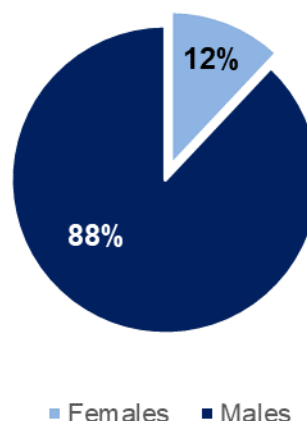


Gender of Domestic Abuse Victims



Domestic abuse victims are split by gender being 76% females and 24% males, the most prominent age group is 25-34.

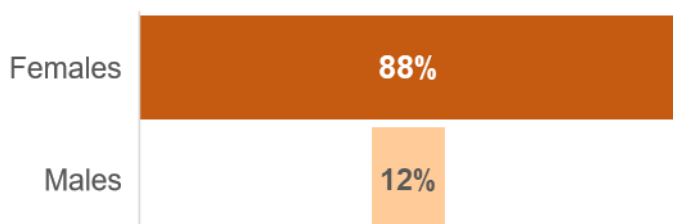
Gender of Domestic Abuse Perpetrators



Domestic abuse perpetrators consisted of 88% males and 12% females, the most prominent age group is 25-34.

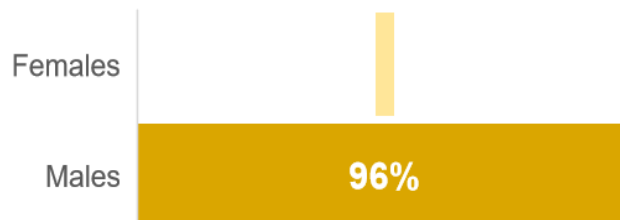
Sexual offences saw a reduction of -17.4%, rape offences also reduced by -23.9%. The reduction in the reporting of rapes and sexual offences is of concern as the reporting of these offences should be encouraged, performance is below the Metropolitan Police Service average.

Gender of Sexual Offences Victims



Sexual offences victims are split by gender being 88% females and 12% males, the most prominent age groups are under 18's and 25-34.

Gender of Sexual Offences Perpetrators



Sexual offences perpetrators consisted of 96% males and 4% females, the most prominent age group is 25-34.

### Gangs and Youth Crime



In comparison to the previous year in LBWF there were **162 knife** crime with injury offences, a reduction of -13 (-8.02%) in comparison the MPS experienced a reduction of -430 (-9.11%). In LBWF there were **89 gun crime** offences, a reduction of -4 (-4.3%) comparatively the MPS experienced a reduction of -151 (-5.97%).

### Hate Crime



There were **387 Racist Hate Crimes**, in comparison to the previous year there has been a reduction of -42 (-9.7%), SafetyNet is re-introducing third party reporting to actively encourage victims to come forward.

### Prevent



Prevent is proactively working to the elimination of extremism and is currently running several projects including: Digital Resilience. Performance in relation to: referrals from non-statutory sources there have been no referrals, in contrast there has been positive performance for project participation from hard-to-reach youths with **324 youths engaged** an increase of 65.

### Non-Domestic Abuse Violence with Injury



In LBWF there were **1,482 Non-Domestic Abuse Violence with Injury**, an increase of 44 (3.06%) in contrast the MPS experienced an increase of 0.39%.

### Personal Property Offences (Robbery)



In LBWF there were **845 Personal Property Offences (Robbery)**, a decrease of -44 (-1.63%) in contrast the MPS experienced an increase of 4.04%.

### Burglary



In LBWF there were **2,126 Burglary Offences**, a decrease of -138 (-5.86%) in contrast the MPS experienced an increase of 4.77%.

### Theft from Shops



In LBWF there were **818 Theft from Shops**, a decrease of -210 (-20.43%) in contrast the MPS experienced a decrease of -7.66%.

### Theft from Motor Vehicle



In LBWF there were **2,499 Theft from Motor Vehicle offences**, an increase of 644 (34.72%) in contrast the MPS experienced an increase of 14.11%.

## Think Family

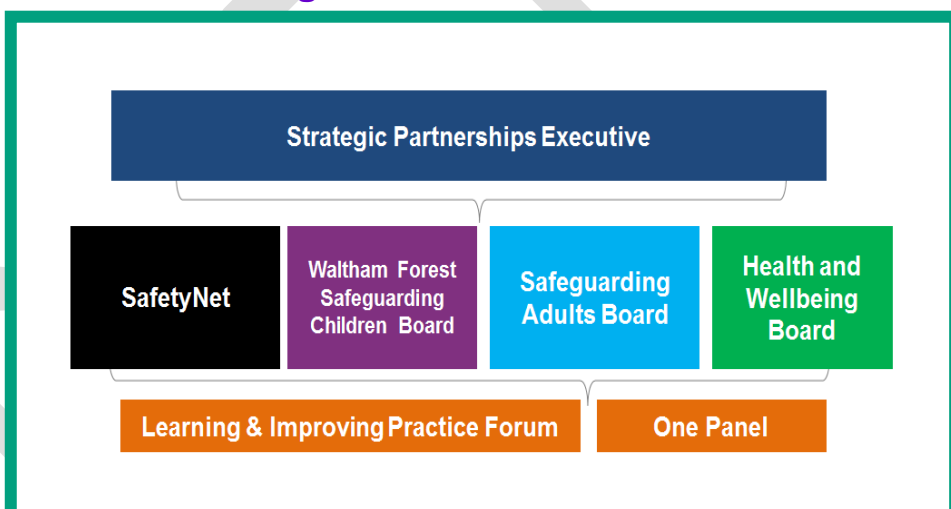


SafetyNet adopts the approach of 'Think Family' this means securing better outcomes for children and adults by co-ordinating the support they receive; and ensuring the safeguarding of each family member is taken into consideration. It is recognising that families are complex systems and if family members want to make changes that are helpful and long lasting this need to be done with all members of the family as a whole. We need to recognise how the needs and outcomes of each person in the family affect each other. If the work is only with one person in the family, there will only be limited changes to the whole

system/family. Families are individual and will have their own culture and ways of working. It is important to learn from families how they work and change the way we work with them accordingly. Within the projects and strategies run by the board the Think Family approach is embedded throughout.

## Strategic Partnership Unit and Our Strategic links

In early 2016 the Strategic Partnership Unit was set up to provide joined up support across the four strategic boards; Waltham Forest Safeguarding Adults Board, SafetyNet, Health and Wellbeing Board and Waltham Forest Safeguarding Children Board. The unit provides policy support and strategic planning to all the boards and identifies opportunities to undertake cross-cutting work across more than one board with the aim of reducing duplication and increasing effectiveness and efficiency to improve outcomes for residents. Examples of cross cutting work include the Learning and Improving Practice Forum which oversees multi-agency audit activity, multi-agency training and disseminating of learning from local learning reviews and statutory reviews. We also have the One Panel that ensures we have a Think Family approach to our review work that enhances our learning.



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This way of working is still relatively unique across London and nationally and we have continued to develop our approach to ensure we are maximising the opportunities it provides us. Early evidence of impact includes improvements in the functioning of the boards, alongside the appropriateness of the reports through the use of challenge questions for authors. There has been a reduction in duplication and it is now much easier to agree where a piece of work should sit when of interest to more than one board. The joined up needs assessment and priority refresh added value and understanding to the boards. The One Panel has continued to grow and is now a mature partnership which is able to make complex decisions and be clear about being proportionate and focused when commissioning reviews. The One Panel continues to attract attention from across the country. Events such as Think Family, Think Safeguarding are much easier to organise and provide a Think Family holistic platform for partners.



## How did partners ensure the service user was at the centre of their work?



### Waltham Forest Clinical Commissioning Group

*Children: The CCG has discharged its duty under Section 14Z2 of the NHS Act 2006 (as amended 2012) to involve the public (individuals and communities you serve) in commissioning activities and the impact that engagement activity has had. This includes designing and planning, decision-making and proposals for change that will impact on individuals or groups and how health services are provided to them. It is a statutory requirement to demonstrate how statutory duty for patient and public participation in health care has been met in the CCG annual report. The CCG's Communications and Engagement team has worked with local partner organisations (LBWF, Barts and NELFT) to produce a Children and Young person's engagement toolkit for both professionals and, children and young people themselves. The WFCCG Communications Team used the content gathered and work done by everyone to create a very simple 'toolkit' to be hosted on the CCG's website. This has now been approved by all involved in its development and it can be viewed here. The CCG has established a Patient Participation Group (PPG) and all local GP Practices have also set up PPGs for their individual Practices this enables a service user perspective.*

**Belmont Park –Pupil Referral Unit** *We constantly consult with our young people formally and informally on how they perceive our offer and how to improve it. We try and act as advocates for them in formal meetings so their needs are met.*

**Adult Social Care** *The "Think Family" approach is embedded into Adult Social Care ensuring the voice of children and adults is central. Moreover, our local systems highlight the need for practitioners to consider risks to children, carers and any others, providing guidance on what action to take as required.*

**Hawkswood Group** *Children are routinely asked about how they feel and how we can make our provisions more effective – their voice is captured at every opportunity and acted on when appropriate:*

- *Induction into the service*
- *Review meetings with children and with parents*
- *Every 6 weeks following termly learning*
- *We have developed our school councils*
- *Provided opportunities to engage in feedback without providing their names through worry boxes and on-line reporting*
- *Strategic planning and financial spend has the child at the centre of decision making*

**Community Rehabilitation Company** Children: London CRC works with statutory service users over the age of 18 and as such we do not generally have direct contact with the children of service users. Nonetheless, safeguarding practise is integral to our work and where concerns may be present we rely on partnership working with children's services and the MASH. Adult service users: In terms of adults London CRC has developed a new integrated case management and risk assessment tool 'OMNIA' which was launched in the first quarter of 2019. OMNIA puts the service users voice central to the risk and needs assessment by design and utilises an interactive service users self-scoring tool to assess risk and needs and assign objectives for completion during the course of their order.

**Children's Social Care** Our internal audit programme judges the evidence of the child lived experience in all case audited. We also complete service user feedback with parents and carers and have a dedicated voice and influence service to ensure children have a voice. We also include children in our interview panels for all posts. Findings from this activity is reported monthly and annually through our QA reports and actions agreed to address areas of concerns or take forward ideas shared by service users.

**London Fire Brigade** Fire crews and fire safety practitioners operating within Waltham forest engage with the community through station visits, open days and borough based community events. At incidents and Home fire safety visits our services are tailored to meet the needs of the residents.

**North East London Foundation Trust** Children: The importance of the voice of the child being at the centre of all we do is discussed at safeguarding children supervision, is included in safeguarding children training and also questioned when discussing concerns on the safeguarding advice service by both the adult and children safeguarding team, as a Think Family approach. Consent is obtained and recorded for all Children and Young People who demonstrate competency to consent to treatment and attend appointments independently. Children and Young Person

complaints leaflet is widely available and is also in an easy to read format. Information relating to services is available in child friendly format. Children and Young People are consulted on through a feedback process about the treatment that they received and this information is used to shape the service going forward. Adult service users: Our enhanced training for staff highlights the requirement to gain consent from patients before a safeguarding alert has been raised recognising that an adult with capacity is able to refuse consent for a safeguarding to be raised if this is their preference. Other mandatory training on Mental Capacity and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards and Prevent is available to all staff via e learning. We operate an adult safeguarding advice service desk for staff to contact the team by telephone, email, datix or face-to-face to access support and guidance on safeguarding concerns. The advice service operates Monday to Friday 0900-1700 except public holidays and outside of these hours staff are directed to contact the local authority out of hours team to discuss any safeguarding concerns. Specialist Safeguarding Advisors visit teams in all NELFT areas to allow staff the opportunity to meet and discuss any concerns they may have. Bespoke supervision can also be arranged if necessary.

**National Probation Service** Children: We continue to recognise and incorporate 'The Voice of the Child' wherever applicable in Pre-Sentence Reports and risk assessment processes. In MAPPA, CP Conferences, CIN and MARAC meetings our staff continue to incorporate child and adult safeguarding considerations the voice and views of victims are part of release planning and licence conditions where appropriate for our service users being released from prison. Adult service users: We continue to work hard to ensure that all our service users are engaged and part of developing their own sentence plans. Our 2018 offender survey showed that 77% of Haringey, Redbridge and Waltham Forest (HRWF) service users were satisfied with the service provided. The national target was 75% and the London average was 75.93%. This was also a significant improvement on 2017 when the satisfaction rate was 56.58% for HRWF.

## Board Priorities



**Strategic Partnership Boards**  
SAFETY SAFEGUARDING WELLBEING

### Priorities for the four Strategic Partnership Boards 2017-19

Supporting agencies to work together to improve outcomes in safety, safeguarding and wellbeing for residents in Waltham Forest

#### Members:

Barts Health NHS Trust, CAF/CASS, Care Quality Commission, Colleges and Schools, Community Rehabilitation Company, Community Waltham Forest, Healthwatch, Independent Care Providers, Lay Members, London Ambulance Service, London Fire Brigade, Metropolitan Police Service, National Probation Service, NELFT, Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations, Waltham Forest Council, Waltham Forest NHS Clinical Commissioning Group



**SafetyNet**  
Reduce anti-social behaviour, gang crime, violence against women and girls, youth offending, and substance misuse

Prevent

Anti-Social Behaviour

Gangs and Youth Violence



**Safeguarding Children Board**  
Partners work together for the safety and well being of children and young people

Neglect

Safeguarding in Settings



**Safeguarding Adults Board**  
To protect people who need help and support

Pressure care

Making Safeguarding Personal

Quality & Standards

Self Neglect



**Health and Wellbeing Board**  
To deliver health services in the borough, improve people's health and reduce health inequalities

Healthy Weight for Children

End of Life Care

#### Cross Cutting Priorities

Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG)

Adolescents Safeguarding including child sexual exploitation, children missing, harmful sexual behaviour, gangs etc.

Modern Slavery

Drugs and Alcohol

Cuckooing

Mental Wellbeing

We ensure residents influence the work of the boards in different ways. We share learning with practitioners to improve practice.

[www.walthamforest.gov.uk/strategicpartnerships](http://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/strategicpartnerships)



## Prevent

The purpose of Prevent is at its heart to safeguard and support vulnerable people to stop them from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. Prevent works in a similar way to programmes designed to safeguard people from gangs, drug abuse, and physical and sexual abuse. Success means an enhanced response to tackle the causes of radicalisation, in communities and online and continued effective support to those who are vulnerable to radicalisation.

### Overarching aim

Our overarching aim is to develop effective multi-agency plans for safe, quality and timely responses to create positive outcomes for individuals who are potentially vulnerable to violent extremist ideologies by enabling identification of risk at the earliest point. This has been achieved by raising awareness across the partnership and supporting communities to counter violent extremist/terrorist narratives and recruitment activities by equipping key professionals, community members and residents to understand what violent extremism and terrorism is in the broadest context and how to respond. We aim to deliver our strategic plan in line with the 4 strands of the national CONTEST Strategy 2018 of Pursue, Prevent, Protect and Prepare.



### Raised awareness and improved training/ Increased multi-agency partnership working

This aimed to effectively address establishment concerns/ Increased resilience to radicalisation among hard to reach groups

The Prevent Team at London Borough of Waltham Forest have developed a coordinated programme of training offers dedicated to raising awareness to frontline practitioners across a range of sectors, including social care, housing, health, education and the wider community. Practitioners, professionals and community members have been given the opportunity to complete the Home Office- endorsed WRAP training package, and have been provided access to the national e-learning package which was cascaded out to staff on request. Links with the Local Authority LADO Team and Social Care are well-established, with plans for training packages and briefings being rolled out consistently across the financial year now in place.

By the end of the financial year 2018/19, 2533 students had received Digital Resilience input through our flagship secondary schools programme, and Prevent training has been delivered to 1240 individuals in schools. Alongside this, we have also trained 372 professionals working outside of the education space, 220 Community group members (including foster carers) and supported over 80 residents to complete an accredited academic course on Prevent Awareness. All training packages include 'sign posting and referral' sections which outlines the support available to partners.

### Increased identification of radicalisation in the community

The borough's team has developed and applied an outcome focused, evidence-based commissioning model, which has resulted in successful commissioning bids for a number of bespoke and specialised projects to be delivered across 2019/20.

The borough's Prevent Team have commissioned a wide range of evidence-based projects to address specific needs and emerging risks. These include strategic support for SEN schools to deliver Prevent effectively, frontline Primary school sessions for Year 5 and 6 pupils, and outreach and engagement projects for parents and hard-to-reach young people across the borough.

### Increased the level of appropriate multi-agency (CHANNEL) panel referrals

Following specific feedback from the Home Office Peer Review carried out in Waltham Forest in March 2018:

'The use of the MASH as a first point of call for child referrals is strong, and allows for professionals to seek early advice on matters which may be Prevent relevant. Whilst the advice and guidance offered within these services is of an excellent standard and valued by partners, a formal quality assurance process would ensure that any thresholds are applied correctly and consistently over the long term. It is important to emphasise to all that any Prevent referral must be sent to SO15 as a matter of urgency'

The need for an audit process review was identified, and this was carried by the Prevent Team and Local SO15 colleagues in July/Aug 2018. Differences in thresholds that exist within SO15, Local Authority and OSCT were identified, and subsequent work amongst partners (led by the borough's Prevent Senior Practitioner) resulted in the development and implementation of a refined referral pathway which incorporated the recommendations from the Home Office Peer Review team, including quality assurance checks on initial referrals flagged for Prevent and greater use of local police databases to determine risk.

Whilst this has seen a 14% decrease in referrals being discussed at multi-agency level in 2018/19, it has served to ensure that 100% of cases discussed at CHANNEL resulted in partnership action and interventions being provided, and re-referrals for similar risks remain at 0%, indicating an effective management of cases where risks to residents have been identified.

### Increased community understanding of, and buy-in to, Prevent and its aim of safeguarding against exploitation of vulnerable people

The team continue to develop positive relationships with community groups and leaders, with a revised community engagement approach agreed and implemented. A primary objective included in this approach is the formation and delivery of a Waltham Forest Prevent Advisory Group (PAG). The PAG is a community board that provides the Local Authority strategic and operational advice on strategies, policies and projects to address the risk of extremism within Waltham Forest. The overarching objective of the PAG is to ensure the London Borough of Waltham Forest interventions which aim to reduce the risk and vulnerability to violent extremism and terrorism are evidence based and responsive to the needs and advise of communities as represented by the PAG. The first PAG Meeting was held in May 2019.

Alongside the PAG, there has also seen a consistent level of engagement with the community through projects that were commissioned for the duration of 2018/19. These included 197 outreach/ engagement sessions that took place through the youth outreach programme delivered by London Tigers, with 259 young people having been engaged, as well as 8 x 13 week Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities parenting programmes being delivered by the Race Equalities Foundation and successfully engaging 183 individuals.

**Across the partnership all agencies play a vital role within the priorities below is a couple of examples of how the work has impacted partners**

**Adult Social Care** *The 18/19 priorities and associated work is communicated to staff on an ongoing basis at training sessions, various strategic forums and management/ team meetings. Making Safeguarding Personal, Pressure Care, Self-Neglect, Gang Violence, Cuckooing , VAWG, concerns related to providers, Prevent and Modern Slavery policies and procedures are embedded into LBWF Safeguarding Adults operational policies, procedures and practice. The “Think Family” approach is at the heart of all activity. We are committed to a strong multi agency partnership and case examples highlight effective multi agency working - The development of the Integrated Safeguarding Hub is an exciting key development in support this work.*

**Community Rehabilitation Company** *London CRC works solely with statutory adult’s subject to court-imposed sanctions as such our priorities are very much dictated by this caseload and its demographics. That said, much like the boards and their priorities we have seen changes to the demographics most notably the increase in youth violence as such we have seconded 2 officers to the London extremism and gangs team. We have also developed Subject matter expert roles in the areas of Serious Group Offending, Women, Domestic Abuse, Prevent and Safeguarding.*

## Anti-Social Behaviour



We have a victim first approach and have been working on improving the customer journey to ensure that victims are getting the right service. The ASB Strategy implements a tenure neutral approach enabling us to ensure that the voice of the service user is heard regardless of their tenancy which has previously been an issue.

The strategic board priorities have informed the new ASB strategy which is in the final stages of consultation. The priorities can be seen in the Strategy’s core outcomes, which are:

- Incidents of anti-social behaviour are reduced
- Residents feel safe.
- Improved response and resolution
- Improved customer care and reporting
- Improved communication and engagement
- Residents report ASB when they are affected by it.

On a practical level, residents are seeing greater staff presence and more focussed activity in areas of increased ASB. Pilot multi-agency projects are seeing a reduction in ASB for residents.

**Across the partnership all agencies play a vital role within the priorities below is a couple of examples of how the work has impacted partners**

**Belmont Park** As a result of our involvement in the strategic boards in 2018/2019 staff at Belmont Park have a much greater understanding of borough wide issues and initiatives that are in place to support our young people. Being a part of the boards have hugely strengthened our relationships with multi-agency partners and these are increasingly being used to maximise the impact of interventions for our students. We have very much embraced the contextualised safeguarding approach as well as really trying to ensure a multi-agency approach towards working with our most vulnerable young people. We have widened the scope of our work and have developed our relationships with community organisations like pinpoint as well as introducing holiday schemes which have been well attended and have meant there has been a reduction in opportunities for our students to be involved in anti-social behaviour.

**London Fire Brigade** Anti-social behaviour – We have focused our visual audit program on empty properties to ensure they are secure and not at the risk of being misused.

## Violence against Women and Girls

The number of people supported by Independent Domestic Abuse Advocates: **884**

Since the relaunch in August 2018 we have supported 21 families with advice, advocacy and signposting at the VAWG One Stop Shop.

Since the launch of the court support programme in October 2018 we have worked alongside CJS services on 70 Domestic Abuse cases, providing advocacy, signposting support and research to strengthen court outcomes and out-reach support to survivors.



Operation Encompass has been live in Waltham Forest since September 2017. We were really proud to be the first borough in London to implement this project which, due to its success, is now being rolled out across London. Since the project's inception we have made 475 notifications to schools, enabling them to provide care, support and safeguarding at the earliest point to families affected by Domestic Abuse.

This year 43 residents have completed Ask Me Ambassador training. Some early outcomes from ambassador activity show that:

- 100% of ambassadors had more than 3 conversations about DA in the 3 months following the training
- 75% of ambassadors put up a poster or flyer in their workplace or a community space
- 60% used social media to talk about Domestic Abuse

We have delivered training to 200 professionals on topics such as stalking and harassment, Domestic Abuse safety planning, Honour based violence, FGM and risk assessment.

We provided case guidance on approximately 140 VAWG cases across the partnership.

Delivered VAWG Workshops and information stalls in educational settings reaching approximately 400 students and 200 teaching staff (in addition to WSA work listed below)

The Waltham Forest Partnership VAWG school project will complete delivery in four secondary schools by the end of March 2019. The project would have delivered training and education on a range of VAWG issues to 1,000 pupils, 400 staff, and 60 parents. In addition, specialist staff resources for staff to support LGBTQ and Learning Disabilities among pupils have been developed. The project is due to deliver interventions to 7 secondary schools by the end of the project in March 2020 and is on track to complete this.

This year we produced a new strategy and refreshed action plan for VAWG

### The refreshed strategy has 7 Priority areas:

#### 1. Prevention

Our ambition is to prevent VAWG through early identification of risk and by challenging the values and attitudes that underpin VAWG and making these unacceptable.

#### 2. Access

Our ambition is to ensure that survivors get the support they need when they need it. We will remove barriers that restrict survivors from accessing services and ensure that there is no wrong front door for people to access support

#### 3. Support & justice

We will ensure that survivors can access the support, advocacy and justice services that they need to be safe and enable recovery from VAWG

#### 4. Perpetrators

We will hold perpetrators to account while providing opportunities for behaviour change

#### 5. Practitioners

We will work across the partnership to ensure that practitioners in all agencies are equipped to provide the best possible service and response to survivors and perpetrators of VAWG.

#### 6. Children and young people

We recognise impact of VAWG on children and young people though both direct and indirect experiences. We work together to provide services to meet the specific needs of children and young people and to support the partnership in early identification.

#### 7. Co-ordination

Continue to develop our Coordinated Community Response

**Across the partnership all agencies play a vital role within the priorities below is an example of how the work has impacted partners**

**Children's Social Care** *To improve the response to victims of domestic abuse a 'Live MARAC' was introduced managed by the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub. This allows for all police reported incidents that would meet the MARAC criteria and MARAC other MARAC referrals to be reviewed within 24 hours through the Daily Risk Management Meeting and a multi-agency safety plan put in place. Some examples of improving outcomes for residence have been:*

*1. A prompt response to safety planning and reducing the risk of harm to the victim and any children in their care.*

*2. A more coordinated approach to provide support from the partnership, avoid delay and duplication.*

*3. Improved access to additional services to assist in safeguarding and recovery for victims and their children through the marketplace.*

*The partnership work through the VAWG board has also secured funding to deliver a 'safer together' model of working with families who are or have experienced domestic abuse. This evidence-based program will improve how we work with families where they have or are experiencing domestic abuse and how we support recovery*



## Gangs and Youth Violence

### Ensured the child and service user was at the centre of the work

Ofsted remarked in the March 2019 inspection report, “Effective gang intervention programmes have been commissioned to work with children and young people involved with or on the periphery of gangs. Specialist workers provide input across social work teams to try and divert young people from gang activity and help young people exit gangs.”

The gangs prevention programme (GPP) provided intervention and support in 140 cases, including 30 family members.

Life Skills Programme is an evidence-based early intervention and prevention programme to improve children’s emotional health and wellbeing. It’s a partnership between Barnardo’s and Waltham Forest Council which aims to improve resilience. This financial year, 89 teachers were trained, worked with 27 schools and reached almost 90 classes of 25-30 children. Also, parent engagement sessions were delivered in 6 schools.

### Shared the learning that has come out of reviews

The gangs prevention training offer reached over 1400 professionals working in WF. Aims of the gangs prevention training are to raise awareness of gang activity in the borough, and how to safeguard young children and adults. The priority in 2019/2020 is to incorporate learning from the partnership reviews and audits into the gangs prevention training.

SafetyNet considered the completed London South Bank University (LSBU) review of the borough’s gangs and formulated a proposal for a strategic and operational partnership response to the findings.



The LSBU study was commissioned by Waltham Forest Council to understand current gang activity in the borough. An earlier study completed by Professor John Pitts ten years ago (Pitts, 2007) established a clear baseline for understanding the complex nature of gangs and their activities. The review identified key ways in which gang activity in Waltham Forest has changed over the last ten years that are likely to have implications for the current partnership.

The responses to the recommendations of the review were delivered through the Think Family 2020 framework, which seeks to:

- Build community capacity and resilience
- Intervene early to prevent the escalation of difficulties and
- Provide evidence-based help for those in acute need, using a whole family approach.

Work has been prioritised to ensure the GPP providers have been mobilised to commence service provision in time for April 2019. Implementing the recommendations from the LSBU study, there has been a public health approach to the commissioning of the GPP. Building community capacity and resilience also means taking a more area-based approach, engaging with and mobilising the collective efficacy of communities in

specific neighbourhoods, in response to risk. We have brought together resources to engage and mobilise communities through community mentoring, and Ask Me ambassador programme.

Two probation officers undertook the adolescents at risk training and have disseminated this amongst the staff group. Where relevant this approach has impacted on our work with young adults in Waltham Forest.

The Assistant Chief Officer has co-chaired the Gangs and Youth Violence sub Group this year and a Senior Probation Officer continues to co-chair the Gangs Bronze Group. This ensures that probation staff are able to manage risks presented by, and offer alternative interventions to, our service users in a joined up multi-agency way.

## The Learning and Improving Practice Forum

This forum oversees a multi-agency audit programme and reports to the WFSCB. The Learning and Improving Practice Forum oversees the multi-agency audit program as well as driving forward the effective dissemination and sharing of learning across the partnership in a variety of ways as outlined below

The Learning and Improving Practice Forum (LIF) coordinates four multi-agency audits a year, with the themes identified by the LIF in relation to the priorities for the four strategic boards. The audits are usually undertaken by front line managers. The LIF felt it was important to gain the views of front line practitioners and this would also be a way of involving practitioners more in the work of the four strategic boards.



## Spotlights

We distributed spotlights too over 1000 practitioners in Waltham Forest with key messages from the four strategic boards, learnings from reviews and audits as well as details of any up and coming training. The aim was that these bulletins would raise the profile of the boards and awareness of key topics these included:

- Alcohol and Drugs
- Modern slavery
- Violence against women and girls
- Improving practice
- Adolescence safeguarding



## Safe and Well month – June 2018

Month of raising awareness of all 16 priorities across the four boards, included 2 think family sessions on learning from audit and reviews – delivered by SAB and WFSCB chairs, alongside seminars, training and briefings. Included bitesize, spotlight on, training, resources etc. Feedback from practitioners was about going back and thinking about adults or children in the families they were working on.

## How partners share learning from audits and reviews

*Findings from the SCR Kesandu were disseminated to GPs in a safeguarding workshop. The Named GP for safeguarding facilitated a conference on a number of topical areas such as online exploitation, domestic abuse, CSE through the use of forum theatre. Safeguarding updates are also included in monthly GP bulletins.*

Waltham Forest Clinical Commissioning

*We have cascaded ideas and approaches from reviews and audits to shape our practise and improve the service that we provide for our young people and their families. We have widened the scope of our work and have developed our relationships with community organisations like pinpoint as well as introducing holiday schemes which have been well attended and have meant there has been a reduction in opportunities for our students to be involved in anti-social behaviour.*

Belmont Park – Pupil Referral Unit

*Learning from reviews and audits is shared with staff at various meetings on an ongoing basis. Safeguarding Adults and Dols are standing items on management meeting agendas*

Adult Social Care

*We routinely shared headlines and sift information for ideas and strategy that will assist to improve our service. Specifically - shared outcomes from Serious Case Reviews with staff to look at areas of development & address any staff training need and shared gangs research eg. "Post code to Profits" with staff.*

Hawkswood Group

*London CRC regular participates in case reviews to ensure the learning from any such reviews is disseminated we have appointed five contracts and partnership managers across London. We have also hold by monthly public protection boards in each area as a mechanism to ensure we capture any ongoing areas for improvement and good practice. It is the function of these boards to ensure any learning from partnership reviews is appropriately disseminated. Furthermore, London CRC is in the process of launching a new online learning platform in recognition that people learn differently, via this platform bitesize training will be developed for all staff.*

Community Rehabilitation Company

*Learning is shared through managers forum and team meetings and specific areas used to inform decision making in individual case supervision.*

Children's Social Care

*We have not been part of a review or audit over the last year however we share learning from post incident reviews directly with housing and social services departments.*

London Fire Brigade

*This learning has been shared via monthly safeguarding summary reports, safeguarding supervision network meetings, safeguarding training, named professional team meetings, senior safeguarding meetings, safeguarding advisor team meetings and also on our learning review register.*

North East London Foundation Trust

*There have been no specific actions for the NPS this year but learning from partnership audits is disseminated to staff and built into our quality of practice groups where applicable.*

National Probation Service

## What's next for 2019/ 20...

### New Priority: Violence and Exploitation



Violence and Exploitation will report to all four boards, and will be embedded within the work we currently deliver. Waltham Forest Council's public health approach to tackling violence includes working closely with all of our partners, and building a violence reduction partnership. Our four strands of curtail, treat, support and strengthen ensure that we view this as a joint approach. In April 2019, WF brought together over 90 partners and agreed pledges to work together under the VRP.

- Build resilience in primary school children and support transition to secondary through universal and targeted interventions
- Consistent safety and well-being curriculum and trauma-informed practice across WF schools and colleges for students, staff and parents
- Every partner organisation to embed trauma informed practice across WF
- Enhance safeguarding pathway for children involved in criminal exploitation

### New Priority: Local Approach to Contest

The aim of CONTEST is to reduce the risk to the UK and its citizens and interests overseas from terrorism, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence. A priority has been set to ensure the Waltham Forest has a localised approach.

### Anti-Social Behaviour

A new strategy is being developed which requires further development, testing, consistent adoption and embedding and the bringing together of different processes in the borough. The board will monitor and support the new strategy.

SafetyNet will continue to oversee and monitor the multi-agency groups which fall within community safety including but not limited to Violence Against Women and Girls and Gangs and Youth Violence.