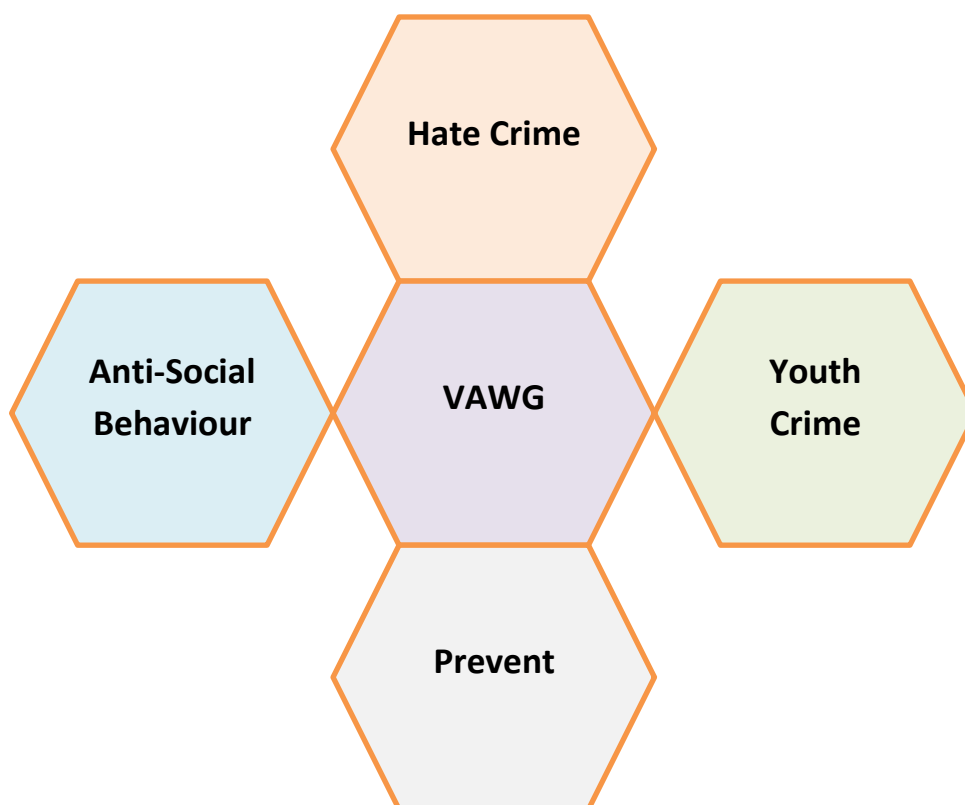


Towards a Safer Islington

Community Safety Service Plan 2016-17

The CSPU is a strategic team that supports the Safer Islington Partnership (SIP) to achieve its overall objectives of reducing crime and disorder in the borough, keeping people safe and bringing offenders to justice. It seeks to do this by:

- Enhancing knowledge and understanding of the human, social and environmental factors that drive crime and anti-social behaviour;
- Working with partners (including council services) to develop strategies for addressing the key issues;
- Co-ordinating and commissioning multi-agency delivery of appropriate interventions to reduce crime and ASB; and
- Operating a robust performance management framework including accountability for funds provided by the Home Office, the Mayor's Office for Policing & Crime (MOPAC) and the Ministry of Justice.




Islington council is committed to making Islington a place where our residents have a good quality of life. Key to this is improving community safety using an approach that tackles deep-rooted social issues such as domestic violence, mental ill health and substance misuse. The community Safety Partnerships unit will work to reflect Islington Council's corporate vision, priorities and ways of working and will align its work with the priorities of the Safer Islington Partnership.

Overall crime continued to rise in the borough during 2015 and at a faster rate than the London average. Violence, including youth and domestic violence, continue to cause significant concern due to the emotional and physical harm caused to individuals, families and communities.

There has also been a significant increase in call levels to the council's Anti-Social Behaviour hotline and, the impact of hate crime is not only resulting in dissatisfaction from sections of the community but risks damaging the cohesive communities that partners are trying to develop and maintain.

The CSPU will work over the year to coordinate and deliver a set of clear actions that will support the outcomes in this document and in turn deliver the objectives of the council and the Safer Islington Partnership.


 Hate Crime

Our objective:

To reduce hate crime in Islington and improve victims' experience of statutory services

Islington is one of the most diverse and vibrant communities in London. This is something we are very proud of. The vast majority of people treat each other with dignity and respect but a small minority don't hold these values and perpetrate hate. Some people are targeted with hate incidents or crimes just because of who they are, or even who they are perceived to be. Incorporate stats

Hate incidents and hate crimes are acts of violence or hostility directed at people because of who they are, or who someone thinks they are. Victims of hate crime are attacked or abused because they are disabled or because of their race, faith / religion, transgender identity or sexual orientation.

Our aim is to ensure that every victim of hate crime in Islington has the confidence in our services to report it.

To do this we will:

Increase reporting and build resilience within the community


- ⇒ Raise awareness and understanding of hate incidents and promote the different ways to report so that residents are clear what they may expect from the police, council services and other support available
- ⇒ Train staff to better identify and report hate crime, especially in frontline services, such as housing and Out of Hours ASB service
- ⇒ Set up 3rd Party reporting sites, working with existing community organisations and institutions such as schools, faith establishments and housing offices
- ⇒ Support an effective community-led Hate Crime Forum to hold statutory agencies to account, including ensuring case scrutiny and reviews

Increase support for vulnerable victims

- ⇒ Ensure all victims who report hate crime receive a positive response by advising our residents of their rights and what they may expect from the police and / or council
- ⇒ Increase the number of vulnerable victims supported through the Community MARAC by ensuring frontline services are able to assess vulnerability and know how to refer
- ⇒ Identify and implement good practice in supporting victims by learning from other areas and through engaging victims so as to develop a better understanding of their experiences

Challenge perpetrators and bring them to justice

- ⇒ Ensure that partners understand the range of legislation in place to protect victims and bring more offenders to justice
- ⇒ Ensure that information-sharing processes are in place so that appropriate interventions, including tenancy action, can be taken against perpetrators
- ⇒ Work with the police to increase the number of sanction detections



Anti-Social
Behaviour

Our objective:
To reduce the negative impact of anti-social behaviour in Islington

Anti-social Behaviour can have a serious impact on the lives of those who experience it whether they are residents, businesses or visitors to the borough. As well as affecting quality of life it can increase the fear of crime and affect confidence levels in the performance of the police and council. Incorporate stats

The Council's overall aim within the Corporate Plan 2015-19 is to create a fairer Islington which includes making the borough a place where residents have a good quality of life. Improving community safety is a key part of this with the provision of an effective response to reports of ASB. This includes improving the position for victims and witnesses particularly vulnerable adults. The 2015 - 2016 Control Strategy strategic assessment includes ASB as a cross cutting theme.

To do this we will:

Reduce levels of Anti-social behaviour

- ⇒ Improve level of engagement with repeat callers to ensure the problems are addressed and vulnerable residents are not repeatedly victimised
- ⇒ Improve effective early response to all ASB calls to the council by ensuring sufficient information is gathered to aid effective intervention
- ⇒ Ensure all partners make full use of tools and powers available to tackle ASB by delivering training and providing guidance and support
- ⇒ Identify families and individuals who contribute significantly to ASB and provide effective interventions, working with housing providers and other council services
- ⇒ Identify priority 'Places' of concern and co-ordinate an effective partnership response

Improve community tolerance and resilience

- ⇒ Improve communications to residents to promote good neighbourly relationships and tolerance of different cultures, including youth culture
- ⇒ Intervene early to tackle a problem quickly and prevent an escalation of ASB
- ⇒ Improve the Safer Neighbourhood Ward Panels and Ward Partnerships in providing an effective voice for residents by supporting the police to develop more effective means of engagement and feedback

Support vulnerable victims and perpetrators

- ⇒ Take all complaints seriously, thoroughly investigate them and provide an effective response to complainant
- ⇒ Improve safeguarding and reduce vulnerability by promoting the use of the Community MARAC with housing providers and other frontline staff to increase referrals
- ⇒ Work with partners to identify victims and perpetrators with complex needs, including mental health, and link them into services.



Our objective:

To intervene early to reduce the negative impact of VAWG in Islington

Islington council is committed to tackling all forms of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and its impact on the community. Acts of VAWG are crimes and we are determined to support survivors and their families to stay safe, report crimes and rebuild their lives. We will also work to ensure perpetrators are brought to justice. Incorporate stats

VAWG can be the cause of long-term problems for adults, children and communities. It is a complex and often hidden issue that is rarely experienced in isolation, with survivors and perpetrators often experiencing a range of other problems and vulnerabilities.

To do this we will:

Reduce incidents of all forms of VAWG in Islington

- ⇒ Develop and coordinate delivery of the Islington VAWG Strategy and oversee delivery of a workforce development plan to improve skills among frontline workers
- ⇒ Raise awareness among communities and families about how to support victims and report perpetrators
- ⇒ Work with services to intervene early and build resilience among individuals and families, esp. young people to break the cycle of violence and abuse
- ⇒ Support development of services working with young people to make safe choices and develop healthy relationships by working with schools and youth services
- ⇒ Collect, analyse and present high quality evidence to inform service design and delivery across the Partnership

Protect survivors of VAWG and support recovery

- ⇒ Commission and coordinate the provision of high quality and needs-led services to ensure safety for victims
- ⇒ Deliver an effective MARAC that increases the safety of high risk survivors and ensure repeat victims are responded to quickly to avoid escalation of violence
- ⇒ Support the use of Home Shelter scheme to ensure survivors and their families can be safe in their own homes and cause less disruption to their lives
- ⇒ Provide high quality evidence and advice to specialist, targeted and universal services working with adults, children families affected by VAWG
- ⇒ Maintain pathways to support for survivors of VAWG and their children which are clear and easy to navigate

Develop a more effective response to perpetrators

- ⇒ Work with criminal justice agencies to Increase the number of perpetrators held to account through the use of the full range of enforcement powers
- ⇒ Commission / co-commission / inform the provision of specialist interventions to perpetrators to support behaviour change, using levers available in housing and children services
- ⇒ Inform the delivery of targeted work with young men exhibiting harmful attitudes and behaviours, using the engagement afforded by statutory and voluntary services



Our objective:
To reduce young people's involvement in crime and disorder

We are committed to making Islington one of the safest boroughs in London. We want Islington to be a fairer place where every child has the best start in life and does not become either a victim or perpetrator of crime.

However, Islington has experienced a disturbing rise in youth crime, especially violence, which has caused widespread anxiety to residents, particularly families with children. We have all become very concerned about the safety of young people on our streets, in our parks and schools and on our estates. This problem is not unique to Islington. All across London, violent crime committed against teenagers by teenagers has risen alarmingly in the past year. Incorporate stats

A minority of Islington's young people have been drawn into gangs that make money from burglary, robbery, theft of cycles, mopeds and smartphones. These crimes are all connected. Young people use cycles and mopeds to commit snatches or to transport stolen goods, weapons or drugs. They then use the money from these crimes to buy and sell drugs in a very lucrative market. Increasingly, those young people are using violence – especially knives – to settle their disputes or enforce deals. The impact of this small number of people's behaviour is very widespread.

To do this we will:

Reduce the number of young people affected by gangs and violence

- ⇒ Deliver an effective Integrated Gangs Team that supports more young people to safely exit gang lifestyles
- ⇒ Provided targeted interventions to girls and young women affected by gangs
- ⇒ Deploy the full use of enforcement tools and powers to disrupt entrenched offending behaviour
- ⇒ Deliver gang prevention awareness programmes in Islington schools to help build resilience of young people to avoid gangs and increase awareness of where to seek help if needed

Provide early and positive interventions to protect young people from crime

- ⇒ Develop knowledge and capacity among the Islington workforce to safeguard young people affected by gangs
- ⇒ Coordinate the delivery of effective targeted and specialist interventions to engage young people at risk
- ⇒ Identify and deliver evidenced based interventions to engage young people and promote positive behaviour change
- ⇒ Working with Victim Support and targeted youth services provide effective support to young victims of crime and their families

Deliver an effective Youth Offending Service

- ⇒ Implement the YOS Improvement plan
- ⇒ Maximise the expertise and resources available across the partnership to support and drive YOS improvements
- ⇒ Develop an effective response to No Further Actions between the YOS and police



Our objective:

To Prevent Islington residents from being drawn into terrorism

Radicalisation and extremism are serious risks to Islington both as a result of a potential terrorist attack and the radicalisation of our residents, which in turn could lead to violence, civil disorder or criminal attacks on individuals or institutions. The council will actively help to implement the Government's CONTEST strategy in protecting our population against radicalisation, terror attack and preparing a civil contingency emergency response to incidents. Incorporate stats

However, Prevent must be proportionate, intelligence-led and risk-based and should be delivered flexibly by the local authority and partners tailored to reflect local circumstances. Over the longer term, we can help to further reduce the risk of radicalisation and extremism by tackling poverty, exclusion and marginalisation while simultaneously promoting cohesion, active citizenship and integration.

To do this we will:

Prevent Islington residents from being drawn into or supporting terrorism

- ⇒ Raise awareness of and support the disruption of proscribed (banned) organisations operating in the borough
- ⇒ Deliver workforce and community development to raise awareness of the recruitment methods for terrorism
- ⇒ Support open dialogue to address feelings of grievance and injustice that could lead to individuals carrying out acts of terrorism

Build resilience among young people

- ⇒ Create safe spaces for young people to express concerns, debate issues and develop critical thinking
- ⇒ Support parents, communities and frontline staff to have open conversations with their children about mutual respect and tolerance
- ⇒ Provide resources and materials to be used by families and institutions to promote positive conversations and the awareness of support available

Increase skills and confidence of frontline services

- ⇒ Train frontline staff to identify risk factors and vulnerabilities among residents
- ⇒ Increase the capacity of staff to identify and safeguard those at risk of radicalisation and involvement in terrorism
- ⇒ Ensure that services across the borough have effective policies and procedures in place to demonstrate having due regard to preventing people from being drawn into terrorism.