

appendix



**YOUTH CRIME PREVENTION  
ACTION PLAN  
2015-16**

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## Introduction

Young people committing crime and young people being the victim of crime are two of the most important issues for Croydon. The borough has the largest 10 to 17 year population of the London boroughs at 37,411. It is a relatively young and socio-economically diverse borough, ranked 19th out of 32 London boroughs in terms of overall deprivation however some wards are amongst the most deprived in England. Croydon is also very diverse ethnically and includes a significant number of refugees and asylum seekers with the percentage of the youth population with a black or minority ethnic heritage standing at 54%.

There is a correlation between areas of high deprivation and crime rates in Croydon; more crime is committed in the north of the borough largely due to a higher population density, more areas with multiple deprivation as well as being the location for Croydon's main transport hubs and routes.

The action plan has four themes providing a framework in the short and medium term and of our long term ambitions to reduce youth crime and improve outcomes for children and young people.

- Prevention
- Enforcement and Support
- Protecting children and young people and supporting victims
- Children and young people's participation

## Context and Drivers

Whilst overall levels of youth crime are reducing including robberies levels of serious youth violence remain high and it is a priority in the Community Safety Strategy 2014-17. The vast majority of youth crime is peer on peer and as a result Croydon has a high number of young victims of crime.

The numbers of young people coming to the attention of YOS has reduced and is approximately 600 young people a year. This is 1.6% of the 10 to 17 year old population. The average age is 16/17 but we have a small but significant number of 13/14 year olds involved in serious offending. Overall 80% are male with 65% from a BME background. The average length of an order has increased slightly to between 9 and 12 months with 42 young people sentenced to custody and between 30 and 40 young people involved in gangs.

Croydon YOS has the highest volume of offences in London at 900 plus offences. The main offences are:

- Violence against the person – 19%
- Theft – 16.7%
- Robbery – 15.4%
- Drugs offences - 8.7%

- Burglary – 6.8%
- Public order - 6.7%
- Sexual offences – 1% - small but significant and increasing ( peer on peer – links with CSE)

There is a strong correlation between young people who offend and those who are at risk and vulnerable. Young people known to the YOS have increased in complexity and risk with 76% of cases assessed as intensive or enhanced levels of risk and/or vulnerability which have resource implications.

Based on an analysis of young people assessed by YOS in 2013/14 the following risk factors were present:

- Entrenched behaviours in families: low investment in education, family conflict and the absence of an adult providing boundaries, advice, discipline and support.
- A criminal family member, domestic abuse
- Significant need -many families & children are often already known or previously known to mainstream/statutory services prior to offending.
- About a third have a mental health problem
- ADHD, SEN and Speech and Language deficits
- 10% homeless or in unsuitable accommodation
- Over 50% had history or be at risk of school failure through truancy/school refusal or exclusion.
- 30% post 16 young people are not engaged in education, training or employment

(See Appendix 1 for details of risk and protective factors)

## Aims

- Helping young people change their lives to make Croydon a safer place
- To reduce levels of offending and anti-social behaviour by young people
- To disrupt and reduce gang activity
- To adopt a “think family” approach building on the strengths of families and reduces risk factors

- To ensure young people are safe as possible from violence, sexual exploitation, gangs, bullying and domestic abuse

## Outcomes

- Improved early identification of children and young people at risk of offending and Anti-social behaviour
- Reduction in the number of young people enter the criminal justice system for the first time
- Reductions in the numbers of young people re-offending
- Improved identification and targeting of young people involved in gang activity and are provided opportunities and support to exit gangs
- Improved life chances for those young people identified as at high risk of re-offending or committing anti-social behaviour
- To reduce the number of victims of youth crime
- Improved partnership working to protect young people at risk violence, sexual exploitation, gangs, bullying and domestic abuse
- There is active engagement to ensure young people are contributing to solutions in regard to crime issues of concern to them.

## Links with Other Plans

### [Safer Croydon Community Safety Strategy 2014-17](#)

- Reduce the overall crime rate in Croydon, focus on violent crime and domestic violence
- Improve the safety of children and young people
- Tackle anti-social behaviour and environmental crime
- Improve public confidence and community engagement

### [Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime](#)

The Mayor's aim is to drive down crime by at least 20% in key categories: burglary, vandalism/criminal damage, theft of and from motor vehicles, theft from a person, and

violence with injury. These crime types have been chosen because they are high volume, have a sizable impact on Londoners and are clearly understood by the public. There are 3 shared objectives to help reduce youth crime:-

- Robbery
- Theft from person
- Violence with injury

### Croydon Children and Young People's Plan

- Increase impact of early intervention
- Reduce bullying
- Increase participation in education, employment and training and improve outcomes at age 19
- Improve health and education and training outcomes for Looked After Children
- Strengthen the consistent of engagement of children, young people and families across all partner agencies

### Croydon Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan 2014-15

There are a number of related themes running through the Croydon Safeguarding Children Board Business plan.

- Reduce the number of children who repeatedly go missing
- Address the risk between missing and trafficked children and sexual exploitation
- Ensure that missing children is seen as a multi-agency issue
- Robust action is taken to ensure effective implementation of Early Help Pathways Guidance

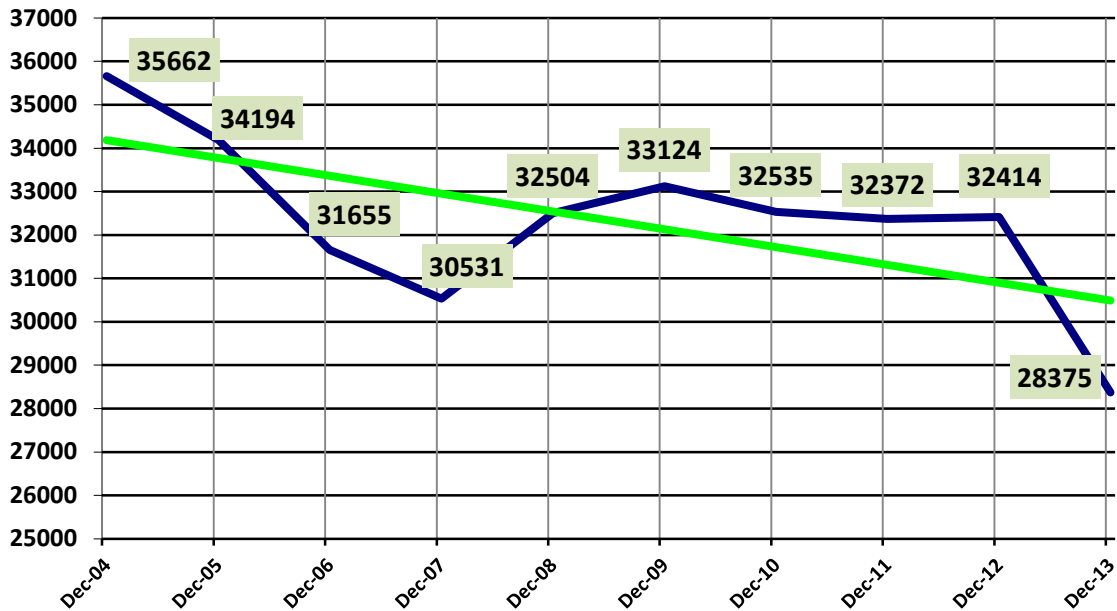
### Early Help for Croydon's Families Plan 2014-2017

The Early Help strategy builds on the work by partners in Croydon including

- Family Engagement Partnerships – health services and children centres working together and identifying and working with families with babies and young children to provide support
- More assessments (CAFs) were undertaken with some evidence that families are getting more of the help they need
- Children and young people continuing to achieve well at school
- Partnership approach to reducing under 18 conceptions has proved effective. For those young parents we are providing support through our Family Nurse Partnership
- Reduction in school exclusions
- Improvements in support for victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence

# Overview of Crime in Croydon

Table 2 Total Recorded Crime 10 year crime trend 2004 to 2013



Overall crime for the past 10 years has been going down from a base line figure of 35662 offences in 2004 reaching a low of 28375 offences a 20.43% reduction against the baseline year.

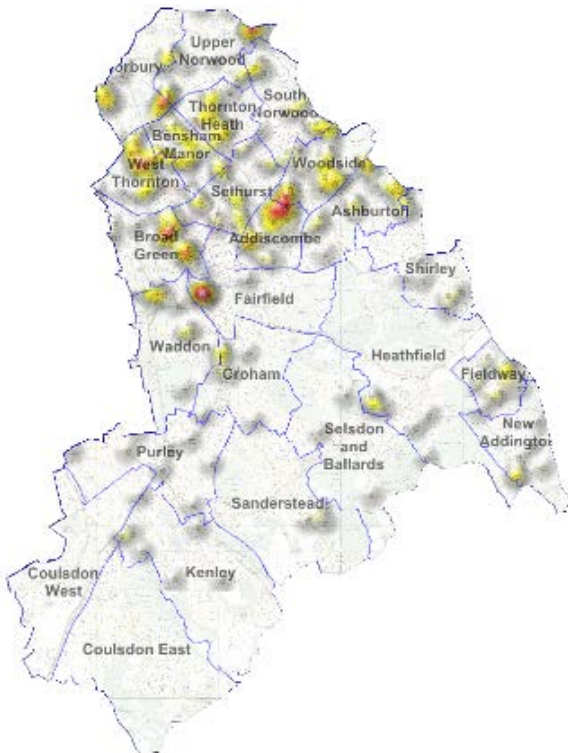
Comparing calendar year 2012 to 2013 there has been a 12.46% reduction.

The most common crimes young people in Croydon are involved in as both victims and offenders are:

- Serious Youth Violence
- Knife Crime
- Personal Robbery

See maps and charts below (Safer Croydon Community Safety Strategy 2014-17)

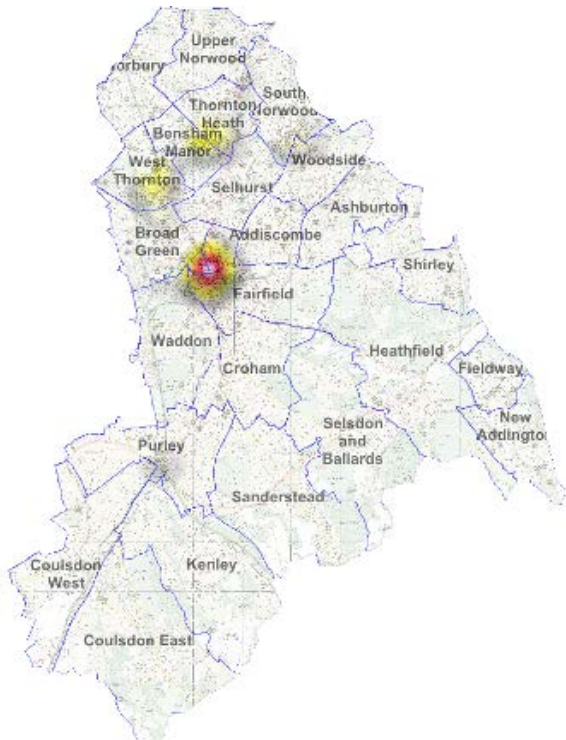
## Serious youth violence 2012-2013



SYV VOL

Victims	Number of victims	311
	Gender	84.57% (263) male 15.43% (48) female
	Ethnicity	38.26% (119) white males 27.01% (84) black males 11.58% (36) asian males 6.43% (20) white females 6.43% (20) black females
	Age range	56.91% (177) 16 - 19 35.37% (110) 13 - 15 6.75% (21) 10 - 12 0.64% (2) 1 - 3 0.32% (1) 7 - 9
	Number of offenders	115
Offenders	Gender	93.04% (107) male 6.96% (8) female
	Ethnicity	62.61% (72) black males 20.00% (8) white males
Location	Age	55.65% (64) 15 - 19
	Primary hot spot	8.50% (21) Selhurst
	Secondary hot spot	7.69% (19) Woodside 6.88% (17) Broad Green
Times	Peak	15:00 to 16:00
	Focus	15:00 to 18:00
Days	Hot	16.40% (51) Friday 16.08% (50) Tuesday

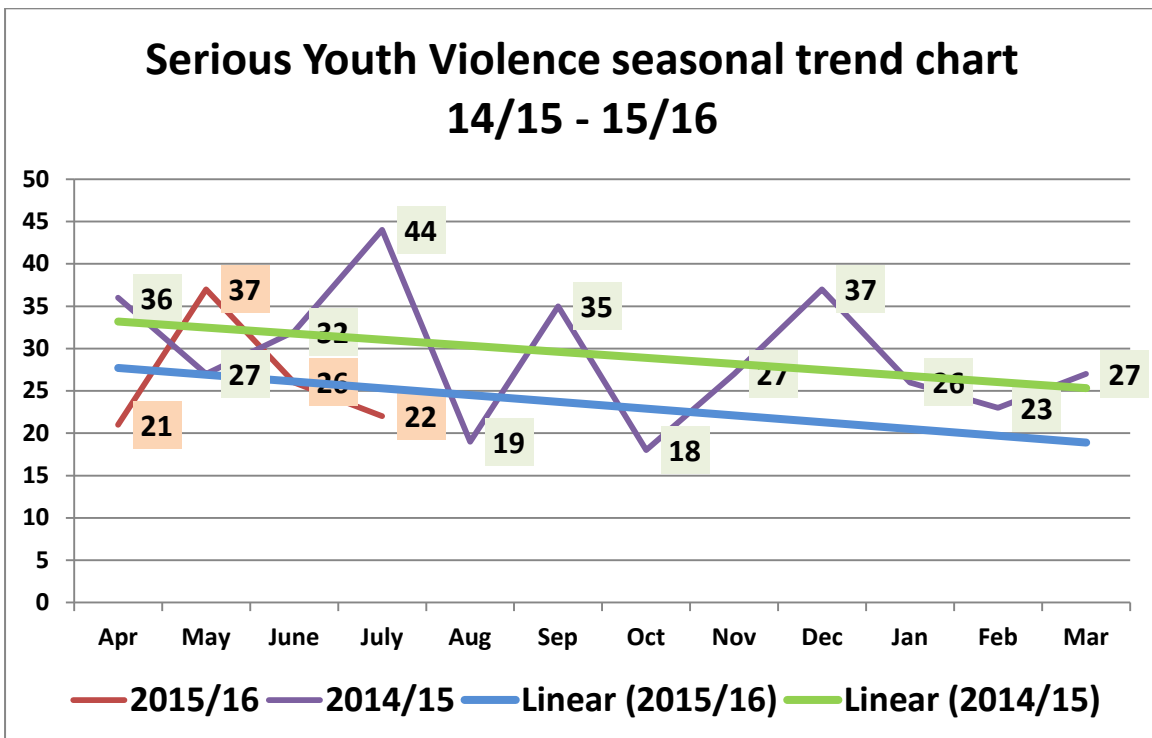
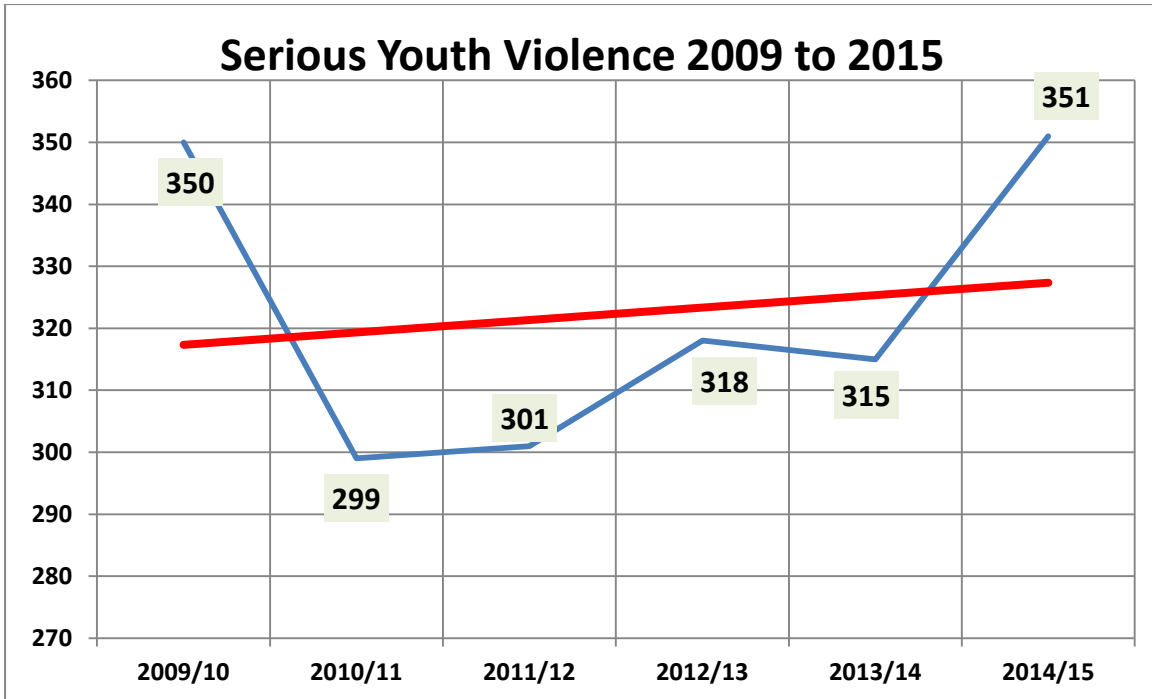
## Serious youth violence 2013-2014



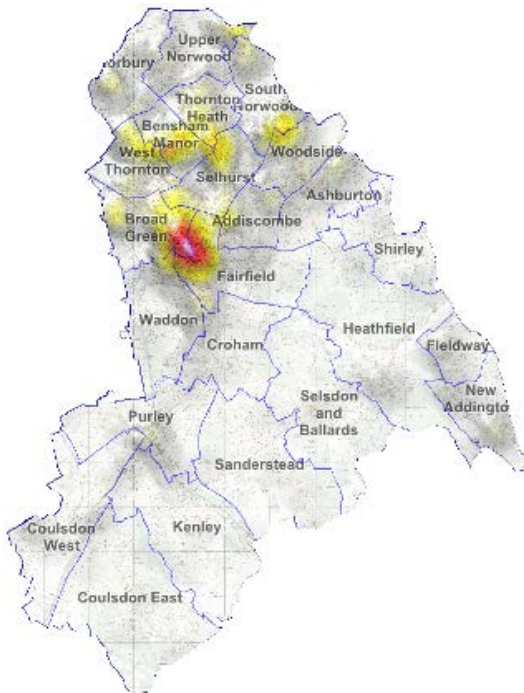
SYV VOL

Victims	Number of victims	325
	Gender	78.5% (255) male 21.5% (70) female
	Ethnicity	37.5% (122) white males 28.0% (91) black males 9.8% (32) asian males 10.5% (34) white females 6.8% (22) black females
	Age range	58.5% (190) 16 - 19 32.6% (106) 13 - 15 7.7% (25) 10 - 12 0.6% (2) 1 - 3 0.6% (2) 7 - 9
	Number of offenders	121
Offenders	Gender	79.3% (96) male 20.7% (25) female
	Ethnicity	54.5% (66) black males 19.80 (24) white males
Location	Age	47.9% (58) 15 - 19
	Primary hot spot	10.7 (13) South Norwood
	Secondary hot spot	5.8% (7) Woodside 5.8% (7) West Thornton
Times	Peak	16:00 to 17:00
	Focus	16:00 to 20:00
Days	Hot	19.6% (60) Friday 16.3% (50) Monday



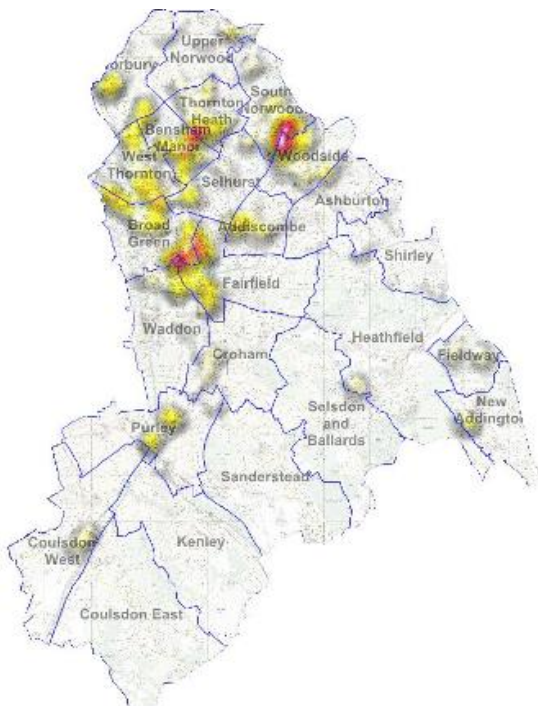


## Knife Crime 2012-2013

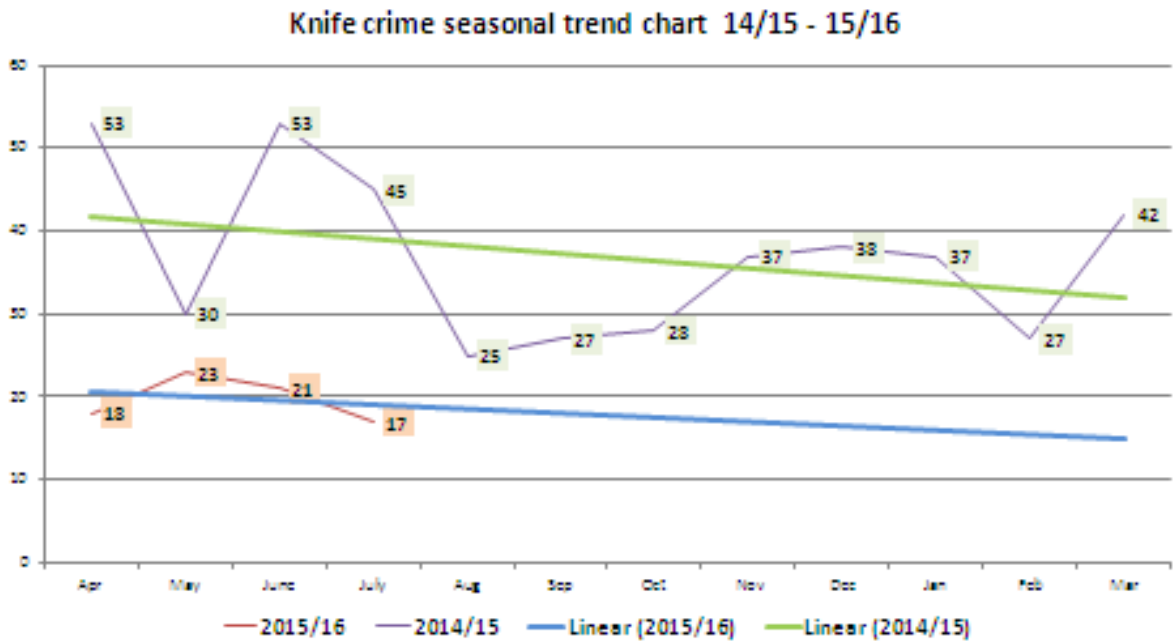
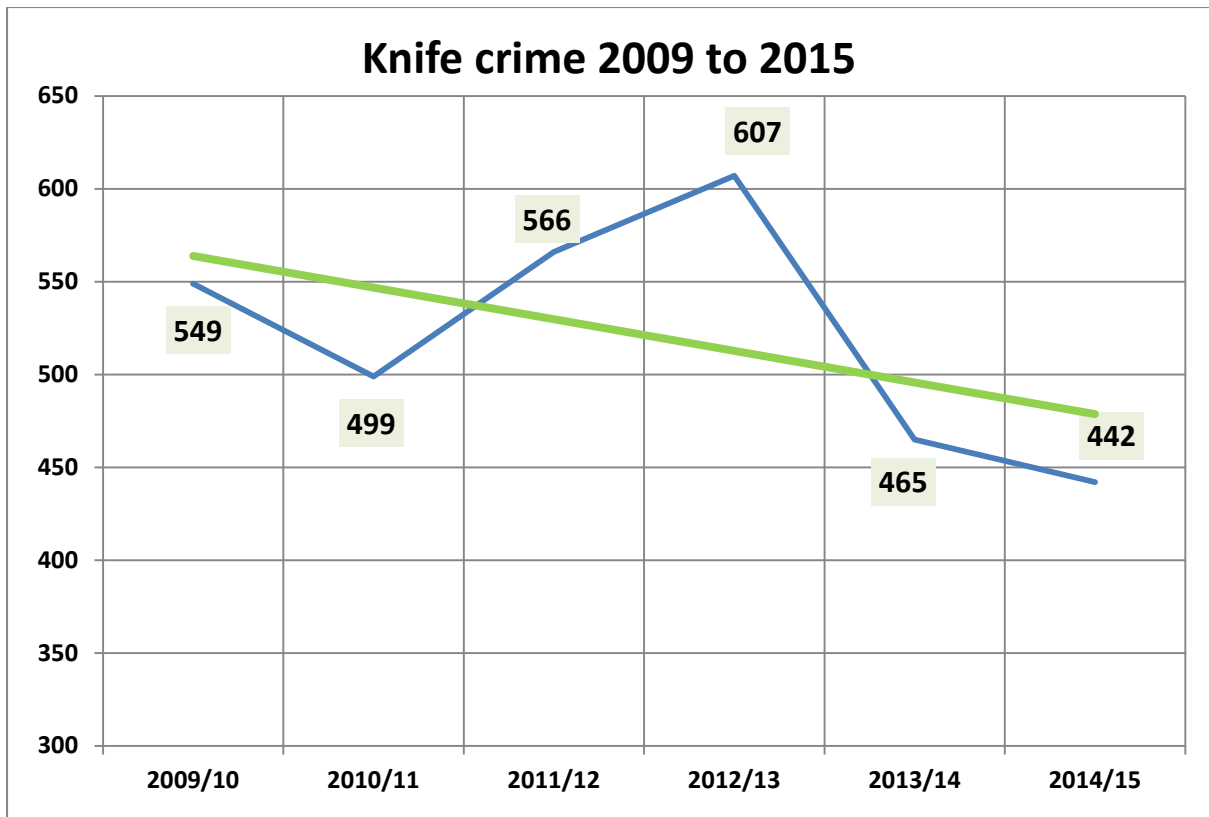


KNIFE CRIME VOL		
Victims	Number of victims	842
	Gender	77.55% (653) male 22.34% (189) female
	Ethnicity	34.09% (287) white males
		21.73% (183) black males
		15.80% (133) asian males
	Peak age range	10.69% (90) white females
Most vulnerable age group	54.51% (459) 10 - 24	
Offenders	Number of offenders	194
	Gender	88.14% (171) male 11.86% (23) female
	Ethnicity	60.82% (118) black males
		17.53% (34) white males
5.67% (11) black females		
Age	5.67% (11) white males 45.88% (89) 15 - 19	
Location	Primary hot spot	12.71% (75) Fairfield
	Secondary hot spot	10.68% (63) Broad Green
		8.98% (53) Selhurst
Times	Peak	19:00 to 20:00
	Focus	15:00 to 20:00
Days	Hot	15.89% (96) Tuesday
		15.40% (93) Friday
		15.23% (92) Thursday

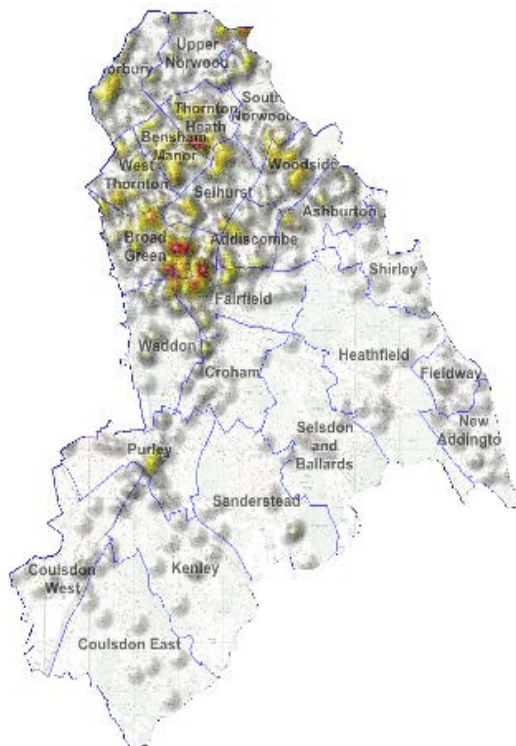
## Knife Crime 2013-2014



KNIFE CRIME VOL		
Victims	Number of victims	569
	Gender	76.0% (433) male 24.0% (136) female
	Ethnicity	32.5% (185) white males
		25.3% (144) black males
		16.7% (95) asian males
	Peak age range	11.8% (67) white females
Most vulnerable age group	54.3% (309) 10 - 24	
Offenders	Number of offenders	188
	Gender	83.5% (157) male 16.5% (31) female
	Ethnicity	47.3% (89) black males
		28.2% (53) white males
6.9% (13) Asian males		
Age	9.6% (18) white females 6.9% (13) black females 41.0% (77) 14 - 18	
Location	Primary hot spot	12.2% (63) Fairfield
	Secondary hot spot	9.9% (51) Broad Green
		7.7% (40) Woodside
Times	Peak	17:00 to 19:00
	Focus	16:00 to 20:00
Days	Hot	17.5% (92) Monday
		14.8% (77) Wednesday
		13.9% (72) Sunday

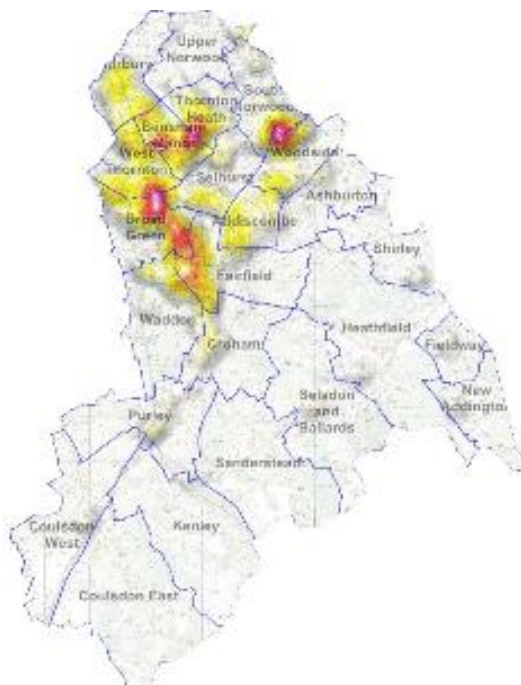


## Personal robbery 2012-2013

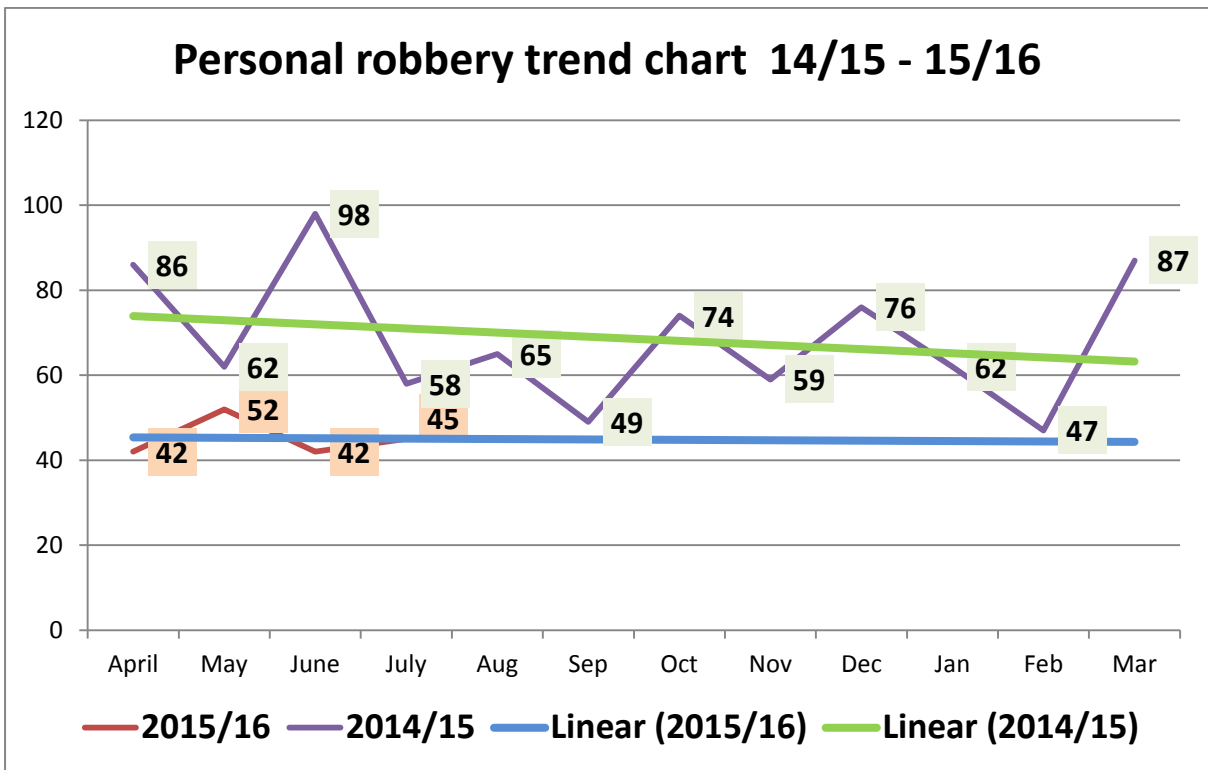
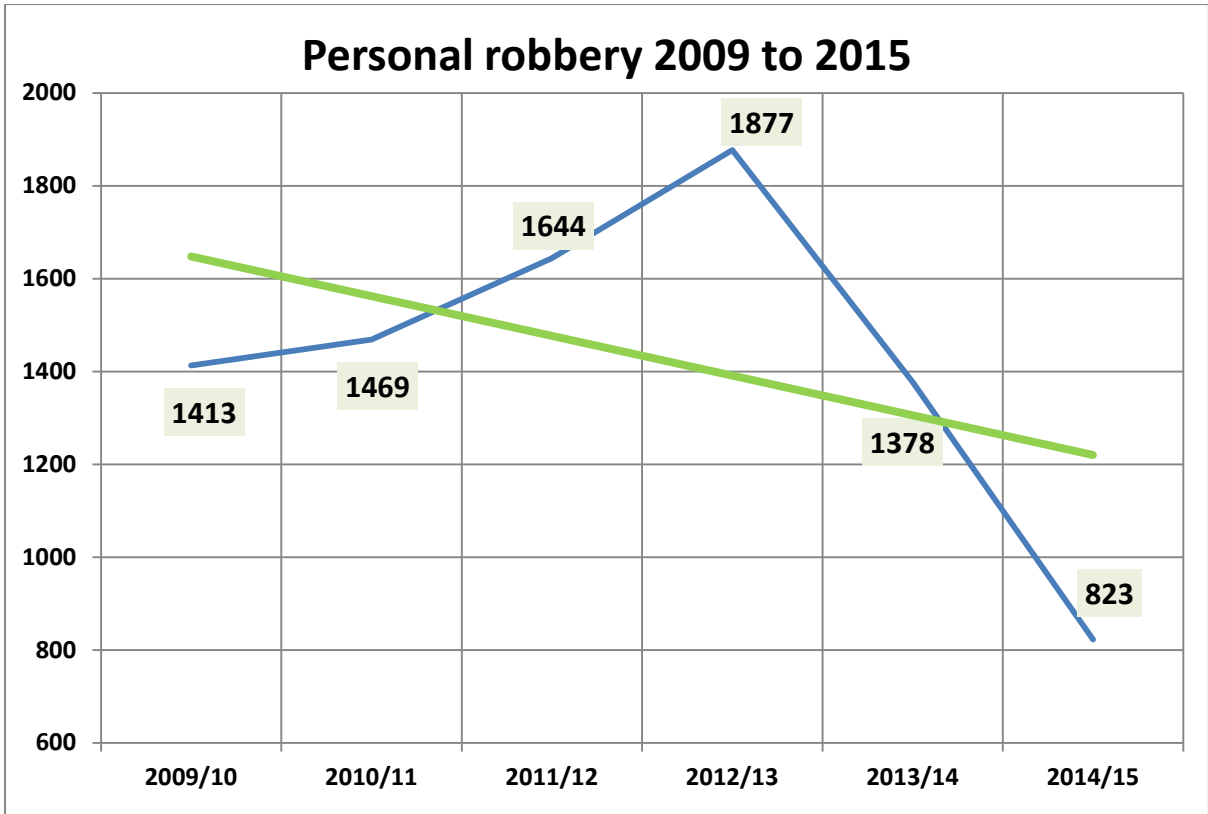


ROBBERY VOL		
Victims	Number of victims	1861
	Gender	73.03% (1359) male 26.81% (499) female
	Ethnicity	35.36% (658) white males 18.00% (335) asian males 13.54% (252) black males 11.28% (210) white females
	Peak age range	55.19% (1027) 10 - 24
	Most vulnerable age group	27.14% (505) 15 - 19
	Offenders	Number of offenders
Gender		82.20% (254) male 17.80% (55) female
Ethnicity		59.87% (185) black males 15.21% (47) white males
Age		61.17% (189) 15 - 19 15.21% (47) 10 - 14
Location	Primary hot spot	13.23% (219) Broad Green
	Secondary hot spot	11.84% (196) Fairfield 8.04% (133) Selhurst
	Times	Peak
Focus		15:00 to 20:00
Days	Hot	15.50% (262) Friday 15.44% (261) Thursday

## Personal robbery 2013-2014



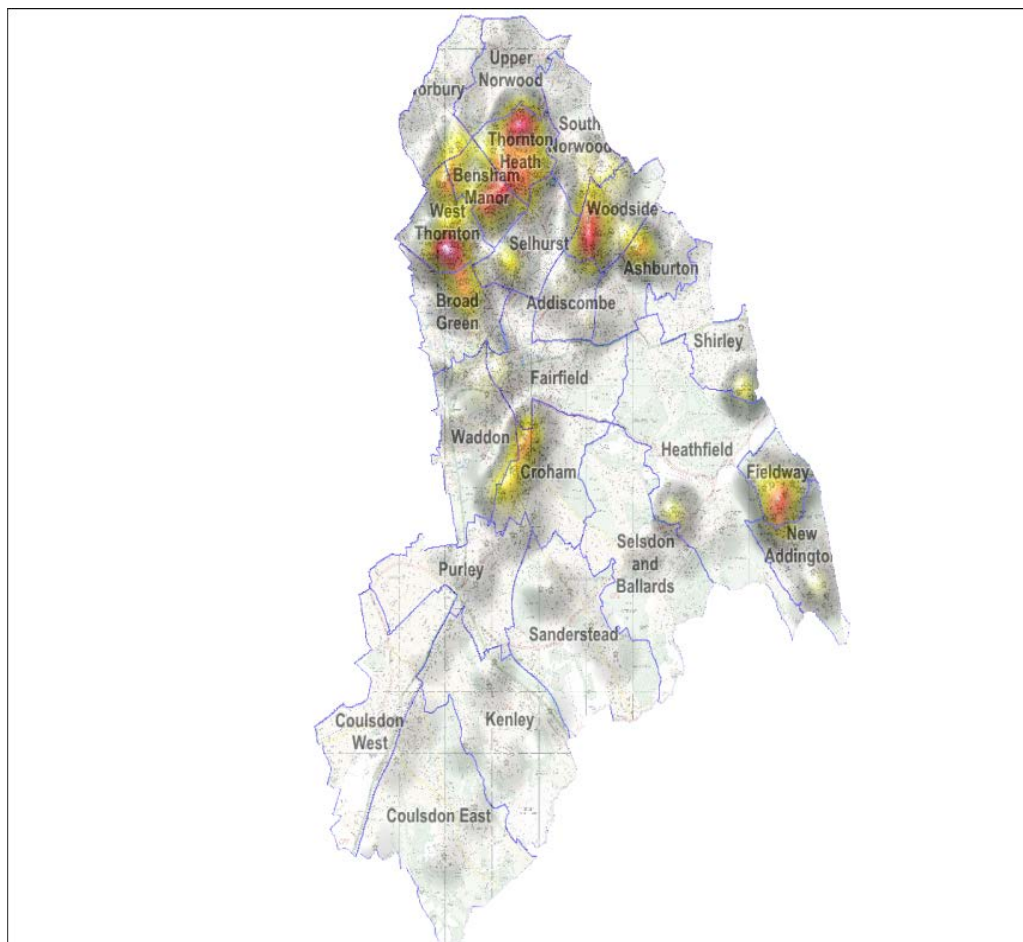
ROBBERY VOL		
Victims	Number of victims	1383
	Gender	70.4% (974) male 29.6% (409) female
	Ethnicity	31.8% (440) white males 21.6% (299) asian males 13.0% (180) black males 11.1% (153) white females
	Peak age range	43.7% (605) 12 - 18
	Most vulnerable age group	19.4% (268) 14 - 16
	Offenders	Number of offenders
Gender		88.5% (215) male 11.5% (28) female
Ethnicity		54.7% (133) black males 24.7% (60) white males
Age		65.0% (158) 14 - 18 26.3% (64) 19 - 22
Location	Primary hot spot	12.7% (156) Fairfield
	Secondary hot spot	12.1% (149) Broad Green 9.2% (113) Woodside
	Times	Peak
Focus		15:00 to 21:00
Days	Hot	16.3% (202) Friday 15.7% (195) Monday



# Issues

## Young People as Victims

### Home location of victims of Serious Youth Violence



Victimisation of young people may also be a factor that predisposes them to offending behaviour. Research has demonstrated that most victimisation of young people occurs in public places, but it can take place in institutions and the home. Young people become the victims of different types of crime which have a profound impact on their sense of well-being. For example, 90% of children and young people who experience domestic abuse within the home are often in the same or next room.

Types of Victimization that young people might have some experience of:

<b>Location/Category</b>	<b>Aggressor (Peer)</b>	<b>Aggressor (Adult)</b>
School and Public Spaces	Assault Threatening behaviour Child Sexual Exploitation Harassment Theft Robbery Internet and texting	Child sexual Exploitation
Institutional (e.g. Young Offender Institution)	Assault (gangs) Threatening behaviour	
Police		Moving On Stop and Search
Home	Murder Sexual, emotional or physical abuse Witness of violence (Domestic abuse)	Murder Sexual, emotional or physical abuse Domestic abuse

## **Fear of Crime**

Despite recorded crime reducing by 12.46% when comparing the number of incidents reported in 2012 to 2013 the perception amongst the community is that crime is on the increase. One explanation could be that individuals living within communities often experience more anti-social behaviour and crime than is actually reported, and those who do report incidents find that it does not result in any action and the problem persists. This fuels the perception that nothing can be done, exacerbating the fear of crime.

Research among young people found that of those who admitted to committing an offence, many had not been caught. Therefore, most young people who commit crime never experience any form of positive intervention or the deterrents that they cite as being most effective fear of parent reprisal and fear of punishment.

Independent research identifies that much of the crime committed by and against young people is unreported and therefore unrecorded.

## **Anti-Social Behaviour**

Anti-social behaviour impacts on the quality of life and contributes to the fear of crime. The impact on deprived neighbourhoods is particularly profound as anti-social behaviour, and crime generally, can rapidly tip struggling communities in to decline. There can be no excuse for criminal and anti-social behaviour, but many young people who enter the criminal justice system may have previously been or are known to one or more agency or had had contact with professional and other within their community. Research suggests that young people



who are first-time entrants to the criminal justice system may have graduated from bullying and low-level anti-social behaviour into more serious crime.

Young people can also be victims of anti-social behaviour but may have different views of what is unacceptable behaviour. Often young people do not realise that their behaviour is offensive to others. It is quite appropriate behaviour for young people to 'hang-out' together in public places or in their communities but this innocent action is widely seen by adults as a form of anti-social activity.

## Personal Robbery

Young people are particularly vulnerable to violence and robbery. Personal robbery is a top concern among the public. It is defined here as the use of threat or force to steal property from a person in a public space.

Most offenders for robbery are young and male. Offenders see robbery as being quick and profitable; mobile phones are a key target as well as cash and other goods. Offenders prefer victims they can intimidate, subdue or overpower, and in most cases look for a victim who is likely to be compliant. Overall, robbery victims tend to be young males.

Street Robbery is more common in places which provide cover or opportunities to loiter, e.g. bus stops, train stations.

## Gangs

Croydon's gang population exists of approximately six active gangs at any given time, with the total number of 'nominals' averaging 90-100. Our gangs are typically made up of young adult males aged 14-25. Their offending consists of violence, often directed at each other and including use of weapons in inter-gang rivalry, and drug supply. Gang activity is mainly concentrated in the north of the Borough, Town Centre, and a distinct area in the east.

The past 18-24 months has seen a significant decrease in gang-related street violence, but an emerging trend of Class A drug supply. The volume of gang-related incidents in Croydon is significantly lower compared to boroughs such as Lambeth, Southwark and Hackney, but the YOS has identified an increasing trend of other boroughs placing high risk, gang-involved looked after children in Borough, which impacts significantly on local resources including our Missing children cohort.

Croydon has a well-established multi-agency Gangs Team (Croydon Connected) comprised of YOS, Probation, Police, and Safer London Foundation. The Team works to divert 'nominals' from gang-active/violent lifestyles; interventions aimed at supporting 'nominals' to exit gangs include:

- Conflict resolution between rival gang members
- (Re) engagement with education/training/employment
- Supporting access to suitable, sometimes emergency, accommodation
- Family support



- For those individuals who refuse to exit violent lifestyles, proactive enforcement tactics are employed by Croydon Gangs Unit.

Gang-affected young women who are experiencing violent and/or sexual exploitation are safeguarded through the Child sexual Exploitation Protocol and offered individual and group support in schools through Safer London Foundation's Empower programme. Safer London Foundation engage young women aged 11-18 to reduce risk, increase personal safety, improve sense of identity, and build resilience. Safer London practitioners are based in the Youth Offending Service which ensures referral and progression pathways are clear and robust.

The Growing Against Gangs & Youth Violence programme is delivered to all priority schools in Croydon, offering evidence-based preventative intervention.

## **Child Sexual Exploitation**

The relationship between gang involvement and the risk of sexual and violent exploitation is well established. This can take the form of very harmful behaviour including carrying drugs and weapons including guns, being trafficked across different areas, and becoming victims of retaliatory sexual offences including rape. Professionals in all agencies have a key role in the awareness of children who may be at risk of CSE and sharing this information through the CSE Protocol and Multi-Agency Sexual Exploitation meetings.

The MASE meetings provide an opportunity for the identified CSE leads from each agency to:

- Review progress of cases and ensure action is being taken by relevant agencies
- Identify any trends or problem locations and ensure they are dealt with
- Ensure looked after children placed out of Borough and at risk of CSE are being protected by agencies where they are located
- Identify cross border issues and ensure there is a co-ordinated approach with other Boroughs

## **Domestic Violence and Abuse**

The YOS works with a number of young people who have experienced or are involved in violence towards their parents/carers. Croydon's Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy 2012 to 2015 coordinate's action across all agencies. Activity will focus on raising awareness to enhance professional practice within the safeguarding process and deliver healthy relationship work.

## Youth Crime Action Plan 2015-16

PREVENTION					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved early identification and support of children and young people at risk of offending, anti-social behaviour and gangs</li> <li>• Evidence of more work which takes a “think family” approach building on the strengths of families and reduces risk factors.</li> </ul>					
No	Indicator	TIMESCALE	ACCOUNTABLE LEAD	Outcome/Impact	Progress
1.	YOS Triage/Out of Court Disposals identifies young people suitable for diversion from the criminal justice system.	On going	YOS -Ray Maguire  Police - Phil Mockett	Reduction in the number of young people enter the criminal justice system for the first time Young people are appropriately diverted from prosecution.	
2.	Agreed referral pathways as part of Early Help and Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub for children and young people who are identified being at risk of offending, ASB and gangs	Report quarterly	EIFS - Debby MacCormack	Increased number of Early Help Assessments at stage 2 and allocation of service. More appropriate referrals to Social Care	
3.	Develop a “Think Family” approach with YOS that can contribute to a reduction in re-offending - family interventions such as Functional Family Therapy, Family Resilience will be tracked overtime	September 2015 and on-going	EIFS - Dwynwen Stepien	Evidence of link between intervention and reduction in offending behaviour; improvement in wider outcomes	

**PREVENTION**

- Improved early identification and support of children and young people at risk of offending, anti-social behaviour and gangs
- Evidence of more work which takes a “think family” approach building on the strengths of families and reduces risk factors.

No	Indicator	TIMESCALE	ACCOUNTABLE LEAD	Outcome/Impact	Progress
4.	Safer Schools Partnerships to establish 21 Safer Schools Partnerships in Croydon	April 2015	Police - Phil Mockett	Collate data on offending in schools in particular the carrying of weapons. Improved understanding of problematic bus routes and transport interchanges.	
5.	Establish Working group on use of offensive weapons to provide recommendations to schools	September 15	Learning Access - Tony Murphy	Working group established and TOR developed	
6.	Education Fair Access Process supporting a reduction in the number of permanent exclusions from school	Ongoing	Learning Access Tony Murphy	Maintain low permanent exclusion rate/reduce further. Development of cross border work in relation to alternative education providers and the Fair Access Process	
7	Develop a comprehensive map of the ‘youth offer’ in Croydon including diversionary activities.	June 2015	EIFS - Dwynwen Stepien & Housing Service Development Sian Foley	Understanding of available support identification and addressing gaps through commissioning or direct services	

**PREVENTION**

- Improved early identification and support of children and young people at risk of offending, anti-social behaviour and gangs
- Evidence of more work which takes a “think family” approach building on the strengths of families and reduces risk factors.

No	Indicator	TIMESCALE	ACCOUNTABLE LEAD	Outcome/Impact	Progress
8.	To deliver the Growing Against Gangs and Youth Violence Programme in schools covering Years 6 to 11	On going	YOS - Leslie Roberts	Children and young people have Increased knowledge & awareness.	
9.	Deliver Gangs awareness training to relevant partner agencies	On going	YOS - Leslie Roberts	Raised awareness and improve early identification of CYP at risk of gang involvement.	
10	Street-Based service to engage young people at risk of getting involved in crime and ASB	On going	YOS – Detached Team - Karen Morgan	Reduction in ASB hot-spots •Awareness raising and support for young people to access youth engagement opportunities •Increased community cohesion through working with Police, CPFC Foundation and Housing Landlord Services	

**PREVENTION**

- Improved early identification and support of children and young people at risk of offending, anti-social behaviour and gangs
- Evidence of more work which takes a “think family” approach building on the strengths of families and reduces risk factors.

No	Indicator	TIMESCALE	ACCOUNTABLE LEAD	Outcome/Impact	Progress
12	Links with the Emotional health and wellbeing sub-group of the CF Partnership to ensure actions to address bullying are addressed across the partnership	On going	Integrated Commissioning Sam Taylor/Daniel Davis/Denise Dyer	<p>Mapping of anti-bullying activities</p> <p>Report on the findings of the health &amp; wellbeing survey conducted in schools in 2014 and repeat in 2016</p> <p>Identification of gaps</p> <p>Offer schools training on reviewing anti-bullying policies and practice.</p> <p>Consider offering 3 day restorative approaches training to schools in the autumn term.</p>	

## ENFORCEMENT AND INTERVENTION

- Improved life chances for those young people identified as at high risk of re-offending or committing anti-social behaviour
- Identify young people involved in gang activity/serious youth violence and they are provided opportunities and interventions to exit the lifestyle.

No	ACTION	TIMESCALE	ACCOUNTABLE LEAD	Outcome/Impact	Progress
1.	To reduce the numbers of young people re-offending after 12 months	Quarterly	YOS - Ray Maguire	To reduce the rate to 41% YP re-offending	
2.	Increase the proportion of young people under YOS supervision participating in education, training or employment and living suitable accommodation	Quarterly	YOS- Ray Maguire	To increase the numbers of Post 16 young people in ETE to 80% To maintain performance that over 90% of school age YP in full time education 90% of young people are in suitable accommodation	
3.	Review multi agency Risk Management and Vulnerability Panel operation and membership	April 15	YOS - Ray Maguire	TOR developed and agreed by Board. To ensure high risk of harm and vulnerability cases are effectively reviewed to prevent re-offending and reduce vulnerability	

## ENFORCEMENT AND INTERVENTION

- Improved life chances for those young people identified as at high risk of re-offending or committing anti-social behaviour
- Identify young people involved in gang activity/serious youth violence and they are provided opportunities and interventions to exit the lifestyle.

No	ACTION	TIMESCALE	ACCOUNTABLE LEAD	Outcome/Impact	Progress
4.	Engage 100% of young people involved in gangs in 1:1 interventions to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• are referred into needs-led ETE provision</li> <li>• are referred into diversionary activities</li> <li>• are referred into relevant mainstream services including drug/alcohol, Social Care, CAMHS/Adult Services, Housing, Functional Family Therapy and Troubled Families</li> </ul>	Quarterly	YOS - Leslie Roberts	Reduction in serious youth violence, CYP are safeguarded, CYP have access to provision that supports gang-exit strategies	
5.	Establish structures to ensure joint agency response to targeting of prolific gang and robbery nominals with appropriate civil enforcement interventions	April 15	YOS - Ray Maguire	Improved coordination and intelligence sharing	
6	Police Safer schools team address offending and ASB at school closing times in priority locations - after school patrols.	On going	Police - Phil Mockett	Police officers patrol these along with PCSOs and have a visible presence	
7	Increased use of enforcement procedures for non-attendance i.e. fixed penalty notices and prosecution	On going	Learning Access - Tony Murphy	Appropriate use of enforcement powers to contribute to LA's work to reduce overall and persistent absence in schools	

## ENFORCEMENT AND INTERVENTION

- Improved life chances for those young people identified as at high risk of re-offending or committing anti-social behaviour
- Identify young people involved in gang activity/serious youth violence and they are provided opportunities and interventions to exit the lifestyle.

No	ACTION	TIMESCALE	ACCOUNTABLE LEAD	Outcome/Impact	Progress
8.	Targeted use of truancy sweeps in areas of concern in the Borough	On going	Learning Access - Tony Murphy	Truancy sweeps to be targeted in areas where data indicates there are high levels of daytime youth crime	
9.	Joint agency approach to ensure that when young people are sentenced to custody there is a resettlement plan in place when released from custody.	Quarterly	YOS - Ray Maguire	Report on the numbers of young people in custody (maintain performance below 38 YP a year) and there are Resettlement plans agreed to reduce re-offending on release	
10	Deliver Functional Family Therapy to young people and families identified by YOS	Quarterly	YOS - Ray Maguire  FFT - Dave Tapsell	Evidence of more work which takes a Functional Family therapy approach and of positive impact to reduce offending	



**ENFORCEMENT AND INTERVENTION**

- Improved life chances for those young people identified as at high risk of re-offending or committing anti-social behaviour
- Identify young people involved in gang activity/serious youth violence and they are provided opportunities and interventions to exit the lifestyle.

No	ACTION	TIMESCALE	ACCOUNTABLE LEAD	Outcome/Impact	Progress
11	Continue to develop a partnership approach to ASB enforcement, making full use of ASB legislation and housing management interventions in order to address problems as they arise'		Community Safety -Andy Opie	Evidence or partnership working to reduce incidents of ASB	

**PROTECTING YOUNG PEOPLE AND SUPPORTING VICTIMS**

- To reduce the number of victims of youth crime
- To ensure young people are safe as possible from violence, sexual exploitation, gangs, bullying and domestic abuse
- To raise the skills and knowledge in relation to young people that go missing and at risk of Violence, Sexual Exploitation and Domestic Abuse

No	Action	Timescale	Accountable Lead	Outcome/Impact	Progress
1.	YOS ensures that all identified victims have access to appropriate support	Quarterly	YOS- Noel Wheatley	All identified victims are contacted, their views sought and opportunities given to engage in a restorative approach	
2.	Further strengthen the partnership response to address the risk between missing and trafficked children and violence/sexual exploitation.	Report quarterly	QA - Gavin Swann	Numbers of staff attending training Ensures that missing children is seen as a multi-agency issue Evaluation and dissemination of Vulnerable Adolescent audit.	
3.	Educate young people around internet safety and personal safety in schools etc.	Ongoing	Police - Phil Mockett	Police school team CEOP trained. Number of presentations to pupils to raise awareness	

## PARTICIPATION

- To ensure children and young people are able to participate in decision making regarding crime issues of concern to them.

No	Action	Timescale	Accountable lead	Outcome/Impact	Progress
1.	Young people involved in Croydon's Youth Council produce a Stop and search information leaflet, designed by young people, for young people. Croydon Youth Council to deliver workshops to young people about their stop and search rights to support the leaflet.	April 15	Community Voice and development - Helen Clark	More young people are aware of their rights and feel empowered	Complete
2.	Using existing relationships work with the SNB and Safer Neighbourhood Board to support them to effectively engage with young people and develop structure and processes that allow young people to participate meaningfully (link to Participation Strategy)	September 15	Community Voice and development - Helen Clark	More young people involved in decision making and finding solutions regarding crime issues of concern to them	
3.	Work with the Croydon Children Safeguarding Board to support them to effectively engage with young people and develop structure and processes that allow young people to participate meaningfully (link to Participation Strategy)	September 15	Community Voice and development - Helen Clark	More young people are involved in decision making and finding solutions around keeping themselves safe.	

## PARTICIPATION

- To ensure children and young people are able to participate in decision making regarding crime issues of concern to them.

No	Action	Timescale	Accountable lead	Outcome/Impact	Progress
4.	<p>Talk to young people and complete questionnaire about why they come to the town centre, how long they stay, who they come in with</p> <p>Ask about what they would do in a situation where they felt unsafe or witnessed something.</p>	June to august 15	Karen Morgan	The results will be used to shape the delivery of future youth projects.	
5.	YOS will undertake an annual E survey of up to 85 young people to provide feedback on the quality of the service provided.	January 2016	Ray Maguire - YOS	Evaluate results from survey in 2014/15 and repeat in 2015/16	

### Risk and Protective Factors

There are many factors which affect our young people as they grow up and mature. These influences contribute to how they develop their ability to; reason, make sound decisions, interact socially and perform in the workplace. The quality of these influences will determine whether they are to be considered a risk or protective factor because there is a strong correlation between children who are victimised or offend and those who have been at risk or vulnerable.

The identification of the level of risk and the promotion of protective factors within the lives of young people at risk of offending is recognised as being of vital importance and providing a firm foundation for any subsequent programme of intervention to help to promote and develop positive outcomes.

Risk Factors	Protective Factors
<b>Individual Factors</b> Poor social skills / low self-esteem Hyperactivity/disruptive behaviour Personal or mental health issues Drug/alcohol misuse Positive view of aggression	Strong sense of self-belief and worth Social Skills including negotiation Moral understanding and beliefs Impulse control, problem solving skills
<b>Family &amp; Parenting</b> Close or wider family members who are offenders Poor supervision and inconsistent parenting/disciplining Experience of abuse Witness of domestic violence Lone parent/absent strong male role model Lack of warmth and affection	Good parental attachment from birth through to adolescence Stability within the home with clear, fair, firm & consistent boundaries, discipline & morality Positive adult influence[s], advice & support outside of the family home
<b>Education</b> Truancy, exclusion, experience of difficulty in school Inadequate behaviour management Peer group who condone or promote offending & violence	Association with a circle of friends who do not condone or commit offences Positive settled experience of school and learning opportunities Clear controls around violence Recognition of achievement
<b>Life Changes</b> Divorce and family break-up Death of a family member Critical transitional points [Looked After Child (LAC) with placement breakdown, move of schools etc]	Support from significant people at critical points to manage crises/major life transitions Stable placements or accommodation
<b>Community &amp; Cultural</b> Socio-economic disadvantage Poor housing conditions, overcrowding, deprived area	Attachment to the community Community networking Participation in locally available activities and

Violence and substance misuse in the neighbourhood, crime hotspot Lack of support services / leisure activities	community groups
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Most children and young people do not offend and the protective factors they experience in their lives can serve to strengthen their character against any contact with negative influences or risk factors. Young people continue to encounter new or changing influences as they develop and mature, making positive activities outside of formal learning of equal importance for their rounded development.

Research has shown that the difference these positive experiences have in young people includes; instilling a sense of belonging & ambition, higher expectations of themselves; optimism, positive expectations for the future; social competence and problem-solving skills; strong perception of social support being available from peers adults & authority figures; greater ability to make good use of leisure time and local/neighbourhood resources.

Clearly this indicates that decision-makers need to be involved in consultation with young people on cross-cutting issues such as crime prevention, intervention and diversion. That is why this Youth Crime Reduction strategy has been informed by facts and evidence and promoting better co-ordination of services and improved partnership working remains the fundamental key-stone of progress.