

Violence Reduction Network

The Violence Reduction Network includes:

Anti-Social Behaviour Team Sonia.Preddie@croydon.gov.uk

The team investigates complaints of ASB across the Borough and is not tenure specific when investigating and taking appropriate action.

Some of the issues reported to the ASB Team are; excessive household noise, drunk and disorderly behaviour, drug using and taking in properties, loud music, verbal and racial abuse, cuckooing (where a vulnerable person's flat is taken over by drug dealers), harassment and intimidation, ASB caused by people vulnerable due to drug and alcohol abuse and mental ill-health, threats of violence and actual violence. In fact we will address any kind of ASB that causes a nuisance, annoyance, harassment, alarm and/or distress to any person.

Although the Team is essentially an "enforcement team", enforcement is used as a last resort after all other measures have been tried and have failed.

Partners that the team works with include the police and social care, ward councillors, registered social landlords and private sector landlords. Other Partners include members of the public, legal teams, street based teams, regulatory services, education, youth offending services, the family justice centre, probation and Judges. This list is not exhaustive and the team will work with any agency in order to address and prevent crime, the fear of crime and ASB. Cases are also referred to the Councils mediation service when appropriate.

There are two key Forums serviced by the ASB Team. The ASB Forum where local issues are discussed and resolutions reached. Also the Risk and Vulnerability Management Panel where residents and tenants with the most complex needs are discussed. Action plans are drawn up to reduce the risks that can be caused to and by these vulnerable individuals.

One significant tool which the ASB Team has regularly utilised is the Community Protection Notice Warning. This has been very effective in protecting residents from harm as well as encouraging private landlords to act when their tenants cause ASB. Other tools include the anti-social behaviour injunction and Premises Closure Orders for serious criminal and anti-social behaviour. The new Public Space Protection Order protects the wider public, current orders are within the Town Centre, Thornton Heath, South Norwood and New Addington.

Partnership working has seen ASB Officers join police officers on a number of Warrants. ASB Officers gather evidence at the scene and take follow up action such as obtaining Premises Closure Orders at Court for commercial as well as residential properties for drugs offences and ASB. Police recently commented that the Partnership work with the ASB team is among some of the best they have seen.

CCTV and Intelligence Hub David.Eastoe@croydon.gov.uk

The CCTV Control Room (Intelligence Hub) is based at Strand House, Thornton Heath and staffed by 24/7, 365 days a year. The CCTV scheme consists of 94 permanent networked colour CCTV cameras of various designs with Pan, Tilt & Zoom facility. The images from these cameras are transmitted back to CCTV Control Room via hard wired or wireless systems. The CCTV Control Room houses the command & control equipment for the cameras as well as the central digital video recorder. The team also provides the Councils Out of Hours Emergency Telephony Service which signposts residents with an Emergency need that cannot wait until the next working day to the appropriate service such as Adults & Children's services, Pollution, Medical Equipment (Croydon Equipment Services) etc.

The Council has also purchased 10 rapid deployment cameras that can be moved from time to time to priority locations in the borough. These cameras are not monitored continuously but on a regular basis by the Intelligence Hub staff. The deployment of these cameras is bid for by partners at the monthly Joint Agency Group (JAG) meetings which are attended by Council officers, Emergency services and other partners with a responsibility for community safety. The typical deployment for these cameras is usually limited to three months.

The main partner to use the facilities provided are the Metropolitan Police. Currently there is a global camera sharing memorandum of understanding that was drafted in 2008 that covers the Police use of local authority CCTV. As part of this agreement the Metropolitan Police Service has provided the Control Room with a Police Radio (Airwave) that allows Council Staff direct communication to operational Police Officers on the ground

and 'Met Control' the Police Command & Control centre based in Lambeth. The camera sharing agreement is currently being re written to take into account changes in the Data Protection landscape.

Although the Metropolitan Police are our main partner we have also worked with the Department of Work & Pensions, HMRC and specialist teams from other Police forces as well as the National Crime Agency who have carried out surveillance operations from our Control Room, subject to the correct authorisation.

The Council has voluntarily participated in the Surveillance Camera Commissioner's "*Surveillance Camera Code of Practice*" compliance scheme and has been awarded an initial 12 month approval certification. During this initial 12 month period the Council will be audited by the National Security Inspectorate with a view to obtaining a further 5 year approval certification.

The 2018 – 2022 Council Corporate Plan includes a specific action to "Upgrade our CCTV infrastructure and ensure the control room is operating effectively to reduce crime and protect the public" under the priority "Everyone feels safe in their street, their neighbourhood, and their home".

Due to hardware failure the Council replaced its CCTV Command & Control system in the summer of 2019 with a system that will be capable of delivering Smarter City opportunities.

Cabinet approved £1M Capital funding (in Feb 2018) to match an equivalent amount from Growth Zone funding for the infrastructure upgrade programme to procure and install the hardware and software necessary to upgrade the Public Safety CCTV system. The revenue for the maintenance contract comes from an existing CCTV budget.

The £1m growth zone funding will be profiled in the Growth Zone Plan to be utilised in 2020/2021. This will be used with existing capital funding to procure the necessary equipment for the infrastructure upgrade including for example Columns, Cameras, Sensors and High speed Wi-Fi connectivity.

The team recently spotted a property on fire and reported the incident to the LFB which saved residents and potential damage to neighbouring properties.

Family Justice Centre Alison.Kennedy@croydon.gov.uk

The FJC is a centrally located resource offering a multi-disciplinary approach to services for victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence and their children.

The centre seeks to offer victims wrap around support and to prevent individuals having to go from agency to agency, telling their story repeatedly, in order to access the support they need.

The FJC is run by a multi-agency team that provide:

- holistic assessment of need and risk;
- advice and support on all aspects of domestic abuse and sexual violence;
- legal advice and support to obtain protective orders
- support and advice to access emergency safe accommodation;
- support to access specialist services and advice, including no recourse to public funding issues, support for children, and rape and sexual abuse;
- drop-in and appointment service
- A domestic abuse helpline for survivors and practitioners.
- Counselling/therapy for victim/survivors and children

The FJC team comprises of 11 IDVA's (Independent Domestic Abuse Advisors) who each manage a MARAC case load as well as carrying out assessments. The FJC also coordinate the MARAC with meetings being held fortnightly. 5 of the IDVA's are community based, 3 IDVA's in the Early Help localities, 1 IDVA based in the police station and 1 IDVA based within the hospital covering A&E and Maternity. The additional role of the community IDVA's is to deliver training and raise awareness within their respective localities.

Partner agencies

In order to achieve a robust response to tackling Violence against women and girls the FJC has established strong partnership working with the following:

- Police
- Children's Social Care
- Early Help
- Adult social care
- NPS/CRC
- Housing
- VCS (Bromley and Croydon Womens Aid, RASASC, Rise Mutual, BME forum, Galop, Victim Support, Women and girls network, Croydon drop in, Encouraging her)
- SLaM
- DWP
- Health – Primary and secondary

Key Implementations and milestones:

Drive – Perpetrator intervention

Croydon were successful in securing funding from MOPAC and the Home office to deliver Drive which is an intervention aimed at working with high harm high risk perpetrators of Domestic abuse. The intervention comprises of direct behaviour change work and/or disruption. The Project was successfully delivered over 18 months and funding has now been secured from MOPAC for another year from April 2020 – March 2021.

Training

From November 2019 FJC began delivering mandatory domestic abuse training for all social workers within Childrens Social care. From April 2020 FJC will also be delivering Domestic abuse training to all social workers within Adult social care. The FJC IDVA's have now been trained in delivering the Freedom Programme. The First programme was delivered successfully in September and will continue to be delivered quarterly.

Volunteer Programme

This programme was implemented in 2018 and funded by MOPAC. The programme has been successful with there being a pool of 40 volunteers. The volunteers provide additional support to victim/survivors in accessing support within the community. The FJC has continued to secure funding for this programme from MOPAC.

IRIS

Croydon has been identified as one of the boroughs to introduce IRIS which provides support, advice and training to GP's enabling them to identify victims of Domestic abuse and refer and sign post to appropriate support agencies.

Children and Adult SPOC

IDVA's work on a rota basis within MASH and Adult SPOC weekly. The IDVA's provide direct consultation to social workers as well as providing a rapid response to victims being referred through the duty system.

DA Car

Research has evidenced a spike in domestic abuse related incidents during large sporting events. The Euro football competition will take place in June 2020 and in response to the expected rise in domestic incidents

the FJC will be accompanying police officers in a dedicated car to offer a rapid response to victims immediately after an incident has occurred.

Performance and Intelligence Team Lewis.Kelly@croydon.gov.uk

The Intelligence and Performance Team of the VRN is responsible for identifying new relevant data sources, collating and then analysing data to provide intelligence to assist in preventing violence in the borough. As well as this, the team constructs and maintains performance frameworks for the VRN and its partners to ensure accountability is abided by and targets are met. The team works on operational, tactical and strategic levels so that intelligence and analytical products are provided on each level so that the VRN and its partners are well-informed of the challenges in the borough and providing guidance in setting appropriate actions to tackle these challenges.

The team works with a wide range of partners outside the VRN including the Police, Education, YOS, Children's Services, Licensing, Turning Point etc. We work together by engaging and requesting available data from these partners (in accordance with the DPA) and analysing it along with other datasets to provide a more reliable intelligence product to feed back into the VRN. The products are presented at the SCP and the other relevant programme boards where feedback is encouraged to amend the products to suit particular needs.

Prevent Team Haydar.Muntadhar@croydon.gov.uk

The Prevent team are responsible for implementing the UK Government's Prevent strand of Counter-Terrorism (CONTEST). Specifically, the legislation relating to the Counter-Terrorism Security Act (2015) which rendered Prevent a statutory duty on the public sector. The Prevent team's local implementation revolves around three main objectives:

- Ideology: Responding to the ideological challenge of terrorism and the threat we face from it
- Individuals: Prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure that they are given appropriate advice and support
- Institutions: Work with sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalisation which we need to address

Prevent works with many different partners that include SO15 (CT police local ops), Borough Police, SLAM, Children's, SPOC, Adult's, NHS, Education, Resilience

Milestones:

- Successfully implementing the Home Office's Dovetail pilot which makes the Local Authority lead on the referral process (as opposed to the police).
- Training hundreds of professionals in statutory services on Prevent and the referral pathways
- Engaging with Channel subjects and making them less vulnerable to being drawn into terrorist ideologies
- Being recognised as a national leader on the integration of the Domestic abuse and Prevent service. Presentations and briefings have been delivered to senior Home Office and police officials.

Community Team: Christopher.Rowney@croydon.gov.uk

The team are responsible for the co-ordination and governance of the SCP Board and the subsequent Programme Boards. The team work with the Police to ensure that our tasking meetings such as the Joint Action Group (JAG) adopts a multi-agency approach in tackling emerging issues within the borough. One key theme of the team is to lead on the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) scheme where we engage and target individuals who are involved in serious violence, possession with intent to supply, burglary as well as local crime priorities. We ensure we work with Probation Officers, Police and partners to ensure we offer the client the routes out of crime to prevent them from reoffending. The team are responsible for the co-ordinate the borough's Serious Youth Violence Action Plan and linking this into the guidance from the VRU.

The team are the lead partner in co-ordinating funded projects in relation to the London Crime Prevention Fund (LCPF), co-commissioning funding and VRU Funding.

As the team are the lead partner in the co-ordination of a number of projects they liaise with a vast number of partners: Home Office, VRU, MOPAC, Police, LFB, Croydon University Hospital, National Probation Service, Community Rehabilitation Company, Community groups and many more.

Milestones

The team have driven forward the SYV agenda within the borough, efforts of which have seen borough's knife crime action plan recognised as best practice in by MOPAC and the MPS at the pan-London knife crime summit in June 2018.