



Crime Reduction Strategy

2009 - 2012

Contents

Foreword	3
Legal, Performance and Delivery Framework	4
Youth Crime.....	8
Drugs and Alcohol.....	10
Anti-Social Behaviour.....	12
Offender Management	14
Safer Communities.....	16
Hate Crime	18
Business Crime	20
How the community can contribute.....	22



Foreword



As we reflect over the past 18 months, we can celebrate the following achievements:

- Significant decreases in robbery and theft of motor vehicles
- 36% reduction in serious youth violence and knife crime for the period October 2008 to January 2009 compared with the same period for the previous year.
- More offenders in effective drug treatment
- 14 premises shut down for dealing in Class A drugs
- 4 Drinking Bans in place
- 36 Dispersal orders (4 current)

At the same time there has been an increase in burglary and theft from motor vehicles.

Public consultation shows that fear of crime is one of the top concerns for local residents. The Place survey showed that 45% of residents felt either fairly unsafe or very unsafe in their local area when it was dark. Furthermore, perceptions of teenagers hanging around on the streets, drug use and drug dealing and vandalism and graffiti are all high. Awareness of local services has improved, particularly of neighbourhood policing but there still remains a challenge to reassure the public that the community is getting safer.

The key factor underpinning success is working in partnership. By working together with a wide range of agencies as well as local communities, the Safer Croydon Partnership is far more effective than any single agency working alone.

As we move forwards to 2009/10 we face many challenges.

The key priority areas are:

- Youth Crime, particularly serious youth violence
- Anti-Social behaviour
- Drugs and alcohol
- The management of offenders including reducing re-offending
- Domestic violence, Hate Crime, Sexual offences and human trafficking
- Safer Communities - Community engagement, cohesion, preventing violent extremism and reducing the fear of crime
- Business Crime

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gavin Barwell". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Gavin Barwell

Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion
Chair of The Safer Croydon Partnership

Legal, Performance and Delivery

Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) were created following the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Act recognised the integral role of working in partnership with other agencies to reduce crime and improve safety. Locally, the CDRP is known as the Safer Croydon Partnership. The Safer Croydon Partnership is the statutory body responsible for co-ordinating the development and implementation of Croydon's Crime Reduction Strategy. The Partnership comprises public sector agencies, business, community and voluntary sector organisations.

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended by Section 22 of the Police and Justice Act 2006) requires local authorities to formulate and implement a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in their area, including anti-social behaviour adversely affecting the local environment and the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances. The strategy must include the objectives to be pursued and the long term and short term performance targets for measuring the extent to which these objectives have been achieved. Local Authorities are required to publish the strategy and make it available to the public.

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended by Section 22 of the Police and Justice Act 2006) imposes a duty on local authorities and police authorities to exercise their functions with regard to reducing crime and disorder.

Section 30 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended by the Police Reform Act 2002 and Police and Justice Act 2006) requires public services to work with other local organisations through Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships.

During 2006 a review of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the Police Reform Act 2002, sought to strengthen partnership working overall, resulting in the creation of the 6 Hallmarks of Effective Partnerships which are:

- Empowered and Effective Leadership
- Visible and Constructive Accountability
- Intelligence-led Business Processes
- Effective and Responsive Delivery Structures
- Engaged Communities and
- Appropriate Skills and Knowledge

Strategic Assessment

A key recommendation from the review was for Partnerships to produce an annual Strategic Assessment (SA) which presents and interprets the summary findings of an intelligence analysis from a range of organisations and sets out the story behind the data.

The SA improves our ability to:

- Understand the patterns and trends relating to crime, disorder and substance misuse;
- Set clear and robust priorities
- Develop activity that is driven by reliable intelligence and meets the needs of the local community
- Deploy resources effectively and present value for money
- Undertake annual reviews and plan activity based on a clear understanding of the issues and of the priorities.

The SA then informs the development of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy. The Government also expects local authorities and their partners to deliver the key national priorities; and take account of those priorities when developing crime reduction strategies.

The Safer Croydon Partnership Strategy group agreed to adopt a problem solving approach by analysing data for the period April 1st 2007 to October 31st 2008, from a victim, offender and location perspective.



This model demonstrates crime prevention theory at its simplest.

Using this approach helps the Partnership to:

- work with offenders and potential offenders to divert them from criminal behaviour
- provide support, advice and protection to victims, repeat victims and potential victims of crime
- identify problem locations and reduce the opportunities for crime to occur

The key findings from the strategic assessment completed in February 2009 are as follows:

- For the period 2007 to 2008 there have been increases in domestic burglary, theft from motor vehicles, drug offences, sex offences, domestic violence and hate crime. These increases can largely be attributed to increased reporting and Police activity
- For the period 2007 to 2008 there have been reductions in violent crime, robbery, criminal damage thefts of vehicles and gun crime
- For the period April to October 2008 Fairfield continued to be the ward with the highest prevalence of crime, with Broad Green the 2nd highest and then Selhurst, West Thornton and Thornton Heath.
- For the period April to Dec 2008 there was a reduction in reports of Anti-Social Behaviour when compared to the previous year. Rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour continues to be the most common issue reported.

Framework

Priorities

Victim	Offender	Location
Young people	Young people	Town Centre
Family violence	Family violence	Thornton Heath
	Reduce re-offending	Local hotspots
	Sexual offenders	
	Acquisitive crime	

- Fear of crime remains high and does not reflect the reductions in crime that have been achieved over the last few years.
- Young people represent a significant proportion of victims and perpetrators, particularly with regard to violent crime, even though there have been reductions in serious youth violence, knife enabled crime and robbery
- Non reporting of crime continues to be a major issue particularly with regard to young people and victims of domestic violence, sex offences and hate crime

The priorities are summarised above.

The Crime Reduction Strategy 2009-12 has been developed using the findings from the strategic assessment, the outcomes from the previous Crime Reduction Strategy, nationally identified priorities and consultation with the community and local stakeholders.

Performance Framework

The Government has set out clear expectations that Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) will have a role in determining local priorities and in managing the delivery mechanisms that tackle them. From April 1st 2009 a new national performance framework will be introduced, replacing the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) which previously looked mainly at the past performance of the Council.

The new Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) will seek to evaluate the combined impact of all public service providers in an area in delivering agreed outcomes for local people. Furthermore there will be a move away from separate inspectorates (e.g. HM Inspectorates of Constabulary and Prisons and Probation services to name but two) to a more integrated performance regime inspected by the Audit Commission.

The changes aim to strengthen the accountability to and engagement with citizens and communities, to give greater responsibility to local authorities and their partners for securing improvements in services, and provide a better balance between national and local priorities.

All effective organisations measure their performance in order to know how well they are doing and to identify opportunities for improvement. The centrepiece of performance management for LSPs is the Local Area Agreement (LAA) for which the council is accountable. The LAA is a three-year agreement between a local area and central government, and the key tool for delivering local priorities.

There are six specific targets that the Crime Reduction Strategy will deliver. There are many other targets and priorities that the strategy will contribute to. To ensure that the Crime Reduction Strategy delivers not only the six LAA targets, but also contributes to the delivery of other targets across the LSP it must be able to work with and contribute to other partnerships. The six priorities of the Sustainable Community

Strategy and LAA are therefore shown in terms of how the Crime Reduction Strategy can contribute to them:

- Creating safer, stronger and more sustainable communities through reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and improving community engagement and perceptions of crime
- Achieving better outcomes for Children and Young People through preventing young people from committing crime and dealing effectively with young people in the criminal justice system
- Promoting Economic Growth and Prosperity through reducing acquisitive crime and improving perceptions of crime in the Borough to attract more people to set up businesses, work, visit and live here.
- Improving Health and Wellbeing through tackling the causes of crime including drug and alcohol misuse, mental health issues and improving access to housing, education, training and employment.
- Improving the Environment through removing litter, graffiti and tackling criminal damage as well as perceptions of local areas
- Delivering High Quality Public Services & Improving Value for Money through effectively commissioning projects, performance managing them and ensuring outcomes are being achieved.

The six Safer Croydon Partnership LAA targets for 2008-2009 are:

- NI 15 Reduce the serious violent crime rate
- NI 16 Reduce the serious acquisitive crime rate by 6% by 2010/11
- NI 40 Increase the number of drug users in effective treatment by 11% by 2010/11
- NI 111 Reduce first time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17
- Local Indicator (L2) Achieve a 48% sanctioned detection rate for domestic violence
- Local Indicator (L1) Increase the number of successful early interventions to prevent anti-social behaviour from 75 to 87 by 2010/11

National Indicators

The National Indicator Set was developed as part of the Comprehensive Spending Review 2007 reflecting the Government’s national priorities. Performance against each of the 198 indicators will be to the Local Strategic Partnership. There are 39 indicators that specifically relate to crime and disorder, all of which are included within the relevant section of this strategy.

The Safer Croydon Partnership also needs to take into consideration the Assessments of Policing and Community Safety (APACS) another new assessment framework for the partnership. This too, goes live in April 2009.

Outcomes delivered by the police and local government together, the indicators used by APACS and the indicators in the local performance framework will be the same. This will mean that data collection requirements on local partners will be significantly reduced. These shared indicators will also help to drive joint working between local partners.

The new National Indicator Set also contains 25 indicators which are informed by citizens’ views and perspectives. To reduce the number of surveys being undertaken by local authorities, 18 of these will be collected through a single Place Survey to be administered by each local authority.

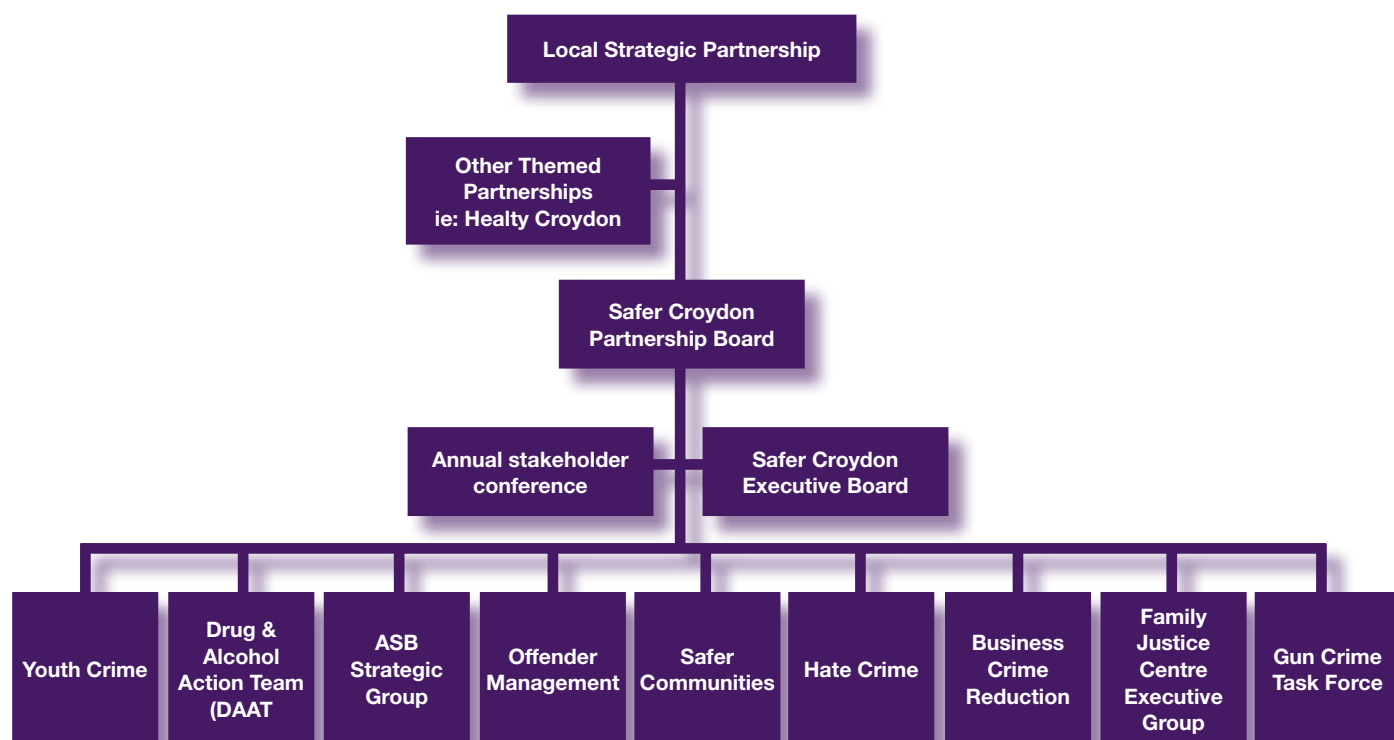
In addition the Safer Croydon Partnership conducts an annual Fear of Crime Survey and regularly consults stakeholders on various aspects of Community Safety.

Delivery Framework

During 2007/08 a review of the governance of the Safer Croydon Partnership identified a need to improve clarity about decision making and accountability.

In light of the Home Office Hallmarks and Guidance for Effective Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships published in 2007, the key recommendation was to develop a new Safer Croydon Partnership Board (SCPB)

The diagram below illustrates the new structure.



The Safer Croydon Partnership Board (SCPB)

The Safer Croydon Partnership is currently one of several themed partnerships that report to the Local Strategic Partnership Board. The creation of a Safer Croydon Partnership Board brings the SCP into line with all of the other themed partnerships and as such the SCPB will report directly to the Local Strategic Partnership.

The SCPB will meet quarterly and be responsible for all matters relating to crime and disorder across the Borough. This group will improve strategic leadership and decisions regarding resources, performance management and strategic development. The Cabinet Member for Safety and Cohesion will chair the board meetings. Other members include representation at a level senior enough to ensure decisions are made and resources made available from:

- Police
- Metropolitan Police Authority
- Council
- Probation
- Primary Care Trust
- London fire brigade
- Voluntary and Community Sector
- Business Community
- Criminal Justice System

A number of Performance Delivery Groups (PDGs) will report directly into the SCPB. The SCPB will therefore have a responsibility to hold these groups to account.

The SCPB replaces the previous Safer Croydon Partnership meetings and the Executive Group.

The Safer Croydon Executive Board (SCEB)

The SCEB will meet in between the SCPB meetings and be responsible for agenda setting and ensuring that actions are driven forward. The Executive Board will also have the responsibility to deal with urgent business. This group will also be responsible for avoid duplication of effort and improving communication across all of the Performance Delivery Groups.

A number of Performance Delivery Groups will report directly into the SCPB and so the Board will also have a responsibility to hold these groups to account. The membership of the Executive Board will therefore include the Chairs of the Performance Delivery Groups.

Annual stakeholder conference

This event will provide a platform for the SCP to celebrate its achievements and showcase examples of good practice. It will also provide networking opportunities for members and some time to reflect and plan for the future.

Performance Delivery Groups (PDG)

Each strategic priority will have a Performance Delivery Group. Each PDG will be responsible for supporting the management and delivery process of all the strategic actions, along with a sharp focus on improved co-ordination and partnership work.

Membership will be made up of officers responsible for delivering the actions within the strategy. Each PDG will be required to report on a regular basis directly to the SCPB.

The proposed PDGs will be the Youth Crime Taskforce, the Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT), the Joint Agency Group (JAG), Offender Management, Safer Communities, Hate Crime and Business Crime



Youth Crime

- Croydon has approximately 90,000 young people and the largest number aged 10-17 of any of the 32 London Boroughs
- Croydon has 126 state schools in the borough, including special schools, with just over 45,000 children and young people of school age [5-16].
- During school term time around 50,000 young people travel through Croydon before and after school hours
- Independent research identifies that much of the crime committed by and against young people is unreported and therefore unrecorded
- Croydon has the highest number of youth victims in London.

The Safer Croydon Partnership will drive the delivery of the following priorities:

- Reducing the number of first time entrants into the Youth Justice System [YJS] (aged 10 to 17)
- Reducing the rate of serious youth violence
- Increase the number of young people on the path to success [PSA 14]
- Deliver a more effective, transparent and responsive Criminal Justice Service [CJS] for victims and the public [PSA 24]
- Make communities safer by reducing; the most serious violence, reoffending, acquisitive crime and increasing public confidence [PSA 23]
- Reducing the violent crime rate
- Reducing the knife crime rate
- Reducing the gun crime rate

Relevant National Indicators

NI 11: Engagement in the Arts

NI 19: Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders

NI 20: Assault with injury crime rate

NI 22: Perceptions of parents taking responsibility for the behaviour of their children in the area

NI 28: Serious knife crime rate

NI 43: Young people within the Youth Justice System receiving a conviction in court who are sentenced to custody

NI 44: Ethnic composition of offenders on Youth Justice System disposals

NI 45: Young Offenders' engagement in suitable education, training and employment

NI 46: Young Offenders' access to suitable accommodation

The Youth Crime Performance Delivery Group will appoint a Chair and Vice Chair along with a robust and detailed action plan by the end of April 2009. The Safer Croydon Partnership Board is responsible for holding this group to account for delivery although this group also links to the Children's Trust Governance arrangements.



Youth Crime - Key Actions

Action	Outcome
Develop the Turnaround Centre, which is a multi-agency, co-located specialist provision in the borough to combine youth crime prevention with specialist services for young victims of crime. This approach is a key aspect of the Youth Strategy Project governed and funded by the London Criminal Justice Board for which Croydon is anticipated to be one of the pilot sites	Reduction in first time entrants to the Youth Justice System (YJS) plus reductions in youth crime, ASB and victimisation
Continue to develop multi-agency work to reduce re-offending and prevent young people becoming involved in gang activity, serious group crime and anti social behaviour	Reductions in serious youth violence, knife crime and re-offending
Continue to run a specialist gangs unit within the police to focus on improving intelligence and enforcement to identify and tackle gang involvement and offending	Reductions in serious youth violence and knife crime
The Youth Inclusion Support Programme will continue to assess and provide interventions to 300 young people at risk of offending and anti-social behaviour	Reduction in first time entrants to the YJS plus reductions in youth crime and ASB
Work in partnership with the Learning Skills Council to increase access for offenders into Education Training & Employment [ETE] provision	Reduction in re-offending
Establish alternatives to exclusion by delivering training and curriculum input to encourage more consistent positive behaviour management in schools	Reduction in first time entrants to the YJS plus reductions in youth crime and ASB
Continue the work of Victim Support's R U OK? project providing specialist support to young victims of crime and bullying	Support for young victims plus reductions in repeat victimisation
Ensure that young victims of crime receive a comprehensive service to meet their needs	Support for young victims plus reductions in repeat victimisation
Ensure that those young people most vulnerable to mental health problems and problematic substance misuse are able to get access to treatment and support.	Reductions in first time entrants to YJS, reoffending plus improved health and educational outcomes
Ensure that Safeguarding young people and promoting their well being is embedded into all activity directed at tackling youth crime	Improved outcomes for young people and opportunities for success
Expand the range of Positive Activities for children and young people at risk of offending and anti-social behaviour and publicise these activities through various communications channels	Reduction in first time entrants to the YJS plus reductions in youth crime and ASB
Provide parenting programmes to more than 200 parents whose children were involved in offending/anti-social behaviour/truancy and publicise the programmes borough wide	Reduction in first time entrants to the YJS plus reductions in youth crime and ASB and reoffending
Enable schools and other partners to identify and support young people at risk of offending	Reduction in first time entrants to the YJS
Continue to participate in the Network Alliance to share knowledge and resources and to work in partnership to address gang activity across borough boundaries	Reductions in serious youth violence, knife crime and re-offending
Deliver sustained messages to young people to discourage the carrying of knives and other weapons	Reductions in serious youth violence, knife crime and re-offending
Engage in the 'roll-out' of SSSJ [Simple, Speedy, Summary Justice] to the youth court as part of our pilot of the Youth Strategy	Faster sentencing for young offenders, reduced re-offending
Implement the four key projects managed by the Local Criminal Justice Board [LCJB] for which Croydon is to be a pilot site. These include; Diamond Initiative and Youth Resettlement Project which relate to the resettlement of offenders into suitable accommodation and sustainable employment; Pathways which addresses serious youth violence and gang membership at all ages and stages of involvement and the Youth Strategy which relates to youth crime prevention and support for victims	Reduction in first time entrants to the YJS plus reductions in serious youth violence, knife crime, ASB and reoffending
Undertake a series of presentations in schools on various subjects including; robbery, offensive weapons and drug awareness through the Safer Schools Initiative	Reductions in serious youth violence, knife crime and re-offending
Provide visible police patrols in partnership with SNTs outside schools in particular wards to reassure pupils when arriving and leaving school premises	Increased safety and reassurance for young people. Reduced youth crime and ASB

Drugs and Alcohol

The strong links between drug misuse and acquisitive crime (e.g. shoplifting, burglary, vehicle crime and theft) are widely acknowledged. Heroin, crack and cocaine users are responsible for 50% of these crimes and around three quarters of crack and heroin users claim to be committing crime to feed their habit. Getting people into treatment quickly can have a significant impact on reducing drug related crime and anti-social behaviour.

During 2007/08 a total of 2,244 drug tests were carried out on individuals arrested and suspected of being drug users. 37% were positive (826).

The most common offences committed by those tested positive for Class A use were:

- Theft (43%)
- Burglary (15%)
- Possession of Class A (13%)
- Robbery (4%)

During 2007/08 720 individuals accessed effective drug treatment with a total of 776 engaged as at September 2008.

Alcohol is enjoyed by most people without causing harm to themselves or to others. But for some, alcohol misuse is a very real problem. The estimated cost of alcohol misuse nationwide is around £20bn a year. This is made up of alcohol-related health disorders and disease, crime and anti-social behaviour, loss of productivity in the workplace, and problems for those who misuse alcohol with their families, including domestic violence.

The Safer Croydon Partnership will drive delivery to meet these priorities:

- Reduce drug-related (Class A) offending rate
- Reduce alcohol-harm related hospital admission rates
- Increase the number of drug users in effective treatment
- Improve perceptions of drunk or rowdy behaviour as a problem
- Improve perceptions of drug use or drug dealing as a problem
- Increase the proportion of offenders positively drug tested and being referred into treatment
- Increase the proportion of young people being identified and referred into treatment services
- Increase the number of alcohol users identified and referred into treatment

Relevant National Indicators

NI 38: Drugs related (Class A) offending rate

NI 39: Alcohol-harm related hospital admission rates

NI 40: Drug users in effective treatment

NI 42: Perceptions of drug use or drug dealing as a problem

The Drug and Alcohol Action Team will develop a robust and detailed action plan by the end of April 2009. The Safer Croydon Partnership Board is responsible for holding this group to account for delivery. This agenda links into the Healthy Croydon Partnership as well.



Drugs and alcohol - Key Actions	
Action	Outcome
Work towards providing treatment that is both effective and can demonstrate successful outcomes for service users and the community as a whole	Improved health outcomes, reductions in acquisitive crime and other drug offences
Improve identification and engagement of those problematic drug users (i.e. those using heroin and crack) who are unknown to treatment services and engage and retain them in effective treatment. This will be achieved by the Drug Intervention Programme and enhanced outreach services	Improved health outcomes, reductions in acquisitive crime and other drug offences
Improve engagement with service users and carers to ensure their involvement is embedded in the delivery and commissioning of treatment services including the development of the Peer Led User Group (PLUG)	Effective consultation and review of existing service provision
Improve data and information sharing systems, particularly with regards to National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) data	Improved performance monitoring and commissioning integrity
Ensure substance misuse early identification or screening processes are firmly embedded in Children's services and working well for children looked after by the Local Authority, truants and excludees	Reductions in first time entrants to YJS, reoffending plus improved health and educational outcomes
Continue to raise awareness of Cannabis among young people	Reductions in first time entrants to YJS, reoffending plus improved health and educational outcomes
Improve successful outcomes for service users through improving access to aftercare, education, training and employment and lifeskills services	Reduction in number of people relapsing
Improve communications to move towards more realistic perceptions of drug and alcohol related crime and antisocial behaviour	Improved confidence in the community and reduced fear of crime
Continue to improve intelligence on drug supply across the Borough to help ensure enforcement and preventative services are targeted to the most appropriate areas	Reductions in drug related anti-social behaviour and acquisitive crime
Extend prevention, public health and safety messages that go out to the public about alcohol	Improved health outcomes and reductions in drunk and rowdy behaviour
Improve the range of alcohol treatment and support services available locally	Improved health outcomes
Deliver a screening and brief interventions project to identify and support alcohol misusers through GP services and Mayday Hospital	Improved health outcomes and reductions in drunk and rowdy behaviour
Visit known hotspots with police, challenging youths with alcoholic drink, seizing drink and dealing with traders found to be supplying the drink	Reductions in underage drinking and alcohol related anti-social behaviour
Through role of responsible authority under the Licensing Act, vet all new licences and consider reviews of licensees found to be selling to those under age	Reductions in underage drinking and alcohol related anti-social behaviour

Anti Social Behaviour

Anti-social behaviour causes significant harm to individuals and communities, and has a strong influence on the fear of crime, and the quality of life for those affected. It also costs individuals, businesses and communities money through higher insurance and security costs and through fewer local amenities due to high costs to remove graffiti and repair damage caused by vandalism.

The Safer Neighbourhood Programme is a term used to describe the concept of local people working with local police and partners to identify and tackle issues of concern in their neighbourhood. Each ward across Croydon has its own Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) consisting of a minimum of six uniformed officers comprising one sergeant, two constables and three police community support officers (PCSOs).

Neighbourhood Enforcement Officers provide reassurance to the public with a uniformed presence on Croydon's streets. Officers have powers to investigate incidents of ASB, gather evidence, interview witnesses, conduct surveillance and attend court as professional witnesses. They can also issue fixed penalty notices to deal with environmental issues such as graffiti, fly tipping trade and domestic waste, dog fouling, litter and nuisance/abandoned vehicles. They are fully integrated with the SNTs and have their tasks allocated on a daily basis by them.

The Joint Agency Group (JAG) deals with operational issues to tackle ASB that are:

- beyond the capacity of local agencies at ward level to address
- require a medium-term problem-solving response and
- require significant multi-agency and community cooperation.

The JAG can call on the Safer Croydon Support Team (SCST) for specific problems. This team, jointly funded by the Police and the Council can be deployed at short notice as an additional resource in any area for any problem.

The Councils Planning Department deal with over 5,000 applications each year. The Partnership plays a key role in promoting the concepts of 'designing for community safety' and 'Secured By Design', which focus on reducing crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. All proposals for major developments have to be considered by accredited Crime Prevention Officers to ensure due consideration has been made regarding Secured By Design principles and physical security specifications. The town centre and the neighbouring district centres are poised for significant regeneration and designing for community safety is an essential ingredient, so engaging with the Local Delivery Framework will be a key priority for next year.

The Safer Croydon Partnership will drive delivery to meet the following priorities:

- Perceptions of anti-social behaviour
- Improve satisfaction with the way the police and local council deal with antisocial behaviour
- Improve satisfaction of different groups with the way the police and local council dealt with anti-social behaviour
- Increase understanding of local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police
- Increasing the number of successful early interventions to reduce ASB

Relevant National Indicators

NI 17: Perceptions of anti-social behaviour

NI 21: Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police

NI 23: Perceptions that people in the area treat one another with respect and consideration

NI 27: Understanding of local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police

NI 33: Arson incidents

NI 41: Perceptions of drunk or rowdy behaviour as a problem

NI 42: Perceptions of drug use or drug dealing as a problem

The Joint Agency Group will develop a robust and detailed action plan by the end of April 2009. The Safer Croydon Partnership Board is responsible for holding this group to account for delivery.



Joint Agency Group/Anti Social Behaviour - Key Actions

Action	Outcome
Develop stronger links with the ASB Forum and the JAG to bring about a systematic and coordinated approach between enforcement , intervention and prevention	Improved co-ordination and reduced ASB
Continue to develop closer working with all Registered Social Landlords who have properties within Croydon	Improved identification and response to ASB
Introduce a 24 hour ASB reporting line	Improved identification and response to ASB
Improve recording systems and data collection regarding ASB so that the partnership has a better understanding of the problem	Improved identification and response to ASB
Provide better services to victims and witnesses by making reporting ASB easier and providing the Witness Support Service for the most serious enforcement cases	Improved identification and response to ASB, better support for victims and witnesses
Deliver a training programme to community safety partners to ensure a consistent approach, raise awareness about what works and who to contact to reduce ASB	Improved identification and response to ASB
Continue to roll out the Acceptable Behaviour Agreement Programme which is a voluntary process involving young people and their parents, teachers and the local SNT.	Early interventions to reduce ASB
The Crossfire Team continue to provide the "Impact Factor" programme for senior schools and "Citizenship days" programme for junior schools. These programmes are an all day positive behaviour designed to cover all aspects of ASB, coordinated by the LFB with input from many partners	Reductions in arson, ASB and youth crime. Reduction in first time entrants to YJS
Continue to work with partners and local communities to close down premises that generate ASB due to drug misuse. A key part of this process is the provision of appropriate support to individuals to reduce substance dependency issue and so reduce re-offending rates	Reduced drug related ASB, drug related acquisitive crime and improved community perceptions
Task the Rapid deployable CCTV units to problem areas that are not covered by permanent CCTV cameras	Community reassurance, increased crime deterrence and detection
Continue to make innovative and effective use of legislative powers to tackle anti-social behaviour through civil action and effective enforcement, e.g. Controlled Drinking Areas and Dispersal Orders	Reduced ASB
Deploy the new mobile CCTV vehicle	Community reassurance, increased crime deterrence and detection
Continue to ensure the council's CCTV network is used effectively to reduce crime and ASB	Community reassurance, increased crime deterrence and detection
Deploy Council Mobile Enforcement Units to assist with specific operation working closely with SNTs and other partners to deal with ASB hotspots	Increased identification and detection of ASB
Increase awareness amongst business owners and staff through seminars, visits and mail shots related to underage sales, proof of age, challenge 21 and No ID No sale campaigns	Less underage sales
To undertake test purchasing days to reduce the number of young people buying alcohol, aerosol spray paints, fireworks, knives and tobacco related products	Less underage sales and crime and ASB related to the goods
Work with the police and other agencies during the fireworks season to licence all shops selling fireworks, inspect them for safety and carryout test purchases	Reduce Firework related ASB
Publicise activities undertaken to reduce anti-social behaviour to reassure the public	Community reassurance
Work with neighbouring Boroughs, Transport Agencies and the Police to tackle crime and ASB on public transport including bus stops and stations	Improved safety and reassurance for people on public transport, reduced crime and ASB
Continue to make effective use of the Safer Croydon Support Team to assist in implementing specific actions to tackle issues as and when they arise	Increased resource to deal with hotspot targeting
Ensure 'designing for community safety' and 'Secured By Design' are included within the Local Delivery Framework and Place Making Board models for the regeneration of the Borough	All planning applications and new developments follow crime prevention guidance
Continue to work with the Youth Service and other outreach service providers to tackle ASB hot spots	Reduced crime and ASB, & first time entrants to YJS and increase in referrals to positive activities

Offender Management

A high volume of crime is committed by offenders described as 'prolific or priority offenders'. Often these individuals tend to be responsible for the most violent crimes.

An offender management team is made up of an offender manager, offender supervisor, key workers and case administrators. These teams design and support individual intervention programmes that help the offender change their offending behaviour.

The challenge is to transform the offender into the citizen. It means ensuring appropriate monitoring and supervision, working together to tackle drug and alcohol abuse, improving offenders' basic skills, tackling their offending behaviour and improving the chances of them getting a job.

It means helping them get decent accommodation and working with the children and families of offenders to help break the cycle of offending.

The Safer Croydon Partnership will drive delivery to meet the following priorities

- Reducing Adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision
- Reducing the rate of proven re-offending by young offenders
- Reducing the rate of injuries caused by assaults

Relevant National Indicators

NI 15: Serious violent crime rate

NI 16: Serious acquisitive crime rate

NI 18: Adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision

NI 20: Assault with injury crime rate

NI 28: Serious knife crime rate

NI 29: Gun crime rate

NI 30: Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders

NI 143: Offenders under probation supervision living in settled and suitable accommodation at the end of their order or licence.

NI 144: Offenders under probation supervision in employment at the end of their order or licence.

The Offender Manager Performance Delivery Group will develop an action plan by the end of April 2009. The Safer Croydon Partnership Board is responsible for holding this group to account for delivery.

Offender Management - Key Actions

Action	Outcome
Target known or identified robbery, burglary and other priority crime offenders, including those who are Prolific & Priority Offenders (PPOs)	Reduction in acquisitive crime and reoffending
Target individuals, who assist burglars by handling and disposing of stolen property	Reduction in acquisitive crime
Ensure that offenders comply with curfew restrictions and bail conditions	Reduction in reoffending
Ensure closer working with the Police, Youth Offending Team and other statutory and voluntary partners regarding arrangements for reports, intelligence and information sharing	Improved response to reducing re-offending
Prevent the demand for committing acquisitive crimes by identifying drug using offenders through the Drug Interventions Programme	Reduction in acquisitive crime and other drug offences plus improved health outcomes
Implement the Diamond Initiative, which is a specialist project managed by the London Criminal Justice Board focusing on resettlement of offenders into suitable accommodation and sustainable employment to reduce re-offending rates and resultant costs both financial and in terms of victims and communities confidence in the authorities	Reduced youth and adult re-offending and improved outcomes for offenders
Explore alternative ways of resettling younger offenders with a dedicated approach for those young people serving their first custodial sentence	Reduced youth re-offending
Pilot the implementation of the Pathways Project which focuses on serious youth violence and gang related offending through a robust enforcement strand as well as providing robust support mechanisms	Reductions in serious youth violence and knife crime
The Crossfire Team to provide a Local Intervention Fire Education (LIFE) course hosted by the LFB for up to 16 young people who have offended or at risk offending	Reduced re-offending



Safer Communities

The Government is encouraging local authorities to work with partners from a range of statutory and voluntary sector agencies to develop cohesive communities where:

- there is a common vision, a sense of involvement and belonging for all communities;
- the diversity of people's different backgrounds and circumstances are appreciated and positively valued;
- those from different backgrounds have similar life opportunities;
- strong and positive relationships are being developed between people from different backgrounds and circumstances in the workplace, schools and neighbourhoods.

However, it is also important to acknowledge that in recent years concerns regarding the increase of terrorist acts has become a key concern.

Here in Croydon efforts to tackle these complex issues include close working with our robust and thriving voluntary sector, the development of an Interfaith Network and the creation of a smaller group co-ordinating activity to reduce the spread of violent extremism.

These topics are complex and sensitive, particularly when due consideration is given to the fact that crime affects many different people in many different ways. Furthermore despite falling levels of some crime types, the fear of crime remains significantly high in Croydon.

The Safer Croydon Partnership will drive delivery to meet the following priorities

- Reducing the fear of crime in Croydon
- Building resilience to violent extremism
- Protecting areas and buildings against terrorist attack
- Improving perceptions of levels of anti-social behaviour and confidence in local services dealing with it in Croydon through actively promoting the positive work that is delivered and providing a more responsive service

Relevant National Indicators

NI 1: % of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area

NI 2: % of people who feel that they belong to their neighbourhood

NI 5: Overall/general satisfaction with local area

NI 35: Building resilience to violent extremism

NI 36: Protection against terrorist attack

NI 37: Awareness of civil protection arrangements in the local area

NI 49: Number of primary fires and related fatalities and non-fatal casualties (excluding precautionary checks)

The Safer Communities Performance Delivery Group is a new group. Membership and terms of reference will be developed during April with a robust and detailed action plan by the end of May 2009. The Safer Croydon Partnership Board is responsible for holding this group to account for delivery.



Safer Communities - Key Actions

Action	Outcome
Continue to develop close working relationships with all sections of the community and provide appropriate and clear crime prevention messages. For example, personal young people and advice to elderly home owners living alone about bogus callers	Improved safety for residents and community reassurance
Continue to build on the success of the Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs) to tackle locally identified issues, such as graffiti, abandoned cars, noisy neighbours, drunks, vandalism and ASB	Reductions in crime and ASB and improved perceptions in local areas
Work closely with community groups to deliver activities that focus on encouraging young people to challenge ideas and participate in open debate on sensitive topics such as extremism and racism	Prevention of racism and religious extremism plus positive activities for young people
Ensure appropriate staff receive counter-terrorist awareness training so that they know what to do in the event of a terrorist attack	Improved response to terrorist related emergencies
Work closely with all partners responsible for Emergency Planning to ensure co-ordination, efficiency and effectiveness	Improved response to terrorist related emergencies
Continue to promote the successful outcomes of the Partnership through sustained communications activity so that we increase public confidence in services and help to reduce the fear of crime	Reductions in the fear of crime, improved perceptions of the Borough and crime prevention
Consult with our partners and individual communities so that we are aware of people's concerns and are able to work with them to increase confidence in the work that we are doing	Improved response to residents concerns and increase in public confidence in services
Continue to use and strengthen existing consultative arrangements such as the Safer Neighbourhood Ward Panels and the Croydon Community Police Consultative Group	Improved response to residents concerns and increase in public confidence in services
Ensure appropriate support is provided for victims of crime and anti-social behaviour	Support for victims and reduced repeat victimisation
Deliver community safety messages through a sustained communications Programme/Strategy	Improved safety for residents and community reassurance
Co-ordinate and monitor public consultation on crime and community safety ensuring that we are reaching identified parts of the community	Improved response to residents concerns and increase in public confidence in services
Engage with Croydon Community Network, the Strengthening Communities Partnership and its Community Involvement Strategy Group to ensure activity is effectively co-ordinated	Improved response to residents concerns and increase in public confidence in services
Ensure that the Croydon Community Involvement Commitment principles are upheld in consultation work delivered by the Safer Croydon Partnership	Improved response to residents concerns and increase in public confidence in services

Hate Crime, Domestic Violence, Safeguarding Older People, Sex

Whether it occurs in public or in private, violence and abuse is unacceptable and we as a partnership are determined to do all we can to prevent it.

Hate Crime

Hate crime is any criminal offence committed against a person or property that is motivated or perceived to be motivated by an offender's hatred of someone because of their:

- race, colour, ethnic origin, nationality or national origins
- religion
- gender or gender identity
- sexual orientation
- disability

or because of any other difference inherent to the victim

It is widely acknowledged that there is significant under reporting of Hate crime and particularly of homophobic and transphobic incidents as well as crimes against those with disabilities.

Domestic Violence

The Government defines domestic violence as "Any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between adults who are or have been intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender or sexuality." This includes issues of concern to black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) communities such as so called 'honour based violence', female genital mutilation and forced marriage.

Domestic violence is rarely a one-off incident, and should instead be seen as a pattern of abusive and controlling behaviour through which the abuser seeks power over their victim. This consists mainly of violence by men against women. Children are also affected. Many are traumatised by what they witness and there is a strong connection between domestic violence, sexual violence and child abuse.

Safeguarding Older People

Safeguarding Older People refers to: 'A single or repeated act or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust, which causes harm or distress to an older person'.

People who abuse older people are often in a position of trust, whether through family bonds, friendship or through a paid caring role.

Abuse can occur in:

- The person's own home
- a carer's home
- a nursing home
- a hospital
- residential care

The abuser is usually well known to the person being abused who is usually subjected to physical, psychological, financial, sexual abuse or neglect.

Trafficking

'Trafficking in human beings' means the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of people, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception,... for the purpose of exploitation.

Trafficking does not always involve illegal immigrants - many victims are brought in to the country legally but are exploited when they are here in the U.K.

Facts about trafficking:

- Home Office research found that up to 1,420 women were trafficked into the UK for sexual exploitation in 1998. The figure was based solely on reported cases, and trafficking in people is understood by the police and by organisations that work with victims to be increasing significantly - because it is extremely profitable, with

"high demand" and little capital outlay needed at the start

- Sex in the City, a 2004 report by victims support agency, the Poppy Project, found that women from Eastern Europe, South East Asia and West Africa are known to be trafficked into the UK for sexual exploitation
- Metropolitan police estimate trafficked women forced into prostitution in London see between 20 and 30 men per day
- The Poppy Project is the only dedicated safe house providing specialist support for victims of trafficking in London: it has 25 places.

In the UK, there is particular evidence of cases of trafficked victims in sectors such as care sectors, domestic labour, the hospitality and catering trade, agricultural and food processing sectors, construction and prostitution.

Home Office research found the above areas of crime to be hugely under-reported. Reasons for this can be associated with fear of reprisals, victims' lack of confidence in responses or effectiveness of actions which would be taken. As a result, the statistics will not fully reflect the reality of offences being committed. Specialist services need to be enlisted to support all victims including those who may not wish to report to the police.

Support to and for victims is an integral part of crime reduction in the context of Hate Crime, domestic violence, sexual abuse, elder abuse and trafficking.

The Safer Croydon Partnership will drive delivery to meet the following priorities

- Reduce the serious violent crime rate
- Provide specialist support to victims of serious sexual offences and other hate crimes
- Reduce repeat incidents of domestic violence

Offences & Trafficking

Relevant National Indicators

NI 15: Serious violent crime rate

NI 20: Assault with injury crime rate

NI 26: Specialist support to victims of a serious sexual offence

NI 32: Repeat incidents of domestic violence

NI 34: Domestic violence – murder

The Hate Crime Performance Delivery Group will develop a robust and detailed

action plan by the end of April 2009. The Safer Croydon Partnership Board is responsible for holding this group to account for delivery.



Hate Crime - Key Actions

Action	Outcome
Raise awareness of hate crimes in local communities and improve public confidence in the services and support available for public protection: encourage victims and witnesses to report hate crimes, family violence, domestic violence, so called honour based violence, sexual abuse, elder abuse and trafficking safely and anonymously through 3rd party reporting	Improved confidence in local services and reductions in victimisation
Provide structured training to partner agencies, to increase awareness of the impact of hate crimes, family violence, domestic violence, so called honour based violence, sexual abuse, elder abuse and trafficking	Improved identification and awareness of these crimes and reductions in victimisation
Promote and further develop the services of the Family Justice Centre and through improved multi-agency working and the development of central data collection and reporting systems	Reductions in domestic violence incidents and victimisation
Continue the work and development of the Eclipse Project in working with children and young people who go missing from home and are at risk of sexual exploitation	Support for victims and improved outcomes for young people
Identify, engage and offer support to high risk victims of child sexual exploitation	Support for victims and improved outcomes for young people
Continue the work and development of Victim Support's Hate Crime project providing specialist support to victims of racist crime, homophobic and transphobic crime and faith hate crime	Support for victims and reductions in repeat victimisation
Identify brothels running as massage parlours or other business descriptions. Ensure identification of those accountable for running the establishment(s) and offer assistance and viable routes to safety for victims.	Reductions in trafficking, sex offences and victimisation
Record the client/customer satisfaction level in relation to the various agencies involved in their case through consultation the victims of hate crime, family violence, domestic violence, so called honour based violence, sexual abuse, elder abuse and trafficking and sexual offences.. Continually evaluate service provision	Improved confidence in local services and reductions in victimisation
Ensure that victims of hate crimes, family violence, domestic violence, so called honour based violence, sexual abuse, elder abuse and trafficking receive a comprehensive service to meet their needs, by working in close partnership with Croydon partner agencies and specialist services	Support for victims, reductions of repeat victimisation and improved confidence in local services
Undertake an independent review of the Family Justice Centre and make recommendations for future developments	Improvement in services dealing with domestic and family violence.

Business Crime Reduction

Croydon is the largest commercial and retail centre in the south east, excluding central London, with approximately 13,000 businesses.

The Town Centre has a pivotal role regarding Croydon's image and the fear of crime amongst residents and was previously identified as a strategic priority.

Following consultation with key stakeholders it was agreed that many town centre specific issues, such as high levels of ASB between 3 and 5pm due to large numbers of young people using the main transport hubs for their journeys to and from school and the disorder issues linked with the night time economy are adequately covered by the other strategic priorities.

During the current economic downturn the priority needs to focus on reducing crimes that affect local businesses, not just in the town centre but across the borough and to include the district centres as well.

Therefore the Safer Croydon Partnership supports the launch of the Business Crime Reduction Partnership, and welcomes the opportunity to work closer with the private sector in the near future.

Relevant National Indicators

NI 16: Serious acquisitive crime rate

NI 17: Perceptions of anti-social behaviour

NI 21: Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police

NI 27: Understanding of local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police

NI 36: Protection against terrorist attack

The Business Crime Reduction Partnership will develop a robust and detailed action plan by the end of April 2009. The Chair will be invited to sit on the Safer Croydon Partnership Board.



Business Crime Reduction Partnership- Key Actions

Action	Outcome
Develop the Croydon Business Partnership and increase membership of the scheme	Reassurance within business community and reductions in business crime
Work closely with the Business Improvement District (BID) board to reduce crime and disorder in town centres	Reassurance for people working, living or visiting the Town Centre. Reductions in Town Centre crime
Continue to support victims of business crime by providing practical assistance with target hardening	Reassurance within business community and reductions in business crime
Continue to use a problem solving approach with Pubwatch and licensing issues	Reductions in alcohol related crime and disorder including violent crime
Continue to provide retailers with radio links to CCTV, Police and Council Enforcement to prevent business crime	Reassurance within business community and reductions in business crime
Explore information exchange between businesses and enforcement agencies to identify and deter offenders from the Town Centre	Reassurance within business community and reductions in business crime



How the Community can contribute

- Arrange a free home fire safety check and install and maintain smoke detectors
- Practise safe and sensible drinking
- Take preventative action to reduce vehicle crime and burglary and check on elderly neighbours and remind them not to allow entry to bogus callers
- Don't buy goods from illegal street traders
- Report traders selling alcohol, knives or fireworks to young people unaccompanied by adults
- Get involved in your local Safer Neighbourhood Team
- Report incidents of bullying, antisocial behaviour and race hate crime
- Report any incidents of finding drug paraphernalia

The Croydon Community Network exists to be a collective voice for communities in Croydon. It serves as a network of networks representing communities of interest, geography and expertise. Its members work collaboratively and strategically to improve Croydon for Croydon people.

The Network acts as the platform to raise the needs of communities with policy makers and other agencies (statutory and voluntary) to improve engagement and awareness. Through this, the Network works collectively to highlight common agendas and campaign for positive change. Community engagement is actively promoted through the website www.talk2croydon.co.uk

Our Partners

While the Council and the Police have a key role to play in delivering crime reduction and community safety, this task is shared by several bodies in Croydon and includes:

- NHS Croydon
- The Fire and Rescue Service
- The Children's Trust
- Local Criminal Justice Board
- Drug & Alcohol Action Team
- Youth Offending Team
- National Offender Management Service
- The Voluntary, Community Sector
- Business Sector
- Local communities

More information about the Safer Croydon Partnership's Crime Reduction Strategy can be obtained from www.croydon.gov.uk or email safercroydon@croydon.gov.uk



Glossary

ABAs	Acceptable Behaviour Agreements
APACS	Assessments of Policing and Community Safety
ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour
BAME	Black , Asian and Minority Ethnic
BID	Business Improvement District
BME	Black and Minority Ethnic
CAA	Comprehensive Area Assessment
CDRPs	Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships
CJS	Criminal Justice Service
DAAT	Drug and Alcohol Action Team
DIP	Drug Intervention Programme
ETE	Education Training & Employment
GP	General Practitioner
JAG	Joint Agency Group
LIFE	Local Intervention Fire Education
LSP	Local Strategic Partnership
LAA	Local Area Agreement
LA	Local Authority
LCJB	Local Criminal Justice Board
NDTMS	National Drug Treatment Monitoring System
NI	National Indicator
PCSOs	Police Community Support Officers
PDG	Performance Delivery Group
PLUG	Peer Led User Group
PPOs	Priority and Prolific Offenders
PSA	Public Service Agreement
PYO	Persistent Young Offender
SA	Strategic Assessment
SCEG	Safer Croydon Executive Group
SCPB	Safer Croydon Partnership Board
SCST	Safer Croydon Support Team
SNT	Safer Neighbourhood Team
SSSJ	Simple, Speedy, Summary Justice
YISP	Youth Inclusion Support Panel
YJS	Youth Justice System
YOT	Youth Offending Team
5BA	5 Borough Alliance

Notes

