

# Enfield Borough (YE) Action Plan in Response

## 1. BOCU to provide update on the number of unsupported DV prosecutions.

*The number of unsupported prosecutions is very small within the period under review, which echoes previous years.* This area is not actually measured by the CPS so actual returns are not numeric but it is accepted that it should be a future consideration.

The files for the previous year have been archived by CPS. The reasons why the files are unsupported are written on the case file itself, rather than on the CPS computer system. The previous 12 month update on unsupported DV prosecutions have been archived by the CPS along with other crimes and were never placed on a stand-alone bespoke DV system.

A new sergeant has been in post since January 11 and has taken over the task and overseeing court cases and having been withdrawn by the CPS. This officer has now devised bespoke DV of monitoring by way of a Tracker, this provides the Borough with an exact detail and measures on cases which are discontinued or withdrawn by the CPS.

Since January of this year there have been no discontinuances of cases involving DV at court.

Unfortunately the CPS have not kept a records from January 2010/11 of specifically DV cases which have been withdrawn before trial or discontinued at court. There have inevitably been a handful of cases and to my experience as the managerial Lead; I can recall no more than 5 cases in the past year.

With the introduction of the new bespoke Tracker (mentioned above) the figures in the future will be accurately recorded and available for review.

## 2. BOCU to provide analysis of the incident to crime ratio, with reference to two neighbouring boroughs for comparison.

The period under review is a 6 month period 01.11.10 to 31.04.11. The parameters of Opening Code 304 (domestic incident) or 606 (domestic crime) are used and duplicates have been excluded. The period under review was limited to 6 months to provide a consistent dataset having regard that the CAD Opening Codes changed during this period (October 10 for the MPS) and would have presented potentially difficulties in comparing one period with another. This is an area that can be revisited if requested.

Please find below the comparison of North Cluster, this will include the inner Boroughs, such as Camden and Islington for example.

Borough	Total CAD Opening Code 304 or 606	Total Crimed	%
Enfield	3661	1833	50%
Waltham Forest	2933	1681	57%
Barnet	2162	1463	68%
Haringey	2695	1542	57%
Camden	1743	1239	71%
Hackney	2841	1810	64%
Islington	2134	1603	75%

	Denotes Neighbouring Outer BOCUs
	Denotes Neighbouring Inner BOCUs

Period 01.11.10 to 31.04.11

Data Source: Daris

Produced 17th May 11 by PS A. Parker from the Service Improvement Team (YE)

Enfield Borough is lower than surrounding Boroughs in our conversion rate but we are higher in overall numbers for both the amount of calls (around 25% higher) and of DV offences. There exists a close management and actions resulting for all cases under scrutiny initially by the Duty Officer and then within the formal structure of the Daily management Meeting which is chaired by the Detective Superintendent.

In cases other than DV Enfield Borough performance is consistently high in its conversion of crime CADs to CRIS reports. This is independently measured centrally. Our staff work hard at being robust but accurately reflecting the concerns of the public and ensuring that such instances are properly crimed in accordance with National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) and Home Office Counting Rules (HOCR). Therefore the level of integrity and accurate recording is high notwithstanding, we acknowledge, some high count areas.

### **3. BOCU to provide analysis of the high repeat victimisation rate and any action taken to address this, for example identifying good practice from other boroughs and applying this. Hillingdon or Westminster may be able to provide assistance in this area.**

Within the rolling 12 month period from January 2101 t January 2011 reveals the total number of repeat victimisation was 597 and as a percentage of all DV crimes was 38.5%

Key control measures that have now been put in place after consultation with Hillingdon and Westminster Boroughs are the following interventions:

1. In relation to **MARAC** between October 10 to March 11 Enfield Borough had just 4 cases.
2. **PINS** Early Warning System to prevent victims being attacked on the release of perpetrator. And this is updated every 3 weeks at the **MARAC** meetings and if High Risk is identified will be brought o the attention of the DI and immediate measures associated with Risk are put in place for the victim and wider family members.
3. In Custody DV prisoners since the 1st April to 15th may equate to 187 prisoners for DV.
4. Victim Support good practice from Hillingdon and Westminster with the **VS** currently based and working closely with the CSU and MARAC in close proximity. Enfield Borough will have a dedicated Victim Support Staff based within the CSU within the next 2 months. Good practice will enable early intervention and give full support to survivors of Domestic Violence.

5. **IDVAS's** Enfield Borough have 2 full time IDVA staff, employed by Enfield Council working with the MARAC officers and next door to the CSU. I am confident it is an effective partnership and I feel is an excellent protocol which perhaps exceeds that of the above Boroughs mentioned. All referrals, support and risk assessment are dealt with in a timely practice which is fully compliant with Service and local protocols. Enfield Borough is expected to be given a rating by CAADA imminently.

6. We have a Dedicated MARAC officer employed at Edmonton (based at CSU) who links in with National Associations around Domestic Violence, this provides a sound framework of operating practices.

### **3. BOCU to contact Westminster to see if they can access good practice around LGBT community engagement.**

Having consulted with Westminster Borough and Edmonton LGBT officer (PS Strachan) I have found good practice which can be used within the Borough of Edmonton.

Background.

#### Community Support

Enfield Council fund the organisation "Enfield LGBT Network" at the Lancaster Centre in Lancaster Road, Enfield.

This is a very small but poorly funded organisation that works with the local Council, other 3rd party organisations and Enfield police. There is an occasional monthly "drop-in" held at various non LGBT licensed venues. There are some regular but poorly attended support meetings.

#### Social Venues

Enfield borough has no dedicated or specific LGBT social venues. Enfield does have some Public Sex Environments (PSE) and has set up by the LGBT officer an outreach program in Partnership with local Health Trusts and SNT departments to combat any perceived rise of anti-social behaviour and offences of robbery for example and in particular regarding Crime Prevention and to compliment awareness messages around Health and HIV.

#### Business matters

The borough has a small number of LGBT Friendly businesses however the vendors tend to see the LGBT community as a business opportunity and nothing more.

#### Central Police Initiatives

Enfield Borough support "True Vision", "LGBT LO" awareness and calendar events such as IDAHO, Pride, World Aids day and LGBT History Month are promoted

#### **Current postponed activities on the advice of Westminster Borough**

Our work on the initiatives in support of the LGBT community are ongoing and set out below.

"Lend a Hand" campaign - Largely a poster campaign throughout the borough with a two fold objective.

- Internally it promoted guidance for staff dealing with LGBT related policing matters and offered a point of contact for guidance and support for staff that have personal LGBT problems.
- Externally the campaign highlighted the severe under reporting of same sex domestic Violence and the under-reporting of Homophobic and Transgender-phobic crime.
- Venues targeted were GP surgeries, SNT offices, Libraries, MPS public display boards, Housing offices, The Lancaster Centre and Gyms and fitness centres. The posters were distributed to all SNT wards to, in turn, distribute to these venues.

The aspiration would be to for this program to lend itself to a training package to all operational personnel.

#### “Crossing the Line” initiatives

Enfield LGBT Coordinator confirmed that as in the case of Enfield BOCU, other geographically similar police OCU's are also in the same position facing a shortage of access points and venues to the target areas of LGBT people. Good practice and issues could be communicated and by working together with these similar boroughs, issues that affect all those policing areas could be addressed.

Work is underway in improving the communications network, intelligence distribution, resource sharing and development of better working practices. So far Barnet BOCU, Waltham Forest BOCU, Haringey BOCU, Hertfordshire Constabulary and Essex Constabulary have expressed an interest in attending/assisting. The plan is for quarterly meetings with the objective to improve service delivery across boundary lines, improve resourcing and networking opportunities. The natural extension of this was by making connections with an aim to work alongside the other Emergency Services, Primary Health Care trusts, Housing associations, Elder services and youth services.

#### “Police Outreach”

A natural extension to this initiative would be for the Enfield LGBT LO officer to work alongside the Enfield LGBT Network, local health care partners, youth workers and local social services. The LGBT LO would attend the one local LGBT Venue to promote Enfield Police and promote a positive tolerant attitude from the MPS towards an “Invisible and hard to reach” section of the community.

#### Strand connections

To promote better working practices between the “in house” diversity strand leads the Enfield LGBT officer had begun getting all Enfield Police diversity strand leads to meet to discuss any particular issues and swap any good practices, identify and share local resources and brainstorm specific problem areas that may have been of use with a particular focus on under reporting. Westminster LGBT officer will be invited.

#### The way forward

Having spoken to colleagues in Westminster and Southwark; they are fortunate to have the majority of London's LGBT venues on their boroughs and are able to host location based Surgeries in the heart of Gay London. They are able to participate in the thriving LGBT Business forum which is run by and/or for the LGBT businesses for that area and the aim to ensure that the local police in general are held to account for issues that affect the LGBT community as a whole.

An improvement for staff training who provide front line contact and reactive detection services is required. A standard mandatory program across the borough as part of a training schedule could be devised and delivered by the LGBT LO who is a qualified MPS trainer. This could be done at a central venue or at an alternative venue as required by the target audience.

Whilst Enfield does not have any LGBT dedicated venues or businesses it is safe to say that according to U.N. estimates that at least 10 per cent of the boroughs population is LGB. There are no figures to indicate the population of Transgender people, however this would only serve to increase the published percentage not diminish it in any way.

We will forge better links with “Broken Rainbow” (a same sex DV support organisation) and “Stop Hate U.K.” on a local level with a view to supporting each other and improving 3rd party referred crime incident reporting.

Westminster LGBT Liaison Officers (LO) are able to hold road shows in conjunction with the local LGBT community as they are assured of interest from their target audience. The Enfield LGBT officer will begin seeking assistance and participation from the local LGBT Network to explore the viability of holding a similar event with the aim of promoting tolerance, a visible support from the borough to its LGBT communities and opening up avenues of communication to promote crime reporting, crime prevention and sharing good practice to the borough partners.

#### **4. Enfield to share any early findings/ learning from the sexual and domestic violence and substance misuse project.**

### Stella Project Young Women's Initiative

- Improving responses to young women with experiences of domestic and/or sexual violence and substance misuse
- Research highlights that some women may use drugs and alcohol as coping mechanisms for experiences of violence and abuse (Humphreys *et al*, 2005). However, no scoping work has yet been done on experiences of violence and the possible relationship with problematic drug and alcohol use of younger women in relationships. Through research and development over three years, the Stella Project's young women's initiative will work with eight agencies across two London boroughs - the London Borough of Enfield and the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea - to improve responses to young women with experiences of domestic and/or sexual violence and problematic substance use.
- **Research (October 2010 - November 2011)** Middlesex University, supported by the Stella Project, will undertake research to scope the prevalence of the overlapping issues of domestic and sexual violence and problematic drug and alcohol use experienced by young women in the two boroughs. The research report and recommendations will be presented at a national launch event in November 2011.
- **Practice (September 2011 - March 2013)** The Stella Project will provide tailored training and consultancy support to agencies in the two boroughs over 18 months, including integrating the work at borough level into the bodies responsible for strategic oversight for the delivery of young people's services and young people's substance misuse treatment in particular.
- **Evaluation (April - August 2013)** Middlesex University, supported by the Stella Project, will conduct an evaluation of the Stella Project's intervention with the eight agencies. The final evaluation report will be published in August 2013.
- The findings of this research will provide, for the first time, insight into the prevalence of problematic substance use and domestic and sexual violence experienced by young women accessing services in London. It will also provide insight into young women's help seeking and referral pathways, and the ability of current services to meet their needs.

- <http://www.avaproject.org.uk/media/44103/young%20women%20&%20sm-dv-sv%20project%20outline.pdf>

## **5. Enfield SCD2 / BOCU to link in with Brent regarding exit services and support for people working in prostitution.**

We now have had the benefit of reviewing how Brent Borough approach and design a framework around dealing with aspects of prostitution. The following approach is that specifically of Brent OCU and does not reflect Enfield OCU as our profile is markedly different but some organisational learning has been achieved through the areas associated with the remit of SCD2 and to a lesser extent ourselves on Enfield OCU.

We include for your perusal a summary of their operation.

### **Op Plan**

The specialist tasking teams would be utilising both plain clothes and uniform patrols, mobile and foot. The long term strategy remains to build rapport with the workers and offer treatment through our partner agencies, DAIS and the Women and Girl network.

Arrests will be made where necessary and grounds exist to put the sex workers before the court expeditiously and enable the Engagement and Support order option. Where continued persistent offending occurs with a failure to utilise our supporting partners we will look to utilise ASBO legislation and ban these subjects from Southall and from loitering in England and Wales.

Experience has taught that some sex workers do not even come out for business until 0300 hours and as such an overtime budget of £1000-£1500 a month will be sought to compensate officers for the excessive volume of night shifts that this work will entail, as well as the number of prisoners that are generated. Typically this unit would expect to deal with all prisoners they arrest for prostitution/soliciting through to court. For instance, last week out of 4 night shifts there were 7 prisoners, 5 dealt with by the specialist tasking officer, the final two by the robbery squad.

We also intend to make use of the CCTV operators in a much better capacity and ensure they have contact details for whoever is in charge of the operation on a given night to direct officers in to suspicious behaviour. There may be scope to fund further activity or research via the Priority Crime Fund.

### **From an Enfield perspective**

We do not have a particular problem with prostitution with the majority of brothels being based in houses with a small number of working girls. We will always respond to calls to premises and will take action to close down venues. Whilst doing so, we will continue to enable girls to stop prostitution and will give the appropriate level of support with other agencies and charities.