

Newham Safety Partnership Board Meeting

24 July 2025, 14:00-16:00, MS Teams

Attendees:

Cllr Amar Virdee – Deputy Mayor, Cabinet lead for Community Safety, Homelessness, Housing Needs and Private Rental Sector
 Allison Sherwood – Head of Community Safety Enforcement
 Ben Ramsay – Senior Community Safety Analyst
 Bilal Riasat – Senior Project Manager
 Cassandra Beckford - Strategic Programme Manager, Youth Safety
 Daniel Wilson - Safeguarding Adults Designated Nurse, NHS
 Daryl Jones – Chief Inspector, Met Police
 Fiona Hackland – Assistant Director of Commissioning in Adults and Health
 James Ryan – Borough Commander, London Fire Brigade
 Jon Norris - Senior Advisor Safeguarding Adults
 Lisa Rosier – Head of Community Safety and Corporate Resilience
 Mitchell Walsh – ASB and Nuisance Manager
 Mike Shoesmith - Community Resilience Officer
 Paul Leslie- IAG
 Rachel Wood - Senior Probation Officer, NPS
 Tony Lynes - Head of Housing
 Suky Hira - Community safety Manager

Apologies:

Sean Mcdermid – Acting Corporate Director – Environment and Sustainable Transport
 Edward King - Trading Standards & Licensing • Licensing & Regulation
 Lucky Singh – Met Police

	Item	Action lead
1.	Introduction & Apologies	
2.	Minutes and Outstanding Actions: Tony & Andy to review final document prior to submission to CLB – completed.	
3.	NSP – Forward Planning – Sukhy Hira Draft NSP plan was circulated last week for final comments, and they have been incorporated into the plan. Next steps will be action planning against the priorities; an interactive workshop is planned in August to start this work.	
4.	Crime Performance Update – Ben Ramsay (BR)	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offences have increased 2.8% in the last 12 months, Newham is 4th in London for all offences. Offences have decreased by 2.7% during the financial year so far, Newham is 4th in London for all offences. • 2 offence types were responsible for 61% of all crime in Newham for the financial year to date: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Violence against Person (8% increase) and Violence without Injury (11% increase). ○ Theft (9.4% decrease) and Other Theft (17% decrease). • Domestic Abuse increased 26% (1104 offences), Newham is 2nd in London. Domestic Abuse Violence with Injury increased by 23%. • Hate Crime decreased 1%, Newham is 8th in London. Racist and Religious offences increased 4%. <p>Fiona Hackland noted that DA is a reported crime so it is difficult to say whether increase is due to increased reporting or increase in crime. Not sure what the indicators are.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weapon Crime: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Knife crime data not available. ○ Gun crime – 85% increase, Newham is 4th in London. ○ Lethal Barrel Discharge – 33% increase. <p>Discussion followed around the knife crime and concerns around the data. Although knife crime data was not available at the meeting, Cllr Virdee noted that there are measures being put in place, such as knife bins, to take the weapons off the streets. Two of the bins have been swapped to accommodate ninja swords.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newham Offence Profile: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rape increased 32%, Newham is ranked 2nd in London. ○ Shoplifting increased 25%, Newham is ranked 2nd in London. <p>Fiona Hackland noted that although there is an increase in sanction detection in Rape offences, this is only 10% of all reported rapes. Darul Jones offered reassurance that it does take CPS a long time to decide whether they will proceed as they have to review all the evidence.</p> <p>Paul Leslie is concerned around prevention and awareness raising as the data shows an increase in rape and sexual assault in the borough and asked whether there was any direction from VRU or MOPAC around this. Sukhy Hira responded that VAWG is one of the key priorities in the NSP plan.</p> <p>Action: Ben Ramsay to look at the data on the sexual assault hotspots in the borough.</p>	BR
5.	<p>LFB Borough Risk Management Plan / Newham Safety Centre Pop Up Event</p> <p>James Ryan shared a presentation on Planning for Summer: Extreme Weather Preparedness and outlined key points:</p> <p>Changes following major incident review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New equipment. • Piloting new wildfire vehicles. • Enhanced training for firefighters. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly strategic forecasting meeting, daily briefings. • Improved PPE (nationally the PPE contracts are being renegotiated). <p>Water safety:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase risk of people drowning during prolonged heat. • LFB is working carry out risk assessments of the high-risk waterways. • Warning about cold water shock. <p>Flooding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extreme weather increases risk of flash flooding. • LFB has statutory duty to rescue people trapped by flooding. • LFB has specialist flood tactical advisors. • New ejector pumps enable crews to safely pump water out from confined spaces. <p>Working with other organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with Local Authorities and landowners about fire breaks in London's green spaces. • Working with Local Authorities to implement safety measures at parks and open spaces. <p>Summer information campaign:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educating the public. • Supporting staff. • Working with organisations to help the take responsible actions. <p>Local stakeholders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boroughs and landowners. • Housing associations. • Not for profit organisations. <p>Summer outreach events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach in parks on sunny weekends. • Station open days. • School visits. <p>LFB is organising Newham Safety Centre pop-up event between 11 –17 August in Westfield Shopping Centre. This will be a week-long multi-agency and partner event to inform and educate members of community.</p>	
6.	<p>Met Engage – Daryl Jones (DJ)</p> <p>Met Engage is a digital platform with 1262 members, 480 sign-ups. 334 people came through Police interaction and 146 residents signed up through leaflets. Key messages to the residents will be available through the platform, allowing them to interact with the officers, share concerns and receive information. The platform aims to create an open communication channel between the police and residents, bridging the gap between the two key partners.</p> <p>The aim is to consolidate messaging to the Met Engage platform. DJ explained that this is mainly due to inconsistent numbers of ward panels, which makes it hard to get maximum engagement. This platform will be another way and tool to access information.</p> <p>PL commented that the Safer Neighbourhood Board has raised concerns about the age of users accessing the online platform and difficulty that some older residents</p>	

	<p>face. He asked for data showing demographics of residents using the platform and whether other means of improving participation, such as hybrid-based meetings, have been considered.</p> <p>DJ will speak to data analysts regarding the data around demographics. One of the wards reported low participation and DJ suggested moving to a Microsoft Teams as a different avenue. However, some ward panels were dissatisfied with this methodology. DJ is open to trying something new if it yields better results and increased interaction with residents; considering different methods, days, times, and locations within each ward to maximize interaction between police and residents.</p> <p>PL expressed concern around potential shift from accessible policing to an online model. He highlighted the importance of visible policing in the communities, particularly among young and elderly residents. DJ assured that there will be visible policing on the streets. The aim is to have officers within their wards and to create a real working relationship between officers and residents, ensuring a more effective and efficient policing system.</p> <p>Cllr Virdee noted that it is important to align and achieve the most effective way for the residents to attend the meetings and build trust and confidence with Police.</p>	
7.	<p>CIDVA/DV Hub (LCPF VRU) - Bilal Riasat (BiR)</p> <p>CIDVA progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's Independent Domestic Violence Advisor posts closed on 4 July. Interviews will take place between 25 July to 1 August. • CIDVAs will sit in the DA hub with work co-located in schools, community spaces and MASH. <p>Action: Bilal Riasat to feedback to the group the concept of independence and its role in decision making in supporting children in domestic abuse situations.</p> <p>FH added that they have a DA forum with 20-30 voluntary sector partners taking part, focusing on children and adults.</p>	BiR
8.	<p>PREVENT update - Mike Shoesmith (MS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 referrals in the last quarter, there is a split in the referral originator – educations, CT policing, BCU policing and online sources. • The case ideology has evolved over the years, with different extremisms being identified as Islamist extremism, extreme right-wing extremism, left wing anarchist, and single-issue terrorism. The new dominant ideology is fascination with extreme violence and mass casualty attacks. To prevent violence-fixated individuals, it is crucial to differentiate between mass and extreme violence, as there is a lack of communication and guidance. • Significant drop in media influence to 15% in the last quarter, which led to concerns how to equip young people with the tools to be digitally resilient. • Study shows that 38% of people are over the age of 30, which is relatively high. • MS added that they will avoid setting up another steering group but will integrate into various other partnership groups about how best to approach violence fixated individuals. • Doing a lot of work around permissive environments – venues and spaces used by extremists. 	

	<p>PL asked about the primary influence data as a big percentage is unknown. MS responded that the data is donated by Counter terrorism policing. Young people are mostly influenced online. Even though the data does not have primary influence, the data will be changing constantly after further investigation.</p> <p>MS added that there was a conversation around Advisory function, need to make sure that there is community input into the PREVENT delivery in the borough.</p>	
9.	<p>DARDR update – Sukhy Hira (SH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 reviews, 4 have been completed, 2 have been published and 2 have not been published. • 4 cases are currently with the Home Office awaiting sign off. • 2 are currently open. • SH will be meeting with Children's Safeguarding and Adult Safeguarding leads to look at joint working approach towards recommendations. 	
10.	<p>Forward Planning and AOB</p> <p>Not discussed.</p>	
	<p>Date/Time next meeting 23 October 2025 at 2pm</p>	