



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

Quarterly Newsletter

- Keep up to date with what your local Project ADDER team are doing!
- Share success & challenges
- Internal & external stakeholder focused.

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'Bite-Size'

North East BCU

April—September 2025

County Lines Intensification Week 2025

County Lines Intensification Weeks (CLIW) took place in June. This national initiative focuses on targeting those who exploit vulnerable individuals through drug dealing and associated criminality.

Throughout the week, the NE Project ADDER Team supported Operation Elbert passive drugs dog deployments in hotspot locations, delivered awareness workshops in schools and faith venues across Newham and Waltham Forest and worked closely with partners to raise awareness of the risks linked to County Lines.

Drug Testing on Arrest

Working with Custody teams, the Integrated Offender Management Team (IOM) and Change Grow Live (CGL), the Project Adder Team has continued to improve the uptake of drug testing on arrest.



Thanks to joint efforts, North East BCU has now become one of the best performing areas within London in Q1. Please remember —Test on Arrest!

Evidential Drug Identification Testing

With dedicated Project ADDER funding, three training days were held in Lambeth for the newly formed NE Volume Crime Team.

- ◆ 18 Officers were trained in conducting EDIT tests
- ◆ This upskilling allows for faster identification of substances seized on arrest
- ◆ The aim of this training is to expedite the custody process and improve charge rates.



County Lines & Drugs awareness workshops

As part of CLIW, A/PS Shaik Umar and Faith Officer Zeeshan Farooqi attended multiple faith venues to deliver workshops on drugs and County Lines exploitation.

- ◆ **Over 70 workshops** have now been delivered across Newham and Waltham Forest, reaching thousands of worshippers.
- ◆ Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive

Waltham Forest Councillor Khevyn Limbajee: “This is a very well presented and great piece of information on Project ADDER. Very important work to disrupt the criminal activity in the supply of dangerous narcotics.”

A/PS Shaik Umar “Our aim is to deliver these workshops to all faith venues across Newham and Waltham Forest, working together with communities to reduce the harm caused by drugs and criminality.”



Organised Football Officers (OFO) Training



The Adder Team delivered training sessions to Organised Football Officers at the London Stadium. This training increased Officers awareness in the following areas:

- ◆ The link between international football matches and rise in domestic violence and VAWG related offences on these game days.
- ◆ The evidence of increased recreational drug use at football matches
- ◆ The emerging risks from Nitazenes and synthetic opioids that have been found in UK drug seizures.

Operation Elbert – Passive Drugs Dog Deployments

The Project Adder Team, supported six deployments of Passive Drug detection dogs across Newham & Waltham Forest. This partnership approach included local SNT Officers, British Transport Police (BTP), local authority and CGL outreach teams. This resulted in:

- ◆ **13 arrests** (including PWITS, possession of Class A drugs, points & blades)
- ◆ **Over 200 stop & searches, with 55 community resolutions** and PNDs being issued with several voluntary referrals made to partner services.



Local Operations

- ◆ Supported by Project ADDER funding, the local SNT for Forest Gate North & South, led by PS Maddox increased patrols in a well known hotspot area that had seen numerous complaints from local residents regarding the on-going drug related criminality and ASB at the location.
- ◆ Outcomes included several arrests, Community Protection Notices (CPNs) and referrals into drug & alcohol treatment.
- ◆ **This resulted in significant reduction in drug related ASB and improving issues that were of significant concern to the local community.**

Operation Lebata

Led by PS Joynal Ahmed and supported by Project ADDER, this operation took place in Wood Street & Upper Walthamstow. It tackled drug related ASB, retail offending and acquisitive crime in the area. This resulted in:

- ◆ **15 arrests and the seizure of drugs and weapons**
- ◆ **20% decrease in burglaries**
- ◆ **38% decrease in shoplifting offences**
- ◆ **128% decrease in recorded drug crimes**

The tactics used during the operation have now been embedded as business as usual (BAU) for the ward with the positive results leading to further collaborative operations.



SPIW—Spiking Intensification Week

SPIW took place in September and saw the Adder Team partnered with local VAWG (Violence Against Women & Girls) Officers to deliver workshops and raise awareness around the issue of spiking. Information was delivered to students at UEL and UTC with over 2500 attendees across both sites as part of Freshers week.

Supporting Officers

Through dedicated Project Adder funding TSG (Territorial Support Group) Officers were deployed to high crime hotspot locations across Newham. This resulted in several arrests for drugs possession, harassment and immigration offences.



Waltham Forest Recovery Forum

As part of recovery month and building on strong relationship established with our external partners with the Combatting Drug Partnership Group. The Project Adder Team attended Waltham Forest Recovery Forum hosted by Change, Grow, Live and Waltham Forest Public Health Team. This event saw the community come together to collaboratively discuss recovery, what it means to us and how we can better support residents to achieve this through a partnership approach. The forum provided a platform where innovative ideas could be shared and a wider for the wider community to influence service delivery.



Community Safety Newham

The Project Adder Team supported Newham Safety Week that was held in Westfield Shopping Centre during August. The multi-agency week-long event saw various agencies across the Community Safety Space host stalls and workshops, enabling them to engage with the local community and give drugs harm prevention and safety advice.

Premier League Pilot Initiative

The NE Project ADDER and Child Exploitation Team, in collaboration with West Ham United Foundation, recently launched a pilot project aimed at diverting vulnerable young people in Newham and Waltham Forest. The pilot which runs until the end of October has seen several young people enrolled in the scheme so far with

- ◆ Accredited football coaches delivering structured football sessions
- ◆ Educational workshops co-delivered by Project Adder, local officers and external partners

The aim of this initiative is to provide positive pathways for vulnerable children across Newham and Waltham Forest to reduce the risk of harm and exploitation.



Your North East Project ADDER Team

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