

Meeting:	Safer Bromley Partnership Strategic Group
Date:	8 March 2012
Subject:	Tackling Gangs In Bromley
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1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This paper provides an introduction to the work that is being undertaken within Bromley to tackle the harm caused by gang membership and the activity of gangs within the borough. In addition to the verbal update that will be provided by the Metropolitan Police in relation to Police activity, this document includes an outline of the Tackling Gangs Initiative provided by Officers from the London Borough of Bromley. The positive activity that is being undertaken is acknowledged and the paper seeks a formal tasking for the Partnership's Senior Crime Analyst to develop an up to date analysis of gang issues and recommendations for Partnership action to reduce any negative impact within the borough.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Strategic Group is asked to
- Note the information contained within the report and the positive activity highlighted.
 - Endorse the work being undertaken to tackle problematic behaviour of young people.
 - Request a full analytical report on Gang Issues in Bromley to be presented at the next meeting of the Safer Bromley Partnership.

3 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The challenge presented by gangs and associated activities is a complex and serious issue faced by the Safer Bromley Partnership. There can be no doubt that the challenges faced are not those experienced by "inner-city" areas and other London Boroughs. However, Bromley does experience a number of the key challenges that are presented by gang related activity and this is experienced across a range of communities and agencies.
- 3.2 The purpose of this agenda item is to provide an overview of some of the activities that are currently underway but also to commission a further report at the next meeting of the Safer Bromley Partnership that provides an analysis of the problems presented by gangs and associated behaviour and an outline of proposals for further action to reduce the impact of gang related behaviour within the borough. It is proposed that the Partnership will receive a verbal update from the Metropolitan Police in relation to recent activity to disrupt gang activity.

In addition, this paper includes an outline of new proposals to work with Central Government initiatives to reduce the impact of gangs within the borough. The attached paper (Appendix A) entitled “Tackling Troubled Families Programme” sets out an overview of the proposed activity and the funding that is being made available. The announcements from Government and the Department for Communities and Local Government suggest a step change in the way Government and Councils address issues for troubled families. Councils have been asked to identify actual families based on factors such as truancy, anti-social behaviour and costs of intervention to public services.

- 3.3 Members of the Partnership are invited to consider the impact of these two areas and to request further information be presented at the next Partnership meeting. In particular, it is proposed that the Senior Crime Analyst be tasked with the development of a formal profile of gangs within the borough and to identify the risks to crime and disorder presented by the issues identified. The report will also provide formal proposals for activity in the coming year and beyond. In particular, officers will identify the challenges faced and present a cross partnership multi-agency response to the issues highlighted. One example of good work that has been identified in London is the gang prevention programme in the London Borough of Waltham Forest. It is a clear expectation that the work undertaken and proposed for the coming year should identify a common intervention and be led by the Safer Bromley Partnership as the statutory partnership tasked with reducing crime and disorder in the borough.

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