

Quarter Four - Progress Against Priority Four of the Safer Bromley Partnership Strategy: Priority Four - Stand Together Against Hate Crime and Extremism Lead Partner -Police and Community Safety

Priority Four-

This Priority focuses on work to tackle those crimes that are motivated by malice or illwill towards a social group, on the basis of race, religion, sexual orientation, disability or gender identity or other protected characteristic.

Aims:

To improve reporting of hate crime and to reduce repeat victimisation of victims of hate crime

Commitments within the SBPS

Rag Status

1. Undertake Ongoing Analysis

Use an analysis of hate crimes levels, to ensure increases and trends are identified and tackled early

In the Police and Crime Plan 2017-21, the Mayor highlighted Hate Crime and intolerance as a priority, and the Hate Crime Dashboard monitors the level of crime throughout London and this is actively monitored by MOPAC to establish levels of crime, public perception and victim satisfaction. The special measures put in place by the Government from the 23rd March 2020 have had a significant impact, and these measures have affected the Public Attitude Survey interviews, and this means that MOPAC data for 20-21 is unavailable.

2. Work with Partners

Green

In partnership with the Safer Neighbourhood Police together with community and faith groups, work to raise awareness and tackle all forms of hate crime.

SN Police

There is a review of Hate crime provision across London at present and a number of actions being undertaken to improve service in this area. Every response officer has received additional training in identifying hate crime and changes to how crime is reported allow easier flagging of hate incidents. Each hate incident is then monitored weekly and will be overseen with greater scrutiny and control.

In partnership with the Safer Neighbourhood Police together with community and faith groups, work to raise awareness and tackle all forms of hate crime as well as prevent and improve support for victims of hate crime. The Safer Bromley Partnership will also support strategies that aim to increase the reporting of hate crimes and incidents. Ensure attendance and input into Pan London hate crime forum.

Community Coordination

Sharon Kilborne (Community Coordinator, Counter Extremism Policy & Communities Gateway, Strategy and Engagement Officer) and supports the BCU; she works closely with community and statutory partners to ensure that all crimes are captured and passed to the police who then triage reports, and provide support to victims via the Catch referral project. In addition, Sharon is working to ensure that ongoing communication is delivered through campaigns that promote the message that reporting is key, as to do so raises awareness and provides the police with a more informed view of where to target their resources.

Maintain a high visibility in the community by delivering talks and awareness raising events;

Amber

Met Police

Talks take place although there is a review on how we can improve the attendance and representation of ward panels. Talks and awareness events have been limited in terms of face to face interactions, but partners can and do invite police attendance on Teams and other virtual events. This includes recent contact with Bromley Youth virtual meetings, and this will be an ongoing improvement to visibility.

Trading Standards

Trading Standards have been unable to deliver their normal high numbers of talks and awareness events in the community due to lockdown and social distancing rules, however some sessions have been delivered via online platforms. Trading Standards have also launched regular electronic alerts raising awareness of local and national scams and rogue trader issues and these are shares with partners and communities.

Community Coordination

Support has been sought from 3rd party hate crime specialist to facilitate awareness training with infrastructural community partners, local businesses via the BID and sports facilities including local football clubs, and infrastructural organisations are being supported and encouraged to become 3rd party hate crime reporting hubs.

Awareness training and support has been provided to a number of voluntary sector organisation who support women in the borough including those working around tackling VAWG.

Ensure training on how to spot financial abuse is delivered to practitioners within social care, police and other relevant stakeholders;

Amber

Covid 19 has seen a pause in face to face training to partners however some online sessions have been delivered. However, in the past 12 months trading standards received 63 referrals and notifications from partners such as banks and social services about suspected financial abuse against consumers.

Ensure a rapid response service is provided to all urgent requests for assistance.

Amber

Trading Standards continue to provide a 2-hour rapid response service for those residents who are victims of doorstop crime or scams. Over the past 12 months officers have responded to urgent requests for advice and intervention on twenty occasions. This service extended to urgent visits to residents at the request of the COVID track & trace team.

3. Encourage support from communities

Green

Undertake community tension assessments if needed, and encourage communities to report incidents of hate crime as they occur.

A weekly community tension report is submitted by police and monitored locally and centrally by police specialist teams. This includes Faith, LGBT, open source media and intelligence from partners. Following any critical incident a specific tension report is conducted and consideration to gold groups to support these on an ongoing basis if required.

4. Continue to fulfil our Channel and Prevent duties

Green

Review of Prevent

The government has (on 26 January 2021) announced that William Shawcross has been appointed as the new Independent Reviewer of Prevent. The independent review will consider the strategy and delivery of the Prevent programme and will make recommendations for the future. It should be completed by August 2021.

Channel

Statutory guidance for the Channel process, issued under the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 Channel, was refreshed in November 2020 and introduced a number of key changes for local authorities including:

- Designating a Channel chair and deputy chair.
- Introduction of core competencies covering skills, training and experience.
- Embedding Channel within the local authority governance arrangements.
- Ensuring Channel is incorporated within local authority constitutions.
- Local authorities will also be asked to complete an annual assurance statement enabling local channel implementation to be documented, assured and for progress to be recorded.

Work is currently underway to complete the annual assessment which will be presented to the Chief Executive, together with the Counter Terrorism Local Profile, by the 19th April 2021.

Training and raising awareness.

The Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent were temporarily paused due to a lack of IT platforms which accommodated the use of videos. However, workshops and a presentation on Prevent Updates have been delivered online to social care professionals and partners in that sector, such as early years and fostering, as well as a group of Bromley school governors.

EXIT UK is an organisation who aim to support former members of the Far Right and their families, rebuild their lives free from extremism. Working in partnership with the Mayor of London, EXIT UK received funding from the Shared Endeavour Fund to deliver up to three training sessions in London Boroughs until the end of March 2021. In Bromley, this translated into two sessions for colleagues in our social care teams, and one community session which was arranged through the Programme Leader for Mentoring. The purpose of the training was to upskill attendees to counter the far right through education and assist people to mentor individuals at a low level away from supporting far right extremism.

In November 2020, Counter Terrorism Police launched their new Prevent campaign, Act Early. The campaign included the launch of a dedicated police website aimed at the family and friends of potentially vulnerable individuals. It utilises real stories to help resonate with the target audience and provide an emotional driver. This information was shared with colleagues across the social care profession in LBB.

You can access and share the website via this URL: https://actearly.uk/	
LBB also attended a Tackling Hateful Extremism Digital Conference in February 2021 which included speakers from the Commission for Countering Extremism and the National Coordinator for Prevent, Counter Terrorism Policing. The Channel chair will be attending the (virtual) National Channel Chairs Conference on 18th March 2021.	
London Prevent Network The LPN is a network of prevent coordinators or leads who are centrally funded or otherwise from all London boroughs, priority or non-priority and other key priority areas in the wider Southeast region. Meetings are held twice a month (virtually) and are attended by LBB as often as possible.	
London Prevent Board The Assistant Director of Public Protection (or her representative) has attended all London Prevent Board meetings (these are held four times a year) on behalf of the Chief Executive.	
5. Support for victims	Green
Work to support those who are victims of hate crimes	
See section 3	
6. Restorative mechanisms	Green
Explore options for restorative justice mechanisms.	
See Section 3	
7. Protecting victims of doorstop crime or scams	Green
Trading Standards received nearly 300 complaints and enquiries about scams and doorstep crime on the past 12 months, with total financial impacts of over £1 million. 101 calls were made to the dedicated rapid response number.	
Cast study: Officers are currently supporting an elderly resident who has recently lost £800 to phone scammers and was so inundated by bogus calls that she was wrapping the phone in towels and putting it in a cupboard so she couldn't hear it.	
8. How we know we are on track This theme will be included as a substantive discussion item at the Safer Bromley Partnership Board in quarter 4, and present an end of year update in December quarter 4.	Green
Presented	
The Metropolitan Police Hate Crime and Special Crime Dashboard will be used to monitor increased reporting of victims of Hate crime.	Green
See section 3	
Data is published into the public domain monthly for each London Borough. Data through the Mayor's Office for Policing & Crime Hate Crime Dashboard for figures at a borough level will be monitored.	Green

MOPAC issue. Data is automatically provided by met police for Mopac publication.

Levels of early identification of hate crime and extremism through referrals will be monitored and tracked.

Green

This is covered in multiple meeting structures across differing units and a centrally collated data source for this issue is not available. Each element (CT, Safeguarding etc.) will retain independent figures on referrals which partners will already be subject to data provision.

Green

The number of rapid response calls to the scam hotline, and the associated outcomes will be tracked and monitored.

Trading Standards received nearly 300 complaints and enquiries about scams and doorstep crime on the past 12 months, with total financial impacts of over £1 million. 101 calls were made to the dedicated rapid response number.

Case study: A local bank contacted trading standards via the rapid number when an elderly resident had attempted to withdraw several thousands pf pounds for what he described as gardening work. An officer visited the resident at home and noted there was no evidence of any work being undertaken at his property, but after careful and persistent questioning he disclosed he had been targeted by telephone scammers.

The Reporting of Hate Crime

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Rolling Year Jan 21	% difference on previous year
513	+16% (441)

For consistency MOPAC data will now be used to report on this section.

You will note from the SBPS that the main focus here was to improve reporting of hate crime and to reduce repeat victimisation of victims of hate crime.

The recording of police recorded hate crime has increased country wide, and this has been driven by improvements in crime recording and a better identification of what constitutes a hate crime. Unsurprisingly, as a result of the above, together with the impact of COVID, the total recorded hate crime within Bromley has risen by 16% between years.

Hate crime has been the subject of a number of proactive media campaigns across London and there have been massive attempts to increase confidence in people to report. For example, last month was LBGT+ history month and officers are now flagging potential hate crimes differently. Bromley's response and NH teams have also been increasingly using crime report flagging to reengage with victims who may be subject to hate incidents. It would be a measure of success in many ways to see a broader increase in hate crime reporting as this suggests confidence is improving in coming forward. In a similar way to increases in ASB COVID had an impact on hate crime against Asian victims as blame by a minority against the Asian community for the pandemic led to a number of hate incidents.

The RAG status here is split, as the target for increasing the reporting of this crime type is being achieved, however, ongoing work and commitments need to be maintained, in order to effectively deal with this high harm issue.

9. Impact of COVID 19 on Business as Usual

See above for amber sections

10. General Annual Update of achievements

Interventions by trading standards have resulted in total savings of £388,629 over the past 12 months. This includes estimated future financial savings relating to scams and doorstep crime of £36,600 with estimated healthcare saving and health related quality of life savings of £19,314. Savings from the installation of 13 call blocking devices are estimated at £215,027 with estimated healthcare savings and health related quality of life savings based on the five year call blocker program of £116,114.