



London Borough of Enfield

Report Title	Safer Stronger Communities Performance Report and deep dive on Operation Pisces
Report to	Healthy and Safe Communities Scrutiny Panel
Date of Meeting	25th September 2024
Cabinet Member	Cllr Gina Needs
Executive Director / Director	Director – Anne Stoker and Executive Director – Tony Theodoulou
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Ward(s) affected	All
Classification	Part 1 Public

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. This report sets out the key highlights from crime data for Enfield up to August 2024.
- 1.2. The report also provides a deep dive in the Community Safety Partnership Programme in the Upper Edmonton and Edmonton Green area. The report sets out the rationale for the approach, progress to date and next steps.

2. Main Considerations for the Panel

2.1. Safer Stronger Communities Board Performance Report

- 2.2. The Safer Stronger Communities Board Performance Report is a quarterly report on the crime trends across crime types affecting the borough. (Appendix 1 and 2).
- 2.3. The current report is for the period ending in July 2024. It compares performance over the last 12-month period from August 2023 to the end of July 2024, compared to the previous 12 months., August 2022 to end of July 2023.
- 2.4. The key highlights from the report are as follows: -

- Total Notifiable Offences in Enfield have decreased by 2.6% in the year ending July 2024 when compared to the previous 12 months. London saw a 3.2% increase over the same period.
- The volume of Violence Against the Person (VAP) offences in Enfield has decreased by 4.0% with Violence with Injury (VWI) (Non-Domestic Abuse) offences also decreasing by 7.0% over the most recent 12-month period. London saw a decrease in VAP offences (0.4% decrease in VAP, 5.8% decrease in VWI (Non-DA) offences).
- Robbery offences in Enfield have increased by 10.1% in the 12 months ending July 2024, with a 5.5% increase seen in robbery of personal property. London has also experienced an 10.9% increase in robbery offences with robbery of personal property increasing by 3.7% over the same period.
- Enfield has experienced a 33.9% decrease in residential burglary which is reflective of the decrease in London (39.5%).
- Knife Crime offences in Enfield has increased by 11.6% and has increased by 9.8% in London in the most recent 12-month period. Knife crime with injury offences in Enfield increased by 23.1% while a 3.8% increase was reported in London in the same period.
- Domestic abuse incidents have decreased in Enfield by 11.2% in the 12-month period to July 2024. Domestic abuse violence with injury offences have also decreased in Enfield by 10.7%. Over the same period domestic abuse incidents and domestic abuse violence with injury offences have decreased by 8.3% and 6.5% respectively in London.

2.5. The key recommendations to the Safer Stronger Communities Board are as follows: -

- To understand what is driving the increase in robbery of personal property offences in Enfield particularly as this increase was much higher than the London average.
- Better understand what is driving the reductions in residential burglary while overall burglary is seeing an increase.
- As part of the review of the Serious Violence Duty Strategy, to understand the factors for the spike of knife crime offences in December 2023 and what has contributed to the higher volume of knife crime offences in 2024.
- As part of the development of the Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2025-30, to gain a greater insight in what is the driver for the increase in domestic abuse cases between March and June 2024

2.6. **Deep Dive – Clear Hold Build Operation Pisces – Upper Edmonton and Edmonton Green**

2.7. The Safer Stronger Communities Board Community Safety Plan 2022-25 has three broad priorities: -

- **Crimes that cause direct harm to people** – this includes violence, domestic abuse, hate crime, illegal supply and misuse of drugs and exploiting young people.
- **Theft or damage to property** – this covers burglary and vehicle crime.
- **Harm caused to Neighbourhoods** – including anti-social behaviour and lack of trust and confidence.

2.8. There is one part of Enfield, the Upper Edmonton and Edmonton Green area, that accounts for 20% of the total crime for the Borough. It is an area dominated by organised criminality, drug supply, street sex trade, violence and street harassment, which blights the lives of the local community and legitimate businesses.

- 2.9. The National Police Chiefs Council have developed an approach, called Clear Hold Build, aimed at addressing organised criminality in defined local areas and its long-term impact.
- 2.10. Clear Hold Build is a place-based, 3-phase operational framework designed to simultaneously tackle the totality of Serious Organised Crime Groups (OCG's), their business models, what is enabling their model, locally exploited vulnerabilities and highest harm hot spot areas.
- 2.11. It provides an integrated partnership approach that delivers tactical options which are systematic, proportionate and targeted.
- 2.12. The long-term aim is to empower and galvanise the community's own voice to 'claim back' communities blighted by OCG's and build longer-term resilience and confidence to tackle future Serious Organised Crime threats.
- 2.13. To achieve this, the programme brings together the very best of investigative capabilities, multi-agency disruption opportunities and community-based problem-solving skills in a collaborative way.
- 2.14. The three phases of the Clear Hold Build Programme are defined as follows: -
- **Clear** – to maximise police and partnership enforcement resources to tackle organised criminality and target those involved.
 - **Hold** – To ensure that there are structures in place to resist organised crime from regaining a foothold, including emerging forms of organised crime group, seeking to exploit the opportunities created through the Clear phase.
 - **Build** – Working with the local community, voluntary providers and retail sector to create a network of locally based services and facilities which enable local communities to take ownership of the area.
- 2.15. Operation Pisces is a multi-agency programme which is focused on the Northumberland Park, Fore Street and Edmonton Green area.
- 2.16. In May 2024 the crime analysis of the Fore Street (including Joyce and Snells Estate) and Edmonton Green area indicated that: -
- Data from the 12 months June 2023-May 2024 shows that Fore Street recorded the biggest hot spot within Enfield for Robbery offences.
 - There were 236 robberies in and around Fore Street in this period. 24% of all the Borough's offences.
 - There were twenty Lethal Barrel Weapon Discharges, 26% of Enfield's total.
 - The Fore Street had by far the highest rate of anti-social behaviour in the borough during the above 12-month period.
 - Hot spots also appear around Fore Street for robberies, knife crime, and drug trafficking.
- 2.17. Operation Pisces Clear phase commenced in June 2024.
- 2.18. The Police have committed a significant level of resources including the 5 local Safer Neighbourhood Teams, Territorial Support Group, the Specialist Crime North proactive teams and Specialist Crime Central Modern Slavery and Child Exploitation.

2.19. Enfield Council has established a Partnership Tasking and Enforcement Group, bringing together the council's operational and enforcement services as well as Police leads. The Group is chaired by the Head of Community Safety and meets fortnightly, tasking services based on the most current intelligence.

2.20. Action and activity

2.21. The partnership action and activity has included the following: -

- Police foot patrols, carrier-based patrols, Automatic Numberplate Recognition, Live facial recognition, passive drugs dogs, use of CCTV, warrants and covert tactics.
- 213 arrests and 226 stop and searches for drugs, firearms, knives and offensive weapons.
- The closure or disruption of 3 drugs lines.

2.22. The Partnership Tasking and Enforcement Group co-ordinated a Week of Action at the end of July. The activity included: -

- Food Safety Officers carried out a total of 17 food hygiene inspections and issued 7 formal hygiene improvement notices
- Private Sector Housing Officers carried out visits to 28 properties with 8 flats occupied by single families requiring a selective licence. 4 flats being used as HMO's requiring an HMO licence.
- Parking Enforcement issued 10 Penalty Charge Notices and lifted one vehicle.
- A clean up and On Your Doorstep, Day including grass cutting, cutting back of overgrown hedging, bulky waste removal and litter picking focused on fly tipping and the removal and sex trade waste.
- During the Clean Up day there were 8 arrests, varying from street sex workers, an arrest for sexual assault and further arrests and investigations in relation to drug dealing activity.
- Youth Service launched their summer activities programme provision and deployed the Youth Bus.
- Tenancy Audits and inspections carried out by Resident Housing Officers.

2.23. Progress to date

2.24. Since the commencement of the Operation Pisces the crime profile for both the area and Enfield has seen significant improvements.

2.25. The average daily crime in Enfield Borough has reduced from 146 crimes per day to 113 crimes per day, a 23% reduction since the start of the operation.

2.26. The following table represents the various crime types and compares June with August in terms of crime total comparison. Across the borough of Enfield there is reduction in the key major crime types apart from burglary which is showing an 8% increase.

Crime Type	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Grand Total	Percentage June compared to August
ARSON AND CRIMINAL DAMAGE	293	273	306	218	1090	-20%
BURGLARY	240	198	274	213	925	8%
PUBLIC ORDER OFFENCES	257	286	252	249	1044	-13%
ROBBERY	131	135	125	110	501	-19%
SEXUAL OFFENCES	112	95	103	72	382	-24%
THEFT	975	1194	1141	981	4291	-18%
VEHICLE OFFENCES	606	599	547	477	2229	-20%
VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON	1168	1212	1101	920	4401	-24%

2.27. Next Steps

- 2.28. There has been a great number of police and council deployments and investment in Op Pisces as the Clear phase progresses and planning activity begins for the Hold phase.
- 2.29. Police leads will continue to bid for central police resourcing with a specific request for the Territorial Support Group.
- 2.30. A court date has been set for the first of the Closure Orders at Boundary Court. If successful, this will begin to add to the legal framework and police powers to affect the current profile around crime, drugs and ASB in specific tower blocks
- 2.31. In addition to the above Council and Police are working in partnership to:-
- Seek to obtain Public Space Protection Order in relation to a series of activity in the area including street harassment, street loitering, street drinking and aggressive begging.
 - Review the list of persons arrested with the intention of serving Community Protection Warnings, Acceptable Behaviour contracts or Injunctions against those identified.
 - Identify opportunities to create community facilities on the estate including the development of the former GP Surgery to a Community Kitchen.
 - Increase the youth provision on the estate to provide a dedicated local service.
 - Install CCTV on Boundary Court and deployable systems to cover key hotspots.
 - Planning evening enforcement activity involving council/police and enforcement agencies.
 - Co-ordinated Weapon Sweeps on the estate
- 2.32. The intention is to continue the enforcement action until the end of December 2024.

3. Background and Options

- 3.1. The Enfield Partnership Tasking and Enforcement Group has initially established to focus on the Operation Pisces Footprint. However, the intention is to expand the group to respond to crime hotspots across the borough.
- 3.2. A Governance Structure is being developed to oversee the whole Clear Hold Build Programme.

- 3.3. The Executive Director for Environment and Communities has been appointed as the strategic lead for the longer-term programme. The first Strategic Oversight Board will take place in late September and draw in the relevant stakeholders.
- 3.4. The Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Cohesion will be a key member of the above Board.

Relevance to Council Plans and Strategies

1. Safer Stronger Communities Board (SSCB) – Community Safety Plan 2022-5
2. Serious Violence Duty Strategy 2024-5

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Appendices

- Appendix 1 - Safer Stronger Communities Board Performance Report September 2024 Part 1.
Appendix 2 - Safer Stronger Communities Board Performance Report September 2024 Part 2.

Background Papers

Not applicable