

## REPORT TO: STANDING CRIME SCRUTINY PANEL

**DATE:** 14 March 2018

**REPORT TITLE:** Enfield Policing Response to Knife Crime

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**PURPOSE OF REPORT:** To provide the committee with updates on the following points:

**SUMMARY:**

- Update on Police response to knife crime within Enfield since May 2017.

Knife enabled crime and in particular, knife crime injuries on victims under 25 (non DA) has risen steeply across London, but perhaps none more so than in Enfield.

In order to address this Op Bremont began running from 01 May 2017. Originally intended to be an 8 week plan it has continued for 10 months in a number of developed iterations, as the intelligence picture has changed. It will continue to do so until at least 31 March 2018.

### OPERATIONAL PLAN

The plan seeks to address the problem under four strands:

- Prevent - early identification of people engaging in knife crime
- Protect - increasing protection against knife crime
- Prepare - Reducing the impact of knife crime
- Pursue - Disrupting and prosecuting knife carrying criminal

**Bremont 1:** 01 May - 02 Jul - intense focus utilising off borough resources.

This was in response to the rapid growth of offences and it became apparent that the underlying cause of the majority of the offences was linked to the on and off street sales of drugs.

Tactics that were particularly successful were stop and search, weapons sweeps, and pulse patrols. There was also the conclusion of a series of schools presentations.

During this period the headline results were:

Stop Searches	Prisoners	Knife arrests	Knives recovered	Other weapons recovered	Drug arrests/warning	Search warrants
540	246	73	169	19	115	20

**Total Knife Crime** -YE Change was 12.7% increase against an MPS change of 32.9% with a YE SD rate of 23.8%

**Knife Crime Injuries under 25 (non DA)** - YE Change was 77.1% increase against an MPS change of 20.3%

### SUMMARY

- This period saw a significant increase in injury to under 25's, whilst overall knife crime was below that of the MPS trend.
- There was a non-fatal shooting (gang related) and three fatal stabbings. Two of these believed to be linked to drugs supply, and the third believed to have been a robbery victim.
- Significant community engagement was delivered, and the schools intervention projects concluded (with a police request to target primary schools for a future phase).
- Significant additional resources (TSG, Sceptre) were brought in which positively impacted on results, although this had a side effect of increasing knife crime due to the amount of offensive weapons offences detected.
- Challenges were the resilience of investigative units to support the arrest volumes, and the introduction of Mi Investigations reducing the capacity for local officers to stop and search.

**Bremont 2:** 03 Jul - 03 Sep - BAU focusing on drugs as the driver

During this period the headline results were:

Stop Searches	Prisoners	Knife arrests	Knives recovered	Other weapons recovered	Drug arrests/warning	Search warrants
436	120	26	30	9	93	15

**Total Knife Crime** -YE Change was 34% Increase against an MPS change of 31% with a YE SD rate of 22.4%

**Knife Crime Injuries under 25 (non DA)** - YE Change was 106.5% increase against an MPS change of 28.7%

- This period saw an even bigger increase in injury to under 25's, whilst overall knife crime began to overtake that of the MPS trend due in part to the amount of offensive weapons offences detected..
- There was a fatal shooting (Turkish gang related) a domestic homicide by stabbing and a homicide using a car, which is believed to have been targeted by moped robbers.
- Significant community engagement was delivered, and the schools intervention projects concluded (with a police request to target primary schools for a future phase).

- Additional resources (TSG, Sceptre) continued to be brought in but were not as available.
- Challenges were the resilience of investigative units to support the arrest volumes, and the use of gangs/proactive officers on aid reducing our capability.

**Bremont 3:** 04 Sep – 31 Dec 2017- Stepping up of off borough resourcing leading into Autumn Nights.

During this period Ponders End Park became a hotspot area for drugs and knife related crime. A comprehensive approach was undertaken by SNT, Gangs, CSE and Local Authority resources. Tackling the problem Education, Environment, and Enforcement saw the area 'reclaimed' and the offending behavior was displaced.

During this period the headline results were:

Stop Searches	Prisoners	Knife arrests	Knives recovered	Other weapons recovered	Drug arrests/warning	Search warrants
946	282	33	135	16	180	37

**Total Knife Crime** -YE Change was 30.7% Increase against an MPS change of 29.6% with a YE SD rate of 18.8%

**Knife Crime Injuries under 25 (non DA)** - YE Change was 53.1% Increase against an MPS change of 12.8% with a YE SD rate of 18.3%

- This period saw an increase in injury to under 25's by comparison to the Met, but the volume in Enfield had reduced quite dramatically. Overall knife crime began to reflect that of the MPS trend.
- There were no fatal stabbings.
- Additional resources (TSG, Sceptre) continued to be brought in but were not as available.
- Challenges are in detections with the 'victims' not wanting to cooperate.

**Bremont 4:** 01 Jan 18 – ongoing (see Gondola and Sceptre below)

A mixed period where for example on 16 Jan YE were among the top 3 improving boroughs for month on month reductions (-45.5%).

However gangs tensions between the YE and YR gangs have seen a number of stabbings (none fatal) that have come to notice at North Middlesex Hospital and where the 'victims' do not cooperate.

It is also a point to note that Operation Denver concluded with the arrest and removal of the senior gang members of the DA Gang. This may have created a vacuum which is being filled, causing some of the violence.

**As at 01 Mar 2018**

**Total Knife Crime** -YE Change was 42.5% increase against an MPS change 24.6% YE SD rate of 18.5%

**Knife Crime Injuries under 25 (non DA)** - YE Change was 70.3% increase against an MPS change of 9.4%. YE SD rate of 18.5%

- This period again saw an increase in injury to under 25's by comparison to the Met, but the volume in Enfield is rising again. Overall knife crime has also increased in comparison to that of the MPS trend.
- There were no fatal stabbings.
- Additional resources (TSG, Sceptre) continued to be brought in but were not as available.
- Challenges remain with detections with the 'victims' not wanting to cooperate. Intelligence development is being undertaken with a view to intervention.

**Op Gondola:** Commenced 08 Jan – 31 Mar 2018 – MPS focus on moped and knife enabled crime. Bremont (4) and Sceptre operations are subsumed into this over-arching strategy.

**OP Sceptre** is the existing MPS response to knife crime.

Op Sceptre weeks: 15 – 21 Jan 18, 12-18 Feb 18, 19 – 25 Mar 18 have been subsumed into Bremont and now also Gondola.

## Overview Partnerships Tactics

### Enforcement

#### Schools

- After school patrols. After school patrols are business as usual for Schools Support Officers (SSOs) in collaboration with their school nominated Single Point of Contact (SPOC) around location and timing. A more detailed plan for end of term patrols and significant times (Halloween/Bonfire Night) are created by School's Police Sergeant to incorporate areas of known Crime and ASB, e.g. Enfield Town, Estates, Transport Hubs, etc.
- Wanding/Knife arches. Use of knife wands and knife arches as condition of entry to school was a tactic utilised but has received mixed reviews from Schools. Linked to prevention strategy for knife arches & knife wands (see below). SSO's to lead investigations in schools involving Offensive Weapon & Bladed articles found on school premises. Business as usual. Robust approach to pupils found with prohibited articles in schools. Early liaison with Youth Offending Service (YOS) and Safeguarding SPOC in schools.

#### Licensing

- Two Licensing officers conduct visits to venue stocking knives to check packaging, display and compliance with Knives & Offensive Weapon legislation.

#### ASB

- Two ASB officers prepare and produce documentary material to present to court to obtain Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBO's) against offenders charged with or linked to Knife enabled crime/offences. Details of CBO's are held on Police National Computer (PNC), Crimint and local Police shared drive.

### Prevention:

#### Schools.

- Partnership with gangs. SSO's to liaise with gangs unit to build a better intelligence picture of youths affiliating with known gang members after school or around the school area. At present there is an intelligence gap around the identity of children of school age becoming involved in gang activity whether it be through choice or coercion. SSO's are being encouraged to capture Body Worn Video (BWV) footage of any interactions around their schools involving known gang members and pupils of the school. This footage can be viewed by the gangs unit to identify gang members involved. The SSO can or seek to identify the pupil for a diversionary approach to be made.

- Partnership with gangs. Success of **Op Crest in 2017**. This was a hard hitting presentation for 1:30-2hrs showing the real side of getting involved with gangs, plus support to choose a different path. Led by PC Steve Hicks and PC Nicola Day. This is aimed at year 10 and includes speakers from Safer Schools, Gangs Unit, LAS, ex offenders, Bereaved mother. The funding for this initiative has come to an end. The feedback from schools was incredibly positive and looking forward would like it to continue.
- Knife wands & knife arch. Mayor of London commitment to supply knife wands at no charge to Schools who want to accept this offer. 3 schools (Nightingale, Enfield Grammar, West Lea: Haselbury Campus) recently accepted this opportunity and are in the process of being issued their wand. Insp Davies will highlight this offer once again to school heads at their next meeting and gauge perception of this tool and tactic. YE Knife arch is out of action and cost of replacement is £4000. Pupil referral unit have in built knife arch as condition of entry to school.
- Weapon sweeps. SSO's in partnership with Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs), Safer Estates & Volunteer Police Cadets (VPC) to conduct weapon sweeps around school locations throughout the year. Intel led and in the event of any post incident requirement.
- Assemblies in Schools. SSO's use this opportunity to engage in conversation with pupils. Knife crime and gangs often discussed.

#### ASB

- Knife Bin: www.word4weapons.co.uk have been contacted by Insp Davies (Partnerships) for update on success of bin located at Edmonton Methodist Church, 300 Fore Street, Edmonton, N9 0PN. Aim to secure further knife bins across the borough in known hot spot location. ASB team to take lead once response is received from word4weapons help team.
- Identify high crime attractor addresses for knife crime/intel. Consultation between Insp Davies (Partnerships), Insp Crawshaw (YE NPT), Sinead O'Shea (Local Intelligence Team) & Louise Brown (LB Enfield) to establish ISA and partnership working with Community Safety Team/Housing/Wardens etc.

#### Engagement

##### Schools

- Junior Citizen Programme: Schools Diversion and Engagement This project is led by SSO's and Nightingale Academy, 34 Turin Rd, Edmonton, London N9 8DQ. The scheme aims to equip year 6 pupils for transition to year 7 and secondary education. Workshops include Knife crime and Cyber Crime. Knife crime presentation will cover - What can be a weapon, Joint Enterprise, Choices & Consequences. Video clips and discussion. Trident engagement/LAS/LFB have had previous involvement.

2017 Junior Citizens/ Last year nearly 4,000 year 6 pupils attended. Scheduled again for 2018.. Knife Crime input has been extended.

- Edmonton Eagles boxing club. Diversionary opportunity for SSO's to refer girls aged 13 and over to a boxing club in Edmonton for free boxing classes after school. An opportunity to be self-defence aware in a safe supportive learning environment.
- VPC. The VPC scheme remains YE's greatest audience for youth engagement. The unit will facilitate the DofE award scheme as well as other team building and leadership activities. Currently the unit has 180 cadets with further expansion planned for 2018.

#### Summary of Figures

##### Total Knife Crime

Date	YE Offences R12	YE Change	MPS Offences R12	MPS Change	YE SD Rate
17 May 17	442	1.8%	2890	29.8%	
05 Jul 17	418	12.7%	3629	32.9%	23.8%
13 Sep 17	527	34%	3800	31%	22.4%
16 Jan 18	537	30.7%	3325	29.6%	18.8%
18 Feb 18	411	38.9%			19.6%
01 Mar 18	583	42.5%	2901	24.6%	18.5%

##### Knife Crime Injuries under 25 (non DA)

Date	YE Offences R12	YE Change	MPS Offences R12	MPS Change	YE SD Rate
17 May 17	83	97.6%	362	22%	38%
05 Jul 17	87	77.1%		20.3%	
04 Sep 17	95	106.5%	19.13%	7.3%	28.7%
16 Jan 18	98	53.1%	2124	12.8%	18.3%
18 Feb 18	103	53.7%	2126	11.1%	
01 Mar 17	109	70.3%	2092	9.4%	18.5%

#### Summary of Results

\* Sceptre

##### Offence Categories

ABH GBH Murder Rape  
 Possession of firearm Possession offensive weapon  
 Possession points/blades Breach CBO  
 Proceeds of Crime PWITS Class A & B  
 PWITS Nitrous Oxide Possession class B  
 Theft Robbery Going equipped  
 Wanted on warrant False imprisonment  
 Money laundering

##### Resources employed

NPT Safer Transport  
 ERT Safer Schools  
 Gangs Unit Safer Estates  
 Fugitive Cadets  
 Taskforce TSG  
 SCO19 Op Spyder / ANPR  
 Op Viper NPAS  
 L3 serials from other boroughs