

# Barking & Dagenham Partnership

## NI 15 - Number of most serious violent crimes per 1,000 population

### Responsible Owner

Glynis Rogers – Head of Community Safety and Neighbourhood Services

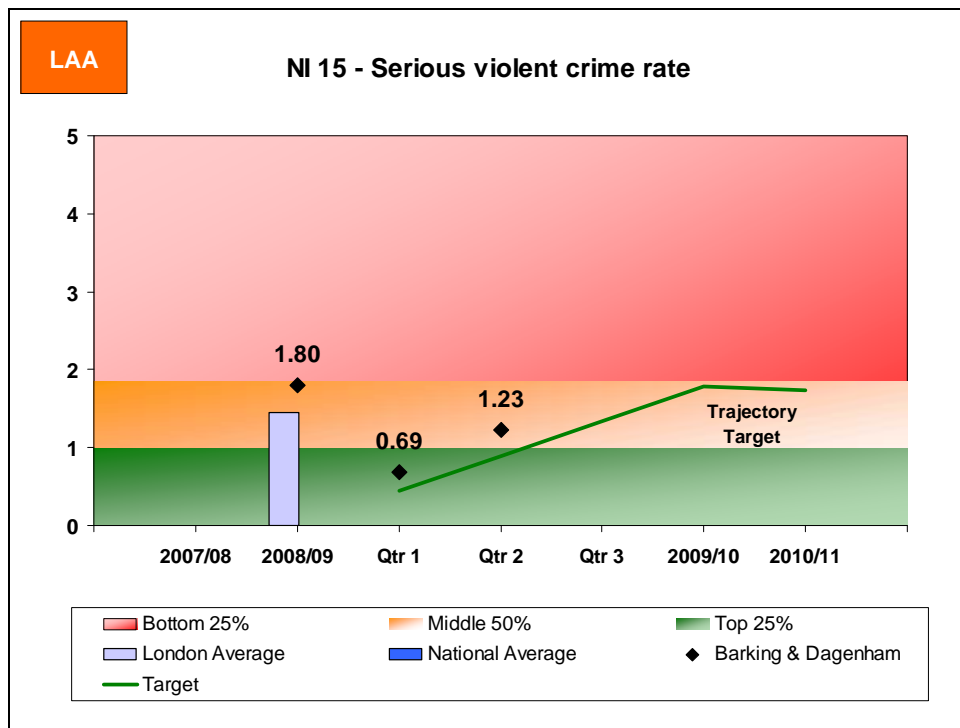
### National Indicator Rationale

Serious violence covers a wide range of offences, including homicide and serious wounding, offences involving weapons, domestic violence, hate crime and serious sexual offences including rape. These crimes are extremely rare: together they account for only about 1% of all crime. Yet when they do occur they cause significant harm, both to individual victims and their families in terms of physical injury and psychological trauma, and to society more widely in terms of fear.

### Current Performance

### Performance against Target

### Off Target



### Current Performance Commentary

The end of year 2008/9 figure was 1.84 crimes per 1,000 pop. Performance for Quarter 2 (April – Sept) shows 1.23 offences per 1,000 population which is an 18% increase compared with the previous year to date. However, this rate of increase has been in decline since April when the rate stood at 22%.

When comparing with the rest of London, LBBDD currently has the 5<sup>th</sup> highest most serious violent rate in the Met per 1,000 residents and 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in its CDRP group for the year. The forecast for the year (April – March) is 2.16 crimes per 1,100 pop against a target of 1.78 crimes per 1,000 pop.

**Key Issues:****Specific reasons for underperformance, including equalities / area issues where relevant**

1.	MSV offences are most likely to be committed within Abbey Ward (18%, n=32), with offences focused around Barking Town Centre and Barking Station. There is a correlation between the location of MSV offences and the boroughs parades of shops, which usually contain an off licence, fast food outlets and a convenience store.
2.	A dip sample of MSV offences committed between April-June 2008 showed that 46% (n=20 of 43) of victims were unwilling to substantiate the allegation. Research by JDI found that gang membership, recent negative contact with the police, not wanting to 'grass', age, ethnicity, severity of the injury and lack of faith in the CJS were influential factors in victims' willingness to substantiate allegations.
3.	46% (n=82) offences involve the use of a knife by the suspect and are most likely to be used by offenders who are aged between 15 and 18 years.
4.	MSV Offences are predominantly male (89%, n=271) and there is a disproportionate number of black people involved in committing the crimes.
5.	In a 12 week overall of MSV offences carried out by the Police, in the Borough, it was found that 10% were domestic related. Further work to be carried out by the Partnership will again test to see if this figure is accurate and if any noticeable increase/decrease has occurred.

**Key Projects:****Areas of current /planned projects should focus on reasons for underperformance and link to the Key Issues listed above**

Key Issue No.	Project Title	Key Milestones / Date	Project Lead	Project Details
3.	<i>Operation Blunt</i>	School/ college Holidays	MPS	Long term police initiative tackling youth violence across London. Activity broken into phases around school/college terms and significant annual events. Currently approaching Phase 3 for 2009 covering end of term for the Summer break.
1.	<i>Dispersals</i>	On going	MPS	S.30 order in place in Hart's Lane area running until 6th September 2009.
3.	<i>Knife Arches</i>	On going	MPS	Initiative conducted at various locations across the borough to detect knives being carried.
3.	<i>Weapon Sweeps</i>	On going	MPS	Initiative conducted at various locations across the borough to detect discarded weapons, including in parks, by the Safer Parks Team.
1.	<i>Hub Team</i>	On going	MPS	Abby ward has been identified as the 8th highest ward in London for MSV offences. To address this, the MPS have created a new Hub team which will specifically deal with the Barking Town Centre. The team will work in conjunction with the existing Safer Transport Team covering Abbey and Gascoigne Wards.
2.	<i>Positive Action Policy</i>	On going	MPS	Barking & Dagenham Borough Positive Action Policy re Violence Against The Person Offences.
4.	<i>Youth Violence Working Group</i>	On going	LBBD	Partnership initiative to understand and address the issues around the boroughs strategic challenge around youth violence and emerging gangs.
5.	<i>Domestic Violence Action Plan</i>	On going	LBBD	There are a number of initiatives from the DV Action plan that aim to reduce the number of incidents that occur and provide help and for victims in the borough. This includes:

				<p>Commissioning Solace Women's Aid to deliver an Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy Service with 2 Advocates and a Manager. This service provides specialist risk and case management to high-risk victims of domestic violence.</p> <p>NELFT commissioning Woman's Trust, an independent Counselling service to women who have experienced domestic violence. Women in Barking and Dagenham are able to access 18 free counselling sessions and to attend support groups.</p> <p>Eaves Women's Aid provide a borough refuge provision and floating support service which is aimed at assisting women with medium to long term needs i.e. those who have moved to the borough who have fled violence or those that have longer term complex needs. There are currently 2 Floating Support Officers in post. Currently in the process of commissioning and building a new 8 space refuge in the borough. The Council funds and offers a Sanctuary Project which allows victims of DV to stay safely in their homes. To support this scheme the Council also funds the Safer Homes Van which secures the external entry points of homes, this is more focussed on victims of residential burglary. The Council alongside LB's Newham, Waltham Forest and Redbridge currently commission DVIP (Domestic Violence Intervention Project) 32 week non court ordered perpetrator programme. Alongside the scheme runs an effective women's support service that provides support to all partners/ex partners of those perpetrators on the scheme.</p> <p>There is also a comprehensive domestic violence service directory for victims, a website <a href="http://www.bddvf.co.uk">www.bddvf.co.uk</a> and launching in November, 2 social marketing campaigns; one focussed on assisting family and friends of victims and the other focussed at perpetrators addressing their behaviour.</p>
1	<i>Tenant Eviction</i>	Ongoing	LBBB	<p>If a Council tenant is charged with a criminal offence in the borough this will be cross-checked against Council tenant records and, where appropriate, warned their actions may lead to both criminal prosecution and eviction from their council home.</p>
1	<i>Barking Town Centre Street Pastors</i>	Oct – onwards	MPS	<p>The MPS have just provided £5,000 for Street Pastors to patrol the town centre at the weekend. The Street Pastors Project is implemented by local churches whereby volunteers patrol the streets engaging with local people. This involves listening, caring and helping people access local services. The Street Pastors will be able to deal with some of the lower level disorder to enable police to concentrate with Violent crime (e.g. drunkenness, homelessness).</p>

1	24hour Police Stations in the borough	Nov – onwards	MPS	From Nov both Barking and Dagenham custody suits will be operational 24hrs a day through to Dec. This will encourage prompter arrests within the borough and quicken up the processing times of offenders.
3	Funding allocation from successful bids	Onwards	MPS	Barking and Dagenham's Police have successfully bid for £60,000 for an additional uniformed patrol around the town centre from the DCS. They have also received £12,000 for Operation Staysafe which is jointly run with the YOS. This allows children to be safely returned to their homes or to Children Centre's after being found unsupervised on the streets late on a Friday and Saturday night.

### Key Risks:

***Risks may relate to specific projects or to performance in general***

- A current issue that has been raised during the Community Safety Managers meeting has been the time taken by the Police to collect evidence relating to MSV in the borough from the CCTV team. This will be raised in the Safer Borough Board Performance Group.

### Actions for Improvement (To be used for Quarterly Reporting):

***Plans for further interventions must be robust and show clear prospects for improving performance***

- In order to gain a better understanding of MSV within the borough the Performance and Improvement Team working jointly with Community Safety will be carrying out in depth analysis of local crime data from the Police. This will concentrate in particular on two areas which are a priority for The Safer Borough Board an include MSV and Burglaries. Any key trends extrapolated from the data will be fed back to the Police and then presented to the partnership for a tactical and strategic action plan.