

CROYDON CONNECTED

The Gang Strategy

June 19 2012

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FOREWORD

Gangs of all levels and types have a negative effect on society. Gang and youth violence can be devastating for communities and the individuals involved. It breeds fear and creates huge costs to the taxpayer. The public are fearful of gangs; however most 'gang crime' occurs between gang members and is limited to a small number of areas within the Borough.

Nevertheless it is important to acknowledge that the vast majority of Croydon's young people aged 10 to 17 are not involved in criminal activity and gang membership in Croydon remains very low (the total population for those aged 10 to 17 in Croydon is 35,000; currently we are aware of 322 gang nominals (individuals who have been identified, mentioned or interviewed during police investigations) aged 12 to 25 of which around 150 are the most gang active).

It is also worth noting that gangs are not new; throughout history we have seen small bands of men protect each other through committing crimes that sometimes involve violence, What is new is our determination and commitment from all agencies, the voluntary sector and local communities to tackle this issue head on here in Croydon. We understand the problem of gang activities and the effects that gangs have on the community cannot be solved overnight. Only consistent and combined efforts from partner agencies working closely with local communities will gangs start to decrease and their activities lessen.

We also understand that we cannot solve the problem with enforcement alone; we must work to understand the attitudes of both individuals and communities connected to gangs and work hard to build community confidence and trust in local authorities.

This strategy sets out a clear path for action; a clear message will be given to gang members that violence must stop. All key players within gangs will be identified; all enforcement agencies will be engaged in targeting these individuals and those identified as being involved in or associated with people who are involved with firearms. The Police will lead on this robust enforcement approach.

The Council and the voluntary sector will lead on preventing youths from joining a gang, this means strengthening local communities and families, encouraging them to report crime and anti-social behaviour and teaching our young people other ways to find a sense of purpose in their lives and increase their opportunities to succeed and educate themselves, so that gangs are less likely to exist.

**Borough Commander David Musker and
Cllr Simon Hoar, Cabinet member for Community Safety and Public Protection and Chair of the Safer Croydon Partnership**

INTRODUCTION – principles and aims

The impact of gangs on communities is felt in many ways. Those living in neighbourhoods classified as ‘gang territories’ experience more anti-social behaviour and crime. Intimidation of other youths, adults, witnesses, and business owners is not uncommon. It is vital that we begin to develop trust with local communities and work with them so as to better understand how to protect those most at risk from gang activity.

It cannot be solved by enforcement alone. This is why “Croydon Connected” is underpinned by the four themes of prevention, intervention, enforcement and community voice and builds upon the wealth of expertise of individuals, agencies and the voluntary sector have working in this field.

The aims of Croydon Connected are to:

- Reduce offending, re-offending and incidents of serious violence
- Improve intelligence on those involved in/on the periphery of gangs
- Improve understanding of the long term impact on the public, and families of gang-involved individuals
- Increase the number of positive outcomes for individuals through engagement in education, employment and training
- Support victims and witnesses to ensure offenders are brought to justice
- Ensure robust risk management systems and safeguarding arrangements for individuals and the public
- Ensure effective, efficient and coordinated responses to individuals aged between 12-25 connected to gangs

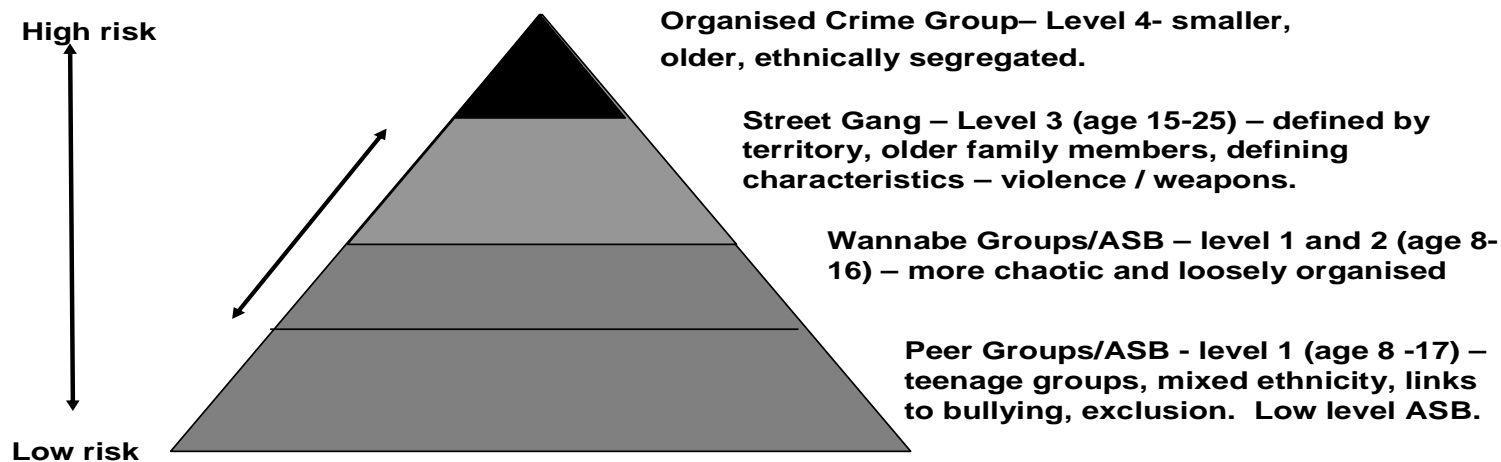
DEFINITIONS

The definitions below are used to determine the tactical response (see ‘pyramid of risk’ below). The risk levels assist us to identify young people and adults at risk and to respond accordingly. One of the challenges is the fluidity of these groups as individuals move in and out of the different levels of risk and at times gangs, including some cross-border movement:

1. **Peer group:** a small, unorganised, transient group who ‘hang out together’ in public places such as shopping centres. Crime is not integral to their self definition;
2. **Wannabee group:** includes individuals who band together in a loosely structured group primarily to engage in spontaneous social activity and exciting, impulsive criminal activity, including collective violence against other groups. Wannabees will often claim ‘gang’ territory and adopt ‘gang-style’ identifying markers of some kind;

3. **Gang**: a relatively durable, predominantly street-based group of individuals who see themselves (and are seen by others) as a discernible group for whom crime and violence is integral to the group's identity.
4. **Organised criminal group**: members are professionally involved in crime for personal gain, operating almost exclusively in the 'grey' or illegal marketplace.

Gangs Definition - Pyramid of Risk



The higher in the pyramid a group is, the greater the risk it poses to the local community.

GANG PROBLEM PROFILE – the local context

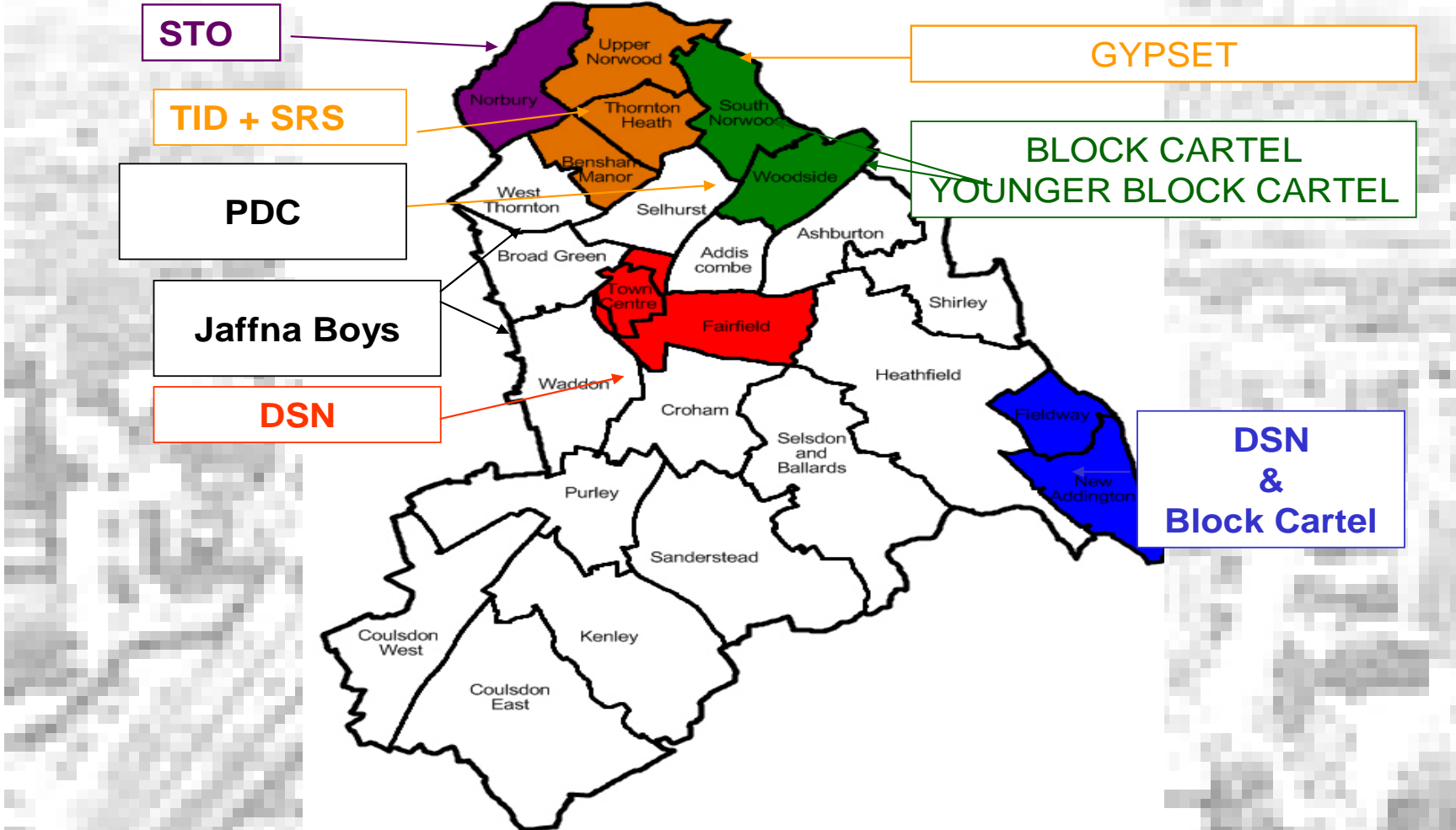
There are currently 322 known gang nominals in Croydon (excluding Jaffna Boys-see below). 40% (93) of these are under 18. Approximately 150 of the nominals are believed to be the most gang-active and pose the highest risk of harm to others. Croydon's main gangs draw membership from the north and a distinct area in the east of the Borough. West Thornton, Addiscombe and Norbury. The gangs are active in business districts and key transport hubs, and there are territorial issues around certain estates and areas. There are additional cross-borough issues relating to the number of young people travelling into the Borough for education, which is estimated at 50,000 on weekday afternoons.

We have been able to map the areas in which the main Croydon gangs operate, as illustrated in the map below. It indicates that there are currently eight notable gangs operating; of these the most active gangs are BC/YBC (Block Cartel/Younger Block Cartel), SRS (Sumner Road Shooters), PDC (Peal dem Crew), and DSN (Don't Say Nothin).

The Jaffna Boys are an adult Tamil gang located in the northwest of the Borough, and presenting very serious problems. There have been incidents of serious violence, robbery, weapons, extortion and drug dealing across Broad Green and West Thornton wards. This is also a cross borough problem that spreads into Wandsworth and Merton. The Jaffna Boys act within their own community and that community is reluctant to speak about them, leading to a dearth of criminal and community intelligence and the under-reporting of crime allegations. There are indications from crime allegations and intelligence that the Jaffna boys are responsible for extortion and witness intimidation with respect to a number of Tamil restaurants mainly in the Broad Green area. There is also inter-gang rivalry with Tooting Boys.

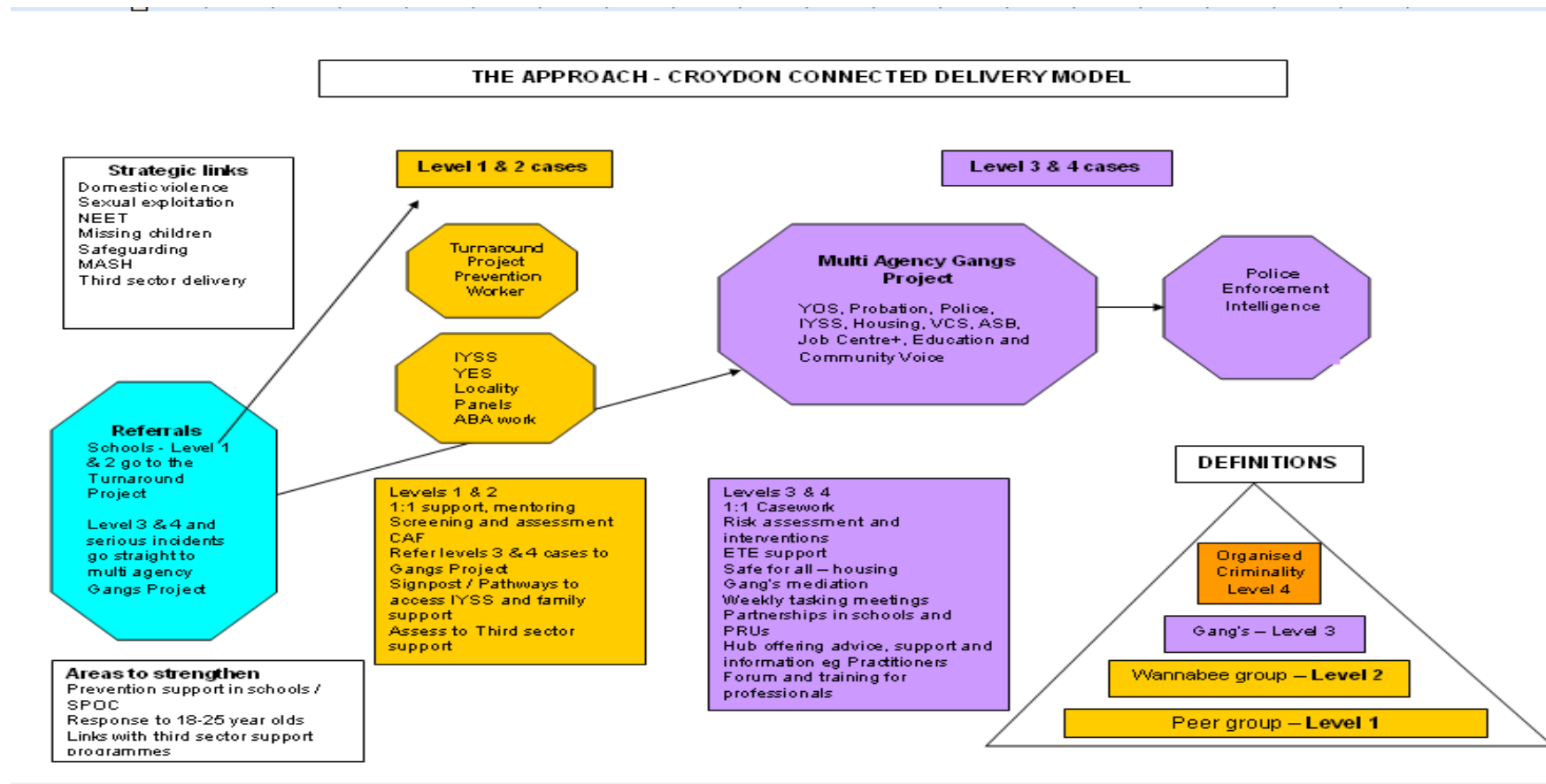
A detailed analysis is shown as Appendix 1

CROYDON GANG TERRITORIES



CROYDON CONNECTED DELIVERY MODEL

At the heart of the strategy is the delivery model which is based around the pyramid of risk through which we seek to make sure we match individual's needs and behaviours to the right service and intervention. This approach enables a shared understanding of the problem and the levels of involvement across all partner agencies and voluntary and community sectors



Levels 1&2 - Preventing young peoples involvement in serious youth violence and gangs

We will engage with young people at risk of becoming involved in gangs at level 1 and 2 through targeted activity and consultation via schools, voluntary and community sector organisations and wider services in the city. We will aim to:

- support and strengthen the family
- enable parents and people working with children to recognise the signs of potential gang involvement
- give young people access to support and guidance outside of the home, promoting positive behaviour
- mentor young people at risk
- Transitional support
- Raising aspirations, concentrating on positive opportunities
- Building our capability and capacity to tackle the issues through training and development for children, young people, families and professionals
- Early identification and threshold framework which supports professionals in identifying risk factors of risk and related thresholds.
- Improve the networked response to young people crime and anti social behaviour through cohesive partnerships
- Workshops, training and practitioner forums for school staff

Level 3&4 - Intervention – Helping individuals out of involvement in gangs and/or serious violence

The multi agency gang's team will concentrate on gang affiliated individuals who pose a high level of risk (level 3&4) and identify what risk factors drive them to commit violence and what protective factors prevent it. We are building on the existing Pathways project launched in 2008 and have combined resources to set up a multi-agency team of Police, YOS, Probation, IYSS, ASB, Housing, Education, Job Centre + and the Third Sector. By bringing partners together we will improve communication and information sharing and be able to draw on the knowledge base of all the partner agencies to offer interventions such as ETE support, mentoring, family and housing support.

All identified gang members will be put through the 'Connect' matrix. This approach identifies the various levels of risk based on information from all partner agencies. It also improves our ability to identify those individuals presenting concerns much earlier. The Top 150 will form the subjects to be targeted for enforcement and intervention and this will be monitored using a Red (1-20 - high risk), Amber (medium risk 21-50), Green (Low Risk 51-80) traffic light system.

The team aims to provide:

- intensive one-to-one work, counselling and mentoring
- therapeutic interventions
- support re-entering the education system
- training and skill development and careers advice
- support finding and gaining employment
- resettlement and housing support including Safe and Secure
- mediation between gang members
- Improve coordination and intelligence on those involved in/on the periphery of gangs and serious youth violence and speed up the delivery response to the identified individuals/groups
- Harness the expertise in the voluntary sector to increase community participation and improve our understanding of the long term impact on the community and families
- Ensure robust risk management systems and safeguarding arrangements for individuals and the public
- Develop a hub offering advice, support and information
- Improve support and flexibility to meet the needs of offenders aged 18-24 during the transition period from Youth Offending Services to Probation

Level 3&4 - Targeting gang members through enforcement and consequences

A clear message will be given to gang members that violence must stop. Enforcement should include:

- key players within gangs identified and placed on a list
- all enforcement agencies should be engaged in targeting individuals identified as being involved in or associated with people who are involved with firearms.
- support to be given to young people who wish to exit gang life, with enhanced enforcement techniques being used against those who continue to engage in serious violence

The enforcement and consequences strand will be action taken by the Police and/or Council supported where appropriate by robust enforcement by the YOS and Probation. The menu of tactical options includes

- Intelligence gathering & Reactive Enquiries
- Proactive Operations – Test purchase
- Surveillance/Warrants/

- Patrols
- Intervention letters and home visits (Police & YOS/Probation)
- ABA/ASBO/ Gang Injunctions
- Disruption/Dispersal zones
- Mediation
- Housing enforcement including evictions
- Immigration investigations
- Parenting contracts/Orders
- Weapon seizures
- Arrests
- Search warrants
- Financial investigations

All levels - The Community Voice

The **Community Voice** strand will seek to increase community participation in helping to address gang issues and develop Restorative Justice and mediation capacity through third sector organisations. We will be identifying key champions in the voluntary sector to work alongside the multi-agency model. The involvement of community groups in intervention programmes will ensure that the messages heard by the individuals are not only from authority figures. The 'community voice' will raise awareness of the real impact of offending and make individuals aware that they are welcome back into their communities if they change their behaviour; it is the behaviour which is rejected, not the person. It is vital that this hard to engage group understand that by engaging with opportunities provided by this approach they are more likely to be received and welcomed back into their communities and to be able to maintain a non-offending lifestyle long-term.

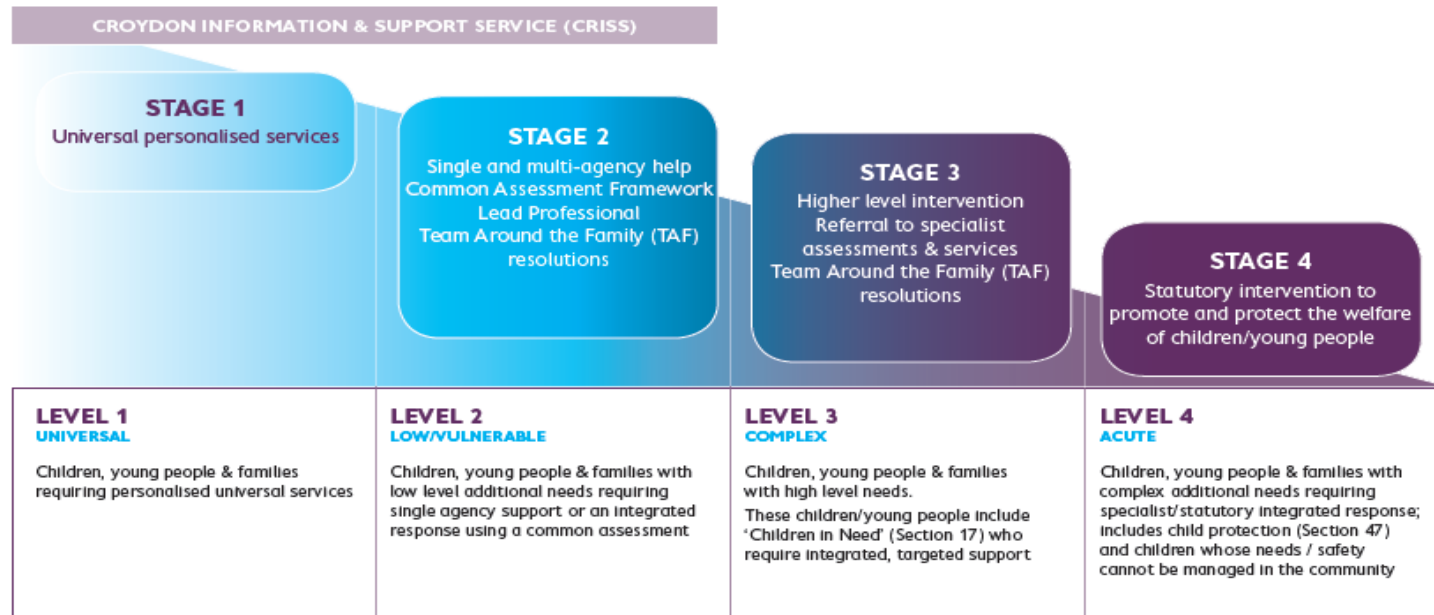
It is also anticipated that by working towards common goals, such as protecting our young people and ensuring we do all we can to help them realise their full potential, trust and confidence between local communities and the local authorities will also improve.

SAFEGUARDING AND LINKS WITH EARLY INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION SERVICES

Gang activity affects the safety and well-being of those involved, as well as the safety of their families and communities and this strategy reflects the approach outlined in 2009 protocol published by the London Safeguarding Children’s ‘Safeguarding Children Affected by Gang Activity and/or Serious Youth Violence’. We will therefore focus our support not only on those directly involved with serious youth violence, but also those who are not, or who are displaying behaviours which indicate that they will be involved in the future, for example, children, siblings and girlfriends of gang members.

Croydon is developing a staged approach to early help and intervention for children and families in Croydon. The Early Help and Staged intervention approach ”wedge model” in Croydon has been developed to help practitioners from all agencies understand the different levels of need as well as the support and services that are available at each stage.

Croydon’s Model of Staged Intervention



Croydon's model of early help and staged intervention identifies four levels of need

- Universal
- Low / vulnerable
- Complex
- Acute

Sexual Exploitation and domestic violence

Croydon tackles sexual exploitation issues from a multi-agency safeguarding stance through the Sexual Exploitation Protocol and Missing Children's Panel. To strengthen local capacity and develop a more joined up approach to issues of sexual exploitation and violence of young women and gangs we will be supported by voluntary sector organisations such as The Safer London Foundation and NSPCC. A key aspect of work is with young women and girls who are at risk of or experiencing sexual violence and exploitation.

The Government has also launched a two year inquiry by the Office of the Children's Commissioner's Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups (CSEGG0 to identify the scope, nature and extent of the sexual exploitation, victimisation and abuse that girls and boys in England are subjected by street gangs and loosely formed groups.

In regard to domestic violence Croydon has established a multi agency domestic violence project group to review its strategic approach to domestic violence in line with the national strategy "Call to End Violence against Women and Girls" Nov (2010). The Violence Against Women and Girls strategy 2010 (VAWG) has set out the range of serious violent crime types which are predominantly, but not exclusively, experienced by women and girls which include the following: Domestic Violence Rape and Sexual Violence; Female Genital Mutilation; Forced Marriage; Crimes in the name of "honour"; Sexual Harassment; Stalking; Trafficking; Prostitution/ Sexual Exploitation.

Croydon's domestic violence strategy (still in draft) aligns its definition of domestic violence and core objectives and outcomes with the national policy and outlines specific actions to include: improving identification, early intervention and support for young women affected by gangs and sexual violence, developing safe reporting mechanisms for girls experiencing serious youth violence including rape and sexual exploitation, encouraging greater learning.

Troubled Families

Croydon is a pilot Community Budget area and has developed an extensive multi-professional team that by March 2013 will have targeted 200 high cost complex families. It is governed by an overarching multi-agency group that includes clear linkages with the Integrated Offender Management Programme, Youth Offending Service including gangs, and Domestic Violence including Violence against Women and Girls.

It is proposed that the Troubled Families Initiative sits within the existing multi-agency governance structure and focuses on Integrated Service Improvement between the Community Budget and Troubled Families approaches, including gangs and youth violence work. The programme board will oversee a joint approach to Outcomes and Performance Management including data sharing tools and tracking. This work will be supported by the development of the MASH in Croydon. The intention is that at the delivery level the multi agency gang's team will be working closely with a lead worker in the Early Intervention Family Support Service and contribute to the MASH to ensure clear referral pathways and access to early intervention services.

MASH

The implementation of the MASH whilst in its early stages of development is timely as it will ensure greater analysis of the types of cases being referred to the partnership for example domestic violence services, gangs, sexual exploitation. Croydon recognises the significant benefits of a multi agency front door will be:-

- A single point of contact
- Greater information gathered from across the partnership at the referral stage which leads to better informed decision making on whether an initial assessment or early help is required
- Improved signposting
- Greater understanding of need for sharing of relevant information
- Co location enables improved understanding of partner disciplines which leads to a better and stronger more efficient joint working
- Enables partners to review thresholds and practice regularly using the staged intervention document.
- Improvement in the quality of screening with urgent referrals that come to the notice of the Public Protection Desk forwarded to the Intake Team thus enabling a quicker response
- Identification of mental health service users enabling specialist assessment of impact of mental health or substance misuse
- Leading to a greater analysis of the types of cases being referred to the partnership resulting in targeted commissioned work for example domestic violence services, gangs, sexual exploitation.

6. OUTCOME FRAMEWORK

- Increase the proportion of known gang members subject to a positive intervention
- Increase the number of most harmful gang nominal's in custody to 13.5% - approximately 22 nominal's
- Increase the number of most harmful gang nominal's subject to judicial restrictions (ASBO / gang injunction / Serious crime prevention order, violent offender order by 6% of the overall matrix number - approximately 10 offenders.
- Reduction in incidents of serious youth violence
- Reducing violent crime generally (including homicide, gun enabled crime, violence with injury and knife enabled crime)
- Reduction in involvement in high risk activities including gang-related behaviour
- Improve individuals' understanding of risk and personal safety
- Improved engagement with education, employment or training
- Effective links into other agencies and services e.g. sexual health, substance misuse, mental health, parenting support, positive activities etc as part of exit strategies
- Develop effective mediation and conflict resolution approaches to reduce rival gang violence
- Quarterly Multi-agency Practitioner Forums to be held, to empower front-line staff in identification of individuals vulnerable to gang affiliation and to improve responses

The above outcomes will be supported through the collation of the following information:

- Number of stop and search
- Number of arrests
- Number of gang related incidents
- Number of referrals to safe and secure / mediation services.
- Number of Police Merlin reports created for vulnerable or those coming to notice / at risk of gang related activity
- Asset seizures - financial investigations / value of assets seized - focus on gang members
- Total in custody
- Number of police Dedicated Source Unit referrals / tasks / information received
- Number of ASBOs / CRASBOs / Gang Injunction
- Number of live tactical plans on gangs.

Management of the strategy

The work plan for this strategy will be developed and managed by the Gangs Strategy Group and will report to the Safer Croydon Partnership. The partnership is chaired by Councillor Hoar Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Public Protection who oversees and co-ordinates the delivery of all crime and disorder related to priorities and projects across Croydon. The Partnership comprises of the Council, Police, NHS, Fire Authority, Probation, Metropolitan Police Authority, Business and Voluntary sector.

Monitoring the strategy

A Violent Crime Board will be established by the end of July 2012. This will provide strategic leadership to help tackle the complex issues involved in tackling gangs supported by the Croydon Connected Strategic Gangs Group, which will monitor all gang related work as detailed in the Strategy.

Appendix 1

Problem profile

Adult Offender Profile

There are currently 12 adults engaged on Pathways. The profile of the current adult nominals consists of:

- All males
- Ethnicity:
 - Black-10
 - Dual heritage-2
- Offences:
 - Poss. Class A-4
 - Off Weapon-4
 - Violent Disorder-3
 - Robbery-1

Youth Offender Profile

There are currently 35 youths engaged. There are an additional 15-20 young people who we know to be actively gang-involved. The profile of the current youth nominals consists of:

- All young males
- Ages:
 - 14 years-6
 - 15 years-11
 - 16 years-10
 - 17 years-8
- Ethnicity:
 - Black-28
 - Dual heritage-5
 - Asian-2
- Offences:
 - Violent Disorder-4

- Affray-5
- Off Weapon-9
- Robbery-11
- Poss. Drugs-5
- Firearms-1

The majority of these boys have been permanently excluded and are educated in PRUs. There are two females currently known to be gang-associated, however they are not thought to be influential in the gangs and therefore are not currently dealt with on Pathways. Their activity and association is monitored and information regularly relayed between YOS Officers and Gangs Workers to risk-assess.

Recent activity has seen an emergence of a new youth gang (PDC) that is concentrated in the northwest of the Borough, with links to an established Brixton gang. Characteristics of the group's behaviour include a high degree of recklessness, violence, and probable commissioning of robberies.

It is thought that the emergence of this gang has served to de-stabilise gang activity across Borough, resulting in an escalation of weapon carrying, increase in assaults against opposing gang-involved young people, and more geographical movement across the Borough resulting in increasing numbers reporting feeling unsafe (to attend appointments, go to school etc). Simultaneously, there also appears to have been a de-escalation in activity of some existing gangs (DSN, TID, STO), although intelligence indicates these gangs are still operative. This compares with an overall client base for the Youth Offending Service of 529 (for the period October 10 to September 11). 442 of these clients (83.5%) are male and 87(16.5%) are female.

The 2011 Strategic Assessment for all crime types shows a gender split of 84% males against 16 % females. However when violent crime, sexual offences, robbery and harassment are isolated the disparity shifts to 52% of victims being female. The problem age range is between 16 and 24. For violent crime the peak ages for those accused were 19 – 21 (329 allegations) and 22 – 24 (275 allegations). Possession of an offensive weapon has a lower age profile with peak numbers of accused in the 16 – 18 age range (62 allegations) and the 19 – 21 age range (36 allegations). Robbery including snatch had a younger profile yet.

The peak age occurred between 16 and 18 (90 allegations) with the second highest between 13 and 15 (75 allegations). The highest numbers of rape accused were in an older age range, 22 – 24, with six allegations. There were two age ranges with four allegations recorded; the 28 – 30 range but also the 16 – 18 range. The peak age range for Other Sexual Offences was 19 – 21 where six allegations were recorded.

Suspect Profile

Data for the period July 1st to December 30th 2011 has been extracted and analysed. The breakdown of suspects for weapon enabled and violence allegations shows that in the age range of 10 to 19 there were almost 6 males for every female. This is a significant change in the ratio of female suspects when compared to the analysis carried out for the Communities Against Guns, Gangs and Knives (CAGGK) bid in June 2011 which showed a ratio of 13 males to a single female.

Age	Female	Male	Total
10	3	7	10
11	2	10	12
12	14	21	35
13	8	56	64
14	30	128	158
15	50	204	254
16	43	295	338
17	66	299	365
18	48	405	453
19	37	256	293
Total	301	1,681	1,982

Table 1: Breakdown of suspects involved in violent and weapon enabled crime by sex and age, July to December 2011.

With the caveat that this analysis is based upon Suspect data which means there is generally an element of estimation, there are some variations in female: male ratios. At age 15 it is almost 4:1 while at age 18 it is over 8:1. The largest estimated cohort of females is at age 17 when 66 suspects were counted (giving a ratio of 4.5:1).

IC	F	M	Total	
1	49	175	224	37%
2	6	4	10	2%
3	75	253	328	54%

4	5	26	31	5%
5	1	3	4	0.7%
6	1	5	6	1.0%
Total	137	466	603	

Table 2: Breakdown of suspects aged 11 to 19 involved in violent and weapon enabled crime by sex and ethnicity, July to December 2011.

Please note that not all fields in crime records were completed, consequently there is not a match between totals for age and for ethnicity. Nor does the male : female ratio hold up. In the table above it is 2.4:1. Therefore it was necessary for suspect data for those aged 20 or over where there was an allegation of violent crime to be analysed.

	F	M	Total
20 - 24	105	395	500
25 - 29	72	332	404
30 - 34	57	249	306
35 - 39	61	188	249
40 - 44	55	226	281
45 - 49	35	144	179
50 - 54	26	102	128
55 - 59	14	38	52
60 - 64	2	24	26
65 - 69	1	11	12
70+	4	6	10
Total	432	1,715	2,147

Table 3: Breakdown of adult suspects involved in violent and weapon enabled crime by sex and age, July to December 2011.

IC	F	M	Total	
1	190	677	867	43%
2	14	49	63	3%
3	163	671	834	41%

4	33	191	224	11%
5	3	10	13	0.6%
6	1	13	14	0.7%
Total	404	1,611	2,015	

Table 4: Breakdown of adult suspects involved in violent and weapon enabled crime by sex and ethnicity, July to December 2011.

As already noted, data is incomplete so there is not a direct match between the total numbers of suspects in tables 3 and 4. However table 4 indicates a rough parity of 1:1 between IC1 and IC3 suspects whereas in table 3 the ratio of IC1 to IC3 is roughly 2:3.

Allegations of violence data

The volume of allegations attributed to suspects aged between 10 and 19 in table 5 (below, page 7) is equivalent to approximately 22% of the volume of suspects in the table 1 (above, page 5). The figures in these tables were derived from the same dataset. There are multiple suspects for single allegations. This is suggestive that where violent incidents occur, involving young people in this age range, there is a high degree of group offending.

Current classification	Count	%age
A.B.H. & M/Wound	186	42%
Affray	17	4%
Air Weapon	2	0.4%
Bladed Article	8	2%
Common Assault	107	24%
G.B.H.	42	9%
Offensive Weapon	11	2%
Possession Firearm	3	0.7%
Prohibited weapons	5	1.1%
Public Order	44	10%
Rape	19	4%
Threat to kill	1	0.2%
Total	445	

Table 5: Violent and weapon enabled allegations where suspects were aged 10 to 19, July to December 2011.

The most significant allegation types were Actual Bodily Harm and Common Assault which accounted for 66% of allegations in Table 3 (page 6). Grievous Bodily Harm had been occurring at a high rate in the data analysed for the CAGGK report, but these have fallen back to a more normal rate.

Table 6, below, contains information relating to adult suspects. The volume of allegations is much closer to the total number of adult suspects, indicating a lower rate of group offending than indicated above. The adult ratio is 1.2 suspects per allegation compared to 4.5 for those aged 10 to 19.

Current classification	Count	%age
A.B.H. & M/Wound	844	46%
Affray	24	1.3%
Bladed Article	20	1.1%
Common Assault	590	32%
G.B.H.	97	5%
Kidnap	4	0.2%
Offensive Weapon	25	1.4%
Murder	4	0.2%
Possession Firearm	11	0.6%
Prohibited weapons	8	0.4%
Public Order	159	9%
Rape	62	3%
Threat to kill	3	0.2%
Total	1,851	

Table 6: Violent and weapon enabled allegations where suspects were aged 20 and over, July to December 2011.

Temporal profile

Time of day

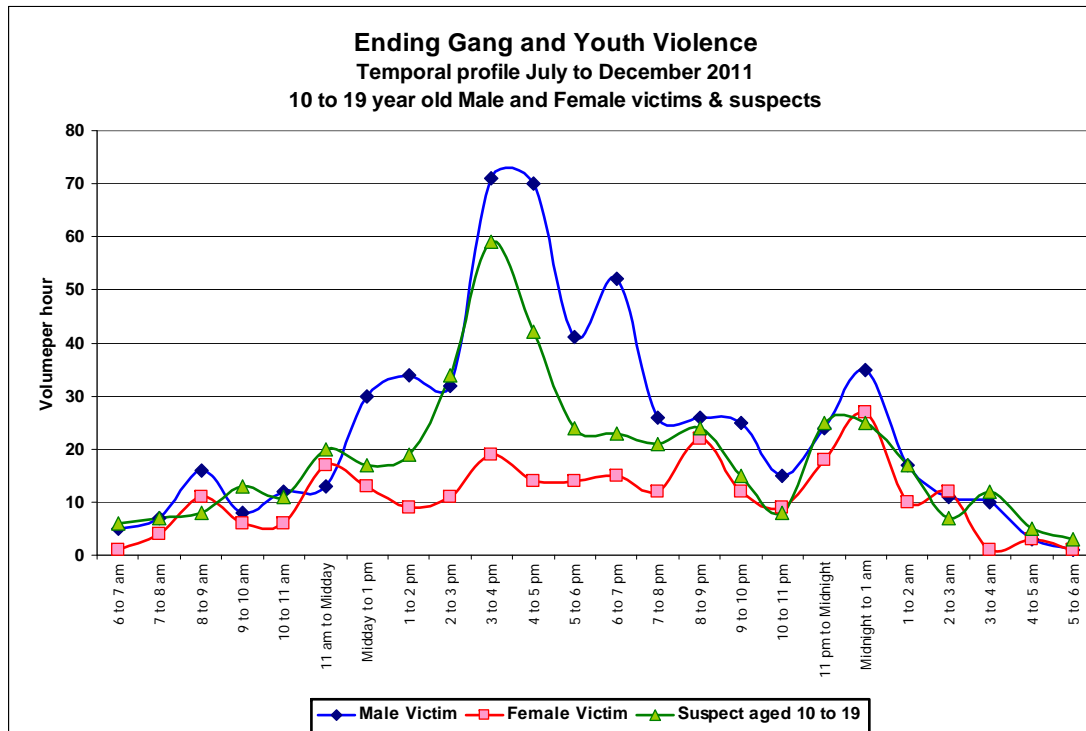


Chart 1: Weapon enabled allegations from July to December 2011 showing frequency of time of day for victimisation of males and females and frequency where suspects appeared to be 19 or under. (Note chart runs from minimum activity period from 6 a.m. to 6 a.m.)

Peak victimisation for males occurs between 4 and 7 p.m. coinciding with schools closing and then carrying on into the early evening period.

The female victimisation peak occurs slightly later in the evening between 8 and 9 p.m. although there is a slight bump in volume earlier at school closing time.

In chart 1, apart from a couple of minor anomalies seen in the rise in male victims between midday and 2 p.m., and later on between 6 and 7 there is a good correlation between the two victim plots and how they are tracked by the suspect plot.

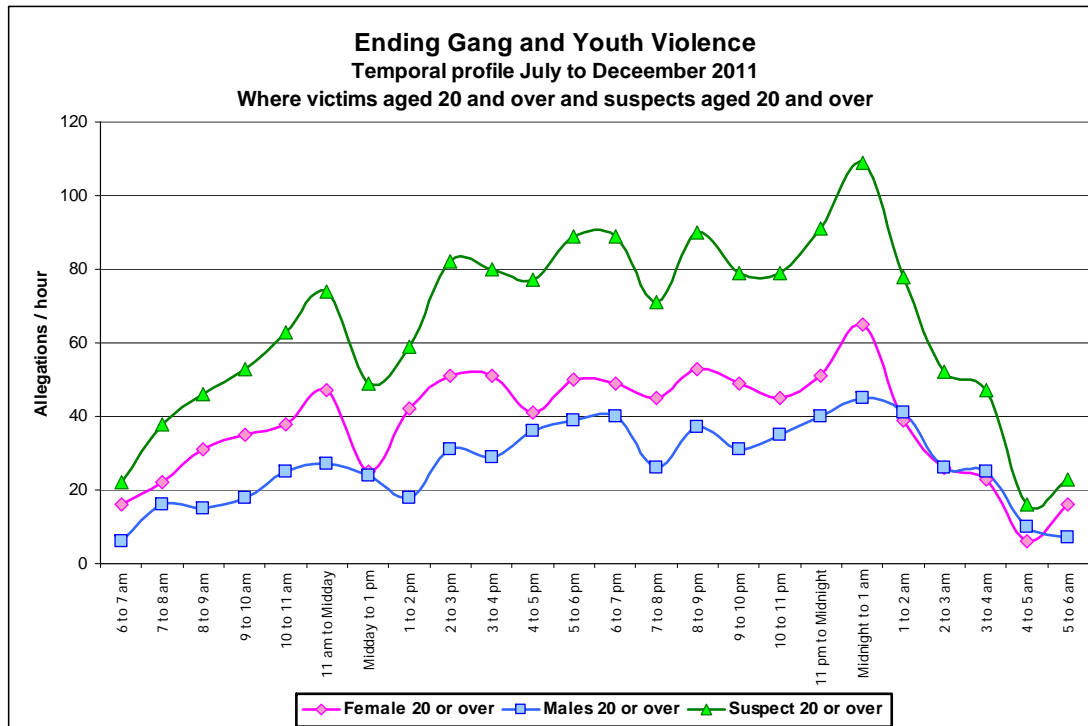


Chart 2: Weapon enabled allegations from July to December 2011 showing frequency for time of day of victimisation of males and females aged 20 or over where suspects appeared to be 20 or over.

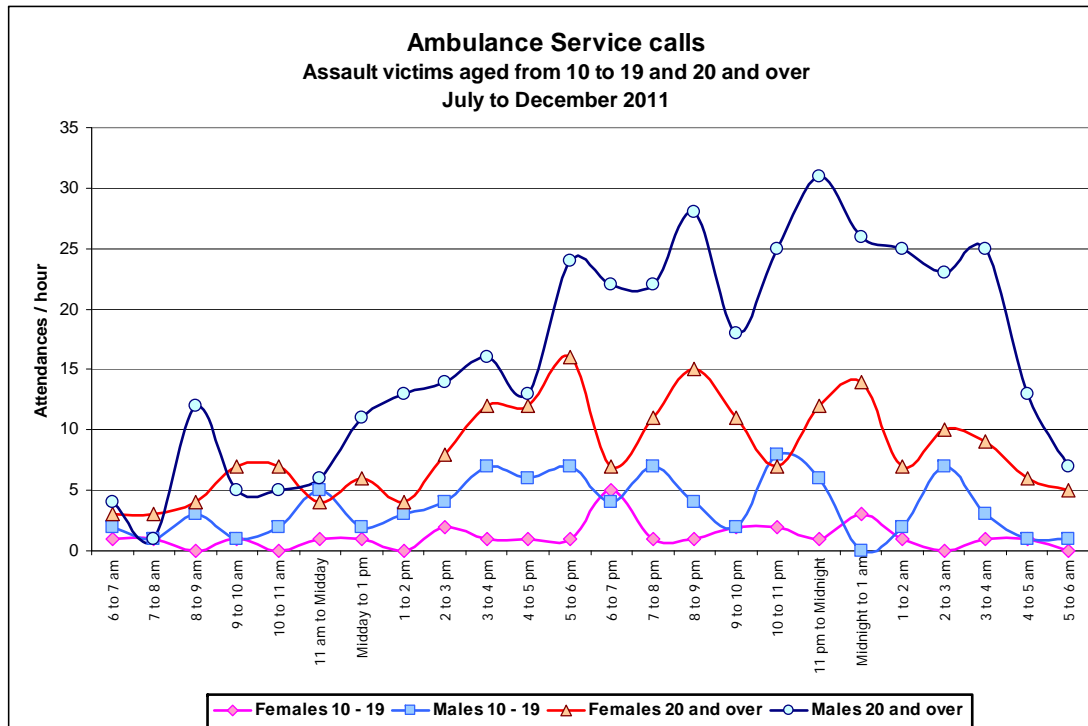


Chart 3: Victims of assault from July to December 2011 showing frequency of attendance by LAS by time of day.

Chart 2 indicates a firmer correlation between the plots for female victims and suspects and that for suspects than it does for male victims.

In chart 3 females aged from 10 – 19 were seen to have a low requirement for the ambulance service for most of the day. Between 6 and 7 p.m. and midnight and 1 a.m. there were slight increases in their need.

Males aged from 10 – 19 had a fairly low, but consistent need from 3 to 8 p.m. with peak need arising between 10 p.m. and midnight. There were also increased need in the mornings between 2 and 3 and later in the hour up to midday.

Day of the week

	Victims aged 10 - 19	Victims aged 20 or over	Ambulance 10 - 19	Ambulance 20 or over
Sunday	68	363	20	88
Monday	76	267	19	68
Tuesday	59	255	17	72
Wednesday	71	291	18	86
Thursday	52	283	5	82
Friday	60	335	18	90
Saturday	59	383	19	111

Table 7: Peak days relating to violent or weapon enabled crime.

Table 7 shows Saturday was the peak day with respect to adult victims aged 20 or over. The highest numbers of allegations and ambulance call outs occurred then. Friday was the second highest day for ambulance call outs for adults and the third highest for violent crime victims. Friday was slightly over average for ambulance call outs.

Among 10-19 year olds Monday was the peak day with above average totals recorded on both Wednesdays and Sundays. There was little variation for ambulance call outs for 10 – 19 year olds, except for Thursdays which were significantly low.

Victim profile

Age Group	Female	Male	All	%
10 to 19	367	435	802	77%
20 to 29	31	55	86	8%
30 to 39	23	35	58	6%
40 to 49	28	31	59	6%
50 to 59	11	18	29	3%
60 +	3	5	8	1%
Total	463	579	1,042	

Table 8: Victims of weapon enabled violence where suspects were estimated at being aged between 10 and 19, broken down by age and sex.

The data from table 8 is amplified below in chart 3, with a further breakdown of age bands.

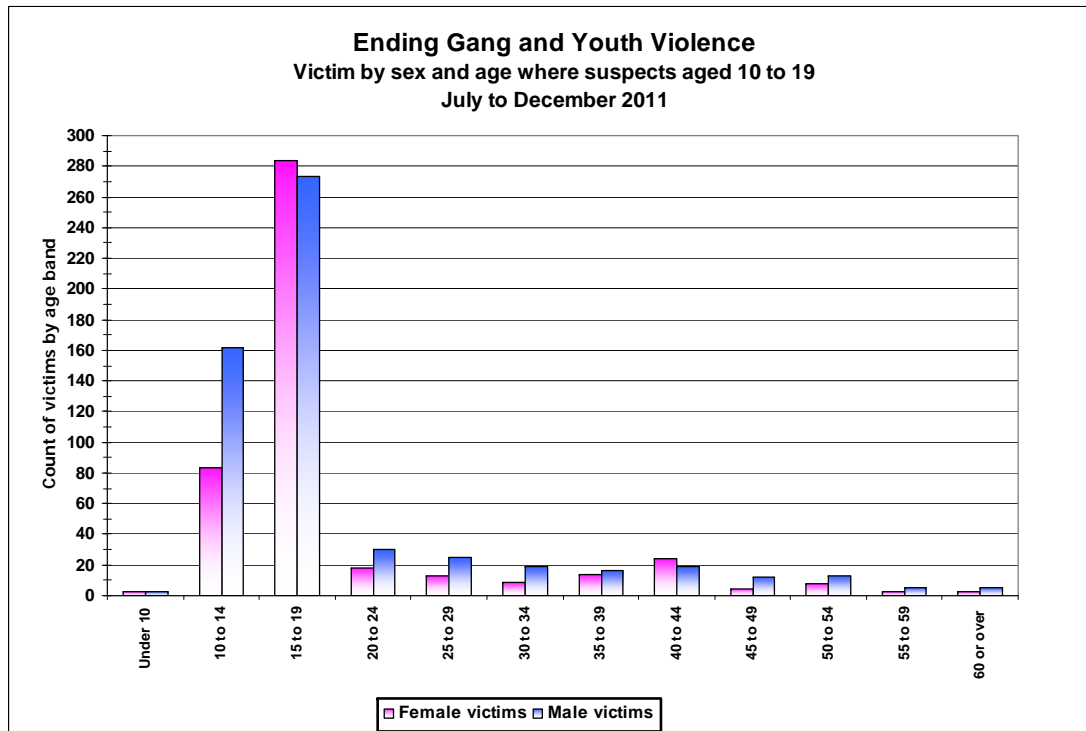


Chart 4: Victims in pentad age bands where the suspects were aged from 10 to 19 years old.

Age Group	Female	Male	All	%
10 to 19	75	83	158	9%
20 to 29	387	215	602	35%
30 to 39	248	193	441	26%
40 to 49	183	135	318	19%
50 to 59	77	61	138	8%
60 +	21	37	58	3%
Total	991	724	1,715	

Table 9: Victims of weapon enabled violence where suspects were estimated at being aged 20 or over, broken down by age and sex.

The data in table 9 is illustrated below in greater detail by chart 4 (page 12).

These data tables and charts indicate the vast majority of victims of those aged 10 to 19 are in that same age range. In all, where suspects fell into the 10 to 19 age range, 78% of victims were also in that age range (81% of female victims and 75% of male victims).

Where suspects were aged 20 or over only 14% of victims were between 10 and 19 (8% of females and 6% of males). The largest victim group were those aged 29 to 29. 32% of victims were found in that age band.

There was a total of 635 female victims of violence in the age range running from 20 to 39 where the suspects were aged 20 or over compared to 408 male victims. Proportionally there were 56% more female victims than males in this age range.

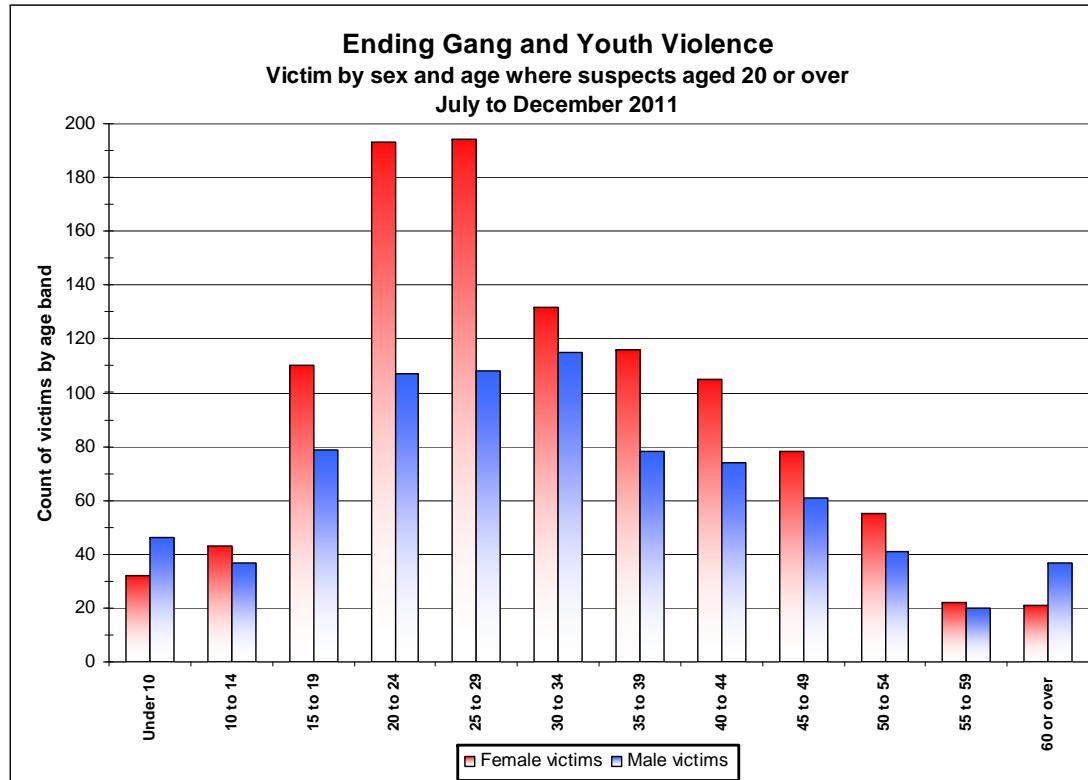


Chart 5: Victims in pentad age bands where the suspects were aged 20 years old or over.

A complementary dataset relating to victims was provided by London Ambulance Service (LAS). Data relating to assaults between July and December was analysed. It shows a very different picture. The total volume of victims recorded by LAS was 347, one third of the 1,043 derived from police records, males exceeded females by 67% (217 compared to 130). Chart 8 below illustrates the differences.

Age Group	Female	Male	All	%
Under 10		3	3	0.4%
10 to 19	28	88	116	17%
20 to 29	73	129	202	29%
30 to 39	57	88	145	21%
40 to 49	18	70	88	13%
50 to 59	14	33	47	7%
60 +	15	15	30	4%
Unknown	21	48	69	10%
Total	226	474	700	

Table 10: Victims of assaults by age and sex as recorded by the London Ambulance Service, July to December 2011.

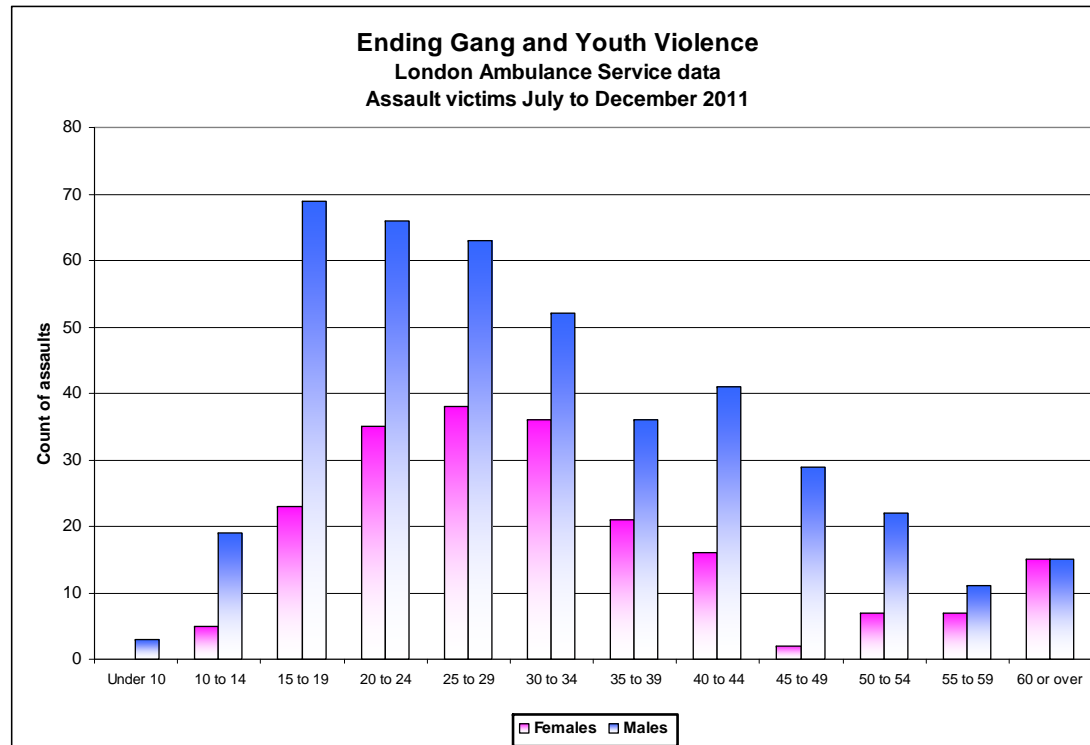


Chart 6: Victims of assault, in pentad age bands, who were attended to by the London Ambulance Service, July to December 2011.

The LAS data shows that for males 15 to 19 is the peak age band for their services gradually declining with age. Female victims show a steady increase up to the age of 25 to 29 when it peaks with a similarly steady decline.

The LAS data suggests that while crime allegation data shows that there were more female victims of violent crime than males, males are suffering more serious incidents of violence requiring assistance from paramedics.

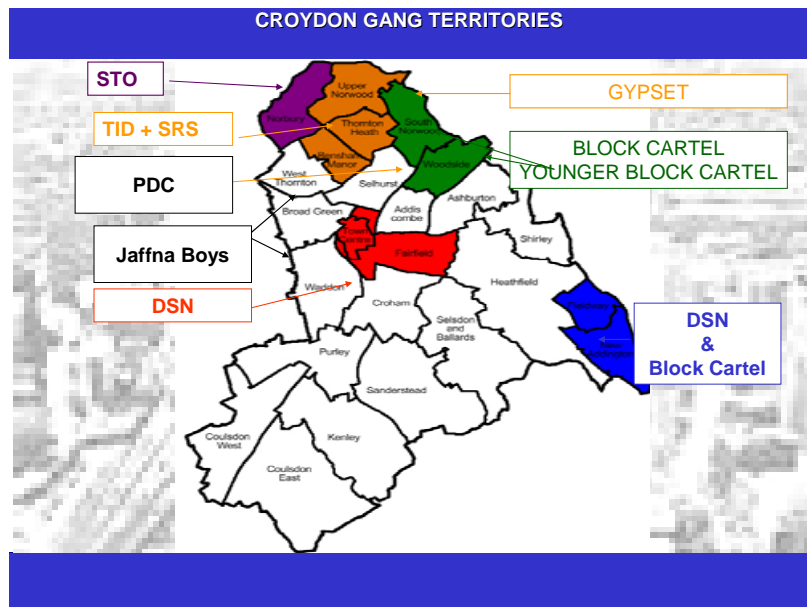
The most vulnerable age band can be seen to be males aged 15 to 19 although there is little difference from the 20 to 24 and 25 to 29 age bands. Given that we noted above the crime allegation data indicates victims are attacked by multiple persons, this data suggests that the group attacks are causing serious injury.

We could also infer (although further investigation would be required to confirm or refute this) from the time of day and day of week data that much of the violence involving males aged over 20 was associated with alcohol related violence linked to late night, weekend socialising.

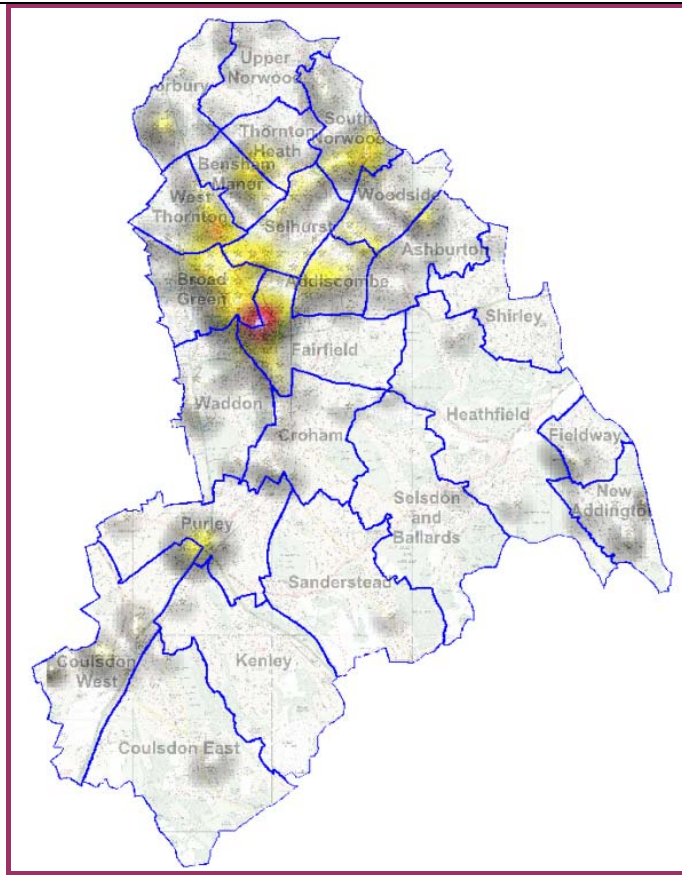
Location data.

Map 1 indicates that the most significant hotspot in this borough is Croydon Town Centre, Broad Green, Selhurst, West Thornton and Woodside wards.

Croydon town centre has a high number of pubs and clubs, although there is not currently any one establishment that is being linked with particular problems. Comparing Map 2 with Map 1 indicates that there is significant overlap between the violent crime hotspots and gang territories.



Map 1



Map 2

Map 2: Hotspots for violent crime in Croydon October to December 2011.