



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LCBB4002



ASSESSMENT 1

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1. INTRODUCTION

The London Borough of Haringey is a district located in North London. The borough of Haringey is very diverse, presenting a mixed group of backgrounds as well as a high immigrant rate. This borough takes great pride in presenting a strong connection between its communities.



Figure 1, London Borough of Haringey

In recent years, even during the Covid 19 pandemic, violent crime in Haringey boroughs is happening faster than in London, especially among young people under 25. This serious youth violence is an issue of great concern for young people in Haringey. Combating this violence is one of the borough's top priorities.

The borough's commitment is that all young people and children grow up free and away from the fear and experience of violence. That is why Haringey has developed the Borough Plan, which consists of a series of strategies to build

strong families, networks, and communities. That is, to encourage all residents to live well and fulfil their potential.

In 2019 the Borough Plan was published, within it is a set of strategies that is based on achieving 5 key points. The fifth is that which relates to youth safety and violence prevention. One of the priority actions that the Borough has focused on is Early Help which focuses on giving support to families when a problem emerges, it can be provided at any stage of life.

2. Haringey-The local context

Haringey is a district covering an area of approximately 29 km², with a population of approximately 266,350. According to Haringey Census statistics, it is estimated:

- 49.5% of the population is male and 50.5% female.
- 25% of the total population is aged between 0 and 24, this is a higher figure than in London.
- 63% of the population are non-white British, this is higher than both London (around 55%) and England as a whole.

Knife Injury Victims Aged Under 25 & Lethal Barrelled Firearm Discharges Hotspots

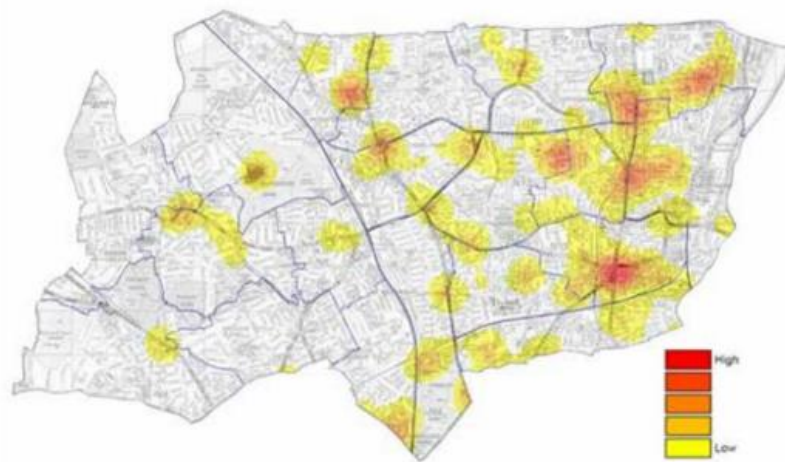


Figure 2, Haringey Knife Victims

The population of Haringey is surrounded by a place that has a rich history, strong and vibrant diverse communities, and excellent transport links. Residents of Haringey report higher levels of satisfaction with life, but there are high levels of violence, particularly youth violence.

In June 2020, just after the first lockdown due to Covid 19, according to estimates Haringey has the highest rate of juvenile knife and injury crime, with 6.2 incidents per 10,000 people. Many of these crimes come from black and black-Caribbean communities. (Service, 2022)

In the central area and in the east, high levels of risk factors for poor mental health, deprivation, and unemployment due to the pandemic closure period caused severe trauma in young people. This has also given an advantage to the exploitation of young people in criminal activities by adults, such as the use of young people for transportation and drug sales, which impose a lot of violence and physical, mental, and sexual harm.

3. Haringey Borough Plan

Haringey Borough is committed to tackling youth violence and supporting all young residents to create a positive pathway for their growth. Youth violence has very devastating consequences for all young people in the borough, as a system it must address all causes and impacts.

The Haringey Borough Plan supports a vision where there are strong families in the borough with strong networks and strong communities working together.

The Haringey Borough Plan strategy focuses on achieving 5 key points, where the fifth is the one that focuses on youth violence. This sets out how to go about creating a foundation for young people to succeed and have ambitions for their life path.

The strategy in the fifth key point for young people is to create a plan to reduce and prevent serious violence in the area in the long term. The strategy uses a system-wide approach in which the community and young people themselves work together to build positive pathways to growth.

The main cause of youth violence is vulnerability, the Haringey Borough Plan strategy is based on the strong evidence of this problem. Intervention seeks to cultivate protective factors that keep all young people safe and away from violent environments.

Here we will outline some key points on which this strategy focuses.

Strong community

A strong and united community where protection is provided for all young people, where there are positive activities and role models where every young person finds their own space.

Key measures for success:

- Residents who feel safe at any time of the day.
- Young people with positive perceptions towards local authorities, such as the police.
- Community that feels involved in supporting the safety of its young people.
- Creating spaces and activities for young people, such as spaces dedicated to sport and physical activity.

Strong families and healthy relationships

Healthy and supportive families, where the family and home environment is optimal without high levels of stress and conflict. Positive and trusting relationships with adults and peers, especially parents.

Key measures for success:

- No domestic abuse, if it happens intervene immediately with lots of support.
- Economic support to families in need and try to facilitate getting a job.
- A lot of support for parents, especially in cases of single parents.
- Try to direct young people to professionals for any support.

Mental health and positive thinking

Young people are confident and confident. In case of problems they try to deal with the problem in a positive and stress-free way. They seek help in case of need and try to maintain positive behaviour.

Key measures for success

- John satisfied with his life at the time.
- Talking to someone and feeling listened to. In case of need very easy to find help.
- Supporting young people in times of anxiety.
- Informing young people about drugs and all the harm they cause.

Opportunities and outcomes

All young people with positive aspirations for the future, good grades at school and adequate support to realise their ambitions.

Key measures for success

- Good educational attainment from an early age.
- Addressing each young person's weaknesses in a professional way and trying to give the best support.
- No discrimination and no barriers of any kind.
- Give all young people the same opportunities.

This strategy is aimed at all young people in Haringey, support as they grow up is essential to keep them away from environments that lead them astray.

(haringey, 2021)

4. Early Help

To achieve the outcomes of the Haringey Borough Plan strategy, an action based on Early Help has been addressed.

4.1. What is Early Help?

Early Help refers to a range of counselling, educational, medical, or therapeutic measures at an early stage of the problem's development. The starting point for early intervention is a dangerous situation of an individual or a social system. Early intervention can be implemented in different settings, including school, community, family, leisure, public space. Or for different issues including addiction, violence, delinquency, social disintegration, for people of all ages. (Ward, 2010)

4.2. Why invest in Early Help?

Providing effective support and early help to families can prevent complex problems from occurring. That is:

- Investing in early help reduces dependence on the system and the demand for specialists.
- Services provided to mothers during pregnancy and to families when children are under 5 years old have a great impact on people's lives.
- Initial help is provided locally. families are supported by the community to involve them and help them to define their goals.

- Support from the district is not limited to services such as health care, schools, but also to support on how to plan services for families to help them in their own lives.
- Working with families at all levels of need, from the earliest possible stage, helps them to get effective support before problems escalate. Monitoring the progress of individual children can identify what support and needs need to be addressed from the outset.

This action defines the strategic approach to prevention, early help and intervention for children, young people, and families. This is based on "Everyone makes prevention and early help a priority". Everyone sees the need for early action as their responsibility and understands what they can do.

All organizations in the district work together with the community with proactive support to resolve concerns quickly. Working alongside parents, families, and children to help them be more effective in developing a positive and peaceful environment for their children. (Haringey, 2022)

4.3. Early Help - THE APPROACH

Haringey's Early Help is a partnership approach in which they work with schools and health colleagues to think about how to better coordinate support and help for families who may be experiencing challenges or problems.



Figure 3, Haringey Early Help System

Part of the work that Early Help does is working with families affected by crime and anti-social behavior. This is crucial work, it's important to reduce further incidents and escalation. And one of the other areas that Family Support Workers works in is domestic abuse. So, the work that you do with families is to reduce the risk to help them be in a safer environment. You go and talk to families about the impact of domestic violence and the impact on children, the impact on them to get positive and safer outcomes for the whole family.

One of the designs that was created is the workshops, designed for parents who wanted to be able to have a space of their own where they could express their challenges, their frustrations, the

difficulties they find in parenting without the fear of being judged, and a space where they could have a conversation about how to develop more positive strategies that they could also use at home.

The family careers are a great help to the community, they are available at any time if you have any problems, for support both remotely and in person.

Early Help works in partnership with the Health Visiting Team, it also works with schools, it works in partnership to meet the needs that have been identified.

It works in partnership with the Department of Work and Pensions which is linked with the job center and where they have a dedicated Work Coach for families in need.

Crucial in ensuring that individual benefits are in place, they give access to ongoing support even when they enter employment - which could be for example for clothes, help with childcare, help with travel costs.

Early Help is useful because it helps families from the beginning, which leads to a happy family environment and to children growing up in a positive environment.

This leads to the young people having the right climate around them to follow their dreams in a healthy and happy way. (Ann Graham, 2022)

5. Conclusion:

The district of Haringey has a very serious problem of youth violence, it has seen an increase with Covid 19. Youth violence is very high in this district, having a very high rate of young people, the district needs to take immediate action to solve this problem.

Haringey is trying to combat this factor, such as in drafting the Haringey Borough Plan is implementing a long term strategic approach to protect young people from this risk by implementing a series of plans and actions. This plan is focused on creating a safe environment for the whole community, with each member of the community playing their part. There are many approaches in the plan, but one of the priorities it is addressing is to try to prevent the problems that then lead a young person into unhealthy living.

The Early Help strategy is to give support to families for very early intervention where a child is given the opportunity to grow up in a peaceful environment, both within the family and within their community. Family support is crucial at this stage, as helping each family member is of utmost importance for a peaceful community future. Creating an ideal environment and climate within families and in the community is of utmost importance.

In this way, the child, who will later become a young person in his or her own community, will find himself or herself surrounded by a healthy climate, far from crime and violence, which will enable him or her to focus his or her energies on getting the best education and then succeeding in the workplace.

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