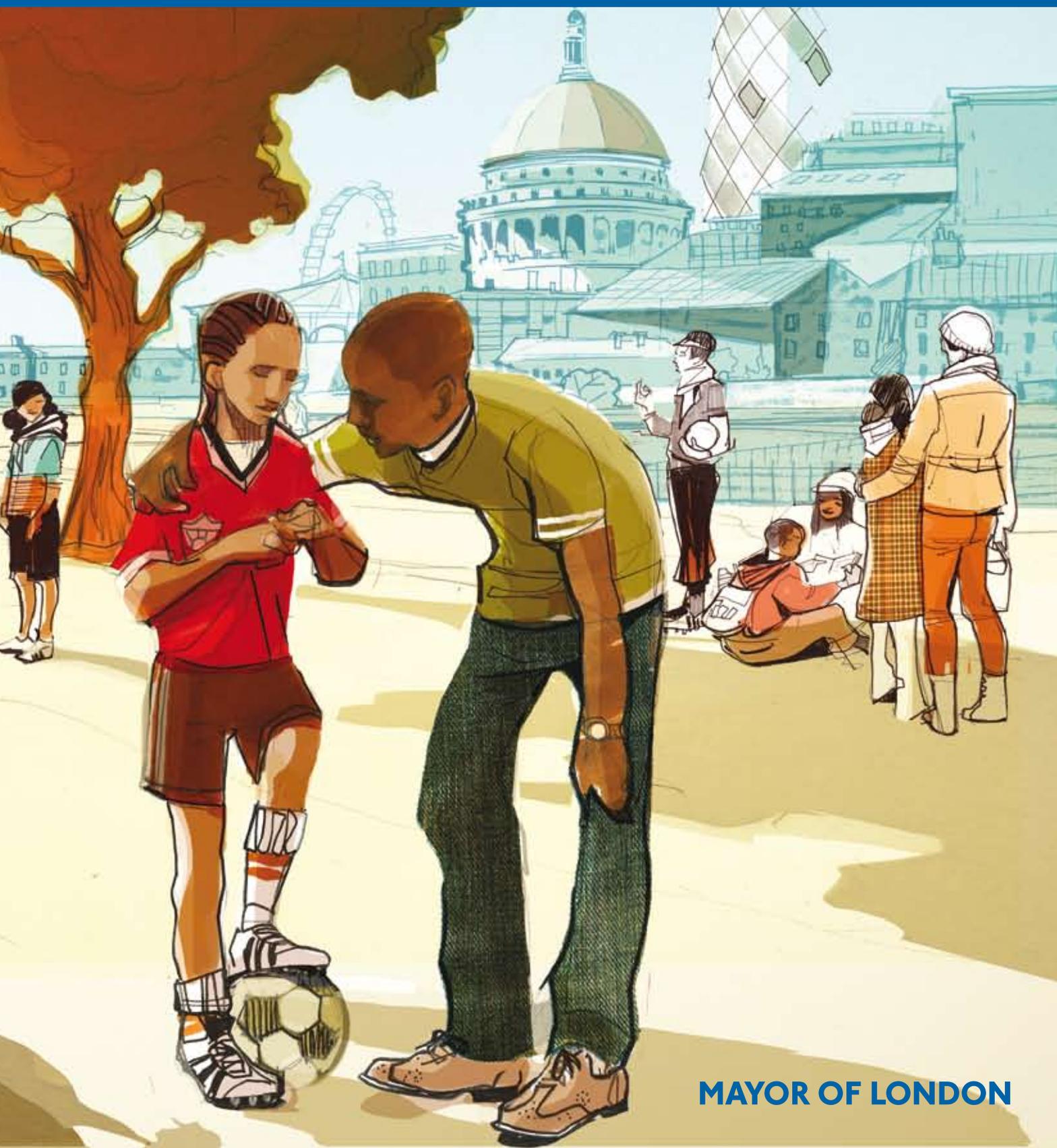


November 2008

Time for Action

Equipping Young People for the Future and Preventing Violence - the Mayor's proposals and call to partners



MAYOR OF LONDON

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**Equipping Young People for the Future and Preventing Violence -
the Mayor's proposals and call to partners**

**Greater London Authority
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Mayor's foreword

by Boris Johnson, Mayor of London

So many of us are lucky in our childhoods. We grow up with parents who love us. We grow up in households with books, and the concept of a shared family meal followed by an amicable but decisive argument about whose turn it is to do the washing-up.

We are given boundaries, and discipline, and by the judicious application of reasonable punishment we acquire a sense of right and wrong. From our very earliest years we are encouraged to think of ourselves as achievers. We see role models all around us, and we genuinely believe we could follow in the steps of that person. We develop ambition, and we take steps to make our ambitions come true.

So many children are growing up in London without any such ambition, without any real sense of what they can achieve. It is a sad comment on the educational politics of the last few decades that the material gap between rich and poor has widened so dramatically. There is more child poverty in London than anywhere else in Britain. But the real poverty is spiritual, emotional and intellectual.

Too many children are growing up without boundaries, and therefore without a coherent sense of their identity or the role they could play



in this society. They lack respect and self-respect, and though they seem to lack shame, their cockiness often masks a fragility and anger that no one has taken the trouble to give them discipline or give them hope.

It is this minority of children, inevitably, that is tempted or bullied into crime, with all the consequent destruction for their lives and the lives of those around them. It is their behaviour that can sap the morale of teachers, cast a pall of apprehension over the top deck of a bus, and impair the educational opportunities of other children.

Of course we need to be tough on any kind of criminal activity, and there is no substitute for strong policing solutions. But we also need to recognise that there are huge opportunities to help these youngsters, before their lives go irretrievably wrong.

In the last 18 months I have met literally hundreds of people – social entrepreneurs, teachers, pastors, charity workers, social workers – all working for different organisations dedicated to changing the lives of young people. It is our job in the new London mayoralty to give this sector every possible encouragement and support. I do not believe it makes sense to try to impose some

kind of systematisation of this effort, though it would be useful to have a clearer sense of where there is provision, and where there are gaps.

It is our job to champion and recognise the achievements of these groups, and, where possible, to give financial help. That is why we support the Mayor's Fund for



London, an independent charity of which I am the patron, and that is why we are today announcing our programme for action. We are focusing on the critical moments when things can go wrong: early years, the transition to secondary school, the entry to the job market and the disastrous consequences of incarcerating young offenders without a serious strategy for education and rehabilitation, particularly during their first time inside.

Our emphasis is on education – basic education in reading, writing and maths. It is on helping parents, and encouraging volunteering, especially on projects that will lead to the greening and beautification of the city, as well as championing sport, with all its potential for generating teamwork and emotional maturity.

Neither Kit Malthouse nor I are so naïve as to believe that we can crack this problem, and certainly not crack it on our own. We know how much we have to gain from the experiences of the London boroughs, and others who have been working for so long in this field.

But no one should underestimate our determination to make a difference, and to make a start. This is not just a strategy to tackle

knife crime. It is an attempt to unleash the talents of thousands of young people across London who are not being given the opportunities they deserve.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Boris Johnson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Boris Johnson
Mayor of London



Introduction

by Kit Malthouse, Deputy Mayor for Policing

A dreadful number looms over London.

As I write it is 27: The number of teenagers stabbed, shot, beaten to death on London's streets in 2008. By the time you read this, it may well have risen.



Since May we have worked with the Met to fight this violence. Operation Blunt 2 has taken thousands of knives off the streets. Operation Tyrol will put hundreds more crime fighters on the transport system. There will be more assertive work by the police in the months to come.

During the election campaign, Boris's insistence that urgent action was needed to stop the killings caught the mood of Londoners. Of course, many politicians promise to cut crime. What was different, though, was the realisation that simply locking up young people in ever-increasing numbers would never be the real answer. Alongside rigorous law enforcement, he asserted that solutions are complex and lie in longer-term work that may take years.

There was also a recognition that while there is a swarm of activity taking place across London, all loosely based on "intervention and diversion", performance is patchy at best. Many of the organisations in the field, small and large alike, can't

show that what they are doing works or offers value for money. There isn't any sense of a pan London strategy or consensus about where to go next. Lots of money is being spent, driven more by guilt than conviction, and often with scant evidence of results.

So on 2 May the work of tackling this issue started in earnest, based on four principles:

- Working with other organisations is the only way to get things done in London;
- Duplication of effort is a waste of effort;
- As an organisation, we have limited but powerful tools at our disposal; and
- Our job is to be strategic and set the direction of travel.

In addition, both the Mayor and I brought certain beliefs to the process. The first and most important of these is faith in the power of education over entertainment. Boris summed this up succinctly in his speech to the

Conservative Party conference earlier this year:

“People have invested a lot of money in expensive sound equipment intended to turn youngsters into rappers and DJs but I’d like to see some more effort going into basic literacy and mathematics.”

Our other conviction was the profound value of self-discipline and self-respect. Ultimately any young person holds the solutions to their problems in their own hands. They will take the decisions that set the course of their lives. We can persuade and educate and cajole all we want, but we will achieve nothing unless we help young people value their own lives and futures.

We also recognised that focus is important. Better to do a few things very well than try to do many things, and do them all badly.

So between May and October we met with myriad groups and individuals to outline our intentions, listen, and seek support. Organisations large and small, grieving parents and relatives, charities, councillors and many, many young people, spoke with intensity about what was going wrong and where solutions might lie. We heard many frank and moving stories.

There was thoughtful concern about the awkward transition phases in a young person’s life when things can go wrong: the entry to primary school, the switch to secondary, and then the movement into the job market. The lack of role models and disciplined activities also featured large. The youth justice system aroused particular passion, with a general acceptance that while many young offenders deserved to be locked up, incarcerating them in what amount to crime academies, was counter-productive.

This exasperated outpouring of strong feeling was overlaid with a profound sense of sadness that the appalling behaviour of a small group was colouring our views of all young people, filling adults and kids alike with fear and mistrust.

With all that in mind, we made a start, and this document is the first step. Next comes the planning stage. There will undoubtedly be amendments, and more themes added in the months to come, but for the moment we will be working with our partners on six core projects:

1. Giving young offenders in custody for the first time the life tools that will enable careers other than professional criminality. It makes sense on all levels, even financially.

2. Teachers can only educate kids if they are actually in school. Truancy needs more co-ordinated and assertive effort.
3. Only a tiny minority of children in care go to university. They are much more likely to end up in prison. We want to change these numbers.
4. Their behaviour shows that too many young people lack self-respect and what used to be called "character". Uniformed children's organisations know a lot about character, and we need their help.
5. Sport can unify and redeem. Healthy bodies lead to healthy minds, and we want more sporty, active kids in our city.
6. Quality and results matter. We have to establish what really works and then spread the news.

In addition to these themes, Boris wants to support the establishment of some specialist academies across London to help equip the city and its youth with the skills needed for our future.

We will also work to portray a positive image of our young people, most of whom have perfectly normal ambitions and dreams.

The publication of this document represents the beginning of a smarter, more focussed approach. We have a

busy few months ahead of us as we work together to make these projects happen. And in that time we want your views: details of how to respond to this consultation are at the back of the document. Please let us have them before Christmas.

Some people may decide not to help in our endeavours. Vested interests and personal animosity will bar progress, and of course party politics may well get in the way. But we come to this project with an open hand, an honest approach and the certainty that we can only succeed if we do this together.



Kit Malthouse

Deputy Mayor for Policing



Executive Summary

Overview

About a quarter of Londoners are under 19 years old. You see these young people everywhere: making their way home from school on the Tube, playing football with their mates, queuing for the cinema. We don't need to worry about the vast majority of them.

But a minority of the capital's youth engage in destructive behaviour, in violent acts that devalue themselves, their communities and our city. Armed with bravado, they take decisions whose enormity and consequence they do not recognise. This document is aimed at them. Its purpose is not to philosophise or navel gaze. Instead, it sets out practical strategies for harnessing and re-directing the energies that lead to youth violence.

For while the current level of teenage murders grabs headlines and seizes the imagination, it is simply the most dramatic sign of a deeper culture of violence that requires an urgent, broad-based and long-term response.

The only way to tackle this issue is by working together. And make no mistake: there are countless organisations and agencies in London committed to challenging this insidious and growing problem. Our starting point, then, was not to ask what more we can do. Instead we

asked ourselves how to be smarter, more focused and more strategic. We engaged partners and agencies in discussions about approaches and delivery, and identified two essential contributions the Mayor can make:

- to provide leadership, and
- to use the resources of the GLA Group – and especially the Metropolitan Police and the London Development Agency – to facilitate programmes in which the Group can play a key role, alongside partners whose work will maximise effectiveness.

The Mayor's programme for action presents young people that may have a tendency towards violence with alternatives to the choices they've made by giving them the tools to imagine and build a better future. At the same time, it provides all young people across London with positive opportunities to develop themselves and engage with their peers.

The Mayor's programme focuses on these areas:

- supporting young people who are in custody for the first time (Project Daedalus);
- keeping young people in education (Project Brodie);
- Mayor's Scholars, London Academies and Apprentices;

- developing character and responsibility (Project Titan);
- expanding sport and music opportunities; and
- establishing and disseminating what works best (Project Oracle).

While each of these programmes has its own focus and goals, they will undoubtedly be most effective when they complement and reinforce one another. They are also designed to provide help and stability through the “pressure points” in childhood: the awkward, transitional periods when young people often stumble and occasionally fall.

In addition, the Mayor has supported the establishment of the Mayor’s Fund for London, chaired by Sir Trevor Chinn. This innovative programme is raising private funds to help tackle a wide range of issues, including youth opportunity, and will be working closely with the Mayor to enable and help where it can.

We should, however, note that the Mayor recognises that child poverty is one of the fundamental issues at the heart of youth violence. Because this issue is being tackled through the London Child Poverty Commission, it is not directly addressed in this document, although many of the actions

proposed here will help address some of the causes of child poverty.

Of course, these ambitious initiatives will only be sustainable with the input and participation from the communities where much of this crime occurs. This includes the young people who are most affected by violent crime, and the climate of fear it has created. Our plans start and end with them.

A smarter approach to young people in custody for the first time – Project Daedalus

Everyone accepts that most young offenders’ institutions are effectively academies of crime. Seventy-eight percent of their “alumni” re-offend within 12 months and are then locked up again and again, at vast cost.

Yet what better opportunity to get to grips with young criminals than when they first enter custody? Literally a captive audience and one with sadly familiar characteristics: a poor record of school attendance resulting in a lack of basic skills. We can do something about this, there, in prison, but at the moment first-timers are mixed in with hardened inmates and it is that teaching and influence which prevails.

Project Daedalus will develop a smarter approach to educating and training young first-timers in custody.

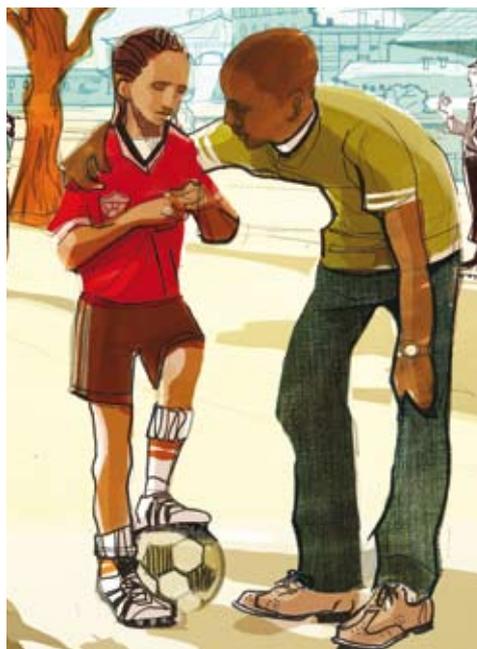
Whilst we aspire to have an entire unit devoted just to first-timers, for the moment constructive conversations with the Ministry of Justice mean that we will start by reducing mixing between first-timers and repeat offenders, and then get to work on literacy, maths and skills. This work will link with the current Youth Resettlement initiatives and will build on exciting and helpful discussions we have had with the London Criminal Justice Board, Youth Justice Board and the Prison Service.

Critical elements in this programme will be highly focused work with first-timers in their initial 48 hours in custody; working with those on remand who currently miss out on any education or training activity; placing young people in secure establishments closer to home; enhancing basic skills training for those in custody to improve their subsequent employment chances; and expanding employment programmes, building on existing work by companies such as National Grid and Sainsbury's.

Their first time in prison is often our last chance to turn them round. It is time we made the most of it.

Getting and keeping kids in education – Project Brodie

A pattern of truancy is common to almost all young offenders. Simply



put, if we can keep more kids in school in their early teens, we won't have to lock up so many later in life.

Project Brodie will work with schools and councils to focus on consistently keeping children in school. We will ask the police to give greater priority to working with Education Welfare Officers to bear down on truancy. In addition, we will ask councils to intervene early and assertively, with parental fines if warranted, where patterns of unauthorised absence start to develop.

The initial causes of truancy can be complex: bullying, mental health problems, parental substance abuse or just a sense of alienation from the educational process, often play a part. Where we can, we will help schools and councils to tackle these issues.

Given that so many children cross borough boundaries to go to school, the work currently underway to develop pan-London protocols on attendance and exclusion covering schools, education authorities and

police is vital; and the Mayor is well-placed to co-ordinate this action and will work with partners to ensure these new protocols lead to real results.

And we need to encourage schools to harness new technology such as instant texting and calls to parents when their child is not in the classroom on time.

Initial discussions with London Councils and the Met have been constructive and there is recognition on all sides that by working together on this we can make real progress.

It is no accident that the best schools have the best attendance and the least association with crime, irrespective of area, race or class.

Mayor's Scholars, London Academies and Apprentices

Kids in long-term care are three times more likely to end up in custody. We are collectively responsible for this shameful fact. Councils have struggled for years to make progress, but in the finite world of local government finance, children in care often have to compete for resources, and rarely fare well.

Yet later in life they cost us a fortune, over-represented in prison, homeless shelters and mental health institutions. Investment up front

would help them immensely, reduce crime and save us all money down the line.

To help tackle this problem, we intend to facilitate the establishment of a programme of Mayor's Scholars, where very young children entering the care system would receive individual educational support through the early years, including both tutoring and consistency of supervision as they move among foster homes; someone to help them with their homework and even read them a story if they need it.

We also want to support the establishment of a number of new Academies in deprived neighbourhoods, helping students to develop the skills, confidence and responsibility they and London need for the future. Transport for London is already looking at building an Academy focused on developing skills for the transport industry and we will look to fill further skills gaps as the city's needs develop.

In the same vein, the Mayor, through the London Skills and Employment Board, will promote more apprenticeships in the city in order to help those who leave education at 16 to access the job market in a structured, disciplined and targeted way.

Building Character and Responsibility – Project Titan

Young people will never respect others unless they respect themselves first. They will never resist malign influences unless they have the inner strength to do so. For decades now the uniformed children's organisations have been teaching precisely these qualities and building what used to be known as "character".

We will work with all uniformed organisations, and some non-uniformed, such as Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Scouts, Guides and Police and Services' Cadets to spread their work throughout the capital. With grants, premises, co-ordination and publicity, we want to help them help our children.

But more than that, we want their help with some of the most difficult kids, those on the fringe of criminality. Working with the Police, the Probation Service, the Parole Board and London Councils, we want to use our powers to compel attendance at these organisations by those who need it.

This project will incorporate and enhance the Metropolitan Police's fantastic "Project YOU" programme ("Youth Organisations Uniformed"), which is already engaging young people in structured activities, and



potentially build on the model within the Volunteer Police Cadets.

Scout troops and Army Cadet Squads are the kind of gangs we like. It's time to expand their turf.

Sport and music for all

Well-exercised kids are better behaved and better motivated. More than that, sport helps to socialise children, teach them about conflict resolution, fair play, and respect for others.

Boris wants to mix our national enthusiasm for sport with the optimism generated by the 2012 Olympics and turn it into an explosion of sporting activity across London. Boxing, swimming, cycling, basketball and of course table tennis: All girls and boys should have plenty of access to facilities and equipment to play the sport that excites and suits them.

The Mayor, advised by Kate Hoey, is currently developing an Olympic sporting legacy plan, aimed at increasing participation in sport and physical activity, which will be announced shortly in more detail.

It is also important to recognise that whilst music and the arts can be great to engage children in a fun way, success in both requires rigour, patience and self-discipline. The Mayor wants to improve the spread and quality of education in both music and the arts, and his cultural advisor is working hard with providers in this area to develop a delivery plan as part of his cultural strategy.

Establishing and disseminating best practice – Project Oracle

There is an awful lot of work going on in London and an awful lot of money being spent trying to sort out young people. Sadly few of the dozens of groups and charities involved can consistently demonstrate that what they are doing has any significant effect.

We need to concentrate our energies on understanding what really works, and then allocate resources accordingly.

The Mayor believes that he is strategically best placed to initiate joint work to audit and evaluate programmes that have greatest benefits and to identify those that don't, so that the Boroughs and others can target resources precisely and effectively.

Input from academics and community leaders has proved invaluable in developing the Mayor's proposals in

this plan. Project Oracle will take this forward by establishing a mechanism for the audit, and collation and dissemination of information about what works. This will be undertaken jointly with London Councils, Directors of Children's Services and with the London Criminal Justice Board, and in partnership with London higher education institutions working in this area.

Combating the fear of youth

At the beginning his seminal book, *Youth & Crime*, John Muncie points out that while the words "child" and "adult" have a largely neutral meaning, the word "youth" conjures up a number of emotive and troubling images.

But the vast majority of our young people are law abiding, good kids. They want to walk the streets without fear, be respectful of adults and each other, and live out their lives without needing any contact with the police.

More police on London's transport system, and a greater focus by the Met on youth violence, should in time lead to a reduction in crime and hence, in this fear. But in the meantime, the Mayor wants to work with young people to help promote a positive image of youth for the sake of all young people.



Once fear subsides we hope adults will once again become more tolerant of what used to be called “mischief”. When it snows, the police receive several hundred 999 calls about kids throwing snowballs. But a child who hasn’t thrown a snowball hasn’t lived. Kids misbehave, and we adults must learn to identify when they are just being kids, and not criminals.

Working together

To deliver these plans, we will need a lot of help. In particular London’s boroughs and schools, who are doing a lot already, will be crucial.

The Mayor recognises the significant work undertaken to date by the London Youth Crime Prevention Board (under the chairmanship of Lord Victor Adebawale), the London Community Safety Partnership’s Serious Youth Violence Steering Group (chaired by London Councils) and the Government’s recent Youth Crime Action Plan (published jointly by the Home Office, Dept. of Children, Schools and Families and the Ministry of Justice).

It is the Mayor’s role to draw all this valuable work together and provide leadership and assistance where he can. He now wants to work with everyone, including communities and young people, to refine and develop

his proposals and move them into delivery phase.

What is left to do?

We are acutely conscious that there is a gaping hole in this plan, and that is parenting and preschool. More often than not poor parenting leads to bad kids, and bad kids become even worse parents. Parenting education programmes are needed across London.

We also know that pre-school “intellectual enrichment” programmes in nurseries work well. Home visits by health professionals in infancy can be important, as can early years training to teach children the consequences of their actions.

The LDA is already working on its affordable childcare programme, and the Met is currently offering the Miss Dorothy, Watch Over Me and Calling the Shots programmes to more than 250,000 children in London over the next year.

Both of these are positive steps, but we have yet to establish additional programmes where we can add significant value in this area without duplication. We will be talking to others to develop and bring forward plans to tackle these key issues too – so watch this space.

A smarter approach to Young People in Custody for the First Time - Project Daedalus

Objective

To offer targeted positive opportunities and a more constructive environment for young first-timers in custody to reduce re-offending, improve resettlement, and to increase employment rates on release.

Background

Over the past decade, youth justice reforms have had no measurable impact on levels of self-reported youth offending.¹ In the first quarter of 2004, 78 per cent of young people discharged from custody re-offended within a year. Increasing criminal justice budgets further is unlikely, on its own, to deliver long-term sustainable success.

The average cost for each young person going through the criminal justice system to imprisonment is £90,000 - reducing the numbers that re-offend could therefore secure significant savings.

At present, those put in custody for the first time are mixed with “more experienced” prisoners whilst in detention. This exacerbates repeat offending as Young Offender Institutions (and prisons) are too often “universities of crime” that can simply make offenders’ behaviour

worse on release (especially first-timers) as a result of tutoring or influence by the more experienced inmates. Reducing the extent of that mix will help reduce the extent of re-offending amongst first-timers.

The custodial setting in which first-timers are kept (from reception on the first day of arrival to the support and training provided) is also key.

Proposal - a more positive environment for young offenders who are in custody for the first time

Making genuine change to the lives of young people involved in offending is a key element of this programme for action. The Mayor therefore will work with partners (in conjunction with the London Criminal Justice Board’s developing Youth Resettlement model) to focus increased intervention on young first-timers in custody.

The Mayor proposes to engage with the Youth Justice Board, Prison Service, Ministry of Justice and other agencies to work towards reducing the level of association that first-timers have with repeat offenders and establishing tailored support, skills training and appropriate employment

¹ Ten years of Labour’s youth justice reforms: an independent audit’ report, May 2008, Centre for Crime and Justice Studies, King’s College London

young first-timers in custody can be given the help to change their lives for the better

programmes to provide jobs on release for those in custody for the first time.

A key cohort of inmates that are often overlooked are those in custody on remand. As they have not yet been sentenced, this group often do not qualify for services on offer to others. The Mayor is keen to ensure that those young offenders on remand (often for the first time in a custodial setting) also receive an appropriate range of focussed inputs to enhance their chances of avoiding offending on release.

By establishing the appropriate focus, providing a triage system to ensure the appropriate personalised approach right from the start of imprisonment (first 24-48 hours) and intensive working, young first-timers in custody can be given the help, targeted education (including basic literacy) and skills training with links to employers and ambition to change

their lives for the better and to help to break the cycle of re-offending.

Some employer networks (such as those coordinated by the National Grid or Sainsbury's) provide training and employment for offenders leaving custody and such options should be explored further.

The Mayor has asked the London Development Agency to lead on working with the relevant agencies to pull together a programme to deliver the appropriate services (including the reduction of the mix between first-timers and repeat offenders).

Support upon release could be explored as part of the proposed London Youth Resettlement Programme which seeks to improve the quality and accessibility of resettlement provision on release from custody.

The responsibility for educating young offenders aged 17-18 years will be transferred from the Learning & Skills Council to local authorities

help to break the cycle of re-offending

from 2010, as announced in the “Raising Expectations: Enabling the system to deliver” White Paper. There is an opportunity here to ensure that young offenders have the opportunity to develop employability skills while in custody which will lead into further education, training and employment.

Key facts

- The under-18 secure population for England and Wales was 3,019 (2006-07). 9 per cent were in custody in London (259 young people), and 25 per cent were from London (approximately 750 young people).
- Based on records held by Police National Computer database, there were 597 young people (aged under 18) prosecuted by the MPS and entered into custody for the first time during 2007. Of these 91 per cent were male. Of these males, one quarter were aged 13-15, one quarter were aged 16, and half were aged 17.
- The Social Exclusion Unit (2002) estimated that the cost of each young offender in custody was approximately £90,000 per annum (£47,000 for a Young Offender Institution and £130,000 for an Secure Training Centre).
- The numbers of young people in custody in selected London institutions (August 2008): 188 in Feltham (77 per cent from London, 88 per cent on remand), 24 in Cookham Wood (56 per cent and 13 per cent), and 8 in Orchard Lodge.
- The ethnic grouping of young people in custody in London: 39 per cent black, white 29 per cent, mixed 11 per cent, Asian 6 per cent and 1 per cent other minority ethnic groups (15 per cent not recorded). Only 7 per cent of the young people in custody in London are female.

Keeping Young People in Education - Project Brodie

Objective

To maximise young people's attendance at educational institutions in order to improve academic attainment and employment opportunities, and to reduce the likelihood of outcomes related to crime and violence.

Background

London's businesses and attendees at the Mayor's Community Forum and Gangs, Guns & Weapons Annual Seminar have commented on how young people may lack the basics of numeracy and speaking, reading and writing skills. The importance of these essentials cannot be overstated.

Failing to attend school has a major impact on young people's education and their life chances. Children who are absent from school without permission are most vulnerable, easily drawn into crime and anti-social behaviour and more likely to be unemployed after leaving school. Research for the London Child Poverty Commission highlights the links between missed educational opportunities for

children, intergenerational poverty and lower educational achievement in areas of London² and the fact that early absence from school becomes a problem with potentially serious long-term consequences.³

There is considerable variation in performance between individual boroughs and individual schools⁴. The high number of pupils educated out of their home borough and the mobility of families in London contributes to the problem. In one borough as an example, 70 per cent of the children picked up by truancy patrols were from outside the borough and 85 per cent of the street crime was carried out by young people who did not live in the borough⁵. New cross-border protocols are being developed by Young London Matters covering all education authorities - the role of the police in returning pupils to school needs to be explored further.

² J. Mercer, 'Tomorrow's Parents – Tackling intergenerational poverty through education. A report on Children Missing Education' for the London Child Poverty Commission, 2007.

³ London Child Poverty Commission, Final Report, Capital Gains, London Councils, 2008.

⁴ DCSF attendance data tables for London 2006/7 :

http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000793/SFR14_2008TablesAdditional10July.xls

⁵ Young London matters – Mobility and Young people (2007)

experience shows that targeted action to address truancy and exclusion works

Experience shows that targeted action⁶ to address truancy and exclusion works. Our challenge is to spread best practice to reduce absence (such as the use of mobile phone texts to alert parents to non-attendance).

Educational programmes that explore behaviours that impact on a young person's general sense of well-being and ability to deal with situations (including violence) can assist in reducing absence.

It is recognised that a significant number of those involved in youth violence are aged 16-19 and may therefore be in further education

colleges (or Not in Education, Employment or Training) rather than in schools. However the focus of the attendance activity in this strand is on secondary schools (for those aged 11-16) since those aged 14, 15 and 16 account for significant proportions of youth crime and violence. The same principles on attendance may be applied to some older pupils at primary school.

Proposal - reducing non-attendance at school

There is substantial research⁷ which sets out the key features of successful interventions, including engagement with pupils and families by school staff and establishing personal relationships to underpin that engagement. The Mayor welcomes work that has been carried out by the MPS, Young London Matters and the London boroughs to establish London-wide protocols on police activity to assist in returning young persons to a place of safety, generally school or home, once unauthorised absence from school is identified. The Mayor will also advocate that, where there is a pattern of non-

⁶ Excellence in Cities, Education Action Zones and Challenge London State of London's Children Report analysis (2007) is that there has been a fall in persistent absenteeism of up to 20% in schools subject to targeted intervention. Good practice report Ofsted 2008 <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Publications-and-research/Documents-by-type/Thematic-reports/Good-practice-in-re-engaging-disaffected-and-reluctant-students-in-secondary-schools>

⁷ School exclusion working o/s the mainstream <http://www.jrf.org.uk/knowledge/findings/socialpolicy/2131.asp>

attendance, the circumstances driving that absence are properly explored and support is provided through the relevant agencies.

The Mayor recognises the need to ensure that young people find school an attractive place to be and will seek to work with boroughs and schools to promote positive engagement with schools, including linking to programmes to make school work more relevant to employment. The London Skills and Employment Board and London Councils, through the 14-19 Regional Planning Group are already seeking to promote a greater emphasis on employability outcomes.

A number of schools seek to engage parents in the management of attendance and already use technologies to alert them as to when their children are not at school. These technologies (such as instant texting) provide early warnings of where there may be absence issues and the indications are that this can be an effective tool. The Mayor will work with London Councils and schools to highlight best practice on attendance and to promote the use of such technologies.

The Mayor will support the setting up of truancy patrols including stopping and questioning all young people found out of school; and ask the

the Mayor will support the setting up of truancy patrols

police service to work with borough Children's Services, diocesan boards and schools to increase the priority they give to tackling absence from school, building on the Safer School Partnership work (which links specific police officers to schools and to Safer Neighbourhood Teams) and activity under Operation StaySafe.

The Mayor fully recognises the central role of schools (including pupil referral units) and of London's boroughs (in particular the Children's Services Departments) in addressing non-attendance issues, and is seeking through discussion with these and other partners to develop these proposals, ensuring they complement and add value to existing initiatives. The Mayor is in discussion with London Councils about how best to lead and take this action forward.

the Mayor will ensure that educational achievement remains a priority for London

Proposal - educational resources for London school children

Both the voluntary and statutory sectors have developed some excellent projects and programmes to deliver on crime prevention, support victims and tackle bullying. The Mayor will work with boroughs to identify effective programmes, evaluate their impact and build up a repository of good practice.

The Mayor has already announced support for schools-based programmes to provide guidance and information to steer young people away from the lure of gangs and criminal activity. These programmes (Miss Dorothy and

Watch Over Me) are universal and provide a standard set of materials for use across primary and secondary schools. Further targeted support is available through the Calling the Shots programme, the extension of which was also recently announced by the Mayor. These programmes are available for approximately 250,000 children in London over the next year through schools who wish to make use of them.

In addition, the Mayor will explore the feasibility of extending the provision of educational programmes on safety and violence to Further Education colleges and will explore how the police can work more closely with them (eg. use of the Safer Schools Partnership model).

The Mayor will take forward these actions working with young people, schools, parents, education providers and London-wide bodies to explore sustained funding and to ensure that educational achievement remains a priority for London.

Key facts

- Nearly three-quarters of imprisoned young offenders have been excluded from school at some stage.⁸
- Truancy or exclusion is most likely if a boy is aged 15 or 16 (though truancy will generally have begun much younger), black Caribbean, and eligible for free school meals. London truancy sweeps in 2006 showed 50 per cent of 1,834 youth stops were truants.
- In 2006-07, there were 1,170 permanent exclusions in London secondary schools, a rate of 0.28 per cent. The highest borough rate was 0.58 per cent, and the lowest 0.08 per cent⁹.
- There were 40,820 fixed-period exclusions in London secondary schools (9.8 per cent of those enrolled). The borough with the highest rate recorded 21 per cent and the lowest 4 per cent.
- The Youth Justice Board youth surveys show that offenders who commit their first crime at a young age also tend to begin playing truant at an early age.
- NSPCC report that 31 per cent of children experience bullying by peers during childhood.
- “one in every two” school exclusions and 46 per cent of school non-attendance is, in some way, related to bullying.¹⁰

⁸ Social Exclusion Unit (2002) Reducing re-offending by ex-prisoners, London: Social Exclusion Unit

⁹ <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s000793/index.shtml>

¹⁰ Institute of Education (2004)

Mayor's Scholars, London Academies and Apprentices

Objective

To support the raising of educational attainment for those who are most disadvantaged.

Background

Despite significant efforts made by government and local authorities over the last decade, the 11,000¹¹ or so children in care in London remain particularly vulnerable to low educational achievement, unemployment, and involvement in criminal activity. We have a collective responsibility to respond and to do something about this.

Opportunities also should be seized to raise standards and aspirations where necessary to transform life chances for young people in London. The Mayor's commitment to supporting the establishment of new Academies provides an opportunity to raise the achievement of pupils, improve school performance, achieve good attendance and tackle low aspiration through school-based programmes. In this programme, the London Development Agency (LDA) can work with business partners and the public sector to create positive pathways to employment for young people.

Proposal - Mayor's Scholars

A key group of vulnerable children in London is children in care. A child in long-term care is three times more likely to end up in a young offenders institution. The Mayor proposes a specific programme to facilitate the raising of their educational achievement - "Mayor's Scholars".

The objective of this programme is to help boost school attendance and achievement, and, in the longer term, employment outcomes for London's children in care. It will ensure that other relevant Mayor's programmes include a specific focus on children in care. The mentoring programme will have a particular focus on identifying children in care who would benefit from this form of support.

A child in long-term care is three times more likely to end up in a young offenders institution

¹¹ At March 2007 there were 11,290 under 18s being looked after in London (Office for National Statistics).

the Mayor's commitment to new Academies provides an opportunity to raise the achievement of pupils

The Mayor will also seek to work with boroughs to improve the information available on educational progress and outcomes for children in care, so there is better monitoring information available to identify issues and to track progress in meeting their educational needs.

The Mayor's Scholars programme will also work in partnership with London boroughs to offer targeted scholarships to fund additional support for children in care which could cover tutoring, equipment, book purchases, educational travel, or support for engagement in positive activities for young people in care, and could also include those progressing on to further and higher education.

The Mayor is in discussion with the Mayor's Fund for London as to how

the Fund might be able to support the Scholars' programme.

Proposal - new Mayor's Academies

Research for the Mayor's employer-led London Skills and Employment Board has stressed the importance of educational outcomes in London's schools and has shown the importance of getting it right first time around - once having left the school system, adults do not significantly improve their overall basic skills levels. The London Challenge has successfully improved school performance and has effectively illustrated how additional funding can produce significant results.

The Mayor's commitment to supporting the establishment of new Academies provides an opportunity to raise the achievement of pupils, improve school performance, achieve good attendance and tackle low aspiration through school-based programmes. In this programme, the London Development Agency (LDA) can work with business partners and the public sector to create positive pathways to employment for young people.

Academies are designed to achieve high educational attainment through using the national curriculum

and specialising on a particular theme. Data for 2007 indicates that Academies in London achieve a higher attendance level than in other schools.

The Mayor has asked the LDA to develop proposals supporting the establishment of new Academies proposal. In the first instance it is proposed that Transport for London will assist in establishing an Academy that will focus on developing the kinds of technical skills of relevance to the transport industry.

Proposal - Apprenticeships

The London Skills and Employment Board, which is chaired by the Mayor, has recently published its strategy for ensuring that Londoners increasingly have the skills and opportunities to effectively compete for London's jobs - and in particular to promote relevant skills for young people to open up jobs to them, including many more apprenticeships.

The Mayor has committed the GLA Group (Police, Transport for London, GLA, LDA and London Fire & Emergency Planning Authority) to leading by example on this agenda, and is working closely with London Councils and other partners to ensure real progress on this more widely.

Key Facts

- In 2006/07 the Office for National Statistics record 70 children being looked after in London per 10,000 of the under 18 population. The rate for England was 55. Equivalent rates were 58 for outer-London and 91 for inner-London.
- In 2008, Department for Children, Schools and Families figures show that 13 per cent of looked after children in England attain five good GCSEs compared to 62 per cent of all children.
- London school absence figures for 2007 suggest that the percentage of sessions missed in Academies (through any reason) were lower at 5.7 per cent compared to 7.3 per cent in other schools. Persistent absence rates were equal for both groups though at 1.5 per cent

Building Character and Responsibility - Project Titan

Objective

To encourage young Londoners, particularly those vulnerable to crime, to participate in positive disciplined activities that help build character and responsibility and mutual respect.

Background

For a small section of society, violence is increasingly seen as a means of resolving conflict. Feeding this is a lack of social and personal responsibility amongst some young Londoners.

Out of school hours, weekend and holiday provision already exists, but can be patchy, and results vary across the capital. At-risk children from disadvantaged areas do not have access to the same range and quality of structured activities as those in more prosperous areas. Other factors - such as low family income or poor living conditions - affect the ability of some young people at risk to access or participate fully in such activities; furthermore, under-provision in deprived areas across London may be particularly marked, due to a lack of local resources, premises, political priorities and the numbers of adults coming forward as volunteers.

The Metropolitan Police Service has developed the innovative "Project YOU" ("Youth Organisations Uniformed") to act as a coordinating

body to bring together a number of uniformed youth organisations (Air Training Corp, Army Cadet Force, Boys Brigade, Girl Guides, Scouts, Sea Cadet Corp, St John Ambulance, Volunteer Police Cadet Force) in order to increase the viability of these organisations (access to premises, recruitment of volunteers) and to enhance their visibility and accessibility to young Londoners. In one recent example of the value that the structured approach of these organisations can bring, two young repeat offenders were required to attend the Police Cadets and, during their period in the cadets, there was no re-offending.

The Mayor's London Youth Offer (and the more recent Young Londoners' Fund element) has made significant investment in youth facilities and activities across the capital. The Mayor will, by working with boroughs, aim to add value to the existing level of provision currently delivered by London's boroughs through Youth Support Services and schools (eg youth centres, street based work, extended and supplementary schools etc.) by encouraging initiatives (perhaps through the voluntary youth sector) that seek to build a young person's character and sense of responsibility through structured activity.

guidance is crucial for young people as they develop

Guidance is crucial for young people as they develop. Mentoring can provide the necessary input to plug a gap in young people's lives particularly if they come from a disadvantaged background and are at risk of offending. There is already a range of mentoring initiatives in existence of varying quality and of varying success. However, well-designed mentoring programmes can make a real difference.

The Mayor will assist in the development of a Responsibility Programme to add value to the existing uniformed and non-uniformed youth activity in London and to support the achievement of suitably tailored and designed mentoring programmes to have a beneficial impact on those that need it most.

Proposal - enhanced programmes of activities for young people to build character and responsibility

In order to reduce levels of crime, including youth violence, and anti-social behaviour, there is a need to ensure that young Londoners are a valued and important part of their communities and that they are able to contribute in meaningful ways. The Mayor aims, with boroughs and the voluntary sector, to facilitate the development of a programme of Responsibility projects, building on his current Youth Offer, that will seek to address these issues amongst those young people most at risk.

This programme will encourage Londoners young and old, to show more regard for each other, to take responsibility for their own actions and for the actions of the communities in which they live. The benefits of the programme will include an increase in interpersonal skills, self-confidence, self-reliance and self-esteem; an instillation of self-discipline and the combating of disruptive behaviour; the provision of opportunities to undertake teamwork and acquire leadership skills; and preparation for a qualification or award (eg. Duke of Edinburgh's Award or vocational training).

This programme will complement and enhance Project YOU to provide structured opportunities for young people as well as volunteering opportunities for adults and will also complement existing proven initiatives such as London Fire Brigade's LIFE programme. The programme will also support Project YOU's work to more effectively coordinate the availability and use of premises and facilities.

The Mayor will work with London boroughs, large voluntary community sector organisations (eg. Prince's Trust, Football Foundation) and the Department for Children, Schools and Families to develop the Responsibility Programme and to link into existing programmes and resources such as Positive Activities for Young People and the Youth Opportunities and Capital Funds.

Proposal - Mentoring for young people

Recognising the key role that responsible adults play in young people's lives, the Mayor believes that a well designed mentoring programme - with the right kind of mentors and the right kind of mentoring - can make a real difference. The Mayor has therefore asked the London Development Agency to explore how appropriately designed and targeted

mentoring can be made more available to those young people in London who might need it most.

Proposal - Develop a programme to support parenting and pre-school interventions

The role of parenting and pre-school development is widely agreed to be critical in shaping young people's development. The LDA is already working on its affordable childcare programme, and the police currently offer educational resources to primary aged school children in London.

We also recognise there are many parenting support programmes already in operation, with varying approaches. The Mayor will continue to talk to those working in this area to identify where he can add value to what is already happening.

structured
opportunities
for young
people

Key Facts

- The national evaluation of Positive Actions for Young People (PAYP) analysed data for 327 young people being dealt with by YOTs and found that over 50 per cent did not re-offend after starting PAYP, with 82 per cent reducing their offending. Generally the severity of offending also decreased.
- Studies by the Worldwide Alternatives to Violence (WAVE) Trust show that the most prolific offenders start offending between the ages of 10-13, and have longer criminal careers than other criminals, lasting on average 13 years.
- Key risk factors relating to parenting are: parents condoning problem behaviour; poor parental supervision and discipline; and family conflict¹².
- In the early years, parental aspirations and encouragement have significant impact on children's cognitive development and literacy and numeracy skills¹³.
- Parental involvement in a child's schooling between the ages of seven and 16 is a more powerful force than family background, size of family and level of parental education¹⁴.
- Selective parenting interventions can substantially improve childhood behaviour¹⁵.
- Father-child relationships - be they positive, negative or lacking - have profound and wide ranging impacts on children that last a lifetime, particularly for children from the most disadvantaged backgrounds¹⁶.

¹² "Risk and protective factors" – Youth Justice Board (2005)

¹³ "Every Parent Matters" – Dept. for Education & Skills (2007)

¹⁴ *ibid*

¹⁵ *ibid*

¹⁶ *ibid*

Objective

To ensure that all young people in London have the chance to benefit from enhanced opportunities to participate in music and sporting activity, linked to the forthcoming London Sports Legacy Plan.

Background

Sport, recreation and play are essential for children and young people's healthy physical and emotional development. In urban and deprived areas children and young people have fewer opportunities to engage in positive activities than those in more affluent areas; this lack of provision impacts on their social development and life opportunities. Participating in music or the arts can also help to develop discipline and emotional maturity. It is widely acknowledged that having nothing to do can lead to anti-social and criminal behaviour. Positive activities can offer young people the option and space to gain new skills and raise their aspirations. If delivered properly, they can change lives.

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 requires all local authorities to secure access for young people to positive activities, including youth clubs, sports facilities and art projects. As part of this Act, local authorities are also expected to take account of young people's

views on activities and facilities available to them.

Expanding provision, accessibility and the opportunity for young people to get involved in sport and other positive activities in London is worthwhile in its own right, and can also help support youth crime prevention. Positive activities offer support, training, and opportunities for personal development including self-discipline, self-respect and self-confidence as well as encourage young people to contribute to their communities. Whilst the Responsibility programme described earlier will have a particular focus on activities for young people who may be at risk of involvement in crime and violence, this programme aims to benefit everyone who would like to engage in more sports.

There are numerous examples of good practice in local communities, notably through the network of community sports clubs operating across the capital. The Mayor's objective is to promote future sporting and related activities, building on a number of the existing community programmes and taking advantage of the Olympic opportunity to build enthusiasm.

Proposal - Expanding sporting opportunity and activity

The Olympic Sports Legacy Plan being developed by the Mayor,

self-discipline, self-respect and self-confidence

advised by Kate Hoey, in partnership with the London Development Agency and Sports England, will set out a range of exciting proposals and key initiatives to capitalise on the impetus generated by the London Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012. The key aim of the Plan will be to increase participation in sport in London by :

- increasing facilities: more places to take part in sport;
- supporting more people: coaches, teachers, youth workers, sports scientists, physiologists, physiotherapists;
- tackling barriers to participation: time, cost, motivation.

Communities frequently report insufficient support for London's youth services. We need to build these activities to prove that every London child matters. This means investment in :

- All our young people and children; it is not just about the

young people that offend. This approach recognises the central role that positive activities play in building self-esteem and healthy development in all our young people and children.

- People - to ensure our youth workers, sports coaches and leaders are positive role models for our young people and that they are able to build effective relationships.
- Parents, families, carers - positive activities should involve parents and families, and not just on the "side-line"; they should be integral to the development and ongoing success of the activity.
- Facilities - A range of affordable, accessible facilities and activities must be available to all young people. However, bricks and mortar alone are not enough. Facilities must be hubs where young people can shape content and engage with youth workers, coaches and the wider community. They could also offer opportunities and environments that the young person might not normally experience.
- Girls and young women - we need to recognise that, in addition to universally relevant activities, girls and young women have specific needs and interests. We need to ensure that there are the facilities and support mechanisms for them to follow their interests.

- Communities - local communities need to be supported to get involved and work in partnership with schools (primary and secondary) to deliver positive activities and to take responsibility for the positive development of their young people.
- Communication and coordination - is vital to ensure schools and other providers work together so that young people do not fall out of the system.
- A range of positive activities - We need to recognise our young people have different needs and interests. Activities should include a range of offers, for example partnerships with the private and public sector, vocational training and skills development, basic reading and writing, positive peer engagement and other recreational pursuits.

It is important to recognise that, whilst arts and music are great to engage kids in a fun way, they should also be treated as a serious business. Arts and music education require expert guidance, hours of practice and patience and thereby help to build positive attitudes in young people. The Mayor is currently working with arts and music education providers in the city to coordinate and raise the quality and rigour of cultural opportunities for young people across London. This will form part of a wider cultural strategy to be developed in the coming months.

Proposal - Expanding musical education

Young people can gain a tremendous amount through high quality engagement with art and music. Learning to play a musical instrument, or acquiring creative skills such as writing or drawing, can give a young person a sense of discipline and self-respect as well as deepen their understanding and emotional maturity.

Key facts

- Outcome data from the Positive Activities for Young People national evaluation shows that levels of re-offending while on PAYP activities were very low with 0.1 per cent of youths being arrested in the last three months, 0.2 per cent receiving an ASBO, 0.4 per cent receiving a conviction and 0.2 per cent receiving a custodial sentence.¹⁷
- There is evidence that sport can teach responsibility – eg cricket offers lessons in life for children: research shows how participating in a structured game of cricket can help children learn discipline.¹⁸
- The Youth Task Force Action Plan cites lack of activities on Friday and Saturday evenings as directly linked to anti-social behaviour¹⁹
- Youth Opportunities and Youth Capital Funds (ages 13-19), introduced in April 2006, provided £115 million over two years across all local authorities in England, for projects to be developed by young people. The fund has been extended for a further three years (to March 2011).²⁰

¹⁷ Positive Activities for Young People National Evaluation – Final Report (2006)

¹⁸ A partnership approach between the Cricket Foundation, Metropolitan Police and Cricket for Change will see Positive Futures cricket schemes in ‘known crime hot spots’ in ten local authorities.

¹⁹ <http://www.yjb.gov.uk/en-gb/practitioners/Prevention/YouthTaskforceActionPlan/>

²⁰ <http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/youthfund/>

Establishing and Disseminating Best Practice – Project Oracle

Objective

To better understand the drivers of youth violence and the underlying causes, both short and long term and to establish “What Really Works” in London to address them. The intention will be to provide a comprehensive pan-London, multi-agency mechanism for identifying, sharing and disseminating best practice.

Background

In London, according to Metropolitan Police data, both youth crime and violent crime have reduced over the past ten years (although violent crime has not reduced as much as overall crime). There have also been small reductions in “youth violence” but what has not reduced is youth violence at the most serious end of the spectrum. The most noticeable increases in recent years have been in the most extreme form of violence - murder.

Between 2002-03 and 2007-08 London saw an increase in grievous bodily harm (GBH) to young people aged 10-19 of 43 per cent (against an overall decrease in recorded crime of 20 per cent). In 2003, 15 teenagers were murdered. So far, in 2008, there have been 27 murders. Whilst the majority of crime, including violent crime, is reducing, there nevertheless remains the smaller but contrary

trend where the most serious youth violence is rising rapidly.

In addition a significantly disproportionate number of the victims (and offenders) of this most serious youth violence have been of Caribbean or African background (75-80 per cent of youth murders over the past two years).

Given the overall reductions in youth crime and violent crime in recent years, it is clear that much good work has taken place in the statutory and voluntary sectors in order to achieve this. Some of that work will have been collected into “What Works” guides. However the stark increases in grievous bodily harm and murder of teenagers over the past five years makes it clear that some key interventions or methods of working are either ineffective or insufficient. The Mayor also has a clear sense from academics and practitioners that good practice is only partially implemented and there are significant numbers of initiatives that are not effective.

In order to reverse the rising trend in London, best practice (based on sound, relevant research) needs to be identified and made available to all relevant agencies and practitioners across London.

Services for children and young people (both universal and targeted) are typically based on existing practice. In some cases this led to inflexibility and expenditure on services that are at best having a minimal long term impact. Good practice suggests that service planning should involve identification of what the desired outcomes are for young people; identification of the circumstances that may be hampering or blocking those outcomes; identification of activities that can successfully and sustainably overcome the blockages and achieve these outcomes; and identification of investment and commissioning of tailored services according to appropriate and proven methodologies.

What Really Works

There are differences of opinion on the relative importance of young people's experiences in their earliest years and factors such as stable and caring family settings, engagement with wider society, and positive role models as they grow older but general acceptance that these are all significant factors. There is a clear view that there are transition points which are often critical to future outcomes and where interventions can usefully be targeted, such as starting school, the transition from

primary to secondary school and leaving school or looking for work.

Alongside this, practitioners are clear that ongoing engagement is often needed to ensure that progress made through interventions is maintained; and that often young people face a range of barriers in terms of family setting, housing, skills and peer groups which need to be tackled holistically if lasting progress is to be made.

The disproportionately high number of boys involved in serious violence is clear, but there does not appear to be a sufficiently systematic approach to understanding and building into responses a recognition of how perceptions of masculinity (adolescent or otherwise) impact on and drive behaviour.

The important indirect role of some girls and young women in endorsing and approving violence by young men and the worrying increases in violence by young women themselves are also important issues.

Proposal - strengthening best practice dissemination

This approach will focus on the following key factors :

- good quality, accessible research and assessment of the root causes

- and drivers of youth violence
- good quality, accessible research and assessment of what really works in addressing this issue
- promoting a “common language” across services to ensure that what is being asked for is understood by all
- ensuring that initiatives take full account of the victims of affected communities and are relevant to them

The Mayor will work closely with key academic, strategic and delivery partners to support and develop a substantial repository of evidence-based good practice. This information will be freely shared and practitioners, commissioners and policy-makers will be encouraged to use it. An appropriate methodology will be drawn up which may involve establishing a coordination team, facilitating the commissioning of action research, assisting with the development of a web based database and holding an annual conference to assist in disseminating and showcasing the findings on “What Really Works”.

As much of the delivery of interventions will be driven or commissioned by the boroughs, the Mayor will engage with London Councils, Directors of Children’s Services, Youth Justice Board, Home

assessment of what really works

Office, Metropolitan Police, voluntary sector and others to determine the detail on how best to take this proposal forward.

Combating the fear of youth

Objective

To challenge the public perception of young people in London.

Background

Overall crime is coming down but public perceptions of crime show that fear of crime is out of step with the reality of reported crime.

How we use language to describe the world around us shapes the world. Perceptions of our society are based on personal experience but more often on reported, second hand information from friends, family, neighbours and the media. We need to ensure that we do not over emphasise the negative activity of some young people, and instead help to build up images of an urban world that does reflect reality.

Another concern is that there is not enough for young people to do which can lead to boredom, anti-social behaviour and crime. Strands of this report set out actions for positive activity in sport, music and organised activity. However even with this additional provision young people will still want to hang out with friends and this needs to be seen as normal behaviour.

Research on media coverage of young people show that there are far more

negative than positive images. This is something the Mayor will address.

Proposal to improve the image of young people in the media

The Mayor has already held a meeting with some London and national children and young people's agencies from the statutory and voluntary sectors to develop ideas for joint work and improve the media image of young people. Ideas are currently being developed to influence and work with regional and local media to ensure that reports about young people are fair and balanced. Suggestions include a campaign on positive representation of young people in the media and the contribution young people make to London.

Proposal to work with young people on crime prevention

The Mayor will work with young people through involvement in practical consultation and engagement activities and continue to ensure that there is a strong voice for young people in all aspects of the GLA and GLA Group activities. Young people are "experts" in their own right and can provide a valuable perspective on how a service will affect them. We need to ensure their experiences are reflected in action

young people are “experts” in their own right

The Mayor will work with the Metropolitan Police Service and London Fire Brigade to develop service wide mechanisms to consistently engage with young people and involvement in the new programmes the Mayor is developing.

and we want to engage them to play a direct part in the solutions.

Young people’s experience of contact with the police needs to be a positive experience. There is a recognition by young people and communities that knife arches and stop and search have a place to play to reduce violent crime. This programme is crucial to building reassurance and confidence in the police by young people. The police’s focus group research “Seen and not Heard” with nearly 100 under-18s gave the clear message that the more positive informal contact young people have with the police, the greater the boost to ongoing relations and the more positive and consistent engagement young people had experienced with the police, the better were their perceptions of the police’s role in making communities safer.

Conclusion: a new approach

Youth crime is not a new phenomenon. It has been the subject of much debate over the past half-century, and even the Victorians bemoaned the activities of the young people of the day. However the situation London faces, in this first decade of the twenty-first century, seems to go beyond many previous images of “teenage delinquency”. The level of youth homicides continues to rise at an alarming rate. Although youth crime itself is not new, what is new is the extent to which young people in London (teenagers in particular) are killing each other. Furthermore, the proportion of violent teenage deaths in London is now five times higher than London’s proportion of the UK teenage population.

It is clear that some good work has been carried out over the past decade, and there has been a lot of investment in youth justice. Nevertheless, these efforts have not been sufficient to fully address the issues - otherwise we would not now be faced with an increasing number of deaths.

A new approach is needed, building on the best of what is already being done - a sustained and concerted approach that is designed to “really work” to achieve lasting change.

The Mayor is committed to bringing consistent leadership by working with all those engaged in this agenda to ensure coherence and focus over the long term. In particular, the Mayor will ensure a consistent approach between the enforcement activities led by the police and the range of positive opportunities being delivered through both statutory and non-statutory agencies in order to achieve the long term change we must see.

The Mayor’s contribution

The Mayor has identified a programme for action that shores up the most vulnerable and supports young people getting on the right track. His proposed programme develops new approaches for young first-timers in custody, tackles truancy to improve school attendance, establishes a Scholars’ scheme for children in care, supports the expansion of uniformed and non-uniformed activity, enhances apprenticeship opportunities, expands sporting and recreational activities, identifies research into the roots of the problem and disseminates best practice, involves communities and young people in shaping interventions and addresses the image of young people in London.

The Mayor will also use his leadership role to raise the profile of the key issues and to bring

together GLA Group resources and key London partners to improve youth opportunities and violence prevention.

How long will change take ?

Modern British society is complex and young people today face a broad range of influences that impact on their behaviour. These range from family circumstances to the media, to community infrastructure, to music and television, to socio-economic position, to the school curriculum and so on.

This complex mix of influences underscores a consistent message being given by everyone involved, communities and agencies alike. That message is that solutions are complex (albeit based on simple principles) and that achievement of the necessary change is likely to take a long time.

The required shift in cultural thinking and community outlook may take as long as a generation or more to come to fruition. Consequently, all agencies involved (in particular the public/statutory sector) should be prepared for the “long haul”, investing in and pursuing action over a significant period of time.

The actions required over the short, medium and long term will often be

different, and may well be carried out by different agencies; but we need to ensure they are complementary.

Short-term: These will frequently be police enforcement operations and crisis interventions (eg. from teachers, youth workers, street pastors) as immediate responses to situations which target the symptoms of the behaviour and the individuals themselves.

Medium-term: These will generally be diversionary and interventionist activities by the voluntary and public sectors to identify and work with those likely to be at risk and to channel energies in alternative directions.

Long-term: These will normally be preventative activities commissioned or delivered by the public sector to change behaviour in a positive way over an extended period of time.

Police enforcement operations, whilst essential to address immediate problems and to protect life, will never be able to get to the cause of the behaviour or the roots of the social malaise. What is necessary for other agencies is to get “upstream”, to identify the causes and begin the process of “turning off the tap” over the medium and long term.

the Mayor will also use his leadership role

Working Together / Local Leadership

In moving forward, it should be acknowledged that some success has been achieved in London by existing structures such as the London Community Safety Partnership and the London Youth Crime Prevention Board. Critical to the delivery of activity that will help to achieve the long-term change required are local authorities, schools and government.

As the elected voice for London, there is an obligation on the Mayor to provide overall leadership on this key issue for the capital. However borough councils are the platform on which the majority of local activity is based, coordinated and funded. As the core of administration and elected local responsibility in London, they must be at the heart of driving the actions and change needed to tackle the youth violence that exists. Leadership is key to this agenda, and borough leaders will undoubtedly demonstrate

commitment to lead local agencies in tackling the problems.

Young people spend much of their time during their formative years in school and it is imperative that those years are used not only to produce good levels of educational attainment but also to produce stable and productive members of society. Teachers and Directors of Children's Services have responded admirably to previous challenges. This challenge is one which, if met, will also bring benefits to the school and the wider community.

Government, nevertheless, sets the framework and tone for how a range of national agencies operate at a regional and local level. It would therefore be advantageous for government (in particular through the Home Office, the Department of Children, Schools & Families and the Ministry of Justice) to join with the Mayor and the borough councils to work together to address the issue of youth violence in London.

Summary of Actions

The following is a summary of the actions that the Mayor intends to champion. Discussions will take place with the relevant agencies over the following months as to how best to achieve implementation.

Strand	Action Area
Supporting Young People who are in Custody for the First Time - Project Daedalus	To assist in the development of new approaches for young first-timers in custody in order to reduce subsequent re-offending and imprisonment, through immediate engagement on arrival and increasing their educational achievement and employability.
Keeping Young People in Education - Project Brodie	To tackle attendance through technological aids, policing activity and cross-border protocols.
	To co-operate with schools to facilitate their provision of educational resources to assist in reducing violence.
Mayor's Scholars, London Academies and Apprentices	To develop a programme (possibly supported by the Mayor's Fund for London) with boroughs to specifically focus on boosting the educational outcomes for children in care.
	To support the establishment of Academies to increase educational attainment in areas where there is under-performance and, as a consequence, provide London's young people with access to more and better employment and further education prospects when they leave school.
	To improve employment opportunities for young Londoners through increased apprenticeships.

Strand	Action Area
Developing Character and Responsibility - Project Titan	To develop the Mayor's Responsibility Programme aimed at setting boundaries, providing support and access to opportunities for young people at risk of engaging in crime.
	To support the expansion of structured youth "uniformed" (Project YOU) and "non-uniformed" activity.
	To develop the right kind of mentoring with the right kind of mentors to help young people make the right kinds of decisions.
	To develop a programme to support parenting and pre-school interventions
Sport and Music for All	Through the forthcoming Mayor's Sporting Legacy Plan and Cultural Strategy to identify opportunities for all young Londoners to take greater part in sport and to enhance opportunities for wider and better music and arts education.
Establishing and Disseminating Best Practice - Project Oracle	To establish a mechanism to identify, collate and disseminate best research and practice on "What Really Works".
Combating the fear of youth	To ensure that the views of communities and young people inform interventions.
	To work with partners to promote positive images of young people in London and to combat the fear of young people.

Appendix 1: Background information on Youth Violence in London

This chapter explores some aspects of youth violence in London, the role of “gangs” is discussed and some causes of the problem are highlighted. It seeks to provide some context to the overall programme for action in the knowledge that a full exposition of the problem is beyond the scope of this particular document.

Although high impact crimes such as homicide and other youth violence paint a worrying picture of London’s youth, it should be acknowledged that the vast majority are not involved in criminal behaviour. Fewer than 1 per cent of the total youth population are accused of physical violence²¹ each year²². The equivalent figure for all youths accused of any crime was 8 per cent. In fact these figures overstate the prevalence of youth offending since a minority of youths are responsible for a disproportionate amount of youth crime (ie. they are repeat offenders). Youth offending is very much an activity of a minority.

Police data and trends

Although both Metropolitan Police recorded crime and the British Crime Survey indicate that crime in London has decreased over the last five years,²³ a tragic trend in teenage homicide has emerged. The total number of murders in London has been reducing since 2003-04,²⁴ yet, despite this, the number of teenage homicides increased significantly in 2007, from 17 to 26. Furthermore, the problem has become worse during 2008, with 27 cases already between January and October. Of the 27 victims to date this year, 22 were stabbed, 3 were shot, and 2 were beaten to death.

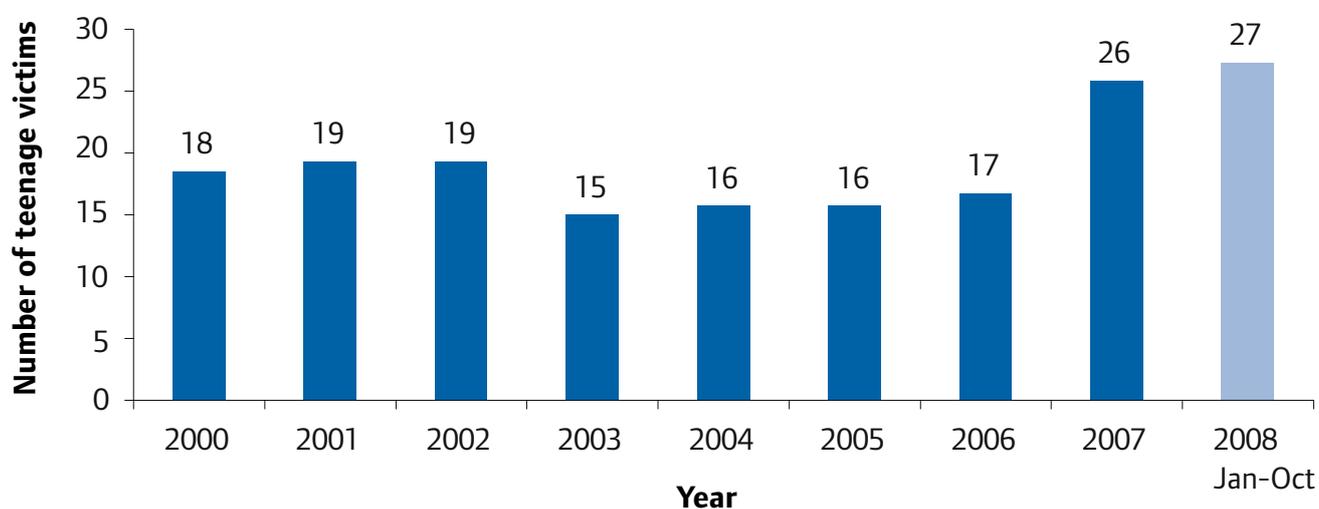
²¹ ‘Physical violence’ is defined here as murder, grievous bodily harm, actual bodily harm and common assault.

²² The 5,704 people accused of physical violence aged (11-19) divided by 755,600 population (aged 11-19) equates to 0.8 per cent. The 62,099 youths accused of any crime divided by the same population equates to 8.2 per cent.

²³ Between 2002-03 and 2007-08, overall crime, as recorded by the MPS, has reduced by 20 per cent (from 1,080,741 to 862,032): property crime has reduced by 29 per cent (from 846,905 to 598,554) and violent crime has reduced by 6 per cent (from 231,725 to 218,509). The results of the London BCS over the last five years have also shown reductions in mainstream crime: ‘household’ crime fell from 21 per cent of the population in 2002-03 to 18 per cent in 2007-08, and ‘personal crime’ from 11 per cent to 8 per cent.

²⁴ Down 24 per cent (from 204 in 2003-04 to 156 in 2007-8).

Figure 1: MPS teenage homicide count by calendar year 2000-2007 with 2008 January to October



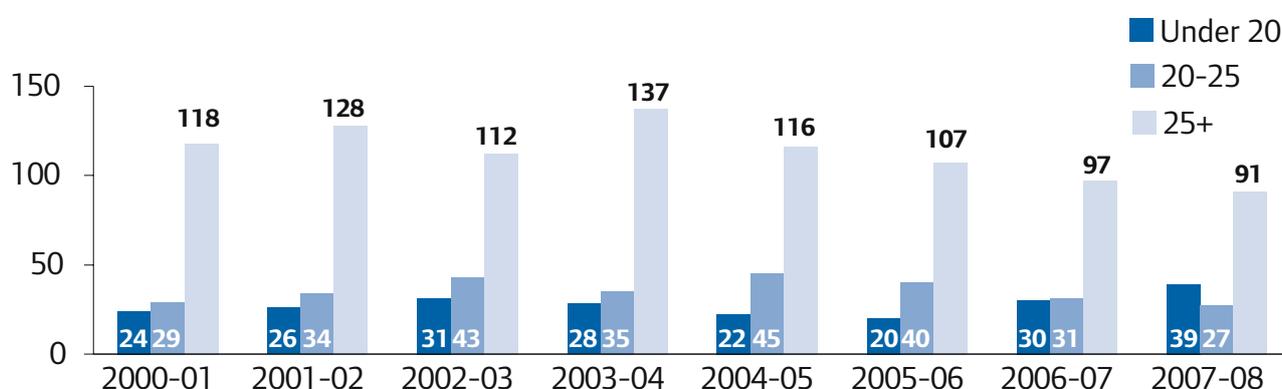
The majority of homicide victims are aged over 25 (58 per cent during 2007-08). But the trend here has been declining since 2003-04. The total homicide rate has also been declining since 2004-05. It is only the under 20s homicide trend that has seen the relatively recent but substantial increase since 2006-07.

While teenage homicide is by no means peculiar to London, it does appear to be more prevalent in the capital. There were 32 teenage murders in the UK between January and July 2008, 18 of which were in London, 56 per cent of the British total. This is disproportionately high considering London only accounts

for 11 per cent of the UK teenage population.

There is evidence that homicide rates are higher in comparable American and European cities. For example, the 2007 homicide rate in New York was 6 cases per 100,000 residents, whereas the equivalent figure for London was 2 (the count was 496 homicides compared to 160 in London). However, teenage homicide rates are not published for most cities and so it is difficult to make specific international youth homicide comparisons.

Figure 2: MPS recorded homicide victim count by age band (2000-01 - 2007-08)



Despite the increase in London, teenage homicide remains relatively rare, currently occurring at a rate of one for every 7,000 London males aged 14-19,²⁵ though the level of risk will vary according to personal circumstance (eg neighbourhood of residence).

Non-fatal types of youth violence are more common, and there are concerns that these have increased in parallel to the homicide count. However, rates of recorded GBH against young people have been

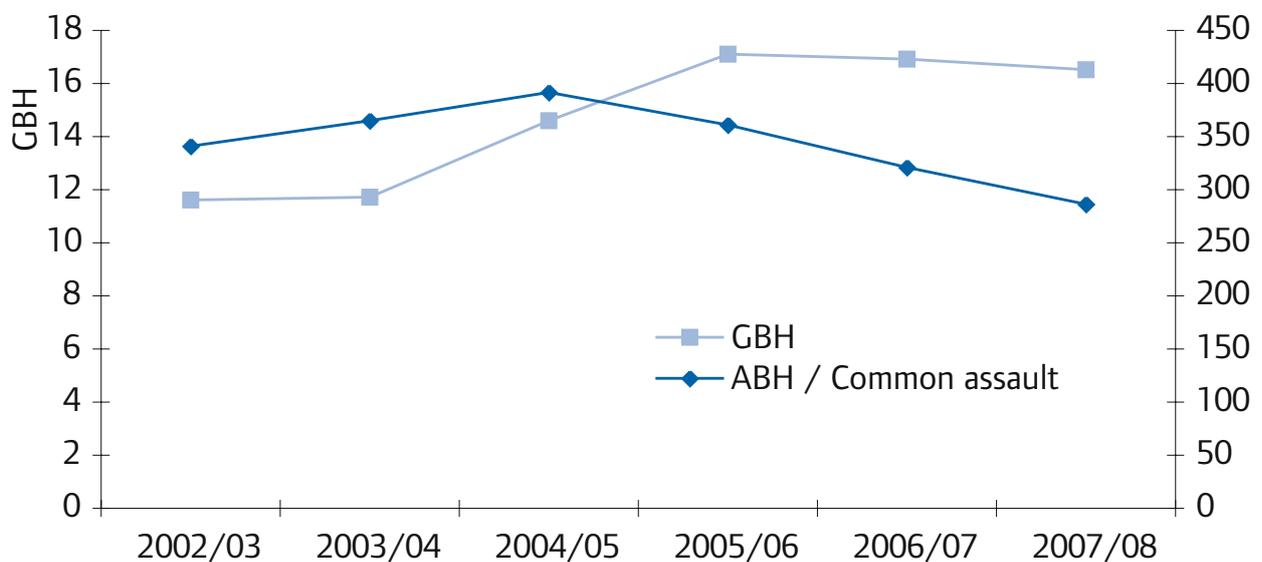
relatively stable for the last few years after showing a 40 per cent increase between 2003-04 and 2005-06.

Further, the less serious categories of actual bodily harm (ABH) and common assault collectively show a 17 per cent reduction since 2002-03 and other types of youth victimisation also reduced over the period.²⁶ These figures relate to a variety of scenarios including youth-on-youth street based offending but also incidents related to domestic violence and the night-time economy.

²⁵ GLA DMAG 2008 population projections used. The rate for all Londoners aged 14-19 would be one per 1,400. The age range was decided upon as the youngest victim of teen homicide in London in 2008 was 14 and the oldest 19. All but one victim was male.

²⁶ Youth violence overall, and youth victims of 'violence against the person', decreased between 2003-04 and 2007-08. However, these figures cover a variety of violent incidents, the vast majority of which will be less serious. 'Violence against the person' covers a whole array of offences from murder to harassment (eg verbal abuse).

Figure 3: MPS victim rates per 10,000 population for those aged 11-19 (2002/03 - 2007/08)



The MPS also count all crimes where the offence was gun- or knife-enabled. The number of youth victims recorded as suffering from a knife- or gun-enabled offence decreased by between 17 per cent and 18 per cent between 2002-03 and 2007-08.²⁷ All these figures suggest that while recorded youth violence has decreased overall since 2002-03 only youth homicide has increased significantly since 2006-07.

From April 2008, the MPS have produced new figures under a “youth violence” category in line with Home

Office monitoring. This category collects together a number of offences intended to act as a proxy measure for serious youth violence. These include “Any offence of Most Serious Violence, Assault with Injury, Gun Crime or Knife Crime, where the victim is aged 1-19”. The latest figures show that, for the period April to August 2008, “youth violence” victims decreased by 4.5 per cent (432 victims) compared to the corresponding period in 2007.

Police recorded crime figures can only reflect offences that are reported.

²⁷ Counting rules have changed since March 2008 and as a result gun- and knife-enabled offences have increased, making the figures incomparable to unadjusted figures from previous years. ‘Gun intimidated’ type offences were added to the gun-enabled crime count (estimated inflation 20 per cent) and ‘sharp instruments’ added to knife-enabled crime (estimated inflation 15 per cent).

Not all offences are reported to the police because some victims do not wish to inform the authorities or feel unable to do so. For example youths are often reluctant to report violence-related injuries due to fear of reprisal, because they wish to deal with the problem personally, because they have behaved criminally themselves, or because they lack confidence in the police. In addition, it is recognised that the level of under-reporting of crime may well be higher amongst ethnic minorities. Consequently, the actual extent of youth violence in London cannot be accurately established. In the absence of more reliable systematic information, though, police data currently provides the best available London-wide evidence on youth violence levels.²⁸

In terms of police performance, the MPS do not currently publish their success rate in dealing with youth violence; however, the sanction detection rate (the proportion of suspects legally proceeded against) for total homicide during the 12 months to June 2008 was very high at 97.4 per cent. The equivalent figure for other types of “most serious violence” (including assault with less serious injury) was 30.5 per

cent. A clear up rate of 21.6 per cent was recorded for total gun-enabled crime and 25.3 per cent for total knife crime. The sanction detection rate for total robbery was 16.1 per cent.

Victims and offenders

MPS data shows there is clear over-representation of African-Caribbean and African-born male victims in cases of murder and serious violence. In 2007-08, black African-Caribbean youths constituted 50 per cent of London’s GBH and murder victims, whereas white European youths constituted 29 per cent. Further, black youth victims of GBH and murder increased by 23 per cent between 2005 and 2008.

This ethnic disproportionately is most evident among teen homicide victims. Of the 26 teenage murder victims in London in 2007, 22 were identified as being African-Caribbean. During 2008, 21 of the 27 victims to date have been of African-Caribbean appearance. The others cases comprised 3 white and 3 other minority ethnic youths. The average age of teen homicide victims during 2008 to date has been 16-17. Victims have been almost exclusively male (one female), although females are

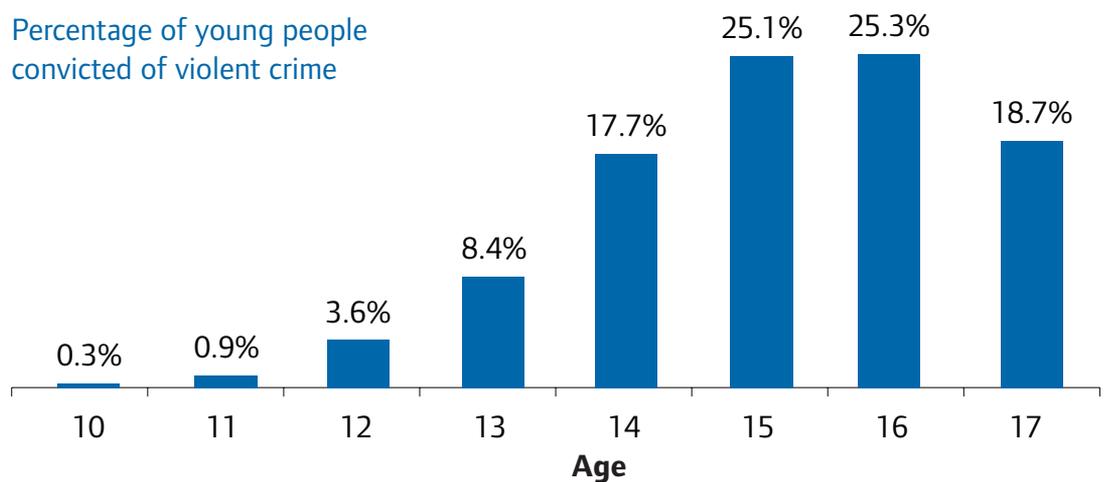
²⁸The Home Office plan to introduce an ‘under 16s’ component to the British Crime Survey, which is intended to shed light on the prevalence of youth violence. However, due to the rarity of serious youth violence it may be that the survey sample will not capture sufficient numbers of victims (who are happy to disclose) to generate much more knowledge on this subject.

more proportionately represented as victims of other youth violence (eg common assault, robbery) and over-represented as victims of sexual offences and domestic violence.

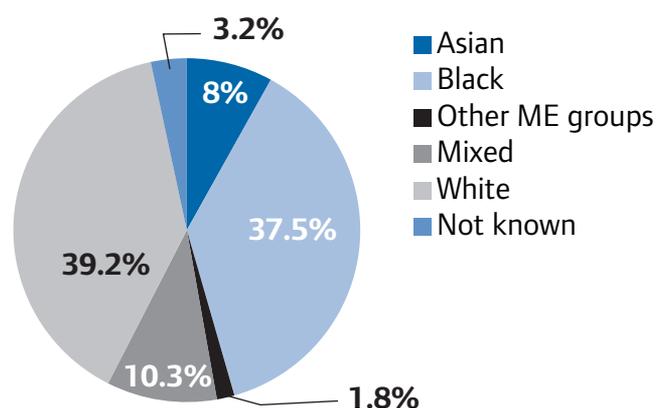
For youth violence offences where both victim and suspect were under the age of 20, African-Caribbean offenders made up just over half of all suspects.²⁹

Figure 4: Age and ethnicity of young people convicted of violent crime in London in 2006-07 (n = 7,844 convictions)

Percentage of young people convicted of violent crime



Percentage of young people convicted of violent crime



²⁹ For the 20-25 year age group this is only 31 per cent, with white British representing 48 per cent of suspects.

Youth Justice Board figures show that there were 7,844 violent³⁰ crime convictions against young people in London in 2006-07. The peak age of perpetrators was 15-16.

Gangs

Research conducted on gangs³¹ in London by the MPS and its partners has highlighted the following findings. The numbers of those involved in serious violent offending as part of gangs remain small in comparison with the overall offending population. The degree of organisation, name and membership of each gang is variable and subject to frequent change. Street gangs tend to consist of young people. Gangs typically consist of a small number of criminally active key influencers, together with a wider group of young people who are attracted to, or coerced into, involvement. In some cases, these young people support organised criminal networks by committing offences and concealing drugs and weapons.

Serious, gang-related violence is concentrated in a limited number of areas and venues. Gangs are characterised by frequent internal and

external disputes, typically involving issues of “respect”. Often, what appear to be minor incidents can escalate through retaliation into serious violence between gangs. Members, and those wishing to be associated with the gangs, may seek status through committing offences and violence, often against rival gangs. A small number of street gangs who have pursued criminal activity for a number of years have progressed into organised criminal networks.

Evidence from seizure and intelligence indicates that weaponry for street gangs is dominated by knives and imitation firearms. The internet is used by some street gangs as a means of enhancing their status. There is a correlation between victims and offenders involved in gang-related violence which must be considered when dealing with these individuals. The majority of those involved in gang-related violence across London, as both victims and offenders, are from the Caribbean and African communities (with 85 per cent of teen homicide victims in 2007 and 78 per cent so far in 2008).

³⁰ Violent crime here includes violence against the person, sexual offences and robbery. Violence against the person includes a range of offences from murder to harassment (eg verbal abuse).

³¹ A gang is defined here as a relatively durable, predominately street based group of people who see themselves (and are seen by others) as a discernable group for whom crime and violence is integral to the group's identity.

Causes of serious youth violence

During September 2008, the Mayor held seminars with community representatives and academics experienced in youth violence research. The following issues were identified as contributing to the problem.

Personal risk factors that increase the risk of offending:

- Insufficient learning of empathy during preschool period
- Poor parental supervision, discipline, family conflict, condoning problem behaviour
- Low achievement, truancy, school disorganisation
- Gap between puberty and beginning work with prospects
- Low family income or poor housing
- Drugs and alcohol availability
- Early involvement in problem or aggressive behaviour, including bullying

Social drivers of youth violence:

- Issues of territory/postcodes
- Anti social peer group / gang status – escalating feuds and revenge attacks
- “Street justice” and disrespect
- Illegal economy (drugs markets etc)
- Coercion and grooming (older male siblings or family members)
- Link between being a victim and becoming an offender
- Cultural acceptance of use of weapons among small minority
- Media coverage increases fear in young people (can lead to carrying weapons) and of young people by adults (can lead to fragmented society)

Wider societal conditions behind drivers of youth violence:

- De-industrialisation
- Income polarisation
- Increasing correlation of disadvantage with race
- Educational polarisation
- Increases in organised and transnational crime
- “Ghettoisation” of the prison and the “prisonisation” of the ghetto
- Increase in violence portrayed in the media
- Social exclusion, criminalisation and disaffection
- Reduction in stable family relationships

Appendix 2:

Policing Response

Strategic Approach

The policing response will be designed to address the immediate risks relating to serious youth violence whilst pursuing earlier and more structured intervention as part of the broader preventative effort.

Operations to enforce preventative legislation, prosecute those involved in serious youth violence (SYV) and increase statutory control over some individuals will remain a necessary response to protect the wider public from the violence of the few. Alongside direct enforcement will run preventative deployments that have engagement with, and protection of, young people as their central theme.

It is recognised that enforcement and preventative policing deployments need to deal with immediate criminality whilst recognising and taking all opportunities for diversion from criminal behaviour. Similarly, it is acknowledged that efforts to minimise violence directed towards young people now will pay significant dividend in the future.

Operational Delivery

The preventative and enforcement activity will be delivered through a framework of universal, targeted and specialist response. This will be led by standardised assessment processes and joint analysis to target resources

towards both people and places that are assessed to generate or suffer risk of serious youth violence. It will be delivered through Borough Command Units with central support from a range of MPS resources.

Operation Kraken

The MPS has been undertaking significant enforcement activity to tackle serious youth violence through Operation Blunt 2 since May 2008. The Met will launch Operation Kraken as the next stage of operational activity, building on the successful tactics implemented in Blunt 2, and with an enhanced focus on the role of gangs in serious youth violence

Operation Kraken will focus on tackling dangerous people and dangerous places at specific, dangerous times.

Dangerous People

The focus of this activity will continue to be :

- Targeted enforcement operations against those gangs that cause the most harm in relation to serious youth violence;
- An ongoing focus to ensure the prompt arrest, charge and prosecution of those judged to represent greatest risk of serious youth violence;
- Where appropriate this

enforcement activity will include as a core element attacking the criminal enterprise associated with gangs and youth violence (eg drugs, robbery).

The tactics used will include :

- The production and maintenance of comprehensive gang profiles, including network analysis and collusion or conflict;
- Continued engagement with families, communities and partner organisations to gather and assess community or other open source intelligence;
- Action to ensure the immediate arrest of all persons identified as suspects for offences or otherwise wanted by police;
- Application of all tactics developed under the “Safer Streets” initiative in relation to robbery;
- Action to minimise pre-charge bail, and make robust representations to minimise court bail in appropriate cases, and/or apply restrictive bail conditions;
- Monitoring and enforcement of all bail and licence conditions;
- Robust and effective investigation of all incidents of serious youth violence;
- Positive prosecution policies with regard to young people carrying or using weapons and close work with Youth Offending Teams to ensure

that effective programmes are put in place;

- Control of those involved in serious youth violence through the use of Anti-Social Behaviour Orders and Parenting Orders.

Dangerous Places at Dangerous Times

This activity will continue to deliver policing deployments to protect young people and minimise the risk of serious youth violence in areas and across venues, events and transport that feature significant youth presence and interaction. The tactical focus of this activity will continue to be:

- Sustained deployments of officers to undertake stop and search, utilising Section 60 powers, in those places exhibiting the greatest occurrence of knife crime, to create an environment hostile to the routine carriage of weapons, particularly knives;
- Neighbourhood weapon sweeps deployed routinely to detect and remove weapons concealed in public space;
- Use of police powers to remove young people from the street when they are judged to be at risk (Operation Staysafe, including existing truancy patrols);
- Deployments to ensure the safety of young people before and after school/college, including public

transport routes and interchanges, including Operation Tyrol;

- Operations to ensure the safety of those attending public events where there is a risk of weapon carriage and/or serious youth violence;
- Work to ensure that events held in private and/or licensed premises are adequately planned and managed to prevent weapon carriage and related violence;
- Operational activity will be scheduled to deliver a greater volume and range of tactics in accordance with identified periods that represent higher risk for serious youth violence.

Addressing Future Risk

The MPS is significantly enhancing its operational engagement with young people in order better to understand and respond to the issues that place people at risk from violence and/or generate violent behaviour.

Technology enhancements and training are allowing more daily referral of young people who come to the notice of police. This includes completion of a Pre-Assessment Check whenever police come into contact with a young person and the creation of records where risk factors are identified.

These processes are supported by Public Protection Desks in all

police Borough Command Units with responsibility for sharing of information and triggering the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) process with local authority Children's Services.

The MPS has trained around 30,000 staff in "Every Child Matters" and the introduction of new work practice has seen the identification of at risk young people increase from about 700 to 7000 a week. The MPS has also invested about £4m a year in providing staff to deliver this and upgraded computer systems to make the processes more effective.

The MPS is introducing the Youth Safety Assessment Tool to identify young people with higher risk factors and to trigger interventions. This is currently being piloted in four boroughs with roll-out into another eight boroughs being progressed. This will provide an evidence-based list of young people who are assessed by the MPS and partners as being at risk and for whom intervention packages will be developed. This underpins the engagement work that is key to longer-term prevention work.

The expansion and widening of the Safer Schools Partnership will be a key element of future work. Safer Schools Officers will work within the Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT) to

develop a policing approach that will improve :

- investigation of youth crime and patrol in and around schools
- dealing with issues causing young people fear and reducing crime (using the SNT problem solving model as a basis for work in schools)
- supporting victims and witnesses
- dealing with suitable crime through restorative approaches
- working with schools and young people to reduce vulnerability to crime
- integration into other neighbourhood policing approaches
- critical incident responses in schools.

Underpinning the work in schools and other engagement activities are some evidence-based core approaches. These have been identified as being effective models for working with young people to reduce vulnerability. They are :

- Effective use of authority
- Pro-social modelling - including mentoring and role models
- Problem solving, including restorative approaches to problems
- A warm, welcoming and enthusiastic approach which is individually tailored

Whilst delivery of youth programmes is not the role of police it is acknowledged that the MPS should be involved in work to inform their content and target their delivery towards those individuals judged to be at greater risk.

Acknowledgements

The Greater London Authority is grateful for the input to this document from a range of organisations including:

Metropolitan Police Service

London Development Agency

London Criminal Justice Board

Metropolitan Police Authority

London Youth Crime Prevention Board

London Councils

Valuable insights were also gained from the speakers and attendees at the Mayor's Academic Seminar in September 2008 and a variety of community fora between May and October 2008 including:

Lord Victor Adebawale, London Youth Crime Prevention Board

Viv Ahmun, In-Volve

Edith Akenkide, Magistrate

Supt. Dal Babu, MPS

Shaun Bailey, My Generation

Ken Barnes, CAN-I

Phil Boorman,
King's College Hospital

Peta Boucher, LEAP Confronting Conflict

Anwar Bourazza, Ascension Trust/
Street Pastors

Prof. Ben Bowling,
Kings College, London

Denise Brown, Alternatives Inc

Cindy Butts, MPA

Paul Cavadino, Nacro	Doug Flight, London Councils
Siobhan Coldwell, MPA	Decima Francis, From Boyhood to Manhood Foundation
Lyn Costello, Mothers Against Murder and Aggression	Allan Gay, Youth Enlightenment Ltd.
Patsy Cummins, Brixton Beacon	Jo Gordon, Head of Crime Reduction at GoL
Hamera Asfa Davey, MPA	Dr. Roger Grimshaw, The Centre for Crime and Justice Studies
Gill Davies, Southwark Community Safety	Simon Hallsworth, London Metropolitan University
Melvyn Davis, Boyz 2 Men	George Hosking, Wave Trust
Catherine Doran, Chidrens Service Advisor	Sal Idriss, Photographer and brother of victim
Sharon Doughty, Kids Task Force (missdorothy.com)	Darrell James, ex-offender
Michael Duggan, London Youth Crime Prevention Board	Michael Jervis, Damilola Taylor Trust
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Juliana Farha	Rani King, Through Unity Foundation
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John O'Brien, London Councils	
Paul Olaitan, Hackney YOT	
Prof. John Pitts, University of Bedfordshire	
Mark Prince, Kiyon Prince Foundation	
Graham Robb, Youth Justice Board	
Justin Russell, Head of Violent Crime Unit	
Daniel Silverstone, Southwark IAG	
Commander Mark Simmons, MPS	
Junior Smart, St Giles Trust	
Amy Smith, Elliot Guy family	

The Mayor is keen to hear the views of Londoners, London agencies and voluntary sector organisations on this proposed programme for action. To participate in the consultation process please visit the consultation website at **www.london.gov.uk/mayor/consultation/current.jsp** and submit your response to the specific questions by 16 December 2008.

In addition the Mayor will be having discussions with key organisations over the coming months.

Based on the consultation responses and other discussions, the Mayor intends to publish a series of delivery programmes for each of the agreed projects in Spring 2009.

Other formats and languages

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Chinese

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Vietnamese

Nếu bạn muốn có văn bản tài liệu này bằng ngôn ngữ của mình, hãy liên hệ theo số điện thoại hoặc địa chỉ dưới đây.

Greek

Αν θέλετε να αποκτήσετε αντίγραφο του παρόντος εγγράφου στη δική σας γλώσσα, παρακαλείστε να επικοινωνήσετε τηλεφωνικά στον αριθμό αυτό ή ταχυδρομικά στην παρακάτω διεύθυνση.

Turkish

Bu belgenin kendi dilinizde hazırlanmış bir nüshasını edinmek için, lütfen aşağıdaki telefon numarasını arayınız veya adrese başvurunuz.

Punjabi

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਦੀ ਕਾਪੀ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਆਪਣੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਹੇਠ ਲਿਖੇ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਫ਼ੋਨ ਕਰੋ ਜਾਂ ਹੇਠ ਲਿਖੇ ਪਤੇ 'ਤੇ ਰਾਬਤਾ ਕਰੋ:

Hindi

यदि आप इस दस्तावेज की प्रति अपनी भाषा में चाहते हैं, तो कृपया निम्नलिखित नंबर पर फोन करें अथवा नीचे दिये गये पते पर संपर्क करें

Bengali

আপনি যদি আপনার ভাষায় এই দলিলের প্রতিলিপি (কপি) চান, তা হলে নীচের ফোন নম্বরে বা ঠিকানায় অনুগ্রহ করে যোগাযোগ করুন।

Urdu

اگر آپ اس دستاویز کی نقل اپنی زبان میں چاہتے ہیں، تو براہ کرم نیچے دئے گئے نمبر پر فون کریں یا دیئے گئے پتے پر رابطہ کریں

Arabic

إذا أردت نسخة من هذه الوثيقة بلغتك، يرجى الاتصال برقم الهاتف أو مراسلة العنوان أدناه

Gujarati

જો તમને આ દસ્તાવેજની નકલ તમારી ભાષામાં જોઈતી હોય તો, કૃપા કરી આપેલ નંબર ઉપર ફોન કરો અથવા નીચેના સરનામે સંપર્ક સાધો.

