

TRAFFORD COUNCIL – CHILDREN’S SERVICES

Report to: Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Committee
Date: 12.03.2024
Report for: Information
Report of: Tracey Staines, Head of Vulnerable Adolescent Service
Catherine Marland, Violence Reduction Coordinator
Report Title Working collaboratively to reduce the number of young people exploited or involved in knife and violent crime.

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of how Trafford Children’s Services are working collaborative with colleagues and partners to prevent and reduce the number of young people involved in violence, gangs, and knife related behaviour.

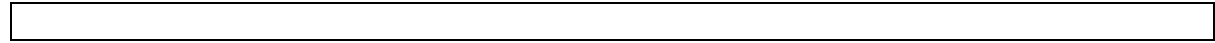
The data shows an increase from 8,815 violent crimes committed by Trafford adults and young people in 2021 / 2022, to 9,316 in 2022/ 2023. Most of the violent crime in Trafford is perpetrated by adults, and according to the Greater Manchester Police data, only 13% of this type of crime was committed by children / young people. The data also records 15% of young people as the victim of violent crime.

This report will provide an outline of the Greater Manchester Violence Reduction strategy which Trafford has aligns with, and offer assurance that our understanding of violence, and knife crime has been informed through a Joint Strategic Needs assessment.

Trafford Children’s Services has continued to evolve in response to the rising concern in youth violence, gang culture and knife crime. This report will provide a summary of the Strategic governance arrangements that are in place that offer a clear line of sight, transparent accountable decision making, and a sharpened focus on targeting resources to ensure that we continue to prevent and reduce youth violence in all its forms.

The Youth Justice Service, Complex Safeguarding, and Youth Engagement Service sit within the Vulnerable Adolescent Service. This report will highlight some of the direct work that our services do, in collaboration with partners to raise awareness, prevent and reduce the number of young people who are involved in violent related behaviour, including some examples about the difference this has made.

Trafford Children’s Services continue to innovate in how we reach young people to tackle youth violence, so it is impactful, and this report shares a summary and link to ‘round midnight,’ an innovative approach used within the Vulnerable Adolescent Service.



Recommendations

- For Scrutiny to note the contents of this report and offer challenge to the service.
- To note the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and collaborative understanding of youth violence in Trafford, and activity to address it.

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

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