

VIOLENCE REDUCTION

Good Practice Case Studies

RB Kensington & Chelsea
Breakfast & Coffee
Mornings

Through the simple but effective measure of organising a regular breakfast event for a wide range of statutory and voluntary sector partners across the borough, RBK&C's community safety team is looking to improve information sharing, joined-up working and partnership approaches that can better support young people and improve outcomes.



The problem

How to build stronger relationships with Voluntary Sector and Statutory services in the borough and create partnerships that would work together to address serious youth violence in RBKC. The borough has an abundance of projects and youth services who worked independently to address the issues around youth violence. Different projects and youth clubs work with the same young people without each other's knowledge and missed opportunities to collaborate and better their engagement with young people. These young people often had direct or indirect involvement with Social Services, Police, Early Help and Youth Offending Service; and similar issue arose about lack of partnership work voluntary sector services. As result of of services not collaborating more with one another there was lack trust in sharing information, statutory worker were not aware of the providers in area and the support they could offer that help the young people and their families. So it was important to find a solution to this problem.

Proposed solution

The Community Safety Team created the Breakfast and Coffee mornings to bring partners together, build productive relationships, create a forum for partners to share what work they are doing in RBKC, develop opportunities for partners to collaborate and support each other. On an individual basis members of the Community Safety Team co-locate at our partner offices; for example, Probation, YOS, local Youth Clubs and neighbouring LBHF and WCC councils,

Partners involved

RB Kensington & Chelsea Community Safety team

Statutory and Voluntary Sector Partners across the borough



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this really builds greater understanding of how we all work, information sharing, local knowledge, good practices; and encourages greater participation in Community Safety led forums like Serious Youth Violence Panels, Adults Safe guarding and mapping meetings.

Approach: Breakfast and Coffee morning

The purpose of this is to share updates on trends in SYV for a Safer K&C Partnership perspective, hear the experiences of service providers as well as offer an opportunity for VCS to share services/ projects that are being delivered to raise awareness. The benefit for Community Safety Team is that they have stronger relationships with VCS partners, as well as providing an offer of support for any SYV issues through our SYV Coordinator.

The Community Safety Team believe that positive relationships build trust with partners and productive relationships encourage partnership work i.e. sharing information, supporting interventions and attending SYVP panels. We created the Breakfast and Coffee mornings to bring partners together and build productive relationships, create a forum for partners to share what work they are doing in RBKC, develop opportunities for partners to collaborate and support each other. On an individual basis we often co-locate at our partner offices, for example, Probation, YOS, local Youth Clubs and neighbouring LBHF and WCC councils, this really builds greater understanding of how we all work and encourages greater participation in SYV panels.

Desired outcomes

The Community Safety Team aim was to create a network of services, providers and individual professionals who work in the community of RBKC and neighbouring borough's which include Westminster and Hammersmith where:

- (A) Partners work together and build productive relationships
- (B) Create a forum for professionals to share what work they are doing in RBKC
- (C) Develop opportunities for partners to collaborate and support each other.

This would be a relaxed and friendly environment in order to encourage professionals to connect and engage with one another. The sessions would be semi-structured, those who would like time to share updates about their individual organizations and or if there are any emerging themes in the borough professionals want to raise. Lastly, the outcome Community Safety Team desire to achieve is an ongoing legacy of the event; the hope is to make it quarterly event, and have different organisations host it at their venues which would make them stakeholders which is important.

The Community
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believe that
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Current picture

The first Breakfast and Coffee event was held on the 18 February 2020 at a local youth club. Full breakfast was provided from a local coffee shop. More than 30 professionals turned representing approximately 20 different services. Several provided presentations and updates, and many developed new partnerships. The benefits for the Community Safety Team is the increase in attendance at the Serious Youth Violence Panel from the voluntary section organisations, sharing information and working with social workers, Probation Officers and Youth Offending Officers to support young people. It's meant that we have had more trusted conversations about young people at risk and have better knowledge of what providers can offer as support.

Since the lock down the event has continued virtually, The Community Safety Team leads the SYV Network Meeting via Teams. Our most recent session on the 10 February 2021 included officers from the Territorial Support Group (TSG), who contacted the Community Safety Team for support to engage the local community and professionals; more than 20 professionals attended and a local Somali parenting network will be meeting with the TSG officers for further discussions.

This year the the Community Safety Team recently carried out a feedback survey in the SYV Network Event to find out if this what of benefit to them. Five questions were asked, two of them will be examined in 'next steps', please below.

What type of organisation do you work for?

37.5 per cent of professionals are from a Community/Voluntary organisation and 62.5 per cent from statutory public services

How useful do you find attending the Serious Youth Violence Network?

87.5 per cent found the event extremely useful and 12.5 per cent somewhat useful.

What do you like or find positive about the serious youth violence network?

"Sharing of information, working together and that you get to network with other professionals which subsequently means better outcomes for young people"

"Discussion of current issue that effects the community and gaining new knowledge "

"The amount and content of the information shared, and space for conversation"

We have had more trusted conversations about young people at risk and have better knowledge of what providers can offer as support



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The survey shows that professionals overwhelmingly believe that it is helping them to work together better, share information, understand issues in the community and help achieve better outcomes for their young people.

Contact 

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Serious Youth
Violence
Coordinator

Next steps

The feedback survey provided direction on how the Community Safety Team will aim to develop the SYV Network event, please see below responses to the final two questions

What do you think could improve the serious youth violence network to make it more helpful to your work?

“Being face to face - but understandable with the current climate maybe not achievable “

“Continuing the network, bringing more new knowledge different ways of working with the issue, “

Are there particular topics that you would like to have covered at future events?

“Hearing from people with lived experience, “

The first way to develop the SYV network is meeting face to face again, which is determined by the governmental easing of lockdown. When social life returns to normal the Community Safety Team plan to host Breakfast and Coffee events, face to face interactions help make positive interactions between people and inspire collaborations. Second, special guests from the Community will be invited to share their lived experiences; this will professionals better understand the impact they have on the community and they can tailor their support better.

This is one of a series of case studies submitted by London boroughs and collated by London Councils to share experience and learning across the capital. Publication date: May 2021



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