



## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

### **Gangs and Knife Crime Working Group**

#### **1. Purpose/Objectives of the Review**

- To investigate how Northampton Borough Council (NBC) can play an active role in tackling knife crime and gangs in Northampton

#### **Key lines of Inquiry:**

- To gain an understanding of the work currently being undertaken by partnerships, statutory and voluntary organisations, and the Police to address these issues
- Whether there are links between knife crime, gangs other issues
- How Agencies can work with Community to reduce and respond to
- How young people can be engaged with in preventing knife crime and gangs
- To raise awareness of knife crime and gangs in Northampton
- Whether there are any common factors that lead to involvement in Gangs
- To explore best practice elsewhere in identifying and providing support to victims of knife crime and gangs
- To understand what NBC is doing outside the Scrutiny process in relation to knife crime and gangs

#### **2. Outcomes Required**

- To make evidence based recommendations to improve the role that NBC has in tackling gangs and knife crime
- To make recommendations, as appropriate, regarding partnership working in tackling gangs and knife crime

### 3. Information Required

- Background data
- Background reports
- Best practice data
- Desktop research
- Evidence from expert internal witnesses
- Evidence from expert external witnesses
- Site visits (if applicable)

### 4. Format of Information

- Background data, including:
  - Presentation to set the scene: To identify the prevalence of the problem locally
  - Relevant national and local background research papers
  - Definitions – Knife crime and Gangs
  - Case Studies
- Best practice external to Northampton
- Internal expert advisors:
  - Leader of the Council, Northampton Borough Council (NBC)
  - Cabinet Member for Community Safety, NBC
  - Head of Customers and Communities, NBC and the Environmental Health and Licensing Manager, NBC
  - Head of Housing and Wellbeing, NBC
  - Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Safety
  - Chair of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP)
  - Service Manager, Anti-Social Behaviour Unit
- External expert advisors:
  - Head of Protecting Vulnerable Persons, Northamptonshire Police
  - Chief Superintendent, Northamptonshire Police
  - PCSO – St David’s, Northamptonshire Police
  - Service Manager, RISE Team

- Senior Manager, Northamptonshire Safeguarding Children's Board
  - Director, Education Services, NCC
  - Representative, Children's Rights' Group, Corporate Parenting Board
  - Chief Officer, Northamptonshire Victim Support
  - Cabinet Member for Adult Services, NCC
  - Cabinet Member for Children's Services, NCC
  - Chair, Northamptonshire Safeguarding Children Board
  - Chief Officer, Service Six
  - Chief Officer, Lowdowne Centre
  - Manager, Free to Talk Group
  - Chief Executive, Northampton Partnership Homes (NPH)
  - Chief Officer, Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
  - Chief Executive, Victim Support, Northampton
  - Security Manager and Police Team, University of Northampton
- Site visits to Free2 Talk, Blackthorn, and Far Cotton Boxing Club

## **5. Methods Used to Gather Information**

- Minutes of meetings
- Desktop research
- Site visits
- Officer reports
- Presentations
- Examples of best practice
- Witness Evidence:-
  - Key witnesses as detailed in section 4 of this scope

## **6. Co-Options to the Review**

- None.

## **7 Community Impact Screening Assessment**

- A Community Impact Screening Assessment to be undertaken on the scope of the Review

## **8 Evidence gathering Timetable**

June 2019 – January 2020

- 18 June 2019 - Scoping meeting
- 23 July - Evidence gathering
- 12 September - Evidence gathering
- 14 November - Evidence gathering
- 13 January 2020 - Approval of the final report

Various site visits will be programmed during this period, if required.

Meetings to commence at 6.00 pm

### **9. Responsible Officers**

Lead Officers - Vicki Rockall, Community Safety and Engagement Manager and Tracy Tiff, Democratic and Member Services Manager

### **10. Resources and Budgets**

Vicki Rockall, Community Safety and Engagement Manager to provide internal advice.

### **11. Final report presented by:**

Completed by January 2020. Presented by the Chair of the Working Group to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and then to Cabinet.

### **12. Monitoring procedure:**

Review the impact of the report after six months (approximately November/December 2020)