



Update on response to Gangs in Derby

SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Multi-Agency Gangs Team (MAGT) was established in 2009 to combat an increase in gang activity experienced from 2008.
- 1.2 A review of gang culture was undertaken by the Children and Young People's Commission in 2009, and the Commission requested that they play in role in continually monitoring the response the gang activity in the city.
- 1.3 This report provides an update on the work undertaken to combat gang activity since the last update in December 2009.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To note the update on the current actions underway to combat gang activity in Derby
- 2.2 To make any recommendations on the prioritisation of services

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Commission requested continuing updates on the response to gang activity in Derby to ensure that the actions of the partners are targeted to best effect.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 The Youth Justice Board suggests that there are four key characteristics which distinguish a gang from a delinquent peer group. When two or more of the following attributes exist, groups of young people should be considered to be a gang:
 - Other delinquent peer groups also see them as a gang
 - Their offending involves more serious levels of violence than that of other local delinquent groups
 - Their offending appears to be more systematically planned than that of other groups
 - They have known links with older people locally, who are involved in serious, organised crime.

The Multi-Agency Gangs Team (MAGT) was created to intervene with gangs in Derby. The full list of gangs and delinquent peer groups can be found in Appendix 2. The make-up of the team, including roles and responsibilities is in Appendix 3.

4.2 Work undertaken by the MAGT falls into four sections –Prevention, Enforcement, Resilience and Mediation. Actions undertaken since the last review (December 2009) under each of these areas are outlined in section 4.3-4.6 below:

4.3 **Prevention**

- Information sharing agreements in place across the Multi-Agencies within the team to ensure important referrals are not missed
- Monitoring, risk access and visiting of gang referrals as needed to attempt to signpost at risk youngsters to positive activities
- A one hour 'Gangs' information presentation has been delivered explaining the consequences of gang activity and providing information about making choices. These have been delivered to 45 different junior schools (targeting years 5 and 6) and 16 secondary schools (targeting year 9). Each session was delivered to a class (rather than an assembly) for greater effectiveness and participation. In total 300 sessions were delivered.
- These were supplemented by whole school assemblies to provide information to wider year groups on gangs
- A Section 30 (Dispersal Order) was successfully applied for and granted in an area affected by anti-social behaviour, linked to gangs
- Presentations have been given to educate and inform on the history of gangs, current issues and what's being done to tackle them. These have been aimed at key partners such as prison staff, social care, youth service reparation panels, NACRO, housing aid, housing options, job centre staff, the YMCA, action housing, police safer neighbourhood teams and Derby teacher training
- Arrangements have been made for similar inputs at neighbourhood boards and forums, and closer work is being undertaken with third sector agencies such as Enthusiasm
- Successful running of the LEAP programme for young people involved in gangs, to help them understand the dangers and exit the lifestyle
- An East Midlands Forum is being established to share best practise on tackling group offending, gang activity and weapon use. This is in the early stages and is being supported by the Youth Justice Board in London.

4.4 **Enforcement**

- Gang members have been arrested for breaches of the Section 30 dispersal orders (as above)
- Five firearms have been seized in 2010, and arrests have been and will be made
- Successful ASBOs exist on numerous gang members, including an order applied for to prevent the wearing of particular gang colours by individuals. It was stressed to the court exacting what wearing colours means, and the impact it can have on the community including negative perceptions. If this is successful, it will be employed again in the future. The CPS has stated that this has not been done before and will be used as a test case.
- After a serious incident in Staffordshire, multi-agency work between Staffordshire and Derbyshire police and probation services led to the 5 high risk Derbyshire gang members being recalled to prison on breaches of probation license conditions.
- £12,000 - £15,000 worth of Class A drugs have been seized from gang members
- Liaison between the MAGT, Operation Redshank and the probation service has ensured that very serious risk offenders have had strict license conditions imposed on their release from prison. This includes one offender not being able to enter the county.

4.5 **Resilience**

- Quarterly meetings with the gangs community advisory teams on how issues, current work practices and actions of the MAGT affect the community.
- Schools have been provided with information cards to be displayed in classrooms and on notice boards, providing a contact number for young people to ring for advice, help or information, confidentially and anonymously if required.
- 10 parents information evenings were held across the city, across a mix of schools cluster groups, to provide information to parents on anti-social behaviour and gangs, and what is being done in partnership to tackle it. Every parent/guardian with children aged 5-11 was invited from every school in the city.
- The MAGT was recently nominated for a customer service excellence award.
- Extra policing patrols, street pastors, outreach work by Youth Services and Enthusiasm, all providing community reassurance at important dates throughout the year, such as the anniversary of Kadeem Blackwood.

4.6 Mediation

- A Mediation expert from Birmingham (funded 25% CSP, 75% police) to carry out work that would not normally be covered, such as resolving conflict between high risk gang members in response to specific threats
- The mediator also visits gang members in prison (currently approximately 30) to begin work on the resolution of conflicts that may be responsible for them being in prison in the first place. These conflicts are not forgotten, and retribution is still often sought. Numerous high risk individuals have come out of prison in the last year, and more are due out over the next couple of years.

4.7 Recent Events

Very recently, there has been a shift in the way Derby's Gangs are made up. Traditionally they were area specific and made up of the community make up from where they were based or where they live and schools are. Now, there are cases of youths wanting to follow or join gangs outside of their own area. A recent examples saw a 16 year old boy catching 2 buses each way to get to the area and Gang he wanted to be affiliated to.

4.8 Current Risk and Threat

Although the amount of serious incidents has reduced, the threat has not. To gain the respect gangs and their members crave, they need to keep their reputations. Revenge is always a threat; conflicts between the gangs can last years before they are settled. Following the murder of Kadeem Blackwood, Operation Redshank from the police service and the multi agency gangs team have worked hard to ensure there have been no reprisals, however this still remains a risk. During the rise in serious incidents of 2007 and 2008 many senior members of the gangs went to prison for varying offences. Many of these are being released this year and now pose a threat upon their release of becoming re-involved in gang related activity or seeking retribution for the reason why they went to prison.

4.9 Prospective Outcomes

By tackling the 4 key areas, we intend to reduce gang related anti-social behaviour, gang related offending and in the future eradicate gangs in Derby.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 This is an update report, as requested by the Commission. No other options were considered.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer Financial officer Human Resources officer Service Director(s) Other(s)	N/A N/A N/A Karen Johnson, Director Derby Community Safety Partnership
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For more information contact: Background papers: List of appendices:	Ben Meakin 01332 6917 e-mail ben.meakin@derby.gov.uk None Appendix 1 – Implications
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IMPLICATIONS

Financial

- 1.1 None arising from this report

Legal

- 2.1 None arising from this report

Personnel

- 3.1 None arising from this report

Equalities Impact

- 4.1 Effective scrutiny is to the benefit of all people in Derby.

Health and Safety

- 5.1 None arising from this report

Carbon commitment

- 6.1 None arising from this report

Value for money

- 7.1 Effective scrutiny of the work of the partners will ensure that resources are being used to their optimum capacity

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 8.1 Dealing effectively with gangs in Derby will contribute towards ensuring that Derby has stronger, safer and cleaner communities where everyone feels safe and confident in their daily lives.

The Gangs and delinquent peer groups currently involved in Derby are given below. The list provides the name, area of operation and colours associated with the gang.

Criminal Gangs in Derby :-

A1 – Allenton – purple
BCT – Austin Estate – blue/black
38 – Sinfen – Red

Delinquent peer groups:-

CLF – Chaddesden – Pink/orange
A Town – Alvaston – Blue
ANC – Alvaston – Blue
MM –Mackworth – white
PWA – Normanton – green
APT – Arboretum – green
Young Bloods – Chellaston – Red
73 Killers – Chellaston – Red
SBA - Stockbrook barmy army – White

The make up of the Multi Agency Gangs Team

Derbyshire Constabulary
Community Safety Partnership
Derby Homes
Youth Offending Service
Youth Service
Probation
Mediation
Derbyshire Fire and Rescue

Role Profiles

ASB Officer Role

- Note all referrals for ASB from any source.
- Lead officer in identifying/co coordinating and delivery of ASB interventions.
- Link in with other agencies and 3rd sector for intervention and prevention.
- Co-ordinate situational ASB prevention and enforcement activities eg. Section 30, ASB, premises closure and ASBO's.

Derby Homes

- Information share both ways.
- Linking in re enforcement action and following up with tenancy action.
- Joint visits with the MAGT.

Operational manager's role

- Co ordinate and provide day to day management of the team.
- To provide updates on the Delivery Plan/Action Plan to the senior managers.
- To provide fortnightly progress updates to the Head of the CSP and Derbyshire Constabulary Divisional Commander.
- Ensuring Community Advisory Group is convened 4 times a year as a minimum and as required.
- Task mediation staff member to enable effective resolution of gang tensions.
- Identify risks through different stages of mediation process.
- Inform further pro-active measures.
- Information sharing with all agencies.
- Integrated Offender Management around enforcement and the Delivery Plan.
- School programme delivery.

Police Officer role

- Co-ordination and delivery of schools program
- Deputise as MAG team manager when required
- Risk assessing referrals
- Awareness presentations for other agencies

Probation Officers Role

- To attend MAG Team fortnightly meetings to enable information sharing.

- Case management of gang offenders.
- Share and record information re risk and enforcement.
- Undertake interventions for gang members.

Youth Offending Service

- To attend the MAG Team fortnightly meetings and provide updates and information sharing re referrals open to YOS.
- Attend the steering groups and feed information to MAGT.
- The designated link between MAGT and YOS.
- Leads on co ordinating staff for the Leap referrals.
- Updating the YOS System to enable 2 way link.
- Parenting work

Fire and Rescue Service Seconded

- The co ordination of the Leap Programme and completion of a full evaluation at the conclusion of same.
- To provide a link and support to other partnerships.

Children and Young Persons

- To develop a range of preventative/alternative programmes for young people.
- To link between school work and out of school work.
- Out of skill preventative work.
- Home visits and mentoring support.
- Key link re youth Service and sign posting young people into activities.
- Maximise involvement in the Sinfin and Sunnyhill areas.

Mediation

- Tasked to visit referrals given by the MAGT.
- Complete a case management form for each case and which has a risk management stage and an exit plan.