Community Safety Partnership Knife Crime Action Plan
What do we know in Tower Hamlets?
Community told us knife crime was a top 3 concern
Focus groups with young people developed this plan

Victims: 85% male, 25% 13-19 yrs, 46% 20-30 years,
Suspects: 100% male, most common aged 16-30 years
We are third worst in London for knife crime injury
where the victim is aged under 25

Robbery up 16.3% to 1,550 vs 2016/17

Support Victims
New multi-agency Exploitation Team for early identification and support
Accident and Emergency Major Trauma Team and Paediatric Team Projects
Victim support violent crime workers
Work with community and voluntary sectors to provide support
Intensive 1-2-1 support for young people

Knife crime with Injury up 2.4% to 210 vs 2016/17

"We all go for the quick fixes and there is no quick fix in this. It has to be long term relationship building for change"

"The seeds of violent behaviour are sown early on"

"The community need to be supported to intervene"

First time entrants into youth justice system down 82 to 549 per 100,000 of population vs Oct 2015 – Sept 2016

"It's rooted in the gangs and drugs"

Knife crime up 15.4% to 705 vs 2016/17

Robbery up 16.3% to 1,550 vs 2016/17

Weapons Possession up 22% to 318 vs 2016/17

Violence up 4.2% to 415 vs 2016/17

"The seeds of violent behaviour are sown early on"

Build Trust with and Confidence in Communities
Youth Independent Advisory Group for policing
Community safety outreach and engagement
EMPOWER: a support programme addressing young women’s experiences of sexual violence and exploitation, primarily through gangs
Develop community champions to raise awareness
Support community and voluntary sector projects

Knife crime with Injury up 2.4% to 210 vs 2016/17

"We all go for the quick fixes and there is no quick fix in this. It has to be long term relationship building for change"

"The community need to be supported to intervene"
“When you are going into families where the support structures aren’t there, the damage is done for a young person. You’ve really got to be able to invest in relationships to allow that young person to be able to undo their perceptions, attitudes, their thinking.”  
(Community org.)

“We all go for quick fixes. And there is no quick fix in this. It has to be long term relationship building for change.”  
(Community org.)

“We work with a lot of young people who if you tapped into their ability would be highly successful business people or entrepreneurs. But it doesn’t get tapped in the right way.”  
(Community org.)

“It’s not about creating jobs. The jobs are there. But a lot of young people can’t access jobs. They don’t have the confidence or skills. We have more jobs than people’”  
(Community org.)

“The cops always pick on us because of the way we dress, the way we look”  
(young person)

“You see how easy it is to get caught up in a (criminal) environment when you don’t see changes and opportunities for you”  
(Community org.)

“It’s about my family and being away from them. At the end of the day I’ve only learnt this recently by going to jail”  
(young person)

“How do you give people second, third and fourth chances to make that change? To fund something means long term resourcing... two or three years”  
(Community org.)

“They just read things off books. They don’t know how we feel or what leads up to doing crime”  
(young person)

“They work off books. They don’t know how it feels or what leads up to doing crime”  
(young person)

“How do you give people second, third and fourth chances to make that change? To fund something means long term resourcing... two or three years”  
(Community org.)

“Tough enforcement is needed, identify the elders and disrupt, disrupt, disrupt..”  
(Partner org.)