

## FIRST FRIDAY SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP FORUM

For all in Education, Health, Children's Social Care, Police, Adult and other public services who are members of the Newham Safeguarding Children Partnership

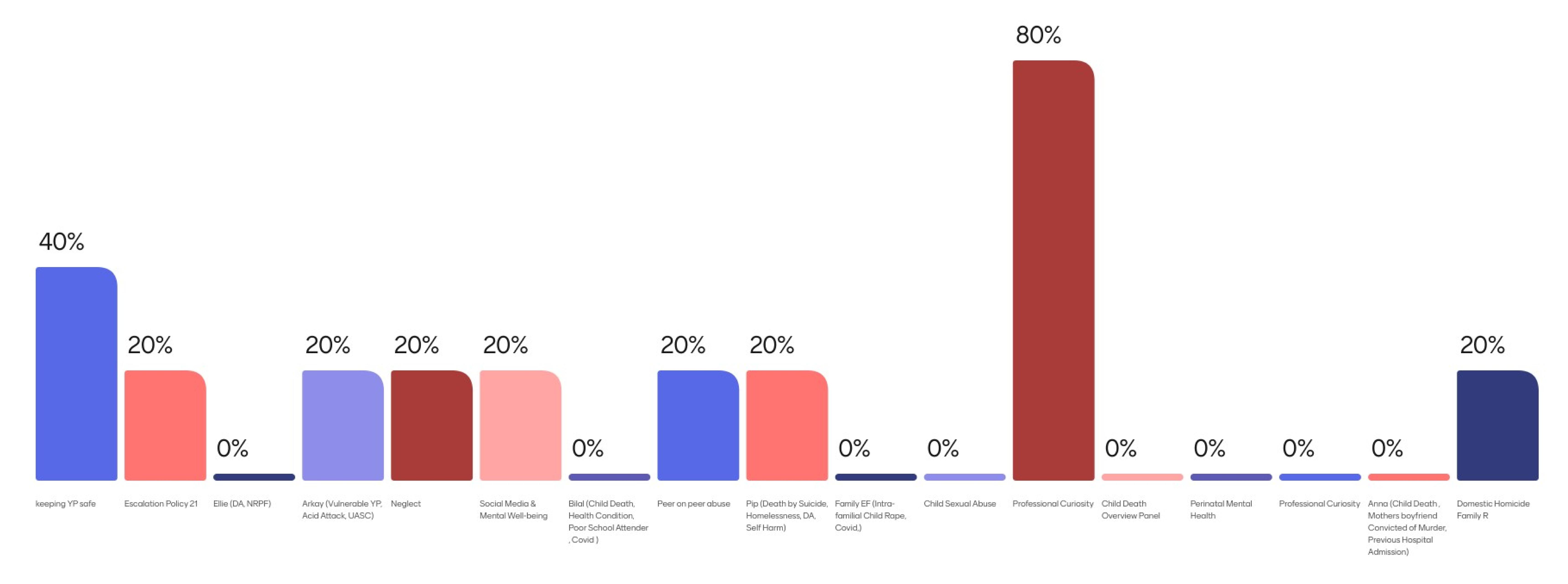
| Time  | Item   | Presenter Mentimeter   |
|-------|--|--|
| 10.00 | Welcome and Introduction  Recap from January:  Child Obesity GOSH  Thematic Review Extra-familial Harm & Intra-familial Abuse: Thematic Safeguarding Review Key Findings | Natalie Newton Service Manager, NSCP                         |
| 10:05 | <ul> <li>Produced 7 min briefings; overview of views and partnership interest</li> <li>Live sign up to confidential area</li> </ul>                                      | Natalie Newton   |
| 10:10 | Catch 22  Overview of the service, referral pathway and Q&A  County Lines Support and Rescue Service   | Sandra Baah<br>Regional Manager-London                       |
| 10:45 | Youth Safety Strategy  NSCP  | Cassandra Beckford Strategic Programme Manager, Youth Safety |
| 11:05 | Training Available  NSCP Training, what is coming up and what's new and London Safeguarding Board Training  Working Together 2023 awareness sessions                     | Natalie Newton   |
|       |  |  |

## Recap from last Forum

Child Obesity GOSH

Thematic Review Extra-familial Harm & Intra-familial Abuse: Thematic Safeguarding Review Key Findings

## What 7 minute briefings have you used?



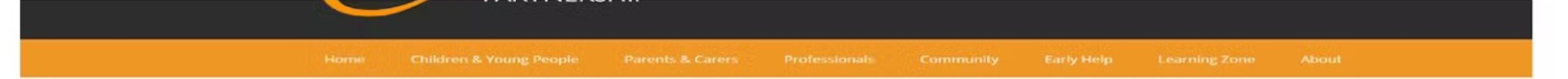








## Confidential Area



### 7 Minute Briefings - Confidential Area

This password protected area contains learning related to Newham specific cases. To document your learning you can access this tool, which can evidence and track the learning with in your agency. This area should be used to share good practice and learning within Newham.

Please add in the same the provided log-in password to watch all videos.

#### Anna



#### Ellie



Keeping Young People Safe



# NEWHAM SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP

## Live Sign up

- Take this opportunity to request access to the confidential site.
- This comes with responsibilities
  - That you disseminate the information within your establishment
  - Complete action plan to document and evidence change and outcomes
  - Share your action plan with the NSCP

County Lines Support &







### County Lines Support and Rescue Service

- Home Office Funded until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025
- One-to-One Specialist support to young people aged under 25 who are victims of county lines exploitation in London, West Midlands, Merseyside, and Greater Manchester aimed at reducing risk to them and those around them(families).
- For those young people aged under 25 who reside within the priority regions, but are found out of area, we will provide a **rescue service**. Where required, caseworkers will travel out of hours (up until 10pm) to ensure support can be provided in a 'reachable moment to capitalise on service users' receptiveness to engage.



## 22 London Service Model

- 1 x London Regional Manager all London boroughs
- 3 x Full time case workers
- 1 x Mental Health Caseworker
- 1x Specialist Women & Girls Caseworker
- Rota system, and existing Catch22 sessional staff to support the service to meet the out of hours rescue requirement.
- Each Caseworker will support up to 12 CYAs at any one time.
- Providing a short term and long-term support (dependent on need)
- Office/Community Community Links, Canning Town, E.16 4HQ



## Referral Process – Support Element

### Criteria for referral:

- Child or Young Adult aged under 25
- London
- Young People placed in those areas by other LA may access this service
- CYA must a victim/risk of county lines exploitation
- Referrals for the support service can will be received through/via:
- Local Authority MACE (Multi-Agency Child Exploitation)—Panels or equivalent
- All referrals must include a LA risk assessment associated with the individual CYA.
- CYA who come into this service will need to medium or high risk of harm and need to be referred by Children or Adult social care.
- For a YP over/under 18, referrals can also be received through the Police, Probation, YJS, Leaving Care Services, Further Education i.e colleges/universities



## Soft Milestones

### What are they?

 It is a noncommittal pathway for a young person or adult engaging in our service. To identify that a service user understands exploitation, county lines and the dangers involved, we need to complete certain checkpoints, to protect professional integrity and the service user's safety.

### Why SOFT?

 As we know a young person or adults' life can be at times chaotic, making engagement with services sporadic and inconsistent. Without a set program of support to follow, how can we ensure on exit our service users understand the risks linked with county lines and exploitation? Using soft milestones for the professional only to focus on, will help assess where the young person is on this journey.



### Soft Milestones continued...

- Referral Received
- Introductions made
- Rapport Building
- Anything that needs addressing now?
- Professionals Involved, paint that picture
  - Brief Overview

- Information gathering
  - Childhood
- Education/Employment
  - Family Set up
  - Accommodation
- Peer Support in place
  - Criminal History

- County line involvement
  - Their role
  - Recruitment
  - Risks taken
  - Trauma and impact
    - Who else knows
      - Why start

#### Introduction

- An understanding of county lines and the risks being involved
- An understanding of the dangers of exploitation
- Understanding they have been a victim
  - Understanding Debt Bondage

### Background

### Awareness

- Support no longer needed?
- Planned exit plan, reduction in contact agreed
- Any sign posting needed?
- Family and professionals updated of progress

Learning

Exit Planning



Rescue Service





### Rescue Service

- A basic e-referral form will be used, and the service will respond within one hour of receipt.
- The service will be available between 9am and 10pm, and rescues will be considered and assessed if the following criteria is 7 days per week met:
  - The young person is under the age of 25
  - The young person is from London, Greater Manchester, Merseyside or West Midlands
  - The young person has been found in an exploitative situation connected to county lines activity.
  - Once the initial referral has been accepted a phone call will take place to assess the risk and circumstances regarding the young person.
  - Additional criteria will be set to assess risk.



### Rescue Criteria

### Rescue criteria that will apply as follows:

- The CYA must have consented to be collected
- There must be a low risk regarding the use of weapons or violence
- The CYA must be sober on collection and not have any substances in their possession
- There must be a medium or low risk regarding mental health
- There must be medium or low risk regarding physical health
- The collection address must be suitable and safe
- The return address must be suitable and safe

Note: St Giles also deliver a rescue service out of the London area so support in this delivery will be shared both by Catch 22 and St Giles.



### Collaborative/Partnership Working includes:

- MET Police County Lines Task Force(Orochi/Yamata)
- MET Police Social Media Partnership Board (Project Alpha)
- NCLCC (National County Lines Co-ordination Centre)
- British Transport Police Operations



### Referral Pathway



#### Who are we?

Catch22 county lines support and rescue service is a support service for children and young people under age 25, who are living in the areas of London, West Midlands, Greater Manchester or Merseyside

Are you or somebody you know involved in county lines and looking for advice and support, then our service can help.

#### Our service offers:

- Confidential Support
- A rescue service that operates from 9am -10pm, 7 days a week, 365 days a year
- Advice and guidance for parent and carers
- Women and Girls focused support caseworker
- Mental Health focused support caseworker

#### What does the 'support' look like?

Our case workers can provide you:

- A safe confidential space to talk openly
- Advice and guidance to reduce county lines involvement
- Create a wider support network with professionals creating education, training and employment opportunities
- Support with emotional and mental health wellbeing
- Better relationships between your parents/care giver

We have a flexible approach and will organise the support sessions to suit your individual needs.

#### What does the 'rescue' look like?

- Two members of the team will collect you and return you to a pre-agreed safe address.
- On your return we will check on you a few days later to offer you that continued support if you wish
- We understand that you are experiencing lots of emotions, so on your journey home we are here to listen and support for as long as you need us

If you feel this support will benefit you please speak to the person that gave you this leaflet and ask them to make contact with us.





### Support Service referral link:

County Lines Support & Rescue Service - Support referral form (Page 1 of 7) (office.com)

### Rescue Service referral link:

Initial referral form - Rescue Service (office.com)



## 22 Partners

- Abianda, a specialist provider of support for young women and girls affected by gangs and county lines, providing a learning and development offer to Catch22 staff and professionals.
- **Kooth**, a digital mental health provider, will provide remote mental health support service users with identified need.
- Crest Advisory, crime and justice specialists in strategy, research and evaluation are our chosen evaluation partner.
- The Reign Collective, a collective of adult survivors of child exploitation who provide consultancy and training, will support the improvement of outcomes for women and girls through training Catch22 staff and delivering a women and girls participation board to inform continuous improvement and support evaluation.
- SafeCall, a dedicated confidential county lines national helpline for young people, parents and carers across England and Wales run by missing people. Our support and rescue service is operated alongside SafeCall.

### catch 2





### Contact:

Sandra Baah - sandra.baah@catch-22.org.uk

Alternatively, our main service inbox:countylinessupportandrescue@catch-22.org.uk

## NSCP Youth Safety Strategy

Cassandra Beckford

Youth Safety Strategic Lead | Children and Young People Service LBN



## NSCP Youth Safety Strategy Friday Forum Update: March 2025

### Strategy Principles





1. Work in Partnership



2. Tackle Racism, Inequality and Disproportionality



3. Prevent and Intervene Early



4. Support and Protect



5. Deter and Disrupt



6. Create Safer
Spaces



Tackling Racism, Discrimination & Promoting Equity

Circles of Support

Child First

Youth Voice & Participation

Whole systems approach

#### MECHANISMS OF CHANGE

- Newham Information & Intelligence Partnership
- Youth Empowerment
   Assemblies; Detached &
   Participation
- Well Newham
- Working Together
- Holidays & Activities
   Fund (HAF)

- Family Hubs
- Bounce Back
- Turnaround
- Thriving Communities
- Healthy Schools
   Resilience, SEMH &
   Neurodiversity
- Young Commissioners

- Risk Outside The Home (ROTH)
- Parents & Carers
- Forum
- Domestic Abuse
- Young Women & Girls
- Mental Health & Wellbeing

- Youth Justice: Child First (SLCM)
- Mentoring
- Stop & Search
- Education 4 Change
- Vanguard

- Serious Youth Violence
- Trading Standards: knives
   & illegal vapes
- LBN Forum of Faiths
- NICE: Public Realm
   Safety
- PREVENT (Governmentled initiative)

- Safer Stratford &
   Beckton Partnerships
   (My Ends)
- Youth Zones
- The Children's Society
   Well-being Hub
- Psychological Safety
- MET & LBN: Trust,
   Engagement & Equity



### Newham Data Narrative: As At Feb 25

- Newham above both National and London average for FTE's, with 50% of FTEs in 2024 entering CJS for weapons offences.
- But reduction of Black children FTEs in 2024 (33%).
- 80% of NJYS FTE's received a Referral order or Youth Rehabilitation Order (2024), with less children being charged and convicted for weapons offences, instead offered diversionary programmes.
- 98% of NYJS children with a weapons offence were male
- 43% of NYJS children with a weapons offence were 17 years old in 2024
- Data points to younger children (12-15 years-old) being caught with a weapon in school: LBN People Powered Places has
  funded 'What's The Point' Knife programme for last two years, currently delivered in 6 schools in Beckton, Plaistow and East
  Ham but this is a 'self-selecting' not targeted programme.
- NYJS response to address weapon offences currently includes Street doctors, auditing of case files (both convicted and harmed re weapons offence) and Community Conversations.
- Early Help: Targeted Interventions such as Turnaround Project and Thriving Communities, both short-term government funded programmes aimed at intervening early to stem offending behaviour. Evaluation due: April 25
- · Youth Safety Strategy launched (Nov 2024); work to progress action plan development & other associated activity to follow.

### Why children carry knives

#### Fear and Victimisation

- Children feel the need to protect themselves and perceive knives as an easily accessible way to do so (Smith & Hughes 2019).
- Children who carry knives are likely to have been a victim of violence or carry a knife out of fear of victimisation (Eades et al. 2007; Traynor 2016).
- The YEF Violence and Vulnerability 2023 survey shows that 48% of children who committed violence were also victims (YEF 2023).

### Exploitation

- Children carrying knives has been related to gang and drug-related activity – children are particularly susceptible where they have no positive role models (Nacro 2020).
- Working with children who are at risk of exploitation by gangs or 'county lines' drugs operations has been recognised as a priority (HMIP 2022).

#### Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

- ACEs have been suggested to impact children's responses to situations, with strong associations made to aggression, violence and criminal behaviour.
- The trauma and absence of feelings of safety associated with ACEs are suggested to shape influence knife carrying (Gray, Smithson & Jump 2021).

#### Social Status

- Children may carry a knife to gain social status amongst peers, maintain their reputation and gain respect of others (Nacro 2020; Silvestri 2009; Smith & Hughes 2019).
- Experience of social exclusion and lack of educational attainment may result in children engaging in knife carrying to gain social status (Lemos 2004).

### Deprivation

- Evidence suggests a link between deprivation, high levels of violence and knife offences (Traynor 2016).
- The presence of poverty and lack of employment and material support can create pathways into offending behaviour (Silvestri et al. 2009).

#### Social Media

- Practitioners and policymakers have suggested that the role of technology and social media in facilitating serious violence is a significant 'blind spot'.
- Anecdotal evidence suggests that since COVID-19, gangs are increasingly reliant on use of encrypted social media platforms to groom, exploit and coerce young people (Crest Advisory 2022).

### Key Messages

- There is an overlap between victims and those who use knives
- Current evidence suggests that knife crime is driven by a combination of poverty, marginalisation, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), trauma, fear and victimisation, including exploitation (HMIP, 2022)
- The level of fear and societal issues experienced by children are legitimate and must be addressed to promote understanding of risk and consequential thinking
- Although evidence captures some of the drivers for why children carry knives, it is difficult to establish the prevalence of the reasons behind knife carrying



### YJB & YEF: Most Effective Interventions

### e.g. Strong evidence across impact and outcomes seen

- Focused Deterrence: Strong evidence this has a high impact on violent crime estimated to reduce violent crime by 33% (YEF Toolkit).
- Targeted Prevention Programmes: Varying evidence and impact on violent crime. These are also used as part of diversion, not just prevention. Important to note that this is based on US-based evidence and one study from Glasgow.
  - Social Skills Training: Strong evidence this has a high impact on violent crime estimated to reduce violent crime by 32%.
  - Mentoring: Moderate evidence this has a moderate impact on violent crime estimated to reduce violent crime by
  - Sports Programmes: Limited evidence this has a high impact on violent crime. These programmes have been found to reduce aggression, promote mental health and respond to other behavioural difficulties (YEF Toolkit).
- A&E Navigator Programmes: Very limited evidence this could have a high impact on violent crime, Estimate is based on two
  US studies only. The YEF has funded a multi-site trial of this intervention, which they intend to evaluate (YEF Toolkit).
- Violence Reduction Units (VRUs): Evaluations suggest a reduction in police recorded violence without injury offences. Whilst
  not statistically significant, there were encouraging indications of reductions in homicides and hospital admissions resulting
  from any violent injury (for example, not just sharp object) (Home Office 2023).
- Pre-Court Diversion: Strong evidence this has a moderate impact on violent crime estimated to reduce re-offending by 13% and in the instance of another offence, this is likely to be less serious (YEF Toolkit).
- Hot Spot Policing: Moderate evidence this has a moderate impact on violent crime estimated to reduce violent crime by 14%
  and overall offending by 17%. The nature of delivery is important it is found to be most effective when taking a problemoriented policing approach compared to traditional policing (YEF Toolkit)
  - A Home Office (2024) Analysis of Hot Spot Policing (covering children and adults) found reduced crime on patrol days compared with non-patrol days, although at the force level few forces demonstrated a significantly significant reduction in crime.
- Tailored Support Opportunities (Housing, Education, Employment): Strong evidence this has a high impact on reducing weapon carrying (Browne et al. 2021).



### YJB & YEF: Least Effective Interventions

### e.g. Judgement based on low/no evidence that these interventions work

- Knife Crime Education Programmes: Very weak evidence which is insufficient to establish their impact on violent crime.
   It has been argued however that this intervention can contribute to misconceptions about knife carrying and subsequently increase children's likelihood of carrying a knife out of fear for their safety (YEF Toolkit).
- Knife Surrender Schemes: Very weak evidence which is insufficient to establish their impact on violent crime. However, two UK-based studies suggest that whilst these schemes may contribute to a small reduction in knife crime, these reductions are not sustained for long (YEF Toolkit).
- Media Campaigns: Very weak evidence which is insufficient to establish their impact on violent crime. Some low-quality
  studies however suggest media campaigns can contribute to perceptions of fear and threat and increase the likelihood of
  knife carrying (YEF Toolkit).
- Stop and Search: Weak evidence suggests that stop and search do not prevent nor deter knife crime (Browne et al. 2021)
  - Statistics indicate ethnic disparity in Stop and Searches, with Black children making up 20% when they make up 6% of the population (YJB Stop and Search Dashboard 2024).
- Mandatory Minimum Sentencing: Longitudinal research identifies that system contact is harmful, stigmatising and criminogenic and suggests formal criminal justice processing increases the likelihood of children reoffending (McAra & McVie 2007; Petrosino et al., 2010).
- Diversion has shown to be more effective than entering the formal justice system (e.g., Pre-Court Diversion has a
  moderate impact on violent crime, is estimated to reduce reoffending by 13%, and is suggested to minimise the
  seriousness of offences in the instance of reoffending).



### Newham Overview: 'What Works' - Interventions Mapping

Focussed deterrence

Pre-Court diversion

Relationship violence prevention & activities

Mentimeter

|                               | meetings twice a week chaired by Police. These meetings review violent incidents that have occurred over the last 24 hrs. GW & SB are LBN spocs.  Operation Denali is having impact. Facial recognition also making inroads – but what do we know about disproportionality across this technology use? tbc |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Targeted prevention programme | I BN exploring options to put a programme in place – TBC   |

laigeted prevention programme LDIA Exploining options to put a programme in place CIRV: highlighted as best practice: Idris Elba Knife Crime documentary https://westmidlands-vrp.org/criminal-justice/community-initiative-to-reduceviolence-cirv/ Social Skills Training

SAFE SS programmes ending June 25 LBN has Talk Consent being rolled out in 50 LBN schools

Custody aftercare & resettlement Update required across LBN resettlement offer - TBC

Out of Court Disposal (OOCD) Panel is in place in LBN

Limited evidence as at of being highly effective across SYV (evaluation pending), A&E Programmes but LBN has - St Giles A&E in operation in borough. Q) What do we know about this programme? Are partnership front-facing services connected to it? TBC

> YJB say limited evidence – but feedback from CYP & parents disputes this. LBN mapping exercise requested – remains outstanding

Update required across current LBN/NE BCU Hotspot Policing Policy

RN have 'Precision Crime Fighter' meetings/Partnership Violence Assessment

Tailored support (Housing, Education & Employment) Holistic wrap-around: good outcomes seen, is this a gap for LBN? TBC

Hotspot Policing

Mentoring

Low evidence re effectiveness across high harm deterrence Sports Programmes

### Nawham Ovarviaw: 'What Works' - Interventions Manning Cont'd:

| Newhall Overview. What Works - Interventions Mapping Cont & Mentimeter |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| Knife surrender scheme   | LBN has 4 knife bins: but no evidence to state surrender schemes work  |  |  |
| Sports Programmes  | Low evidence re effectiveness across high harm deterrence – but LBN has multiple, VCFS interventions active, borough-wide  |  |  |
| Media Campaign   | Presently paused in LBN due to 'Comms capacity', however YJB/YEF research presently points to this activity as having low/no impact across high harm deterrence. |  |  |

Stop and Search

Knife crime education programmes

LBN has much cross-directorate activity here, which is good re support offer to staff, Trauma-informed training & service re-design education/knowledge uplift, but no evidenced link found across ability to stem high-harm SYV.... LBN/NYJS already strong in this area, with less children being charged/convicted for Mandatory Minimum Sentencing weapons offences, and more offered diversionary programmes.

Clear evidence across systemic, disproportionate use of across this activity targeting

Across NE BCU, what are plans for change across current data and Newham Race Action

What's the Point currently funded in six schools via PPP (Resident's funded programme)

but is intervention targeted to need across data in our Borough? TBC

young black people in LBN (NB: see LBN data here for U18s).

Plan (NRAP) incoming? MET POLICE NE BCU to advise.

LBN imminently to lose this resource by April 25, as advised by NE BCU – but where Police in Schools is the over-arching/final evaluation report across this step-change and its impact?

TBC YJB/YEF have minimal data here – but local/community programmes could input reports

across benefits gained here - TBC

Summer Schools

As above: local/community programmes could input reports across benefits gained here -Arts Programmes

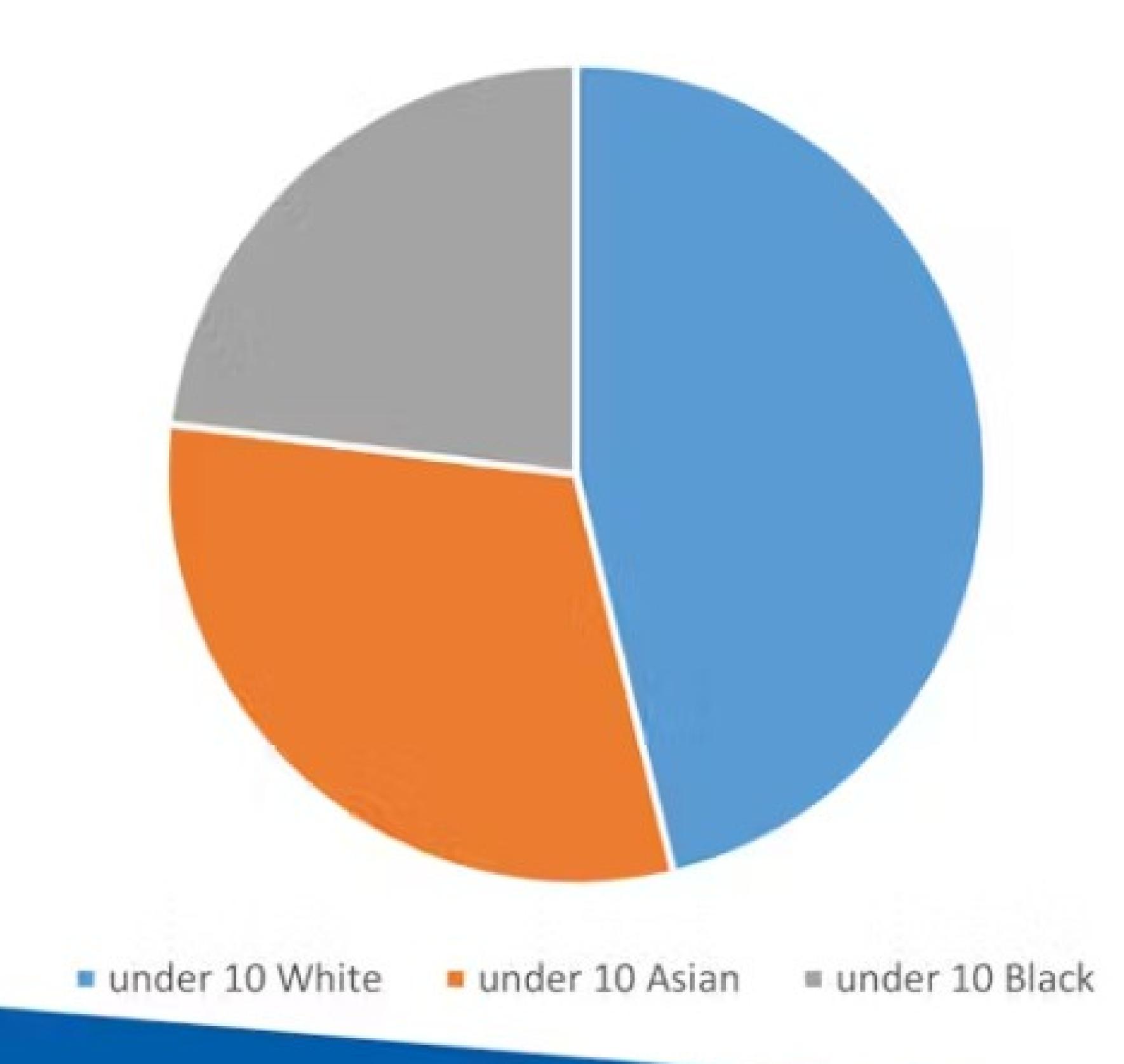
TBC

#### 2024

- 14-17: 14.2% of total searches
- 10-13: 1%
- Under 10: 0.3%
- Not Recorded: 8.3%

#### Under 10 Yr Old

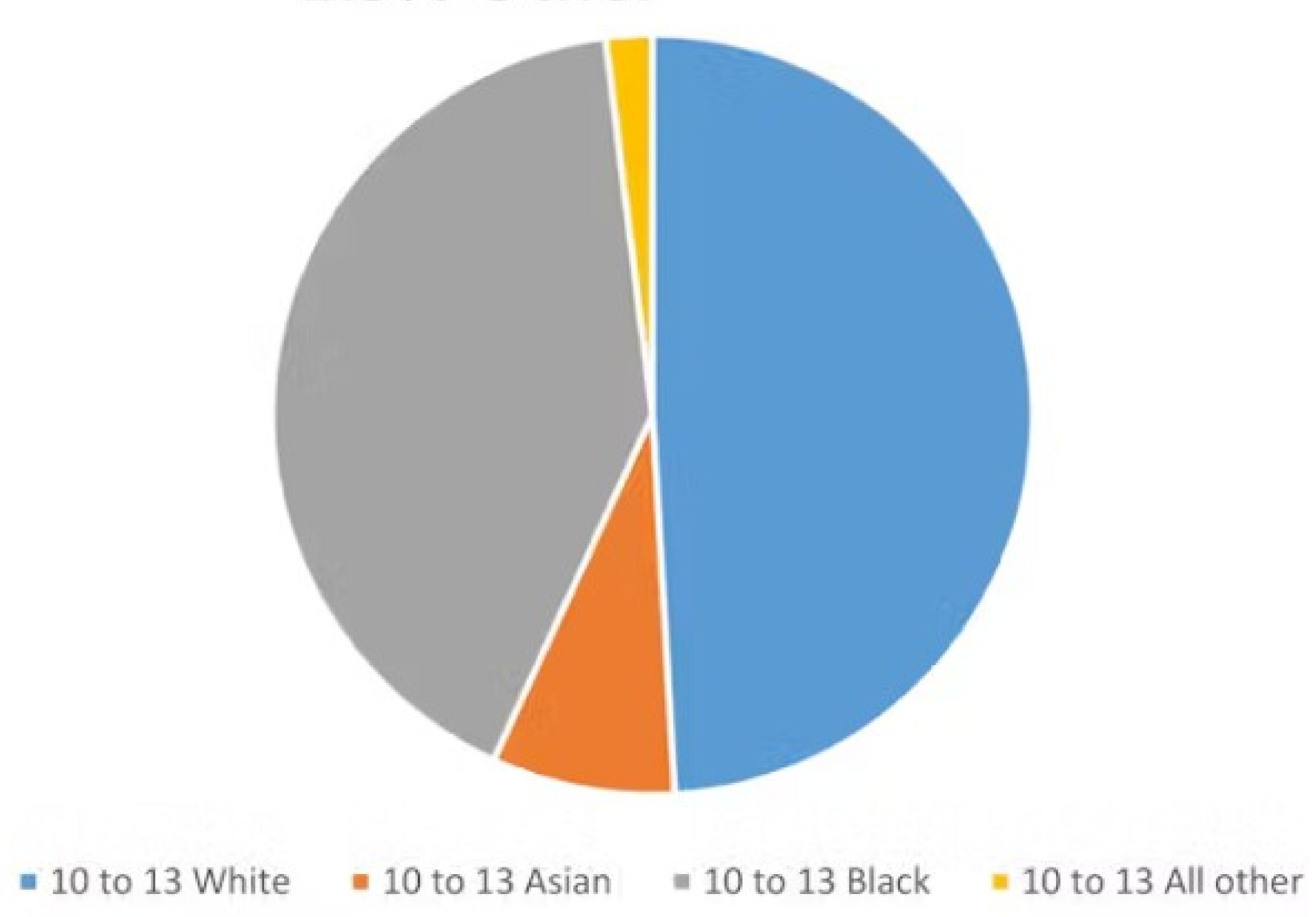
- 21.4% Black
- 28.6% Asian
- 42.9% White



## <18 Stop and Searches Age Breakdown

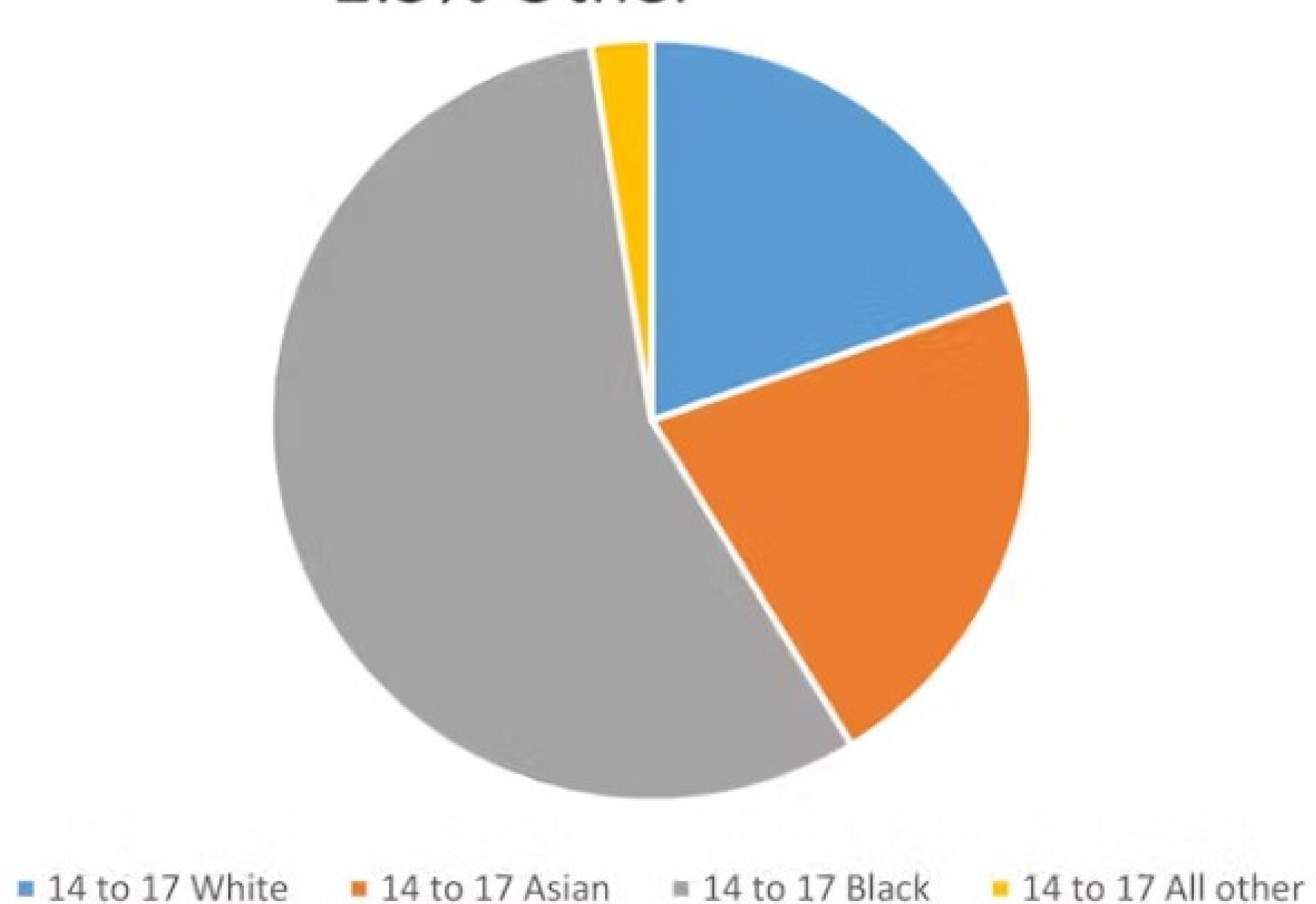
#### 10 - 13 Yr Old

- 39.6% Black
- 7.5% Asian
- 47.2% White
- 1.9% Other



#### 14 to 17 Yr Old

- 54.7% Black
- 20.9% Asian
- 19.2% White
- 2.5% Other







### Key Goals Across Year One of Strategy



We will develop a detailed communication and engagement plan and publish and action plan across first quarter of strategy delivery.

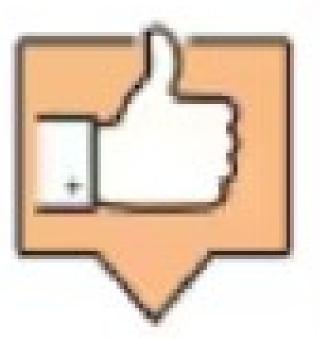
Update our understanding of the root causes of youth violence and exploitation in Newham to inform our priority actions



Engage with children, young people and the community to identify what is already working in this space and what we want to do more of



Understand more about the impact of social media and its role in serious youth violence and exploitation



Develop our early intervention approach in schools, targeted youth services and through our family hub offer



Develop a targeted approach to prevent children and young adults identified as the highest risk, from entering the care of the local authority and support them to remain or return to live within their family networks and local communities

Review our approach to domestic abuse support to children and young adults including groups of children at risk of violence and exploitation



Evaluate the impact of time limited and grant funded programmes ending in 2025/26 building on and further developing approaches evidenced to work



Develop a detailed understanding of disproportionality and disparity amongst affected groups of children and young adults and actions to address



Evaluate the current effectiveness of approaches to disrupt organised groups causing harm to children and young adults and develop a plan to improve the response





## NSCP Training

Natalie Newton

## Working Together Training

"A guide to multi-agency working to help, protect and promote the welfare of children"

The welfare of children is of paramount importance. They deserve to be nurtured in a secure and stable environment. All agencies must be clear about their commitment to providing these children and their families the best possible support. The Working Together framework aims to provide a set of expectations for all parties involved in the protection of children. It defines the various processes and systems that should be used to support and protect kids.

In 1999, the Working Together guidance was published and revised many times. Following the death of Victoria, the government launched a public inquiry. This led to the enactment of the Children Act of 2004.

### DATES

Monday 10th March, 16:30-19:30 online Thursday 3rd April, 09:30-12:30 in-person Thursday 3rd April, 14:30-17:30 in-person

## Closing Remarks

### What are you 2 take aways from this session?

Youth stragety

Catch 22 fight for peace

Lots of relevant useful information Also new information

New to working in a LBN school. First Forum a much needed resource. Will make use of the 7 minute briefings and found the information on Most Effective and Least Effective Interventions interesting.