

# EA BCU

## Gangs and Knife Crime Action Plan



# Background

- EA BCU currently have **209** gang nominals on the trident Gangs matrix.
- **142** are currently in the community.
- **7** are red nominals
- **51** are amber
- **84** are green
- **67** are in custody.
- Once individuals are placed on the gangs matrix they are scored according to violence based crimes and intelligence. Depending on their score they are then classified as Red (Score of 20+), Amber (Score of 4-19) or Green (score of -3). Red being the higher scoring members and Green being the lower scoring members.

# Habitual Knife Carriers “HKC”

- HKC’s – these are individuals that have been identified at least twice as a Suspect on CRIS report for Possession of Offensive Weapon / Knife / Bladed Article, or are suspected of causing a knife injury. In the last two years AND at least one of the above offences is in the last 12 months unless this subject has been in prison for a period in the last 12 months.
- Excluding Domestic Abuse offences.

- EA BCU currently have **43** Habitual Knife Carriers in the community.
- **6** are high risk,
- **12** are medium risk
- **25** are low risk. EA BCU currently have **26** Habitual Knife Carriers in custody.
- **27** of the HKC's are gang members.
- The HKC's in the community are monitored by the gangs unit and if necessary, actions are tasked to Dedicated Ward Officers for each ward (as are the green gang nominals visits). The Op Sceptre knife activity tracker is also utilised regularly. Every individual is given a Total Score and then ranked in order of highest score first. Also includes whether they are on the gangs matrix and if so what gang they are in and what their RAG status is and if they are in Prison and any potential release date.

# Prolific Firearms Offenders “PFO”

- PFO’s – these are any individual that has come up at least twice as Suspect on CRIS for Possession of a Firearm (Lethal or Non-Lethal) or a Gun Crime Discharge offence (Lethal or Non-Lethal) in the last 5 years OR Any individual that has come up once as Suspect on CRIS for Possession of a Firearm (Lethal or Non-Lethal) or a Gun Crime Discharge offence (Lethal or Non-lethal) in the last 5 years and there is recent intelligence in the last 6 months relating to firearms (this includes intelligence around having access to firearms, supplying firearms or discharging a firearm) OR any individual who has two or more recent intelligence (last 6 months) relating to having access to firearms, supplying firearms or discharging a firearm).

- EA BCU currently have **10** Prolific Firearms Offenders in the community.
- **2** are high risk,
- **2** are medium risk
- **6** are low risk.
- EA BCU currently have **10** Prolific firearms offenders in custody.
- **11** of the PFO's are gang members.
- The PFO's in the community are monitored by the gangs unit and if necessary, actions are tasked to Dedicated Ward Officers for each ward (as are the green gang nominals visits).
- Every individual is given a Total Score and then ranked in order of highest score first. Also includes whether they are on the gangs matrix and if so what gang they are in and what their RAG status is and if they are in Prison and any potential release date.

- The MPS knife crime strategy sets out the MPS response to knife enabled crime. The main strands are set out in the following slides with the intended action by EA BCU to meet the required response.



**Pursue – Operations and activity to disrupt, enforce against and prosecute offenders: This comprises of the strands of Gather Intelligence, Investigate, Enforce and Prosecute (ownership by EA BCU Gangs Unit)**

- Daily checks on HKC's on intelligence indices
- Gangs Unit to target and disrupt HKC's
- Arrest enquiries to be carried out by Gangs Unit for HKC's and suspects for knife enabled crime who are shown as wanted
- Wanted persons to be monitored for gun crime and knife crime month by month
- Increased volume of forensic submissions of knives recovered (not all knives can be sent up)
- Briefings have been sent out reminding officers of their stop and search options
- Knife crime impact statement to be prepared for future use
- Use Super Recognisers to assist with identifying suspects for outstanding offences
- Test purchase operations to be carried out by utilising local Volunteer Police Cadets and Trading Standards
- Utilise Achilles heel tactics to target offenders including Op Dragoon and Op Cubo
- Close scrutiny of all arrests of HKCs to ensure no opportunities missed. An all-users email has been sent requesting a positive charging policy for all knife crime



**Prevent – Target hardening, weapons sweeps, placed-based interventions: This comprises of the strands of Control, Disrupt, Divert and Task (ownership by EA BCU Gangs Unit)**


- Multi-agency approach to be utilised. This would include civil injunctions, eviction notices and licensing
- CBOs are to be obtained with curfew, geographic & judicial controls for HKCs. All reactive CID and Response officers to be advised that if a gang member or HKC is arrested a CBO should always be considered
- Greater focus on intervention, conflict resolution and/or mediation via local and pan London services such as London Gang Exit, Spark2Life, Box-Up Crime and St Giles Trust
- Regular home visits to known HKC's including upon release from prison
- Offer diversionary pathways by way of gang letters, gang exits, visits, etc.
- Effective use and publicity of knife arches/bins
- Weapon sweeps in known gang and HKC affected areas and other keys venues
- Hot-spot patrols to be utilised to focus on high-harm wards. Consideration to be given to greater use of dispersal powers

**Protect – Awareness raising: This comprises of the strands of Educate, Communicate, Respond and Safeguard (ownership by EA BCU Partnership/NPT)**

- Engagement with business community to raise awareness and encourage retailers to become responsible and target harden stores to prevent shoplifting of knives (e.g. placement within the store).
- Use intelligence to identify emerging potential HKCs for early intervention
- Safeguard repeat victims. Consider use of target hardening and special schemes. Liaison with housing authority may be required. Link in with Safeguarding hub to monitor high risk victims
- Greater use of ISTV hospital data to map knife crime hot spots (venues of incidents supplied to hospitals are often different or more enhanced than that provided to police)
- Use of social media to publicise anti-knife crime messages and good seizures (OP Sceptre)
- Ensure process is in place to identify/monitor repeat victims and repeat suspects

**Prepare – reducing the impact of crime and working with partners, strengthening community relations: This comprises of the strands of Engage, Assess, Share and Plan (ownership by EA BCU Partnership/NPT)**

- Enhanced programme of education and focused prevention activity within school including regular weapon sweeps, staggered starting/finishing times
- Presentations to Community IAG's and Ward Panels to reassure them in order for the wider community to be kept updated with any recent incidents. This will also gain support and buy-in from the IAG's.
- Seek political engagement and additional support via local Councillors/MP's
- Major event planning and monitoring pre-event activity on social media
- Greater performance scrutiny with regular meetings to identify best practice
- Local authority Serious Group Violence meetings to take place 10 – 14 days prior to the monthly Gangs EGYV multi-agency meeting. Intel sharing with partners and police feeding back information they have
- Focus on those looked after children who have been placed from other boroughs and the associated Care Homes

A photograph of a person lying face down on a sidewalk. A knife with a red blade and a wooden handle lies on the pavement nearby. In the background, several people are walking on the sidewalk, and a car is visible on the street. The scene is dimly lit, suggesting dusk or dawn.

If you saw it would you ignore it?  
Help make it stop.

**#ChooseALife  
NotAKnife**