

APPENDIX 1

MERTON PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19

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1. THE MERTON PARTNERSHIP

This is the Annual Report for the Merton Partnership 2018/19. It provides an overview of the work of the Merton Partnership and its key achievements.

The [Merton Partnership](#) was established in January 2002 as the overarching strategic partnership for the borough. Its aim is to work together with all partners on issues that are important to local people – including residents, workers and visitors – as reflected in the Community Plan.

The Partnership's primary objectives are to deliver the Community Plan along with other plans and strategies adopted by the Merton Partnership such as the Voluntary Sector and Volunteering Strategy.

We are currently working on a new Sustainable Communities Plan that will set the Merton Partnership's long term ambition for the borough to 2025. It will replace the current Community Plan that was launched in 2013. The Plan will be co-produced with the wider Merton Partnership (Thematic Networks and sub-groups) with the key priorities from each of the four thematic partnership boards – two from each - forming the eight overarching priorities of the SCP. The overarching goal of the Sustainable Communities Plan will be to increase social capital in Merton as an underlying driver to improve resilience and wellbeing across the borough.

[Merton Data](#) is a website that pulls together the main datasets about the borough and is used by members of the Partnership for strategic planning purposes.

The Merton Partnership consists of senior representatives from the public, private, voluntary and community sectors. Members are recruited on the basis of their capacity to represent their organisations and not their individual interests.

The Partnership comprises an Executive Board and four thematic partnership boards. The thematic partnerships are tasked with delivering the priorities set out in the Community Plan. The Executive Board is responsible for the Community Plan, the vision for the borough and holds the thematic partnerships to account for delivery. There are also a number of sub-boards and working group focusing on particular areas of work. The main areas of work and responsible thematic partnerships are set out overleaf. The Executive Board and Thematic Networks generally meet quarterly.

The Merton Partnership also comes together collectively at its annual conference. The last conference took place on 3 July 2018 and was attended by over 100 members of the Merton Partnership. The theme was how to strengthen social capital in Merton. A further conference is planned for autumn 2019.

A total of 15 INVOLVE Community Engagement Network elected representatives sit on the various bodies within the Merton Partnership structure, both to raise and to report back on issues relevant to the voluntary and community sector.

Theme	Responsible body and work areas
Sustainable communities	Sustainable Communities and Transport Board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainable housing ▪ Environment (including street scene) ▪ Transport ▪ The economy (including adult learning and skills)
Safer and stronger communities	Safer and Stronger Strategy Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preventing and reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse ▪ Community cohesion and active citizenship ▪ Public safety (including fire safety and civic contingencies)
Healthier Communities	Health and Wellbeing Board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improving health outcomes ▪ Reducing health inequalities ▪ Independent living ▪ Supported living
Children and Young People	Children's Trust <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improving overall outcomes for children and young people ▪ Multi-agency partnership practice ▪ Education including Early Years ▪ Children's Social Care ▪ Youth services including Youth Offending ▪ Children's Community Health

Members of the Merton Partnership Executive Board

The following organisations and individuals are members of the Merton Partnership Executive Board:

- Chair of Merton Partnership / Leader of Merton Council (Chair)
- Chief Executive, Merton Council (Deputy Chair)
- Commander, South West London Basic Command Unit
- Director of Children, Schools and Families, Merton Council
- Director of Public Health, Merton Council
- Chair, Merton CCG
- Sutton and Merton Service Director, South West London and St George's Mental Health Trust
- Borough Commander, Merton Fire (LFB)
- Chief Executive, Merton Chamber of Commerce
- Chief Executive, Merton Voluntary Services Council
- Customer Services Leader, Jobcentre Plus
- Vice Principal, Business and Student Services, South Thames College
- Head of Housing Services (Merton), Clarion Housing Group
- Community Engagement Network (CEN) representative x2

2. PARTNERSHIP ACHIEVEMENTS: 2018-19

The Partnership has presented its achievements under the following four Community Plan themes:

1. A healthy and fulfilling life
2. Better opportunities for youngsters
3. Keeping Merton moving
4. Being safe and strong

Achievements against key outcomes in 2018-19, and key priorities for 2019-20 are set out under each theme.

2.1 A HEALTHY AND FULFILLING LIFE:

Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB)

Health and Wellbeing Boards are statutory partnerships formed to deliver strategic, local leadership in health and wellbeing. The work of the HWBB, focused on addressing health inequalities, is central to informing the commissioning of health and social care services in Merton. It has a core role in encouraging joined up, integrated services across the Council, CCG, acute providers, the voluntary sector and other local partners to improve health and wellbeing across the borough.

Outcome 1: The Wilson Health and Wellbeing Campus

- The work to develop the Wilson Hospital site as a health and wellbeing campus for east Merton is the overarching, long-term legacy project for Merton Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) with a focus on fairness and as an exemplar for healthy place and a holistic service model. All HWBB partners are involved in, and supporting the work of the CCG. Previous work included HWBB members meeting ‘community connectors’ (local representatives of community groups) in a wide scale engagement of ‘Community Conversations’ involving around 450 local people. The purpose was to find out the real local needs and priorities to feed into the co-design and co-development of the campus.
- Detailed planning of the Wilson Health and Wellbeing Campus has been delayed pending adjustment to the national LIFT programme. A Wilson Wellbeing steering group is now being established to bring together community and voluntary sector interests and to consider an interim programme of wellbeing activities, such as community gardening. Plans are for integrated clinical and community facilities at the campus, co-designed with the local community, with social prescribing (see below) as an integral part. The new campus will both help tackle health inequalities and build on the significant assets of the voluntary and community sector in this area.

Outcome 2: Social Prescribing

- Recognising that people’s health is impacted by a range of social, economic and environmental factors, Social Prescribing seeks to address people’s needs in a holistic way. Giving GPs, nurses and other primary care professionals the opportunity to refer people to a range of local, non-clinical services.
- Social Prescribing (SP) has been championed by HWBB from 2018 with an initial pilot programme provided by Merton Voluntary Service Council. This initially focussed on two GP practices in east Merton, extended to 13 and then, in January 2019, expansion was approved by Merton CCG to cover all 22 practices in Merton with a team of 5 full-time SP Co-ordinators.
- Since the start of the programme, over 900 residents have been supported and outcomes amongst patients include:
 - a statistically significant reduction (33%) in GP appointments (demonstrating improved outcomes for patients and efficiencies for GP practices);
 - a statistically significant improvement in a measure of wellbeing (Wellbeing Star); and,
 - an average reduction of £550 per patient in secondary care costs following the

appointment.

(further information available on request)

- Evaluation of the programme is on-going and the NHS Commissioning Support Unit has been commissioned to better understand the impact and benefits of the programme.
- SP will be an integral part of the Wilson health and wellbeing campus (see above).
- HWBB partners are currently working to better understand the impact this is having on voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations. Many VCS organisations are keen to increase their coverage and welcome more referrals, especially if they are not working at full capacity. SP referral pattern can help to better identify need and allows the VCS market to adapt alongside commissioners in the future.

Outcome 3: Tackling Diabetes

- The HWBB has adopted an overarching, whole system approach, across the life course to tackle diabetes as an exemplar for developing holistic care, hand in hand with creating a healthy place. Linking to work on the Wilson health and wellbeing campus and social prescribing, the HWBB has focussed as a partnership on tackling diabetes since 2017 following a presentation to the Board by local GPs highlighting the unabated epidemic and insufficiency of trying to tackle diabetes as a medical problem only.
- The Diabetes Truth Programme ran from January to March 2018 connecting each HWBB member to a local resident who had a lived experience of diabetes. A series of one-to-one conversations, brought to life the challenges that people living with diabetes face on a day to day basis; clearly showing what matters to people and reinforcing HWBB members' commitment to working jointly with residents and communities as an integral part of the solution.
- This insight alongside data analysis (as part of the 2018/19 Annual Public Health Report on Diabetes) and a review of the evidence has informed the development of the Tackling Diabetes Action Plan. This Plan, rather than trying to do everything, includes small number of high value actions that, when delivered together, are expected to have the most impact in Merton. Launched in April, together with the new 'Merton Mile' (a one mile signposted route to support families and residents to be active), it presented an opportunity for HWBB members to share progress, listen to people and join children from a local school to run or walk the Merton Mile. https://twitter.com/Merton_Council/status/1114232256036593664

Outcome 4: Tackling Childhood Obesity

- The gap in obesity between the east and the west of Merton is a significant health inequality which impacts on children's health and potentially their life chances. As a priority for the HWBB and with clear links to tackling diabetes, significant work to tackle childhood obesity has taken place set out in The Child Healthy Weight Action Plan. This takes a 'Think Family' approach; recognising the importance of the whole family rather than an individual child or adult in isolation. Work on this priority is on-going and recent actions and achievements include:
 - Merton Council signing the Local Government Declaration on Sugar Reduction.
 - Consultation with East Merton residents, BAME communities, parents and young people.

- Developing the Family Start Service supporting children identified as obese.
- Aligning to the Healthy Schools London programme with Merton School Sports Partnership supporting schools to achieve Healthy School status (14 schools now have the Bronze award; 3 have also achieved Silver).
- Training for 378 school staff to raise awareness of childhood obesity and weight.
- Securing GLA and Sustain funding to develop a Food Poverty Action Plan 2018-20.
- Delivering family learning courses for healthy eating on a budget.
- A Daily Mile in Merton schools, aimed to get children to run or jog for 15 minutes daily.
- Children's Community Services UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative run by UNICEF to support organisations to offer support for families for breast feeding and infant feeding.

Outcome 5: Health and Wellbeing Board Development and Leadership Centre

- The HWBB, with the support development funding from the LGA, continues to work closely with the Leadership Centre to develop its strategic systems leadership. Through a number of development sessions the HWBB has built strong and resilient relationships and encouraged an honesty and openness helping to deliver effective strategic leadership for health and wellbeing, with a particular focus on healthy place.
- At an early stage the Director of Environment and Regeneration was asked to be a member of the HWBB in recognition of the wider determinants of health and the HWBB has taken an active role in Merton's Local Plan; with health and wellbeing now a 'golden thread' running throughout.
- HWBB continual learning has also involved work to engage and listen to people. Detailed in the examples above, this includes new ways of hearing the voice of local people through 'community conversations' and 'diabetes truth' programme. This dialogue has been continued through engagement on our new Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2019 – 2014, to help gain insight into what really matters to people and use that insight to inform priorities and start to co-design solutions.
- The HWBB has also fostered relationships between GPs and local councillors - both HWBB GP members and more widely. Building on the successful Prevention Matters workshop involving GPs and Councillors local Councillors joined a Merton GP Locality Meeting to discuss shared local issues. More recently the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board presented to the South West London Clinical Senate Conference on the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board to tackle diabetes as well as Merton CCG Clinical Cabinet.

Priorities for 2019-20

- Merton HWBB is currently finalising its new Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2019 – 2024 'A Healthy Place for Healthy Lives'. The vision for the new Strategy is to: Work together to make Merton a healthy place by creating the physical and social conditions for all people to thrive and to complement the provision of holistic health and care services.
- The Strategy is closely aligned to Merton's Local Health and Care Plan and other Council Strategies and plans including the Children and Young People's Plan, Sustainable Communities Plan and Local Plan. The HWBB will continue to determine a rolling

programme of key priorities and is considering an initial focus on workplace health with a focus on mental health and active travel.

- The new Merton Story is currently being produced and will have a greater focus on local assets linking with the social capital theme of the new Sustainable Communities Strategy.
- The HWB will continue to foster relationships between GP clinical leaders and Councillors, building on the strength of the partnership. For example, one local GP will be running his surgery at the same time as offering space in the GP practice for ward councillors running theirs.
- The HWB is continuing to work with the Leadership Centre to capture Merton's story, evaluate impact to date and look at the 'fitness for the future' of the HWB within a changing NHS structural landscape.

Additional information

- The Merton Story gives an overview of the health and wellbeing of Merton residents.
- The Annual Public Health Report on Tackling Diabetes gives further statistical information supporting the HWBB work to tackle diabetes.

2.2 BETTER OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNGSTERS:

Children and Young People Thematic Partnership (Children's Trust Board)

The Children's Trust Board continues to be the vehicle through which partner agencies share responsibility for delivering services to improve outcomes for children and young people in Merton, particularly those vulnerable to poorer outcomes than their peers. Along with Merton's Safeguarding Children Board and Health and Wellbeing Board, the Children's Trust Board sets priorities for children's services and drives service improvements.

Outcome 1: Children and Young Peoples Plan: Deliver early help and improve outcomes for those subject to the effects of disadvantage

- 100% of Merton's children's centres are rated 'Good' or 'Outstanding' by Ofsted. Services have been re-shaped and now deliver additional services within identified areas in the borough where there are high levels of deprivation. Access criteria has been developed that includes families living in low-income households.
- Community Health services staff, including health visiting practitioners, school nursing and the Family Nurse Partnership, are co-located in five children's centres to enable stronger collaborative working. Multi-agency working, particularly with the Health Visiting service, continues to identify families where there are additional needs due to the impact of living in poverty.
- Merton's Local Transformation Plan (LTP) was refreshed for 2018 with aims including increasing access to mental health services, greater support for vulnerable groups and procuring enhanced counselling services for emotional disorders.
- Merton's Single Point of Access (SPA) to Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) is in place to simplify the referral process and ensure that the appropriate level of service is accessed at the right time and place.
- A number of multi-agency strategies and protocols support practitioners in early identification and addressing need within vulnerable cohorts at risk of or experiencing neglect, child sexual exploitation, mental health issues, parental substance abuse and domestic violence.
- A Young Carers Multi-Agency Strategy for 2018-21 has been developed in consultation with young carers and their families which brings together all agencies in joint actions to prevent young carers being involved in inappropriate caring and to offer the support they need to learn, develop and enjoy positive childhoods and youth.
- The Merton Safeguarding Children's Partnership (MSCP) has prioritised a review of Early Help and Preventative work - in particular, an exploration of models for coordinating preventative and early help across the well-being model.
- Merton's Transforming Families service has achieved some of the highest levels of success in London and has demonstrated excellent progress as an early adopter/pilot for phase two compared to other London boroughs.
- A Multi-Agency Risk, Vulnerability and Exploitation (MARVE) Panel has been established to coordinate robust responses to high profile cases and identify those at risk of criminal exploitation early to divert the path into serious youth violence.
- Merton is continuing to deliver its 4-year Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

Strategy which has delivered several awareness-raising campaigns to improve reporting rates in the borough, DV profiles and reviews of less-understood VAWG strands and instated an Independent Domestic Violence Advisor in the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub.

- Improving immunisation uptake rates in Merton is being undertaken by pan-London endeavours as well as local borough partnership work between the CCG, Local Authority, PHE and NHSE London which includes developing local action to address the drop in vaccination rates and, in particular, to support increasing MMR and pre-school booster at age 5. School-aged immunisation providers routinely include information on MMR and administer MMR1 and/or MMR2 to complete the immunisation course.

Outcome 2: Children and Young Peoples Plan: Safeguarding children and young people

- 91% of primary schools and 100% of secondary and special schools are graded 'Good' or better by Ofsted for personal development, behaviour and welfare.
- Anti-bullying guidance templates for schools have been developed and shared which will support them in tailoring their policies in line with their current practice to prevent, report, respond and intervene when bullying takes place and how incidents will be monitored.
- By demonstrating exceptional good practice and progress in tackling homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying, Merton's Stonewall rating has improved to 11th out of 25. Merton is also making strides in its support for LGBT / transgender pupils through its work with Wandsworth to produce guidance applicable for both boroughs.
- Transition arrangements from the Board to the Merton Safeguarding Children Partnership (MSCP) have been successfully completed. Local arrangements are built on the strong foundations already in place.
- A Liaison and Diversion service has been established to provide an early screening and sign-posting service at first point of entry into the criminal justice system to ensure that appropriate interventions are available to meet identified needs and that the 'health offer' underpins the justice response.
- Merton has been successful in a bid for the Home Office Early Intervention Youth Fund that will deliver 'Responsive Community Engagement' where there are concerns about anti-social behaviour, 'hot spots' and increasing violence. The team will be co-located in the Adolescent and Family Service and work alongside existing provision to increase capacity to respond swiftly to these concerns and divert young people from the criminal justice system.
- Commissioned specialist substance misuse services continue to be delivered via Catch22 which include brief alcohol interventions, targeted workshops for schools and training to professionals across Merton.

Outcome 3: Children and Young Peoples Plan: Looked After Children and Care Leavers

- Commissioned the Positive Families Partnership in conjunction with other local authorities to keep vulnerable families together and prevent children from being taken into care. A further partnership arrangement has been established through a Family Drug & Alcohol Court (FDAC) which offers an alternative form of care proceedings for parents and children

in cases where substance misuse is a key factor in the decision to bring proceedings.

- Maintained a strong emphasis on pre-proceedings cases which has contributed to reducing the overall duration of Care Proceedings cases. System improvements are in place and there is increased focus on the interface between key teams and partners.
- Placement stability continues to improve with a downward trend in the percentage of Looked After Children (LAC) with 3+ placements in the year falling to 12% in 2018 from 17% in 2014. Sixty-nine percent of LAC were in stable placements in 2018 compared to 58% in 2014 and 40% in 2015.
- Refreshed the Securing Sufficient Accommodation for Looked After Children and Care Leavers for 2018-19 which includes in-depth analysis of performance and needs that inform service improvement.
- Merton CAMHS in Social Care provides an integrated mental health service within Children's Social Care. The service provides effective, evidence-based interventions as part of the clinical and social response to meeting the emotional and mental health needs of this cohort and also assists and supports social workers to implement new approaches to their work.
- Adoption performance continues to be a strength in terms of clear planning and management oversight of cases and placements achieved in a timely manner. Merton is set to combine adoption services with other South London boroughs to provide more cohesive, efficient and effective use of resources.
- A new Fostering Recruitment Strategy has been developed with the intention of increasing the number of foster carers recruited and retained by Merton which uses research and evidence-based approaches as well as comprehensive and systematic data to monitor and analyse activity.
- The Children in Care Council continue to seek the views of LAC and Care Leavers through a variety of mechanisms through which they have informed planning on a range of issues such as housing, 'Staying Put', health and emotional well-being.

Outcome 4: Children and Young Peoples Plan: Closing the gap in educational outcomes and opportunity

- High-quality education continues to be provided with 88% of primary schools and 100% of secondary and special schools rated 'Good' or better by Ofsted for Overall Effectiveness.
- The latest 2017-18 educational outcomes for Merton schools show that:
 - 74% of all pupils and 64% of children eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) achieved a 'Good Level of Development' at Early Years Foundation Stage
 - 69% of all pupils and 56% of disadvantaged pupils reached the expected standard in reading, writing and maths at Key Stage 2
 - The gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers has narrowed in the Progress 8 indicator at Key Stage 4.
- Attendance continues to be higher than national and outer London rates. Excellent partnership work between the Education Welfare Service (EWS) and schools has continued to create a culture of good school attendance. There were no permanent exclusions in primary and special schools over 2017-18. The number of permanent exclusions in

secondary schools has decreased significantly and is below the most recent national, London and outer London comparators.

- An effective multi-agency Children Missing Education (CME) panel continues to operate to ensure vulnerable children and young people receive and engage with a suitable education offer.
- Provision of two year-old education places continues to be a key focus. Additional requirements for free early education have included the introduction of a Special Educational Needs Inclusion Fund (SENIF), the Disability Access Fund and roll-out of 30 hours childcare and early education for working parents, which continues to develop. Over half of schools have implemented the 30-hour offer with more planning to do so in the near future.
- A new Early Years Hub has been established and is shared across Merton and Wandsworth to provide opportunities for early years settings, local authorities and other partners to work together to improve outcomes for children by increasing take-up of free early education and improving the quality of early years provision.

Outcome 5: Children and Young Peoples Plan: Engage and enable young people to achieve better outcomes

- There has been downward trend of First-Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System (144 in 2010-11 to 33 at the end of Mar 19). Re-offending cohorts remain small but with increasingly complex needs – many young people have an EHC Plan or LAC status and require multi-agency and cross-departmental responses to manage behaviour.
- NEET and Not Known performance remain in the top quintile in London. Key workers from the My Futures team have continued to provide a range of group and individual 1:1 work as well as various other support through joint working to improve outcomes for at-risk young people and those who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET). The team have continued to run a series of successful programmes including a Holiday Programme, Towards Employment Programme and University Programme that enables the most vulnerable young people to access education/work opportunities and improve behaviour, social skills and self-confidence.
- Commissioned services continue to be delivered and focused on the priority groups of: children missing from home or care; children at risk of sexual exploitation; advocacy for children on CP Plans / LAC / Care Leavers; young carers; and children with disabilities.

Outcome 6: Children and Young Peoples Plan: Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

- Educational outcomes have improved with a 3% rise in children with SEN who achieved a 'Good Level of Development' at the Early Years Foundation Stage in 2017-18 for both those in receipt of SEN Support and those with EHC Plans. Performance of pupils in receipt of SEN Support also improved in all key indicators (except writing progress) at Key Stage 2. At Key Stage 4, pupils in receipt of SEN Support maintained a very strong Progress 8 score. Progress 8 and Attainment 8 scores for pupils with EHC Plans rose slightly and are above national but below London averages.
- A Post-16 Information, Advice and Guidance Worker within the Merton Information Advice and Support Service supports young people with SEND post-16 transition to adulthood via

further training and towards employment opportunities. Feedback has shown a high level of satisfaction with the service with 92% stating that the information, advice and support given 'made a great deal of difference'.

- Work is continuing to support further increase in provision and sufficiency of local SEN places in special schools, particularly in response to the continued rise in Autistic Spectrum Disorder and Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs.
- There is an established pathway for schools to identify children requiring an EHC assessment. Focus has been maintained on assuring the consistency of SEN identification across all Merton schools with work undertaken around the sharing of good practice, professional and resources development and collaboration between local authority SEN services and the Merton Special Teaching School Alliance.
- Portage has been embedded into the wider Early Years service and includes co-delivery from Children's Centres. The parenting offer for families with children with specialist complex needs continues to develop – the service recently launched the Incredible Years ASD and Language Delay Programme with 25 staff trained in this model.
- There is also growing membership of Kids First – Merton's forum for parents and carers of children and young people with disabilities or special educational needs that address specific local issues. Kids First meets regularly with key senior members of staff to discuss and focus on a broad range of issues raised and areas for improvement.
- A SEND Strategy 2019-22 is currently being refreshed in line with strategic priorities – this will incorporate the recent Higher Needs Funding review and Merton capital SEND expansions projects.
- Merton's Local Offer for SEND is web-based and provides parents with details on all services open to children and young people in the borough and is regularly updated with relevant information.

Priorities for 2019-20

A new draft Children and Young People's Plan has been produced through extensive consultation with children, families and the Children's Trust Board.

Over 1287 pupils responded to a survey on the four-year plan, which was sent out to secondary schools across the borough. Consultation also took place with children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities as well as primary aged children and parents of children using Early Years services.

The importance of connectedness to family, friends and the local community and its vital role in wellbeing has emerged as a new priority – named in the plan as 'My Merton'. This sits alongside the following further five priorities: 1. Being Healthy, 2. Staying Safe, 3. Enjoying and Achieving, 4. Getting Involved, Having a Say, 5. Becoming Independent.

The strategy is set to be approved at Cabinet in July 2019 and adopted by Council in September 2019.

2.3 KEEPING MERTON MOVING:

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES & TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP

The purpose of the Sustainable Communities and Transport Theme Group is to work in partnership to create a more sustainable borough, one which is less reliant on fossil fuel and which reduces its negative impact on the environment and climate change in particular. The Board promotes investment into the borough to create new jobs as well as looking to improve skills levels and the capacity of residents to benefit from these jobs and those across the region. The Board seeks to improve the condition and supply of housing including affordable housing. The Board works to promote the development of sustainable transport particularly active transport [cycling and walking] as well as public transport in and around Merton.

Outcome 1: % reduction in number of JSA Claimants at Mitcham JCP

Under Universal Credit a broader span of claimants are required to look for work than under Jobseeker's Allowance.

As Universal Credit Full Service rolled out in particular areas, the number of people recorded as being on the Claimant Count was likely to rise. This has been the case in Merton, initially rising from 1.8% to 2.2% in October 2018 and by February 2019 had risen to 2.4% where it remains as of June 2019.

Outcome 2: Apprenticeships – placements in year

Merton - the Employer

The Government has set public sector targets for apprentice “new starts” based on 2.3% of the workforce over the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2021. Based on April 2017 workforce data this equates to 38 for Merton Council and a further 61 in our schools - total 99 new apprentices on average over the 4 year period. Up to May 2019 we have had 112 levy-funded apprentice since April 2017 and 93 for the last year.

Merton Council’s HR division manages the LBM employed apprenticeships program.

Please note that there is no Economic Development Strategy funding to support apprenticeships employment programmes for businesses in Merton. However the Towards Employment pilot employability support (see outcome 3) did generate 7 apprenticeships in the past financial year.

Outcome 3: Number of people employed through Employability schemes

The “Towards Employment” programme delivered through the Children Schools and Families division was the only Council funded employability scheme this year using s.106 funding specifically for “skills training”.

The scheme was introduced in August 2018 initially as a pathway programme to support residents aged 16-25 with a focus on vulnerable young people (care leavers, those on the risk register and those known to the Youth Offending Team). However, through support and cooperation this has meant other residents are able to receive employment both in and within

adjoining boroughs, particularly Croydon.

30 plus job starts were created between September and December 2018 and 5 apprenticeship starts.

Between Jan – March 2019 there were a further 2 apprenticeship starts.

Partners reported that through their own employability programmes they have a further 35 residents into employment so a total of 72 people employed through local employability schemes. The other local provider programmes being reported are:

Step Forward - An employment, training, finance & budgeting, information and support programme for people in Merton and Pollards Hill MOAT residents.

Delrose Earle Training – Providers to the private, voluntary and public sector of courses designed to stimulate and equip individuals to make decisions that change their lives and impact their communities.

Outcome 4: No. of clients accessing employment and skills initiatives who have received financial guidance

It is not possible to provide a definitive number of residents who have been supported specifically with financial guidance as many of the programmes on offer in Merton will be providing complex needs support and some clients will have been supported by more than one partner.

However, Commonsense Trust deliver the Step Forward Programme, which is specifically providing financial support for residents. They report that 91 residents have been supported in the past financial year:

- APRIL – MAY 2018: 16
- JUNE - AUGUST 2018: 29
- SEPT- DEC 2018: 26
- JAN – MAR 2019: 20

Step Forward provides support to Clarion tenants and resident with financial literacy and running publicity campaigns and workshops. Residents are referred by Clarion course organisers and rent officers, with their agreement, to sort urgent and not so urgent financial issues connected to: Housing Benefit, JSA, Universal Credit, health-related benefits. Commonsense also give some advice about training, careers, housing, income maximisation, health, diet etc.

Priorities for 2019-20

- Volunteering
- Climate change / air quality

2.4 BEING SAFE AND STRONG:

SAFER STRONGER STRATEGY GROUP

The Safer and Stronger Strategy Group performs the role of the community safety partnership for Merton and leads on the community safety and community cohesion agenda on behalf of the Merton Partnership.

Outcome 1: *To Reduce Theft of Motor Vehicles*

- Met-wide roll out of Operation Venice (Prevention, Protection, Prepare and Pro-active).
- Two call-ins, CPN's issued and targeted, intelligence led patrols in hotspot areas.
- Crime prevention messages and target hardening via the distribution of bike locks.
- Joint operations with neighbouring boroughs.
- Forensics, helicopter days, tagging spray and "Trap" vehicles all utilised.
- Priority for local officers and all offences reviewed daily by Partnership and Prevention Team.

Outcome 2: *Domestic Burglary and Integrated Offender Management*

- IOM analytical profile was written.
- The IOM panel meetings continue to meet on a monthly basis.
- The Offenders Board is now up and running.
- Neighbourhood Watch continues to promote their service and work is ongoing with local Police teams to set up new watches across the borough.
- Met Trace continues to be rolled out across the borough.
- Crime prevention messages from across the partnership have been distributed to help inform residents as to how they can keep them and their property safe.
- Pro-active patrols and continued use of "cocooning".

Outcome 3: *To reduce crime in Wimbledon Park Ward*

- A ward profile was written and disseminated
- An action plan for key work was written and a partnership group met
- CCTV has been utilised in key strategic locations.
- Partnership problem solving at key sites
- Neighbourhood Watch has been very active in the area

Outcome 4: *To participate in the Local Alcohol Action Area Project and Enforcement of the Borough Public Space Protection Order*

Local Alcohol Action Area Project

- Merton was successful in its bid to become part of the phase two Home Office project.
- A significant number of actions were completed and now the project has concluded, work is being mainstreamed via the Substance Misuse Project Board.
- A final evaluation of the project is complete. The results highlighted improved partnership

working, communication, sharing of intelligence and outcomes in relation to a reduction in the number of incidents of violence with injury (non-domestic).

Public Space Protection Order

- Work around the enforcement of the PSPO is ongoing – with partnership working between the Community Safety Team, Police and Kingdom Security.
- Engagement with Drug and Alcohol Services to ensure that support is in place for those who need it.
- Work will start imminently to gather intelligence around street drinking on the borough, due to the current PSPO expiring next year. The intelligence will help to inform the decision making around any future orders on the borough.

Priorities for 2019-20

The Community Safety Partnership will be working on the pan London priorities set in the Mayor's Police and Crime Plan, which are:

- Neighbourhood policing.
- Keeping children and young people safe
- Tackling violence against women and girls
- The criminal justice system that works for London
- Standing together against hate, extremism and terror in all its forms

In addition to the pan London priorities, the Community Safety Partnership will also be undertaking work around the following locally identified priorities (identified via the borough's Strategic Assessment).

- Domestic Burglary (with a focus on Wimbledon Village and Wimbledon Park)
- Theft of Motor Vehicles
- Mitcham Town Centre
- Serious Violence inc. Knife Crime
- Anti-Social Behaviour Enforcement

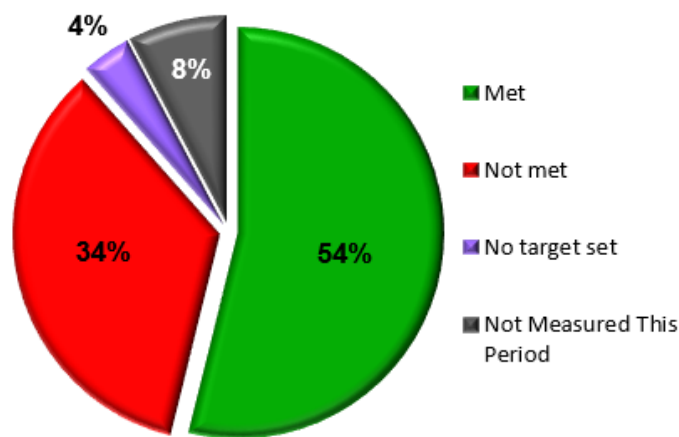
Additional information

- Ongoing work to establish and maintain positive working relationships in light of the new Policing Structure. Work is also ongoing to mitigate any potential risks the new structure may bring.
- Brexit and the future implications for the borough, particularly in relation to potential increases in Hate Crime.
- Reduction in London Crime Prevention Fund.
- Via the Locations Board and the Safer and Stronger Executive Board, work is ongoing to deliver upon the actions set in the borough's Knife Crime Plan.
- We will further develop new and innovative programmes in offender management utilising community based organisations to assist statutory partners in providing meaningful routes out of crime.

3. PERFORMANCE 2018-19

Overall Year End Performance 2018-19

- 3.1 Performance for 2018-19 has been reviewed against the Merton Partnership’s agreed suite of 26 performance indicators.
- 3.2 Of the 26 indicators, 14 (54%) met their target, nine (34%) did not meet their target, and two (8%) are Not Measured This Period. One indicator (4%) reports without a specific target being set because it is measured against the MOPAC/MPS Public Attitude Survey.



Comparative year on year performance

- 3.3 The percentage of measures achieving or exceeding their targets, and failing to meet their targets for 2018-19 has remained consistent and stable when compared to 2017-18. The comparative results for the past three years can be seen in the table below.

Result	2016-17	%	2017-18	%	2018-19	%	Trend
Target achieved	12	46%	14	54%	14	54%	→
Target not achieved	7	27%	9	34%	9	34%	→
Not Measured This Period	3	12%	2	8%	2	8%	→
Data Not Received	4	15%	1	4%	0	0%	↑
No target	0	0%	0	0%	1	4%	↓
Total Number of Indicators	26	100%	26	100%	26	100%	

Underperforming measures

- 3.4 Details of the nine underperforming indicators together with Management Action commentary, where provided, can be found in Appendix I








Data Not Received/Not Measured This Period



- 3.5 Details of the two measures which are not measured this period can be found in Appendix II. There were no Data Not Received indicators.

Performance Measures for 2019-20

- 3.6 The proposed indicator set for 2019-20 has yet to be agreed.

Merton Partnership ~ underperforming measures 2018-19 Year End

Thematic Partnership		2018/19			Supporting commentary where provided
		Value	Target	Status	
Children & Young People	MP 050 % of total 0-5 year population from areas of deprivation (IDACI 30%) whose families have accessed children's centre services (Quarterly)	56%	60%		
Health & Wellbeing	MP 056 Healthy Life Expectancy at Birth (Female) (Annual, two years in arrears)	65.3%	65.4%		
Health & Wellbeing	SP448 Reduce gap in age 10-11 obesity between East & West Merton (Annual)	11.5	9.2		This figure covers the period 2015/16 to 2017/18
Sustainable Communities & Transport	MP 065 % of Merton residents 16-64 claiming out-of-work benefits (Quarterly)	2.3%	1.7%		Under Universal Credit a broader span of claimants are required to look for work than under Jobseeker's Allowance. As Universal Credit Full Service is rolled out in particular areas, the number of people recorded as being on the Claimant Count is therefore likely to rise.
Sustainable Communities & Transport	MP068 No. of clients accessing employment and skills initiatives who have received financial guidance (Quarterly)	91	112		It is not possible to provide a definitive number of residents who have been supported specifically with financial guidance as many of the programmes on offer in Merton will be providing complex needs support and some clients will have been supported by more than one partner. The figure provided relates to just one programme which specifically supports financial inclusion.
Sustainable Communities & Transport	MP 69B Number of Merton's CYP (up to age 15) participating in scooter training (Quarterly)	606	1500		The main reason for less training is the reduced officer hours but also the growing demand on school's curriculum timetable. We offer a wide range of cycle training for all ages and this tends to be given higher priority by schools. We are trying to introduce yearly diarised scooter training to ensure session levels are maintained.
Safer & Stronger	MP 074 % of "i" calls responded to within 15 mins (Monthly)	83.3%	90%		This indicator was included in light of the changes to the Policing structure in the Met. Merton is now part of the South West Borough Command Unit alongside Kingston, Richmond and Wandsworth. Due to these changes the partnership wanted to monitor response times to ensure that the changes did not have a negative impact. Whilst the target has not been met, continual

Thematic Partnership		2018/19			Supporting commentary where provided
		Value	Target	Status	
					dialogue is taking place at the Safer and Stronger Executive Board and feedback from the Police is that things are improving.
Safer & Stronger	MP 076 No increase in residential burglary (Quarterly)	17.4%	0		There has been an increase in residential burglaries over the period, and as such it has been agreed by the Safer and Stronger Partnership that it will be one of the partnership's strategic priorities for the forthcoming financial year. A partnership wide action plan has now been set up and will be monitored by the Location's Board going forward. Over the year Met Trace continued to be rolled out, crime prevention messages were delivered, and analytical profile was produced and work continued around Neighbourhood Watch. This work will all continue this year.
Safer & Stronger	SP 078 Reduction in theft of Motor Vehicles (Quarterly)	6.3% reduction	10% reduction		Whilst there was a reduction of 6.3% unfortunately we did not achieve the 10% reduction target that was set. It has been agreed by the Safer and Stronger Partnership that it will be one of the partnership's strategic priorities for the forthcoming financial year. A partnership wide action plan has now been set up and will be monitored by the Location's Board going forward. Work over the year included targeted operations, crime prevention messaging, analytical profiling and the Met Police wide roll out of Operation Venice.

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No target assigned but performance identified as declining:

Thematic Partnership		2018/19			Supporting commentary if applicable
		Value	Target	Status	
Health & Wellbeing	MP 075 Public perception of the police	65.3%	N/A	N/A	This indicator has no target. It is measured against a tracker ie the MOPAC/MPS Public Attitude Survey https://maps.london.gov.uk/NCC/ Whilst we do not have a target set for this indicator – we have noted a downward trend over the year. This is being picked up and monitored by the Safer and Stronger Executive Board.

Merton Partnership ~ Data Not Measured by Year End 2018-19

Thematic Partnership	Performance Indicator Code & Description	2018/19	Management Comment
Health & Wellbeing	MP 057 % of adult carers who have as much social contact as they would like (annual, one year in arrears)	Not Measured This Period	No carers survey was carried out during 17/18, this takes place every two years. The results of the latest survey are not yet published.
Health & Wellbeing	MP 058 % of adults in contact with secondary mental health services who live in stable and appropriate accommodation (Annual)	Not Measured This Period	Year End data not yet available