

Case study – GLA

Background

The aim of the commission alongside our partner Sian Penner Associates (SPA), was to support ways to strengthen the GLA's approach to community engagement on Serious Youth Violence and to help the formation of the Community Engagement Plan. As has been documented in the press recently, serious youth violence is a big issue that has affected London and this project is part of the effort to deal with serious youth violence.

Work carried out

Our work involved meeting with different stakeholders who play a role in this issue (both internal at GLA and external to the GLA) and gauging their views and experiences. This was done through one-to-one interviews with stakeholders as well as workshops with the SYV working group. The project also helped facilitate some working between different partners by encouraging partners at workshops to get to know other organisations and what role they play in community engagement on SYV.

Outcome

We have been able to form a large amount of evidence on what organisations are currently doing and what they feel is needed on this and we have drawn upon this evidence in formulating the Community Engagement Plan. What has also occurred on this project has been an encouraging shift in focus on to the public health approach to SYV, i.e., looking at the issue not just from the perspective of policing alone, but also as a matter of mental health provision and support services in communities etc.