

# impact report 2016/17



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# 1 hello and welcome

We are Safer London, the leading London charity working to prevent and address gang violence, vulnerability and exploitation among young people. We were born in 2005, set up with a grant from the Metropolitan Police Authority to support young people at risk of crime.

HRH The Prince of Wales is Patron of Safer London, and the Metropolitan Police Commissioner Cressida Dick serves as President.

To date, we have helped 48,000 young people escape violence, exploitation and crime and turn their lives around.

## About us

We believe every young person should be able to live free from exposure to gangs, exploitation and crime and we put this into action by reaching out to London's most vulnerable and exploited young people to prevent them from slipping through the net. Through our programmes, we:

- can assign a young person a skilled independent advocate who will hold their hand and navigate them through statutory services and get access to the legal and professional help they are entitled to;
- deliver 1:1 and group sessions with young people on safety, consent and self-worth, and equip them with the tools to make a safe transition into adulthood avoiding harm;
- work with schools to improve safeguarding and prevent violence in both the school and wider community;
- support young people who want to leave or escape from gangs;

- empower parents and carers to nurture young people in these ever-changing technological times and strengthen family connections;
- provide trained mentors who open and expand young people's horizons and ambitions;
- help social housing tenants escaping domestic violence relocate and maintain their tenancy;
- train professionals (including the police), keeping them abreast of new and emerging threats.

We are continually evolving and innovating – we have to in an ever-changing youth landscape – and have a waiting list of young people seeking to access our services who we are determined to help. Ultimately, making London safer for young people makes it safer for everyone.



## saferlondon in numbers

We're not all about the numbers – but we are proud of the numbers we've achieved.

# 65,000

Since we started, we have worked with 65,000 people of all ages

# 75%

Of these, 75% were young people and the remainder were parents, teachers and other professionals

## We're pretty chuffed with what we've achieved so far...

We have helped thousands of young people escape the dangers of gangs, crime and exploitation and equipped them with the skills to make the right choices so they can keep safe from harm.

We have highly skilled front-line workers reaching out and connecting with young people on the ground, wherever they are across London.

We don't believe in standing still – over the past 6 years we have created several new programmes to meet the changing needs of the challenges young people face.

## We know we can't do it alone so we work in partnership where we can...

We are co-located in local authorities across London which ensures we work seamlessly and get the best results for young people.

- We proactively seek to collaborate with those who share our values.
- We team-up with other charities to deliver more comprehensive reaching programmes.
- We support smaller charities to develop their services, reaching deep into communities.

Please read on to see what we achieved during 2016/17. You'll also find out what's been happening in our world, and more importantly, in the lives of the young people we work with.

# 2 a letter from our chair & chief executive

This year we have continued to work tirelessly to effect positive change for young people. Safer London has been successful in reaching more young people than ever before. We have worked with young men and women, their families, schools and professionals. We believe in working closely with young people, and the communities around them, to create systemic, lasting change.

Safer London's portfolio of services and activities reflects young Londoners' emerging needs and concerns, and we see the organisation's agility and ability to respond as great strengths.

This year our services reached over 9,000 young people, a record for us and a testament to the quality and consistency of our services and the integrity of our highly committed staff.

This significant uplift in service users is a reflection of the trust young people have in Safer London and the services we provide and further evidenced by the increase in peer referrals. Young people recommending Safer London to their siblings, friends and peers is the greatest endorsement we could hope to receive and we are proud to be part of such a progressive, pioneering organisation.

We continued to build and deliver our Young Men's Harmful Sexual Behaviour programme and our work has gone from strength to strength, as we have continued building the capacity of frontline staff and supporting young people in their journey of empowerment.

True to our ethos of placing the safety and wellbeing of vulnerable young people in London at the heart of everything we do, we also continued to innovate and be thought leaders. For example, we designed an approach to Child Sexual Exploitation contextual safeguarding in public spaces and developed a pilot with the aim of improving the safeguarding of vulnerable young people

in public spaces such as shopping centres. The findings from this study will be launched in late 2017 and draw further attention to this issue with policy and decision makers.

We were delighted that Mayor Sadiq Khan chose Safer London's offices as the venue to launch the 2017-2021 Police and Crime Plan. Safer London staff and service users were consulted on the plan during its development and helped to shape the strategy. We were pleased to note that the final four-year plan promises extra protection for children and young people and a pledge to tackle violence against women and girls.

This year has also been a challenging one as the operating environment for voluntary sector organisations is difficult with continued cuts to statutory sector budgets fuelling funding uncertainty. This is compounded by short commissioning periods remaining the norm for a service that needs a medium to long-term approach. Against this backdrop, we continue to experience an increase in demand for our vital services from those who need them the most.

The average council in London has cut its youth service budget by nearly £1 million – an average of 36 per cent and in London alone more than 30 youth centres have

been closed. A recent survey asked young people about the impact youth service cuts had on their lives. In response, 83 per cent said they were having an effect on crime and antisocial behaviour, and 71 per cent said it was now harder for young people to stay in formal education.

Youth violence, particularly rates of knife and gun crime, has soared in the Capital over the last year. Figures show a 42 per cent rise in the number of overall offences of gun crime and an increase of 24 per cent rise in the number of knife crime offences compared with 2015/16. Youth reoffending in London has increased at a higher rate than nationally and is also significantly higher than England and Wales (38%), whilst prison violence has also continued to increase. The Chief Inspector of Prisons has recently stated that "not one young offender institution was safe to hold juveniles". Given the poor life outcomes for young people within the care and criminal justice system, this external context is extremely worrying. It means we need to work harder than ever to ensure we can continue to provide our services to those most in need and work collaboratively with other organisations to fill gaps and be as effective as possible.

Throughout all of this year's developments, we've remained true to our ambitious mission and our core values. All of Safer London's achievements are only possible because of the expertise, passion and dedication of our incredible team.

We look forward to building on our successes, and seeing what the next year will bring.



Bruce Melizan  
Chair



Claire Hubberstey  
CEO



# 3 empower

The Empower service is our largest programme, focusing on those at risk of, or experiencing, Child Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Violence. This service operates in local authorities across London, offering intensive 1:1 work, specialist advice, capacity building, awareness raising, educational programmes and training for professionals.

A young person experiencing Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) will have a host of professionals working on their case. Safer London's Young People's Advocates (YPAs) work directly with and for each young person, providing independent and impartial support, making sure their voice is heard, they access the right services and learn strategies to keep themselves safe from any further harm.

But it doesn't stop there: we also provide support to families – parents and carers of those who have experienced exploitation and are gang-affected – so they can improve their relationships with their own or cared-for children through a better understanding of the causes and consequences of CSE.

## We do lots of frontline work but we are increasing our ability to influence more strategically

We supported the review of the 'Supplementary Procedures to Safeguarding Young People Affected by Child Sexual Exploitation' and the 'Pan London Operating Protocol', a multi-agency guide for responding to CSE.

We continue to work with local authorities to design and develop how they respond to disclosures of CSE so that we can support systemic change and ensure that the needs of those experiencing it are appropriately addressed.

During 2016/17 we worked with a local charity to develop a new tool that draws together multiple vulnerabilities so we could map and share concerns about specific locations.



As we said, we're not all about the numbers – but we are proud of the numbers we've achieved. Take a look at what our empower programme achieved in 2016/17...

### Outputs and outcomes:

1:1 CSE cases worked with	313
Missing cases	34
Family Work	113
Consultation	893
Training and Events	86
Groups	30

**100%** successful initial engagement

### Overall outcomes for 1:1 work:

Safety	82%
Increased ability to cope	92%
Increased understanding of healthy relationships	90%
Increased self-worth	89%
Improved education & employment	83%

**72%** referred onto other services

**58%** supported in relation to safeguarding

### M's Story

M is a 13-year-old female, who resides in London with her mother. She was referred to Safer London by her school after she made a disclosure about being sexually assaulted by a boy on 3 separate occasions. As a result, this boy was moved to another school. M was a victim of sexual bullying and he would send threatening messages by text, Facebook and Snapchat. M experienced low self-esteem and she had a very limited understanding of her right or consent. M didn't tell her mum about the assaults because she was suffering from depression and M didn't want to give her more stress.

Safer London assigned M a Young People's Advocate (YPA) who met with her at her school on a weekly basis and worked with her on understanding consent, how to avoid peer pressure and how to keep safe and healthy relationships. The Safer London YPA liaised with the school, local authority safeguarding team, and police

detective investigating the allegations to ensure M was kept up to date with events as they unfolded. The YPA also supported M to speak to her mother, and Safer London provided information on helplines for parents who have children who have experienced CSE.

M received intensive 1:1 support for 6 months. In a feedback form completed during her last session, she had stated:

"I have become more confident to deal with big problems."

"I'm keeping myself safe and I know what consent is."

"I would inform other young people going through similar experiences that they have not done anything wrong; if they did not consent, then it is not their fault."

**Feedback from our Local Authority partners that we work closely with:**

*“Safer London have brought a significant difference to vulnerable young people in Croydon. They use a practice model that empowers, they influence the quality of statutory partners’ practice, they train us to work with vulnerable young people and they have influenced and guided our strategic direction. A real holistic approach.”*

*“Safer London works closely with the London Borough of Hackney and with all partner agencies as we continue to support young people in order to reduce risks of sexual exploitation. Safer London provides a high-quality service and has a strong knowledge and evidence base underpinning their interventions.”*

*“We have received positive feedback regarding their professionalism and their ability to engage with young people – individually and in groups, to support them to develop their understanding of healthy relationships and consent, and their awareness of the effects of sexual exploitation – and to engage in safety planning.”*

**Feedback from families we worked with:**

*“I feel a lot stronger than I did before and know more about CSE now and gangs.”*

*“I now have better communication and a better relationships with my daughter, spending more time together.”*

**Feedback from young people who we have worked 1:1 with:**

*“It’s a programme set up to support people, with nothing but good intentions for the individual. It will enable you to become independent, strong and comfortable in whatever area you feel you need support in.”*

*“[The Safer London Young People’s Advocate] is like a friend who gives you correct advice to all the stuff you would probably not want to talk about with your mum or friends. She is very trustworthy and confidential.”*



**Education:**

Safer London delivers a Whole School Approach – which means we work with everyone on preventing Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). From the Board of Governors down through the entire school community – staff, pupils and beyond – to provide consistent, messaging around responding to, challenging and preventing violence within schools and the local community.

As part of this programme, we also deliver training and support to staff on specific safeguarding concerns, including how to recognise signs of abuse and how to respond to harmful behaviour and disclosures of abuse.

Our work with students focuses on gender stereotypes in literature/historical narratives and the media, encouraging respectful attitudes towards women and taking a zero-tolerance approach to peer-on-peer abuse such as sexist language, name-calling and unwanted touching.

**here are some highlights of what Safer London’s schools work achieved during 2016/17...**

**Education delivery sessions**

We ran lots of sessions to help increase awareness. Just take a look...

**294**

one off awareness-raising sessions with **8650 young people**

**21**

young women’s groups with **209+ participants**

**4**

young men’s groups with **37 participants.**

**Group work outcomes**

When asked at the end of their programme to look back on their progress:

**97%**

said their confidence had improved

**99%**

said their understanding of consent and healthy relationships had improved

**97%**

said their knowledge of support options and safety had improved.

## when asked for strategies to stay safe, young people said:

- Stay out of gangs, don't associate yourself with negative people, stay away from being peer pressured
- Being close to family, listening to advice on where to go
- Calling someone, knowing how to get home, telling someone.

## when asked where young people would access support, most commonly they cited family, friends, teaching assistants and school:

- Because it helps you gain confidence and knowledge about relationships
- It's a space to express your feelings towards things that affect us girls on a daily basis
- Young people commonly said it was good to build confidence and self-esteem and that it 'taught them stuff about life'.

### Missing services

There is a strong link between young people experiencing or at risk of CSE and those that go missing (nearly 80%) from home. We also realised that missing vulnerable young people need independent and impartial support – this is where we come in.

Safer London delivers a Return Home Interview service in Haringey and Waltham Forest. This provides them with an opportunity to speak with an independent person about why they went missing and if they need any help to prevent future missing episodes.

In Croydon, we provided 1:1 support for young people that go missing and their families to:

- understand what sits behind the missing episode
- provide support to address underlying causes
- encourage better engagement with services
- improve health and wellbeing
- reduce missing episodes.



### Contextual Safeguarding

This means safeguarded outside the home, school and youth facility – within the context of young people's day-to-day lives.

To protect vulnerable young people more effectively, we need to take a closer look at safeguarding and think outside the box.

We innovated and approached safeguarding from another angle. We started to look at how we can improve safeguarding from a contextual perspective.

We kicked off our CSE safeguarding pilot for public spaces in October 2016. It was imperative we fully understand how young people feel about their safety in public spaces and for them to feel comfortable talking to

us about their experiences. So we recruited and trained a group of young people as Peer Advisors and co- designed a questionnaire to help us gather our research.

Our research will culminate in a final report and toolkit for practitioners in late 2017. It will examine the safety of young people in public spaces, and make recommendations that can be applied in London and at a national level. Watch this space!

# 4 london gang exit

London Gang Exit (LGE) is a service for young people who are involved in or impacted by gangs and who want to change their situation.

For the first time, any Londoner aged 16–24 can get support to exit gangs, no matter which borough they live in. This service is the first of its kind and is designed to plug the gaps in services across London.

Why young people become involved with gangs and how this impacts them is complex. Our experience has taught us that young people involved in gangs can be both victims and perpetrators, and that the line between the two can become very blurred.

LGE aims to achieve positive change for young people through advocacy, specialist support and practical tools. Safer London works with our partners, Redthread and Only Connect, to deliver this intensive needs-led service.

Our skilled and experienced staff provide a range of support, from one-to-one work to specialist advice, advocacy and direct support around health and wellbeing, employment and training, housing and family and wider relationships. To the end of March 2017, we supported over 230 referrals into the service.

## Our experience tells us that gang-affected young people must be motivated to change

The young people we have worked with this year came to the service facing a number of challenges, including:

- not in education, employment or training (NEET) **(60%)**  
homelessness **(15%)**
- living in unstable housing **(11%)**
- having a background of offending behaviour **(76%)**
- living with a disability **(25%)**
- parents **(10%)** that, in the main, are not living with their child.

These challenges are often compounded, as the majority suffer from poor mental health and have to cope with family breakdown.

Victimisation is a common catalyst for change with our client group. For successfully completed cases, referral data tells us:

- almost 50% have been the victim of assault within the last twelve months, and
- a further 20% a victim at some point in the past
- almost 50% have been a victim on more than one occasion

This has led to over 60% of our client group having mental health and trauma-related concerns and a similar proportion with substance misuse concerns.

We are doing good work and our young people tell us so, but there is so much more to be done and we want to get to as many young people that need us as we can.

## Don't take our word for it; have a look at what some of what our young people had to say about the LGE Service...

*"I am feeling less suicidal and I feel much better mentally and I no longer have thoughts of harming myself."*

*"One thing that has changed since the start of LGE is that they have shown me how to remain calm in certain situations and shown me the best form of action is to talk. I thank the team for all the help and support they have given me."*

*"I have started working and have more of a positive attitude."*

*"My worker was really helpful and non-judgemental."*

*"I had support from the female support worker and it was helpful and straight forward. She is very laid back and it was easy to trust and open up to her. She was open and honest and knows her stuff. The Housing worker really helped me a lot, getting me a place and I could communicate with him easily and he understood me."*

*"The family worker is very good, she spoke to me about family issues and understands my family problems. I would recommend her family work. The money and housing advisor helped me short-term but understands a lot to do with housing and housing benefit."*

# 5 safer london mentoring

We know mentoring can be transformational and life-changing, especially for the young people that we work with. Our young people have a wide variety of needs, which include physical and emotional health, as well as reducing offending behaviours to create positive and sustainable change.

Our mentoring is really one of a kind, as we spend a lot of time making sure our young people are matched with the right mentor – with similar interests, and skills that can help them. We also support our volunteers every step of the way.

We are always on the lookout for mentors from a range of professional backgrounds who are willing to commit their time to support some of London's most challenged, vulnerable and gang-affected young people. We are truly honoured to have some highly committed mentors who have worked with young people to turn their lives around and create brighter futures.

During 2016/17, we recruited and trained 35 mentors, creating a pool of 46 mentors. Safer London's volunteer mentors are supervised, supported and expertly trained. We give all our mentors an initial 3-day intensive training course, monthly supervision, and ongoing training and support.

Across the year, we matched 29 young people with mentors. These relationships have worked on improving engagement with education, employment and training, improving goals and aspirations, increasing engagement in positive activities and services, improving confidence and self-esteem, and increasing understanding of risks and consequences of gangs and offending.

Mentoring sessions can include sports, trips out, and help with CVs or schoolwork, but what's key is that the fit is right. We also send monthly newsletters and ideas for sessions and free activities in London, and good news stories. Recently, one of our mentors went above

and beyond expectations and reached out to corporate organisations to request free tickets for young people to experience new things for final closing sessions or rewards.

Spitfire Audio, one of Safer London's regular supporters, generously provided tickets for our mentors and mentees to attend concerts in the Barbican – offering new experiences and opening up new worlds to our young people.

Get in touch if you would like to become a mentor or if you are an organisation that would like to offer opportunities to our young people accompanied by their mentors – we are always on the lookout for interesting events and activities.

## As a mentor, you get to leave a lasting a legacy and here's what young people had to say about their mentors:

*"I love the fact that I get opportunities to do what I couldn't do before. I like seeing new things with my mentor, and how open she is to learning new things from me."*

*"I really enjoyed the mentoring and would recommend it to other young people who are having problems. The programme has helped me with a lot of my problems."*

## Feedback from our mentors:

*"We have a really good relationship now. We trust each other; he's such a kind and genuine young person. My favourite thing has been helping him prepare for an audition."*

*"I love mentoring because it's so fulfilling personally and professionally. It's enabling me to pass on life lessons and share my passions and experiences with others who might not usually get this kind of support. I love finding things in common with my mentee to break boundaries and inspire them."*



# 6 young men's service

Safer London supports young men aged 11–18 who display Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB).

The HSB programme delivers 1:1 and group work to help young men understand consent and how to form healthy relationships, to equip them for their journey into adulthood and help them make better choices.

Following a pilot delivered in the London Borough of Hackney, our Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB) programme commenced its first full year of operation.

We expanded the service into the London Borough of Brent, establishing referral pathways and co-located an HSB Specialist within the local authority's Safeguarding Team. Our specialist worker delivered intensive 1:1 support to young men across Brent.

## Because we are really good at what we do

We were also commissioned by the London Borough of Islington to deliver this service to a select number of young men over the course of the year.

## We also use our expertise to influence

We presented at key regional and national events, highlighting how young men's vulnerabilities can develop into Harmful Sexual Behaviour. Safer London contributed to consultation on Harmful Sexual Behaviour conducted by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence.

## Jordan's Story – Age 14

### Challenge: Harmful sexual behaviour

We met Jordan after there had been reports that he had been involved in an incident where a group of young women had been coerced into performing oral sex. The young women were threatened, and told that if they did not perform the acts they were asked to, rumours would be spread about them on Facebook. Safer London made contact with Jordan and arranged to meet up with him on a weekly basis in a one-to-one session at his school. We got to know Jordan and got to understand where his negative attitudes towards women had come from. We are non-judgemental in our approach, which allowed Jordan to open up and feel safe to talk about his emotions. He came to really value our sessions. Over the time we spent with Jordan we were able to talk to him about consent, power and masculinity, and unpick some of the reasons behind his behaviour. As his understanding developed, his behaviour improved. He now realises the impact of his actions and his attitudes towards women have vastly improved.

"My sessions with Safer London helped me to respect myself, and have changed the way I think about girls."

Jordan, 14

## Don't take it from us... see what our borough partner has to say about how we add value...

Feedback from the Principal Officer, London Borough of Brent Quality Assurance & Safeguarding Team:

"Brent Children & Young Peoples Service are working with an increasing number of boys and young men who are displaying, or likely to display Harmful Sexual Behaviours.

Meeting the demands of this client group has been extremely challenging and difficult within the Safeguarding Services as there are very few services that target this 'specific' group of boys and young men. However, Safer London allocated a Young People's Support Worker to work within the Brent C&YP Service, working alongside the Child Protection Advisors, sitting under the Safeguarding & Quality

Assurance Service. This has proved to be enormously successful. Having the benefit of an informed HSB professional within our service delivery has greatly improved – and continues to improve – our work with our vulnerable boys and young men, who our support worker meets individually, as well as consultations to educate and inform our social work staff. The Safer London worker is giving us a greater understanding and awareness of how to work with our service users, and is enabling us to provide a more targeted and improved service delivery which will ultimately improve the safety and wellbeing of this client group."



# 7 pan-london housing reciprocal

We know that people who live in social housing who experience abuse will often stay in dangerous situations because they don't want to lose their social tenancy and make themselves homeless – so we did something about it and conducted a needs assessment on domestic abuse and housing in London and produced a comprehensive report alongside service directories for practitioners. The report identified a gap in services, so we created the Pan-London Housing Reciprocal.

Now, any person living in social housing who needs to relocate due to domestic violence or being gang affected can be supported to transfer to a different location of the capital and maintain their secure tenancy.

## Supporting at-risk households

The Pan-London Housing Reciprocal (PLHR) is an agreement between local authorities and registered housing providers, which prevents those fleeing violence or abuse from becoming homeless and allows them to maintain a secure tenancy. It's crucial as it has opened up important new housing pathways for those who really need it.

The service was launched in January 2017 at an event at City Hall supported by the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime and Deputy Mayor for Housing and Regeneration, attended by around 150 Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) and Housing professionals.

By the end of 2016/17 we had 29 boroughs and 19 housing providers signed up and Safer London had started to facilitate moves for households at risk across London. This includes referrals for households affected by domestic abuse, other forms of VAWG, child sexual exploitation (CSE) and gang violence.

## Here's what people in the know had to say about it...

*"You did a great job with the directories and I'm really grateful for them as I'm relatively new to the job and found it very difficult not having any resources and having to search for everything myself."*

VAWG practitioner

*"This agreement will open up the cross-borough options that simply have not been available in the past to all boroughs and RPs."*

Housing Provider

*"Excellent idea for women to keep their permanent tenancy. I manage a 23-bed refuge and believe the reciprocal would be excellent for the women we support."*

VAWG practitioner

## Sarah's Story

In February 2017 the London Gang Exit (LGE) supported Sarah\*, a young woman who was fleeing domestic abuse, gang violence and receiving threats to harm her and her unborn baby. She had an undiagnosed learning disability, a history of significant familial sexual abuse, and as a direct consequence of fleeing that situation unsupported, she became vulnerable to gang members who systematically exploited and abused her over a number of years. She had a mistrust of services, and particularly adults having been let down and abused by those she expected to protect her.

Sarah received specialist support from the Safer London's LGE young women's worker and housing advice and advocacy team, working to address all areas of need she had identified.

LGE discussed Sarah's case with the Safer London Pan-London Housing Reciprocal (PLHR) team, highlighting the importance of her maintaining a social tenancy rather than accepting insecure housing or becoming homeless. LGE had supported her to access temporary accommodation; however, this was a time-limited solution and a significant cost to the Local Authority.

An urgent property request was made by the Safer London PLHR team to local authorities and housing associations in areas of the capital where she would be safe. The request resulted in a number of property offers, and Sarah went to view accommodation supported by LGE. Sarah accepted a property in a borough the other side of London and successfully relocated to this secure council tenancy - avoiding homelessness and giving her and her new baby a fresh start away from violence and abuse.

The intervention of these Safer London services has helped turned Sarah's life around, giving her a way out of the trap she felt she was in, whilst also allowing her to keep her child who was at risk of being removed at birth because of her housing and personal situation. It also gave her the opportunity to begin to develop the requisite skills to live independently and engage proactively with those who now support her and her child.

She recently fed-back that she feels happy and safe in her new property by far in comparison to where she lived before. When asked if she was feeling differently about the future she replied 'Yes, I feel like a human in this house'.

# 8 our policy and advocacy work

We listen to young people, find out what they need and then we do something about it. But our services alone cannot fix all of young Londoners' concerns. So we speak out and advocate on their behalf and strive to ensure commissioners and policy makers hear their voice and experiences.

We are always ready to play our part – from regularly contributing to government papers, to sitting on key parliamentary committees. In 2016/17 we continued to build on this work.

## We are not afraid to take the lead

As part of our collaborative approach, we sit on local strategic groups with local authority areas ensuring they advocate and champion young people's views.

This is usually through participation and often chairing meetings such as Local Safeguarding Children Boards and multi-agency meetings around risk and safety such as MASH (multi-agency safeguarding hub and MACE (multi-agency child exploitation). Ultimately, we are active in key places where decisions are made that affect young people and where we can ensure their experiences shape the solutions for them.

Regionally, we participate in key forums that influence how things are done in London. After all, we are a pan-London charity. Examples of these include: Metropolitan Police Service Youth Engagement Board, London Gangs and Serious Youth Violence Board, London Voluntary Services Council (LVSC), CSE Task and Finish group of the London Safeguarding Children Board, and we are regular contributors to MOPAC's (Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime) London VAWG Board and forums.

## We use our expertise to influence where we can

We responded to the consultation on the development of the Police and Crime Plan and the London Child Houses and we worked on specific policies such as Pan-London Operating CSE Protocol review and update, and the Metropolitan Police CSE problem profile. In 2016, we also supported the MOPAC Needs Assessment of Sexual Violence and Abuse and developed the Pan-London Domestic Violence Needs Assessment, which we are proud of.

We also contribute strategically through the MOPAC Challenge on Sexual Violence chaired by the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Sophie Linden, the Reducing Youth Reoffending Board for London chaired by Youth Justice Board CEO Colin Allars, and the Crown Prosecution Service Violence Against Women and Girls Scrutiny Panel chaired by Dame Elish Angiolini.

At a national level, we ensure that young people's views are represented at All Party Parliamentary Groups (APPG), Home Office forums on Violence and Exploitation, and are a member of the English Coalition of Runaway Children. In 2016/17 we contributed to the parliamentary select committee inquiry into Harmful Sexual Behaviour led by Barnardo's and participated in the consultation on Harmful Sexual Behaviour conducted by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence.

## Being on the radar can help

We continue to be asked to present at regional and national conferences and we are proud to be invited to so many. In January 2017 we launched the Pan-London Housing Reciprocal at an event at City Hall attended by the Deputy Mayors for Policing and Crime and Housing and Regeneration. For a charity our size, that means something.

## We've got some great friends

Over the years we've been proud to host some great visitors to Safer London; this year has been no exception.

In 2016, Chuka Umunna, MP; Sophie Linden, Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime; Sadiq Khan, Mayor of London; and Sarah Newton, MP paid us a visit.

It's with the support and encouragement from these people and many others that we are inspired and motivated to keep driving forwards.

## We're not in it for the glory – but it's great to have visibility and be recognised

We were shortlisted as a finalist in 2016 for the Children and Young People Now Award, which we were pretty chuffed about.

Our work is in the news and people are talking about what we do – we've featured in the Observer, Independent, Evening Standard, Metro, Mail online, Huffington Post, the Mirror, and Cosmopolitan magazine, as well as having our senior staff appearing on Islam TV and featured in the news on the launch of the Police and Crime plan. We know if we want to achieve our aims, it's important people are hearing about what we are doing.



# 9 our big audacious plans for the future

## Reach more young people

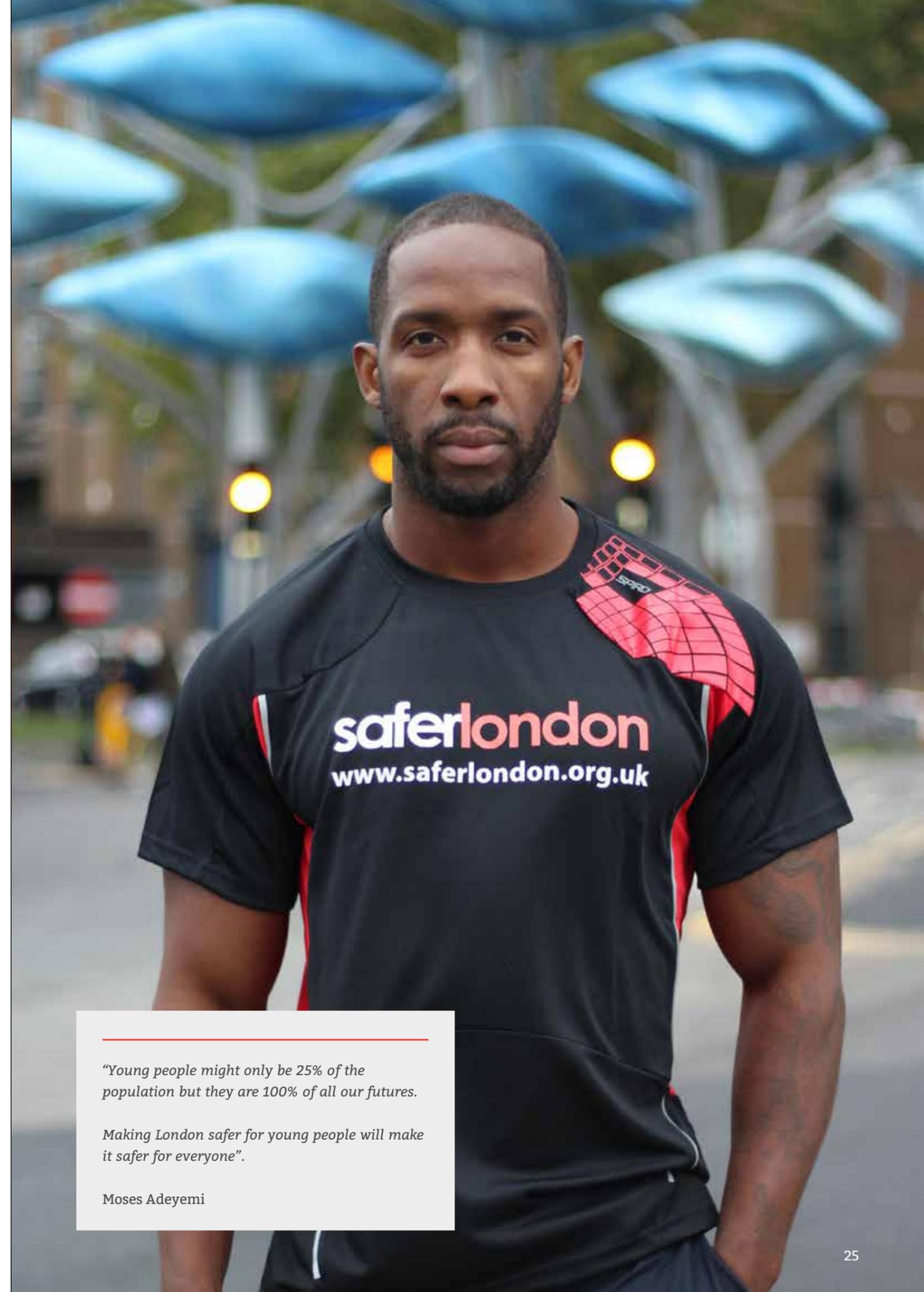
We know we can't get to all young people that need us – but we want to get to as many as possible – that's what all our plans are about.

We want to extend our programmes out to more young people, using the connections we already have to widen our net – schools, local charities with similar aims – and reaching out to families to help them spot the signs, but also let them know we are here for them too.

## We want to make some new friends

At Safer London we are committed to collaboration – in fact we actively seek partnerships with like-minded organisations. We are now looking to develop more corporate partnerships to help transform even more young lives.

If you are looking for cause-related sponsorships, want to co-create innovative programmes, make Safer London your charity of the year, or want to work with us on a transformational strategic partnership, please get in touch – but if we don't hear anything, we may be getting in touch with you....



*"Young people might only be 25% of the population but they are 100% of all our futures.*

*"Making London safer for young people will make it safer for everyone".*

Moses Adeyemi

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# 10 well, that's our story for now

On behalf of the young people and their families, we would like to thank our funders and supporters for their generosity and commitment to helping Safer London keep young people safe and making 2016 /17 our most impactful year ever.

BBC Children in Need  
Big Lottery Fund  
Comic Relief  
Gowling  
Hedge Funds Care  
Home Office  
Interserve  
Investco Perpetual  
John Lyon's Charity  
KPMG  
LB Camden  
LB Croydon  
LB Enfield  
LB Hackney  
LB Haringey  
LB Islington  
LB Redbridge  
LB Southwark

LB Waltham Forest LHA London  
London Catalyst Samaritan Fund  
London Community Foundation  
London Housing Foundation (LHF)  
The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime  
Railway Children  
Sodexo  
Spitfire Audio  
Victim Support  
Worshipful Company of International Bankers  
Worshipful Company of Barbers

Thanks for sticking with us and learning a little bit more about Safer London. There is a lot more to come.

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to make a referral to our services**

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