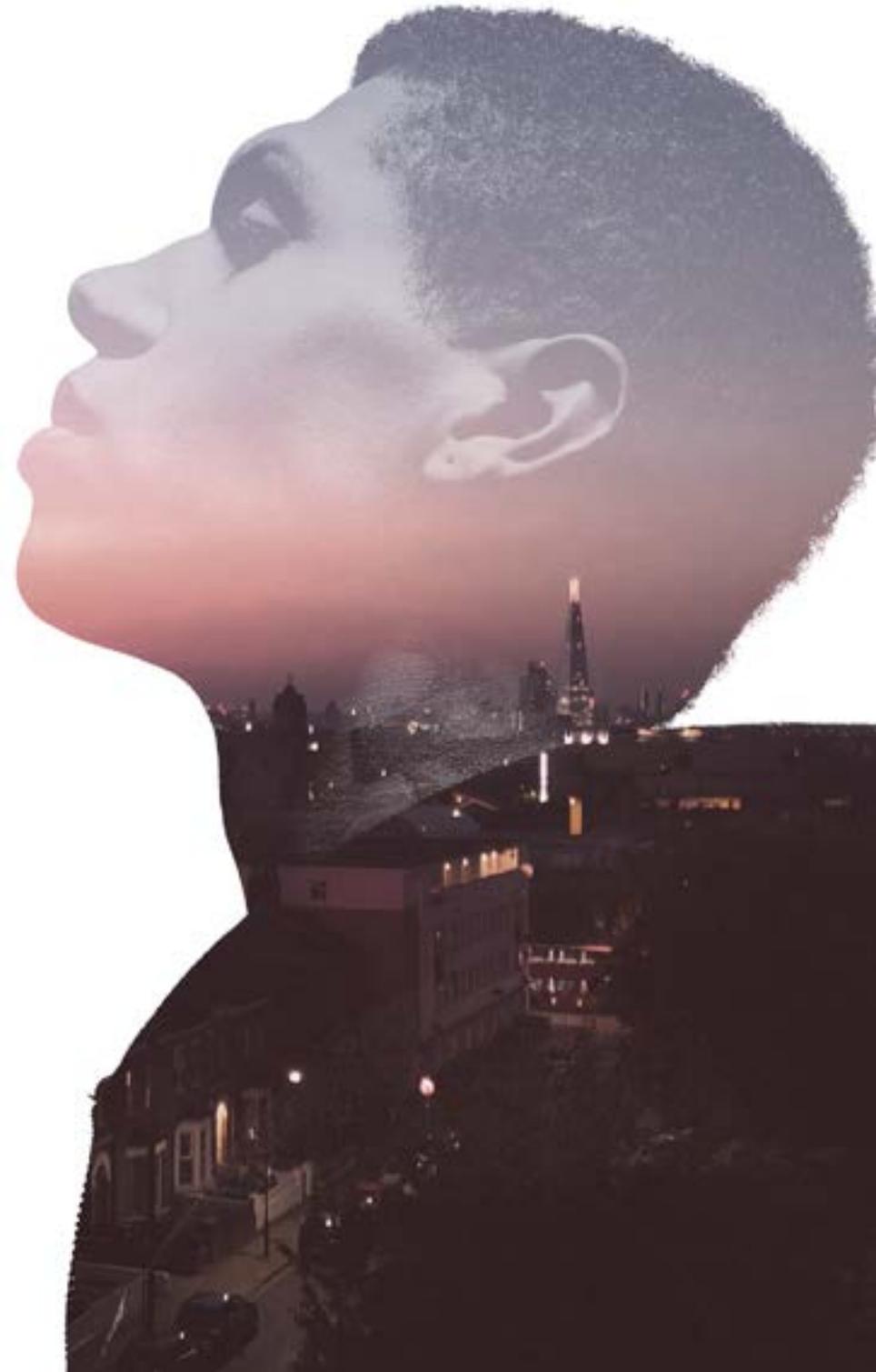


# A Safer London For Everyone

People | Peers | Places

Strategy 2020 - 2025

saferlondon



# A Safer London for Everyone: People | Peers | Places

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# Looking forward to 2025

I am very proud of the work Safer London is doing to support young Londoners who, more than ever before, are finding their lives restricted by widening inequality and social injustice.

These are two of the underlying drivers for increased violence and exploitation especially amongst younger people at all levels of society.

Through our intervention and prevention work we've already reached thousands of young Londoners affected by violence and exploitation and their families. But we know that we need to do more, and in the next five years we will go further working alongside more young Londoners, as well as their families, friends and communities, in order that they have the future that they deserve.

In order to do this we are focusing our delivery of work around three themes: People, Peers and Places.

This means that we will continue our work with young Londoners and their families, but will also expand this out to their peer networks, as well as working directly with and in the places where they live and spend their time. We will expand our prevention work in education settings

and communities, deliver more one on one support, and will provide a platform for young Londoners to fundamentally shape what we do, ensuring that their expertise is central to the solution.

Too often the responsibility for society's problems is laid at the feet of the young. This is not right – for too long we have been creating a narrative in which young people are positioned as the problem, whereas in fact the real problem is the context which we as a society have created and within which our children are attempting to grow and thrive.

Our strategy, which aims to change this, is ambitious and rightly so, but we know that we will achieve our vision with the support of our Trustees, staff, volunteers, commissioners and donors. We're looking forward to embarking on this journey.

If you want to join us and help us achieve our vision please get in touch. Together we can explore how you can support us and the young Londoners we serve.

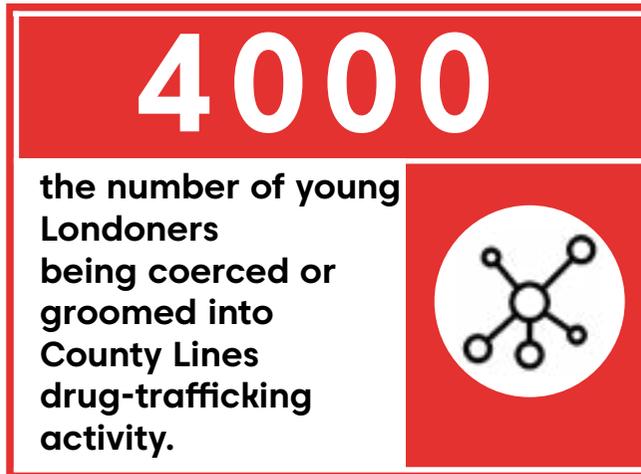
**Sherry Peck,**  
Chief Executive



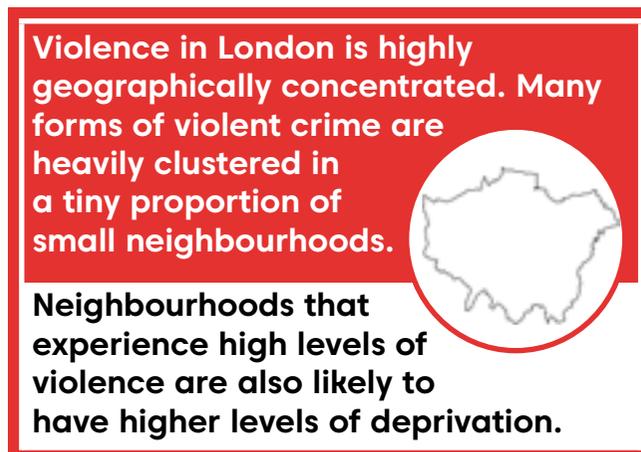
# Who We Are & Why We Exist

Our Vision is a world where all young Londoners can thrive, free from exposure to violence and exploitation.

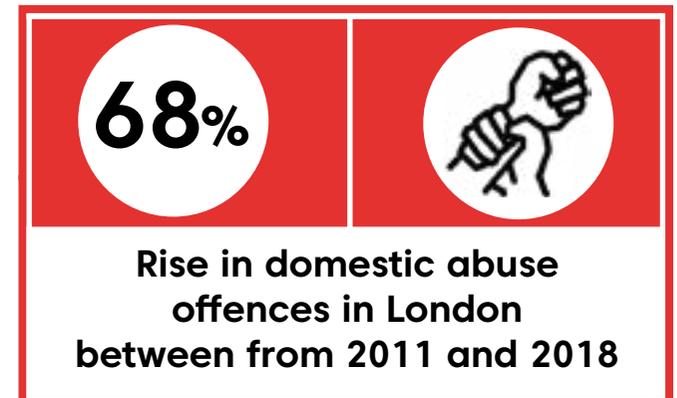
The need to do more to safeguard young people from violence and exploitation is widely recognised, evidenced through initiatives such as the establishment of Violence Reduction Units both in London and across the country.



As the only London-wide charity dedicated to preventing violence and exploitation, Safer London has been unable to meet the demand for our services.



We work tirelessly to provide needs-led and intensive support to young Londoners and their families every year. We're committed to learning, innovating, and delivering high quality, evidence-based support.



With a footprint in every London borough, we build trusting, professional partnerships with statutory, charitable and community partners to embed our approaches and work towards achieving our Vision.

# The Next Five Years

Over the next five years we will work collaboratively with young Londoners, involving them in the shaping of our services and providing a platform for their voices to be heard.

Working alongside young Londoners, their families and communities, we'll share our knowledge and expertise allowing them to identify their strengths and abilities.

We'll deliver our work through three key themes:



## People

We'll provide trusted individual relational support to ensure more young Londoners will feel safer, be safer, and have positive futures.



## Peers

We'll enable young Londoners to support and be supported by their peers.



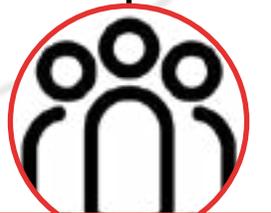
## Places

We'll work directly in the community to ensure that the places and spaces where young Londoners spend their time are safe and positive.

Safer London believes that **people**, **peers** and **places** all have their own abilities and assets. We'll work alongside them to identify their strengths and enable them to find the solutions which work best for them.

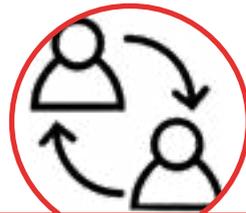
# Our Strategy

Our strategy will see us develop our work for the next five years through three themes:



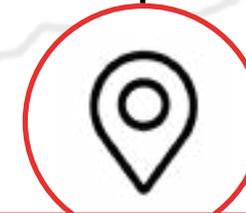
## People

Young Londoners & their families



## Peers

Young Londoner's peer networks



## Places

Where young Londoners live & spend their time

Each theme has four key strategic activities:

- ▶ Develop a new 'one front door' approach
- ▶ Be a fully trauma responsive organisation
- ▶ One cohesive best practice service model
- ▶ Improve the way we measure impact
- ▶ Develop an evidence based peer-to-peer support programme
- ▶ Develop new group-work based interventions programmes
- ▶ Build employment pathways for young Londoners we support
- ▶ Explore delivery of peer-to-peer interventions in communities
- ▶ Develop a contextual safeguarding approach
- ▶ Develop the volume and reach of property moves
- ▶ Develop training for schools and organisations
- ▶ Build partnerships with community and faith organisations

We will deliver these activities through six key enablers



Funding



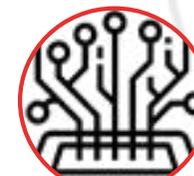
Staff



Voice



Diversity



Digital



Data

All of this activity will help us to achieve our Vision of a London where all young Londoners and their families can thrive, free from exposure to violence and exploitation.



# Strategic Goal One: People

**We'll provide trusted, individual, relational support to ensure more young Londoners will feel safer, be safer, and have positive futures.**

Young Londoners are full of ambition and aspiration. But too many of them today are living in a world that presents limited positive life opportunities.

Many of our programmes arose from the need identified across London for an organisation that could reach out to young people who live here. There was a need to help bridge them into the right support and develop the knowledge, skills and capability to have more agency in their lives.

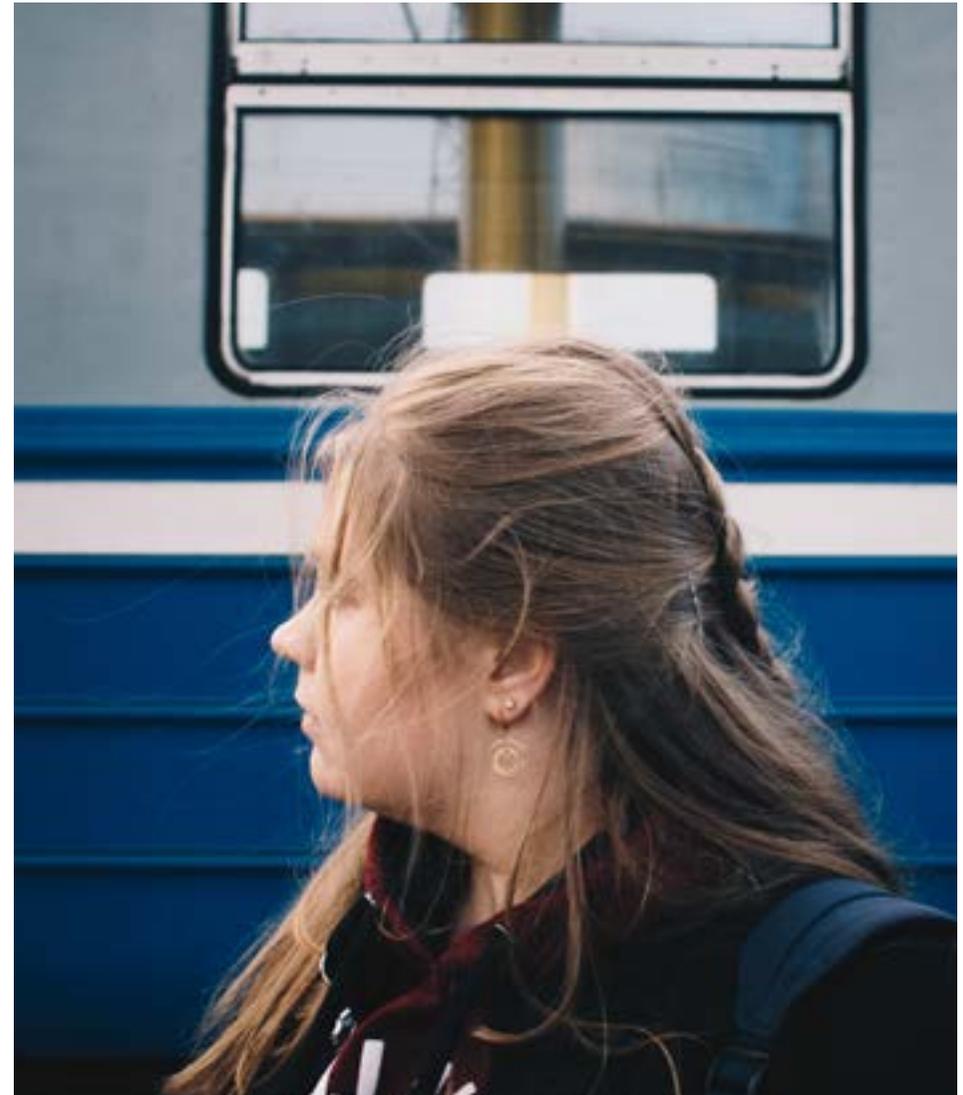
Our support is grounded in trusted relationships with a professional with whom they can connect, who is relatable and credible. Working in collaboration with young Londoners we'll deliver high quality, innovative, evidence based support not just to them, but also to the people who are important in their lives.

## To achieve this we will...

- ▶ Develop a new 'one front door' approach to taking all referrals for any of our services for people, peers or places - to ensure we provide the best service needed and free up our staff to deliver more efficiently.
- ▶ Bring together the learning from the different models we currently operate into one new cohesive best practice service model with a genuinely pan-London reach. Staff will be trained in specialisms and supported by in-house subject experts in areas such as housing and emotional health and wellbeing.
- ▶ Train all of our service delivery staff to operate in a trauma responsive manner with continual learning and updating leading to greater impact.
- ▶ Change the way we measure the impact of what we do to promote continuous improvement using a 'rapid cycle testing' based methodology.

### How we will know we're making a difference

We'll implement a new service user recording system to improve our ability to learn from the data we collect about the interactions we have with our service users. This will mean we can use rapid cycle testing to shorten feedback loops and continuously improve the way we work. By designing, testing and establishing a long term data capture and measurement approach we'll seek to be as intelligent as we can about the impact of our work.



# Strategic Goal Two: Peers

**We'll enable young Londoners to support and be supported by their peers.**

In recent years there has been much work on the adolescent brain, which has started to provide the science which underpins how much young people are influenced by the views and actions of their peers.

This emerging evidence supports the observations of our own staff, that in some contexts messages delivered by peers are likely to have more influence than those delivered by professionals.

We work in education settings and communities with young Londoners to support and empower them to speak up, recognise, acknowledge, and call-out unacceptable behaviours. Our work with them can lead to an increased confidence and skill set to challenge their peers, professionals, communities and decision makers to positively shape and influence the world around them.

## To achieve this we will...

- ▶ Develop, pilot, evaluate and roll out an effective, evidence based peer-to-peer support programme in schools and local communities, based on empowering active bystanders to challenge attitudes, beliefs and cultural norms.
- ▶ Explore the viability of working with communities to deliver a peer-to-peer violence interrupter and trauma response service embedded in local communities. If initially viable we'll pilot and evaluate in at least one local community.
- ▶ Develop, pilot and implement new programmes of group-work based interventions including those within residential provision.
- ▶ Build a pathway so that young Londoners who have used our services can progress into various roles including employment with Safer London. They'll utilise their expertise from lived experience, and the skills and capability they develop along that pathway.

### How we will know we're making a difference

To assess the effectiveness of our peer support programmes we'll use assessments at three monthly intervals to measure impact on a dual level - both for individuals and for whole settings (for example schools). Rapid cycle testing will allow us to quickly work out what we want to know, collect data, and make changes to programmes. This will test new ideas, assess effectiveness and deliver continuous improvement.





## Strategic Goal Three: Places

**We'll work directly in the community to ensure that the places and spaces where young Londoners spend their time are safe and positive.**

The places where young Londoners spend their time impacts on their safety, whether this be where they live, where they spend their leisure time, their school/education setting, the businesses they frequent, or the ways that they travel around the city and beyond.

Contextual safeguarding is an approach based on developing an understanding and response to young people's experiences of significant harm beyond their families.

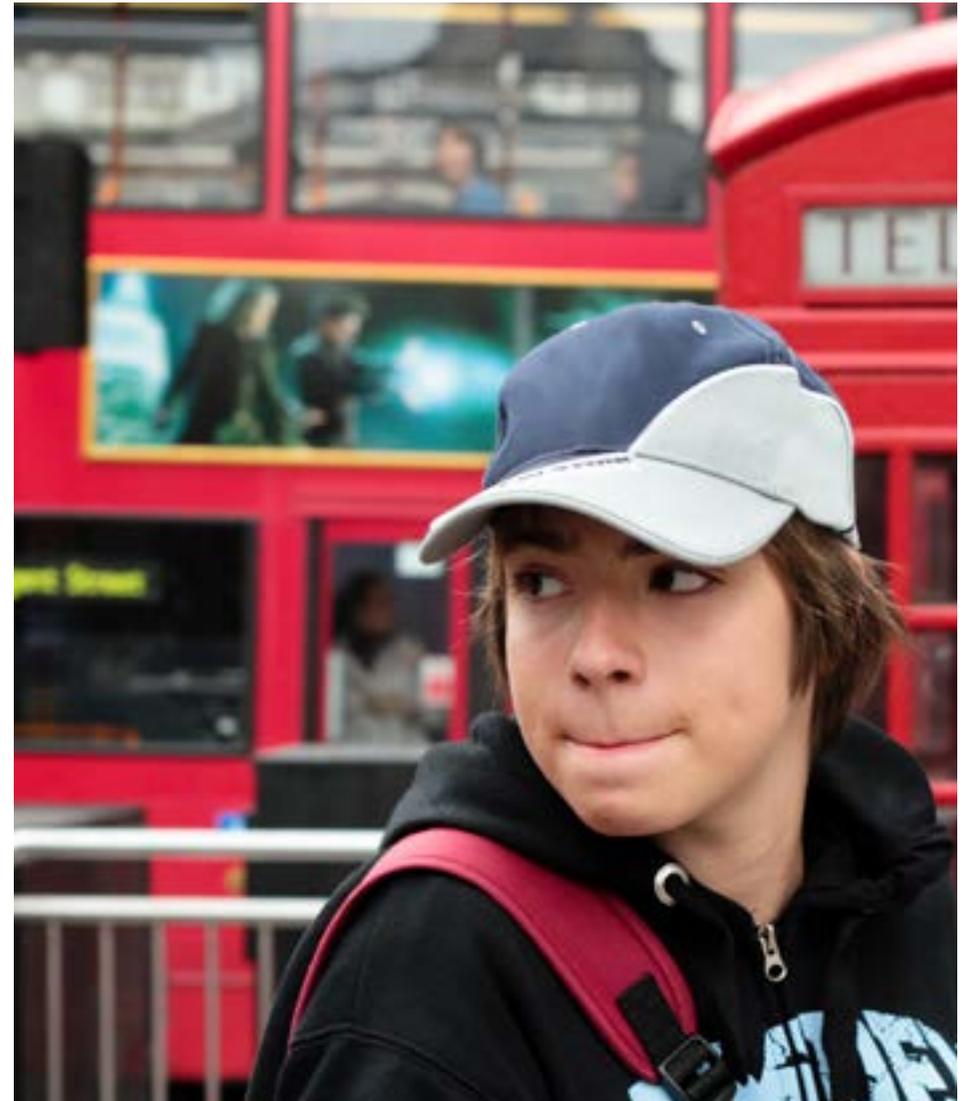
This recognises that the different relationships that young people form in their neighbourhoods, peer groups, schools and online can feature violence and abuse. This makes the approach relevant to all of our work.

## To achieve this we will...

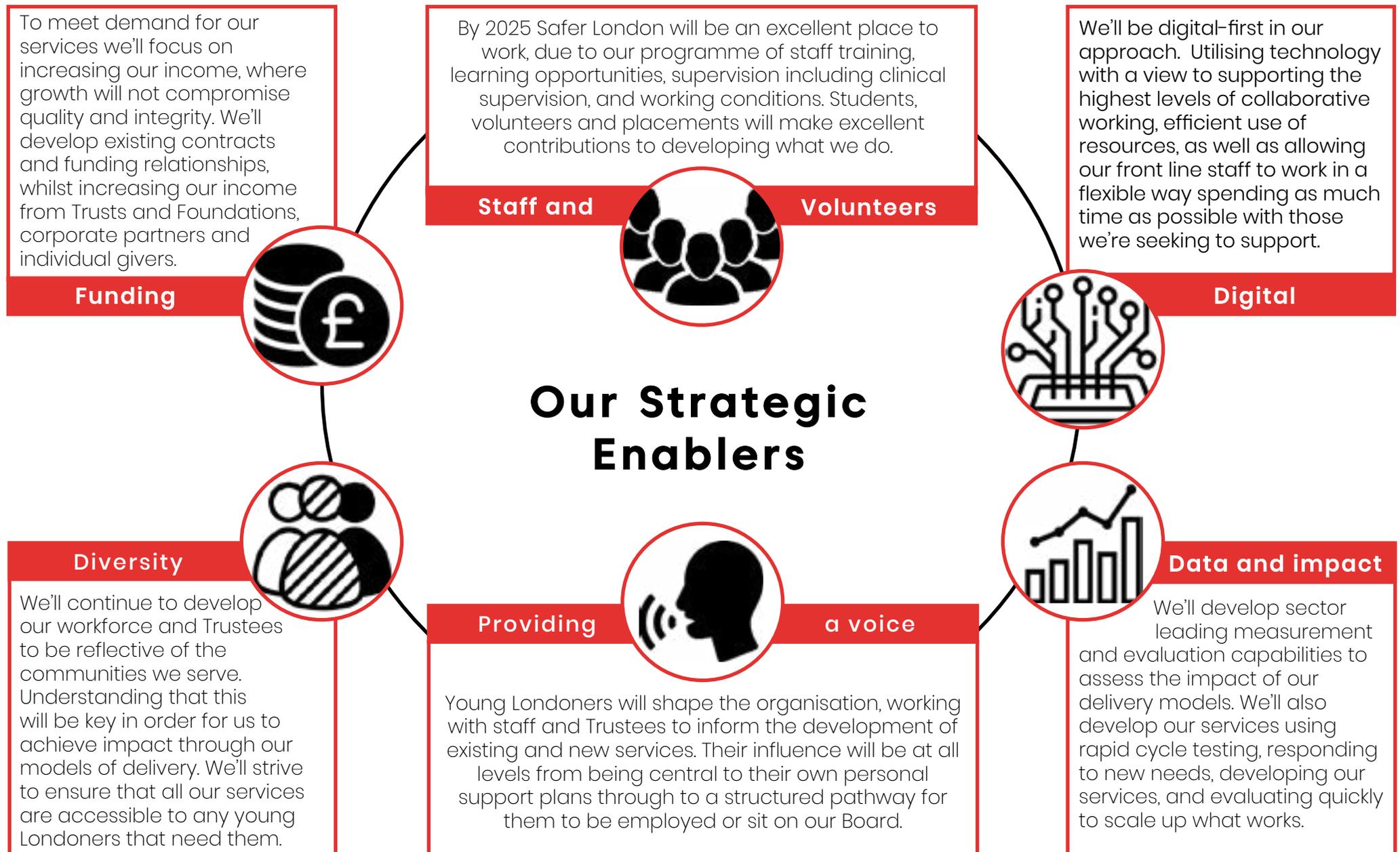
- ▶ Work with partners including academic experts to lead, develop and pilot a model of practice for a contextual safeguarding approach, including responding to referrals about risk of harm based on places and spaces.
- ▶ Develop the volume and reach of property moves enabled by our delivery of the Pan London Housing Reciprocal.
- ▶ Establish working partnerships with community and faith organisations resulting in capacity building leading to tangible local approaches to violence and exploitation which are identity informed.
- ▶ Develop new training for staff in schools, communities and organisations about how violence and exploitation affects young Londoners and how to keep them safe in the settings in which they live their lives.

### How we will know we're making a difference

Our new service user system can adapt to the new work we'll undertake as part of this strategic goal. This will mean improved reporting, allowing more data sets to be compared, contrasted and tested for statistical relevance. Working in partnership with places, communities and local organisations we'll develop systems and measures to help record and report on their tangible impact.



# How We'll Get There



## **Safer London is a leading London charity working with young Londoners and their families affected by violence and exploitation.**

Our services are person centred and strengths based. We are committed to learning, innovating, and delivering high quality, evidence-based support.

By working alongside young Londoners, their families and peers, as well as the places where they spend their time, we can create a safe London not just for them – but everyone.

We are...

### **Changemakers**

We bring creativity, passion and innovation to make a lasting difference.

### **Inclusive**

All that we do recognises and values the diverse experiences of young people.

### **Trusted**

People trust us because we have a track record of consistent, high quality delivery.

### **Courageous**

We are brave, unafraid to challenge, and committed to empowering young people to stay safe and happy.

### **Collaborative**

We stand with individuals and organisations who share our vision.

# saferlondon

Safer London is a registered charity in England and Wales No. 1109444; and a company limited by guarantee No. 5190766.

[www.saferlondon.org.uk](http://www.saferlondon.org.uk)