



# The Mayor of Newham's Youth Safety Board Report and recommendations: a summary

**In March 2019 the Mayor of Newham, Rokhsana Fiaz, established a Youth Safety Board, to give young people and residents a say in how we can work together to make Newham a safer place to grow up.**

The Board is co-chaired by the Mayor and Duncan Bew, a surgeon and anti-knife crime campaigner. Members include young people, family members, residents, and police, health and education services. Board members have listened to young people, services, residents and community groups, and have produced a report and recommendations.

The Board believes that services, businesses and community groups should be guided by five principles as they work together to improve young people's safety

- Young people at the heart of decisions
- Making sure every young person at risk has a trusted, safe adult they can rely on
- Think about the role of families and carers supporting young people
- Always look for positive opportunities for all young people
- Work together and provide joined-up services that young people can rely on

## What does the Youth Safety Board recommend?

1. More work should be done to make public spaces and public transport safe for young people in Newham.
2. There should be better information for young people and their families about keeping safe and positive activities, and how to get support, including after serious incidents. Services should work with all of Newham's diverse young people and communities to promote trust and tackle inequality.
3. There should be more youth services, cultural, sporting and leisure opportunities where young people can safely enjoy themselves and develop their potential.
4. When children have had a difficult start in life, they and their families should get support as early in childhood as possible.

5. If there are any signs that a young person is vulnerable to harm, or if they are admitted to accident and emergency after an assault, or they are arrested, support should be available right away.
  6. Schools and other services in Newham should work together to give young people who are at risk the right support to remain safe in school and do well, and to reduce exclusions.
  7. There should be an adolescent safeguarding strategy so that all services work together to keep young people safe from exploitation and violence.
  8. There should be more support for young adults who are at a high risk of being a victim or perpetrator of violence.
- To make these changes, the Board also recommends that
9. All organisations should work together to support children and young people to thrive, using a trauma-informed approach.
  10. There should be improvements in information-sharing and organisations should use information effectively to keep young people safe.
  11. An implementation group of different organisations in Newham should develop an action plan for how the recommendations will be implemented, and report on progress to the Youth Safety Board.

## What happens now?

The Board is asking different public services in Newham to make a plan to show how they can contribute to making Newham a safer place for children and young people. The Board will carry on meeting to make sure its recommendations are implemented.

THE MAYOR OF NEWHAM'S  
YOUTH SAFETY BOARD

REPORT AND  
RECOMMENDATIONS

DECEMBER 2019