**Local Area Assessment**

**47 South Norwood Hill, Croydon, SE25 6BX**



1. **Local Area Resources**
2. **Local Risk Assessment**

This Policy summarises the procedures to be followed to conduct a risk assessment of the location of 47 South Norwood Hill to identify and subsequently minimise safeguarding risks to the children. This is to ensure compliance with the Children’s Homes (England) Regulations 2015, and the Children’s Homes and Looked After Children (Miscellaneous Amendments) (England) Regulations 2013:

Our commitment is to locate Chass Care Accommodations in a safe, secure, and appropriate environment. By analysing the pros and cons of the location, we aim to ascertain its suitability to house the children, where their safety is a priority and they can avail high-quality services.

The purpose of these location assessments is to ensure the children in our care are well protected from potential threats and have access to the required services as detailed in their care plans or placement plans.

To accomplish these goals, the home's management will execute a three-pronged strategy:

Firstly, we will carry out a thorough Location Risk Assessment of the area before the Home's inauguration and at regular intervals thereafter. This constant review process is designed to consider any newly identified risks.

Secondly, should risks be identified either prior to the Home's opening or subsequently, we will establish suitable safeguarding measures to counter them.

Lastly, the police and the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) will be closely involved at all stages of this procedure, aiding in both the risk identification process and the implementation of safeguarding measures.

When it comes to the Location Risk Assessment, we will consider several factors:

* This includes assessing the probability of children at Chass Care being lured into local gang activities or anti-social behaviour.
* Consideration will be given to how the Home's location might increase the vulnerability of an already susceptible child to becoming a crime victim, being targeted or groomed for sexual exploitation.
* We will examine the suitability of the neighbourhood for caring for children who may have been victims of abuse or neglect.
* We will identify potential environmental hazards such as proximity to busy roads, level crossings, or unsecured bodies of water.
* We will highlight any positive aspects of the local community, such as leisure, sporting, or cultural activities, as well as connections with services that can support a child's ethnic or religious identity.
* We will collect publicly accessible data about the locality, including local crime statistics, the indices of deprivation, data on local schools, and other pertinent information. This may involve online research.
* Finally, we will consult with relevant local services responsible for child safeguarding in the neighbourhood where the Home is located. This might include the police, Children's Services, probation service providers, public transportation used by the children, and, if applicable, voluntary services that support crime victims or young runaways.

An integral part of our assessment will involve gathering feedback from the service users themselves. We will consult with the children under our care about their impressions of life in the area, gauging whether they feel safe and understanding how they manage any identified risks. Their insights into the quality of local services they utilise will prove invaluable.

As part of the risk assessment, we will construct Risk Management strategies as per the guidance provided in the following section.

When it comes to Risk Management, if the risk assessments point to potential issues with the location, we will design strategies to assist the children in navigating any safeguarding concerns. Where necessary, these strategies will facilitate their access to appropriate local services.

Below is a summarised list of activities which could aid in managing such risks:

* Firstly, we will educate the children in our Home about the potential risks they could encounter and support them in developing skills and strategies to manage those risks effectively.
* Secondly, we will ensure the children have access to pertinent support services to enhance their awareness of risks, thereby fostering resilience.
* Thirdly, we'll make certain that the children have access to confidential advice and advocacy, creating an environment in which they feel secure to disclose any risks they face.
* We will also focus on documenting any signs of children’s susceptibility to sexual exploitation or grooming. This evidence could be vital for the police, enabling them to take enforcement action against predatory adults. Similarly, it could assist probation service providers in managing offenders.
* To add an extra layer of safety, we will enhance the perimeter security for the Home. This will enable us to monitor and record any individuals or vehicles approaching the Home, thereby acting as a deterrent for potential predators.
* In addition, we'll host multi-agency Risk Management meetings, involving local services, placing authorities, and the children themselves. This will help in developing strategies that manage and minimise the risks faced by the children.

Please note, this Risk Assessment is to be conducted and recorded every six months, ensuring we maintain a current understanding of our environment and can take appropriate action when needed.

**1.Local Area Resources**

47 South Norwood Hill SE25 6BX is situated in an urban location in Norbury in the London Borough of Croydon. We are on a quiet residential road, close to amenities, schools and good public transport links.

**Socio Demographics**

In 2020, there were 407k residents in the Croydon postcode area with an average age of 38.2 years. Population density was 2.7k residents per square kilometer. Population grew by 14.6% since 2002 and population average age increased by 1.3 years in the same period. Based on the census there were 2.55 residents per household in 2011.

According to the latest 2021 census, the population in Croydon is predominantly white (48.4%), with non-white minorities representing the remaining 51.6% of the population. Black people were the largest minority group in Croydon accounting for 22.6% of the population.

In this area (Norbury Court Road, London), 55% of the residents were born in England, which is significantly below the English average.

At the time of the 2011 census, approximately 83.5% of the resident population of England were born in England. The other groups were 1% Welsh, 1.35% Scottish, 0.4% Northern Irish, 0.75% from the Republic of Ireland, 3.75% from other European Union countries, and 9.4% from outside of Europe, with the remainder not stated.

Norbury Court Road, London can be also considered more ethnically diverse than the UK average. As whole, the UK population claims itself as approximately 86% white, with residents of this area being 33% so.

As a country with a diverse population, the UK is home to other sizable ethnic groups, with mixed ethnicity (2.1%), Indian (2.4%) and Pakistani (1.9%) being the largest groups reported.

**Education Resources and Performance**

Croydon schools and colleges have achieved a provisional A-level pass rate of 99.2%, which is up on the borough’s 2020 results (98.05%). The anticipated national average pass rate is 99.5%.

Croydon’s A\*- A grades have increased by 11% to 34.04%, with the national rate reported as 44.8%, a rise of 6% compared to 2020.

The percentage of A\*- B grades also increased in Croydon by 12% to 62.39%, compared to a national rise of 4% to 68.9%. The A\*- C rate has increased in Croydon by 6% to 84.56%. The national rate is being reported at 88.2%, a 0.7% rise.

Some of the education services in the area surrounding Norbury are listed below:

**Primary schools:**

**Norbury Manor Primary School**

Abingdon Road, Norbury, London, SW16 5QR

Community School

Ages 3 - 11

Needs improvement

**William Morris Primary School**

Recreation Way, Mitcham, Surrey, CR4 1PJ

Community School

Ages 3 - 11

Good

**Stanford Primary School**

Chilmark Road, Norbury, London, SW16 5HB

Community School

Ages 3 - 11

Needs improvement

**Winterbourne Junior Girls' School**

Winterbourne Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey, CR7 7QT

Community School

Ages 7 - 11

Needs improvement

**Winterbourne Nursery and Infants' School**

Winterbourne Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey, CR7 7QT

Community School

Ages 3 - 7

Needs improvement

**Secondary Schools:**

**Harris Academy Merton**

Wide Way, Mitcham, Surrey, CR4 1BP

Academy Sponsor Led

Ages 11 - 18

Outstanding

**Woodmansterne School**

Stockport Road, Streatham, London, SW16 5XE

Community School

Ages 3 - 18

Outstanding

**Norbury Manor Business and Enterprise College for Girls**

Kensington Avenue, Thornton Heath, Surrey, CR7 8BT

Academy Converter

Ages 11 - 19

Good

**St Mark's Church of England Academy**

Acacia Road, Mitcham, Surrey, CR4 1SF

Academy Sponsor Led

Ages 11 - 18

Good

**St Joseph's College**

Beulah Hill, London, SE19 3HL

Academy Converter

Ages 11 - 18

Good

**Bishop Thomas Grant Catholic Secondary School**

Belltrees Grove, London SW16 2HY

Ages 11 – 18

Good

Belltrees Grove, London, SW16 2HY

Voluntary Aided School

Ages 11 - 19

Outstanding

**Harris Academy Upper Norwood**

Spurgeon Road, Upper Norwood, London, Not recorded, SE19 3UG

Academy Sponsor Led

Ages 11 - 19

Outstanding

**Graveney School**

Welham Road, Tooting, London, SW17 9BU

Academy Converter

Ages 11 - 18

Outstanding

**Norwood School**

Crown Dale, Lambeth, London, SE19 3NY

Community School

Ages 11 - 18

Good

**Virgo Fidelis Convent Senior School**

147 Central Hill, Upper Norwood, London, SE19 1RS

Voluntary Aided School

Ages 11 - 18

Good

**Transport**

The nearest railway station is Norbury, approximately 0.5 miles away. Norbury railway station is a National Rail station in the Norbury area of the London Borough of Croydon in south London. It is on the Brighton Main Line, 7 miles 36 chains (12.0 km) down the line from London Victoria.

### **Rail/Underground/Ferry Stations near SE25 6BX**

* Norwood Junction Rail Station   -   0.4 m
* Selhurst Rail Station   -   0.8 m
* Thornton Heath Rail Station   -   0.9 m
* Anerley Rail Station   -   0.9 m
* Birkbeck Rail Station   -   1.1 m

### **Bus Stops near SE25 6BX**

* Elm Park Road - ->N   -   0 m
* Elm Park Road - ->S   -   0 m
* Southern Avenue - ->W   -   0.1 m
* Sundial Avenue - ->E   -   0.1 m
* Howden Road (SE25) - Stop   -   0.2 m
* Stanley Hall - Stop H   -   0.2 m
* Nugent Road - Stop SP   -   0.2 m
* Stanley Hall - Stop K   -   0.2 m
* Whitworth Road (SE25) - ->N   -   0.2 m
* Lancaster Road (SE25) - ->S   -   0.2 m

**Leisure Activities**

There are many parks fairly close to Norbury Court Road. The closest is Norbury Hall Park (1.2 miles), which is dog-friendly and has a kids' playground, paths, a basketball court & a BMX bike track.

Other attractions in the area include:

**Museum of Croydon**

Address: 1918 Katharine St, Croydon CR9 1RU

Open: Tuesday, 11am–4pm, Friday, 11am–4pm

Tel: 02082531022

<https://museumofcroydon.com/>

Distance: 2.3 miles

**Croydon Art Space**

Address: 41 Lower Addiscombe Rd, Croydon CR0 6PQ

Open: Tuesday 10am–1pm, Thursday 10am–12pm, Saturday 10am–2pm

Tel: 02084051500

<http://www.croydonartspace.com/>

Distance: 3.2 miles

**Oxygen Free Jumping Trampoline Park**

Address: The Colonnades Purley Way, Croydon CR0 4RQ

Open: Sunday-Thursday 9am-6pm, Friday 9am – 8pm, Saturday 9am – 7pm

Tel: 03332000349

<http://oxygenfreejumping.co.uk/locations/croydon/>

Distance: 4.1 miles

**Streatham Ice and Leisure Centre**

Address: 390 Streatham High Rd, London SW16 6HX

Open: Monday – Friday 6am – 10pm, Saturday & Sunday 7am – 7pm

Tel: 02086775758

<https://www.better.org.uk/leisure-centre/london/lambeth/streatham-ice-and-leisure-centre?utm_source=google&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=google_my_business>

Distance: 1.5 miles

**Health Services**

There are several health facilities near Norbury Court Road, such as sexual health clinics, pharmacies, hospitals and general practitioners. Some are listed below.

**Croydon Sexual Health Centre**

Address: 530 London Rd, Thornton Heath CR7 7YE

Open: Monday & Tuesday 8:30am – 6:30pm, Wednesday 11am to 8pm, Thursday 8:30am–6:30pm, Friday 8:30am–5pm

Tel: 02084013002

<https://www.croydonsexualhealth.nhs.uk/>

**Bids Chemist**

1495 London Rd, Norbury, London SW16 4AE

Tel: 02087642230

<http://www.bidschemist.co.uk/>

**Broughton Corner Family Practice**

87 Thornton Rd, Thornton Heath CR7 6BH

Tel: 02086831277

<https://www.broughtoncornermedical.nhs.uk/>

Distance: 1.4 miles

**Croydon University Hospital**

Address: 530 London Rd, Thornton Heath CR7 7YE

Tel: 02084013000

<http://www.croydonhealthservices.nhs.uk/>

**CAMHS**

Christopher Wren House, 113 High St, Croydon CR0 1QG

02032280000

<https://slam.nhs.uk/croydon-camhs>

**Places of Worship**

**St Philip's Church, Norbury**

Beech Rd, London SW16 4NW

07568432472

<http://www.stphilipsnorbury.org/>

Distance: 443 ft

**Norbury Muslim Centre**

1116 London Rd, Norbury, London SW16 4DT

02030111255

<http://www.norburymuslimcentre.co.uk/>

Distance: 0.5 miles

**The South London Liberal Synagogue**

1 Prentis Rd, London SW16 1HP

Monday 10am–2pm, Thursday 10am–2pm, Saturday 10:30am–12:30pm

02087694787

<http://southlondon.org/>

Distance: 2.3 miles

**Shopping Facilities**

**Lidl**

216 Rowan Rd, London SW16 5HX

8am-10pm (Mon-Sat)

11am-5pm (Sun)

<https://www.lidl.co.uk/>

Distance: 1 mile

**Holliesa Grocery Store**

1265 London Rd, Norbury, London SW16 4UP

24 hrs

Distance: 0.3 miles away

**Council Facilities**

**Citizens Advice Croydon**

Address: 48-50 Portland Rd, London SE25 4PQ

Open: Mon – Fri: 9am–5pm

Tel: 03003309095

<http://www.citizensadvicecroydon.org/>

**Thornton Heath Jobcentre**

72 High St, Thornton Heath CR7 8YY

Mon – Fri: 8:30am – 5pm, Sat: 9am – 5pm

08001690190

<http://www.gov.uk/contact-jobcentre-plus>

Distance: 1.8 miles away

**2.Local Risk Assessment**

**Crime Breakdown**

Annual Crime in Croydon postcode area is 36.6 (36.6 crimes reported per annum per 1000 workday people) Compared to the national crime rate, Croydon’s crime rate is at 98%. Violent crime makes up 28% of all crimes reported in the postcode area. The total number of “violent crime” is 12.8k, and this number has increased by 1.3% when compared year-over-year in the period of July 2021 – June 2022

Norbury Court Road, London, SW16 4HY is within the Norbury and Pollards Hill policing neighbourhood, under the Metropolitan Police Service force area.

117 crimes were reported in April 2023 within half a mile of the centre of SW16 4HY.

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From the chart, it can be seen that the crimes being committed were predominantly acts of violence/sexual violence. A large portion of crimes also involved anti-social behaviour.

Less common crimes involved shoplifting, possession of weapons and drugs.

Croydon is among the top 20 safest boroughs in London. The overall crime rate in Croydon in 2022 was 86 crimes per 1,000 people. This compares favourably to London's overall crime rate, coming in 9% lower than the London rate of 95 per 1,000 residents. For England, Wales, and Northern Ireland as a whole, Croydon is among the top 20 safest cities, and the 1,165th most dangerous location out of all towns, cities, and villages.

In September 2022, Croydon had the worst crime rate in London for criminal damage and arson, with 205 crimes reported and a crime rate of 0.53 per 1,000 inhabitants. April 2022 was also a bad month for Croydon residents, when it was London's most dangerous area for possession of weapons, recording 29 crimes at a rate of 0.07 per 1,000 residents. Croydon recorded 411 reports of vehicle crime during July 2022, making its crime rate of 1.1 the worst for vehicle crime in London that month.

The most common crimes in Croydon are violence and sexual offences, with 11,718 offences during 2022, giving a crime rate of 30. This is 1.1% higher than 2021's figure of 11,591 offences and a difference of 0.33 from 2021's crime rate of 30. Croydon's least common crime is bicycle theft, with 229 offences recorded in 2022, an increase of 15% from 2021's figure of 199 crimes.

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**Gang Affiliation**

**Gangs and Violence Reduction**

Croydon's gang population exists of approximately six active gangs at any given time, with the total number of ‘nominals’ averaging 90-100. Our gangs are typically made up of young adult males aged 14-25. Their offending consists of violence, often directed at each other and including use of weapons in inter-gang rivalry, and drug supply. Gang activity is mainly concentrated in the north of the Borough, Town Centre, and a distinct area in the east.

The past 18-24 months has seen a significant decrease in gang-related street violence, but an emerging trend of Class A drug supply. The volume of gang-related incidents in Croydon is significantly lower compared to boroughs such as Lambeth, Southwark and Hackney, but the YOS has identified an increasing trend of other boroughs placing high risk, gang-involved looked after children in Borough, which impacts significantly on local resources including our Missing children cohort.

Croydon has a well-established multi-agency Gangs Team (Croydon Connected) comprised of YOS, Probation, Police, and Safer London Foundation. The Team works to divert ‘nominals’ from gang-active/violent lifestyles; interventions aimed at supporting ‘nominals’ to exit gangs include:

• Conflict resolution between rival gang members

• (Re) engagement with education/training/employment

• Supporting access to suitable, sometimes emergency, accommodation

• Family support 16

• For those individuals who refuse to exit violent lifestyles, proactive enforcement tactics are employed by Croydon Gangs Unit.

Gang-affected young women who are experiencing violent and/or sexual exploitation are safeguarded through the Child sexual Exploitation Protocol and offered individual and group support in schools through Safer London Foundation’s Empower programme. Safer London Foundation engage young women aged 11-18 to reduce risk, increase personal safety, improve sense of identity, and build resilience. Safer London practitioners are based in the Youth Offending Service which ensures referral and progression pathways are clear and robust.

The Growing Against Gangs & Youth Violence programme is delivered to all priority schools in Croydon, offering evidence-based preventative intervention.

**JAGS Foundation**

Aim: to raise awareness of youth violence by providing services and safe spaces for healing, safe spaces amd education.

Contact: 020 8663 5636, [admin@jagsfoundation.org](mailto:admin@jagsfoundation.org)

<http://www.jagsfoundation.org/>

**Mighty Men of Valour**

Provides: Mentoring support working with probation and the youth offending service

Contact: 0800 0731325, [info@themightymenofvalour.org](mailto:info@themightymenofvalour.org)

<http://mightymenofvalour.org/>

**Lives Not Knives**

Aim: to make people aware of the dangers of knife crime, education, employment and training

Contact: 020 8681 8244, [info@livesnotknives.org](mailto:info@livesnotknives.org)

<http://livesnotknives.org/>

**Victim Support**

They’re independent from the police and a crime doesn’t have to be reported to the police in order to get their help. Able to contact at any time, regardless of how long ago the crime happened.

Contact: 0808 168 9291

<https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/more-us/contact-us>

**Missing Person and CSE Support**

Concerns should be reported by calling 101 (999 in an emergency)

Some missing person and CSE support organisations operating in Croydon are listed below:

### **Runaway Helpline**

The [Runaway Helpline](http://www.runawayhelpline.org.uk/) has been supporting young people for many years and is run by the UK charity [Missing People](http://www.missingpeople.org.uk/).

Contact: Freephone 116000, TXT 116000 or Email: [116000@runawayhelpline.org.uk](mailto:116000@runawayhelpline.org.uk).

Safer London Foundation and NSPCC are collaborating on a new project supporting children aged 11-18 going missing and/or at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), with NSPCC offering return home interviews and Safer London Foundation following this up by supporting these young people for approximately six months on a weekly basis and referring them when needed.

Sessions are designed to discuss with the young people the reasons behind their disappearance. SLF will also provide consultancy services to professionals and families of missing or at risk of children.

To refer to the **Return Home Service** Peter Swan:

tel **02082531850** or 07834498372

[croydon.servicecentre@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:croydon.servicecentre@nspcc.org.uk)

To refer to the **Intensive 1:1 Support and Advocacy Service** or **Specialist Advice and Consultation Service:** [charlotte.amor@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:charlotte.amor@croydon.gov.uk) **07793241264**

[Sylvia.joseph@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:Sylvia.joseph@croydon.gov.uk) **07725209069**

**Child Sexual Abuse Hub**

The Child Sexual Abuse Hub Service is available for all children and young people under the age of 18 living in the boroughs of Croydon, Richmond, Kingston, Merton, Sutton and Wandsworth.

The service offers a holistic package of medical and emotional care following suspicion or disclosure of child sexual abuse or child sexual exploitation.

The hub offers:

* **Medical examination and follow up** in a child-friendly environment to provide reassurance to the child and their family and to document any injuries in the case of a trial
* **Emotional needs assessment and brief intervention** of approximately 6-8 therapeutic sessions. The support is provided by NSPCC Children’s Services Practitioners
* **Support for the family**
* **Case management, appropriate onward referral and signposting**

**Prostitution**

Prostitution remains a major problem for the residents of Croydon. A report into London's sex trade has claimed that Croydon has the third highest number of brothels in the capital. There are many programmes for women in prostitution in the Croydon area.

**Spires - Women’s Space**

#### 8 Tooting Bec Gardens, London SW16 1RB

## Call: 0208 696 0943

Women’s space offers a ‘safe space’ where Spires' female staff and volunteers can offer a consistent and long-term approach to each woman who comes to the Spires centre for help. The space is open from 11am to 2pm on Mondays and Fridays.

Open to both street-based sex workers and other vulnerable and socially isolated women, Women’s Space will complete a holistic assessment of need and a care plan for each client.

This individual care plan will outline each client's own goals for their health, safety and wellbeing. This could be any of the following: options for change; securing stable accommodation, reducing drug/alcohol intake; adopting safe sex practices; and exiting sex work.

## **Women and Girls Network - in Croydon**

#### CVA Resource Centre, 82 London Road, Croydon, CR0 2TB

#### Main Switch Board: **020 8253 7060**

[cva@cvalive.org.uk](mailto:cva@cvalive.org.uk)

Established in 1987, this is a woman only service (including trans women) which provides:

* A free sexual violence helpline providing emotional support and advice to women and girls 0808 801 0770
* 1-2-1 casework for young women 14-25 years old who are at risk of or experiencing gender-based violence.
* A pan London 1-2-1 service for exiting prostitution
* 1-2-1 casework support for BME women 16+
* Free Counselling service (15 weeks) for women 16+ who have experienced or are at risk of experiencing gender-based violence and group work delivered three times a year (8-week programme) by Ascent.

**Traffic**

Croydon has introduced a number of Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs), in Broad Green, Woodside, Crystal Palace and South Norwood, but has effectively abandoned the latter and its commitment to the others is currently in doubt, following May’s elections. Three pop-up protected lane schemes using plastic wands have been delivered, at London Road, Dingwall Road, and High Street; a third is planned at Brighton Road but there are question marks over quality and continuity.

The nucleus of Croydon town centre is well-provided with shared pedestrian / cycle areas and has seen phenomenal growth in cycling. But the periphery of the town centre is blighted by unimproved, fast, multi-lane roads; the inner and outer suburbs continue to be plagued by sat-nav-assisted rat-running and over-reliance on cars for short trips.

**Pollution**

The air quality is generally acceptable for most individuals, recently staying around 39-40. However, sensitive groups may experience minor to moderate symptoms from long-term exposure. The AQI always remains under 70. The unit is not located on the main road so there is very little direct contact with pollution from cars.

**Nearest Police Buildings**

# Croydon Police Station

71 Park Ln, Croydon CR9 1BP

Open 24 hours

<https://www.met.police.uk/>

# Metropolitan Police

# 9 High St, London, West Wickham BR4 0LP

# British Transport Police Croydon Police Station

17 Addiscombe Rd, Croydon CR0 6SR

Mon – Fri: 9am–5pm

0800405040

<http://www.btp.police.uk/>

Croydon General Reputation

There are 47 secondary schools in Croydon. 7 of these schools achieved an Ofsted rating of ‘outstanding’, with the rest achieving ‘good’.

For those with a penchant for the creative arts, Croydon has a growing arts and culture scene.

Croydon itself isn’t home to a university, but it is a short distance from all of London’s major institutions. This includes University College London ranked 10th in the UK, and the Imperial College London ranked 5th in the UK.

With a population of nearly 400,000, Croydon – like many large towns and cities – is not immune to crime.  The majority of crimes appears to take place in the northern areas of the borough, with antisocial behaviour and violence being two of the biggest problems. The Safer Croydon Partnership is an initiative led by the council, police, fire services, probation, health agencies, local businesses and community leaders to tackle anti-social behaviour, crime and disorder.

**47 South Norwood Hill SE25 6BX**

