

# VRP THEORY OF CHANGE 26/27

## Impacts

- Partnership response to Serious Violence is embedded and sustained through the whole-systems, Public Health Approach
- Effective multi-agency working processes are embedded
- Reduction in hospital admissions for assaults with a knife or sharp object (for all ages, and especially those under 25 years)
- Reduction in knife and sharp enabled Serious Violence recorded by the Police for all ages, based on Police recorded crime data
- Reduction in homicides recorded by the Police, but especially among those victims aged under 25 years and in non-domestic settings (where the data allows)
- Increase in public trust and confidence in the VRU and VRP
- Young people are more willing to engage in support



## Outcomes

- Ownership and accountability to deliver the Public Health Response to SV is shared across the partnership and Specified and Relevant Authorities to understand their role
- Multi-agency working is strengthened and duplication is reduced
- Local partnerships use data to identify individuals and communities who are more vulnerable to violence or exploitation and collaboratively problem solve to manage
- Local partnerships understand local provision, identifying 'what works' and match provision to need
- Multi-agency and systems change leads to improved partnership communication and data sharing, helping improve public safety
- Multi-agency collaboration enables a positive cultural change in operational staff working in partnership to manage high risk and need
- Violence reduction efforts are sustained long term
- Effective evidence-based interventions lead to increased protective factors and decreased offending in at-risk individuals
- Specified and Relevant Authorities maintain an in-depth and ongoing understanding of the nature and drivers of Serious Violence, and the cohorts and locations impacted
- VRP Response Strategy is data-led and focused on priority issues, locations and cohorts
- VRP Response Strategy is informed by progress against strategic areas of focus
- Access to data via Hampshire and Isle of Wight Together is effective and resource efficient
- Trust and collaboration built across the VRP and with the Public
- Partners maintain a shared understanding of the views and needs of diverse young people and communities and these are reflected in the VRP response to Serious Violence
- Partners and Public are better informed about Serious Violence and the VRP response
- Evaluation evidence informs the local partnership response and national evidence base for Serious Violence reduction

## Outputs

- Multiagency & Systems Change**
  - VRP Response Strategy
  - 26/27 VRP Annual Report
  - 26/27 Sustainability Plan
  - Outcomes Based Performance Framework
- Data & Analysis**
  - 26/27 VRP Strategic Needs Assessment
  - VRP Data Strategy
  - Partnership Data Tracker
- Engagement and Communications**
  - VRP Engagement Strategy
  - VRU films – Youth PACTS and Trusted Relationship campaigns
  - VRP Newsletter
  - VRP Social Media and Website
  - Serious Violence Toolkit and CPD
- Evidence based practice**
  - RCT update report for the Southampton FD Programme
  - VRP Evaluation Strategy
  - Evidence and Evaluation Event ('What Works')
  - VRP Theory of Change (including all VRU funded interventions)
  - Evaluation of key interventions

## Activities

- 1. Multi-agency and Systems Change**
  - The VRP will coordinate Strategic (SVRP) and Child Harm Reduction (CHRP) collaboration with appropriate membership across the VRP, aligning to agreed Terms of References
  - The VRP will promote delivery of lasting systems change, Core Membership accountability and challenging barriers to effective multi-agency working (SVRP)
  - The VRP will have an active presence and voice at strategic and operational forums across geographical areas to influence a multi-agency systems response
  - The VRU will monitor Home Office required Success Measures
- 2. Data and Analysis**
  - The VRP will maintain the Data and Analysis Partnership (DAP) Working Group, aligning to agreed Terms of Reference
  - The police will develop sustainable and consistent sharing of Police data into partnerships utilising Power BI
  - VRP SROs will encourage collaboration on and co-production of a HIPS-wide SNA, including local chapters. This will be facilitated through the DAP to inform the Response Strategy
  - The VRP will develop local multi-agency conference arrangements to safeguard people and communities
- 3. Engagement and Communications**
  - The VRP will publish and share models and good practice around meaningful engagement with children and young people
  - Specified Authorities, VCSE partners and other statutory bodies and partnerships will listen and respond to communities and service users
  - The VRP will develop external and internal facing resources to support a counter narrative via trusted adults
  - The VRP will maintain communication channels that support partner collaboration and sharing of good practice
- 4. Evidence based practice**
  - Young Futures Prevention Panels:**
    - Develop and deliver the Young Futures Prevention Panels – Basingstoke, Portsmouth, Southampton and Isle of Wight
  - Focussed Deterrence (FD):**
    - Continue FD randomised controlled trial (RCT) in Southampton in partnership with Police and Youth Justice Service by combining support, enforcement, and community engagement to reduce serious youth violence
    - Develop and deliver FD intervention in Portsmouth
  - Get Ready for Construction – Kings Trust:**
    - Build relationships with stakeholders to support access routes for individuals with high need and are vulnerable to exploitation into education and employment
    - Develop and deliver the 'Get Ready for Construction' Programme in high risk areas
  - RESET:**
    - Monitor and analyse effectiveness of the RESET intervention
  - Pol-Ed**
    - Develop and deliver Pol-Ed sessions in schools and youth settings

## Inputs

- 26/27 Funding Agreement**
  - Serious Violence Reduction Programme (SVRP) Grant - £1,498,436.76
- Strategic areas of focus**
  - Multi-Agency and Systems Change
  - Data and Analysis
  - Engagement and Communications
  - Evidence Based Practice
- VRP model**
  - **Violence Reduction Partnership:** Specified and Relevant Authorities and VCSEs across Hampshire and Isle of Wight
  - **Governance:** Serious Violence Reduction Partnership (SVRP) via Strategic Partnership Day
  - **Delivery structure:** Centralised VRU funded by the Home Office and based within the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)
- Enablers**
  - Statutory requirement to meet Serious Violence Duty (under the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022)
  - Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) based within the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) are a central team to convene the Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP)
  - Existing multi-agency partnerships
  - Analyst Networks
  - Existing Data Sharing Agreements
  - Established relationships with partners working directly with young people
  - National evidence of effective interventions, including YEF Toolkit

## Contextual Factors

### Rationale

- Statutory requirement to meet Serious Violence Duty (under the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022)
- Hampshire is one of 20 areas nationally with highest rates of serious violence
- Recognition of multiple partners responding to serious violence but not always working together
- Recognition of lack of robust shared data sharing arrangements
- Complex and varied drivers for serious violence, associated with vulnerability to other poor life outcomes
- Evidence supporting a whole-systems, public health approach to respond to serious violence
- Gaps in the national evidence base of what is effective for reducing drivers of serious violence

### Assumptions

- Partners regularly and meaningfully engage with the VRP
- Partners share data within the partnership
- Communities are willing to engage to share their views
- Communities engaged include those most affected by violence
- Young people identified as at-risk are willing and able to engage with interventions that meet their needs
- There is sufficient capacity and resource across the partnership to deliver the response to serious violence
- The response to serious violence is continued in any future absence of VRU funding

### Other contributing factors

- Wider response and prevention policy and activity affecting the drivers of SV (e.g. county lines and theft) alongside VRP-driven activity
- Co-interventions such as statutory support e.g. social care, received by young people engaging the VRP commissioned interventions

### Contextual factors

- Complex and varied geographical landscape
- Complex web of partners with multiple local authorities within VRP
- Data required is often sensitive and lack of continuity with key gatekeepers impedes Information Governance developments and continual sharing
- Risk factors have been amplified and complicated by Covid-19 and the cost of living crisis
- Devolution – the transfer of powers and funding from national to local Government by creating regional Strategic Authorities with an elected Mayor
- Local Government Reorganisation – changes in the current two-tier system of counties and district councils and forming new unitary local authorities

### Risks

- Competing priorities may impact partner engagement
- Alternate data sharing arrangements are prioritised by partners
- Insufficient investment in data sharing provides the partnership with an incomplete understanding of local violence and risk factors
- Insufficient public engagement limits the partnership's understanding of public sentiment and so the strategy is not accurately informed by this
- Operational pressure on partners may prevent interventions from delivering as planned
- An end to VRU funding leaves a gap in the facilitation of violence reduction activity