

# Violence Reduction Strategy Journey

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The previous Serious Violence Strategy covered the period 2020-2023, as such the Violence Reduction Alliance (VRA) has undertaken a review.



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In January 2023, the VRA Executive Board became the accountable body for the delivery of the Government's Serious Violence Duty (SVD). Over the next three years, the VRA will receive almost £970,000 from 'the Duty' to help prevent and reduce violence across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

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The VRA takes a public health approach to preventing and reducing violence. This means understanding the causes of violence in order to prevent it.

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Recognising communities are well placed to effectively identify local concerns and determine effective solutions, the VRA engaged with children & young people and parents & carers to help inform the development of the Strategy.

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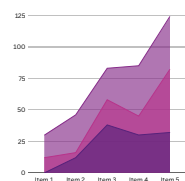


The VRA asked Staffordshire Council of Voluntary Youth Services (SCVYS) to engage with children and young people on their perceptions of violence and what they would like to see for their local community to help prevent and reduce violence.



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Following review of the data and what communities and partners told us, the VRA produced a new set of deliverables.



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The VRA produced a Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA) for Serious Violence (SV) bringing together data from partners including police, probation, health and education. The SNA shows the current, and previous, picture of SV across the County and City.



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Partners of the VRA took part in workshops to review the previous strategy and discuss what the VRA's focus should be over the next five years.

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With support from Chit Chat 4 U, a local community group set up by parents whose children have been directly affected by violence, the VRA engaged with parents and carers to better understand their concerns around community safety and the help and support available to them on keeping their child safe.



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Attendees at the VRA conference were presented with the new proposed deliverables and were invited to give feedback.

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Following feedback at the VRA Conference, the VRA made a number of changes to the deliverables and included these within a draft version of the Strategy.

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We asked partners for feedback on the draft strategy and made changes where appropriate.

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The final Violence Reduction Strategy was published in January 2024.

