

Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent Violence Reduction Strategy on a Page

The Violence Reduction Strategy aims to strengthen the visibility, early identification & partnership response

to prevent violence and its associated harms.

Our Priorities

1	Attitudinal change	Changing attitudes and behaviours towards all types of serious violence, including violence against women & girls (VAWG), at a societal, community and personal level.
2	Primary prevention	Seeking to prevent the onset of serious violence, including VAWG, or to change behaviour so that serious violence is prevented from happening.
3	Secondary prevention	Halting the progression of serious violence, including VAWG, once it is established. This is achieved by early identification followed by prompt and effective support.
4	Tertiary prevention	Rehabilitating people with established serious violent behaviour, or supporting victims.
5	Enforcement & Criminal Justice	Developing innovative criminal justice practices that reduce offending behaviour and recidivism.

Core Principles

- Have a multi-agency strategy supported by strong partnership governance, information sharing and delivery arrangements
- Provide effective leadership, ensuring an integrated approach, with partners held accountable for their contribution
- Understand the risk and profile of serious violence within our communities; establishing our interventions based on this data and intelligence
- Develop a public health approach that understands and addresses the root causes and risk factors that can impact on an individual's vulnerability and susceptibility to becoming a victim or offender of serious violence (such as deprivation, education, housing)
- Root our response in evidence of effectiveness, intervening at a preventative or early stage where possible, through to targeted, specialist and enforcement actions
- Involve communities in shaping and delivering responses to serious violence
- Influence attitudes concerning serious violence, enabling communities to take responsibility for helping all members feel safe and connected
- Generate a combination of short, medium and longer-term solutions
- Ensure synergies with related strategies and services, to avoid duplication and maximise efforts
- Adopt a robust performance management framework and promote continuous learning across the workforce

Our Approach

Our Strategy is underpinned by a public health approach. This means we will work in partnership to understand the causes and consequences of serious violence, focusing on early intervention and prevention.

Long term success measures

- The VRA is embedded across all partner organisations;
- Collaboration and co-production are fundamental to all partners in targeting risk and protective factors;
- Addressing risk and vulnerability as opposed to silo approaches to cohorts, crime types or vulnerabilities;
- A fundamental shift in organisations focus to early help and prevention;
- An overall reduction in serious violence in those under 25, child exploitation and other key vulnerabilities

Short term success measures

- Partnership data used to inform a Strategic Needs Assessment;
- Improved access to and co-ordination of support;
- Improved quality and coordination of related education in schools and alternative education establishments;
- Increased understanding of Adverse Childhood Experiences and the adoption of Trauma Informed Practice;
- Increased partnership working across all sectors;
- Better support and diversion for those affected / involved in violence at the point of arrest or presentation at A & E.