

Annual Report of the Director of Public Health 2018-19 Reducing Serious Violence

Violence Reduction Unit Police Serious Violence Fund

Simon Bryant
Interim Director of Public Health | Hampshire County Council

Page 1

Reducing Serious Violence

Hampshire is a relatively safe place to live, however the number of violent incidents are increasing



Page 2

Four areas which Public health has a strong influence over and responsibility for:

1. Alcohol & drug related violence
2. Domestic violence
3. Child to parent violence (CPV) & adolescent to parent violence and abuse (APVA)
4. Sexual violence



Drug and alcohol related violence

- The harms caused by drug misuse are extensive and include crime committed to fuel drug dependence, organised crime and violence. An increasing focus is being given to the problem of 'county lines.'
- Alcohol consumption is a risk factor for many types of violence, including child abuse, youth violence, intimate partner violence and sexual violence.

Key Actions

- Reducing drug and alcohol use is a vital part of reducing violence in communities.
- Public Health in Hampshire is working in partnership with these key organisations to tackle county lines activity
- Public Health commission a Hampshire-wide substance misuse service



Domestic violence

- Exposure to domestic violence and abuse is the most frequently reported form of trauma for children. In 2017, there were almost 1,700 children in need, due to abuse or neglect in Hampshire.
- An estimated 15,607 men and 30,083 women aged 16-59, and 734 men and 2,306 women aged 60-65 were affected by DVA in Hampshire last year. Over 40,000 children and young people under 18 were affected during the same period.

Key Actions

- Public Health commissions the county's service and committed to taking a whole family approach to domestic abuse
- Substance misuse services work with domestic abuse services
- Hampshire has a range of interventions which aim to tackle perpetrator behaviour.
- We are working with schools and other youth settings to implement the new Relationships and Sex Education curriculum

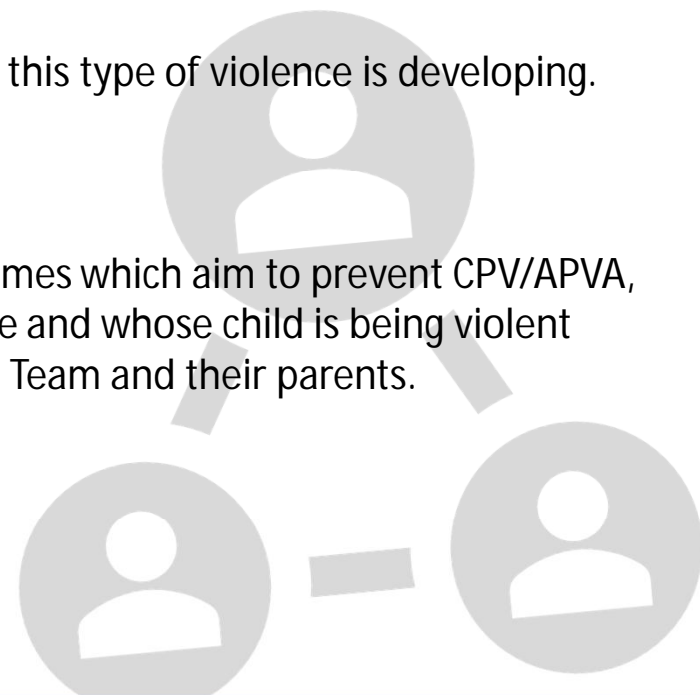


Child to parent violence (CPV) & adolescent to parent violence and abuse (APVA)

- Child to parent violence and adolescent to parent violence is an emerging theme. It is a complex issue and tends to appear as a pattern of behaviour rather than single incidents. Estimates suggest 3-5% of adolescents may be seriously abusive to parents
- Most abused parents have difficulty admitting even to themselves that their child is abusive.
- Most CPV and APVA goes under-reported and our knowledge and understanding of this type of violence is developing.

Key Actions

- In Hampshire the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner has funded programmes which aim to prevent CPV/APVA, including a parenting programme for parents who have experienced domestic abuse and whose child is being violent towards them, another targeting young people who are seeing the Youth Offending Team and their parents.

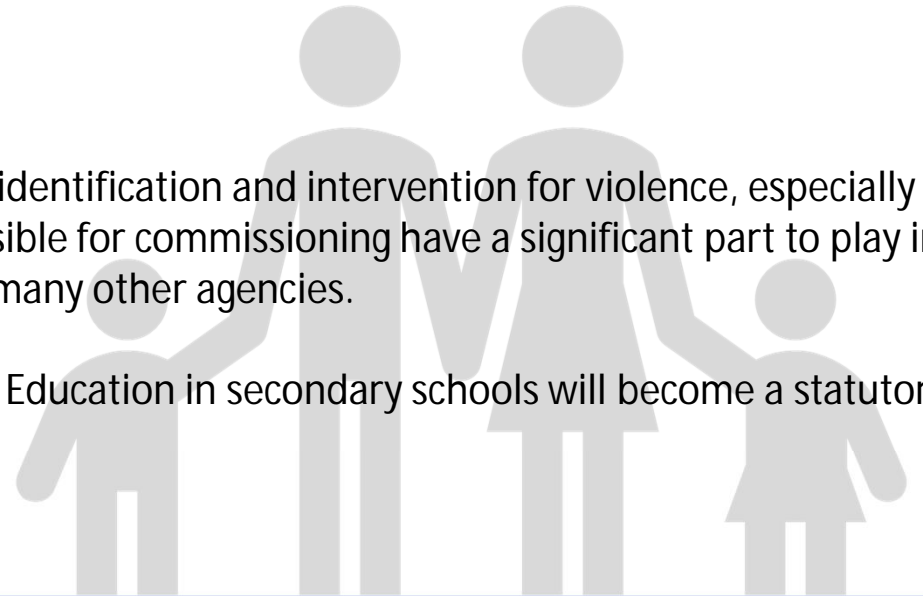


Sexual Violence

- In 2017/18 Hampshire Police recorded a 17% increase in reported Serious Sexual Offences (SSO) when compared to the last year – 1/3 related to historic offences however current SSOs also appear to be increasing. Domestic rapes account for just over 30% of the rape offences reported to Hampshire Police
- Rape victims have a number of vulnerability factors.
- Offender and victim profiles reinforce the importance of the early identification of those presenting harmful sexual behaviours (HSB) and vulnerabilities.

Key Actions

- Our sexual health services use guidance to support them in the early identification and intervention for violence, especially domestic violence. The sexual health services Public Health is responsible for commissioning have a significant part to play in identifying and intervening in incidents of sexual violence, alongside many other agencies.
- Relationships Education in primary schools and Relationships and Sex Education in secondary schools will become a statutory requirement from September 2020.



Priorities for action

- Work with universal services for children and young people to reduce risk factors for violence.
- Reduce children and young people's risk factors for violence, through Relationships and Sex Education.
- Improve children and young people's emotional health by implementing the Starting Well for Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Strategy.
- Ensure schools are aware of the comprehensive drugs and alcohol services available to them.
- Limit the availability of alcohol in local areas, where appropriate.
- Raise public awareness of preventative services and the public's role in safeguarding.
- Ensure all frontline health and care services work together to identify, support and refer those at risk of violence, those experiencing violence and those who perpetrate violence.
- Lead and contribute to multi-agency partnerships to reduce serious violence, through a 'whole system' approach.

Violence Reduction Unit overview



One central VRU led by the OPCC with 4 local VRU hubs in Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton.



Each local VRU hub will produce a problem profile by 31st December 2019 using a shared methodology, and a response strategy by 29th February 2020 (influencing year 2).



The OPCC will produce an overarching problem profile and response strategy.



The OPCC has commissioned Crest Advisory to support us in developing a better understanding of serious violence in Hampshire, to underpin the development of our VRU.

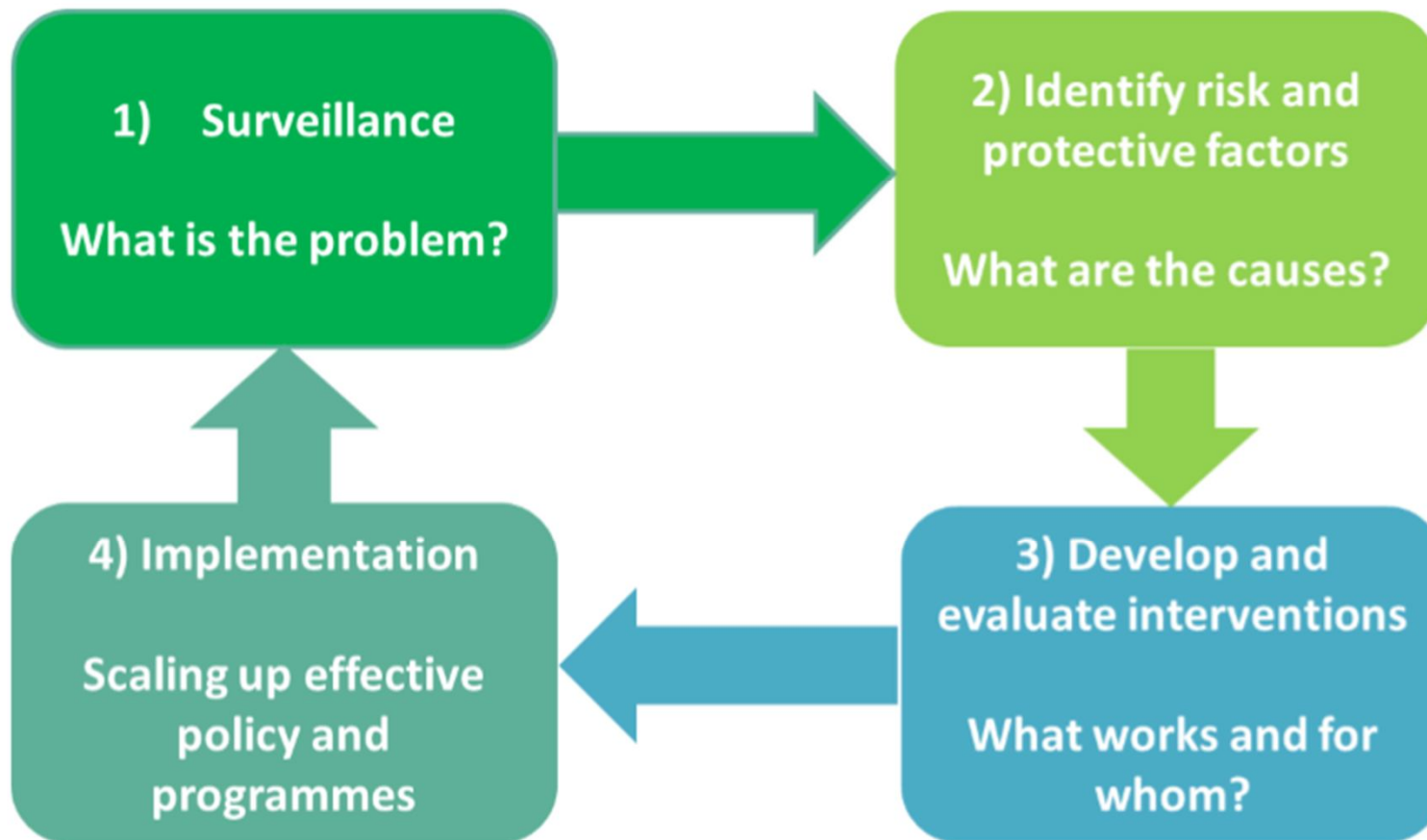
The underlying principles of a public health approach are that it is:

- focused on a defined population, often with a health risk in common
- with and for communities
- not constrained by organisational or professional boundaries
- focused on generating long term as well as short term solutions
- based on data and intelligence to identify the burden on the population, including any inequalities
- rooted in evidence of effectiveness to tackle the problem

Page 9



Figure 6: The WHO 4-step process for implementing a public health approach



Home Office Serious Violence Fund

- Hampshire Constabulary is one of 18 forces to receive funding in 2019/20
- Funding based on hospital admission data
- Primary aim - surge police activity to reduce serious violence in public spaces, particularly knife crimes in under 25s

Enforcement

Hotspot patrols:

- Southampton, Portsmouth, Basingstoke, Andover, Gosport
- County Lines
- Operation Sceptre – national weeks of action

Prevention

- Education partnerships managers
- Youth engagement – Police Apprentice, St Giles Trust, Urban Pure Solutions, Fearless
- Work with CSPs – Safer North Hampshire, Eastleigh
- World café and participatory budgeting – Basingstoke and Gosport
- Trauma Informed Custody



Other police activity

- Intelligence and analysis
- Investigation
- Equipment