

TACKLING KNIVES AND SERIOUS YOUTH VIOLENCE PROGRAMME (TKAP)



Home Office

Good Practice 2010-11



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INTRODUCTION

At the start of TKAP in 2008 there was limited knowledge and few tactical options of what worked in tackling serious youth violence. At the conclusion of the third phase of TKAP in March 2011 this position had radically altered. There are many clear indications of how much we have all learned from being part of the Programme, and the positive difference it has made to the lives of vulnerable young people in our communities. The three phases of TKAP have enabled us to build our knowledge around the type of interventions that work in reaching vulnerable young people to prevent violence and to start to change attitudes and behaviours.

The ability of the Programme to share what works and lessons learned across all those participating has been one of its strengths, and has resulted in some excellent projects and operational activities being adopted and adapted to meet local needs. We have compiled good practice examples and case studies from across the participating areas, and these are listed below covering all nine core activities, plus governance and partnership, undertaken in TKAP during 2010/11. Contact details for each case study are provided to enable the reader to pursue interest.

A&E DATA SHARING

TKAP has been committed to supporting the provision and use of anonymised Accident and Emergency admissions data to CSPs and this is proving increasingly effective in a number of TKAP areas in identifying hotspots and targeting resources and interventions more effectively.

CARDIFF – USE OF PERSONALISED DATA

ISSUE

The Health Board & the Partnership were exchanging de-personalised Accident & Emergency data in respect of Assaults. This data was being used in relation to the Cardiff Traffic Light system. A new partnership analyst was appointed and he identified that de-personalised data was restricting the analysis that could be carried out on this data and this was therefore affecting the quality and integrity of reports which were being supplied to partnership agencies. He found that he was unable to identify duplicate entries within the Health data and also was unable to specifically identify incidents which had not been reported to the police.

RESPONSE

The Health Authority had appointed a Partnership development officer and working together the analyst and the partnership development officer arranged a series of meetings with members of the community safety partnership, the police and health officials. During one of these meetings the analyst suggested that as health were part of the partnership he was technically working in part for them. The health Data Protection officer then stated that there was nothing stopping the Partnership Analyst working as a data processor on behalf of health. As a result of this a data processors agreement was written between the health authority and the partnership analyst which contained strict protocols on the handling and use of personalised A & E Data.

RESULTS

As a result of the above protocols the Partnership Analyst now receives an extract of all A & E records on a personalised basis allowing exact matching of this

data with police data as the name and date of Birth of the victim are known and can be cross matched with police & health data. The analyst was also able to identify that there were a number of duplicate entries within the health data i.e. when a person was treated for multiple injuries there would be multiple entries on the health system. As a result of the receipt of this data the analyst was able to prepare an analytical presentation to the Chief Executives of the Health Authority which the Chief Executives agreed would be very useful in their planning processes this has also resulted in more accurate reporting of incidents and allows for the identification of repeat victims.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

As a result of seeing the work that the analyst has done with the A & E data further Departments within the Health Authority have set up protocols with the Partnership Analyst enabling analysis to be done on Assaults on staff within the health service, GP Data, Substance Misuse, Domestic Violence & Sexual offences.

LESSONS LEARNED

The three most important aspects of the project are:

- 1 The Trust which has now been established between the Health authority and the Partnership Analyst.
- 2 The close liaison with the Health Partnership Co-ordinator and The Partnership Analyst.
- 3 The ability to supply improved statistics and reports to the partnership agencies.

WHAT THEY SAID

It is not what has been said whilst positive comments have been received from The Chief Executives of the Health Board it is the fact that further departments are now seeking the assistance of the partnership analyst which shows that the exchange of personalised data has been a successful process.

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HULL - PARAMEDIC INITIATIVE

ISSUE

Police employed on 'public order' duties were using up a lot of time with injured / ill members of the public, (the majority alcohol related), whilst waiting for ambulances to attend.

Meanwhile, due to perceived danger from violent individuals or scenarios, ambulances were spending large amounts of time 'standing off' until a Police patrol was present to provide them with a safe environment in which to attend to the casualty.

On both counts other calls for service were going unanswered and in the case of the public order patrols, 'hotspot' areas were receiving less preventative presence resulting in more instances of disorder and potentially more injured parties requiring treatment.

In addition, large numbers of casualties with injuries that could have been treated on the street, were attending at the local A and E presenting with injuries and symptoms, further stretching hospital resources; often because of the length of time Ambulances were taking to get to them

RESPONSE

Operating a combined Ambulance Service and Police fast response 'paramedic' patrol, within the Night Time Economy (NTE) in Hull.

Yorkshire Ambulance Service and Humberside Police elected to provide a joint patrol with a Paramedic and Police Officer in a fully equipped fast response paramedic vehicle. The vehicle would operate between 2000 hrs and 0400 hrs on Friday and Saturday nights. The paramedic effectively triages the patient on the street and either treats the patient there and then, transports the patient to A and E in their vehicle or arranges for an Ambulance if necessary.

Effectively they save two staff being used at every job they go to, due to the fact that generally, within the NTE, two police and two ambulance staff would be sent to, or are dealing with, each incident. Although the initiative has overheads in terms of

vehicle provision, including maintenance and fuel, as well as staffing costs, the savings in staff time enabling them to undertake alternative duties are significant.

RESULTS

It is difficult to measure exact costs and benefits, however, it is easily appreciated more by how much it is missed when it is not available. Officers have grown used to having the patrol around and no longer spend long periods of time awaiting its arrival, the Ambulance Service on the other hand find that because their ambulances are not tied up dealing with drunken people in the city centre, they find it easier to meet their response targets elsewhere.

This project ultimately provides a better service to the community and most importantly saving lives.

Additionally the city's night time economy has seen a drop in violence over the period that the initiative has been running, and undoubtedly a portion of this success has been due to the operation of the patrol and the resources that has in turn freed up to conduct preventative duties.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The police have developed an excellent working relationship with colleagues in Yorkshire Ambulance Service providing enhanced a better understanding, appreciation, intelligence and support.

The Primary Care Trust have seen the benefit in having reduced admissions to A and E and are now considering funding expansion of the initiative, as well as being keen to look at other such additional projects, such as street based triage, support to Street Pastors and brief intervention.

Often the patrol has been called to individuals who are casualties as a result of poor licensed premise management, these cases have been recorded at the time by officers who otherwise may not have been called, and they provide vital evidence and intelligence in support of taking enforcement action.

There have been some issues with financing of the paramedic role, however the police role has been found to fit easily into the skills base of experienced and competent Special Constables, therefore has no overheads in addition to normal core business, other than minor administrative work.

LESSONS LEARNED

Set up a process from the start of the project to capture, process and use intelligence gathered from it, both with regards to identifying trends and patterns within the NTE and problem premises.

WHAT THEY SAID

Other areas have seen the initiative and adopted it within their own NTEs, which is a fantastic endorsement. Licensees and other organisations operating within the NTE have all regularly applauded its existence.

“The work in partnership with Humberside Police has reduced the number of ambulances having to go into the city centre at night, leaving them free to attend a patient elsewhere – which has undoubtedly saved lives.”

Tracey Jackson, Locality Manager, Yorkshire Ambulance Service

“The paramedic car has attended incidents quickly and been effective in providing support to security personnel and the public.”

Sharon Porter, Director RDS, Training

“I find the paramedic car to be an invaluable service. It would be greatly missed by security personnel and the response time for members of the public requiring assistance may be increased if we did not have this service.”

Gary Scaife, Prestige Support Ltd

“As a frontline officer I have found the paramedic car which is used on a weekend in the night time economy invaluable. It has freed up patrols having to wait for ambulances and treatment. With the police officer in the vehicle it provides a direct link between the police and ambulance service and provides a much faster triage and treatment of minor injuries”.

PC Dan Herman, Incident Resolution Team officer, Humberside Police

“I think it’s fantastic”

PC Sam Cunnington, Incident Resolution Team officer, Humberside Police

“The Paramedic car is an integral part of the services provided to the people of Hull. Having relied upon the car in various situations and circumstances in my

role, I would find it hugely disappointing if it were to cease.”

Geoff Crosswaite, Operations Manager, Street Marshals

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ISLINGTON – NON TO PARTIALLY ANONYMISED DATA EXCHANGE

ISSUE

The Victims of Violence project at Whittington Hospital, London, has three domains:

- 1 Domestic Violence
- 2 Serious Youth Violence
- 3 Elder Abuse

Our current area of development is Serious Youth Violence and engaging with this cohort of young people. One of the aims of the Victims of Violence Project at the Whittington Hospital has been establishing new ways of working to address this concern.

RESPONSE

We have been sharing anonymised information regarding victims of all violence for some time now and have been successful in capturing data and sharing this information in quantitative terms, however we are now engaged activity to improve on the quality of the data capture.

We have been sharing patient identifiable information with Islington MARAC for some time; a recent development has been to do the same with regard to Serious Youth Offending via the Islington Bronze Group.

We are also beginning to explore sharing anonymised data across local Authority boundaries and between health providers.

We share patient identifiable data with MARAC and with the Bronze Group for individuals at a high risk of injury as victim/perpetrator

RESULTS

Formal evaluation of the victims of violence project at the Whittington is about to be reported, but as of yet, we have no evidence of change, apart from a greatly increased awareness of issues of violence within the hospital staff.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

We expected data to support the hunch that the Whittington had significant casualties from Camden. Our data does not support this assumption. In fact the data shows that most of our patients come from Islington (host borough of hospital 40%) and Haringey (30%)

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

- 1 Ensure executive buy in at beginning of project
- 2 Begin with a business case exploring return of investment
- 3 Comprehensive project implementation plan to include operational and strategic elements

The three most important aspects of the project:

- 1 A significant element of this project was to gain 'buy in' from an acute hospital Trust, therefore the Hospital were commissioned to 'host' the multi-agency project. The advantages of this are that there is a champion within the hospital – the advantages of this have been immensely important in achieving the desired goals of the project.
- 2 No one agency has all the answers, therefore a genuine inter-professional approach is helpful in maintaining momentum with the project.

Any success we are achieving is the result of genuine partnership working.

WHAT THEY SAID

We have referred about 150 individuals to victim support, but to date have received no feedback over level of take up of services.

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LEICESTER - HOW TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT DATA SHARING

ISSUE

No data sharing between Leicester Royal Infirmary and the Leicester Community Safety Partnership.

This meant:

- Not having the full picture of assaults in Leicester City
- Reticence and worry from Emergency Department (ED) receptionists – due to the unknown extra workload that this may bring
- Ineffective IT systems
- No process for analysis
- Development of an ED (Emergency Department) data sharing response was a TKAP priority

RESPONSE

The impetus to develop data sharing between the ED and the partnership initially came via the TKAP programme. To facilitate this work a focus group was created consisting of members from the ED, ED IT, Leicester City Police, analysts, the NHS and the Home Office. The group met and discussed and made an audit trail of actions and progress.

The approach was agreed within this focus group, namely to utilise the Cardiff model but to make it work for Leicester; to have a clear outcome for the partners and to do this as quickly and effectively as possible without being overly bureaucratic. The Senior Police Analyst, the ED Office Manager and ED IT met to discuss requirements outside of the Focus Group Meeting and in addition, the Senior Police Analyst visited ED receptionists several times to offer reassurance to ED staff and to gain an understanding of what it was like to work in an ED. The feedback loop to the ED reception staff was closed by the senior analyst and Superintendent meeting with reception staff and delivering and explaining the analysis and showing the product of their hard work and time collecting the data.

RESULTS

- The first data set was created and presented to the focus group at the beginning of September 2010 – just three months after the project initiation

- Currently the data is being compared strategically to ascertain if there are Communities less likely to report to the Police, but instead ‘present’ themselves to the ED.
- Up to 70% of ambulance call outs do not result in hospital attendance, tying together this data with that held by the ambulance service would be useful to inform and improve the analysis

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

- The bond between the ED and Police staff and Partners continues to develop.
- The Alcohol strategy delivery team are now involved and this is being developed by the Total Place programme.
- The actual location of the assaults is still not recognisable, so this remains an ongoing issue.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

- To ensure that there is a robust system to task actions in response to product of the data
- To include licensing colleagues from the start to help put across the necessity for location details.
- Resolve the issue at the outset as to whether to include questions supplementary to the Cardiff minimum data set (e.g. a question on the impact of alcohol on the assault)

The three most important aspects of the project:

- The reason the project worked was because of the enthusiastic and committed approach from all those involved. This included the ability to visit ED staff out of traditional hours and to understand the issues they face regularly
- We recommend that the project is taken forward with strong and consistent leadership to assess different Agencies needs and requirements, and to negotiate a best product and tasking forum. There were clear leaders in Leicester at a clinical level, at ED reception manager level and within the partnership. This undoubtedly gave the project impetus and drive and enabled blockages to be removed promptly.
- That results need to be taken back to the ED to
- highlight to their staff the benefits of recording the data.

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NORTH EAST – REGIONAL APPROACH TO DATA COLLECTION AND SHARING

ISSUE

At the end of 2008 no Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) or local policing teams were receiving assault related data from their local emergency department in the North East of England.

The information is seen as crucial in filling an intelligence gap of people who are assaulted but do not report the incident to the police.

The Coalition Programme for Government included a commitment to “make hospitals share non-confidential information with the police so they know where gun and knife crime is happening”

The Home Office maintains a strong interest in the use of emergency department attendance data by police and CSPs to target knife and alcohol-related violent crime hotspots and support problem solving through.

RESPONSE

The North East, has taken a regional approach to data-collection and information-sharing, in line with the principles developed by Professor Jonathan Shepherd in Cardiff.

A high profile conference took place in October 2008, chaired by the Regional Director of Public Health, Stephen Singleton. The purpose of the conference was to bring together a wide range of partners from across the region to share the learning of areas who were already sharing emergency department data, such as Cardiff and Cambridge. The conference aimed to find out what if any progress had been made locally and seek a commitment to find ways to capture and share this data as quickly as possible.

Soon after the conference a regional steering group made up of representatives from local authorities, emergency departments, the three police forces, the regional Alcohol Office and the Home Office was set up with a remit to drive progress to enable every CSP to access assault related data from their local emergency department. The group is chaired and co-ordinated by Programme Manager at Balance.

A brief audit was undertaken which identified the number of emergency departments to share the data, the computer systems they used for their Patient Admissions System (PAS), as well as key local contacts that would be responsible for capturing, sharing and analysing the data.

A regional minimum data set was agreed to enable the consistent capture of data from each of the emergency departments.

Some emergency departments have upgraded PAS which allows the minimum data set to be collected. In these cases, the patient is asked a fixed response question (yes or no), are the injuries as a result of an assault, a positive response prompts the assault screen and questions. Of the remainder, a paper based questionnaire is completed and compiled by the emergency department administrator.

All data is captured at reception when the patient first presents at the hospital as this is seen as the most pertinent point, with staff who are trained to record patient information and avoiding placing additional burden on medical staff.

In the North East, alcohol-related assault data from NHS Trusts is stored on a regional data portal, called "the Vault". The Vault provides a highly secure way to send, retrieve and store data electronically via an email. Each user is provided with a licence to access the Vault and security rights to a specified data file for the local area in which they work. This system allows data to be collated on a geographic basis and in time it is anticipated the data will be cleansed and analysed centrally.

This approach helps remove some barriers that still exist around data protection, sharing personalised data and provides an opportunity to combine assault data with a number of sources including crime and alcohol related admissions data sets.

Further, using simple location data it will be possible to better inform areas and aid cross boundary data sharing where a patient has presented at A&E further a field from where the incident that caused injury took place.

These advantages should be considered against possible disadvantages including the timeliness of the data, the loss of local connection between A&E staff and other front line partnership staff, consistency of data and a failure to close the essential feedback loop.

RESULTS

All the A & E Departments in the 12 Community Safety Partnership areas across the North East are collecting assault related attendance. The majority have

already started to share this information with Criminal Justice partners, both within their locality and beyond.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

An interactive and highly visual training package has been developed for hospital based staff which aims to improve the understanding of benefits and use of assault data. The presentation, which can be delivered in a 1-2 hour session, covers the national context, why this information is needed (including some CCTV footage), how the information is captured/used and the tangible benefits the additional information provides to local areas and people.

LESSONS LEARNED

Experience suggests that the Department of Health Minimum Data Set does not capture the detailed data required to help problem solve more neighbourhood or community based violence. Further, as areas continue to improve tactics to tackle the Night Time Economy (NTE) so the assault data needs to become more detailed and provide information beyond that of hot locations or problem premises.

Reviewing the techniques for data capture and recognising that this should not be a one size fits all approach in terms of collection, dissemination and analysis could improve the further use of the data set. A consistent software fix for all PAS software providers could help speed up the process of creating software fixes and reducing the total cost to upgrade software on an area by area basis.

Regular feedback between the CSP and emergency department is crucial in improving data quality and maintaining motivation with staff that collect the data.

WHAT THEY SAID

Feedback from partners on the Steering Group, local analysts and users of the data has identified that there are issues around data quality, particularly in relation to location data, the low capture rate from patients attending with assault injury and concerns among CSP analysts that the data is not robust enough to warrant analyse.

Users of the data suggested an evaluation of progress that identified good practice, barriers and successful uses of the data would be welcome. An evaluation has been commissioned and will commence in late February 2011.

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NORTH EAST REGIONS – A&E DIGITAL TRAINING TOOL

ISSUE

At the end of 2008 no Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) or local policing teams were receiving assault related data from their local emergency department in the North East of England.

The information was seen as crucial in filling an intelligence gap of people who are assaulted but do not report the incident to the police.

A regional approach to data sharing was adopted (see separate case study on progress).

Early analysis of the data provided by Accident and Emergency (A&E) Departments demonstrated a lack of understanding in the important aspects of the data and how this would be used in tactical problem solving. A simple example, many location fields

of where incidents took place, especially if these happened in license premises, were not specific to allow further action to be taken.

RESPONSE

A specialised interactive design agency was commissioned to produce and deliver a training tool and media materials for use on an array of

publishing platforms – from simple print documents to interactive modules on bespoke NHS learning management systems (LMS).

The design agency were requested to ensure that the materials delivered would work within the physical and technical environment where learners will be accessing the training.

In the case A&E staff, the training tool was aimed at A&E receptionists, nurses, doctors and in the CSP, local authority licensing teams and police staff were targeted. All of whom may all have different routes of access to the materials in different environments. For example, A&E receptionists are likely to receive the information through formal staff training events and inductions, whilst nurses are more likely to pick up the information in their own time from booklets or web resources.

Solution

A short presentation compiled in Flash. This incorporates:

- Video interviews with key partners in health and policing and explanations of how the data gathering will help other people do their jobs to bring home the importance of A&E in helping to solve the cycle of alcohol related violence.
- A graphics presentation that displays keys statistics and establishes that value gained from following the Cardiff model of data sharing.

The training can be delivered as an interactive package access from the North East Alcohol Office, Balance website, so that staff can access the information anywhere with a web connection and anytime at their discretion.

For training locations that don't have useable broadband connections, or difficulties with internet firewalls, the training can be provided as data files on a memory stick so they can be played off the hard drive on laptops and in house computers – with free Flash Player software installed.

For training locations that have formal LMS, the presentation can be incorporated as a link.

LEARNING ELEMENTS

In video interviews a Community Safety Partnership member and the local analyst talk about why the Violent Crime Group needs A&E staff to participate

in data gathering with upto 80% of crimes of violence going unreported – particularly with domestic violence.

These video interviews also introduce the Cardiff model and the intention to roll out across the country because it's effectiveness and evidential impact.

The video interviews with strategic staff provide the direct human call to action from public sector colleagues - establishing that enhancing data gathering in A&E environments as a key link in a large chain of activities that go together to reduce the incidence of alcohol related violence and injury.

The training uses photograph slideshows to engage the viewer with the emotional significance of violence and show why finding a solution matters.

These show:

- Young men fighting in groups
- Single punch incidents
- Incidents with mixed groups of young men and women.
- Rising binge drinking with young girls
- Rising domestic violence

Slides within the film highlight the salient points that staff need to remember to motivate them to fill in the assault data sheets:

- 1m violent attacks carried out by drunks each year,
- Alcohol a key factor in domestic abuse and repeat assaults.
- Cost of alcohol harm to North East economy about £1bn per year

These narrative threads establish the where, why and how of alcohol and violence patterns and show the wider family of public sector staff dealing with an issue that all leads to the door of A&E.

This section makes clear why data gathering matters and why team working is the solution.

RESULTS

Some NHS environments have formal LMS with good broadband connections. Some Primary Care Trusts

clients have the DVD Player functionality disabled on staff computers so they can't view films. Since the training resources commissioned need to work across multiple locations in the North East region, the most effective solution was to create a flexible learning package – one that can be accessed either on the web or delivered to a laptop or desktop computer.

Implementation and use of the training tool is still in its infancy therefore it is not possible to produce any tangible results at this time.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The Balance website has a link for the website that will open up the learning resource online and the company also produced a data DVD with the learning package exported as a stand alone file that can be viewed offline on any Flash Player enabled computer.

LESSONS LEARNED

- Making the resource SCORM compliant (Sharable Content Object Reference Model is a collection of standards and specifications for web-based e-learning) was not possible in the budget, but this should be considered for future versions of the training.
- In the future it may be possible to localise the materials to produce a film that shows a tour of the alcohol related hotspots and locations from the perspective of local services, for example, the ambulance crew. This would enhance the emotional element of resource by bringing the reality outside to those who collect the data.
- The slideshow could be narrated with voiceovers from the partners describing the key locations associated with alcohol related violence - the night time economy in the North East, domestic violence amongst couples, domestic abuse calls to home, the problem of repeat calls - both for victims and for the ambulance staff.
- Future content could include newspaper cuttings that describe the incidents, trends and patterns of behaviour that lead victims to A&E.
- The core reason for gathering data will not change in the near future so the learning resource will remain relevant. The statistics may need updating when more cogent figures become available.
- The staff receiving training should start to enhance their role as part of wider team.

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PLYMOUTH – DATA SHARING PROJECT

ISSUE

Agencies not sharing information with each other has traditionally been a problem.

In relation to Accident and Emergency (A&E) data it is particularly important to understand the opportunities to prevent people needing help from this service; to ensure their quality of life is better, to reduce incidents that can be prevented and to help other services in working out what they could influence.

Traditionally Police data has been used above all others to understand the issue of violent crime, particularly when it is alcohol related. Since this data is understood to include less than a quarter of the incidents which occur it is prudent to look for other data sources. The safety of the general public is affected by the responses of each agency to the issues they perceive to be a problem in their area. If the agencies are better informed then they are better able to take preventative action or to ensure that their response is the best it can be.

Understanding what causes people to need access to the A&E will help agencies take action to prevent the initial injury, accident or violent incident. This might include knowing which public houses are particularly associated with violent disorder and taking action against them or recognising which communities

lack the confidence to report issues to the Police among many others. The local drive to share data was particularly linked to reducing incidents of domestic abuse and recognising local risks within abusive domestic relationships.

RESPONSE

New protocols were developed with our local hospital and the benefits of data exchange were explored with everyone involved acknowledging the importance of sharing this information. The project brought together

A & E Hospital Consultants, Legal Executives and Data Analysts from the Hospital along with representatives of the Community Safety Partnership, hospital receptionists, nurses and others.

A significant barrier to making this happen has always historically been the different approach and attitudes of each agency. This has been exacerbated by misunderstandings or anxieties about will happen with the data shared. It was important to understand the benefits of working in partnership; embracing and acknowledging the need to stop working in silos.

The Partnership were fortunate to have a key individual working for Health as a Nurse Practitioner who had lots of experience working in the Partnership and was able to instil the confidence needed to make the necessary changes in practice and protocols and implement training. Taking the lead on the project from within the health service ensured that those within the NHS who were less keen were able to voice their concerns without fearing being misunderstood. It also enabled the clear message through to staff: sharing data can prevent atrocities; we would all far rather seek to prevent a death or injury than to discover in the aftermath that we could have helped.

Data is collected by hospital receptionists as an individual checks in to A&E. It is an easy process; people are happy to provide answers to the questions as part of the booking process. The information is depersonalised before being shared with the partnership. The hospital staff are shown how the data they provide is used, ensuring that they know that it is not yet another task.

RESULTS

We are still in the process of changing the way we work but now have a system in operation where all the staff involved in the collection process have been trained. Relationships have been built within the Partnership to allow the data to be transferred in a workable format on a monthly basis. This data is incorporated into the picture built by the Partnership Analyst.

As a result of the picture the data is providing we are starting to question the response of local agencies in order to improve public safety. No formal evaluation has been commissioned but we feel sure that there will be cost savings to be had by all agencies in the longer term.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

We are now looking at data sharing with South West Ambulance Services, and the Minor Injuries Unit in Plymouth. Everyone is encouraged by the success of our initial project.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

- 1 Make sure you have strategic sign off before looking at the operational aspects - this takes time but is vital to the success of your project
- 2 Be clear what information you require and why
- 3 Don't talk in jargon!

The three most important aspects of the project:

- 1 Good communication between agencies
- 2 Clear named project lead working across the partnership
- 3 Use of existing systems; why re-invent the wheel and make training more difficult for staff? Keep it simple and people won't be afraid to engage with them.

WHAT THEY SAID

Everyone involved recognises the value of sharing information; don't be phased by existing protocols and practices, work together to share information and improve services and reduce costs to all agencies involved in making your city a safer place.

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ALCOHOL / NIGHT-TIME ECONOMY

Alcohol-related violence has been a key focus of the programme, with participating areas developing problem profiles to enhance their understanding of the local problem and to put in place interventions to try to reduce the impact. This includes addressing the increasing trend for pre-loading and the move towards drinking outside of town and city centres.

BOLTON - OPERATION SHERRY

ISSUE

Bolton town centre is the borough's hot spot for violent crime, with its high footfall and abundance of licensed premises. The increase in visitors to the area during December presents a seasonal risk for alcohol-related violent crime, anti-social behaviour and acquisitive crime.

RESPONSE

In response to the problem detailed above, Greater Manchester Police (GMP) and their partners carried out Operation Sherry from 1st-31st December 2010.

The aims of Operation Sherry were to:

- Prevent crime, ASB and alcohol related violence, through high visibility 'early intervention style' policing.
- Offer reassurance to those working in, living in and using Bolton town centre for shopping, leisure and other lawful purposes.
- Robustly manage known offenders to prevent crime, ASB and alcohol related violence, but where this occurs, bring those responsible to justice.



- Contribute to a vibrant Town Centre economy, making Bolton a place where people feel welcome, safe, enjoy themselves and want to return.

The key elements to the operation were as following:

Awareness raising/ crime prevention

- Operation launched on 1st December (daytime economy) and 4th December (night time economy), alongside a divisional ASB 'confidence day' on 4th December. These events promoted burglary prevention, vehicle crime prevention and theft from person prevention, and responsible drinking to reduce violent crime. In order to appeal to a younger audience, the daytime launch included student actors from Bolton University, dressed as waiters and waitresses, handing out non-alcoholic mulled wine as part of the responsible drinking campaign.
- In order to promote responsible drinking messages and reduce alcohol related violence, bottled water featuring safer drinking messages were given away on Friday and Saturday nights outside pubs in the run up to Christmas. 1500 bottles of branded water and 3000 Be Safe and Party leaflets were given away by Bolton Street Angels and Special Constables. Pubs and clubs in Bolton's Pubwatch group displayed 'Think Safe Drink Safe' posters, and bar staff wore 'Think Safe Drink Safe' t-shirts to promote the messages.
- A digital matrix board, promoting vehicle crime prevention, responsible drinking and festive police and partnership messages, was piloted for the first time in Bolton town centre.

Intelligence and tasking

- Daily review process from 7am each day during December, supporting the existing Divisional Daily and Weekly Tasking Meetings.
- Daily Intelligence and Tasking Briefings, open to police officers engaged in Op Sherry, and partners operating in the town centre, took place at the temporary police post in Bolton town centre, to disseminate intelligence and information.
- Daily debrief and circulation of daily debrief document to key partners.

Target offenders

- Target offenders identified through existing weekly GMP Town Centre Intelligence Briefings. Key offenders subject to extensive monitoring throughout the operation.

Method/ deployment

- Daytime economy issues were managed through Operation Sherry, with night time economy issues managed through an extension to Operation BAND (Bolton Against Night time Disorder), with increased staffing on key nights.
- Crime prevention/ focus on deterring offending at key hotspot locations, targeted for shoplifting.
- Police officers deployed at key locations/micro beats each day, according to emerging issues.
- GMP staff deployed to the Local Authority CCTV room to work alongside NCP staff.
- Headcams were used by the policing team during Operation Sherry, for the first time as part of this operation.

Linked operations

- In order to reduce the number of young people involved in public order offences at the Christmas lights switch on in the town centre, the police carried out a joint operation with the Juvenile Response Team and Bolton Lads and Girls Club on this night. Only one crime was linked to this event, an 'assault without injury'.
- A joint operation between GMP, NCP and NSL car parking was carried out, to tackle Blue Badge misuse, supported by funding from the Local Authority Parking Services Team.

Operation Zero (persistent prostitution enforcement) was continued throughout December, with dedicated operational activity on 17th December, and a kerb-crawler awareness session on 22nd December.

RESULTS

- Crime in Bolton town centre in December has fallen to half the level it was at in December four years ago.
- There were just five serious woundings in Bolton town centre in December, which is a 60% reduction on December 2009 and December 2008.
- There were 15 public order incidents in December in Bolton town centre, a 40% reduction on the figure for December 2009. Only two of these offences were committed by under 18 year olds.

There were 21 less serious woundings in Bolton town centre in December 2010, a reduction of 38% from the figure in December 2009. Only two of these offences were committed by under 18 year olds, and only one victim was under 18 years.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

None

LESSONS LEARNED

- Next year, the partnership plan to hold two daytime launch events, at the beginning of and in the middle of December, rather than just one at the beginning of December. The aim of this is to continue to raise awareness of crime prevention messages and responsible drinking to reduce violent crime, throughout the operation.
- Innovative press and publicity articles are to be issued throughout December, rather than focusing publicity mainly at the start of December and again in January. This publicity to include articles such as "A day in the life of a Town Centre PC".
- Use of college or university students was considered to have been very positive, as this promoted responsible drinking messages to a younger audience, and created positive publicity and interest in the campaign.
- The matrix board was a very visible statement of crime prevention and was very well received.

The temporary deployment base for the Neighbourhood Policing Team, in shop premises in the centre of Bolton, was a key success of this operation.

The Bolton News reported the launch of Operation Sherry positively, with the attached article which appeared on 2nd December. Positive articles also appeared in the Bolton Scene in December (publication which goes to every household in Bolton) and the operation was covered several times on Bolton FM radio station.

The headcams, which were trialed for the first time as part of Operation Sherry 2010, also received positive

publicity in the Bolton News as part of this operation. http://www.theboltonnews.co.uk/news/boltonnews/8712391.Cameras_focus_on_festive_trouble/

Blue Badge 'name & shame' - http://www.theboltonnews.co.uk/news/boltonnews/8878093.15_Blue_Badge_cheats_named_and_shamed/

Coverage in Association of Business Crime Partnerships newsletter - <http://www.businesscrime.org.uk/hm/n20110124.425333.htm>

Water to help revellers drink safely

BOTTLES of water will be handed out to revellers by Special Constables and Street Angels as they move between bars and clubs on weekends over Christmas.

And Bluetooth messages encouraging people to pace their drinks will also be sent out.

The tactics are part of Operation Sherry, which will also see police trialing the use of headcams in a bid to gather more evidence.

The operation was launched yesterday at a crime-prevention event in Victoria Square which saw residents talking to local neighbourhood policing officers and picking up free crime prevention advice.

The Think Safe Drink Safe campaign is being supported by licensees in Bolton's Pub Watch scheme, who will be displaying Think Safe Drink Safe posters, while others will have staff wearing Think Safe T-shirts.

Sgt Paul Ellis, who leads the Town Centre Neighbourhood Policing Team said: "Once again this year, there is lots of activity going on throughout December, to ensure that whether people are out shopping, working or socialising in Bolton town centre, they can do so safely."



COOLING OFF: A police officer with a bottle of water which will be given to revellers over Christmas

In January, several positive articles were published in the Bolton News and Bolton Scene, praising the effects of Operation Sherry on crime in Bolton town centre. http://www.theboltonnews.co.uk/news/boltonnews/8802547.Police_hail_festive_drive_on_crime_in_town_centre/

http://www.theboltonnews.co.uk/news/boltonnews/4853374.Crackdown_sees_fall_in_Christmas_crime_rate/

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DONCASTER – OPERATION ALLIGATOR

ISSUE

Violent crime has reduced within the Night Time Economy (NTE) in Doncaster as a result of sustained activity supported through Operation Alligator supported by the TKAP Programme. In the main the violence is often fuelled by alcohol with the majority of offenders being within the TKAP age range.

The Safer Doncaster Partnership has implemented a number of initiatives targeted at the Night Time Economy, however earlier intervention and use of support services has clearly contributed to the current reductions, whilst also raising awareness of the associated harm and link to offending.

RESPONSE

Operation Alligator has been the driving force in the management of the NTE within the town centre. Officers from various portfolios (response/Safer Neighbourhood teams/Tutor unit) are routinely deployed on foot in high profile locations to meet and greet revellers as they entered the town centre in order to identify and deal with individuals or groups displaying any alcohol fuelled anti social behaviour or disorder.

The intention of this operation is to deliver the following:

- A consistent and coordinated approach to managing the NTE.
- Minimise offences of violence in the town centre through use of early intervention, dispersal and/or street process. Where possible maximize the use of the alcohol arrest referral scheme for minor offending.
- Community Confidence - Provide high visibility reassurance to the residents, visitors and business community.
- Ensure Licensed premises adhere to the conditions of their license and promote responsible retailing (4 Licensing Objectives)
- ASBOs/DBOs – Follow and robustly implement the South Yorkshire & CPS agreed policy on Anti-social Behaviour Orders and Drink Banning Orders.

Over the last 2-3 years several initiatives have been implemented to support existing policing activity utilising other partners to address existing and emerging issues:

- Early intervention & Alcohol Arrest Referral Scheme Initially this was a trial which has since been adopted as best practice. (Forward Intelligence Gathering (FIG) teams were deployed on foot in the early part of the evening with the intention of engaging offenders who were causing drink related issues prior to them committing a substantive offence. These persons were dispersal utilising S27 order or a S30 order where appropriate. For minor alcohol fuelled offending Officers also utilised the FPT waiver scheme to encourage offenders to seek support/education through Doncaster Alcohol Services. During the later part of the evening offenders were also street bailed and dispersed or arrested and bailed to the alcohol conditional caution surgeries to allow officers to consider the most appropriate disposal option.

Results – 1.10.09 to 31.12.10

Section 27	F.P.T	Conditional Cautions	Cautions	Reprimand/Warns	Street Bail
1251	865	232	18	14	186

Passive Drugs Dog Operations

- Passive Drugs dogs have been deployed at various locations within the NTE in an effort to alleviate drug and alcohol fuelled violence within the TKAP age range. The dogs have been deployed at such locations as Transport Interchanges in an early intervention role, and later during the evening in both the Town Centre and outer area public houses in an enforcement role. These deployments have multiple benefits they allow the public to see quite large numbers of officers who act as responsible guardians. Subjects being searched and processed also has a two fold effect namely the removal of offenders from the area and preventing problems later in the evening, plus it also serves as a stark reminder to patrons of the NTE that police are out and about dealing with offenders.

Knife Arch Operations

- The knife arches are used in both an enforcement and an education role. They have now been rolled out to the Colleges and the Children's and Young Persons Officers have been trained and these arches are now used in an education role to introduce Young Persons and children to their effectiveness. Results - In Aug 2010 a PRU survey was conducted with 6209 e-mails being sent out 22% of which were Doncaster addresses, however there was only a 29% return. The main questions were have you seen a knife arch outside a night club or in the Interchange 9.3% of respondents had, 93.2% thought they were a good idea, 72.5% felt safer when they saw the arches. 47% strongly agreed that they increased confidence with a further 40% agreeing. The confidence factors are plus or minus 2.75%.

Paramedic initiative & Emergency Care Practitioners

- The Town SNA linked in with the NHS to develop this pilot project of deploying Emergency Care Practitioners within the NTE. Premises were identified and set up within the Town centre within easy reach of the nightlife providing officers/doorstaff with the facilities to triage injured people without requesting an ambulance or referring victims to A&E unnecessarily.

DPPO – Alcohol Seizures

- Officers have continued to enforce the DPPO within the designated area in the town centre, focusing particular attention on persistent street

drinkers who actively cause anti-social behaviour in the wider community. All offending is dealt with in a proactive manner and where possible ASBOs and DBOs are sought.

RESULTS

- A number of articles have been published in the local press to highlight the activity and results achieved through Operation Alligator and associated initiatives (Op Portcullis, Op Accolade, Op Ahead)
- Officers have provided radio interviews explaining specific initiatives and powers utilised by the police (DPPO)
- Training is being provided to the local authority neighbourhood teams to educate them on local issues and police powers (Licensing, Test Purchasing, S27 dispersals, DPPOs)
- Coordinated Education Inputs – Violent Crime HUB Day, Op Octave creating a positive environment, raising awareness and breaking down the misconceptions about the police.
- Coordinated Presentations outlining local issues & police powers being delivery to LGBT, Men's and Women's Independent Advisory Groups
- Question time organised within local YMCA to provide young vulnerable girls/women with an opportunity to question local officers about issues and police powers.
- ECP Initiative
22 patients avoided attending the Emergency Department (22 x £59)1298
25 patients avoided a 999 Ambulance (25 x £185) – (some patients travelled together in the same Ambulance)
0 patients potentially avoided Admission
Total = £5923
Cost of service = £2781
Estimated cost saving = £3142

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

None

LESSON LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

- Expand use of partners to assist in management of NTE (Local Authority Wardens, parking enforcement, street cleansing, availability of triage service)
- Coordination/Implementation of street angels (responsible guardians)
- Involving local media raised awareness across the whole community.

The three most important aspects of the project:

- Continue to support early intervention within NTE
- Effective use of dispersal powers, street disposals, FPTs and referral to alcohol services to minimise offending/reoffending
- Maintain high-visibility presence throughout the evening
- Early intervention & Alcohol Arrest Referral - There were huge reductions in re-offending, and violent crime and the public perception of both people entering the scheme and members of public at large were extremely positive. Results (Oct 2009 – Jan 2011)
- Knife Arch Operations - Public perception is always extremely good with excellent interaction between the officers the public at large and licensees. Public Quotes (Dec 2010) – “Excellent to see- I think it’s a really good idea lovely to see that you are doing something and you are all out’... ”Fantastic idea”...“Nice to see you all out looking so positive’ ...Great to see police at such a busy time”
- ECP - Malcolm Meek (pubwatch committee member) “My door staff have commented favourably about the availability of triage in the NTE. It’s been extremely beneficial having facilities in easy reach during busy times.”

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HULL – POLYCARBONATES

ISSUE

- 99 glass related incidents (not including bottles) between 1st October 2005 and 31st October 2007
- 52 of these incidents were in Hull City Centre, Beverley Road & Witham. These were established as ‘hot spot’ areas for problems associated with alcohol and the Night Time Economy
- Huge personal cost to the victim
- Significant financial costs to the police and our partner agencies.

RESPONSE

To introduce a supportive polycarbonate scheme into the city, using a multi agency approach.

Other similar schemes, for example in Northampton had seen serious glass related incidents fall by up to...91.5%.

Initially the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) offered an incentive to licensed premises in the identified “hot spot” areas. In addition the same incentive was offered to selected “high risk” licensed premises outside of the three hot spot areas.

The partnership, with support from the Home Office Tackling Violent Crime Programme (TVCP) offered a replacement of at least 20% of current stock to polycarbonate and by natural wastage pubs and clubs working towards 90% of all stock being polycarbonate by an agreed target date.

All licensees located in the “hot spot” areas were invited to attend a meeting held by the Council’s Licensing Committee and Humberside police. Other local agencies, such as the PCT and local hospital were also invited as were the local media.

After the meeting ‘ALL’ of the licensees who attended at the meeting signed up for the project, proving a massive boost for our campaign.

Hull City Safe and TVCP provided funding to distribute over 50,000 polycarbonate vessels into the “hot spot” areas.

After purchasing the vessels all the public houses within the “hot spot” areas were provided with a minimum of 20% of their original glass stock. To raise

awareness, Police Officers and Special constables along with the local media hand delivered the Vessels to the public houses.

Ongoing monitoring the establishments for offences of violent crime followed.

RESULTS

A reduction in glass related incidents by 50% initially.

Subsequently the City has seen three reported offences of glassing since the launch of the polycarbonate vessels. The three incidents were from public houses that didn't attend the initial meeting and have not volunteered themselves in to the campaign to reduce violent crime.

If the project continues with the successes so far, it is expected that the scheme will save Humberside Police £88,951.72 per year in the Hull City area alone. This figure does not take into account the knock on savings to partner agencies which can go towards a quarter of a million pounds for a more serious glassing.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The product lasts up to 4 times longer than glass, however the initial cost is significantly higher (3 or 4 times more expensive, early evaluation has predicted that the polycarbonate vessel can save up to £300 a month in breakage costs.

The vessels are virtually unbreakable. There is no time required cleaning up breakages.

Feedback from customers confirms manufacture's claims that the vessels insulating qualities keep the drink colder for longer.

Hull will be seen as a safer city in which to spend a night out, it will increase the growing reputation of Hull as a place to visit and help to increase the numbers visiting.

It is hoped the scheme will help increase the profits of the businesses in Hull.

Lessons Learned

Three things we would do differently:

1. Encourage licensed premises to absorb more of the upfront costs based on knowledge of potential future savings.

2. Ensure use of polycarbonate vessels become a condition at all licensed premises where glassings have taken place.

3. Ensure each premises has an agreement to replenish the stock with vessels of an equivalent quality

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. Prior to introduction (18 months to 2 years ago), ophthalmic surgeons were being called out on average twice per week to operate/stitch-up eyes following "glassing" in the city centre. The figure is now nil.
2. Cost to the NHS in Hull of each glassing was estimated at £185k
3. Poly carbonate vessels have saved upwards of 80 people being injured in Hull.

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HULL – ASB AND ALCOHOL RELATED DISORDER AND VIOLENCE

ISSUE

Calls for service to the Police and Local Authority regarding youths causing annoyance and alcohol related disorder.

RESPONSE

Youth Alcohol Programme - The Alcohol Intervention Campaign tackled underage drinking and drink related anti social behaviour across the City of Hull during the six weeks of the school summer holidays. A total of 24 nights (4 nights per week x 6 weeks Thursday, Friday Saturday & Sunday) were covered by the project. Staff worked from 18.00- 23.00, with the exception of when Test Purchase Operations were undertaken jointly by the Police and Trading Standards. On these occasions staff worked earlier during the day, taking into account the welfare of the young people who took part in the operations.

This campaign focussed on the areas below:-

- Powers to confiscate alcohol and disperse young people that have been drinking

- Use of anti-social behaviour tools including Acceptable Behaviour Contracts, ASBOs, Parenting Contracts and Penalty Notices for Disorder (The new Police ASB Co - ordinator to be utilised to drive this area of enforcement)

Enforcement took the form of two police officers and one youth alcohol worker, working from 1800 until 11pm on each and every night of the campaign.

The team had access to a vehicle (unmarked police car) and were responsible for attending any reported incidents across the city where alcohol and young people feature as the reason for the incident being reported. The Police and Local Authority Alcohol Workers operated throughout the summer covering hot spot locations and responding to calls for service.

Upon arrival at the incident the team engaged with the youths, seized any alcohol and attempted to ascertain where the alcohol came from, (this intelligence formed the basis of the test purchase campaign) opened soft drinks were also be tested by a Police Officer using drink detector strips. The Police also have the option of using breathalyser.

In addition, the young person's alcohol worker completed a questionnaire in relation to the drinking habits of the young person and carried out a brief intervention. All incidents were followed up by letters to parents offering support and advice along with information leaflets for parents produced by Drinkaware. Further support and advice is offered to the young person if requested by local young people's alcohol services.

RESULTS

The Summer Alcohol Project ran for a total of 24 nights; Thursday to Sunday during the School Summer Holidays, 6.00-11.00pm. Hot spot locations were identified via the Anti Social Behaviour Team, Police, Park Rangers, general public and youth services and visited on a nightly basis. A dedicated mobile phone was made available for key personnel, e.g. Park Rangers, shop keepers to contact if there were any issues involving youths and alcohol.

A marked Police car was also used during the project and was able to respond to any calls for service involving young people and alcohol across the city.

A total of 519 young people were spoken to across the city about the Alcohol Project, out of this, 62 young people and their parents/carers received a letter

and advice regarding their child been found drinking alcohol or as part of a group who were drinking alcohol. The letters contained advice and support for parent/carers and the young people regarding health, safety, parenting support, youth provision within their local area and specialist support agencies.

53 Litres of alcohol was seized (35 litres of lager, 7 litres of cider, 4 litres of spirits, and 7 litres of wine).

13 home visits were carried out in cases where the young person had personal safety issues due to the amount of alcohol consumed and where young people stated their parents/carers provided them with alcohol.

On 3 of the nights, Test Purchase Operations were undertaken with Humberside Police and Hull City Council Trading Standards. From a total of 31 Premises tested, 5 failed and sold alcohol to young people under the age of 18 years.

Licence Premise checks were also undertaken on 140 Off Licences and On Licences across the City. Issues and problems with underage drinkers and proxy buying were discussed, Refusal Books checked and Licences on display were all checked. This information and intelligence was fed back to Hull City Council Trading Standards and Police Licensing Departments.

	2009	2010
No. of nights	40	24
No. of young people spoken to	200	519
No. of letters sent home	99	62
Alcohol confiscated (in litres) in excess of	100	53
No. of home visits	8	13
No. of licence checks	64	140
No. of test purchases	51	31

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Many youths were not aware of the impact the level of alcohol was having on their health and behaviour which was addressed through an alcohol audit. Parents were also often unaware their child was out on the

streets and parks drinking and happy to accept the advice and support offered.

Of those parents who were not responsible or interested in their child's behaviour, the information was shared with social services, the Anti Social Behaviour Team and Neighbourhood Policing Teams. All young people spoken to received information on youth provision and in cases where there was concern, youth services visited the young person and family personally.

LESSONS LEARNED

Things we would do differently:

1. Use of Parenting Contracts to those parents who provide alcohol to their child.
2. Although we do citywide publicity pre and post the initiative, to also provide local community feedback to local residents where young people have been found drinking and causing anti social behaviour after the initiative.

The most important aspects of the project:

1. Challenging parents who provided alcohol to their child
2. contacting parents at the time their child is found drinking follow up visits after initial contact

WHAT THEY SAID

Several youths recognised the alcohol workers from previous outreach work and the alcohol project the previous year. Most were happy to discuss the impact of the alcohol audit and what changes they had made. Most young people said that their parents had been notified and the home visits and advice given has resulted in changes in their behaviour. Several young people admitted they lied to parents informing them they were at friends, cinema etc whilst out drinking.

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LIVERPOOL – OPERATION KINGSTON

ISSUE

Recent research has indicated that cocaine, when taken with alcohol, increases the body's ability to absorb this

and other toxic substances. The effect is to increase a person's capacity to commit acts of violence.

Liverpool, like many other large Cities, has seen a dramatic increase in the recreational use of cocaine over recent years.

RESPONSE

Operation Kingston was designed to identify and deter offenders who use cocaine whilst socialising in bars and nightclubs within Liverpool City centre. The operation sought to establish a link between cocaine use and the propensity of such users to be perpetrators or victim of violence. The intention was to test an alternative approach to challenging cocaine misuse.

The operation, conducted over 13 consecutive weekends, targeted people in possession of user amounts of cocaine. These were identified with a passive drugs dog working closely with a serial of Police officers. This was achieved by placing the dog in an area of high footfall near to bars and nightclubs. Once the dog indicated the possible possession of cocaine the person was searched and then removed to a mobile police station for processing.

At the mobile station a Crown Prosecution Service Lawyer was present to authorise disposal. The drugs were tested and antecedence checked. If the criteria were met, (see case study details), an immediate adult conditional caution was issued. This was conditional on attendance at a six-week drugs rehabilitation programme. This enabled the arresting officer to be released back onto the street to continue in enforcement activity rather than being engaged with the arrest during a peak weekend period.

The initiative was reinforced by an extensive marketing campaign that aimed to highlight the employment, health and social risks to those who engage in the misuse of cocaine.

RESULTS

- Reduction in violence within Liverpool City centre night time economy areas
- Greater numbers of officers available for deployment due to not being engaged with arrests during times of peak demand

Full evaluation still underway but will be made available from May 2011

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

- New ways of working for Crown Prosecution Service which was welcomed by their staff
- Mobile Station provided a natural enquiry centre for visitors to the city. Even though this was not the original intention of the operation the services were extended to incorporate a dual role as an advice centre

LESSONS LEARNED

Most important aspect of the initiative was to change the way we thought of cocaine misuse as a health issue as well as a criminal issue.

WHAT THEY SAID

- Excellent feedback from members of the public during the initiative
- Crown Prosecution Service have indicated that they wish to continue the approach whenever a similar operation is delivered
- Officers support this process in that it releases them from the burden of completing a full arrest file and places them back onto the street quickly

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NORTHAMPTON – MANAGEMENT OF LARGE SCALE PUB CRAWLS

ISSUE

The problem was national companies coming to the town of Northampton, to organise pub/bar crawls with large numbers of young people. Because of the scale of these events and the excessive alcohol consumed they inevitably lead to an increase in both alcohol related disorder and violent crime. The consequences of these events were affecting our licensing reputation together with an escalation in crime levels. In addition the annual ‘freshers week’ at our university compounded this with a large number of students being encouraged to partake in events linked to alcohol consumption.

RESPONSE

Operation Dame was an operation focused on the University Freshers week, featuring enforcement and education. Over the week police/partners engaged with the new students to give information and education around Alcohol Harm issues. We supported their events by working with the university/licensees to safely police their event venues and buses to/from events. There was a significant reduction in Violence for the week. Within the NHS A&E admissions for the week were significantly reduced.

In addition to this operation, the Licensing Partnership wrote a Policy to manage the visits of national binge drink event companies to the town. This policy gave standards for companies to sign up to, if they wished to visit and have their event supported by the Police and Licensing Partnership. We successfully ran a managed event and after negotiation prevented a short notice event of 3000 students. Two Companies will visit Northampton in 2011 with an event planned in partnership. We have built a policy and working practise that many forces from across England and Wales have shown interest in adopting. This activity has significantly reduced levels of youth violence and has protected the reputation of the Town in terms of it being a better and safer environment at Night.

RESULTS

A variety of positive results have been seen. They include a reduction in short notice policing costs by better forward planning; a reduction in disorder and crime; and the creation of a positive partnership between private companies and licensing partnerships. We also now have a template to manage future events and applications to hold large scale pub crawls. We were robust in our approach with a number of these companies and consequently they are now very clear as to our expectations should they seek to hold an event in Northampton in future.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Was the national interest from other Police Forces. I was surprised that no-one had done this before, therefore it has created a national opportunity to police these events better and reduce crime and disorder nationally. The development of our policy and approach has been shared with a number of colleagues in the TKAP ‘family’ and shared with the ACPO lead on alcohol.

LESSONS LEARNED

1. A clear and effective partnership with the licensing trade based on open and honest discussion and feedback.
2. Prompt and robust response to the organisers of binge drinking events. We were clear with them that we had identified significant risks with their events and that if necessary we would use all the available tools open to us to reduce these risks.
3. The need to utilise social networking media to support this work.

WHAT THEY SAID

The licensing partnership have given us positive feedback, that they are more comfortable holding these better managed events. The private companies have reported that the engagement is positive to both sides

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SOUTHEND – SOS BUS

ISSUE

The aim is “To offer a safe haven for vulnerable people within the night time economy”. The S.O.S Bus was established in 2005 to offer a safe haven and support for vulnerable people i.e. those at risk through substance misuse, crime, and antisocial behaviour. It is a focal point for those whose well-being is threatened by inability to get home, illness or injury, emotional distress or other vulnerability.

RESPONSE

SOS BUS Overview - Activities and service users
This multi-agency initiative serves the whole community meeting the needs of vulnerable persons of all ages who use the night time economy in Southend on Friday and Saturday nights (between the hours of 7-30pm and 4 am). Provision includes: a support vehicle to collect vulnerable people from other parts of the town and transport them to the safe haven, information, advice and guidance, first aid, emergency services interface, YOS (Youth Offending Service) workers, and a place of safety, facilitating positive connection between the vulnerable and those with an interest in their welfare i.e.

locating family members, friends etc and arranging transportation home.

The S.O.S Bus helps to create a safer town centre and is integral to the Town Centre Initiative which creates a safe pedestrian passage through combing CCTV, town link radio and police patrol. The bus contributes to a reduction in the problems arising from excessive drinking and a reduction in alcohol related crime, disorder & nuisance. It eases the pressure on emergency service and their inappropriate use releasing substantial cost savings.

Additionally, the bus conducts weekday community outreach activities such as acting as a platform for the recent Chlamydia Awareness Week through to educational outreach into schools and colleges. The SOS Bus is able to progress personal safety and harm reduction through health promotion (safe sex, alcohol) and community safety awareness.

SOS BUS Partnerships

The SOS Bus is facilitated by Southend YMCA in partnership with statutory, commercial and VCS partners including - Southend Borough Council: Crime Disorder Reduction Partnership, Young Persons Drug and Alcohol Team and YOT (Youth Offending Team); South Essex Primary Care Trust (PCT); Essex Constabulary, St John Ambulance and commercial organisations including Arriva Buses, pubs and clubs through the Night Time Economy Group (NTEG).

Financial Sustainability

The SOS Bus costs approximately £73,000 per annum to run, this includes the staff/volunteer costs, overheads, refreshments, support services, maintenance of vehicles and direct activity costs. The project is currently funded through a variety of sources (which can be seen within YMCA's Sustainable Funding Strategy) which brings together a diversity of funding; private and commercial donations, monies for grant making trusts, the Local Authority and the PCT. The current major funders and amounts donated are highlighted below with the amounts they have awarded.

SOS Bus targets

Each year the SOS Bus is set targets, to ensure that the bus continues to involve service users and meet their requirements.

Objectives, Outputs and Links to local strategies

The SOS Bus responds to three ambitions within the Sustainable Communities Strategy: “To create a

safer community for all', 'To provide opportunities for people of all ages to take responsibility for their health and choose a healthy lifestyle' and 'to continue improving outcomes for all children and young people'. Outcomes align with three blocks Community Safety, Community Cohesion, Engagement and Children and Learning.

Southend Together - Sustainable Community Strategy 2007-17

Reduce crime, fear of crime and levels of Anti- social behaviour. Reduce involvement of young people as victims or offenders in crime, disorder and substance misuse. Participation by the community in initiatives to reduce crime disorder and drug misuse. Ambition – to continue improving outcomes for all children and young people. To strengthen the voluntary and community sector (volunteering)

RESULTS

Age Stats for The SOS BUS up To 31.12.10.		
Under 18	54 =	4.44%
18-24	1006 =	82.66%
25-34	89 =	7.31%
35 +	68 =	5.59%
Total Visits		1217
Men	759 =	62.36%
Women	458 =	37.64%
This compares to 558 clients seen in 2006		

Reasons for clients to speak to SOS Bus staff include:
 Scared To Go Home
 Wanted To Talk
 Requested Information
 Leaflet Information Taken
 Wanted to Volunteer/ Flip Flops Given
 Wanted To Call Family
 Felt Vulnerable and Needed To Get Home
 Drunk and Unable To Get Home
 Needed Medical Attention
 Clients Passed To A&E for Medical Attention
 Homeless and Referred On
 Sexual Awareness

There are 40 volunteers on the SOS Bus and 17 Street Pastors. John Bastin is an active member of the

NTEG and provides a regular update to the group. At the end of each year the SOS Bus is evaluated against the agreed targets, outcomes and milestones. The evaluation takes a quantitative and qualitative approach using feedback from service users. Consultations are held on a bi-annual basis with service users from all of Southend YMCA's activities and projects including the SOS Bus. In addition to the consultations service users are requested to complete satisfaction surveys on the service they have received.

The feedback is collated and analysed by our Management Committee and modifications are made to projects if deemed necessary to ensure the projects and activities are delivered within the contract/funding agreements and continue to meet the requirements of service users.

From the statistics it is evident that there is an ever growing need for our service, and more so now than previously; the demand for our service has increased by approximately 28% in 2 years. Approximately 88% of service users are aged 18 plus. Only 30% of service users requiring first aid are referred to A & E, 53.8% of service users have concerns regarding the influence/effect of alcohol on their current state when accessing the SOS Bus.

- From questionnaires and consultations we know that:
- People feel safer and less vulnerable when entering Southend-on-Sea on a night time,
 - People report they are less likely to engage in crime or antisocial behaviour by receiving specialist support at times of greatest need,
 - Local businesses feel safer during peak times of anti-social behaviour (9pm-1am).

In summary, the SOS Bus is needed and meets the needs and wants of service users (across all age ranges) now and in the future. The SOS Bus is a central cog to the safety of vulnerable people in Southend-on-Sea during a Friday and Saturday night.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Volunteers and service users have expressed an interest in learning how to keep themselves safe from harm through the Suzy Lamplugh Personal Safety Training and gaining recognised qualifications to continue to deliver this much needed and effective service to the night time economy.

The SOS bus needs to offer volunteers recognised qualifications to enable them to continue to deliver the high quality service and ensure that they have the relevant recognised qualifications and skills to deliver the activities.

There are also buses in Basildon (one of John's projects) and Colchester which have been modelled on Southend.

LESSONS LEARNED

Partnership working with the Police and local businesses; the ability to treat and care for people without the need to burden health care professionals and the information that is shared between staff and the public and the sense of safety that members of the public feel in Southend town centre when the bus is operating.

WHAT THEY SAID

Volunteers have been trained and report they have enhanced skills, have gained invaluable CV building experiences enabling them to have better chances in life and be more active in the community.

The Bus is extremely popular and well supported by the NTEG and local Police officers.

The Bus is about to start being positioned in the town centre every day to offer the same services as it does at night and will return to the town on a Friday and Saturday evening as it does now.

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SUNDERLAND – STREET PASTORS

ISSUE

People in Sunderland visiting the night time economy during weekends who may be under the influence of alcohol and require support and assistance to safely get home.

RESPONSE

The Safer Sunderland Partnership has supported the national Ascension Trust since July 2010 in the implementation of a specialist community pastoral

volunteer scheme known as 'street pastors'. A number of uniformed trained pastors support the work of Sunderland Area Command to ensure visitors to the city centre enjoy a safe and enjoyable night out free from harm. The aim of the street pastors is to assist people who may be under the influence of alcohol this could include; escorting individuals safely to a taxi, providing basic first aid, supplying suitable footwear or just providing a listening ear. The role can also add value to police and the licensed trade by intervening to diffuse potentially tense situations to deter crime occurring.

RESULTS

Street pastors have contributed to the overall reduction in violent crime and anti-social behaviour in the city and can prevent the escalation of alcohol related confrontations. The scheme compliments existing partnership initiatives such as taxi marshals and pubwatch to ensure Sunderland remains one of the safest cities in the North of England. The pastor's ability to intervene before situations get out of hand can inevitably take the pressure of police and door supervisors therefore reducing costs.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The scheme has enabled over 40 volunteers to get involved in community safety work across the city.

LESSONS LEARNED

1. The un-paid commitment from church based organisations to help individuals in need through acts of kindness.
2. The positive impact on de-escalating situations and enabling police to concentrate on other priority issues within the city centre.
3. The contribution to improving people's feelings of safety in the city centre at peak times and encouraging more responsible behaviour.

Volunteer Co-ordinator, Street Pastors

"Street pastors work because they are there to help those in need without any judgement or criticism"

"Many of the street pastors already have a background or training in first aid, counselling or social issues we are aware and prepared for any of the situations we are likely to face out on the streets."

Neighbourhood Inspector: Sunderland City Centre Team

“The introduction of street pastors in the city helps people to enjoy a night out safely and make the most of the bars, pubs and clubs on offer without compromising their safety.”

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SUNDERLAND – OPERATION BARRACUDA

ISSUE

Alcohol & drug related violent crime taking place in Sunderland City Centre linked to problem premises during the night time economy, especially on Friday, Saturday and Monday nights. Residents, visitors to the city and employees affected.

RESPONSE

A variety of responses implemented by Northumbria Police and supported by The Safer Sunderland Partnership to tackle alcohol/drug related violence in the city centre and to build trust and confidence in communities by reducing crime and disorder. Sunderland City Centre has a vibrant night time economy, with 191 licensed premises consisting of a mix of restaurants, takeaways, pubs and nightclubs. The following operations, Barracuda, Calculate, Jaws and Guardian have contributed to the reduction of violent crime overall in Sunderland.

Operation Barracuda focus: Licence holders

Hard hitting police operation by Sunderland Area Command, increasing visits to licensed premises (121 in total) and deploying extra officers to stamp down on crime and disorder. The innovation of Barracuda was based on its multi-agency approach drawing on the expertise and range of legal powers available from the UK Border Agency, Trading Standards and Tyne & Wear Fire and Rescue Service. Intelligence gathered on under 18s consuming alcohol in the city centre premises laid the foundations for Operation Calculate.

Operation Calculate: Under 18s

Operation Calculate was instigated using a number of young people to undertake test purchases of alcohol.

The test purchasing supported by trading standards successfully resulted in a number of prosecutions and premises received guidance and advice. Formal warnings were also issued to prevent the selling of alcohol to under 18s in the future.

Operation Jaws: Substance Use, Possession of weapons

Research has revealed a potentially dangerous interaction between cocaine and alcohol when taken together. The two drugs when converted by the body form a third drug named cocaethylene. Substance users report experiencing side effects such as an increase in aggressive and risk taking behaviour which can have a profound effect on other people's safety within the city centre night time economy. Operation jaws enabled Sunderland Area Command to support licensed premises and door supervisors to detect offensive weapons and possession of controlled drugs within city centre premises. The operation also allowed Inspectors to test for drugs on arrest.

Operation Guardian: Community Reassurance

To improve the safety and feelings of safety of residents, visitors and employees affected by, or involved in the night time economy. Increased police officers were on foot during the main periods of the night time economy at key identified points to engage and reassure individuals and communities.

RESULTS

The Police Operations detailed above contributed to an overall reduction in violent crime in Sunderland, down 6.5% for the period April to January 2011 which equates to 235 fewer victims of violent crime compared with the same period in 2009. Due to the success of Operation Barracuda which focused on licensed premises this operation now runs intermittingly over weekends.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

A greater understanding of the legal tools and powers available to other organisations and improved relationships with licensed premises.

LESSONS LEARNED

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. Building relationships with the management of licensed premises and door supervisors to provide safe, responsible environments.
2. Early Police intervention to prevent escalation into more serious crimes

3. Engagement, communication and feeding back to the public on work to tackle violent crime to improve perceptions and feelings of safety when visiting the city centre.

WHAT THEY SAID

No feedback provided.

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TOWER HAMLETS – OPERATION MERCER

ISSUE

Partnership work focussed on Whitechapel Town Centre – a busy night time economy which was a hotspot for criminal offences and particularly alcohol related violence

RESPONSE

A strategic assessment early in 2010 identified a number of ‘high output’ areas on the Borough requiring joint Partnership working with both long and short term tactical interventions. May 2010 saw the formation of new Town Centre Team made up of Police Officers, Police Community Safety Officers and Tower Hamlets Environmental Officers from the Local Authority. The team ran Operation Mercer in May, August and December. Their first objective was to reduce Total Notifiable Offence count and in particular offences involving violence. Secondly they needed to tackle linked Anti Social Behaviour (i.e. urination) to raise public confidence. The MPS made a commitment to supply at least 24 police officers every Friday and Saturday night throughout these months, all covering 18.00-02.00. Local Safer Neighbourhood Teams were brigaded and worked with other partners including: Trading Standards, Licensing Unit, Street Pastors, and drug outreach workers. Tactics included High Visibility joint patrols in small, tightly drawn hotspots within footprint of Town Centre, crime prevention leafleting, on and off licensed premises visits combined with test purchases for under age drinking. use of dispersal zones, transport hubs given additional coverage, After engagement with local community groups the Partnership implemented

a Dispersal Zone, and provided alternatives for the displaced youths with diversionary activities centred on a local authority community bus which was publicised widely.

RESULTS

A mid term Strategic Assessment review showed that violence offences had decreased dramatically - ABH reduced 34%, Common Assault down 50%, robbery down 30%, sexual offences down from 3 to 1. Total Notifiable Offences had been reduced 15%. 53 arrests had been made with the charges and convictions publicised.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The levels of community engagement were even higher than had been hoped. 3,300 members of the public visited the “community bus”, 5,000 personal safety leaflets distributed. Residents Groups became involved in the development of this programme and Ward Panel attendance increased.

LESSONS LEARNED

1. Drill more closely into even smaller hotspots - i.e. licensed clubs.
2. Use of smaller micro beats for officers.
3. Greater need to proactively police off- licences at end of permitted hours.
4. Sustained Late shifts have to be used to address policing demand - current operations now have officers on duty 20.00-04.00 during peak times.

Very positive feedback from local residents who have commented on their increased confidence in local policing. This is supported by MPS Satisfaction surveys. Partnership now has long term Delivery Plan to address ASB. Visibility of patrolling officers gives massive reassurance.

Partners are able to engage with new communities (enforcement officers, drug outreach officers) when working in conjunction with local police officers.

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WALSALL – TRIAGE IN THE NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

ISSUE

West Midlands Police, Safer Walsall Partnership and Ambulance Service put a business case forward to pilot a triage service within Walsall Town centre, in order to address serious youth violent crime. The expected outcomes were to reduce the impact of this crime type on local communities and to see a reduction in admission rates of this type to A&E. As such a Partnership TMIU (Treating Minor Injuries Unit) was set up to address this issue.

This request followed the recently published serious youth violence and TKAP problem profile; it has been shown that in Walsall 46% of all violent crimes are committed against 0-24 year olds, with the perpetrators being in the same age group. The hotspot for serious violent crime is Walsall Town centre, with peak days being Friday and Saturday evenings.

Over the past 12 month period there have been 250 victims of violent crime recorded by the Police from Walsall Town centre during operation Be Safe hours (10pm - 4am Friday and Saturday evenings), during the same period A&E have seen over 700 admissions for violent assaults where alcohol was a factor. Although the exact location of the assaults is not always known over 50% of those reported occur in Walsall Town centre and the injuries suggest a weapon of some description was used in many instances. There is a gap in the numbers of young persons causing violent crime and also becoming the victims of violent crime and this is an area we as a partnership are looking to address.

This data has enabled a problem profile to be formed from which the key findings are:

- 36% of all assault admissions occurred between 8pm and 3am Friday - Saturday evenings.
- 39% had not been reported to the Police.
- Most admissions originate from Walsall Town centre.

The average cost incurred by the NHS re each of these admissions is estimated to be £75,000

RESPONSE

Lead officers from the Police, Ambulance Service and other agencies (both statutory and voluntary, including St John Ambulance) met to discuss the best approach to take. We wanted to reduce alcohol related violent crime within the 16 - 24 year age range and by doing so also reduce ASB in the area, admission rates to A&E of violent crimes, educate young people of the dangers of binge drinking, improve the safety of the Town centre, make it safer for staff to work in at night and make local communities feel safer.

The triage also looked to ensure the majority of the ejected persons were detained by Police, seen by a paramedic as fit to detain and not in need of A&E admission. Individuals are also taken to the place of safety (where warm drinks are available) - this is staffed by Police and Nurse or St John Ambulance. The parents of young people are be called for them to be collected and are advised of possible consequences if this action is repeated, and all persons will be given a health pack detailing alcohol awareness and the dangers associated with this. The drug and alcohol action team (DAAT) lead on other interventions such as safe sex, domestic violence and safe drinking campaigns run throughout the triage periods.

This initiative links closely with the Alcohol referral system and Youth Crime Action Plan “stay safe” programme to ensure diversionary programmes are utilised and long term reductions in alcohol related serious youth crime are reduced on a sustainable basis. There were initial problems in getting the programme off the ground e.g. Paramedics’ availability was reduced and initially they had problems with availability of vehicles. We couldn’t get A&E nursing staff to staff the triage centre, which at the time we believed may cause problems with limited injuries the St John Ambulance staff could see at the centre. These barriers were overcome through perseverance by Police / Ambulance leads reviewing procedures and liaising with the voluntary sector who allowed us the use of their centre.

RESULTS

The triage was re-profiled and although it covered the World Cup fixtures, due to problems evidenced above it didn’t start up again until September; it has since operated on final weekends of each month (busy periods due to local payday) along with Christmas and New Year’s Eve. There are a further 4 dates prior to the pilot being completed on March 31st.

To date results have been very pleasing, on a quantitative level:

1. Violent crime within the operating hours has reduced year to date (end of January) based on baseline 2007/08 by 64 fewer victims 24% reduction.
2. Anti-Social Behaviour has also reduced within same periods by nearly 30% (150 fewer incidents).
3. There have been on average 4 persons per night seen at the place of safety and a further 3 per night seen only by Paramedics / Police.

The information from A&E regarding reductions in numbers of admissions will not be known until end of March, though the scheme is believed to be reducing this number significantly on these nights. Police have now removed officers who were based in the A&E, as since the triage started their deployment, to give extra reassurance to staff due to high number of violent alcohol related admissions during these periods, was no longer needed. These types of admissions have reduced to such a level that it was decided between NHS and Police that the officers could be removed and deployed elsewhere. Once this data is gathered a cost savings analysis will be carried out.

The Police feel far more confident in early interventions at busy periods, knowing a Paramedic is on hand to assess and move to a place of safety if required, thus removing the need to arrest for a drunken offence or leave people to move on when they could get further intoxicated and be involved in far more serious violence later in the evening.

Licensed premises within the town feel more confident that when people are ejected or refused entry at an early stage for being intoxicated, the triage unit will deal robustly with these.

All persons who were dealt with were under 24 years and in all cases they left the Town to go home once they had been either treated by Paramedics or St John staff at place of safety.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The benefits of this system are being seen by all Partners especially the Police, Ambulance and A&E Teams and are now already looking ahead and starting to plan to continue this initiative as part of mainstream business into 2011/12. The Police have recently changed their shift pattern to help this to

happen. Paramedics are looking to change their patrol strategies to have a dedicated car which can cover the town during times of the triage.

The Place of Safety wasn't used as much as expected, with many just being seen by Paramedics and sent home, with no need to go to the place of safety. This is seen as a positive, as the early interventions are reducing the need for people to go to the place of safety - their injuries are very minor. In the future this could be a more pragmatic method of dealing with this type of project, only having an additional place of safety for evenings where expected footfall will increase significantly e.g. Bank Holidays and planned events.

LESSON LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. Ensure each agency had resources available at the outset prior to commencing the project.
2. Perhaps not have the Place of safety for each date – this would save money
3. Ensure at the outset each project lead had the mandate to make decisions – this would have saved time.

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. Good relationships with other leads – essential for this type of project
2. An understanding of each others operating procedures and what constraints we had
3. To ensure front line staff knew about the project and benefits as it was down to these staff to run the operations often being different for each date.

WHAT THEY SAID

No feedback provided.

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WIGAN - OPERATION LOCKDOWN

ISSUE

Underage young people between 13 and 18 drinking alcohol which can lead to them being involved in

serious violent crime either as a victim or an offender. As part of Wigan's ongoing drive to encourage teenagers to think twice before getting involved in serious violent crime, partners including Greater Manchester Police, Wigan Council, Victim Support and Witness Service and Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue took part in Operation Lockdown held at Wigan College it gave partners the chance to engage with those people who are at most risk of getting involved in serious violent crime, either as an offender or as a victim in the hope of raising awareness with Students around the consequences of violent crime amongst young adults and teenagers, particularly when it's alcohol or drug related. "Operation Lockdown is all about prevention and education. It's about making

sure teenagers and young adults are informed about the choices they make, and about the potentially tragic consequences of their actions.

RESPONSE

As part of the event, all students, staff and visitors entering the main Wigan campus building on Parsons Walk were made to pass through a knife arch, and police officers and PCSOs carried out random searches. Students also engaged with agencies in a series of road shows and tutorials, giving them a chance to learn about issues as diverse as domestic abuse, proxy sales of alcohol to under-age drinkers, risks associated with drugs and alcohol consumption. Leaflets, posters and videos showing the consequences of Knife crime and drinking alcohol around the theme – 'one punch can kill' which was shown around the campus on plasma screens.

The Young People's Drug and Alcohol Team encouraged students to examine the drug box, a display case housing 22 different drugs such as steroids, magic mushrooms, ketamine, cannabis and rohipnol, the date rape drug, giving them a chance to see what different drugs look like and to ask about the risks associated with using them. The team also had students doing simple tasks such as picking up a glass of water whilst wearing 'beer goggles' in order

to get them thinking about how alcohol affects their visual perception. Ahead of the event, young people had also been invited to take part in group sessions which highlighted the risks around drug and alcohol and to examine the impact substance misuse has on themselves and the wider community.

Trading Standards held a number of tutorials with the students to make them aware of the issues surrounding proxy sales, which is where a person over the age of 18 purchases alcohol for somebody younger. According to Trading Standards officers, some of the students who were 18 admitted to having done this, and so were concerned to hear that they could face an £80 on the spot fine, a £5000 fine, and a criminal conviction which could ultimately affect their future chances of employment.

The College will continue this theme by engaging with drama students to produce a film around town centre violence – following both victims and perpetrators through the criminal justice system. This DVD will be available for use in the College and local schools to drive home the message about the consequences of being involved in violent crime either as a victim or offender.

RESULTS

"Operation Lockdown" was a low cost – high impact initiative. It gave teenagers and young adults all the information they needed so that they can consider the possible consequences of their actions. Sadly, alcohol is often involved, impairing perceptions and heightening tensions. This can tragically turn a fun night out into a memorable one for all the wrong reasons. This event was aimed at reminding young people that they could end up physically scarred for life and may have to live with a criminal record, and it gets them to ask themselves: is it worth it?"

A comments book was left for Students to complete during and after the event – there were over 200 favourable comments left, such as: "I didn't realise that you could be fined for buying alcohol for underage kids" "It was reassuring to find out that no-one came into the college with a weapon"

This initiative proved how effective multi-agency collaboration is when it comes to the issue of serious violent crime among young people from various angles. It's about empowering young people to make the right choices. TKAP incorporates education, enforcement and protection, and Operation Lockdown in the College covered all three.

Other partners in support of the event included local councillors Jean Peet, Jeanette Prescott and George Davies, Victim Support, DIAS (Drop In And Share) domestic violence service and a number of council departments - including officers from Trading

Standards, the Young People's Drug and Alcohol Team (YPDAT), Youth Mediation, Community Safety, Community Engagement and Neighbourhood teams.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The success of the Operation was in the way the Students responded and interacted with the partners. There was a real buzz within the Campus in the way in which young people engaged with all the agencies, showing genuine interest in the initiatives being pursued to tackle the various issues that could potentially affect them.– the students were talking positively and appeared genuinely interested in what partners had to say.

LESSON LEARNED

Things we would do differently:

Better planning around public representation to raise the profile of the project by engaging with e.g. Brooke Kinsella or Baroness Newlove or a local celebrity to attend and publicise the College Lockdown. We would also work with the college to publicise the event more proactively prior to the event to ensure better engagement with both young and adult students.

The three most important aspects of the project: Planning, preparation and partnership commitment.

Students Jay Adamson and Mike Weston, both 17, said the event was a good idea. "They should repeat this exercise in all schools and colleges," says Jay. "We've experienced violence and been threatened by somebody with a knife. Anybody could walk onto campus and pretend to be a student, and that's a real concern too. Anything that improves security for young people and makes them think about the consequences of their actions is a good thing."

Wigan Borough Commander Steve Sheridan says: "By working in partnership, agencies can make a real difference in protecting the local community at every level. We work closely with the council, police and other agencies in managing crime and disorder threats to the borough and we're delighted to be involved in this targeted prevention campaign aimed at young people."

Wigan Athletic boss Roberto Martinez has pitched in, saying: "The entire Wigan Athletic team, both on the field and off, is behind this campaign. We are committed to working with all partners across the

community to tackle the issue of serious violent crime among young people, through intervention, education and prevention and we hope this campaign saves lives and makes a real difference."

Dave Craven from Wigan and Leigh College adds: "Today's success lies in the way in which young people have engaged with all the agencies, showing genuine interest in the initiatives being pursued to tackle the various issues that could potentially affect them. It is a really important set of principles we are trying to get across to the students, and the more ways we can find to effectively push these messages home, the better. Keeping our students safe is the college's main priority but also making them aware that the choices they make can have a serious impact on their future careers and their lives."

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COMMUNICATION

TKAP recognises the need for effective communication to engage with the public to raise awareness, provide reassurance and increase public confidence. Participating areas have carried out targeted campaigns, with effective use of media to reach the target audience and social marketing approaches.

BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE – EUROSTAR

ISSUE

The British Transport Police (BTP) actively police the Eurostar internationally. It was identified that there was a problem in relation to foreign nationals being arrested at Eurostar Terminals for the carriage of knives and weapons. This was largely due to a lack of knowledge in the legal system in the UK and laws in relation to the carriage of knives and weapons differing to those in parts of Europe. There was also evidence of 13 - 24 year olds being stopped carrying items on arrival at St Pancras (Eurostar Station). The main concerns were also:-

- The future commission of knife and weapon crime due to weapons being brought into the country.
- Deaths and serious injury particularly amongst young people through the use of knives.
- The carrying of knives and weapons on the Eurostar and on railway premises, streets and cities in the UK.
- Longer term knives and weapons being used in gang related violence in the UK.
- Individuals being arrested unnecessarily at Eurostar Ports due to lack of knowledge of the legal system in the UK.
- No educational material encouraging the non carriage of knives and other weapons.

RESPONSE

The BTP TKAP team supported a Eurostar anti knife campaign. The campaign was also carried out in partnership with UK Border Agency and the Belgian and French Police. The campaign was run internationally and was aimed at preventing foreign nationals and British travellers from taking knives in and out of the country.

Using the leaflets working in partnership with Eurostar, the UK Border Agency and French and Belgian police, BTP police officers and Police Community Support Officers targeted young people passing through international stations at Ashford, Ebbsfleet and St Pancras.

The use of leaflets, educational banners and a media strategy at all Eurostar Ports (England, France and Belgium) was aimed at conveying an educational message and preventing:

- The unlawful carriage of knives and sharply pointed items.
- A reduction in people being arrested at Eurostar Terminals due to the lack of knowledge in UK legislation.
- Giving the travelling public and Eurostar staff the confidence and reassurance that action was being taken to prevent weapons and sharply pointed items from being carried on the Eurostar network.

RESULTS

Through evaluation and comparison of knife crime figures from previous periods it was evidenced that the leaflets and banners had a significant impact on persons carrying knives and sharply pointed objects on the Eurostar.

- The initiative saw a 58% cut in the number of weapons-related offences recorded at St Pancras International station.

- Over a six month period from August 2010 to January 2011 41 weapons related offences were recorded by BTP at international stations. That compares with 97 for the same period the previous year. This evidences significant success.
- Eurostar have responded positively to the initiative.
- A positive press release is being prepared to reinforce the results of the project and give the travelling community and Eurostar staff trust and confidence.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

No unintended consequences.

LESSONS LEARNED

- Ensuring the posters and leaflets gave the correct message and appealed to all sections of the international community.
- Working in partnership with other police forces, UK Border Agency and Eurostar. By doing this we captured all key messages that everyone wanted to be delivered.
- Ensuring data was captured and that an evaluation process was enabled. This has positively identified a reduction in persons carrying weapons and sharply pointed objects on the system.

WHAT THEY SAID

There has been positive feedback from all partners and messages of reassurance and positive messages aimed at the public.

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COVENTRY – NOT IN MY CITY

ISSUE

Coventry had gained an unfortunate and inaccurate reputation as the place to go for a fight and a pint. The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) was keen to challenge perceptions of the city held by those living within the city, particularly to tackle public place and night time economy violence and domestic violence. The partnership developed a co-ordinated strategic

communications campaign to alter mis-perceptions, raise confidence and challenge people to take action: Not in My City.

Data collated within Coventry showed that the target is for combating was Assault with Injury and Contact

Violence were not being reached. From recent presentations made by the Local Policing Unit (LPU) commander it was clear that violence has remained stubbornly high in Coventry for many years. While progress has been made around public place violence, research is still on-going to identify the relationship between public place and domestic violence. The Priority Crime Group (PCG) Violent Crime Action Plan had identified the need for a coordinated approach to tackling the issue across Coventry CSP.

Violence accounted for 24% of ALL crime in the City and was 21% above average for similar CSPs, 34% above national average/1000 population. Despite a concerted effort there was rigidity in position, with very little variance; it was difficult to break. Violence in Coventry shows strong seasonality – April to Sept and Dec with an emphasis on the weekends.

Not In My City has been a year long campaign from March 2010 to March 2011; it builds upon the effective partnership approach to enforcement, reassurance and social marketing in Coventry, combining public relations and marketing campaigns with coordinated multi-agency activity.

RESPONSE

The social marketing approach taken by the Not In My City (NIMC) campaign was delivered through:

- Two related publicity campaigns around sexual violence and domestic violence (with alcohol and substance misuse as key drivers) took place across the city around Valentine's Day 2009. These served to "soften" the ground ahead of further activity, thus ensuring that people knew in advance that action could and would be taken where needed.
- On March 17th 2010 Anti-Violence Week commenced, ensuring that the local media was saturated with a clear general message: violence in all its forms is unacceptable in our city. The campaign was designed to address the reporting categories "contact violence" and "assault with injury". It targeted both potential victims and perpetrators with a clear message.

- Out of Anti-Violence Week and as part of the partnership seasonal planning process, the following 12 months continued to deliver messages under the generic branding of NIMC, with an emphasis on domestic violence and abuse during the World Cup, and public place violence and night time economy (NTE) violence according to seasonal profiles. This facilitated a “trickle effect” combining publicity with enforcement activity.
- The publicity has been combined with Not in my City “All Out days” where communities are able to see enforcement in action in areas considered to be a current hotspot.

Understanding offenders has been important to inform how the campaign has developed and targeted specific communities. In preparing for the campaign it was established that offenders reside more heavily in 3 areas of Coventry, and that violence is the most problematic crime type for 10-17 year olds. Learned behaviour which starts in the home, is affected by where you live – with deprivation acting as a key driver for violence.

The campaign showed a “typical” local family (portrayed by actors) and covered the three main violence categories. It targeted potential victims and perpetrators. It was delivered in three phases. The initial launch saw heavy saturation of the city with campaign materials deployed on buses, bus shelters, via radio adverts, Social Media, local posters, fliers and ad-vans. Subsequently the focus was on Domestic Violence and Abuse, particularly focussed around the World Cup and later a focus on responsible drinking during the Christmas party season.

The need to continue to flood the city with a systematic series of campaigns throughout the year to continue to prick the social conscious was recognised by the team coordinating the campaign. Even more so it was important that this was backed up by visible action. Following the initial “all out” week of activity a number of additional weeks/weekend action plans with activity and tactics that address these issues in the NTE area over the year were developed and delivered (at key times using the strategic assessment data).

Barriers to the campaign were initially the lack of interest from partners to accept and utilise the Not in my City brand. The difference of approach with NIMC however, has been the departure from the all out themed week approach to a longer term building

of momentum across a year, which has seen brand recognition grow with a sense of agency ownership.

RESULTS

Evaluation has been built into the campaign. One hundred and twenty face to face surveys were undertaken across the first 2 phases of the campaign. This focussed on the locations where advertising was visible and involved an appropriate cross section of the community.

After phase one:

- 40.7% respondents aware of the campaign
- 70% of respondents confirmed they’re confident of partnership working with the campaign
- 80% of respondents would be encouraged to report an incidence of violence to the police
- 97.6% either strongly agree or agree with the statement: “It is very important for there to be a zero tolerance attitude towards violence in Coventry.”
- The overall factor that makes respondents feel most unsafe is “people hanging around on the street”

After phase two:

- 46.7% respondents aware of the campaign, up by 7% from Phase 1
- The location of advertising most viewed was bus advertising
- 85.7% of respondents confirmed they’re confident of partnership working with the campaign, up by 16% from Phase 1.
- 80% of respondents would be encouraged to report an incidence of violence to the police (same as Phase 1)
- 97.6% either strongly agree or agree with the statement: “It is very important for there to be a zero tolerance attitude towards violence in Coventry.” (same as Phase 1 but already high)

In December 2010 the focus of the campaign concentrated on domestic violence and abuse and was coined “Not in my Home”. Evaluation was based in busy residential areas of Coventry as well as the City Centre speaking to 30 respondents.

These results are then compared with those from May 2010 and July 2010.

Results show that a significantly higher proportion of respondents were aware of the campaign (60%) compared with previous surveys in May 2010 and July 2010 (40.7% and 46.7% respectively). This is very positive and suggests that as the campaign goes on more and more people have seen the advertising. Compared with previous surveys in May 2010 and July 2010, it appears that sightings of the advertisements are now spread across a wider range of sources including beer mats and posters in pubs and local newspapers. This is over and above the more popular sources that include bus advertising, billboards, posters in public places and bus shelter advertising.

When asked about their confidence in partnership working between the Police, Council and other organisations across Coventry, those respondents who are aware of the campaign are a lot more confident (72.2% compared with 50%). This indicates that the presence and awareness of the campaign not only highlights the issue but also shows that something is being done about it.

A very high proportion of respondents (96.7%) agree with the idea of a zero tolerance attitude towards violence in Coventry. This matches very similar figures obtained from previous surveys in May 2010 and July 2010 and is a strong indicator of the general public's attitude towards violent behaviour in Coventry.

Phase 4 of the campaign has been to raise awareness around burglary with emphasis on the son of the family looking for opportunities for both unsecure and forced entry in dwellings. This phase is currently being evaluated.

Overall Summary

- Contact Violence from launch of the campaign from March to May 2010 down by 11% year- to-date
- By Christmas 2010, Contact Violence was down by 20% year-to-date
- By Christmas 2010, Assault with Injury down 17% year-to-date
- Campaign costs so far: £40K

The total cost of the campaign was £40,000. This compares with Celebrating Coventry Diversity campaign (Cov Council 2005) budget of £10K in which 38% respondents (450) remembered seeing the campaign in one form or another. The European Elections (Cov Council 2009) had a budget of £10K. When asked whether they are aware of the European Elections, 56.1% of respondents were aware and 43.9% were not aware. The Local Government Communications Reputation Campaign Awards 2010 (Community reassurance category, London Borough of Southwark to tackle negative perceptions around violent crime) which cost £32K. As a result of that campaign there was a 3.2% increase in residents' feelings of safety whilst alone during the day in the borough.

It is difficult to make direct correlations between budget and awareness levels but it's important to build in full evaluation to campaigns. Rough calculation shows that if a £10K budget leads to 40% awareness from a standing start and it takes £40K to reach 50%, careful consideration needs to be given to decide what budget to allocate for higher awareness levels to push through 50%.

The aim of the evaluation of a social marketing campaign such as Not in my City is to see X amount of money result in behaviour trend Y changed by Z amount in a tangible way which demonstrates real value for money on a spend to save basis.

To put this into context with the £40K spent on Not in my City:

- One "glassing" incident costs the taxpayer £180K
- A murder costs the taxpayer £1million

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

An evening entitled "Proud of my City" was piloted on 15 December 2010, coordinated by The Partnership and city centre licensees.

Each participating venue put on a live band and offered discounts for food, based on vouchers available on the reverse of a locally distributed flyer, with free mulled wine served on entry. With the graphics of the flyer maintaining some of the look and feel of Not in My City, the artwork is designed to reflect a more positive message now that the violence figures are down.

The proposal now is to extrapolate the Proud of My City pilot into a full city-wide campaign of the same prominence as Not in my City, whilst maintaining the reassurance and enforcement approach through Joint Tasking and Partnership Seasonal Planning to maintain the pressure on crime group targets. This should not be seen as a signal to pull back on campaigns such as Operation Intrusive (tackling burglary) but rather to compliment them in order to convey the message that Coventry is a city we can be proud of and that we want it to be known for its attractions and vibrant night life, rather than as a city with a major crime problem. As a PR/Marketing campaign, Not in My City was always therefore time limited, from March 2010 to March 2011.

Moreover, with the city serving as an Olympic host for the London 2012 football tournament, it has a major opportunity to re-brand itself and shake off some of its negative historical associations. With city-wide marketing towards 2012 already in progress, it would not be appropriate for Not in My City to be prominent in the run-up to the games; rather the mirror image of Proud of my City can serve as “softening” the ground of a more positive message between May 2011 and March 2012 to dovetail with the Olympics PR/Comms, which will gain major momentum from early next year.

This will help to ensure we move from a specifically community safety orientated campaign to one that, over time, loses its association with crime and the fear of crime as the city is collectively encouraged to think more highly of itself and “feel good enough” to host an Olympic competition and all the celebrations around the 50th anniversary of the consecration of the Cathedral and associated cultural Olympiad activities, e.g. Godiva Awakes etc at the time of writing a bid has been put forward to gain the Olympic Inspire Mark which can be placed as a logo alongside the CCSP logo on marketing materials, as Proud of my City will embrace Olympic values.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

- Build in more lead-time to the campaign so that more momentum is gained with partners at the point from which resources are allocated.
- Evaluation showed that radio ads were not as impactful as bus advertising, so re-allocate resources to public place messaging

- Create a small multi-agency campaign sub-group to help spread out the PR/Communications workload.

The three most important aspects of the project:

- Co-ordinating the campaign with enforcement activity so that they were seen as symbiotic by the community.
- Building in a clear evaluation process for the campaign.
- Research undertaken prior to the campaign being budgeted to ensure that maximum gain for best cost was achieved (value for money).

WHAT THEY SAID

The feedback is evidenced in the knowledge in the community of NIMC and the statistics from NIMC “All out Days” that show tangible evidence, (e.g. arrests made, drug needles cleared up, reassurance leaflets dropped off) steadily increased confidence levels in partnership working throughout the campaign year.

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DONCASTER – HUB VIOLENT CRIME DAY

ISSUE

Violent crime has reduced in Doncaster as a result of sustained activity supported through the TKAP & SYV Programme. However, victim and offenders of violent crime are still predominantly within the TKAP age range and violence is often fuelled by alcohol.

The Safer Doncaster Partnership has implemented a number of initiatives targeted at the Night Time Economy, it was felt that earlier intervention and educational awareness raising aimed at college age students could help influence a change in behaviour and compliment tactical operations.

RESPONSE

In December 2010, partners arranged a Violent Crime Engagement Day to raise awareness about violent crime and promote personal safety.

The event took place at The Hub, Doncaster College, throughout the day the following activities took place:

- Within the college common room, South Yorkshire Police delivered 2 presentations about the dangers of guns and knives, followed by a presentation on the effects of drugs and alcohol by Better Deal, a voluntary sector organisation who provide advice, guidance and counselling to young people about drugs and alcohol.
- A knife arch was set up at the entrance to the food hall. Students and staff were invited to walk through, mock searches were conducted and an explanation of how the arch worked, why people would be searched and what items police were looking for.
- A paramedic vehicle and police riot van were set up outside the college, demonstrations were given on the incidents the vehicles are used to deal with and the input paramedics provide to respond to violent crime and the strain this places on the ambulance service.
- The DARTs drama team carried out entertainment in the college atrium as a way of attracting students to attend drama sessions which focussed on a violent robbery, the “victim” was treated by paramedics and the “offender” was chased through the college and apprehended by police officers.
- In the atrium local services such as Womens Aide and Street Reach youth project provided information on their services and activities.
- Outside a media van advertised the event, the agencies involved and reinforced the stay safe message. Local radio station, Hallam FM reported on the event and presentations taking place.
- A local company sprayed graffiti safety messages onto the pavement, such as staying safe, sensible drinking and domestic violence.

RESULTS

- At its peak 259 students attended the presentations.
- Hallam FM interviewed staff and students about the day.
- A positive environment, raising awareness and breaking down the misconceptions about the police.

- A short news piece was filmed by a local student.
- The Students Union were very supportive and have sought to gain more support from the college to maintain awareness.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The day was seen as a valuable educational tool, which engages a large audience and allows local services to highlight their work and further opportunities for young people to access their services.

LESSONS LEARNED

- In the future events could be co-ordinated with local schools through Safer Schools Partnership activity.
- A wider range of partners could be invited to attend, including health, possibly the local Accident Emergency Department.
- A feedback questionnaire could advise on the subjects of most interest to young people so future events can be focussed on young peoples needs.
- The College and Students Union were engaged in event planning.
- The activities were highly visual and whilst presentations were used the sessions were conducted to create dialogue between presenters and students.
- Involving local media raised awareness across the whole community.

WHAT THEY SAID

College students and staff said how informative they had found the day.

Trax FM conducted interviews with young people, all of whom were very positive of the day.

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LONDON – 99% CAMPAIGN

ISSUE

The London Serious Youth Violence Board (LSYVB) was charged with attempting to produce a pan-London response to serious youth violence (SYV) and also with attempting to reduce the fear of SYV.

The LSYVB also had a clear policy of ensuring that any examination of potential solutions to the SYV problem should reflect the voice of young people. At the LSYVB summit in 2009 the young people present forcibly and articulately expressed their frustrations at how they were negatively stereotyped in the media and how such stereotyping led to life opportunities being limited. This built upon similar expressions of frustration echoed by young people who helped to produce the Board's 'Young Londoner's Manifesto for a Safer London'.

In taking the issue forward the Board commissioned a London wide survey examining the wider public perception of young people. Many of the findings confirmed a significant perception gap. For example, nearly half of the respondents said that they did not feel safe around teenagers. Indeed, when asked how many young people are involved in SYV, over two thirds of Londoners answered with figures ranging from five per cent to over 50 per cent; the most popular answer was between five and 20 per cent. In reality, only one per cent of young people are involved in serious youth violence.

RESPONSE

A small Board sub-group was established with a heavy third sector bias. All the focus group and development activity was undertaken with various groups of young people drawn from across London and from some of the most challenging SYV hotspot areas.

Several strong themes emerged from this consultation:

- That the vast majority of young people contributed or wanted to contribute to their communities in a positive way
- That they wanted young role models who came from similar areas and backgrounds to themselves and who had faced similar challenges but had nevertheless had achieved success
- That previous campaigns aimed at young people, even those that contained perhaps positive messages, often simply reinforced negative stereotypes

The concept of the 99 percent campaign was developed (based upon the confirmed statistic that less than one percent of young people are involved in committing serious youth violence in London). It was developed to emphasise the positive (in fact the campaign is only positive in nature), to remind young people that they are part of a larger more powerful group or 'gang' (considered to be a unique approach). The 99% was also chosen to challenge the 1% that there are genuine alternatives as highlighted by our Ambassador role models.

The nature of the campaign is based upon the following concepts:

- Young Ambassador role models (and their stories)
- Creating and promoting positive opportunities for young people
- Promoting good news stories emphasising the good work and achievements of young people
- Challenging the accepted perception of young people as identified by the London wide survey

RESULTS

The campaign has, from feedback and signup, resonated very strongly with young people, the third sector, statutory and non-statutory agencies and politicians.

The campaign has a web presence (www.99percent.org.uk) and social media network presence (Twitter and Facebook).

Through the campaign's 'Pledge' element (launched in late 2010) numerous positive opportunities have already been created for young people. Organisations that have signed up include national, London wide and locally based groups (including Victim Support England and Wales, Youth Justice Board, Met Police, schools, youth groups, third sector groups and companies).

Every London secondary school (400+) has been sent a programme to introduce the 99 percent concept to young people and a college programme has similarly been developed.

Organisations have put forward potential new Ambassadors and young people have been encouraged to self-refer.

Two-thirds of London Boroughs committed to publicising the campaign at a local level. The campaign provided its graphics free of charge to enable local reduced cost printing of posters.

In partnership with Transport for London (TfL) posters were sponsored to be placed across the London underground and overground rail networks generating considerable publicity and feedback. It is has been proposed by TfL, who were so taken with the positive message, to repeat this exercise in 2011 as well as across the bus network (identified by young people as the most effective way of targeting their peers).

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The resonance outside of London (the original focus for the campaign). The campaign has attracted support from other metropolitan areas including, Birmingham, Nottingham, Manchester. Also, it has attracted, through social media networks, international support.

This support has led to requests for material and tips to take the campaign principles to these areas.

The campaign has been mentioned in House of Common debates as an example of good practice and has drawn Ministerial support.

The campaign has also drawn support from campaigners including Brooke Kinsella and Baroness Newlove.

The maintenance of the campaign is intensive. Further thought should have been given to determining how to keep up with the success.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. Identifying at an early stage a partner to share the intensity required to maintain the campaign
2. Plan for sources of information (what's on, volunteering opportunities, good news) to save search time
3. Invest more time at an earlier stage of determining where the legacy of the campaign sits (the Board is time limited)

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. Developing partnerships to help promote the campaign, ie. TfL

2. Eliminating the competition element, freely promoting others without wanting anything in return but nevertheless helping to achieve the aims of the campaign (ie. Promoting positive opportunities for young people)

3. The voice of young people in the development of the campaign

WHAT THEY SAID

The campaign has been mentioned in House of Common debates, in national newspapers and on London radio stations.

Commander Steve Rodhouse, from the Metropolitan Police Service, said:

“The MPS fully supports the 99 per cent campaign and will continue to highlight the positive contribution that young people make to our capital city.”

The Mayor of London said, “I’m proud to be Mayor of a city brimming with talented young people who make a fantastic contribution. The 99 per cent campaign highlights this great work and challenges negative stereotypes by showing how positive the majority of our young people truly are.”

Brooke Kinsella said, “I hope this campaign will help encourage even more young people across London to make a positive contribution in their local community.”

Andrew Watson, “I’m a youth worker in Sheffield and would like to understand how this campaign was developed as I think it is a great idea to extend this to other cities using a positive image for young people.”

Rowan Carnihan, Hackney Play Association, “Really happy to finally see some positive recognition of our wonderful young people, the vast majority of whom are doing great things with their lives, and those few who might not be, still have the potential for change. Why oh why are these not the stories to reach the news and press? Its time for us to start loving and looking after our children as a community again.”

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THURROCK – LOCK IT IN UR POCKET

ISSUE

Thurrock commissioned a problem profile at the start of the TKAP programme. Key offences involving violence for young people were those of personal robbery. There were 148 victims - aged up to 24 (48% 13 - 17). Cash, mobile phones & cycles targeted (Apr 08 - Dec 09).

RESPONSE

The Partnership saw a real need to increase awareness of this problem, and that this had to be achieved without raising the fear of crime, or glamorising it. The Communication Campaign needed to be relevant, accessible and credible to young people. Asking young people to create the campaign was seen as a way of achieving these aims and so a Robbery campaign was developed by Gable Hall School and implemented.

This Campaign was aimed at local young people asking them to protect their valuables through “Lock it in UR pocket” campaign.

The Campaign was trialled at Gable Hall School, then broadened out to Lakeside Shopping Centre (a nearby giant retail park), train stations that are used to access Lakeside and then onto other local secondary schools.

The Young People who created the campaign promoted the campaign, designed posters, banners and made a rap to promote it on local Radio.

RESULTS

We have seen a reduction of 6 robberies 18% for P Q2 & Q3 2010 against 2009. It has been showcased at a national schools event. There have been an increase in confidence amongst young people, and the school noted the positive effects of involving the students in such a campaign. They benefited by not only developing and creating the campaign, but also presenting it at the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust Applied Learning Conference in July 2010.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Engagement with the school and the young people involved has been fantastic and has led them to work on further projects for us (including anti shop lifting campaigns) and to become involved in the Youth Parliament and Independent Advisory Group.

The innovative partnership approach also caught the eye of education chiefs and Gable Hall School and the

Thurrock Community Safety Partnership took Lock it in UR Pocket campaign to Specialist Schools and Academies Trust Applied Learning Conference in July where it was commended for creativity and innovation.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. longer timescales for development of materials
2. not used bus stop advertising – very expensive and no benefit seen
3. funded giveaways instead – and better than the A5 leaflets we handed out

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. message by young people for young people
2. young people delivered message in Lakeside to their peers – could have done more of this
3. supported schools officers in assemblies to deliver message

WHAT THEY SAID

The 14 and 15-year-old pupils explained: “We all have mobile phones and MP3 players and it is easy to forget that by walking about with them on show could make us easy targets.

“Lock it in UR Pocket came out of us thinking of different ideas and now it is something that we say all the time and our friends are already getting the message.”

Teacher Sally Feeney said: “The Thurrock Community Safety Partnership has been brilliant in enabling our Diploma students to work on a real project which not only positively impacts on their learning but has a real purpose which they can relate to. It is fantastic that we can do this and hopefully make a difference to our community.

“Lock it in UR Pocket is so catchy I now say it to my own children.”

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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Violent attitudes and behaviours in young people are not just manifested in violence which occurs outside of relationships. Exploring the scale of and reducing domestic violence amongst 13-24 year olds has been a vital part of the Programme.

BLACKBURN – MAKE THE CHANGE

ISSUE

Violence by men who recognise that they have used power and control to abuse their female partner or ex partner and want to address this behaviour. This has wider implications in households where there are children present as they see the behaviour which can cause emotional issues or they perceive it to be the norm and begin to become violent to others continuing the violent cycle.

RESPONSE

The Wish Centre at Blackburn through Women's Aid was commissioned to carry out this piece of work and they highlighted that, there is currently a lack of provision in terms of perpetrator programmes delivered outside of the Probation service.

Whilst it is acknowledged that some women may be the abusers this programme is specifically designed for men who abuse women.

The programme has largely been influenced by the Duluth and integrated Domestic Abuse Programmes but has been expanded. It is challenging and participative and men have to demonstrate their understanding of the programme, the tools used, as well as evidencing changes in their behaviour.

The module completed as the pilot scheme through Women's Aid was 'Physical Abuse' and consisted of the following session format:

Session 1

Defining the abuse/ introducing the subject. Cycle of abuse.

Session 2

Exploring the abuse. Anger signs. CBT theory application.

Session 3

The victim's perspective. Mid-point review.

Session 4

Theory and applying this to men's own experience. Safe

Conflicts. Time Outs.

Session 5

Reinforce learning about physical abuse, perspective taking,

Impact and strategies to avoid.

Session 6

Reinforcing the learning. Self awareness and situational analysis. Evaluation.

Once referrals and risk assessments were received and examined, all prospective men were invited to the interviewing stages. Two facilitators carried out the interviews, during which they were given the opportunity to go over the referral and gain clarification. At this stage an Abuse Inventory

Questionnaire was completed by the men, providing the facilitators with further information surrounding the 'type' of abuse committed by the individual as well as any health and personal history. Most importantly, this time also allowed the men to ask any questions they had regarding the course.

Partners of the men attending the course were contacted to ensure they had knowledge and understanding of the course. Support was offered to the women to attend the 'Freedom Programme' and receive support from staff on a one to one basis where appropriate.

The next stage of the programme was the 'Pre-Session', where the group were brought together to meet each other. During this session they had

introductions and an overview of the programme ahead, including session aims. The group agreement was also produced at this session, as well as the completion of all other motivational and attitude questionnaires. The Disclosure and Participant contracts were also signed. The programme then moved onto the 6 sessions of the first module on a weekly basis.

Carrying out the programme did possess some difficulties from the start, as choosing an appropriate venue was challenging. The preferred venue would have been a children’s centre, however unless they booked the consecutive weeks 6 months in advance, they were only able to book intermittent weeks which they felt would not be suitable. The only venue which we were able to book for the full 7 consecutive weeks required was the Women’s Centre. Surprisingly however, the venue worked well with group work, although a little on the small side, and the nature of the building didn’t appear to hinder the men coming to the programme; yet they did explain the choice of venue and the reasons during the interview stages, allowing time for any questions or concerns to arise.

Although the programme had never been carried out before the session plans were already organised and in place, allowing plenty of material for the facilitators to adapt the sessions, meeting the needs of the specific group. As the weeks went on they realised that there was plenty of scope to bring more material to this programme, incorporating other perpetrator style

material, as well as some ‘victim’ and ‘child abuse awareness’ exercises, supplementing to the progression and potential of the programme.

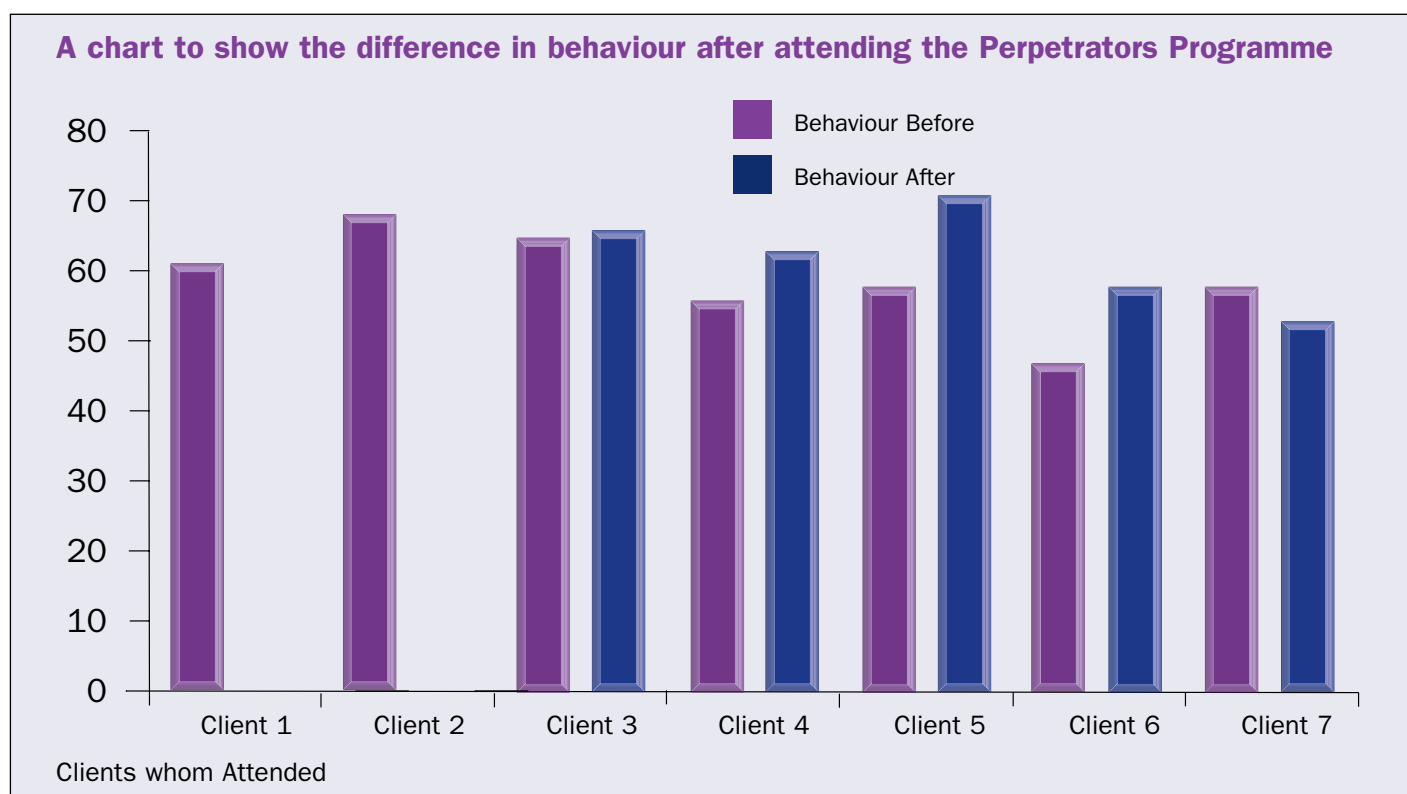
Since the programme started they have received several further referrals and enquiries about the programme as they have found that awareness of the programme has now reached all areas of social care and other agencies.

There is currently a waiting list set up with referrals, as well as a list of people to contact should another course be funded to run. The majority of interest is still coming from social care or CAFCASS. Several solicitors have also shown an interest, as well as substance misuse interventions, highlighting the need for the programme across the community.

RESULTS

There was plenty of qualitative and quantitative data gathered from the start right through to the end of the module, allowing them to gain evaluative material. The initial data that was gathered was mirrored at the end of the programme. This allowed them to see any changes in behaviour. A ‘mid-point’ and ‘end of module’ evaluation form was carried out by the men.

The vital motivator for the course is focused on the men changing their behaviour, and this is started by signs of acceptance and awareness. The course acts as an early intervention which may prevent the abuse from escalating, however it is recommended to complete the full programme for maximum advantage.



UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Although we felt there was a definite positive outcome from the 6 week programme, and a distinct apparent need for the programme, we felt that there could be further and more tangible benefits to implementing the full 30 week course.

LESSONS LEARNED

The three most important aspects of the project:

- For the perpetrator to change their offending behaviour and the potential future violent cycle.
- Promote the safety of women and children and prevent abuse.
- To work collaboratively with other agencies to manage risk constructively

WHAT THEY SAID

“I think more now and start to recognise signs of arousal/aggression in me at the first instance.”

“The programme is assertive and been helpful towards my understanding of domestic abuse. I learnt new things and awareness of the victim’s feelings.”

“I am aware now that hitting solves nothing, makes things worse.”

“I have learnt to have better communication as it is better to talk than shout, and nothing deserves domestic violence.”

“It has helped me to realise how the victim may feel, and made me see there are other ways of dealing with potential domestic violence incidents.”

“I have learnt to not just argue, but to communicate, and if that doesn’t work, I will take a time out.”

“I have now started spending a lot of time with the wife and children, and set cut off times for work, I now understand quality family time is important.”

“My wife has already noticed that the house is quieter and my oldest son has said I shout less.”

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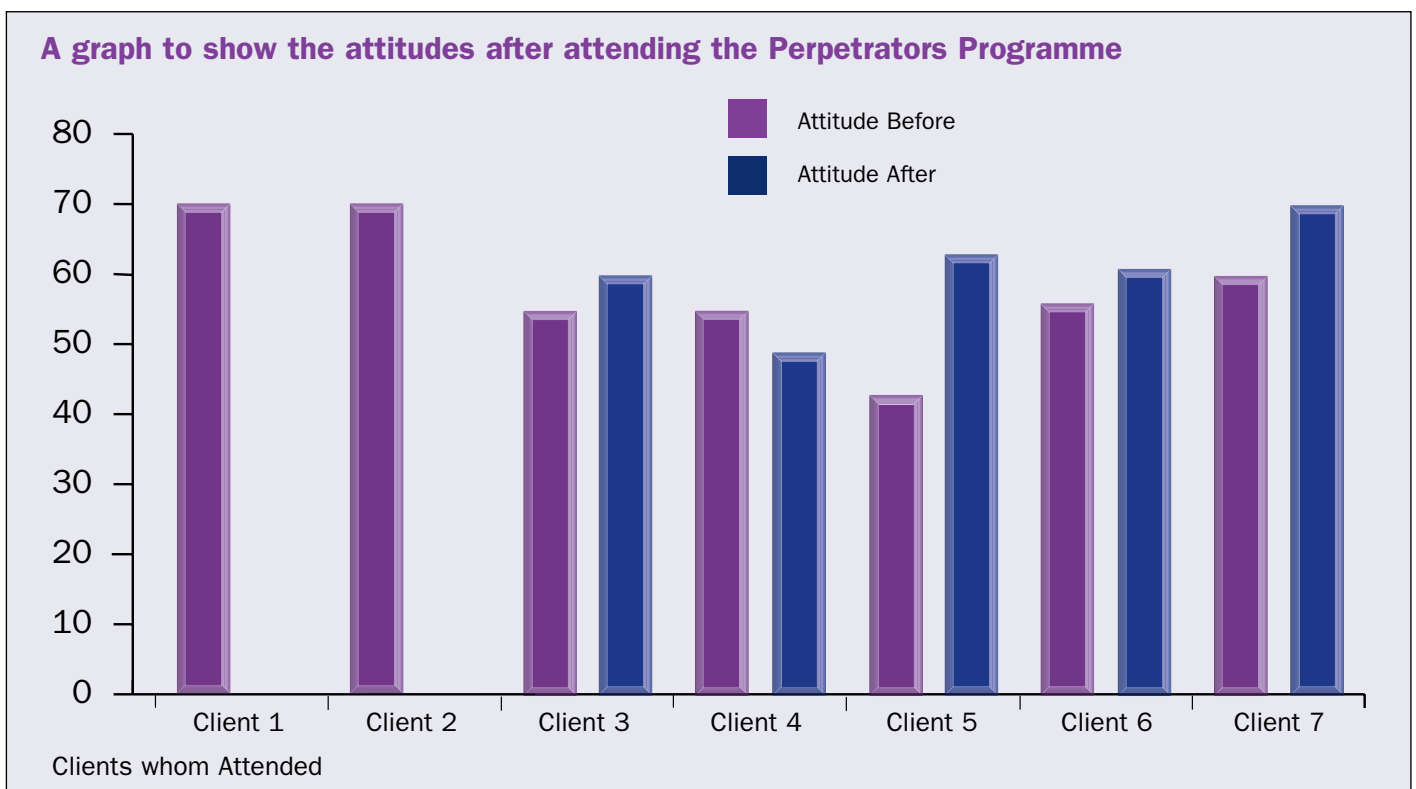
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BLACKPOOL – CHILDREN’S INDEPENDENT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVISORS (CIDVA)

ISSUE

- Domestic abuse accounts for up to 40% of recorded violent crime in some wards within Blackpool.
- During March 2009, Operation Aga successfully targeted domestic violence households where



previous weapon related incidents occurred and identified where children were present.

- The Blackpool Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) highlighted the rise in children affected by high risk domestic abuse and young people who were presenting as victims and perpetrators within their own relationships.
- The Blackpool Domestic Abuse Partnership, comprising over 40 agencies and partnerships within Blackpool under the coordination of the Domestic Abuse Team.
- Blackpool has an average of 15 reported domestic abuse incidents every day, with 8 children in every class within every school directly affected.

RESPONSE

- The Children's Independent Domestic Violence Advocate Service (CIDVA) was commissioned to target children and young people, affected by domestic abuse and support them to stay safe, whilst challenging abusive behaviours.
- The CIDVAs work in partnership with many agencies, including Police, Local Authority, Health, Probation, Schools etc.
- The primary barrier was the overwhelming need for this service, which was addressed by introducing a 'Prioritisation Framework', enabling those in most need to receive a service.
- The CIDVA Service is a trailblazer, working directly with children and young people under the age of 21 years old, using child and young person centred approaches.

RESULTS

- Overwhelmingly, children and young people reported feeling 'safe', some for the first time in their life.
- The Children's IDVAs delivered a comprehensive range of activities and events to maintain contact and monitoring of Children and Young Persons and to divert them from Anti- Social Behaviour, this included a Circus trip, climbing wall, National Play Day, and Treasure Hunt.
- The Children's IDVAs are now recognised as part of the mainstream service delivery in Blackpool.

The Children's IDVAs were invited to take part in Lancashire Constabulary's Reassurance Campaign. Their contribution was to run a Girls Group from Blackpool Women's Centre for females who had been affected by Domestic Abuse.

- Youth Forum- continues to meet monthly, at a regular venue with a programme of activities and discussions.
- Hear By Right - The Children's IDVAs innovative and creative approach to involving the children and young people in the shaping and developing of the service. They are also involved in the recruitment of new staff. Blackpool Council's Hear By Right's Scheme recognised our work by awarding us the Silver Accreditation. In addition we were the only service in Blackpool to be awarded a 'Highly Commended' Award.
- Computer Equipment - The Children's IDVAs were successful in a bid for 12 new laptops for use by the children and young people. The laptops have been utilised very effectively in enabling the children and young people to develop website ideas, run the cyber cafe, homework club and essentially safety planning by utilising 'The Hideaway' website and similar supportive sites.
- Media Work - The Children's IDVA project was featured in the BBC's documentary, 'Don't Hit My Mum', which was presented by Alesha Dixon.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

- As a result of effective joint working, educational establishments have observed improvement in children's behaviour and their attainment.
- They have also benefited tremendously from developing their awareness of the issues so that they can offer appropriate day to day support.
- The CIDVA Team have played a key role in leading on and contributing to the Common Assessment Framework which has led to effective interventions which have prevented S.47 Child Protection proceedings being instigated.
- The CIDVA Team have accompanied Children and Young people affected by domestic abuse at ABE video interviews (achieving best evidence) and at court when giving evidence. Thus enabling better criminal justice outcomes.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. Establish Permanent Children and Young Person's Base to give the children and young people a sense of ownership over their own space.
2. Establish a male only group to enable young males to engage and interact in a setting in which they feel comfortable.
3. Age Specific Groups to enable children and young people of different ages to interact with peers closer to their own age.

The most important aspects of the project:

1. We have learned that we are able to provide the best possible service to children and young people when we work in partnership. We actively promote and work towards a multi-agency approach to working. It is because of this that we often produce such positive outcomes.
2. Inclusion of YPs with Challenging Behaviour in forum and groups through 1-1 mentoring. This avoids isolation/exclusion of YPs, helps reintegration, and develops social skills and confidence.

WHAT THEY SAID

Feedback from Head teachers

'This has been a fantastic development that has had a real impact on the quality of pastoral care that the school can offer'

'I have found the information of great use and this will sometimes give a 'missing link' or an answer to a question of family circumstances or a change in the child. It has been very helpful'

'It is useful to get the information as we would only rarely be told of issues by parents themselves'
'This is a welcome development and an example of what Children's Trusts should encourage'
'We have been surprised by the number of incidents'

National attention

Featured in Lord Laming One Year on Report
March 2010

Featured in BBC Children in Need Documentary

Featured in Community Care Magazine

Finalist for Guardian Public Service Awards

November 2010

Feedback from families

'I would like to thank n. for all her work with my daughter. My daughter has benefited tremendously from the work done and now has the confidence to face life again after all we have been through.'

'I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart. I know I am not alone and there are others to help me to help me keep safe.'

'The children in our school who have been helped by you have stopped worrying and are able to concentrate better. Their self esteem is markedly different and they are now being positive about life'

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DONCASTER – ENHANCED RESPONSE OVER CHRISTMAS PERIOD

ISSUE

Domestic violence reporting has increased significantly over the last 12 months, although the level of reporting involving High Risk Domestic Violence has stayed at the same level.

A high proportion of offenders fall within the TKAP age range. This indicates that victims are contacting Police earlier in the abuse cycle.

Historically domestic violence (DV) reporting does increase on key dates over the Christmas period.

RESPONSE

To combat the above issues Doncaster Police Protection Unit (PPU) implemented a number of strategies around prevention, enforcement, engagement and education.

In December 2010 the following activity took place:

PREVENTION

All DV perpetrators on bail for DV related offences were visited on key dates to ensure compliance with conditions and to warn about further offending. They were informed of the increased Police activity over this period. A media campaign was also launched informing communities of what services were available and also challenging people's acceptance of DV.

ENFORCEMENT

Additional resources were deployed with a specific duty to respond to DV incidents. In addition, arrest attempts were made in respect of all outstanding DV suspects.

Specialist officers from the PPU dealt with all suspects arrested for DV, and Domestic Violence officers visited all comps of DV within a 24hrs of reporting (usually only High Risk DV victims receive this service).

ENGAGEMENT

Presentations were made to the Independent Advisory Group (IAG) communities i.e. men's faith, women's faith and LGB&T about all areas of PPU work although mainly directed at domestic and sexual violence services available to the public. This was supported by agencies from the third sector. Also engaged with the Chinese community.

EDUCATION

Officers from the PPU attended Police training to reinforce their roles and responsibilities of Officers when attending reports of DV.

RESULTS

The engagement phase has proved very beneficial. Doncaster PRIDE website now features a link to the Doncaster Domestic Violence Website,

Feedback was very positive around how Police and partners deal with DV. 182 victims of DV were supported over an 8 day period. 10 of the complaints were classed as high risk, demonstrating that an additional 172 DV victims were supported at early intervention level than would normally be the case.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

We had a report from the Chinese community concerning child protection. This is the first such referral for Doncaster from that community, and was made by an attendee to the engagement group.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

- Target advertising campaign to the communities representative of Doncaster i.e. Polish/Chinese
- Engage with higher education establishments to further target TKAP age range

- PPU need to start engaging with victims at an earlier stage (this is now standard practice and we engage with all high and medium risk victims)

The three most important aspects of the project:

- The community engagement
- The early intervention with victims
- The media campaign highlighting the effects and the agencies their to support

WHAT THEY SAID

No feedback provided.

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HULL – DOMESTIC ABUSE PARTNERSHIP

ISSUE

An incident of domestic violence by the victim's ex-partner. Her ex partner had earlier stolen her mobile phone, which she reported to the Police. He then waited outside her home and when she returned (with her small child) he attacked her with a bike lock, before riding away on his pedal cycle.

RESPONSE

The call for service was made to the police during Operation 'Nightwing'. Nightwing officers and a Domestic Violence Co-ordinator (DVC), who is a specially trained police officer from Hull Domestic Abuse Partnership (DAP), were deployed after the incident described above. The officers attended and saw the victim. They were able to provide her with a new mobile phone (provided by DAP). A statement was recorded from the victim and a witness. Police patrols were advised about the possible whereabouts for the suspect.

When the suspect remained outstanding for the offence the DVC was able to progress the enquiry so it was featured at the Police Management Meeting (PMM). This resulted in police patrols maintaining enquiries for the suspect, leading to his arrest within a few days (he was later charged and remanded). The

victim was advised by the DVC about how to remain safe (prior to his arrest), she was referred to Hull DAP Support Services who made contact and continued to offer support. Following assessment by the Support Worker she was assessed as high risk and referred to Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) for high risk cases. The male remains in custody (with a number of charges) and the victim remains happy and secure.

It is arguable whether this result would've been obtained without the operation (the victim has refused to cooperate with assault allegations previously).

Hull DAP Support Services have offered a number of support interventions including; support to book and attend solicitors, attend court (residence order, prohibited steps, injunction), updated following court appearance by perpetrator who was remanded (special measures, emotional support around court date ongoing).

Liaison with the prison has taken place to ensure 100 monitoring is in place. The Housing Officer based with DAP has progressed direct let to secure house move and has arranged for Sanctuary Scheme measures to be installed in her property. The Support Worker and DAP Social Worker has liaised with allocated Social Worker in Children Young Peoples Service Area Team as a child was present during the incident (referred to Women's Aid Children Service by Support Worker). The DAP Social Worker and Support Worker run Women's Groups on a Friday morning and the victim has now started to attend the sessions.

The victim was able to access a number of measures from the DAP multi agency team ensuring all her needs were met from one single agency with liaison being made via DAP to external agencies where appropriate (i.e. child protection and to ensure support was offered to the child), this approach removes potential barriers to accessing services and ensures the victim is offered a seamless service, reducing the risk of disengagement.

Research states that victims often contact between 12-15 agencies before they receive an appropriate response, DAP is able to offer a number of interventions from one office, i.e., police response, housing, support service, etc.

The victim has now returned back to college and is continuing her studies (something her partner had

prevented her doing previously) and continues to engage with DAP. She reports that if she hadn't have received the response offered she would have undoubtedly resumed the relationship. She feels safe for the first time in a long time and is trying to rebuild her life with her son.

RESULTS

It is arguable whether this result would've been obtained without Operation Nightwing (the victim had refused to cooperate with assault allegations previously). The swift and timely police response and statement taking which was undertaken by a DV specialist police officer ensured the victim remained engaged. The window of opportunity available to engage in a positive way with the victim following the incidence was embraced with positive results.

In terms of cost savings using the Economic Costs Of Crime Home Office research the costs incurred for this incident are estimated at £29,200, this does not include the costs to the police officer who was assaulted whilst the prisoner was in custody which resulted in the officer's finger being broken. To date there has been no further contact, harassment or intimidation.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Services were offered to the child. The Victim has returned to college and her chosen career path is back on track. She is currently engaging well with the DAP Women's Group and working on her confidence, self esteem and knowledge around abusive relationships.

LESSONS LEARNED

Things we would do differently:

1. If funding was available the Support Workers would work the rota duty (7.00pm until 3.00am Fri, Sat, Sun) to work along side the Nightwing Police Response Team and would be deployed with the officers, during previous operations this has shown to give very positive results.
2. Uniformed officers to be allocated to Operation Nightwing to take the pressure off the police Incident Response Teams.

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. The perpetrator was picked up and dealt with giving him a strong message that domestic violence will not be tolerated.

2. A clear message was given to the victim, she was believed and her complaint was taken seriously and her ex-partner dealt with appropriately.
3. The victim was offered support during the 'window of opportunity' and subsequently was offered and accepted a wrap around package of support which ensured all her needs were met.

WHAT THEY SAID

The victim has reported that if she hadn't have received the response offered she would have undoubtedly resumed the relationship. She feels safe for the first time in a long time and is trying to rebuild her life with her son.

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ISLINGTON – YOUNG PEOPLE USING VIOLENCE IN CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS

ISSUE

In June 2010 Islington held a conference on Young People using Violence in Close Relationships which was attended by local practitioners working with young people and families. The conference was arranged due to increasing concerns regarding violence by young people to other family members and in their intimate relationships. One of the key conclusions of the conference was that more was needed to be done to raise awareness of this issue and to support practitioners when working with young people using violence in their close relationship and their victims. This had also been an issue in a number of cases discussed at the Bronze Group, Islington's Gang and Youth Violence Prevention Multi agency meeting. Some of the young people and their families were subsequently referred to the Family Intervention Project who have had supported mums in particular in reporting assaults from their sons to the police. We were also concerned that young women were at risk from sexual exploitation and violence from young people involved in gangs, but although there is some intelligence on this it remains largely unreported.

RESPONSE

Islington decided to work with the Domestic Violence Intervention Project (DVIP) as they are recognised by

Respect for good practice in working with perpetrators of Domestic Violence. DVIP had recently set up the YUVA project to work with Young People using violence in intimate relationships but this service covered the whole of London and had limited capacity to support work in individual boroughs. The TKAP funding enabled Islington to pay for YUVA to work with 5 cases where young people were using violence and to support their victims. In addition, to provide training to the police and other practitioners, to raise awareness of the issue in order to increase reporting and access to services.

The services include 2 separate but integrated services:

- a non-abuse programme working directly with young people who are perpetrating violence and abuse;
- and an integrated support service to assist survivors of violence to increase their safety and access support.

Although YUVA works with perpetrators and survivors separately, the two strands of the service integrate their practice in a way which promotes the safety and well being of all clients.

RESULTS

The project is still in its early stages but the service is already working at full capacity with a full case load. One training day for the police only was held in December and the feedback was very positive.

Two more training days are planned for March open to all and are already over subscribed and it is clear that there area a lot of practitioners who feel they need to know more about this issue and are very keen to attend the training.

We are waiting on feedback and evaluation from the case work to see what outcomes were achieved with the young people and their victims

The outcomes we are hoping will be achieved include:

- Young people using violence are helped to develop practical and emotional skills to positively change their own behaviours
- Integrated support and safety services are provided for 5 young people/parents affected by violence to help increase their safety and reduce their vulnerability as a result of the violence

- 36 Islington professionals will be more aware of how to respond to use of violence by young people and of how to refer to appropriate services.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

There is a big demand for work to support professionals working with young people using violence and their victims and the need for more direct specialist support for young people and their families. The funding that we have for DVIP is time limited and we would like to continue this work if possible and to further integrate it into Islington's approach to youth violence and gangs.

LESSONS LEARNED

It is early to say at this point, but sustainability is one key concern. The most important aspects of the project will follow a full evaluation of the training and the direct work with the young people and their victims / families.

WHAT THEY SAID

Feedback from the December training for police:

“(the training) will help me to identify young people in need and how to deal with them appropriately”

“Very good course” “First class”

“[the training will] help me see the bigger picture when dealing with pupils at my school and make me aware that other issues may be responsible for their behaviour or actions”

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LEICESTER – BARE DRAMA

ISSUE

The Safer Leicester Partnership wanted to create a way of communicating with children of school age about the dangers of knife crime, violence and gangs. Leicester does not have a major problem with knife crime or gangs but this project was to act a preventative method and was aimed to educate another generation about the dangers and keep Leicester safe.

RESPONSE

Leicestershire Constabulary, the Y Theatre and Women and Theatre worked together to raise awareness amongst school children about knife crime, gangs and violence.

The Bare Drama programme, consisting of a hard hitting play and educational workshops, warned youngsters of the dangers of gang culture and the consequences of carrying a knife.

The play centered on Sparks, Diesel and Asher, three friends hanging out on an inner-city estate, and the decisions they face.

The characters were used to raise awareness of the experiences, situations and actions which could contribute to gang membership and knife crime. The project created a safe environment for young people to explore the choices the characters made and also to reflect on their own choices.

The workshops helped the pupils to understand and discuss risk factors, while also equipping them with strategies, support networks and resources if they personally experience the issues in the future.

All partaking schools were also given an education pack to keep.

The programme was free to any participating school and was funded through TKAP. This overcame a problem encountered originally that schools were not be able to pay for the programme themselves. A total of 7 schools took part in the programme (with pupils aged 11- 13-years-old), reaching an audience of hundreds.

This is the first time the three agencies have worked together to offer a free service to schools. The main barrier was encouraging schools to use the programme. Another obstacle was the length of the play, some of the youngsters felt that it was too long and their attention began to wander.

RESULTS

The main objective of this project was to educate youngsters about knife crime and instil responsible thinking about knives amongst the pupils.

The programme was taken to 7 schools across Leicester and hundreds of pupils took part in the workshops. This is large number of young people who have been educated about knife crime who perhaps without this programme would never be fully aware of the dangers.

Qualitatively the results were also positive. Feedback from the pupils at the time of the programme was encouraging and all of those who took part in the workshops showed a real interest in the subject.

Teachers and staff at the school also deemed the programme constructive and helpful in communicating the dangers of knife crime to youngsters.

Local media also took an interest in the programme and reported on the positive impact the programme had.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

None.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. Have more contact with the schools prior to the programme to encourage them to take part
2. Take the programme to children of an older age- 13-15 years
3. Make the play shorter and the workshops longer

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. Youngsters became more passionate about the subject of knives when they were involved in the decision making process
2. Young people know very little about knife crime and the affects it can have on their future
3. That we were able to target people before they turned to knife crime, possibly preventing it from ever happening

WHAT THEY SAID

Feedback forms were handed out the staff at the schools following the programme, below are some of the comments:

- Excellent acting and characters that really spoke to the students on a level they really understood.
- The subject matter tied in very closely with many of the issues affecting the boys at our school
- Would maybe suit yr 8 or 9 as well although year 7 loved it!! Some of the yr 7s here are still very naïve
- We will be using the education pack in our PSHEE sessions.

- The immediate feedback from both staff and students was totally positive
- Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the whole thing
- Some students have already asked if they can see it again
- Very well organised – would definitely use Bare Drama again and recommend it to other schools
- As a teacher of English and Drama for over 30 years I've seen numerous 'in house' productions (London/Coventry/Leicester). This ranks as one of the very best. Well done to all concerned

To see a Youtube video of part of the play please click on the link below:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Z_cPLg8JxM

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LEICESTER – DV WEB CHAT

ISSUE

Very often young people can be affected by domestic abuse without even realising and perhaps those that are, are not aware of the help available to them.

Those affected most are children, teenagers and young adults who still live at home with their parents or carers.

The problem identified by the Safer Leicester Partnership was the gap between youngsters and domestic abuse services and information.

RESPONSE

The decision was made to target those affected through a channel they frequently use and understand, the internet.

Social networking sites and online messenger services are fast becoming the most popular way for youngsters to interact and they tend to use the internet to communicate on a daily basis. Social networking seemed like a perfect way to target the audience.

It was decided that a web chat would be used, via Leicestershire Police website, to communicate with the youngsters. Web chats had been used before by other officers from the police force and had been a success.

Domestic abuse is a very sensitive issue, an issue that a lot of people struggle to discuss. It was felt that the web chat would offer an easy, friendly, anonymous and perhaps a more comfortable environment for youngsters to find out about domestic abuse and where they can get help if they believe they have been affected by it.

Information about the web chat was sent out to all schools in Leicester and was issued on the police Twitter and Facebook pages. A press release was also issued on the Leicestershire Constabulary and Safer Leicester Partnership websites.

A domestic violence officer, the TKAP press officer, the Head of New Media (all from Leicestershire Constabulary) and two youth workers from Women's Aid (one of which was working on a new project called DASH which provides help for youngsters affected by domestic abuse) got together to take part and monitor the web chat. The web chat was planned for early January. The logic behind this was that youngsters would have spent time at home during the Christmas period and could have been subjected to domestic abuse during that time.

Participants were able to send questions through the chat system and those messages (if appropriate) would then be published on the web site, with a response, for all other participants to see. If the question was particularly sensitive we could respond in a private message.

One issue encountered during the web chat was that not all of the participants were asking questions and were reluctant to take part in the chat.

This was the first time that both agencies had come together to conduct a web chat.

RESULTS

The main objective of this project was to educate youngsters about domestic abuse and to make them aware of the services available.

Quantitatively the results were positive. When the web chat took place nearly 30 people took part (a high number of participants in comparison to other web chats ran by Leicestershire Constabulary). Since then

(January 19) approximately 90 more people have viewed the chat.

The web chat has provided nearly 120 people with information about domestic abuse and the help available. There is the possibility that the messages from the web chat could have reached even further with a number of people viewing the chat at one time.

This is the positive result the Safer Leicester Partnership was looking for and hoping to achieve.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

None.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. To encourage those viewing the web chat to take part and ask the questions they want answered
2. To publicise the web chat even further. Perhaps issue a number of messages about the chat prior to date arrange through similar forums known to be used by youngsters
3. Create designs for the web chat that seem more appealing to a younger audience.

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. Web chats are a successful way of making contact with a younger audience
2. There are young people who do not know about domestic abuse or where to get help
3. There are also older members of the public who would like to know how domestic abuse affects their children

To see the web chat please click on the link below:
http://www.leics.police.uk/advice/2_information_zone/93_webchats/

To see a Youtube video of part of the play please click on the link below:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Z_cPLg8JxM

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SANDWELL – TEENAGE RELATIONSHIP ABUSE

ISSUE

The Safer Sandwell Partnership (SSP) commissioned Sandwell Women's Aid (SWA) in 2009 to undertake research to ascertain the level of sexual violence within Sandwell and develop a strategic implementation plan to support this and increase the support available to victims.

The research revealed there was an increasing need for these services within the school environment as attention to dealing with teenage relationship abuse was patchy and inconsistent.

The project began to feel an increase in referrals from young people in abusive relationships, young victims of sexual violence and young people at risk or currently suffering sexual exploitation. As a response to demand, secondary schools made requests for SWA to input into PHSE sessions and develop support groups and individual support. From these groups, issues such as potentially gang related abuses, engendered attitudes and vulnerabilities amongst students were also uncovered.

Schools recognised their responsibilities for safeguarding students; however the Safer Sandwell Partnership realised the skills of a specialist partner, such as SWA, were essential to address this increasing concern.

RESPONSE

Sandwell Women's Aid, with the support of the Safer Sandwell Partnership, have been co-ordinating and creating (where gaps existed) a comprehensive Schools and Youth Programme on Teenage Relationship Abuse to be made available to secondary schools in Sandwell once completed (March 2011).

T.R.A.P.P.E.D – Teenage Relationship Abuse Programme – the programme aims to take a look at the whole issue of teenage relationships, their safety and awareness and address wider issues affecting abuse and abusive relationships.

The Pack contains the following:

6 Tailored teachers' guides, and lesson plans on:

- Teenage Relationship Abuse
- Domestic and Sexual Violence
- Girls and Gangs
- Sexual Bullying and Gender Attitudes
- Sexual Exploitation
- Drug and Alcohol- Experimenting with Safety

Along with a detailed guide for teachers on Safeguarding Practice and Procedure in cases of Teenage Relationship Abuse. The guide uses multi media platforms to get messages across.

SWA believes that it will have created a foundation for schools to work from that consolidates existing materials on interlinking issues such as teenage relationship abuse in intimate relationships, gang pressures, engendered attitudes, the relation between sexual violence and sexual health.

Whilst it is acknowledged that there is a vast array of materials/ information, it is clear that schools are not utilising these resources fully and need support to select the appropriate programme for maximum effect. The coordination of this project ensures that each programme stems from existing and evaluated programmes.

The package aims to consolidate a huge body of information for schools into "one place" with an event to launch the programme and give out materials to schools, advise on the delivering the programme and for SWA to establish links with schools. Post event SWA will continue to act as an adviser to each school on request.

RESULTS

The results are yet to be fully realised however early feedback on the contents and the programme indicate:

- The lesson plans being "all in one place" will save schools from researching and selecting programmes
- Consistent message across all schools in the borough will ensure longer term effectiveness
- Clarification of agencies who can help and support
- Improved communication and work across partners
- Building relationships to identify and address future needs and possible funding opportunities
- Establishing effective referral pathways to protect children and young people
- Improved strategic and operational links

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

In meetings with the Community Safety Team and Rowley Schools Co-op it was identified that the need for further work was also necessary in children of primary school age as there was a range of anecdotal

evidence to suggest primary school children were at risk of gang exploitation and sexual abuse. This has led us to focus attention on this and SWA are now working to create a programme for 9-11 year olds along the same guidelines. Work is underway across a range of agencies to further address issues raised.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. More time – decision in November 2010 with programme implementation by 31st March 2011
2. This would have given more opportunity to involve more local secondary schools in the development of the programme and its details, as the project has gained momentum more schools have got involved.
3. Established links with key schools in order to devise programme.

The most important aspects of the project:

1. The involvement of local secondary schools in the development of the programme and its detail. These networks can be built upon as we strive to address this problem in Sandwell.
2. Linkages to local secondary schools so feedback can be given on the delivery of the programme to feed into future development.

WHAT THEY SAID

To date there is no direct feedback from children and young people who have received the programmes,

this is likely to be realised post March 2011. However feedback, albeit verbal, has included:

- Schools just don't have the time to do the research
- Schools didn't know that there was so much available
- This will open up further opportunities – “we are excited”
- Some schools concerned that this will open up a “can of worms” that they won't be able to cope with
- Good that this focuses on Year 9 but we need something to target year 5 and 6 where schools are being told these experiences are happening.
- Need stronger links between this agenda and teenage pregnancy

- Need to focus on boys more as perpetrators and their involvement in gang and substance misuse
- This programme will start the work but will continue it post March 2011. We need to see this as a start not the end of the project.
- This work mustn't raise expectations within Schools that then can't be met.
- Funding reductions to specialist services mean that this will fall upon teachers and learning mentors – we need to see this as a partnership of everyone involved.

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STOKE – 7 STEP PLAN

ISSUE

It was identified that more domestic “violence with injury” incidents were occurring on one specific Neighbourhood Policing Unit (NPU) area than any other in the force. There was no specific pattern of offending or issue regarding victims. The area in question has two prominent Local Authority owned housing estates of a significant size.

RESPONSE

The first thing that was done was domestic violence and abuse (DV) respect days which were held in various locations across the Neighbourhood Policing Unit. These were completed as drop in centres providing discreet meetings, giving advice and support with local partnership officers, Police, Local Authority neighbourhood officers and Arch (a local domestic abuse support organisation). Following these we carried out joint visits (Police and Arch) to all victims and offenders who were part of the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) process for the last 18 months within that neighbourhood. This brought about some positive work with victims such as:

- Arch arranged for a lock change to a property as the perpetrator had keys to the house.
- Two referrals were made to the Independent Domestic Violence Adviser (IDVA) service to support women attending court.

- A registered sex offender was identified on one visit to a woman where a child was due to be born.
- Three women were given information on how to obtain non-molestation orders.
- Refuge accommodation was made for a woman and her three children.
- One woman was helped to change conditions on a non-molestation order to include a third party and her children from previous relationships.
- Home Start contacted Arch to say a woman they were supporting had been visited via this project. It was felt this was a breakthrough for the woman as she disclosed things to the Arch worker and officer she had never disclosed and had only praise for the support we have given. This woman is now engaging more fully with the services.
- Information was given to 22 women helping to safeguard women and their families.
- We identified that 14 women no longer lived in the area and the Police were therefore able to update their records.
- Arch were able to provide up to date information to the police on the women we were working with, this helped in safeguarding the family as well as helping to identify the perpetrators whereabouts.
- 7 women are now receiving ongoing 1-2-1 support from Arch.

Following the evaluation of this process it was decided to implement local officers visiting DV victims the day after a DV crime (assaults etc.) had occurred. This ensured Neighbourhood Beat Officers have an enhanced knowledge of vulnerable victims and their children with their area, allowing them to make appropriate referrals for further reassurance and visits from them or from other agencies. Stoke already used a step process relating to visiting anti-social behaviour (ASB) victims to promote reassurance and responsibility that the police are dealing with the issues they are facing. As a result of this plan ASB satisfaction levels improved and incidents reduced significantly. As a result it was decided to develop a similar step process for DV, “The 7 Step Plan for Domestic Violence Crime”.

RESULTS

A full evaluation of the effects of the ‘7 step plan’ have yet to be carried out. However, the initial feedback from partners, such as Crown Prosecution Service, is very positive and there is anecdotal evidence to support its success. Furthermore, due to the impact this appears to be having (and following the success of the ASB process) the ‘7 Step plan for DV’ was rolled out across the city and then the force area.

On the specific area that instigated this process, DV incidents with injury had dropped by 30% as of November 2010.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

As identified above the process has yet to be fully evaluated however here are some of the incidents of note that support the benefits and success of the plan:

- Officers visited a DV victim as part of the 7 step plan where safeguarding concerns over their child were referred to social services. The male perpetrator was at the time in custody for assault on the female victim, but when social services attended later that day he had been released and was confrontational towards the staff visiting. Neighbourhood officers were contacted by social workers and we attended. Due to the various safeguarding issues the child was taken into Police Protection and now the child remains in foster care. The parents are still together, the victim is very much in denial despite being visited jointly by police and ARCH. Due to this being a high risk location officers are now visiting this couple on a daily basis and collating evidence/intelligence which is referred onto social services for them to make an informed decision as to whether the child should be returned or not. Currently the outlook is that the child will remain in foster care.
-
- The very first DV 7 step visit done in another area of the city the officer came across the couple fighting and so was required to take appropriate swift intervention.
- Breach of bail offences have been identified from visits and follow up visits.
- An ongoing case following a 7 step visit identified a very vulnerable female who is now being jointly supported by the IDVA service and police. Various actions are being carried out around improving

security at the victim's address, installation of alarms, lighting, and confidence building in the police to support prosecutions.

- One Neighbourhood Police Officer has quoted that the use of the 7 steps has increased his knowledge of vulnerable victims and families in his area. The officer attends joint meetings with local schools where problems with families & children are raised. The officer is able to interact in the meeting with a much broader knowledge of problems for some children on his area at home. He is then able to implement further reassurance and preventative work with those families.
- Regular visits to a vulnerable victim identified the important need for special measures at court for one victim who would not have attended otherwise. A family intervention project referral has also been made.
- One victim was visited the day after refusing to make a complaint to response officers. The Neighbourhood Officer managed to get the victim into sheltered accommodation as she was so scared of the perpetrator she lived with. Once in accommodation, she made a complaint, the offender was arrested and given a caution for assault. The offender was shocked that his partner had finally made a complaint against him. After some time she has gone back to live with him, however the local officer pays regular passing visits to the victim and no further incidents have been reported.
- Following a nasty assault on a female support was given through the 7 steps which led to joint assisted by IDVAs. The victim supported a prosecution against a male who is part of an organised crime group. This male is expecting to get a custodial sentence. The victim would no doubt have dropped the complaint without the joint support.

This is a select few in a small period of time.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would we do differently:

1. It is difficult to determine at this time without the full evaluation; however one issue has been getting the message over to officers who are concerned that by undertaking these visits further DV will occur. It has identified training needs for police officers about the partner agencies and interactions with them.

2. There is an information pack handed out during each visit that contains information for both victim and perpetrators. This pack needs to be reviewed to confirm that the appropriate information and messages are being delivered to both victim and perpetrators. Information for the perpetrator is provided in custody, at the point of disposal.
3. The process of recording/administrating visits is done differently on each of the force areas and needs a corporate approach.

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. More offenders brought to justice.
2. Fewer DV incidents.
3. Better partnership working and information sharing.

WHAT THEY SAID

The project has received some very positive feedback some of which has been identified above.

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SUNDERLAND – WEARSIDE WOMEN IN NEED

ISSUE

Wearside Women In Need is facing new challenges as the population of Sunderland becomes more diverse. As such, the initial problem of providing sufficient safe accommodation for victims of domestic violence became one of also providing sufficient safe accommodation for women drawn from more diverse communities who were experiencing a wider range of abuse issues such as honour-based violence and forced marriage and additional barriers to seeking effective support.

RESPONSE

Wearside Women in Need has always sought to understand and respond to service user needs and, over nearly 30 years of local service delivery, has developed the following services for women, children, young people and men affected by domestic violence:

- Advice, support and safe accommodation for women and children experiencing domestic violence (in 3 general refuges)
- Advice, support and safe accommodation for young homeless women aged from 16 to 18 years (in a project known locally as TZ)

- Supported accommodation for women who have experienced abuse and developed additional mental health support needs (known locally as the Beechwood Project)
- Supported tenancies for vulnerable young people, both men and women, aged between 16 and 25 years – many of whom have been made vulnerable through familial abuse
- IDVA services to support the local MARAC and Specialist DV Court
- Programmes of work for men who are violent to women

Within these services, WWIN has sought to respond to the needs of women experiencing abuse who are drawn from the city's BME communities. In more recent years, however, they became increasingly aware of (and received an increase in referrals for) BME women who were experiencing not only domestic abuse, but also honour-based violence and forced marriage. Many were struggling to access support, particularly where they had no recourse to public funds and many were struggling to survive when they had accessed support, because their minority status meant that they had fewer informal support structures, fewer friendships to draw upon.

WWIN responded by ensuring that women referred from local BME communities were placed with other women who came from the same communities or who were experiencing similar forms of abuse – this not only enabled staff to develop the experience they required to meet need, but also facilitated the friendships and informal support that women drawn from the majority community enjoy in refuges up and down the country.

Wearside Women In Need (WWIN) – Refuge accommodation in the coalfields area of the city. (One of 3 in the city run by WWIN).

The Refuge is a purpose built housing accommodation comprising a communal area and individual apartments comparable to those for sale on the open property market.

The Refuge provides accommodation for young women and their children, if necessary, between the ages of 16 – 25 who have been the victim of domestic abuse. At present the average age is approximately 20 – 21 years.

In most circumstances residents will have become homeless or potentially at risk of becoming homeless. In some circumstances the Refuge will provide accommodation to couples although clearly the perpetrator of domestic violence will not be allowed access.

The Refuge does have a policy of ensuring accommodation is available for local residents, therefore women must have a local connection to Tyne and Wear.

5 full time staff visit 9am-5pm daily, emergency on-call system. A key work system operates on an approximate ratio of 12 residents per worker. Weekly and monthly key work meetings are held at which action plans with agreed outcomes are agreed and reviewed.

Staff provide advice and support with independent living skills, benefits, employment and education, and other issues. There are weekly visits from alcohol and drugs workers and also a domestic violence drop-in.

Staff provide advice on move-on options and can arrange follow-up support if required.
Total spaces in the purpose built refuge:

- 38 In 24 1-bed and 6 2-bed flats, and 8 2-3 bed houses.
- Residents are responsible for paying their own bills.

RESULTS

The results speak for themselves (see what they say). Whilst WWIN provide safe accommodation for women fleeing domestic violence, they fundamentally help women to rebuild their lives and aspire to achieve things that would have once been beyond reach.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Whilst the building itself is fantastic; what stands out about WWIN is the incredible care and tailor made support given to each resident. Staff really exceed in supporting families and provide an amazing holistic person centred approach.

Sunderland's BME population stands at 1.9% and all residents talked about all faiths/ beliefs being recognised and celebrated. White British residents have commented on increasing their awareness and knowledge of other faiths and cultures in a positive way.

The project has given women fleeing domestic violence aspirations as opposed to merely providing safe accommodation.

LESSONS LEARNED

1. WWIN illustrate that it is often the small things that really make a big difference to individuals affected by domestic violence.
2. WWIN illustrate that refuges should and can be so much more than a roof over someone's head – for the women using WWIN services it was the developing aspirations elements of the project that had the biggest impact on residents
3. One of the key things that residents talk of is the inclusiveness of the project.

WHAT THEY SAID

The Refuge has played host to a number of high profile visitors such as the then Home Secretary, Alan Johnson who as part of a fact finding mission to Sunderland spent time talking to residents and staff. More recently; ACC Sue Fish, ACPO lead for TKAP visited and spoke with staff and residents.

Whilst the building itself is fantastic; what stands out about WWIN is the incredible care and tailor made support given to each resident. Staff really exceed in supporting families and provide an amazing holistic person centred approach. It is the feedback from WWIN residents that perfectly demonstrate WWIN's outstanding care and support for victims of domestic violence. See comments from residents:

Resident “K”

I had been living with domestic violence for 8 years before I arrived at here. I arrived at Christmas time with my children and thought I would just get accommodation but what I got was so much more. What has been amazing has been the reassurance I have been given and help with every single aspect of my life!

I had no benefit for the first 8 months of my time here and WWIN supported me through the process and helped me with my appeal.

Their support has been amazing and they have helped me get a house and supported me with donations of furniture to make my home more comfortable.

My confidence has grown and for the first time in years I am relaxed, have confidence and I feel good about my future.

Resident “C”

“For the past 19 years I have been isolated and had no confidence. Since coming to WWIN I have been helped so much. Staff have made me feel part of a big family, a home from home, something I have never have had before.

WWIN have helped in every way, from getting my daughter a new school, finding me a solicitor to help with my divorce, to helping me with a housing application. These are things that I would not have had the confidence to do on my own.

WWIN have arranged for someone to come here every week to give me lessons in maths, reading and writing. Staff also help me with my lessons. absolutely love it and feel I can at last have freedom.

I also take part in a relaxation sessions where someone comes here and helps me to relax. These sessions really help me.

One of the biggest things to make a difference to my confidence is WWIN helping me with dental care. I wasn't allowed dentist visits when at home and as a result have dental problems. With WWIN's help I am going to have new teeth for soon! This is something I am really looking forward to.

I have been here for 2 months and I would just like to say that WWIN have changed my life”.

Resident “L”

“When I was first had the opportunity to come here I was really wary as I thought as a black woman I would not be welcome, or that I would find it difficult to fit in.

I was worried about my children facing discrimination and being victimised by others, which made me think twice before accepting the offer of help.

I was made to feel welcome as soon as I arrived and I soon realised that my worries couldn't be more wrong.

WWIN staff have just “got it” – it is something that you can't fake, learn or be trained in.

Since arriving I have found that every person is valued and that every religious and spiritual belief is included. All people are respected, this has given me the confidence to look up, smile and say hello to people

when I am walking down the street. The thing that stands out is the respect for individuals.

For example when I arrived I was keen to find a local church and the staff went out of their way to find me a church and take me to it so that this could bring me comfort.

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EDUCATION, PREVENTION AND DIVERSION

Evidence shows that sustained education and prevention programmes are an essential component of an effective strategy.

BIRMINGHAM – CRIME FACTOR

ISSUE

The objective is for the Safer Birmingham Partnership to start building longer term relationships with young people in the city – engaging them on the issues of community safety that matter to them, in particular violent crime, and fostering an environment in which young people are listened to.

RESPONSE

Crime Factor was a competition set up for all primary and secondary schools to participate in. Taking a bit of the X factor and a bit of Dragons' Den – the project invites young people, whether as individuals or as classes, to come up with ideas, inventions or services to tackle youth violence.

Applications were assessed and filtered by an assessment panel and the best ones were asked to present their ideas at the Crime Factor Event, held over an afternoon in Jan 2011 at the Police Training Centre in Birmingham. The event comprised a multi-agency panel from WM Police, WM Police Authority, the Council's Youth Engagement and Participation Team (YEPT), Safer Birmingham Partnership (SBP) and 2 young people from the youth parliament. The audience comprised the classes from the 5 schools participating (70 young people) and the event was hosted by two people from SBP and YEPT.

Each school presented their idea in turn, with the judges scrutinising the practical and financial viability of each. Once they had all finished, they took a break and returned to give the verdicts. All projects were awarded the funding they were seeking – because in the first instance they were excellent ideas, but they also offered the potential for sustainability and roll out to wider areas in the city. All young people were awarded certificates for their hard work and creativity. Feedback from the young people and head teachers

suggested they had a fantastic time and all thought the event was very well organised.

By setting up Crime Factor – we hoped that we could engage young people in thinking about the issue of youth violence; how it affects them and what they would do to tackle it. We hoped to get a huge number of young people involved – and in turn – we would get some really useful, informative and productive ideas come forward.

RESULTS

The results were that we have 4 excellent projects being delivered by local schools to actively address the issue of young violence. We have empowered a large group of young people to be enthusiastic, creative and motivated to want to try and make a difference in their community. We have ideas that we wouldn't have been able to do ourselves – and ones which were directly devised by young people to appeal to young people.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The competition and the project work generated was in essence the main point to the exercise, with the Crime Factor event being a reward to the young people for their hard work. However, we were surprised at how successful the event itself was. We didn't realise how much the young people would enjoy it and get so much satisfaction from taking part. The feedback has been tremendous – which is a real learning point for the future in terms of what types of events/projects will appeal to young people.

LESSONS LEARNED

Marketing - Trying to involve 325 schools (250 primary and 75 secondary) is very difficult with only 2 SBP staff running the project. Emails don't always reach the intended or appropriate person and so it took several attempts to actually get through. Eventually then only about 7% of schools responded in total. Given the enthusiasm of the children that took part from the schools that actually decided to get involved, I am convinced far more children from many different schools would have got involved had they been given the chance. It does take one teacher

or head to decide to promote it in the school for it to take off.

Capacity to liaise with this many schools on a personal level is more or less impossible unless using local networks, which in turn require local staff! In future we will ensure we utilise all council and police partners at a local level, using their existing relationships to help promote the project.

Timescales - The time scales we gave ourselves were too short. We envisaged it would take about 2 weeks for all schools to receive and acknowledge the project and then we gave them a further 6 weeks planning before the deadline to submit the applications. However, on reflection, this was far too short a timescale for schools to deliver – which is why we had to extend the deadline.

Of course it depends on the number of schools you want to try and reach – but for Birmingham it was 325 – and it took about 6 weeks before we were confident we did all we could to make them aware of the project. Then we needed to give them ample time to work on their ideas – given that some of them could only do it once a week during a particular lesson period. Next time I would suggest a 3 -4 month timescale – from the first 2 weeks spent undertaking the more multi-agency marketing strategy; then allowing schools 3 months to work on their ideas and submit the applications.

Most important aspect of the project:

The 4 commissioned projects

Whilst the event passed successfully and the process was rewarding and productive in itself – we also managed to get 4 excellent projects off the ground, to be delivered by the schools: The projects are:

1. Parkfield Schools: Community Safety Comic – written, photographed, starring and produced by the pupils. The themes will centre on bullying, robbery, safety on public transport and healthy relationships. 7000 copies will be shared with the other local primary schools in the area. They hope that after producing the first one by themselves, the other schools will join forces and together they can their pool resources and continue producing the comic once a term.
2. St Paul's School for Girls: the girls at St Paul's decided that they wanted to improve their personal safety after a number of incidents that happened

to some of the pupils. They decided that personal alarms were ok, but essentially boring and few girls would want to carry them around. So, they decided to accessorise them in order to make them more attractive to young girls, and therefore they were more likely to keep them on them. They will purchase 3000 alarms and offer a choice of accessory colours and designs to go with it. In future they intend to subsidise this by charging a small fee – thus covering the cost of the alarm.

3. Nelson Mandela Primary school: have designed their own community safety pack for each pupil and their family. The pupils have drawn all the pictures, designs and slogans for each aspect of the pack, including: the cotton bag to hold the information in; badges and mouse mats on bullying; book marks for robbery; wristbands about respecting each other; car stickers for road safety; leaflets on burglary; key rings on personal safety etc. The packs will be handed out to each pupil and they will take home to share with the family.
4. Raw Talent Youth Theatre – 'Webisode'. Involving 45 young people, the group will write, perform and film 4 plays on the theme of bullying, cyber bullying, gangs and safety on the buses. Each episode will be streamed on the internet each week for 4 weeks. The will be promoted via the 45 young people and their social networks i.e. facebook.
5. Adderley School provided us not with something we could fund, but with a wonderful example of children's imagination – coming up with 3 inventions for new crime fighting gadgets; the highlight being goggle vision 3000. This entailed a pair of goggles that could see 10 CCTV cameras in the lenses and could be controlled via voice activation – and store all the footage ion the built in hard drive. They were awarded a day out to the Birmingham science museum as a reward for their efforts.

The marketing designs

We made every effort (using our own in-house graphic designer) to make the project & the event look professional and seem special. The designs for the posters and flyers were meant to mimic the X Factor programme and the event was set up in a similar style – with the panel, the music, the hosts, the audience – the general format. This certainly worked well - and many young people that participated commented on how well the whole event was run.

The concept

The idea to make the project a competitive process – and even a challenge to young people – I think certainly appealed to those that took part. They liked the fact we wanted to listen to what they had to say – and that we wanted to see what they could design or invent. It gave them a free reign to get on and design their own ideas or inventions with the support of the teacher. We gave them the criteria (youth violence) – and I visited the heads to give them a steer on how best to ensure their projects would meet the criteria, but essentially they were allowed to get with it.

Setting some boundaries was important and allowed them to focus on a particular area, which I think helps. Having a completely blank canvas can sometimes be quite daunting and uninspiring. We gave them examples of the types of things they may want to look at i.e. bullying, knife crime, robbery – at the same time as encouraging them to discuss this amongst themselves and come up with the things that they care about and that concern them – as long as it was around personal safety / violence.

WHAT THEY SAID

Taken from the feedback forms completed by the children that took part – most of whom were about 9 or 10 years old.

“I liked the fact that you came up with the idea of Crime factor for little people”

“It was an amazing opportunity to come here and present my idea to different schools and to listen to amazing ideas presented by others”

“It was successful and we were listened to”

“I liked the fact that it helps young children have a say”

Head Teacher – Adderley Primary School

“I think it was imaginative and really useful. It was amazing.

This has been an excellent opportunity, great for pupils from primary and secondary to meet. Venue, lovely food and a very positive experience.

I’m really grateful to have this opportunity for the girls and thank you for your brilliant organisation and for the whole concept”.

Head Teacher – Parkfield Primary School

- Using the theme of ‘Crime Factor’ was enabling and encouraged the young people to become involved in a refreshing popular manner.
- The young people’s knowledge of crime detailed a really sound awareness of local and national issues. Young people certainly know what’s going on and this event allowed them ‘have a go’ at sorting them out. People Voice! Wow!
- This event gave a purpose to thinking, learning and applying ideas which these young people today relished in style! What a great day! Thank you.

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BIRMINGHAM – MY LIFE, MY CHOICE

ISSUE

Over the past few years a broad range of uncoordinated programmes relating to gangs, knife crime and severe violence have been put in to the secondary schools of the city; there had been nothing undertaken in the primary sector at all. This needed to change and over the past two years, a consistent approach has been taken towards slowly removing the diverse programmes of work and their related messages. This has allowed for the formation of a single ‘City’ perspective on what information and educational guidance should be put into schools at a variety of ages but, in particular, year 8/9/10 as these year groups are the most immediately vulnerable.

RESPONSE

The film and media company Lime approached The Safer Birmingham Partnership in late 2009 with a product developed in London to tackle knife crime. The production quality was very high and Lime were contracted to develop a product specific to Birmingham’s needs.

The development of the programme was managed by a constable within the Multi-Agency Gang Unit who had previously worked as a teacher and he led the professional focus groups that managed the work programme; these focus groups included secondary and primary schools teachers. The programme also involved an ongoing consultation process with 200 young people from the City who helped design the

story line of the film and worked with teachers to develop the lesson planning element.

Bringing together police, teachers and young people had not been done in this way before.

The product of the whole investment of c.£75k is:

- The 'My Life – My Choice' DVD which tells a very 'real life' tale of urban street gangs, violence and related consequences
- Formal lesson planning to support the film which takes young people through the messages and learning from the film and allows for open debate on the impact of gang lifestyles (aimed predominantly at yr 8/9/10)
- An online 'game' for primary schools looking at decision making around crime prevention and joining gangs

RESULTS

It is too early to say what difference this has made as the training for all schools, pupil referral units and alternative education providers has only just been finalised in February 2011.

It is hoped however that this significant and extremely well produced series of products will encourage important debate and discussion with young people about gangs, violence and decision making. This should in time help lower the numbers of young people that choose gang lifestyle and/or commit related acts of violence.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Enhanced partnership relationships with specific schools and the education sector as a whole.

LESSONS LEARNED

- If more funding was available, further development and investment in delivery.
- Partnership
- Involvement of young people
- Making the product relevant to Birmingham at this time

WHAT THEY SAID

All feedback to date from teachers, young people and partner agencies has been very positive.

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BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE – 'PACT'

ISSUE

The British Transport Police have been involved in Youth Engagement for some time. However, it was felt that new ways of working with the community and in particular young people was required. The BTP have carried out notable successful operations including 'Operation Shield' which began in 2006 which was targeted at anti knife crime enforcement and giving high visible reassurance to the community (railway staff and all individuals travelling on the railway network).

The tragic murder of 15 year old Sofyen Belamouadden in March 2010 occurred on BTP Jurisdiction at Victoria Railway Station. In response to this incident it was felt that there needed to be a project which could prevent such incidents and enable police and youth engagement before such tragic events occurred. It was also very important for the police to maintain the trust and confidence from the community.

RESPONSE

In May 2010, a TKAP bid was submitted to support and commission the writing and performances of a new Production by the Arc Theatre. The production would be based on the concept of 'snitching'. The Project cost £20,000 from the BTP TKAP Fund.

BTP Preparation involved:-

- The regular reviewing of the script and meetings with Director Carole Pluckrose and the writer Clifford Oliver.
- The arrangement of consultation with the BTP Youth IAG and Millwall FC Community Scheme to assist at the script writing stages.
- Liaison with the London Criminal Justice lead– Andrew Morley.

From the research and consultation completed by the Arc Theatre and BTP it was decided that the Production would be named 'PACT'. The production would have a target audience of young people aged

13 – 18 years. The name ‘PACT’ would signal a bond between the police and main character within the performance, as well as on many other levels.

It was decided that the performances would be interactive. Thereby at the stage where the main character would be about to make a decision what path to take, the audience would then become involved through a discussion process.

‘PACT’ is aimed at broadening police/partnerships and youth engagement in communities providing clear objectives from the following points:-

- Prevent youths becoming involved in serious youth violence endangering their own lives and lives of others.
- Provide an understanding of joint enterprise and how youths can become embroiled in serious crime through presence, association and knowledge.
- Encourage witnesses particularly youths (gang related or not to come forward or help police and the community).
- An incident occurred on BTP Jurisdiction at Victoria Railway Station in early 2010 which involved the tragic murder of 15 year old Sofyen Belamouadden in March 2010. The Production of ‘PACT’ will aim to prevent such events in all communities.
- That the Police and other partners are there to listen, support and work with the community.
- That by telling the truth it can have a significant impact on future events in life longer term.
- Gaining the trust and confidence of communities through partnership working.

‘PACT’ performances then took place in November and December 2010 and began with a Gala performance at the Arc Theatre in Barking. Performances were also carried out at schools in Barking and Islington, at Millwall FC and also at the Network Theatre in Waterloo.

An eleven minute documentary film was then made during the performances and featured key parts including the production and commentaries from the leads within the project.

RESULTS

At this time the following are being reflected as results:-

- Feedback from schools and young people is that the Production was impactful.
- The post performance discussions have enabled BTP and other Police Forces to reflect on how they speak to the community.
- The wider education of the concept of joint enterprise has been addressed and young people have expressed their thoughts on the rule.
- Due to positive feedback the London based performances, this has prompted national performances in March 2011. Locations include Cardiff, Birmingham, Huddersfield and Liverpool. The venues and locations have been arranged by BTP and is costing in the region of £12,000.
- The documentary will go live on You Tube and social networking sites in late February 2011. The film will also be used as a way of exposing the positive work that the BTP are carrying out.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

None.

LESSONS LEARNED

The three most important aspects of the project:

- Ensuring that the script was impactful and that the relevant messages that we wanted to achieve were maintained (Joint enterprise, communication and building police/community relationships etc).
- Ensuring that the project went national and appealed to young people from all sections of the community.
- Maintaining a marketing strategy throughout the project. This has been achieved through the project being publicised on the Arc Theatre and BTP websites. The new film will enable potential audiences and youth establishments to view the project and decide whether they want to become involved with PACT.

WHAT THEY SAID

The PACT Project is now being evaluated through communications on Social Networking sites.

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CARDIFF – BUTETOWN YOUTH PAVILION

ISSUE

Butetown is a diverse community near to Cardiff Bay. There has been a significant amount of development focussed around it in recent years, leading to an influx of wealthy young professionals in the area, but a sense of exclusion for the historic community.

Summer periods are recognised as times when young people are more likely to become involved in anti-social behaviour, are less able to access the facilities local to them due to lack of funds and so increase their chances of getting involved in trouble locally. Residents often complain of young people hanging around, causing problems.

RESPONSE

The summer intervention scheme response was extremely successful. Young people from across Butetown and surrounding areas were given the opportunity to participate in a range of activities and meet new friends. Those accessing the Pavilion have come to look forward to the activities provided for their benefit during holiday periods. They reflect that it makes them feel very positive about themselves and the area in which they live.

The programme was sensitively designed to provide experiential learning, cultural awareness and training courses offering young people new skills, challenging activities with clear messages and fun built in. Activities also included links to future career paths.

The project operated twice daily with two three hour sessions every day 1.00pm – 4.00pm and 7.00pm – 10.00pm. Part of the intention was to encourage both Muslim and non Muslim young people to spend time together on a project, breaking down misconceptions and reducing local tensions.

The majority of the young people attending were known to the youth workers through year round centre based and outreach work and these relationships were developed through involvement in the programmes during the holiday periods.

The programme included:

Sound Progressions performances at high profile venues were watched by a massive audience helping in some way to change the negative image associated with young people from Butetown. Local youngsters who saw the performances made comments like “I could do that” – showing that the performances raised their self worth.

Anti Knife Crime sessions were delivered. They were designed to empower young people at risk by creating an Anti Knife crime music track to be shared with others across the Country. In addition young people produced 8 individual music tracks.

Targeted Provision - we engaged with young people from three particularly at risk areas. In partnership with Butetown Communities First 36 young people spent the day at Cardiff City playing and training.

Cardiff South Enterprise Centre – offered closely supervised training for young people in First Aid, and Poster Design. Six young people completed and gained social skills, this practice helps prepare young people for future employment.

Five young people attended on site work experience in carpentry and construction with United Welsh Housing Association and plumbing with Cadwyn Housing Association.

Eight young people took part in Sports leader training with Show Racism the red card and are currently planning a week long event during October. Three of those young people will be undertaking Football Leaders Training with football association of Wales as soon as spaces are available.

One young person has created a poetry book which includes an Anti Knife Crime Poem.

Four young people took part in a four day Hip Hop Dance with Welsh College of Music and Drama.

It was important to tailor the opportunities to the interests of the young people participating.

RESULT

The local communities in the areas have benefited from having the young people occupied and taking part in activities during the summer period. A lot of residents in the area commented on the fact that young people did not seem to be hanging around as much and causing problems in the area.

Some young people would have liked to have trips to theme parks, however due to the lack of stability of funding it was not possible to offer this. The impact of this on some young people was their lack of or limited engagement.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The focus of the work is not about improving the experiences of older residents in Butetown, it is about supporting young people to get on well, to avoid the issues of racial tensions and to provide them with the belief that their future is in their hands. In engaging with young people in the programme the Pavilion was able to draw them away from the street based activities they had previously been involved in and so reduce the negative perceptions of them by concerned older residents.

LESSONS LEARNED

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. Secure the funding as soon as possible – these kinds of programmes are acknowledged to help young people but are not fully funded by anywhere.
2. Listen to the needs and expectations of the young people participating, and focus on aligning your programme to suit their needs.
3. Ensure the messages to be shared in the session are clear and that when engaging young people in the activity the message is a natural part of the task, not an awkward add on.

WHAT THEY SAID

No feedback provided.

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CORBY – BOXING PROJECT

ISSUE

The TKAP problem profile identified young people having issues and conflict with authority figures in particular those 30 years plus. Referrals were to be made via the YOT, YOS and positive programmes to the boxing, mentoring and training programme to promote coaches and boxers in the club being positive role models for young people.

RESPONSE

The boxing mentoring programme was launched in July 2010 to run for 2 hours on a Friday night between 6-8pm at an existing boxing club on the Lloyds estate (North Corby). This would provide the young people a forum to express aggressive behaviour in a controlled environment. The initial plan was to seek referrals to the project from the youth offending team. However, these were not forthcoming. It was felt though, for Corby that a generically advertised opportunity like this would still be worthwhile and pick up many young people who may otherwise get involved in anti-social behaviour or violence.

RESULTS

Records were completed for attendances to each session on demographics for evaluation purposes. Questionnaires were completed September & November by the attendees on specifics if they had become more physically active, felt fitter / healthier, seen improvements in confidence, made new friends, felt safer, gained leadership skills, gained more respect and also if they hadn't been doing this activity what would they have been doing.

Attendance has been good and there has been little drop off, even throughout the severe weather in December attendance remained constant. Early evaluation showed that 90% of the attendees agreed or strongly agreed that they felt safer and 85% agreed or strongly agreed that they had gained more respect for others.

The sessions have been well subscribed with a mix of males & females and at some sessions male to females ratio was 2:1. Ethnic minority attendance has gradually increased so has those attending from the deprived wards.

From the funding, First Aid and coaching qualifications have been gained.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

- No referrals from YOT.
- Good attendance from females.
- The boxing Club are in the process of securing new premises which will allow them to develop and expand. They are supportive of running the programme again depending on funding
- The boxing scheme was run alongside a separate proposal around street football which was not as successful. This was a surprise but we feel that

the young people liked the opportunity to partake in activity in a specialist centre compared to the attempt to try to organise 'street football' an activity many of them were already used to.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. Go into school assemblies to promote the project.
2. More time to advertising before the scheme was actually up and running as the lead time was short and the launch was at the beginning of the school holidays when families are often away.
3. For more detailed evaluation in relation to thinking and behaviour changes, referral via 3rd party (e.g. YOT) would have provided case history and comparative data on completion.

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. Advertising is crucial and worth spending time with flyers in Community Centres, schools, sports clubs. A boxing club member won the ABA Boxing Champion title which raised the sports profile.
2. Running activities that are not mainstreamed, 'putting on something different'.
3. Low cost.

WHAT THEY SAID

14 year old Josh says "intense training and a having a great coach...my skills have improved a lot and I have learned to relax more." He feels safer by having taken part in the sessions and that if this had not been on offer he would have been "sitting at home doing nothing and watching TV."

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DURHAM – BE SAFE

ISSUE

East Durham was identified as an area within Durham Constabulary North Area that suffered a disproportionately high level of crime with knives and other bladed articles being the prevalent weapon.

RESPONSE

A key action within the Safer Durham Partnership Violent Crime Reduction plan, developed to co-ordinate the delivery of the TKAP and SYV programme was to introduce early intervention and education awareness training in both primary and secondary schools to promote weapons awareness.

A Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) from the Peterlee Neighbourhood Policing Team was trained to deliver the Be Safe weapons awareness programme as well as utilising additional Home Office funding via the TKAP programme to secure the services of the Be Safe trainer, David Byrne, to deliver some sessions within local schools.

The TKAP Problem Profile identified 6 hotspot locations across County Durham and the primary and secondary schools within these locations were asked to participate in the Be Safe programme.

The sessions proved extremely enlightening, some pupils disclosed that they have themselves carried knives and other weapons or know people who have. Pupils often cited the media attention given to knives and weapons as the conduit for glamorising the carrying of weapons.

The local Be Safe trainer is employed at Stannington Young Offenders Institution. The personal experience and examples of young offenders who had come to harm through carrying weapons became extremely impactful and effective. As the examples given were "real" it helped dispel the myths that knife crime happens to somebody else.

A longer term project within one comprehensive school, Shotton Hall is providing each year 9 pupil with 3 x 1 hour delivery sessions on an annual basis by the PCSO Kelly Taylor PCSO Taylor has also delivered sessions at a local boxing club in Horden which is attended exclusively by pupils excluded from school. Weapons awareness sessions are now to be incorporated into ASB information days that are held in each Comprehensive school on an annual basis. This will ensure that all Year 8 pupils in East Durham receive an input on personal safety and weapons awareness.

RESULTS

Although this project is still in its early stages it has become apparent that weapons issues are not only a concern to the Police but also to schools within the area. All of the schools have engaged positively to the weapons awareness training and have commented that they would like this project to continue.

Engaging with school pupils at an early stage to spell out the catastrophic consequences of carrying weapons discourage will have a long term positive effect for the community as a whole.

To date weapons awareness sessions have been delivered in 6 Primary schools and 3 Comprehensive schools within the East Durham area. These have been extremely positively received by staff who all praise this impact and have commented that they would like to see this continue (I have included some quotes from the teaching staff below).

At Shotton Hall Comprehensive School 360 pupils have received the weapons awareness session. Shotton Hall School have given their commitment to continue these sessions on an annual basis seeing the sessions as a valuable lesson for all pupils.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Several primary schools had issues where weapons had either been brought into schools or young pupils had been identified as having a fascination with knives and other weapons. The majority of these incidents were unreported to the police and only came into the open when the Be Safe Trainer liaised directly with the school staff. This is now being addressed by raising awareness with staff on how to respond to such incidents and targeted support work with those pupils identified and their families.

The use of knives and weapons has become all the more prevalent in our community. Early education is essential to combat this growing trend.

LESSONS LEARNED

- Timetable restrictions and the number of Be Safe sessions available through the Home Office programme and led to limitations on roll out of the programme.
- A long term educational input at various stages in all primary and comprehensive schools to ensure reinforcement of the message that it is not

cool to carry weapons and reiterate the deadly consequences that this can have is required.

WHAT THEY SAID

‘I think that the ‘pitch’ of the presentation was just right; enough to inform them without them becoming too afraid, but enough real-life examples to make them stop and think. Some of the children are aware of knife and other anti-social crime in their area and, I am pleased to say, were vehement that they would not become part of it. The message was clear that their lives are worth too much to simply ‘throw away’.- comments made in letter of thanks by Helen Moad, Year 6 Teacher, Cotsford Junior School, Peterlee.

‘Because we have been previously affected by some of the issues you raised, and because the presentation was very clear with some hard-hitting messages, I think the children will reflect on the relevance this has on their lifestyle choices and take on board the important messages contained within. I do hope this work can continue, and we wish to work with you in the future, should funding be secured for this most worthwhile project.’- comments made in letter of thanks by Paul Lonsdale, Head teacher, Dene House Primary School, Peterlee.

‘Please let the Home Office know we are grateful for the funding they made available to enable you to deliver such an important message and let’s hope they can continue next year’ - comments made in letter of thanks by Margaret Watt, Our Lady Star of the Sea RC Primary School, Horden.

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DURHAM – INTER-GENERATIONAL WORK

ISSUE

Following on from a floodlit Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting which was held at Horden, where youths and older residents of the community were brought together, it was agreed to pilot an intergenerational café project, with the focus on addressing anti social behaviour, tolerance levels and to break down barriers between generations. Also to provide a much needed a diversionary project in the area.

The problem stemmed from youths hanging around outside the properties of elderly residents. The resident's perception was that these youths were engaging in anti social behaviour, causing them distress and fear for their safety, and their property.

Both the youths and residents were affected by this, the residents as their fears were increased and the youths because they were perceived to be the cause of this.

RESPONSE

A floodlit PACT was held in Horden, close to the resident's homes and where the young people gathered. The young people were encouraged to come and take part, and this began the initial stages of breaking down barriers between the young and old.

A multi agency approach was applied to solving the problems around communication, tolerance and lack of facilities for the young people, utilising café premises at Sunderland Road, Horden.

The residents and youths discussed how they felt when groups gathered outside their homes and how the youths felt about being perceived as being involved in anti social behaviour, and increasing the fear for residents.

These initial discussions broke down barriers not only between the youths and the older residents, but also between the youths and partners such as Police, Street Wardens, Councillors and Council staff. This led to them discussing what activities they would like to happen during the sessions at the café, and it became apparent that there was an eagerness on both parts to

be involved, with activities such as board games being taught by the older members to the younger ones, some of which had never played board games before,

and also the older members being taught how to play Wii games.

Groundwork were brought in to manage the sessions, what is different about these sessions to those that occur elsewhere, is the intergenerational element. Whilst the numbers of older residents has fluctuated, the relationships between young and old have been maintained.

One of the aims of the project is education, in the dangers of crime, violent crime, anti social behaviour, drugs and general health and wellbeing, this is carried by the staff in an informal manner, enforcing the message of the Be Safe Knife Crime Education Project.

RESULTS

Relationships between all involved, including partners, have greatly improved. Provision of youth / intergenerational facilities has increased. Communication between older residents and the youths became a more common occurrence, which in turn changed the perceptions and reduced the fear of crime and anti social behaviour, and also increased confidence in the partner agencies.

This resulted in a 16% reduction, year on year, in Horden are for reported anti social behaviour incidents, with a 10%, year on year reductions, for reported anti social behaviour – youth related.

Anti-Social Behaviour	Year To Date		
	Jan-10	Jan-11	Change
Incidents	1039	877	-16%
Pop Per 1000	131.7	111.2	-20.5
Year End Target	On course to be lower		
Single Month			Average
Trend			No trend

Source: Durham Constabulary, DCOP MIS

While no formal evaluation has taken place, the fact that the project is still running 14 months after commencement, engaging in excess of 50 people at each session is a testimony to the success of the project.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The success of the project has meant that the premises have had to apply for planning permission to extend the area used, to accommodate the growing numbers of people engaging in the project. It is hoped that this will encourage older members to attend, as numbers of people attending has far exceeded expectations and has resulted in the facility becoming overcrowded.

This project has earned recognition from senior members of partnership agencies as a model of good practice. Such has been the success of this, we have been approached by other groups to roll this out into other areas. A second project is now up and running successfully at St Mary’s Church Hall in Horden, and a third project is in initial discussion stages to roll out in Blackhall in March.

LESSONS LEARNED

Things we would do differently:

1. Approach more residents associations/young people prior to commencement of the project
2. Increase publicity for the events
3. Increase promotion of the successes of the project through local media, and throughout partner organisations

Most important aspects of the project:

1. Breaking down barriers, addressing tolerance levels and perceptions
2. Reducing fear of crime levels for residents
3. Provision of more activities in the area

WHAT THEY SAID

Chief Constable Stoddart has been very supportive of this initiative, saying “It is a great example of getting communities together.”

Coun Maddison, who represents Horden, said: “When we first got involved, we didn’t think it would be so popular. The residents are wondering why everything has gone so quiet.”

Press Release – Peterlee Mail, Thursday, 18th November 2010

Police chief visits popular youth café

A police chief dropped into a youth cafe to see how it is helping to improve links between the generations.

Chief Constable Jon Stoddart, of Durham Police, popped into the Centre Field Pavilion, in Sunderland Road, Horden, to see the good work being done to combat anti-social behaviour.

A weekly session called Board Games for Bored Kids was set up at the cafe, owned by the village’s David Robinson, after older residents raised concerns about young people gathering in large groups in the area. During a Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting, they said young people often made them feel intimidated.

Anti-Social Behaviour Youth Related	Year To Date		
Incidents	Jan-10	Jan-11	Change
Per 1000 Pop	364	326	-10%
	46.1	41.3	-4.8
Year End Target	On course to hit target		
Single Month			Average
Trend			No trend

Source: Durham Constabulary, DCOP MIS

The Wednesday evening drop-in, which provides traditional board games and sports, has gradually grown in popularity, regularly attracting up to 60 youngsters, with 173 registered.

Now older residents have started attending too. Mr Stoddart showed his support for the initiative when he joined group members during a recent board game session.

He also handed out glow-in-the-dark wristbands to help the young people stay safe at night.

Mr Stoddart said: “I’m very supportive of this initiative.

“It is a great example of getting communities together.”

Sergeant Ian Dickinson, of Peterlee Police, said: “The sessions are no longer just about providing a safe and secure place for young people to chill out with their mates.

“A number of older residents now often drop in to help out or just have a chat with the young people, and this, more than anything, has led to a better understanding and greater level of tolerance between young and old.” The cafe, at the newly refurbished pavilion, is organised by the Safe Durham Partnership through Durham County Council, Durham Police, Groundwork North East and Durham county councillor Dennis Maddison.

Coun Maddison, who represents Horden, said: “When we first got involved, we didn’t think it would be so popular.”

“It’s the kids that make it so popular – they tell us what they want, we supply it and they run it themselves. The residents are wondering why everything has gone so quiet.

“Because of this particular cafe, there is no anti-social behaviour whatsoever in that particular area.”

“Everybody knows each other now.”

“The chief constable said ‘what a lovely atmosphere, this is what policing’s all about.’”

The sessions take place every Wednesday between 5pm and 8pm

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ENFIELD – COMMUNITY HELP POINT SCHEME (CHPS)

ISSUE

Consultation exercises with young people identified that they felt unsafe at certain times of the day on the streets of Enfield. This was highlighted when the victim of a robbery outside a library walked 4 miles home instead of going into the public facility to seek help.

As a result of this, the Community Help Point Scheme was introduced. The aim was to create safe havens for young people to seek immediate assistance in times of vulnerability. Those premises engaged would receive training, be CRB checked then display a promoted recognisable logo in their window.

Enfield Police Youth & Partnership Team coordinate awareness of the scheme amongst pupils via various school based initiatives. They proactively encourage SNT to identify appropriate premises ward by ward basis.

Enfield Children & Young Peoples Service (ECYPS) Voluntary Sector collate membership details, follow up expressions of interest and complete and submit CRB applications.

RESPONSE

Enfield Police Youth & Partnership together with a voluntary service - Enfield Children & young Persons service linked with LBE Disability service, Children’s Trust and other partners to ensure the scheme was inclusive and funded accordingly.

The barriers have been the exhaustive time it takes to initially approach premises, to explain the scheme to then be rejected on a follow up visit in order to complete the CRB form.

Mistrust of the CRB process has been evident; however, this is deemed a requirement to uphold in order to negate the danger of potentially making an

already vulnerable young person even more vulnerable. Common Safeguarding principles.

Much effort has also been put into promotional awareness within schools and community sectors. This has led to promotional sections in newsletters, leaflet distributions to pupils, inclusion on young people focused web sites.

In order to be inclusive a special needs school was approached to formulate a leaflet explaining the scheme for young people with literacy and numeracy issues.

One primary school initially refused to promote the school as they felt the “safety” mechanisms weren’t robust enough. A meeting with Senior Leadership Team rebalanced the need to look at this as a collective scheme with all parties playing a role. That with careful promotion and schools approaching premises in their locality to co-opt onto the scheme then there would be a sense of “ownership” and ongoing monitoring by a much wider group than just the coordinators.

RESULTS

220 premises currently display the logo with an additional 80 being processed as a result of the Partnership day. Examples of its successful use include a victim of a robbery seeking immediate help at a point nearby. This resulted in a 999 call and arrests made of suspects nearby.

A further example includes a young person using a premise to avoid cross contamination after a CS spray incident.

Finally a boy suffering from autism was forced to leave his bus after it broke down. His lack of communication skills prevented him from asking for guidance. Instead he entered a premises displaying the logo who reacted by contacting his parent. What has changed is that whole cohorts of Year 6,7 and 8’s now regularly mention the scheme when asked what is around that makes you feel safer.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Undoubtedly this has helped challenge the preconceived perceptions of retailers towards young people. One premises who has suffered from instances of ASB have noticed a decline in this and feels this could be attributable to their membership of the scheme.

It makes premises challenge their concepts of young people normally personified in signage “only 2 pupils allowed in at a time”.

LESSONS LEARNED

To negate the time consuming element of approaching businesses on a 1-2-1 basis, and the follow up with the high instances of decline from initially interested premises a system of approaching them via emailing premises to ascertain expressions of interest in the first instance connected with local authority applications, funding applications etc.

Link with individual schools from the outset giving them ownership, drive Most importantly the scheme offers an alternative innovative method for a young person seeking help and support.

Personnel leading this and other Partnership projects were funded externally funded working across a wide stream of practitioners / agencies. This enabled them to become free from the Police mind set and adopt wide approaches not traditionally done by Police. The staff leading are passionate, knowledgeable and credible, with a good reputation within their field.

WHAT THEY SAID

Participants have commented on how easy and simple the scheme is. They are surprised by unobtrusiveness to their day to day work being a member of the scheme is.

Youngsters have commented on how useful it has been. Some have said that it makes them safer.

The scheme has received local press coverage, has won a national staying safe award.

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ENFIELD – YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PANEL (YEP)

ISSUE

In 2008 Enfield borough suffered 5 high profile youth murders. At this time Enfield Youth & partnership Team assisted the Borough Commander and Chief Executive in a number of face the public consultation events. Many of these were congregations

of extremely angry community members charging statutory organisations that the black community were ignored and forgotten. Listening to their concerns and criticisms it was apparent that a cohort of black men felt ignored and forgotten, however they spoke strongly of wanting to make a difference in their peers lives by stopping them carrying knives etc. In an effort to address this issue, the Youth Engagement Panel (YEP) was created, working directly with in the main young disillusioned men and women who are Not in Employment, Education and Training.

RESPONSE

The YEP aims to empower the community to effect change themselves through establishing a scheme which the police are able to support. Initially the police approached prospective candidates to get involved on an individual basis, many were suspicious, many resistant to getting involved, disbelieving that the project could be genuinely empowering. However, the police set out clear aims of the project and this assisted with helping them realise the meaningful role they could play.

It was important to be clear in the parameters of the scheme, whilst not wishing to quash their enthusiasm and had to impose discrete guidelines and objectives, so avoiding mission creep. 15 young men and women aged 17 – 27years who had real-life experiences of living in Edmonton & Enfield have now been trained in youth work gaining accredited qualifications; enhanced their skills with conflict resolution, weapon awareness training and other teenage related topics.

They are currently delivering peer lead interventions within key areas on the borough including 3 of the most vulnerable schools: Pupil Referral Unit (PRU), Enfield Training services (those youngsters excluded from the PRU) and Southgate College delivering conflict reduction workshops, drop-in advice panels, and cooling off periods. They are also working on key estates in an engagement role. This work is targeted around gang association/areas. All of the YEP's work necessitates support, coordination and direction from the Police team. This includes regular 1-2-1 debriefing sessions, fortnightly management meetings.

The YEP have gained assistance from external providers in the guise of a venue to house the music studio, transport from Enfield Homes and training from the London Borough Enfield (LBE) whose staff all committed to the YEP.

RESULTS

A key outcome for the scheme has been equipping the members of the YEP (who were previously NEET) with tangible qualifications and their delivery of outcomes to other young people. In addition from the initial 15 members the YEP has grown to a strength of 70. A further 15 formerly NEET are now in Employment, education or Training. A number sit on various boards inc the boroughs IAG acting as a conduit between services and young people.

Part of the YEP core business is to offer information, advice and guidance, and this is offered on a fortnightly basis within 6 secondary schools and the PRU when they attract approx 100 youngsters per session to seek advice around positive activities, as well as other more pertinent issues facing young people. This has led to 1-2-1 work with young people wishing to detach themselves from street gangs leading to improved attendance at school and reductions in their risky behaviour and criminality.

The YEP have also successfully delivered valuable consultation exercises leading to changes in service delivery particularly the young peoples drug treatment service and the authorities scrutiny panel looking at young peoples life opportunities in Enfield. This is a real example of how effective the voluntary and community sector can be in localities i.e. peers in the community leading by example and leading the way in conflict resolution.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Many of the interventions including music studio have enabled the YEP to deliver creative writing sessions which combined the pupils recognising the positives of studying but using written as lyrics rather than conventional learning. This has led to improved relationships between teaching staff and pupils therefore improving openness and support, and educational attainment

During the summer 2009 YEP also helped deliver a diversion project together with a conflict workshop programme leading to a reduction of 53% in reported ASB.

They have broken down communication barriers between school/college staff and pupils ensuring that the pupils' issues and concerns are addressed more appropriately.

An initial barrier which was overcome was the mistrust of the Police. This learning by the Police has had the benefit of ensuring a mind set that the YEP must at all times be seen to be independent of the Police. This has been reinforced through publicity and press coverage, nonetheless because of the nature of the work of the YEP there has been a linking of the Police with the YEP.

The development of the YEP and the strong positive relationships with police officers has improved many historic and deep-seated antagonistic relationships.

LESSONS LEARNED

Crucially the very nature of the YEP membership means that their individual conventional “professional” experience is extremely limited or non-existent. The sustained coaching and support addressing ongoing issues within their own lives is a commitment from the police which has given enormous benefit to YEP members.

The lack of identified centrally based facilities i.e. premises can lead to the members feeling a little lost and can reduce the potential for committing fully to the day to day workings of the scheme.

Importantly the YEP members have acted as:

- A bridge to understanding and hearing young peoples opinions,
- To understand what life is like for a young person living in Edmonton / Enfield.
- Ensuring these are represented on various statutory boards, meetings etc.

WHAT THEY SAID

Members of the YEP have commented on their own personal enthusiasm of being given an opportunity to make a difference, and to give them skills which have enabled them to pursue careers of their choice. They have also said how working with the police and LBE has changed their own personal mindset of authority.

Pupils have commented on how approachable the YEP members are, the fact that they want to be one themselves, a how effective their listening skills are.

Southgate College enthused about the delivery by the YEP, the personalities of members what positive role models they are.

Chace Community School celebrated their partnership and drop-ins stating what a real plus it is for the school.

YEP delivered a bullying workshop with 40 young people some with disabilities, some secondary and infants. This was observed by 20 educational professionals many wary of the YEP’s abilities to engage all participants, given that many of youngsters would find it hard to engage and to stay engaged. Through careful and supportive team work the YEP members ensured and enabled every one of the 40 to join in, share their thoughts, and be part of small groups presenting to the whole audience. All the professionals were impressed and expressed what a great project the YEP was.

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GREENWICH – PRISON! ME! NO WAY!

ISSUE

Greenwich has been experiencing increasing problems of serious youth violence and knife crime across the borough. Inter school tensions between students, with an increasing level of violence and weapons being used, were of particular concern the community, Greenwich Community Safety Partnership, and police.

RESPONSE

Greenwich has undertaken a number of new multi agency initiatives to address this, including the setting up of a Serious Youth Violence panel to target the most prominent individuals and working closely with our secondary schools to share information and provide an education opportunity to raise awareness and inform of the risks of carrying knives and other key community safety issues.

Borough intelligence has helped choose the priority schools in the borough and Tackling Knives Action Programme (TKAP) funding was used to help commission the Prison Me! No Way! Trust to deliver five focused Crime and Awareness days to year 9 pupils across the borough.

The Prison Me! No Way! (PMNW) crime and awareness days are proving really successful in

engaging young people and promoting discussion between young people around the issues of crime, anti-social behaviour, arson, first aid and of course, prison in Greenwich schools.

PMNW is delivered in the form of a crime day. The aim of each crime day is to raise awareness amongst young people about the causes, consequences, impact and penalties of crime. The days include the delivery of themed workshops by a number of agencies depending on the priorities and requirements of the school. The PMNW team provided a fully furnished life-size replica prison cell to provide an authentic experience of prison life, a life-size street set is used for acting out anti-social instances; prisoner insight and gun and knife crime workshops to further complement the learning experience. Days and workshops provided are intended to be engaging and interactive.

In Greenwich, the workshops included assistance from the Police, Fire and Rescue Service and Ambulance service. They have joined the prison staff from various prison service establishments throughout the United Kingdom who volunteer their time to deliver these invaluable learning days. We also included a workshop facilitated by a long term prisoner, who provided the young people with a real insight into prison life. He proved to have the most significant impact on the young people when consulted following the event.

Pupils at some venues are escorted as would-be prisoners to workshops and events. The idea is for the pupils to experience the restriction prison places upon inmates and for them to recognise the true value of their own liberty.

Days are devised so that young people can investigate how one moment of thoughtlessness, can lead to totally changed lives and to help them recognise how important trust and freedom are to building successful lives. Personal safety elements further complement the learning opportunities provided for all pupils.

Prizes for exemplary effort conclude this unique and innovative learning experience that remain long in the memory of those who participated.

RESULTS

The PMNW events are still on-going in the Borough until May 2011 when full evaluation will be undertaken, but the initial feedback from schools and pupils has been very promising. The workshops have

enabled discussion around serious community safety issues and given teachers the opportunity to do follow up work within personal health and social education (PHSE) classes.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Re-enforced relationships between the Safer Schools police officers and pupils, plus interagency co-operation and communication between Greenwich police, Community Safety Partnership, education trusts, prison and ambulance service.

LESSONS LEARNED

Things we would do differently:

Ensure that teachers are fully involved in supporting the day, rather than just allowing it to happen.

The three most important aspects of the project:

- The workshops are chosen with particular regards to the priorities, needs and issues surrounding the school.
- The young people are kept fully engaged all day.
- The messages delivered are hard hitting and allow for follow up discussions within PHSE

WHAT THEY SAID

Year 9 pupils at John Roan School following the Presentation/Crime Day Feedback:

I found the day really good and a very good experience.

I really enjoyed talking to the prisoner who has been locked up for 33 years that was very interesting. It would have been better if there was more videos of things that happen like fires and being in prison and court and stuff.

It would be good if we could have actually visited a prison but you know, I had a great time and it would be a privilege to do it again.

I really enjoyed the day that we had today!!! I really enjoyed all of the workshops that we had I mostly enjoyed talking to inmate who had been in prison for 35 years !!!!! Wow I liked all of your acting skills and I hope that we can have another great day like this!!

I think that PMNW was brilliant! I really enjoyed the activities that the staff set up for us. It really taught me and other pupils something really interesting and made people realise some of the consequences we could

face later in life if we are bad. I took a lot of the information in, and I think so did everyone else. It was really fun and a good laugh and it would be great for your year 8s to get the same experience next year!

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HULL – PRISON! ME! NO WAY!

ISSUE

The No Way Trust was conceived in 1993 and was the brain-child of 3 prison officers, who wanted to do something to prevent young people from being locked up in prison.

Programmes and activities have been continually developed, in consultation with young people. The Trust has grown to such an extent that it has branches throughout the UK and has received an approach to help set up a similar programme in the Cayman Islands.

The Trust seeks to guide and inspire young people, to promote and develop a fairer socially inclusive society, with fewer inequalities.

Our ultimate aim will always be to help young people to recognise their own personal power, encourage the value of learning and develop a sense of the true values of liberty and citizenship.

Essentially, we are an educational charity working to prevent young people from entering the criminal justice system.

RESPONSE

In the period covered by this case study, 165 Crime and Safety Awareness days were delivered to around 40,000 secondary school pupils across the country, in an effort to inform them of the choices that they will have in life and the consequences of making decisions that could lead to a custodial sentence.

The Department for Education, through their Children and Young People's Fund grant programme, awarded a strategic grant of £480,000 over 3 years, commencing in April 2008, to assist the Trust to establish 3 new offices in the North West, Midlands

and London. This grant has helped the Trust increase the delivery of crime days over the 3 years and thus impact on more young people.

Prison! Me! No Way! currently organises around one hundred and fifty Crime and Safety Awareness Days throughout the UK each academic year. The aim of each Crime Day is to raise awareness amongst young people about the causes, consequences, impact and penalties of crime. Young people involved in these days are generally aged 12 to 15.

These days are multi-agency events and those facilitating workshops can include the Police, Fire and Rescue, Youth Offending Teams, Victim Support, Magistrates, O2 Nuisance Calls Bureau and many others besides. They are joined by Prison Staff from various prison service establishments throughout the United Kingdom who volunteer their time to deliver these invaluable learning days.

Themed workshops are delivered, in consultation with the school and crime agencies, which are relevant to issues prevalent within the locality of the Crime and Safety Awareness Day. There is a fully furnished life-size replica prison cell on hand to provide an authentic experience and a life-size Street Set used for acting out anti-social instances; prisoner insight and gun and knife crime workshops further complement the learning experience. Days and workshops provided are intended to be engaging and interactive.

Pupils at some venues are escorted as would-be prisoners (subject to sufficient PMNW volunteers being available), to workshops and events. The idea is for the pupils to experience the restriction prison places upon inmates and for them to recognise the true value of their own liberty.

Days are devised so that young people can investigate how one moment of thoughtlessness, can lead to totally changed lives and to help them recognise how important trust and freedom are to building successful lives. Personal safety elements further complement the learning opportunities provided for all pupils.

Prizes for exemplary effort and music (at some locations) conclude unique and innovative learning experiences that remain long in the memory of those who participated.

Crime and Safety Awareness Day Workshop Information

Workshop themes are determined by each individual school to address local issues.

Police

The workshop looks at anti-social behaviour within young people and the effect this can have in the local community. The workshop also looks at issues surrounding the police's role and helps contribute towards creating better relations between police, young people and their communities. Other possibilities include a presentation on how police take and use fingerprints. The Street Scene, consisting of a house, shop and graffiti wall, where young people get to act out various anti-social situations as both police and offenders, is often used and the interaction created has a great impact and makes for a very popular and proactive workshop.

Fire Service

This is a very powerful workshop and every care is taken to ensure this is educational rather than a shock tactic. Presentations are used, both power-point and DVDs, to show the devastation that house fires can cause. This is a very emotional workshop and proves effective in making pupils more aware of the dangers of fire. The workshop covers the consequences of arson and hoax calls. Real life 999 telephone recordings are occasionally used when available. The main emphasis of this workshop is to educate young people in fire safety and the dangers of arson and hoax calling.

Ambulance Service (and St. John Ambulance)

The workshop demonstrates to young people what they should do if they are ever in the situation where they need to give first aid. Young people are also educated in car safety, accidents, injuries and drug related effects. Basic first aid skills are demonstrated and taught to young people involved.

Drugs & Crime

Using basic, yet very effective methods, effects of both legal and illegal drugs are investigated practically and through participation and demonstration. The subject is investigated thoroughly throughout the workshop period and has through feedback proved to be one of the most effective learning modules offered.

Prison Exercise

Time allowing, young people are provided with an authentic period of prison exercise. This usually

entails "real prison life" inmates walking around a caged yard in circles in one direction only. This is replicated through this experience.

Youth Offending Teams

This puts young people in the decision-making position. The workshop often incorporates role-play, DVD and exercises devised to engage young people in examining effects of illegal actions and potential long-term consequences of such behaviour.

Prison Cell and/Or Prison Officers Presentation

A life-size replica and fully furnished prison cell brings to the audience a realistic experience of conditions and contents of a prison cell. Occasionally dependant on workshop structure, young people will be asked to create a piece of poetry, essay or drawing expressing their opinions about the conditions/ effects of their visit to the cell.

The cell is usually combined with a prison officer's presentation giving an overview of how crime and prison affects those who commit crime, their families and victims of crime.

Stolen

Presented by the charity SCARD and involving families bereaved by offenders involved in car crime. The workshop is sensitively delivered and provides audiences with an emotive insight into the tragic consequences of what sometimes happens to victims of car crime and what the consequences can be for the perpetrator.

Work In Prison

Using role play and exhibits, prison workshop instructors look, with subtle humour, at the rules and regulations for prisoners when working within prisons. Also investigates types of work, bullying, pay and conditions.

Magistrates Association/Youth Court/Procurator Fiscal

Local magistrates/procurator fiscal stage mock trials together with real solicitors and court clerks. Young people act out the various roles and are taken through the procedures of a youth court. Everyone gets to participate in the sentence decision making process and has an opportunity to air their views and opinions. The court is set up and played out as would be done in a real court setting. Due to the busy nature of professionals required to operate this workshop it is not always possible to stage full mock trials, but in full or part the workshop is still a very useful and thought provoking opportunity.

Guns And Knives

This workshop deals with the potential lethal consequences of being involved in gun and knife crime and the danger of carrying replica guns, real knives and guns. The seriousness of the issue requires the workshop to provide a dynamic and a powerful message to students.

Dogs

If available prison dogs will demonstrate their ability in detecting illegal substances and other unauthorised articles when working in prisons. A display on apprehending escaping inmates is also often demonstrated.

O2 (Nuisance Calls Bureau)

Looks at how the network operates in tracing nuisance and malicious hoax callers and the consequences of hoax calls. There will be an explanation of sophisticated surveillance techniques utilised and advice on preventing theft of mobile phones and reducing the risk of being the victim of a mobile phone theft / mugging, text bullying, and the craze known as 'Happy Slapping' are also covered. Using the internet safely is another recently introduced feature of this workshop.

Victims Of Crime

Looks at the effects of crime upon victims and their families and friends. DVD role plays and exercises clearly and emotively at times carry through strong messages. Awareness of actions without thought for the consequences are thoroughly analysed and discussed.

Young Prisoners Insight (Michael's Story)

Looks at the effects upon Liberty, Privacy and Dignity through imprisonment. A powerful and moving CD encapsulates a young prisoner's emotions in coming to terms with serving a life sentence. There does not exist a more emotive interview than the one used for this workshop. After listening to the 8-minute interview, young people will be asked to place themselves in Michael's position and to then express through poetry, script, essay, or by drawing, how they would feel faced with his predicament.

Inmates' Insight

Dependant on the locality of a Crime Day, it is occasionally possible to have serving inmates released on licence to attend. They will then be accompanied by a Prison Officer into schools to deliver a question and answer workshop covering their lifestyles prior

to custody and in custody, crime and sentence, victim empathy, impact on themselves and their families and long term aspirations. This is a profound experience for pupils and inmates.

Local Issues

There is usually at any crime day location a local issue that will be incorporated. For instance Ministry of Defence, British Transport Police, Trespass issues, Street crime etc. We are advised if a particular issue needs emphasis and devise a plan with appropriate agencies to incorporate any such subject.

RESULTS

A sample of 3,075 pupil feedback questionnaires showed that 3046 i.e.99% of respondents felt that the day was valuable or very valuable. This is convincing proof that what the Trust delivers has a lasting impact.

The Trust continues to deliver quality experiences that make a real difference to young people across the country. Through the Youth Forum, Website Forum and pupil feedback questionnaires, we will strive to move forward and encompass change as an integral part of our ongoing development.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The difference between reality and fiction is often not recognised particularly by young people and today's complexities of life raise more challenges than that encountered by previous generations. Crime and Safety Awareness Days are devised to help young people recognise that every decision and every choice they make will determine the life they lead.

The days will not solve youth crime, but working with the professionals enables us to provide an honest, realistic and true to life range of learning experiences. This provides young people with accurate knowledge to deal with the inevitable challenges they will face as they progress to adulthood.

The agencies, professionals and prisoners involved in the delivery of these Crime and Safety Awareness Days, genuinely believe that they have contributed to helping young people stay safe and potentially lead fulfilling, law abiding and positive life styles in the future.

LESSONS LEARNED

Irrespective of social background Crime and Safety Awareness Days are consistently beneficial for all who participate. Beyond these days some schools and

agencies have gone on to develop programmes for students not involved in CSADs that complement other aspects of the national curriculum. The No Way Trust's work remains ongoing for all.

WHAT THEY SAID

Teacher Feedback:

- The pupils are still talking about it and several have said they have re-thought some things they have been doing.
- An excellent day that was enjoyed by both staff and pupils and has supported the general behaviour within school.
- If it stops at least one child getting into trouble then it's worthwhile.
- I was impressed that every workshop kept reiterating that "YOU" are responsible for your own actions and have a choice to make. Too many young people these days take the view that "it is somebody else's fault".
- It really engaged pupils and gave them opportunities to ask questions teachers may not be able to answer or they may not wish to ask teachers.
- Taught me new ways to work with the pupils.
- Showed them how horrid and cramped and unhygienic a cell is – a great way to put kids off prison!
- I would suggest that all secondary schools book themselves a "P.M.N.W." day. It had a real impact on our children. I think you have got it completely right.
- It has improved my own knowledge and will help me in my role as learning mentor with the pupils. Raised many issues which could be included in later PHSE sessions.
- Meeting prisoners who could admit to their crime and show they were sorry was very powerful. The students were moved by their honesty.
- Fantastic! Three of the worst pupils in school fully involved, pupils wanted to stay and see more. Cannot praise the two officers enough.
- Really made them think, one even said "won't be stealing again if that's what prison is like!"
- Being from the United States, I wrote to friends of mine who are headmasters and/or teachers and told them about the program – to encourage them to set-up such a program in their schools.
- Some of the very "challenging" students have said they are going to change their ways.
- One of the most powerful and important days my tutorial have or will experience during their school life.
- Every secondary school student should be involved in a day like today. Excellent day – excellent staff!
- Corrected lots of misconceptions and opened their eyes to the consequences of their actions.
- It consolidates everything we do at school!
- I was with a group of 30 students, some challenging students and whole group fully engaged. Lots of important facts given to the students, very impressive, educational workshops.
- The day has given the students a firm understanding of the consequences of their actions and also made them look at the company they keep.
- Excellent information from all – real life experiences not "reality programme" experiences.

Pupil Feedback:

- The cell van shocked me and the Magistrate's Court helped me learn a lot more.
- The commitment that they have to their jobs.
- The street scene was an 'eye opener' and how antisocial behaviour can create violence.
- Not to get drunk or get arrested and become an alcoholic.
- That prison isn't a nice cosy place with play stations and friendly people.
- The street scene stood out, it was funny and the things they said I can still remember now.

- The prison was very interesting and definitely deterred me from going to prison in the future.
- The prison cell because they live in such terrible conditions and very unhygienic.
- How hard it is to be a police officer dealing with groups of intoxicated people.
- That there are many things that we have to be aware of and we need to consider the consequences.
- It showed how to respect other people's things and not to make phone calls when you ain't in trouble.
- That a knife doesn't have to go very far in to kill you.
- That you should make the right choices in life.
- How the prisoners said they wish they didn't do it.
- Sometimes we are given the wrong impression about prisons but we were told the truth.

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LAMBETH – IN 2 WORK

ISSUE

Young people identified by the Metropolitan police who were involved or at risk of becoming involved in gang/criminal activity within the borough of Lambeth.

Some of the factors identified as contributing to this issue include the conditions and the environment in which the young people live plus the rising local gang activity as well as the lack of positive local role models. This fed a feeling of a lack of local opportunities for young people between the ages of 16-24.

Working with the Metropolitan Police and diversion partners (2XL) it was recognised that there was a need for a long term solution to address the risk posed by and to the minority of young people at risk of or engaged in violence or gang activity.

Furthermore evidence indicated that if the young people were effectively engaged and achieved further education or employment more income would be earned legitimately then via illegal means. In addition evidence would indicate the young person would develop further confidence and self worth. They would also set a positive example to peers and community.

RESPONSE

Based on discussions and consultation with police, youth workers and young people a programme has been designed and implemented. The key intention and features of the programme are as below;

The In 2 Work model is based on the need to identify each individual's employment aims, and the barriers which prevented them from achieving their goals. Group and individual activity is carried out by Tomorrow's People specialist Employment Advisers over a six-week period. In-2 Work consists of eight key elements, comprising group based activity, 1:1 consultations, financial support, supervised job search, job brokerage, flexible provision determined in response to individual need, peer mentoring and aftercare:

Group activity: Provision is modular, with each module building on, and enhancing, the achievements of the preceding modules. Attendance is flexible, with participants only required to participate in sessions that meet their needs.

1:1 support: Each participant has a designated Adviser to support them during their time on In-2 Work. 1:1 sessions include diagnostic assessments to identify participant's aspirations and needs and issues impacting on their ability to secure and retain employment. The assessment is used to create an Action Plan that sets SMART objectives for achieving goals and overcoming barriers. Ongoing 1:1 support involves recording the achievement of and setting new objectives.

Supervised job search: Participants carry out job search activity and complete applications on their own, with the support of an Adviser or with peer support, according to individual preference and need. We offer access to a wide range of job search resources, including internet, publications, stationery, stamps, phones, etc.

Financial support: A discretionary fund enables Advisers to offer financial assistance to address barriers to participation and employment. The fund covers items such as travel expenses and interview clothing.

Job brokerage: Advisers engage with local employers to source vacancies that meet participant needs / preferences. They also identify the employer's requirements so that they can help participants decide whether or not they would be suitable for particular roles and to help participants to complete application forms and prepare for interviews.

Flexible provision: We recognise that provision must be flexible in order to address the needs of individual participants, the requirements of employers and complementary provision that can be accessed by Lambeth residents. Examples of provision offered include arranging work placements lasting for approximately one week with local employers to build employability skills, develop understanding of workplace culture and norms and enhance CVs.

Peer mentoring: Participants becoming successfully employed and remaining in post are invited to act as role models to further assist participants to leave gang / serious violent lifestyles with all the associated risk and harm to communities.

Aftercare: Participants who are not successful in meeting their employment expectations during the six week In-2 Work course are encouraged to continue to access the supported job search/job brokerage elements of the programme or to engage with training, education or employability provision. Additionally, we track participants who have gained employment to help resolve any issues in the workplace and to offer ongoing access to supported jobsearch / job brokerage if they are seeking to progress within the labour market.

RESULTS

We discovered that the young people had many transferable skills that they could introduce to a workplace. That having a job regardless of the pay would result in "respect" from their peer group. That the young people required continued support even after they were successful in finding employment and that they felt comfortable using our centre as a resource centre.

We soon achieved job outcomes and positive work placements with enthusiastic and pro-active young people - often attending 2/3 interviews a week. We keep records of every young person on the programme and their progress which is still available. We ran a course for 14 young people which was funded by the Stefanou Foundation and which achieved a total of 12 jobs. A year later 71% of participants are in work and 21% of Participants are in training.

We have also generated evaluations which have indicated 90% of the young people continue to work or are attending full time education. Furthermore by sustaining employment education and training they are much less likely to engage in gang and criminal behaviour.

In November 2010 we were successful in being awarded a National Lottery fund which will allow Tomorrow's People to operate the In2Work programme for 3 years at our Kennington office.

Unintended Consequences

Two young people were keen to start their own business after a period of employment we were able to offer help and advice to generate a business plan. Many of the young people have expressed an interest in mentoring others either on a paid or voluntary basis. After the initial group was introduced by the Metropolitan police many of their friends were referred to the programme and we have been able to have full programmes without the need to promote the initiative.

LESSONS LEARNED

Not to see the young people as a problem but as an unrealised prospect

The centre needs to be in a professional and aspiring location, far away from the usual institutional environment they are so familiar with. Our centre is in a business complex with many small and medium level businesses.

Our programme has been successful because we offer a friendly, professional centre where the young people can realise their potential.

The Met police are a useful resource and a great partner; they share our goals and are very keen that the young people are successful.

WHAT THEY SAID

The main feedback we receive from the young people is that they themselves are tired of programmes that fail to deliver or are closed down due to lack of funding. They also felt there was a perception that young people are lazy and do not want to work. Every young person on the programme has said they felt the time was well spent and many felt it had been life changing. Many of the young people have kept in touch and kept us aware of their progress and any issues they might be having which would often involve changing jobs or completing a training course. Some quotes have included: - “better than the jobcentre”, “feel like it’s a place where things will happen”, “I have never been to a place like this for young people, wish we had one in our borough”.

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LIVERPOOL – CITY SAFE HAVENS

ISSUE

The most recent Liverpool problem profile on knife crime and serious youth violence identified four City Safe Haven pilot wards where perceptions of safety were lower than neighbouring ward areas. The City Safe Haven initiative sought to challenge this by



providing safe places for people to seek sanctuary as well as reassurance that, should sanctuary be needed, a Safe Haven was never far away.

RESPONSIBILITY

The Disarm Partnership within Liverpool (an executive partnership group dealing with guns, gangs and serious youth violence) has, since 2008, taken the lead on these areas of delegated responsibility.

THOSE AFFECTED

There were three main groups affected, namely:

- Vulnerable elderly people
- Young people between the ages of 13 and 19
- Visiting football supporters
-

RESPONSE

A multi-agency project management group was established comprising of the following:

- Police Disarm representative – TKAP Coordinator
- Local Neighbourhood Inspectors covering the four pilot wards
- Designated member of local Neighbourhood Policing Team nominated as the single point of contact for each Safe Haven
- Member of Liverpool Community Safety Department
- Members from City Safe (Liverpool Community Safety Partnership)
- Business Crime representative
- Liverpool Primary Care Trust
- Member of Liverpool business community
- Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service
- Two young people from each ward forming a new Youth Advisory Group called C.A.K.E.

The project management group considered the following issues:

- Design of signage
- Selection and recruitment of Safe Havens
- Outside funding opportunities
- Visit support schedule for each Safe Haven
- Ongoing management by Community once project established (New Community Safe Haven Board)
- Training
- Planning consents

- Communication. This included school assemblies in every school in the area in every year group, inputs at sheltered housing facilities, marketing and effective use of the media
- Launch
- Monitoring and evaluation

Barriers

The main barriers were time and availability of finance.

The group set a challenging target of 12 weeks from inception to implementation. This was achieved but in hindsight, would have been more manageable over a longer development period (suggest 6 months). A decision was made at an early stage, following a site visit to the Lewisham Safe Havens project, that the Liverpool model would use highly visible illuminated signs and central locking facilities wherever possible. Both of these facilities required considerable funding support which was secured through TKAP, central Disarm funding and a business crime grant.

RESULTS

All 35 Safe Havens are now in operation with a weekly visit schedule planned throughout the year. As the initiative was only launched on 12th January 2011, it is too early to tell whether there has been any change in perceptions of safety. Liverpool John Moores University has agreed to fully evaluate the project and will report later in 2011.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The C.A.K.E. youth advisory group has now agreed to advise partners beyond the Safe Havens initiative. They have constituted themselves and already secured funding for their work

The relationship with the original Safe Haven area in Lewisham has blossomed. Plans are now in place to have a twinning of both areas where experiences can be shared and put into action.

During the process there was broad support for the project to be passed to the community for them to manage into the future. In February 2011 a new Safe Haven Community Board was developed and now meets four times a year. The first action of this Board was to develop a Safe Haven community Week of Action commencing on 7th March. A wide range of community events has been planned including local young people delivering a bunch of flowers and a

thank you card to each Safe Haven, activities for young people focussing on personal safety messages and a final celebration in the form of a Fun day on Saturday 12th March.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. Give timeframe longer to implement the project
2. Establish community partnership board earlier in the process
3. Do entry level questionnaire in Safe Haven areas to establish a baseline measure of perceptions

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. Stronger relationships between agencies and local business
2. Young peoples' involvement
3. Sustainable legacy post TKAP

WHAT THEY SAID

1. The proprietors love it!
2. Local young people have given their universal support

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LIVERPOOL – ESCAPE YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME

(Experiencing Success, Challenging Attitudes, Perceptions and Expectations)

ISSUE

The local Neighbourhood Policing Team from Croxteth, Liverpool (neighbourhood where Rhys Jones was murdered) has for some time, been working with 'at risk young people through various engagement programmes. The learning from their work indicates that having Police Officers deliver such programmes positively impacts on the confidence young people have in the police in general.

RESPONSE

Escape was a twelve week personal development course designed to re-engage 'at risk' young people not in education, employment or training and who were also regular attenders at known anti-social behaviour hotspots.

The project was initiated and delivered by a team of local Neighbourhood police officers, experienced in delivering such programmes and engaging hard to reach young people.

The programme provided opportunities for the following:

- Vocational training
- Personal and social development skills
- Personal enrichment and esteem building
- Real world job experience
- Wrap-around, personalised support The course culminated in a celebration event, which included personal testimonies and an award ceremony. Outcomes included external accreditation and qualifications, raised levels of self-esteem and socialisation, and re-engagement with the world of work and education. In addition to this, meaningful relationships were built between the Police and young people in the Neighbourhood where they reside.

Young people are selected through dialogue with other partnership agencies within Croxteth who agree a weighting factor based on the Youth Offending Service risk matrix. Young people are then invited to participate and engage in the following 12 week programme.

Week 1 – Administration

- Icebreakers
- Teambuilding activities
- Hill walking
- Menu planning for week two

Week 2 - Residential

- Five day residential
- Team and personal challenge activities such as mountain climbing, raft building, abseiling and gorge walking

Week 3 – Community Project - Planning

- Team selected community project such as redecorating a community centre or youth club

- Engage in fund raising activities to purchase materials
- Taster sessions for skills such as painting and decorating to help prepare

Weeks 4, 5 and 6 – Community Project – Implementation

- Complete Community Project
- Handover ceremony with venue/project
- Inputs on making positive lifestyle choices embedded in this element of the course
- Diversity training
- Gun and knife crime awareness
- Healthy living discussions and activities
- Drugs awareness inputs

Week 7 - 'Next Steps'

- Curriculum Vitae support
- Practice videoed interviews
- Practice written job applications
- Career signposting, advice and support
- Scuba diving and power boating as reward at end of week
- Certificates if successfully completing each element of training.

Weeks 8 and 9 – Work Placement

- 2 weeks
- Local businesses and organisations volunteering to support initiative

Week 10 - Community Challenges

- Team organises a bingo night at a sheltered accommodation for the elderly
- Team accompanies a disability group on a day trip as support carers
- Exercise to train student police officers by conducting role-play scenarios

Week 11 – Team Building – Advanced

- Five-day team building exercise on the Glacier ship along the Manchester ship canal

Week 12 – Speech Preparation a celebration

- Each individual prepares a speech about their experiences before and during the ESCAPE programme
- This includes plan to do for the future, their personal fears, concerns and aspirations
- Speeches delivered at a presentation evening attended by dignitaries from our partner agencies and family and friends of the young people
- The young people who complete the course receive awards at this event

RESULTS

- 75% completed all twelve weeks
- Qualifications:
 - ASDAN in Employability Skills
 - Powerboating Level 1
 - Scuba Diving Level 1
 - Competent Crew Sailing Certificate
 - Police Training Centre Certificate of Thanks
- 100% completed work placements
- Two enrolled as police volunteers
- Two gained employment at Liverpool Marina
- One joining the Royal Navy.
- One offered apprenticeship with Arena Housing
- One gained employment in a call centre and is going on to college to study to be a social worker.
- One looking to set up his own business and is going on a Prince's Trust Enterprise Course.
- One completed a work placement with Merseytravel and has applied for a job with this company.
- The one remaining student who has not been signposted is currently homeless, but will hopefully continue to attend Oakmere College.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

- 1,200 free hours of voluntary service within their own community
- £600 raised for charity
- Landscaping of a local park
- All community project areas have been free from graffiti and further damage since project (previous hotspots)

- New local partnerships formed with business and the 3rd sector

LESSONS LEARNED

Most important aspect of the project was to demonstrate that disadvantaged young people with few aspirational prospects can be supported to make realistic changes in their lives.

WHAT THEY SAID

- The young people engaged in the programme demonstrated their thanks to the officers by presenting them each with a gift at the celebration event. (Accompanied by a fair few tears)
- The employers all reported excellent performance from the volunteers while performing their work experience. They have all agreed to take further volunteers in the future

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LIVERPOOL – TERRIERS

ISSUE

It was identified that there was an opportunity to further positively impact on young people and their attitude towards gun and gang crime. It was also recognised that theatre is a non-confrontational and exciting medium to deliver such messages.

'Terriers' is an education theatre production resource tackling issues around gun and gang involvement accompanied by educational software. It is designed to excite and engage young people to reflect on the issues and provides opportunities for them to analyse, discuss and consider the messages behind the play.

RESPONSE

Once funding was secured for the development of the resource, teachers were consulted on the range and scope of the programme. At that early stage a network of project champions was developed to enable peer-to-peer dialogue as the resource was extended to other schools.

A professional writer, working in television, was commissioned in order to guarantee the quality of the script. A theatre company with a track record of tackling issues affecting young people was engaged in order to ensure realism. Interactive software was produced to make it easy for teachers to discuss the issues raised by the play in a classroom setting.

The play throws up the moral dilemmas and life changing decisions some young boys and girls have to make.

The project was mapped against the Key Stage 2 curriculum so that schools could see how it fitted within their existing risk management framework. Liverpool Football Club volunteered to host the performances, which proved to be an excellent motivator for the young people. This approach has empowered teachers to tackle the issues associated with guns and gangs. In this way the project is helping schools and local communities to work alongside Merseyside Police and their partners to reduce the likelihood of becoming involved in a gang or carrying a weapon.

RESULTS

A comprehensive evaluation has taken place and is available.

Data was collected from 127 pupils from 3 different schools; The Academy of St Francis Assisi, Alt Bridge Secondary Support Centre and Childwall Sports College.

The data describes 4 areas of impact upon the young people involved;

- Their attitudes to guns and gangs
- Their behaviour while studying ‘Terriers’ using the educational software
- The effort they put into project work based on ‘Terriers’
- The grades they achieved in KS 3 English

Attitudinal changes are based on data from the Academy of St Francis Assisi and Alt Bridge Secondary Support Centre. The young people were asked to score a series of statements out of 10 before taking part in the project and then again after.

Below is a list of the statements they were given and their scores before and after provide the percentage change:

- If somebody tells me to do something it’s easier just to do it than to ask questions: down 15%
- If your friends tell you to keep quiet about something you always keep quiet, even if they have broken the law down 15%
- We should just accept the fact that in a place like Merseyside some people are going to get hold of guns down 8%
- Getting involved in a gang can have a bad effect on your life up 16%
- It’s important to check the facts before believing a rumour up 24%
- If someone hurts you or your mates, you should hurt them back down 30%
- Guns kill people, if you hear that someone has a gun you should report it to a responsible adult up 7%
- Knives kill people, if you hear that someone is carrying a knife you should report it to a responsible adult up 14%
- You should always respect gang leaders and do what they tell you to do down 4%
- It is important to make your own decisions and stand by them, even when people threaten you to try to change your mind up 20%

Behaviour, effort and attainment of the participating young people showed the following results:

- Behaviour: showed positive changes in behaviour from satisfactory to good and excellent
- Effort: showed positive changes in effort from poor and satisfactory to good and excellent
- Attainment: showed positive changes in attainment

In summary following the use of the “Terriers” resource:

- 44% increase in the number disagreeing with the statement ‘Being a member of a gang is fun’
- 14% increase in number agreeing with the statement ‘Getting involved in a gang can have a bad effect on your life’

- 25% increase in number disagreeing with the statement ‘If someone hurts you or your mates, you should hurt them back’
-
- 26% increase in the number agreeing with the statement ‘Gangs affect the lives of everyone in our community’
-

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

- New partnerships formed with the creative industries
- Greater liaison with schools

LESSONS LEARNED

The most important lessons learnt were:

- In the development of the Terriers Classroom Resource there has been the consultation of schools and teachers from the very beginning. This process has been crucial in ensuring the resource is mapped to the primary school curriculum. The collaboration has also been crucial in identifying the key issues that need to be tackled at primary level. The input we have received from teachers has helped to shape the content of the exercises and has also ensured that this classroom resource will work within the context of the Key Stage 2 curriculum.
- After analyzing ‘Terriers’ in the classroom the pupils’ behaviour improved as they gave more consideration to the consequences of their actions. The lessons created a vital link between the messages in the play and behaviour in the playground.
- However when showing this type of play to a primary school audience it is important to provide opportunities for young people to analyse, discuss and think about the meaning of the play. Primary schools children can misunderstand the message if they are not offered this opportunity.
- Teachers and schools are well placed to offer young people the opportunity that they require in order to properly think through the implications of this play. However schools are very busy places and a systematic approach to the engagement of teachers must be employed.

WHAT THEY SAID

After using the Terriers resource one boy told us he was “going to stop hanging around with older kids and play with friends my own age”

One child said, “It gives you ideas to cope with these problems and when you’re older you can deal with it better.”

“If we were older and haven’t watched the play then (we) might join a gang.”

“Ages ago I used to think I’d have to say yes (to joining a gang), but not now”

Councillor Frank Prendergast said, “By empowering teachers to tackle the issues associated with guns and gangs this project is helping schools and local communities to work alongside Merseyside Police in relation to one of the most important issues facing our communities. I believe that this type of joined up working is going to be increasingly important in the context of shrinking public expenditure”.

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NEWCASTLE – KICKZ

ISSUE

Finding ways to engage with young people in an environment with which they are familiar and that builds upon existing community based activity.

Northumbria Police partnered with the Newcastle United Football Foundation on a number of schemes with a view to preventing young people from becoming involved in anti social behaviour and serious violence.

RESPONSE

The ‘Kickz’ programme provides young people in the west end of Newcastle with diversionary activities on three evenings per week, including Friday nights, as well as behavioural guidance, advice and leadership.

The Kickz programme also targets times of the day identified in the TKAP Problem Profile as problematic in relation to serious youth violence, namely Friday evenings. This focus compliments priorities within the Youth Crime Action Plan to deliver youth activities on Friday and Saturday evenings (although the Football foundation and Kickz tend not to carry out activities on Saturdays due to football matches).

As part of TKAP, Northumbria Police is supporting Football Foundation coaches through a one day ‘conflict prevention’ training programme. The programme provides coaches with additional knowledge, skills and techniques to better link their football coaching activities to wider issues such as knife crime, gangs or serious violence.

Northumbria Police is also working with the foundation to develop coaching sessions to include education and advice aimed at preventing violence and anti social behaviour.

Newcastle United Foundation coaching staff attended the Fairbridge training course “Working more effectively with young people”. The training course

has given coaches a greater insight into different ways of engaging youngsters of all ages and their parents.

The “Safer Communities” message is now an integral part of existing coaching to local youngsters aged seven to eighteen years old attending our courses.

Coaching staff engage young players throughout the sessions using cue cards to stimulate discussion about what is acceptable behaviour within the game, school and the wider community.

The cue cards enable individuals to agree a code of conduct applicable to the specific age group/ programme they are involved in. The cue cards use many football related scenarios to tackle issues such as:

- Unfair play/cheating
- Racism
- Sexism
- ASB (swearing, stealing)
- Bullying (perpetrator/victim)
- Drug issues
- Alcohol
- Safe sex
- Knife crime
- Gun crime

Newcastle United have also provided groups of young people with visits to St James to watch a Newcastle reserve game, with Foundation coaches and Neighbourhood Police Teams attending with the young people thereby further improving trust and engagement.

The Foundation have also worked with Northumbria Police to develop better engagement with minority communities, providing a tour of the ground to a group from the Czech Roma community in the west end of Newcastle and encouraging involvement in the football coaching schemes reinforcing the city’s commitment to create community cohesion.

RESULTS

Target diversionary activities to areas where they are needed (i.e. Kickz scheme) which helps reduce anti social behaviour.

Improve engagement with young people through football related activities (Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers visit schemes regularly

to talk with coaches and young people – they don’t take part in the football or coaching)

Promote good behaviour through football.

Provide safety advice and guidance to young people through fully trained and qualified coaches.

Staff feel more confident to be able to talk to young people about these issues and deal with any potential conflict that may arise.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

A huge advantage of linking in with the Football Foundation is the branding and profile of Newcastle United. This encourages young people to take part in activities, links it to the ‘healthy living’ agenda, develops further football related activities on Saturdays, and influences support from parents, particularly fathers.

The new skills learnt by the coaches are valuable in using the power of football to educate young players how important it is to understand the consequences of making the wrong choices within their community and peer groups.

LESSONS LEARNED

- Engagement with parents/carers is important to continue the “safer community” message away from coaching sessions and around the home, this is further supported by introducing homework sheets and competitions.
- Role models such as Kevin Keegan, Scot Parker and Glen Roeder have all spoke to participants and

family members at St James Park, linking their own football experiences to relevant policing issues and the importance of good behaviour and standards.

WHAT THEY SAID

It was challenging to think of an initiative that would not be too costly in terms of time or money or that the young people would respond positively to. Young people generally engage in the coaching to learn to play football, not to be lectured, but the use

of football analogies helps to make these messages become embedded within a typical coaching session.

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NEWCASTLE – SPOILED FOR CHOICE

ISSUE

The Spoiled for Choice training resource was about staying ahead of the game and not becoming complacent about violence by and to young people. The educational tool focuses on consequences and encourages young people to understand that every action carries a consequence.

The discussion about the content of the DVD opens the opportunity to educate young people and raise their awareness about the issues surrounding knife crime.

RESPONSE

Spoiled for Choice is an educational training resource in a DVD format with lesson plans that aims to raise awareness of the issues surrounding knife crime, with young people.

It was commissioned in 2009/10 by Northumbria Police through TKAP 2 and was produced by Fairbridge, Tyne and Wear in association with Harland Arts and Primate Productions Ltd.

The pack itself is made up of a DVD containing a drama and a documentary, along with a CD of lesson plans and supporting materials.

The resource is designed for use with young people in secondary school or the equivalent non-formal

education. The drama can be watched in its entirety or viewed as a series of scenarios, enabling discussions on the issues raised.

Within the pack there is a documentary of interviews with local people who have experienced the effects of knife crime. These include victim's families, medical staff and police officers.

MUG – the drama

Primate Productions Ltd worked with young people in Tyne & Wear, to co-write, direct and film MUG. The drama, filmed on location in Tyne & Wear can be watched in its entirety or viewed as a series of scenarios, enabling discussions on issues that are raised.

Moment of Madness – the documentary

The pack also contains a documentary of interviews with local people who have experienced the effects of knife crime. These include victim's families, medical staff and police officers.

Photographs

The resource materials also include a selection of photographs from the making of the drama. The facilitator may wish to use these to initiate further discussion. Having watched the films, both the facilitator and the young people may wish to explore and research other issues raised in the drama or documentary.

Although the resource itself was created with delivery by teachers in mind, a more police friendly resource was created which enabled nominated police contacts for secondary schools to deliver the session in schools.

RESULTS

An evaluation sheet was produced for use by the Neighbourhood Policing Teams, the information contained within the responses is kept locally to develop the way they deliver the sessions and respond to the needs of the young people within the school community.

Northumberland did not feel there was a need to use the resource in many of their secondary schools as they did not perceive knife crime to be an issue or priority. In other schools knife crime sessions are delivered as a matter of course.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Some young people in Newcastle Secondary schools who wrongly believed that it was acceptable for other in their peer group to carry a knife for their protection now realise that it is not acceptable and is a crime.

In some local authority areas, for example Gateshead, Spoiled for Choice is used as an aide to deliver the Knife Crime Prevention Programme (KCPP).

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

- Concentrate on a more targeted group – seclusion units is a good starting point.
- Always have an IT aware member of staff to set up – there was one occasion within the last 3 months where the whole DVD played initially instead of the assorted segments.
- Ask a members of staff, if appropriate to relay their experiences – a female member of staff at All Saints College gave an invaluable perspective of when her brother was injured by a knife which really brought the message home as the students knew her & this was at the end of the emergency services and families who had lost loved ones session.

The three most important aspects of the project:

- The engagement with the audience in both delivery and Q & A sessions with the audience is very good as the actors are local and the scenery is easily recognisable to young people.
- The lesson pack is very simple to use allowing group discussion to be facilitated by a range of officers who do not necessarily have an education background.
- The consequences of carrying or using a knife or someone turning a knife on a young person who was carry it is made very clear and creates lots of debate about how to respond in each of the four scenarios.

WHAT THEY SAID

Spoiled for Choice has been acknowledged as a valuable teaching resource with by the 6 Local Education Authorities within the Northumbria Force area. Requests for the materials to cascade to students in their areas have outstripped initial supply and additional copies had to be re-ordered.

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SANDWELL – KICKZ

ISSUE

It has been identified that anti-social behaviour involving young people between the ages of 12 to 18 has been one of the main reasons for police being called out in Sandwell. This can often be caused by young people not having any direction or access to positive activity leading them to ‘hang around’ in large groups which can lead to incidents of anti-social behaviour and low level crime.

These incidents of anti-social behaviour can lead to a diverse range of victims including the elderly, local residents and local proprietors. They can cause harassment, alarm and distress and impact on quality of life issues.

RESPONSE

The Kickz project targets issues relevant to young people, including campaigns aimed at educating and informing around alcohol and knife crime. In Sandwell the Kickz project is delivered every night, Monday to Friday, at a number of established venues. It delivers a diverse range of activities including Football, Cricket, Basketball, Dance and Music.

It’s a year-round, concentrated provision; targeting young people aged 12 to 18. The format of projects combines sports coaching and competition along with dance and music provision. The frequency of the programme allows messages beyond these activities to be conveyed. Flexible/alternative activities, workshops or developmental sessions can cover a range of key issues, from healthy lifestyles, tackling anti-social behaviour and the dangers of getting involved in drugs or carrying weapons.

The Kickz project engages often hard-to-reach young people in target areas at key times and a number of locally shared agendas and policy priorities are addressed. Kickz also provides an outlet to ensure that young people who have experienced some difficulties or barriers have a regular and safe environment in which they can get back on track.

In Sandwell it is delivered by The Albion Foundation, which works alongside West Bromwich Albion Football Club. The programme aims to 'build safer, stronger communities through the development of young people's potential'. The Albion Foundation aims to tie this aim with its own strap line, "Inspire to achieve".

The Sandwell Kickz project is backed by Sandwell Local Policing Unit of the West Midlands Police who regularly attend Kickz to provide support in reducing anti-social behaviour in Sandwell. It is accessible across Sandwell as a wide range of locations are used.

The Kickz project is committed to young people participating as volunteers, providing suitable training, qualifications and work placements to provide career opportunities for young people of Sandwell.

RESULTS

Nationally, Kickz is demonstrated by:

- 2,300 young volunteers
- 170 young people into employment with a football club
- Up to 60% reduction in ASB in some areas
- Up to 5x greater crime reduction on nights when Kickz projects are running
- 112 projects nationally
- 91% provide activities on Friday or Saturday night
- 37,500 young people engaged
- 29,000 outcomes and qualifications

Locally in Sandwell, Kickz is demonstrated by a case study of a young person ("Jonny") who is currently engaged in the Sandwell project:

Jonny has been involved with The Albion Foundation and its various projects and activities since October 2007, activities such as the DJ studio, Internet café and the Kickz tournaments. He had a very difficult and complex home life and a significant amount of contact with the local Police prior to his engagement in the project. In May last year, he expressed a keen interest in gaining some experience and learning more about coaching. After a few discussions, Jonny attended a few Kickz sessions and then it was agreed that he would become a volunteer within The Albion Foundation's Inclusion team, working within the Kickz project.

Within the last twelve months Jonny has volunteered across The Foundation's various projects, including:

- Young Offender sessions
- Kickz tournament at The Tom Silk
- Helped with substance data input
- Volunteered at all Kickz sessions
- Sports leaders award

Jonny's enthusiasm to learn and better himself, has given him various opportunities to up skill do this within the Foundation. Courses such as:

- FA Level 1 Certificate in Coaching Football.
- Kickz – Critical incident training.
- Kickz – Challenging behaviour course.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

We didn't realise how good our players are until the Midlands leg of the regional Kickz football tournament. Sandwell Kickz entered an under 18's team which was brought together by a former Kickz participant and volunteer who now is a paid member of Kickz staff. The team included players with links to gang members and various incidents of anti-social behaviour and low level crime incidents.

The team was crowned the winner of the tournament and progressed to the next stage...where we were victorious! It was really positive for all participating, and they were complimented on their behaviour and attitude throughout both tournaments.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. Be more flexible in the timing of provision, particularly in relation to holiday periods and seasonal variations in numbers and accessibility (i.e. weather, hours of darkness)
2. The project needs to continue to diversify its activity range – reducing violence and weapon related crime means (amongst many other things) being accessible to those more likely to be involved in violent crime
3. Encourage statutory youth agencies to see us as a point of access; Kickz is not a threat to their existence

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. Key volunteers who have an enormous and positive influence over their peers, both in terms of their attendance and what they do with their involvement

2. Being able to bring young people together from areas of Sandwell and Birmingham who rarely mix at all, let alone in such a constructive environment.
3. Being seen as having no authoritarian role or hidden agenda in our engagement.

WHAT THEY SAID

'I started coming to Kickz to keep out of trouble. I was walking past and saw the football and thought it looked better than having nothing to do. From there I started to bring others along and help organise my own teams and little games. It's better than just hanging around the streets'

'I came to Kickz when I was released from YOI as a way of getting involved in something positive. It gave me a chance to help other young people, do some volunteering and keep out of bother. I'm now in employment, have completed my A-levels and have a future in both sport and education'

"Kickz has staged the Carnival of Culture which I attended as monitoring officer for the project. Around 300 young people attended this event; it was very popular with young people in the community. Kickz staff had their hands full with lots of enthusiastic young people. The project has so far engaged a total of 363 new faces. SMBC funds Kickz activities in Jubilee Park, Tipton where there has been a high attendance and engagement in these positive activities much needed in an area of community tensions. Kickz was also requested to provide activities in Britannia Park, Rowley Regis, where there was a history of anti-social behaviour and previously no youth provision; Kickz now provides valuable presence in the park"

. SMBC Monitoring Officer, Youth Diversionary Activities, Community Safety Assistant.

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SANDWELL – URA*

ISSUE

The problem profile for Sandwell showed that 80% of offenders are aged between 0-24 and were male, 20% were female with a peak between the ages of 18-21. Hotspots areas identified were Soho and Victoria, Guns Village, Old Hill and Wednesbury.

Gang culture has a significant impact upon community safety, public reassurance, and cohesion amongst the communities in Sandwell. Along with these issues 15% of all violent crimes were classed as being alcohol related. Research studies have shown that alcohol and drug misuse may contribute to domestic abuse, and the risk of suffering domestic abuse rises with increased drinking levels for both male and female victims.

Menzies and Manor House Schools in Sandwell are soon to amalgamate to become one school. The pupils from both schools have a long standing rivalry that has previously spilled over into violence including the use of weapons. Concerns were raised that the amalgamation needed to be supported with pre-emptive action to bring the two school communities together.

RESPONSE

A series of successful URA* (Star) concerts were hosted by West Midlands Police (WMP) during 2009 and 2010 focussing on knife crime and other important preventative issues relating to young people. The idea was developed and as the result of lots of hard work by many Police Staff in Force and other partners on 24th March 2009, a WMP wide URA* event was put on for over 5000 young people at The National Indoor Arena (NIA) in Birmingham. The event was a huge success and focussed on knife crime and lots of other preventative issues relating to young people.

Following on from this, a second similar concert was organised at Menzies High School, West Bromwich in the summer of 2009. Comments made to staff about the event were:

"Sir, that was totally sick" – Year 7 pupil

"It was the best thing to ever happen at Menzies" – Menzies pupil (year not known)

This event was so successful that two more events were arranged for July 2010, one at Menzies, Hateley Heath and the other at Shirelands High School, Smethwick.

These events assisted in bringing the two schools together in a harmonious manner. It also addressed the negative impact of many of the offences listed in the Youth Crime Problem Profile document, particularly assaults and disorders both in school and

in the street. About two thousand five hundred young people attended within the targeted age range.

Pupils attending Menzies and Manor Schools live in the majority of these areas. Witness (performing artist) is an ex gang member and is able to easily communicate the importance of not getting mixed up with gangs and other social problems. At the event many youth organisations and projects advertised their services and activities for young people. Witness will sing/chant/rap about the dangers of this including first rate crowd participation to drive the message home. Pupils, and those attending with them, are left feeling positive about themselves and others.

Please follow this link to the original rap song by “Witness” <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rOV6h1NNv9E>

Clips from the concerts are also available on YouTube at the link below. The levels of engagement and excitement are clear making the audience more receptive to the safety messages expressed during each concert. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dKoqylaqC-E>

RESULTS

Positive media coverage following events, including in the Birmingham Mail. After the 2010 Menzies concert violent crime in that area fell from 79 to 49 offences. After the Shirelands concert violent crime fell in that area from 248 to 243 offences. Following the concert, violent crime fell or remained fairly constant in the areas surrounding both schools. Dates are compared between August and October 2009 then August to October 2010.

This format seems to be a good way to deliver messages that have some longevity and credibility with the young people, and overall provide good value for money.

Overall, about 80% of pupils questioned about the event said they thought it was entertaining and would be worth doing again. Comments were that pupils had learnt to “believe in themselves”, to “be safe” and that “they were a star”.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The concert also addressed the issues of partner agencies were interested in, for example, healthy eating, sexual health, internet safety, personal safety etc.

Additionally Witness has established a URA Star facebook page (independently from the work he was contracted for). As of 24/11/2010, 1094 people who “like” The URA Star Facebook page so our messages are clearly being reiterated from as far back as July 2009. This is a sustainable forum for these messages. <http://www.facebook.com/pages/URA-Star/139994162688978#!/pages/URA-Star/139994162688978#!/event.php?eid=128636943857986>

LESSONS LEARNED

1. It was envisaged that, following the success of the first two events, West Midlands Police, would hold another NIA event in 2010 but this time to expand it from 5,000 to 12,000 West Midland’s children in attendance. It was envisaged to build on these events with a cohesive message to more young people. Due to funding constraints this did not happen so we held the following three events in Sandwell only, as described.
2. To make sure that a process for evaluation and gathering feedback for the events is put in place before the events go ahead.
3. To ensure that any future event have a community cohesion/anti-extremism agenda within it.

WHAT THEY SAID

Feedback from this first event can be found at <http://www.urastar.co.uk/archives/218>

School Assistant Head Teacher’s comments Mr Paul HARRIS from the 2009 Menzies concert ...

“The huge amount of photo and video evidence of the success on the day must be viewed to gain a full experience of the atmosphere on the day. This evidence is a combination of that taken on the day by West Midlands Police, school based and artist based photographers.

Pupil and staff feedback was collected the following week via simple questionnaires released to a sample of staff and students to gain immediate, accurate and honest comment while the memories were fresh in our minds”.

Menzies school staff from 2010 stated:

- 2500 strong audience.

- First gathering ever of old Menzies students, Manor students and year 6 feeder junior school Phoenix students.
- Manor students were allowed access which was financed by the Sandwell LEA
- 2 hour concert on last day on term.
- Last day attendance was much improved due to the concert taking place.
- Focus of acceptable behaviour and safety really useful for the merging of 2 school communities
- ITV were present and featured the footage on TV that night.
- Local press also present.
- No complaints from locals about noise this year as fliers were given out by students a week before
- Phoenix students still sing the songs presented on the day today - esp. the lyrics about 'we don't do that'
- Event not only tackled the safety and behaviour issues but helped hugely in the bringing together of 2 schools and - over 6 primary feeder schools.

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SHEFFIELD – STREET BASED TEAMS

ISSUE

The purpose of Street Based Teams (SBTs) is to create safer communities by preventing youth crime and reducing anti social behaviour in identified priority areas across the City of Sheffield.

The approach has been designed to increase visibility within communities and ultimately improve community perception and cohesion.

This model of working originated as part of the Youth Crime Action Plan and builds upon existing Stay Safe operations.

RESPONSE

The SBT is effectively a multi agency outreach service designed to uncover the root causes of anti social behaviour (ASB) or criminality in certain communities. This approach has been developed and tailored to the needs of Sheffield but is based on similar schemes operating Boston and Chicago.

The different agencies involved provide a range of perspectives, skills and approaches which when brought together provide a stronger and more cohesive approach to dealing with the problem of Youth Crime. SBTs are designed to utilise the strengths that a number of local services working together can bring by using a range of problem solving techniques. The team will be made up of different agencies who primarily work with young people. The model in Sheffield includes the delivery of provision and teams are made up of Police, Police Community Support Officers, Youth Workers, Social Workers, Head Teachers, Youth Offending Service, Drug, Alcohol and Health workers. SBTs effectively form an outreach service, to positively engage with young people at peak times of Friday nights, challenge and support their behaviour and support them to achieve positive outcomes. Teams are deployed into an area for a minimum of 6 weeks and an exit strategy is agreed upon review.

RESULTS

In a 6-week period of operations in Ecclesfield and Woodhouse, over 900 young people have engaged with SBTs. Interventions have involved signposting to positive activities, including health bus, football and youth centres. Discussions with young people have taken place around anti-social behaviour, relationships, alcohol use and fire safety.

- Young people have reported they feel safer when they see the SBTs on patrol.
- Both areas have seen a continual decline in total levels of ASB.
- Calls to the police relating to ASB problems have been lower during the hours of a street-based team being deployed.
- Frecheville Youth centre is now open on a Friday night, engaging 35 young people each week
- The Lodge Youth Centre has seen an increase in membership to over 35 young people

- 50 young people have registered with Sheffield Wednesday Football Club through football activities at Charlton Brook.
- Over 250 young people were engaged with on the health bus and 117 Chlamydia tests undertaken. Young people were very mature and retained the information they were given.
- 2 core groups of young people previously involved in ASB are now engaged in regular dance and football programmes.

SBTs have provided a visible response in communities to deal with issues.

A local Co-operative shop was very positive about the presence of SBTs in their area and reported they have had fewer problems in the shop since the SBTs have been operating.

Young people identified by SBTs have been referred to South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (SYFR) awareness days in the summer holidays. The awareness days are designed to educate young people about fire safety and are a crucial part of our services work to reduce house fires, hoax calls and arson. As well as fire safety, information is available on a range of programmes provided through SYFR such as ASDAN (Award Scheme Development Accreditation Network). The course is set up for children aged 13-18 who, in the school's opinion, would benefit from working in a structured environment with operational firefighters as positive role models. The course is open to children from all backgrounds and areas within the community. During the course young people are taught how to run out fire hoses, climb ladders, wear breathing apparatus, carry out basic first aid and rescue trapped people from car crashes. It is a practical hands-on course where all individuals get the opportunity to carry out all of the tasks mentioned and demonstrate how much they have learned to their families at the end of the Course Pass Out Demonstration.

Young people identified by SBTs have been referred into the police and fire service's ARC project. This process has now been formalised as part of any SBT deployment in an area.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The development of the SBTs has fundamentally altered the way youth support is now being delivered in Sheffield – this was not an intended outcome at the

outset. The Integrated Youth Support Service vision for Sheffield includes the principles of SBTs. This approach advocates the development of area teams that will be responsible for delivering the “Youth Offer” in the local area. This targeted model will be designed around engagement, prevention, diversion and participation.

In addition, local working relationships have been enhanced between partners, especially the youth service and the police. The police also now have a much better understanding of issues affecting young

people and of those who can offer appropriate support and intervention.

LESSONS LEARNED

Staff consistency and continuity young people need to build up relationships with staff rather than seeing different faces each week. Wherever possible, rotas have been worked out so that staff are consistent.

If this is not possible from all agencies, a core group will be alternated to ensure some level of consistency. Local youth workers who have existing relationships with the young people take a lead and introduce any new staff and their role.

Difference in staff approach to situations staff personalities on the team are critical for young people's boundaries. Prior to first deployment, the appointed lead worker for each team delivers a clear briefing at the start of each session. The briefing reminds workers the focus of SBT remains about engagement and to call for police back up if situation moves to enforcement.

In advance of each operation other police on patrol are made aware of operation so that youth related calls that come in can be initially dealt with by the SBTs. As an example, an intoxicated young person who needs to be taken home for their own safety will be taken home in a police car but supported by an alcohol /drugs worker.

The police stay in the car while the worker takes the young person into the house and speaks with parents. This is followed up with a home visit the next week.

WHAT THEY SAID

Most young people have reported they feel safer when they see the street teams out.

Their comments include:

- “Need more police on the park – we can’t go there as they smoke drugs there and we get chased off”
- “We like the DJ, nowhere else does this”

Staff comments include:

- “Our relationship with SYFR has improved dramatically, particularly through having a consistent member of staff. He has been great and has been able to talk to the young people about fire safety. This was really valuable after a fire had occurred the night before”.
- “We had good existing relationships between youth workers and the police in this area, which has helped with this work. But what we now have is a model we can use and deploy a coordinated response to issues when they arise”.
- “I’ve enjoyed every single part of this, loved it. It’s a fantastic opportunity for the fire service to engage with young people and other agencies in a different light”.
- “Our network has really improved and I now have a much better understanding of different roles and can use different approaches when dealing with young people”.
- One fire officer involved in the SBT commented “I’ve enjoyed every single part of this, loved it. It’s a fantastic opportunity for the fire service to engage with young people and other agencies in a different light”.

Community comments include:

- “we’ve had less problems with youths in our shop since your teams have been around”
- “before you condemn young people, you need to be able to offer an alternative”

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SUNDERLAND – XL YOUTH VILLAGE**ISSUE**

Young people were causing a lot of antisocial behaviour within a particular housing estate. A group of teenagers were congregating in large numbers, drinking alcohol and being abusive to residents from as early as 1pm in the afternoon. This would continue throughout the day until the early hours of the morning.

Northumbria Police raised the issue at an operational group for the XL Youth Villages. Other agencies stated they found it difficult to engage the young people and move them because of the behavioural attitudes of the young people.

RESPONSE

The operational group decided to target the area over a 10 week period with a XL Youth Village, with the main priority to engage the group of young people that are causing the anti-social behaviour. This group would be known to the staff team as a ‘red group’

XL Youth Villages are delivered at weekends in areas with high incidents of anti social behaviour; they are designed to engage young people that are the most difficult to reach. The Youth Villages offer a diverse range of activities within a controlled environment, which is managed by a team of youth workers. The XL Youth Village (XLYV) was set up in a field away from the estate; all young people from the area were encouraged to attend the events in particular the red group. Initially the outreach workers from the XLYV event were met with hostility and verbal abuse from the red group; eventually the group were encouraged to attend.

The red group came to the XLYV entrance intoxicated and hostile; they were refused entry due to the stringent entry rules of the event. Every young person who attends the XLYV must pass a breathalyzer test, to show they have not been drinking alcohol. They must also be scanned with a metal detector for weapons, their details must be taken and they are individual photographed for membership cards. They must also submit parental consent form for any medical reasons and photographic consent. Once all of these conditions have been passed then they are allowed entry into the event.

Over the first few weeks of the XLYV the red group continued to be refused entry, but they were witnessing a lot of their peers gaining entry and having

a good time at all of the activities that were on offer within the event.

RESULTS

Red group's attitudes changed over the weeks as they stopped drinking alcohol and causing anti social behaviour because they wanted to gain entry into the XLYV. The young people have built positive relationships with the staff team and they have now moved onto other youth provision in the area. We have monitored the young people's attendance and engagement on our electronic youth database. The project has had overwhelming success by minimising anti-social behaviour by 34% in the areas of delivery, during the past 12 months over 4000 young people have been engaged into the project.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Since the XLYV has moved onto another estate, the red group are no longer engaging in anti social behaviour because a contracted youth provider for Sunderland City Council has been able to engage the red group into structured youth work sessions on Friday evening.

Due to the significant success of the youth villages in addressing anti-social behaviour, TKAP funding has enabled a further extension of the project to support young people who have witnessed domestic violence. A youth village mobile bus will provide a safe environment for young people currently living in refuge accommodation to build self-esteem, learn new skills and engage with youth workers. It is anticipated that this facility will empower vulnerable young people to integrate more widely into communities with new found confidence.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

- Evidence more of the anti-social behaviour the young people were causing
- Remember that there are over 100 young people inside the event and not concentrate as much time dealing the antics of the red group outside of the event.
- Conduct a more qualitative research report on the effect a XLYV has had to the local community

The three most important aspects of the project:

- Stopping young people from drinking and causing anti social behaviour

- Engaging the most difficult to reach young people into positive youth work
- Ellevating tensions within community

WHAT THEY SAID

The contracted youth provider has stated the red group are now fully engaged in their project and this would not have been possible without the XLYV and it is an excellent catalyst to engage the most difficult to reach young people.

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SOUTHWARK – SERVE

(Southwark Emergency Rehousing Victims of Violence Enterprise)

ISSUE

SERVE (Southwark Emergency Rehousing Victims of Violence Enterprise) is an innovative pilot scheme, established in 2008, to address a clear gap in service provision, not just on a local level, but nationally. SERVE finds safe accommodation within 14-21 days of referral, for people at serious risk of violence associated with gang or weapon related crime. It was launched in March 2009 in partnership with a number of registered social landlords (RSLs).

SERVE is a potentially life saving scheme, people who are in serious danger in and around their home due to gang related crime are able to move into a safe property in a different area for up to 12 weeks.

Upon request from Southwark Council and the Safer Southwark Partnership (SSP), the RSLs provide respite accommodation to identified individuals or families who are affected by gang violence. We do not define those put forward on the scheme as victims or perpetrators as they can often be both. During their stay the partnership, through voluntary organisations, helps them to plan their next steps and secure long term housing. A core part of the offer is to provide mentoring to the specific individual. This is provided by specialist agencies. This enables the person to make positive life choices to help them move away from gang violence

This is the story of Michael:

Police contacted the Southwark anti social behaviour team in June 2010, after a 15 year old Michael (not his real name), was stabbed. Police established that this incident was gang related. Youths from the gang attended Michael's home in Southwark, which he shared with his mother and sibling, and made threats. Michael was unwilling to cooperate with police enquiries but he indicated that he wanted to change his life style. He explained he had managed to keep a low profile and out of trouble, but said he would retaliate if threatened. Due to these threats Michael was staying with a relative in another borough.

Michael was also the boyfriend and about to become father to a baby by Sarah (not her real name) a young girl who was the sister of another very high risk gang member. Before the baby was born threats were made to both the mother and unborn child to get at Michael and consequently the unborn child was placed on the child protection register by social services.

RESPONSE

Michael was referred to the SERVE (Southwark Emergency Rehousing Victims of Violence Enterprise) scheme in late September 2010. A risk assessment was carried out and verified by Southwark Police. As part of this process a home visit took place to assess the situation and explain the terms of SERVE. Principally that once re-housed out of Southwark, returning would be difficult and whilst Michael was at risk inadvisable. The family signed up to the scheme and they were allocated two advocates, one from Victim Support to assist Michael's mother with moves and housing issues and another one to assist Michael with issues such as education and mentoring.

A request then went out to our SERVE Registered Social Landlord (RSL) partners. Within 10 days a void property had been identified in north London and within a week the family went to view the property and signed the licence agreement. After the RSL completed some basic void repair works, the family moved in for a limited and pre-agreed period of 12 weeks.

A few weeks after the move Michael's baby was born. This presented a great challenge as the baby and the mother lived in a high risk area but naturally Michael wanted to spend time with his child. Through the advocates, SERVE offered support to carry out supervised visits for a four week period outside the borough (as both Michael and Sarah were underage).

This allowed Michael and the family to make long term arrangements to visit the baby in a safe manner outside of Southwark. SERVE also worked with social services as the baby was on the child protection register.

Michael is a bright and promising young man. SERVE ensured close working with education welfare officers to transfer Michael's file to the host borough as he is due to take GCSEs in 2011.

Michael's mother had family connections elsewhere in London. The advocate from Victim Support attended two appointments with her and helped her with application forms and paper work for housing at this alternative location.

The family were accepted by housing as homeless and agreed to place the family in temporary accommodation after the SERVE 12 week period and while they awaited permanent housing.

RESULTS

If we had put this family in temporary bed & breakfast accommodation for the SERVE 12 week period the cost to the council would have been over £7,800. The cost of providing accommodation through SERVE was £1,300.

It is highly likely that because of SERVE further savings have been made by diverting Michael and his associates away from the criminal justice system. Since signing up to SERVE, Michael has not had to enter Southwark and thankfully not been subject to further attacks or threats.

This has also secured savings in health care and policing. It is estimated through the Home office Economic Cost of Crime Survey that a murder costs in the region of £1.5m, assault injuries ranging in the £1000s

Michael was able to continue his education and is on track to taking his GCSE's in spring.

To date there have been over 36 referrals made to SERVE of which 11, comprising a total of 30 individuals, have been accepted, including Michael.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

SERVE officers were involved in the child protection case management panel for Michael's new born child.

They had to attend case conference meetings and implement some of the protection plan agreed actions.

The mother is proving difficult to engage with in terms of commitment to finding long term housing after SERVE and she has declined an offer of permanent accommodation.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

- Managing dynamics of the individual and their demands on supportive services
- Some operational issues with the move (i.e. utility cards)
- Involving education welfare officers earlier in the process

The three most important aspects of the project:

- Effective communication and risk management by all partners
- Ensuring clients understand the terms and conditions of SERVE, what the scheme will and won't do and in particular, their responsibility in the process
- The role of both advocates

WHAT THEY SAID

Our partners from the RSL commented that they see the benefits of SERVE as the strong focus on partnership working to solve common issues and a client-centred approach with focus on risk and harm.

Victim Support said this scheme has provided excellent value for money in both preventing harm and disrupting potential gang related violence in the borough. The scheme also promotes close partnership working – this is an extremely valuable aspect of the scheme. Clients directly benefit from this as they simultaneously get the knowledge and expertise of a number of different organisations, which really makes them feel supported and gives them access to a range of different services: re-housing, emotional support, advocacy, mentoring, housing options advice, etc. By assisting clients to relocate to another borough, the scheme's most important function is that it directly addresses the challenge of empowering clients wishing to escape gang violence and its associated lifestyles. In contrast if they remained trapped in their former

residential location it is less probable that they would be able to make a positive lifestyle change.

Southwark Police said that one for the main aspects of SERVE is close partnership work and having different professionals bringing in their expertise for the benefit of the client.

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THURROCK – PRISON! ME! NO WAY!

ISSUE

Our mission is to raise awareness amongst young people, aged 8 to 18, about the causes, consequences, penalties and impact of crime; stay safe and aspire. We seek to be the leading Youth Crime Prevention / Learning for Life charity in the country.

Prison! Me! No Way! currently organises around one hundred and fifty Crime and Safety Awareness Days throughout the UK each academic year young people involved in these days are generally aged 12 to 15. These days are multi-agency events and those facilitating workshops can include the Police, Fire and Rescue, Youth Offending Teams, Victim Support, Magistrates, O2 Nuisance Calls Bureau and many others besides. They are joined by Prison Staff from various prison service establishments throughout the United Kingdom who volunteer their time to deliver these invaluable learning days.

We actively engage face to face with over 100,000 Children and Young People annually in all four countries of the United Kingdom providing a range of programmes that complement the national curriculum. We also have programmes tailored towards children and young people excluded from mainstream education, engaged in offending or anti-social behaviour or criminal activity.

When planning our learning themes for the day we research locally prevalent issues and then build workshops around the need. This is not a one size fits all initiative and we are able to be adaptable which helps build the credibility and brand of our work.

RESPONSE

A full evaluation report is available from the contact below.

RESULTS

Prison! Me! No Way! is a learning for life initiative like education in general and drugs education in schools. We provide innovative, interactive, honest, accurate and non lecturous learning experiences that encourage young people to form their own views and opinions. This helps them to become more aware of the environment around them, stay safe and think twice before getting involved in crime. If you are looking for crime reduction evidence we can't give you that but 17 years on Prison! Me! No-Way! is still even in this the most challenging of economic climates one of the most sought after young people programmes. That's because we don't just talk a good story, we work hard to adapt and progress, listen to young people and give them a real stake in project evolution.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Children often make disclosures during our days and this was not foreseen at the outset. Sad though this undoubtedly is it demonstrates that young people build a real affinity with our staff and volunteers and that they have confidence through the activities we provide to seek support and this we pass to school child protection officers for action and help. Also contributing to Prisoner rehabilitation.

LESSONS LEARNED

Things we would do differently:

- Nothing every learning curve has been important

The three most important aspects of the project:

- Providing audiences with a stake in evolution.
- Being pro-active not reactive
- To many people talk a good story our philosophy is prompt action speaks louder than words

WHAT THEY SAID

A 2010 evaluation is available from the below contact and pupil feedback can be found on our website www.pmnw.co.uk.

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WESTMINSTER – SWAP A KNIFE FOR A LIFE

ISSUE

Over the past year problems of youth violence and anti social behaviour, related to groups of youths have been a principle concern on Westminster Borough. This is driven by a combination of media attention around issues of gangs, gun and knife crime (perception of youths), as well as people's own experiences in their local area.

Across Westminster different areas have been highlighted as suffering from high levels of youth related crime & disorder. Whilst the central areas of , Soho and the West End & China Town, show up as the most prominent hotspots, the problems tend to be a mix of low level crime (such as shoplifting), and late night associated issues such as people being drunk and disorderly. Victims and suspects are unlikely to live in the central area (or even within Westminster), and usually visit on an infrequent basis such as one off shopping trips or night outs, as their daily routine does not bring them into the area.

These kinds of problems are notably different to those experienced in the North and South of the borough.

Here the problems tend to be caused by local Westminster youths around the housing estates where they live, or at least close to where they live. These are the areas and issues where youths concern local residents, as can be seen by the perception data from the Civic Watch.

A problem solving process was commenced that specifically focussed on the localised problems in the North and South of the borough, where Westminster youths were causing the majority of the problems concerning Westminster residents.

RESPONSE

The 'SWAP a Knife for a Life Project' was included as part of a wider response to the problem with a broad focus to address:

- Knife Crime
- Gang related crime.
- Youth Violence
- Youth Robbery
- Assaults

The following agencies were involved:

- Council – Crime & Disorder Reduction Team

- London Education Authority.
 - Westminster Secondary Schools
 - Sure 24 Alarm Systems
 - Suzy Lamplugh Trust
 - Crimestoppers
-
- Metropolitan Police – SCD4 & Safer Schools & Operation BLUNT
-
- Media
 - Only Connect theatre group (Reformed offenders)
 - Ben Kinsella Trust
 - Stephen Lawrence Trust
 - PREVENT
 - Word4Weapons - Christian Charity/Trust

TKAP funded a series of workshops to all year 7 pupils across the eight mainstream secondary school and pupil referral units on Westminster.

‘Swap a Knife for a Life’ is an anti youth violence project to encourage young people to relinquish their weapons. The delivery workshops within schools are known as “CHILL”. The project aims to connect with children aged 11 – 12 years who have joined their new secondary schools and are at a vulnerable point in their own lives. The workshops comprise of a DVD created and produced by the Victoria Business Team which contains key messages for anti knife and gang related crime. The DVD unlike other versions aims to capture its audience.

The workshop then leads on to ex-offenders who are employed by the Only Connect Theatre group. This group has developed the “CHILL” youth engagement team who will assist the target audience in developing their individual life skills. They deliver advice and engage with the children discussing their rehabilitation and incorporating principles from the Suzy Lamplugh Trust. This particular session benefits from a series of role-playing. The third phase of the workshop discusses the way in which the children can help to pass on information to police and possibly save a life! This is achieved via the Crimestoppers - Anonymous text service which incorporates a short but interesting and informative DVD.

The final stage will be the anti-crime initiative. This will allow the school children to design a print for a personal attack alarm which is known as a “LIFE ALARM”. The winning design will then be printed on to the alarm and all school children will be each given one free of charge. The winner will receive a prize

and their school art/sports department will receive a cash donation. The workshop holds an open forum at the end which invites many interesting questions. The workshop concludes with a free giveaway of CHILL merchandise and information booklets.

RESULTS

The workshops were delivered to over 3,000 children. Teacher feedback has been exceptional and identified lots of enthusiasm within the children around the many different topics. Initial results from the children post workshop questionnaires demonstrate a feeling of wanting to stop the violence and restore peace. The children appear to want to make the right life choices. We will also be delivering the workshops to specific hard to reach youth groups. The project is expanding and interest has been shown with a view to a corporate MPS roll out in the near future. We have also had a huge interest from referral units and other community support groups. The “Swap a Knife for a Life” team is also researching the opportunities of producing a comic/newsletter for year group 7 in association with the Prevent team.

This work helped Westminster become one of the top performing TKAP borough/areas in relation to reducing youth victimization.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Raising awareness of the current matters. Youth engagement project to be expanded to other schools and older age groups due to the success.

LESSONS LEARNED

The attendance of Mr George Kinsella and the Youth Engagement Team. They both have real life stories that the young people either relate to or empathise with. Raising awareness on issues that are current and affect young people in most communities has been achieved. The “CHILL” workshop has made young people more aware than they were before. Using an ex-offender to hit home the fact that committing crime gets you nowhere.

WHAT THEY SAID

Pupil’s feedback

“I enjoyed the workshop. It made me feel more aware of my surroundings. Thank you for coming”.

Teachers’ feedback

“Can I once again thank yourself, Stuart, Mr Kinsella and the other guests for yesterday’s presentation. Although it may not have seemed like it at the time, it

did go very well! Keeping ALL the pupils in the room and engaged for the entire session was brilliant in itself and I'm know they will have taken something away from it".

"Hopefully we will have the opportunity to have you back again with new pupils at some stage during the year". Dale Megson - Beachcroft Referral Unit

"Thanks again for coming in – the students are still talking about it this morning so it really made an impact". Sarah Harding - St Marylebone School

"I felt that the presentation, all component parts of it and the actual delivery, completely hits the mark with this age range. The children's attention was maintained, the message was relevant and I believe that the students took a valuable message away today. I certainly look forward to a repeat visit in September and will fix a firm date nearer the time". Jackie Tonge - St Augustine's School

"Thank you for coming into school yesterday – please pass on my thanks to your colleague too. The feedback from staff and pupils was great – Sarah Bailey (Head of Year 10) was especially grateful. We've found the project really rewarding and hope we can continue to be involved in it". Sarah Swan - St Marylebone School

Feed back from the Kinsella family

Dear Inspector Hicks,

Many thanks for your lovely email re George attending the workshops with your PCSO Sophie and I have indeed passed on your kind comments to my husband. He has asked me to email you in return to let you know that he was honoured to work with Sophie and that we hold the upmost respect for the MET and the good work that you all do, that sometimes goes completely unrecognised!

Although at times it can be draining for George and of course brings it all back, we know too that between us all, we can hopefully make a difference! I think as you quite rightly said so, he to was moved by the number of children that came up to him and thanked him.

Anyway just wanted to say once again a very big thank you for your input and please give our regards to Sophie. Debbie Kinsella - Ben Kinsella Trust

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ENFORCEMENT

Multi-agency enforcement operations are now embedded in a number of force areas as part of their tactical solutions for tackling serious youth violence.

Whilst TKAP is clear that it is not possible to arrest our way out of serious youth violence, robust enforcement is an essential part of an integrated and wider violence strategy.

BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE – OPERATION PORTCULLIS

ISSUE

The British Transport Police (BTP) has been involved in Operational activities for some time targeting individuals carrying knives and committing violent offences on the railway network. In 2006 Operation Shield was launched which was aimed at detecting offenders passing through airport style ‘metal knife arches’ at stations across the force. There was BTP engagement with young people and schools but in terms of travelling with young people on the trains there needed to be more focus.

The issues identified were:-

- The need for joined up days of action nationally across the force.
- More patrols with school children.
- Joint working with other agencies.

RESPONSE

Operation Portcullis was completed in June/July 2010 in the weeks leading up to the end of the school year. The operation would be aimed at the below objectives:-

- Saving Lives
- Reducing the number of young people seriously wounded
- Engaging with young people and sign posting them to positive activities

- Increasing public confidence

The activity would involve carrying out:-

- High visibility patrols
- Knife arch operations
- The arrests of outstanding violence against the person offenders
- Joint working with other forces and the rail industry.

Each of the six areas in BTP (for England and Wales) were prompted to bid for funding and target locations based on intelligence for hot spot locations. The activity involved both high visibility and plain clothed police officers.

RESULTS

Operation Portcullis was carried out and the below results signal a significant success from the operation. The Operation also raised awareness internally of the BTP intention to keep the railways safe and secure.

- 11 Knife Arch Operations
- 278 passengers through Knife Arch
- 114 Passengers searched with hand wand
- 194 Section 1 Searches
- 318 Section 23 Searches
- 25 Section 60 Searches
- 18 Arrested for Public Order
- 27 PNDs issued
- 164 pieces of intelligence submitted

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

None.

LESSONS LEARNED

- Early planning with other forces and industry partners is key.
- Identify the best times to carry out the operations and have deployments based on intelligence.
- Ensure all resources are aware of the aims and objectives of the Operation.

WHAT THEY SAID

The Railway Industry were very pleased to see a high visibility presence of BTP.

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DURHAM – DENESIDE ESTATE

ISSUE

The Deneside Estate problem profile and action plan was commissioned through the Local Multi Agency Problem Solving (LMAPS) problem solving meeting (a structure which sits within the Safer Durham Community Safety Partnership) to address the long term issues facing the area and help influence a multi agency, holistic response to the continuing problems.

It was identified through analysis that the problems in the area were deeply embedded, with issues surrounding key locations where well known residents, the community were intimidated, peer pressure led ASB and increasing substance misuse amongst the youths in the area.

These key issues were well known to police and partners but a more robust and joined up approach was needed to tackle the root causes of the problems.

Once the nature and type of ASB/disorder was established and the main protagonists and contributors identified, a range of tactics available to the LMAPS group were considered. It was recognised that established policing methods would only have short term benefits and would not address the problems long term. It was therefore agreed that a more holistic approach was required by the police and the partner agencies.

Deneside in Seaham, County Durham, is an estate made up largely of social housing accommodation. The majority of homes are now managed by East Durham Homes (EDH) on behalf of the local authority. The area suffers from above average levels of social deprivation; many of the problem families on the estate have lived there for several generations.

During 2009, the Seaham Neighbourhood Police Team (NPT) dealt with a number of incidents of disorder associated with street drinking by residents and their

friends. This disorder included low level anti-social behaviour and more serious offences of violence perpetrated by both residents and visitors. Staff from EDH are a regular presence in the estate, managing their stock and tenants, and they became increasingly concerned by the reports of unruly behaviour that their tenants were making.

During the months of February and March 2009, Ryton Crescent in Deneside, Seaham was experiencing high levels of ASB, street drinking and disorder, with incidents involving between 60 and 100 people who were in the most part in a drunken condition. The vast majority of these incidents were either violent or of a very hostile nature but due to the make up of the area very few of the incidents were reported until they were out of control or a violent incident took place. When incidents were reported the attending officers were given very little information and police were hampered in their investigations by people being unwilling to provide information regarding the incidents to which they had been called. Police officers were subjected to unprovoked, violent attacks by members of this community and members of the fire service routinely stoned when attending instances of fire within the area.

The problem profile indicated that the majority of crime and disorder in Deneside is committed by a group of problem families and individuals who reside in the area. Each of these families is well known to police and partner agencies. Those who historically cause problems in the area are also catalysts for bringing other offenders into the area; those who visit the problem individuals often exacerbate the anti-social behaviour.

RESPONSE

The above concerns were raised at the Seaham LMAPS group. The group agreed to create a specific action plan to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour on the estate. A special meeting of the LMAPS was held and all partners agreed to actions in pursuit of these goals.

The initial police approach to the ASB/disorder was firm but fair. This was then supported by the EDH issuing warnings in relation to tenancy breaches and reiterating to the tenants their responsibilities regarding ASB and acceptable behaviours. Intensive intervention work was then carried out with the perpetrators by the partner agencies, in order to change their beliefs and behaviours.

The NPT worked principally with EDH to target the tenants causing the most problems for the community. A range of measures were used, including support to families through the Family Intervention Programme (FIP) and Youth Offending Team YOT). Anti-social behaviour agreements were drawn up, with the majority of those involved curbing the worst of their behaviour. Where agreements did not change behaviour, an ASBO was imposed on one offender and a civil court injunction granted to keep another individual out of the estate. At the most extreme end of the scale, one family was evicted from its home because of their collective behaviour. Criminal cases have been investigated by Durham Police and response officers from the station, in one instance leading to the arrest and imprisonment of one male resident for two serious assaults.

The civil injunction was an effective intervention, providing welcome respite to residents from the activities of the subject, who was a prolific offender. The injunction is particularly noteworthy because it was granted after an application by EDH and it is one of a number of examples of the commitment of that organisation to make a positive commitment to improving estate life.

Durham County Council placed a CCTV camera in Royton Crescent, the street which had been the scene of the largest number of incidents. The camera was installed relatively recently and its effectiveness will be monitored in the coming months.

Intervention work was initially carried out by the STEP 2 project which is funded by DISC. This project was created to support families and persons who were at risk of losing their homes due to ASB. DISC would work with the local people in an effort to change their behaviour to more acceptable levels, thereby enabling them to keep their homes.

At the same time the parenting practitioners were working with the families of youths involved in ASB/disorder to assist them to recognise the roles and responsibilities of family members and how best to fulfil these roles. These support roles were put in place whilst the threat of eviction was still in force, therefore giving the families a choice to engage with the support workers or continue with their current course of conduct and therefore risk eviction. It was recognised at the outset that the eviction course may have to be taken against some families who would refuse to engage or mistakenly believe that it would never happen to them. In truth, it was believed that

this would be the course of action ultimately taken against most of the families involved in this behaviour.

In September 2009 two new projects were undertaken; one was the Family Intervention Project which was established to provide intensive intervention work with dysfunctional families in an effort to change their behaviour to that which was more acceptable to society. The benefits of this team were quickly realised and they were introduced to the more challenging families involved in the process.

At the same time the Families First project was established in an effort to remove the barriers to people going out to work. Deeside was identified as one of the pilot schemes for the country. The members of the team were introduced to members of the community who met the projects eligibility criteria (unemployed, receiving benefits and coming to the notice of the police on a regular basis). This was done in the belief that if the self esteem of the individuals could be raised then this may assist in deterring them from their current courses of action, reduce the occasions they came to the notice of the police and enable them ultimately to keep their homes.

The Groundwork Trust was also asked to provide outreach workers for the area to support the process and attempt to deflect the youths from ASB/disorder. They also gave a voice to the youths, providing some valuable feedback from their perspective on the measures being taken. The LMAPS group quickly found that the young people involved in the problem had given no thought as to the possible consequences to their families of their actions; now that they were aware of them then it was hoped they would amend their behaviour as they did not want their families to lose their home

RESULTS

It is important to recognise that the problems within Deneside will not be removed by quick fix, short term solutions. Therefore, although the action plan ran for a year, the remedies set in motion aim to address the long term issues. There have already been numerous successes with problem tenants, one tenant being evicted and sanctions issued to ensure they stay out of the area.

During the summer of 2009, violent incidents were an almost weekly occurrence in Deneside. The following summer passed without any incidents of serious disorder, a quite staggering turn around in the quality of community life.

Feedback from the local community has been very positive. Anti-social behaviour has reduced and residents are feeling the benefit of living in a safer environment. Service providers working on the estate report a drop in reports of anti-social behaviour. The elected local councillors report a similar sense of community well-being; these sentiments are also expressed by residents attending the local Police and Community Together (PACT) meetings.

Crime and anti-social behaviour in the Seaham area reduced during the course of 2009-10. Of particular note is the improvement in the affirmative answer to the survey question that measures the National Indicator 21 – ‘How confident are you that the police and council are dealing with the crime and disorder issues that matter?’

UNINTENTIONAL CONSEQUENCES

There are now a number of families within Deneside that are working and therefore living a better standard of life and as a result are now not associated with the previous levels of ASB/disorder.

LESSONS LEARNED

- The true value of a multi-agency approach to problem solving in communities.
- The positive role that can be played by FIPs that seek to influence the behaviour of offending families.
- The value of work that is planned and prioritised by service deliverers; their knowledge of the area and its residents was invaluable in directing this body of work and ensured the best outcome for the community.

WHAT THEY SAID

All agencies have been involved in trying to improve the lives of those in the area and there have been significant improvements with residents expressing their increased reassurance and confidence through Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings.

This is reflected in articles in the local press and praise from the elected councillors for the Deneside area.

All of the positive interventions have been promoted in the local media, most prominently in the town’s local evening paper, the ‘Sunderland Echo’. The stories have emphasised the partnership nature of the work and the positive feeling among the estate’s community.

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DURHAM – KNIVES TEST PURCHASE

ISSUE

Retailers either wittingly or unwittingly are a potential source of knives which can be used by young persons to commit knife crime. The law prohibits sales of knives to under 18s but little had been done to test whether retailers have effective controls in place to stop knives and other bladed weapons falling into young hands.

The illegal sale of knives impacts on peoples’ lives by increasing violent crime, the fear of violent crime and propagating acts of anti social behaviour. Reducing these sales contributes to the overall strategy to combat knife crime and its consequences.

RESPONSE

A programme of test purchasing was undertaken to establish how easy it was for a person under 18 to purchase a knife or other bladed item from retailers throughout County Durham.

The premises were visited using a 16 year old female volunteer who was accompanied by plain clothes Police and Trading Standards officers. The procedures followed were based on nationally agreed guidelines for test purchasing (the guidance can be found at <http://www.lacors.gov.uk/lacors/upload/23992.pdf>).

The volunteer was told to tell the truth if challenged but otherwise was told to act like an ordinary purchaser. Whilst test purchasing is a common tool for detecting compliance of alcohol and tobacco, this was the first time in County Durham that Trading Standards had used this procedure for testing for illegal sales of knives.

RESULTS

In all, 33 shops were visited by the test purchase volunteer in the Peterlee, Durham City, Consett, Stanley and Chester-le-Street areas of the County. 12 premises made illegal sales, resulting in a 36 per cent failure rate.

The stores, and individual members of staff who sold, were subsequently interviewed and reported. Most received written warnings as a result of the operation but one company may still face prosecution as there are doubts that any procedures for preventing sales had been put in place.

A press release was issued resulting in national and local media coverage, primarily designed to raise the profile of the problem, educate residents about the law and reassure that everything was being done to ensure future compliance by commercial premises.

Revisits are planned in the near future to test whether compliance has improved as a result of the exercise.

UNINTENTIONAL CONSEQUENCES

Any knife can cause injury; worryingly two of the sales were of Stanley knives and one was of an axe.

As a result of the operation, many of the stores visited conducted their own investigations into why the sales took place. In 3 cases disciplinary procedures resulted in staff who sold being dismissed. The operation caused many stores to review their procedures and retrain their staff.

At least one company has now introduced till prompts to prevent further sales of knives taking place.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. Attempt the operation again using an even younger volunteer.
2. Offer staff training on under age sales as alternative enforcement penalty (funds have been secured to introduce this).
3. Extend the exercise to take in more retailers and other types of knives/blades.

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. The exercise highlighted a clear problem area which not been considered previously.
2. Effective inter-agency working.
3. The exercise prompted many companies to review their training and procedures making illegal sales less likely to take place in the future.

WHAT THEY SAID

Quotes from the press release:-

The Council's Head of Environment, Health and Consumer Protection is Joanne Waller: "In all, 33 shops were visited by the council's volunteer in Peterlee, Durham, Consett, Stanley and Chester-le-Street and 12 of them made illegal sales, that's 36 per cent.

"We are very concerned by how many times our young volunteer was able to buy potential weapons and how reluctant some sellers were to operate their checks and procedures.

"We shall be extending our education and testing of retailers to ensure that the situation improves. As always, our advice to retailers is that they should operate a proof of age scheme and always ask to see photographic identification displaying a name and date of birth if a customer appears close to the legal age of 18." Councillor Bob Young, Cabinet member for strategic environment and leisure said: "It is extremely important that the council continues to play its part in stopping the sale of knives to underage people. The results of these tests prove there is much work still to be done in this area and we are committed to making sure this happens. We simply won't tolerate it."

The Association of Chief Police Officer's (ACPO) lead on tackling knives and serious youth violence, Assistant Chief Constable Sue Fish, said: "We very much welcome this pro active work by local partners to restrict the number of knives and weapons sold illegally to young people across County Durham.

"This is a significant step towards reducing still further the availability of knives as well as educating retailers and residents about the law.

"Whilst rare, serious violence can have a devastating impact on victims, their families and communities. Through the Tackling Knives and Serious Youth Violence Action Programme, the County council along with the Police, are clearly demonstrating their commitment to reduce the harm caused and increase the safety of local communities."

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LIVERPOOL – OPERATION PORTCULLIS

ISSUE

Liverpool City centre was identified as the main performance risk within each TKAP problem profile on knife crime and serious youth violence. The issues were those usually associated with large night time economy areas but included:

- The carrying of edged weapons
 - Glass related injury
 - Irresponsible sales and promotions of alcohol
 - Use and supply of illegal drugs
 - Rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour
-
- Personal robbery on main routes away from the City in the early hours of the morning
 - Aggressive begging
 - Underage drinking

Liverpool has three large universities and therefore a large number of students. It has two Premiership Football teams and a vibrant music scene. It is also recognised as one of the most popular U.K. destinations for stag and hen parties.

RESPONSE

Liverpool City centre is managed through a well-practiced and replicated 'City Plan' at weekends and other times of peak demand. This pre-planned approach has served the City well over recent years.

Operation Portcullis augments the City Plan and provides an intelligence driven spontaneous response to issues requiring the use of alternative tactics. Examples of these issues are:

- Elevated levels of assaults inside nightclubs
- Glass and weapon related injuries occurring in public open spaces
- Robbery spikes on routes out of the City
- Large groups of rowdy visitors travelling between night club areas

Resourcing and Deployment

During Portcullis operations two/three Police personnel carriers deploy to the City under the direction of a Police Inspector. The resources operate as one public order Unit with 2/3 serials throughout

the operation. Each serial has the capacity to operate independently should the need arise. The operations can be comfortably delivered with two Sergeants and eight Constables but are normally augmented with 6 – 8 Special Constables and a variety of partner agency staff depending on the tactics being used.

The five core Portcullis tactics are further described below:

Clubsafe

This tactic enables safe access and egress from problematic nightclubs.

Portcullis patrols deploy in convoy to a problematic nightclub where intelligence has indicated a need for assessment, enforcement or intervention. On arrival at the nightclub the vehicles create a safe area and officers deploy in public order formation to the building line immediately outside of the venue forming a loose cordon. They remain here until further directed.

The Bronze Commander approaches the venue and requests the attendance of the Designated Premises Supervisor. Once they are present the Clubsafe Team is deployed inside of the premises.

They enter in single file one metre apart and move in an anti-clockwise direction around the nightclub. A Sergeant controls their progress and is responsible for dynamically risk assessing the venue as they move through. Officers engage with members of the public and reassure them that they are there to keep them safe and that this is a regular approach we take to achieve this. As they move through the premises they scan for four main issues:

1. Under age drinkers
2. Irresponsible sales/promotions
3. Clearly inebriated people
4. Evidence of drugs misuse particularly in toilet areas

Once complete, the Officers re-form at their original position and await instruction. They are encouraged to speak with passers-by and reassure them that they are there for their safety.

The Sergeant then reports to the Bronze Commander the finding of their dynamic risk assessment. This could include the identification of problem individuals inside of the premises, overcrowding, evidence of drugs misuse or inebriation. Once this process is

complete a decision is made on how to deal with each issue. This often requires intervention from the Designated Premise Supervisor such as when asked to remove under aged people for identity checks at the door.

Once all checks are complete including licensing visit ledgers and Security Industry Authority badge checks, a street debriefing is conducted and the Portcullis patrols return to their vehicle and deploy to the next venue.

This approach has been highly effective in dealing with a wide range of issues that are known to occur within nightclubs in a safe and efficient manner. Agency 'bolt-on' operations can be conducted in this manner such as in a recent Gambling Commission operation where their safety whilst entering an illicit gambling den was of concern to that organisation.

Pulse

A hybrid of public order and search tactics enabling the scanning of large public open spaces within the night time economy

Whilst deployed on Operation Portcullis officers can move between any one of the five core tactics without further briefing. This is particularly useful if 'hot' intelligence is received relating to their areas of responsibility such as when recently a dangerous person wanted for murder was believed to be inside of a nightclub.

The Pulse tactics employed by Portcullis patrols involve deploying from the Police Personnel carrier into an area to be assessed. The following tactics are used:

- Loose cordon on the move – one/two ranks with officers 3-5 metres apart. During this and other Pulse tactics officers scan for discarded glass, aggressive beggars, clearly inebriated members of the public and problem groups. Once any of these is encountered the officers halt and each issue is dealt with before proceeding. This provides a highly visible uniformed presence while the intervention is in place. Again, officers are encouraged to communicate the key messages that 1. We are here to keep them safe, 2. We are there to deal with problem people, and 3. Provide a welcome to the City for visitors. This is almost always well received, particularly by visitors who openly report that it makes them feel safe.

- Single file patrol down centre of Road, down alley or along pavement. Here the patrols space themselves at least 5 metres apart and this has a big impact in terms of how visible the Unit appears. Again, the same core messages are communicated during this activity

Union

Multi-agency licensing enforcement (please see Operation Union case study below).

Proactive Robbery Reduction

Removal of potential victims from vulnerable locations

Later on in the evening/early hours of the morning, Portcullis resources deploy to vulnerable routes away from the City. They scan for people who are clearly vulnerable, e.g. drunken students on their mobile phones on the way back to Halls; visitors clearly lost trying to find their hotels etc. The patrol assesses the risk to the individual and offers one of the below:

- Advice on their vulnerability and how to stay safe
- Directions to their intended destination
- Removal if their risk factors are so great that leaving them in situ would lead to the likelihood of victimisation. In this scenario they would normally be moved a short distance to a taxi rank, Halls or hotel (if lost visitor)

This approach has had a dramatic impact on the volume of personal robberies on routes out of the City.

Lockdown

Seal and search of problematic open areas.

Portcullis patrols have the benefit of safety arches, FG1 security poles, search mitts and search wands at their disposal. During this tactic patrols deploy with the equipment and lock down an area for a period of time no less than 30 minutes and not exceeding 2 hours.

The intention is to scan people for weapons when entering nightclub areas such as Squares or high volume High Streets. This has the effect of creating a perception of entering a safe space where the core Portcullis safety messages are communicated.

Having created the desired impact, the equipment is removed and set up in a secondary area under the same conditions. This creates a perception that there is nowhere in the City where it is safe to carry a weapon.

An extension of this tactic, using the FG1 security poles, mitts and wands is the ability to attend any premises where there has been a weapon related assault. A quick time search on exit operation can easily be established without having to search every person leaving a nightclub.

RESULTS

Since the introduction of this approach with the first Portcullis Operation, knife crime in the City of Liverpool has reduced by 60% and serious youth violence by 13.6%

The perception of nightclub owners on how we deal with problematic premises has changed. The well-run establishments welcome the change in tactics and the problematic premises grudgingly change their working practices.

For example, three nightclubs already in 2011 have been successfully taken to licensing review based solely on information supplied through Clubsafe and Union operations.

The Portcullis tactics are currently being reviewed by the Public Order Training Department with a view to submission to the national ACPO group dealing with Mutual Aid Standard Tactics for their dissemination nationally.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

There has been a clear case made for the use of these tactics across our night-time economy areas. The limiting factor for this is one of resources. We have attempted to narrow this gap by the training and development of the Special Constabulary but this remains a constant hurdle to overcome.

LESSONS LEARNED

Things we would do differently:

1. Have tactics quality assured centrally earlier than was planned. This would have enabled us to roll them out across the Force much sooner

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. A different way to address City centre violence
2. The ability to change tactics based on intelligence

3. Additional resilience offered as a 1st reserve for other Public Order issues emerging across the BCU during the operation

WHAT THEY SAID

1. Good licensees like the tactics
2. Poor licensees don't
3. Officers enjoy the dynamic elements to the operation and really engage with the problem solving aspects of the tactics
4. Great feedback from members of the public, particularly visitors to Liverpool

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LIVERPOOL – OPERATION UNION

ISSUE

The poor management of licensed premises in Liverpool City centre which were addressed on an agency by agency basis with collaboration sitting outside of operational delivery. Additionally intelligence indicated a likelihood of an increase in offences where more than one agency is a stakeholder, e.g. under age drinking, poor refuse management due to volume, flouting of capacity within night clubs, breaches of licences, selling of counterfeit/non-duty paid alcohol, in house repeat violence offences etc.

RESPONSE

Operation Union is essentially, a multi-agency licensing enforcement operation bringing together the resources and expertise of the following agencies:

- Trading Standards
- HM Revenue and Customs
- City Council Licensing
- Fire and Rescue Service
- Environmental Enforcement Department
- Immigration Service (Where intelligence indicates immigration offences)
- Police

A multi-agency planning meeting occurs within 48 hrs of each operation where intelligence is merged and target premises agreed. The multi-agency team then deploys in mixed convoy to each venue and a wide range of compliance checks are made. All information is reported and recorded real time on a multi-agency

check sheet. At the conclusion of the operation this check sheet is copied and shared with all partners. Street briefings between each visit add impact as members of the public see this visible representation of the partnership in action.

This has resulted in:

- New partnership agreement indicating roles, responsibilities and limitations of each agency
- Joint planning for each operation
- Free flow of intelligence between partners allowing prioritisation of target premises
- Mobilisation of a large number of staff adding to the effect
- Shared responsibility for financing each aspect of the operation making each one cost effective for the relevant agencies

RESULTS

- Development of the strategic and operational/ tactical relationships between each partner agency
- Problematic premises held to account by multiple partners
- Reductions in a wide range of associated offences within premises
- High level of compliance on follow up visits with little or no re-offending
- Crime on every occasion has reduced compared to the same date the previous year

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

- The word gets around very quickly and the tactics have a 'halo' effect in that by the time the operation reaches the 4th or 5th venue each is on their best behaviour
- Agencies now have a deeper understanding of each others challenges

- Spin off operations in similar fields are now common place, e.g. use of Fire Service in High Visibility Patrols on peak evenings as an additional uniformed presence
- Environmental Enforcement Officers have more powers than most to take a zero tolerance approach. This has been invaluable in dealing with premises resistant to change

LESSONS LEARNED

Things we would do differently:

1. Should have done this sooner

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. Stronger relationships between agencies
2. Stronger relationships between operational staff
3. New way of achieving more with the same resources

WHAT THEY SAID

- Universal support from all involved
- Good feedback from well run night clubs that we are holding the problematic clubs to account
- Great real time feedback from visitors to the City. Many comments on how safe it feels with us there

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NOTTINGHAM – CANNING CIRCUS – POLICE YOUTH/SERVICE

ISSUE

Throughout a number of weeks in May there were a number of issues between different factions of the Iraqi Kurdish Community resulting in violence, act of criminal damage and disorder.

The majority of those involved are under 24 years of age and often in possession of knives and other weapons. This conflict resulted in two serious assaults involving knives on the weekend beginning 15th May 2010. These incidents were a reflection of broader tensions within the area, reflected both in terms of high call numbers through reporting incidents, a breakdown in trust between community groups and the police.

Contributing to the issues are a number of vulnerable females some as young as 13 from around the area who are attracted to both groups. These girls are supplied with alcohol and because of their vulnerability exposed to sexual exploitation.

The Canning area is also a regular hotspot for ASB involving large groups of local juveniles congregating in the locality, which exacerbates the problems. Due to the numbers of youths in the vicinity there is a perception within the local community that there are organised gangs intent on criminality although there is little current evidence for this.

RESPONSE

The proposal was that throughout the summer period a joint approach to be made by the Police and Targeted Youth Support including more intensive intervention such as IIP to get to the root cause of the issues and provide solutions. The work provided a targeted and consistent response to an issue highlighted through both quantitative and qualitative data and information.

The response was multi agency in nature, drawing together Police, Community Protection, YOT, Targeted Youth Support as well as input and support from community contacts, local businesses.

There were no obvious barriers to this form of delivery. The barrier to delivery was funding.

This approach used the problem solving triangle; targeting the offenders through intervention and enforcement and prosecuting those who exploit the girls and are involved in violence; high visibility community reassurance patrols by taking positive police action at key locations at key times, and, after identifying the juvenile female victims, providing engagement opportunities, support and referral to the relevant agencies and family intervention where appropriate.

No one agency did anything completely different, the difference lies in the fact that genuine multi-agency planning took place prior to delivery of the operation rather than as an afterthought.

RESULTS

A number of young women are now engaged with services targeted at working with those experiencing sexual exploitation.

The organisation Prostitutes Outreach Service has now developed some of their key staff to work with young women experiencing sexual exploitation of this nature.

Awareness raising sessions are now being developed with the key secondary schools in the area to ensure they are able to identify young women at risk of sexual exploitation.

Despite a reduction in intensity of delivery around this work offending and reported incidents have remained significantly lower than previously (it should be noted that as other capacity issues have emerged as a result of reduced funding there has been an increase in reported offending within certain areas – this has tended to be sexual offences rather than youth violence).

Other benefits

The level of incidents reported has declined significantly since the operation. Local beat officers report greater levels of trust within the community attributing this to their ability to deliver consistent. Quantitative data backs this up at an area level, as it stands there has been no analysis around the specific geographic location where the bulk of this activity took place.

The model generated useful learning about multi-agency working and planning. This learning has been taken on and is informing further work targeted around gang identification and engagement.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Children's Social Care are now aware of an area of sexual exploitation that has previously been relatively hidden, this has promoted greater information sharing at an earlier stage in the identification process and raised awareness in relation to an area of sexual exploitation that had previously been relatively hidden. A network has developed of key frontline services who share information on a regular basis and ensure that those young women identified (through other routes) as vulnerable are highlighted to Beat Managers and the POW Detached Street Work Team to ensure that if they are seen appropriate support can be offered.

LESSONS LEARNED

1. Holistic planning – including intervention planning that could be sustained past initial targeted engagement.

2. Timing of intervention (both challenge and support) ensuring engagement could be maintained (reducing drop off between engagement and referral).
3. Clearly defined target group based on strong intelligence and robust analysis of area and issue.

WHAT THEY SAID

One young woman has now moved, with her baby, out of the area to a refuge and feels safe and supported as a result of the intervention she received.

Local community contacts have made clear their support for the project, the work has helped build links between the police and some of the harder to reach groups within this area.

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OLDHAM – GATEWAY OPERATION

ISSUE

In Oldham research indicates that territorial group of young men regularly use the public transport system to travel to other areas of the Town to engage in fighting with weapons with rival groups. These incidents often lead to escalating tit-for-tat fights.

RESPONSE

To prevent these incidents Gateway operations are run on the network at various times of day and night.

TKAP has funded the development of Gateway Operations, which are co-ordinated by The Challenge and Support Team (CAST), and enthusiastically supported by the local Neighbourhood Policing Team and the partnerships organisations of the Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive (GMPTE) and First Manchester buses.

The methodology behind these operations is the application of the National Intelligence Model problem solving approach at the heart of which is a tiered partnership response which links diversionary activity to enforcement action.

Following the visible street based briefing to all staff; the objective of attending specific intelligence led

locations to board passing buses on the arterial routes was then implemented.

This enforcement is proactively dealt with by three teams consisting of Police Officers, Bus Revenue Inspectors and Youth Workers who target individuals committing offences of fare evasion and identification fraud.

The briefing highlights specific offenders who the Staff then target and engage with.

This proactive approach enables the mixed team of staff to identify emerging offenders whose offending behaviour can quickly escalate.

An example of this was a young man who came to notice for anti-social behaviour across the Borough at times which were inappropriate for his age. He was using and offending on the public transport network.

A Youth Worker and Police Officer undertook a home visit and spoke to the Offender in the presence of his Mother. There were child protection issues present and evidence of high risk domestic violence. The Mother refused to engage in the Common Assessment Framework process. The Challenge and Support Team are now working with the family on a non-negotiable basis and acting as a single point of contact for Agencies trying to work with the family.

The CAST Team deliver Restorative Justice approaches to both individual crime and gang related violence.

This was demonstrated when they were working with a group of young offenders and one individual attended group work in a Youth Centre actually carrying a knife. This offence presented an opportunity to highlight the risks in carrying a weapon and the tension within the area, which caused the offender to carry the weapon.

The combining of other sets of data and intelligence allows for an approach which delivers better value for money. The development of Gateway and Truancy operations has recently led to a day of action which in a small community identified 20 persistent truants and returned them to school except one who was under the influence of drugs and was in possession of cocaine.

RESULTS

During an operation of 4 November 2010 over 57 buses were boarded and over 690 people were spoken to. A total of 23 PNC checks were carried out resulting

in some 25 people being prosecuted for none payment of fines. The importance and immediate success of

this type of operation soon became evident when officers arrested a middle-aged male on the top deck of a bus for a serious offence that had been committed only hours earlier.

It transpired that this male, who was later charged and remanded for the offence of Robbery, had entered into the house of the victim and demanded money whilst holding a pair of scissors at his neck. When the victim has then fled the address, the offender has then pursued him outside and stabbed him some four times in his back before fleeing the scene.

As a result of the due diligence of the officers on this operation, who had only earlier become aware of the circumstances of that incident and the descriptions of the offender, a serious offender was swiftly apprehended and taken from the streets. He is currently remanded in custody awaiting Crown Court trial.

26 Gateway Operations have been carried out between the period of February 2010 to December 2010 which equates to 1,653 buses being boarded, 667 police checks for fare evasion and just fewer than 29000 people having a positive experience with the CAST police team and partner agencies. In addition 12 Restorative Justice interventions resulted from this activity.

To complement the enforcement activity Schools were invited to join a competition to produce an awareness raising poster to reduce anti-social behaviour on the public transport system and to reduce truancy. This competition was sponsored by the Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive and Local Bus Companies who provided prizes for the winning entrants.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The operations have had a tremendous positive effect on the bus passengers. This was highlighted after surveys were conducted whilst the operation was ongoing and the clear message received was people felt reassured and safer in the communities in which they travelled.

Positive action taken by the CAST and bus inspectors also had a big effect on the bus passengers and

those using the areas in and around the bus stations. Previously large gangs of youths congregated in those areas raised the fear of crime and personal safety, especially amongst older people. As a result of the activity large groups no longer congregate and feedback has shown older people feel safe at the bus stations.

CAST also integrates other operations alongside Gateway for truancy or specifically to target ASB at particular locations.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. Apply a more intelligence led approach to the truancy element of the operation not just a big net approach.
2. Introduce an element of covert working to detect more offences.
3. Make more use of body worn cameras.

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. Joint working with the Bus Operators but especially adding Youth Workers
2. Use of BusWatch Special Constables and General Special Constables who are employed in a local school.
3. Use of restorative justice.

WHAT THEY SAID

The tremendous affect it had on the bus passengers was highlighted after surveys were being conducted whilst the operation was ongoing and the clear message was people felt reassured and safer in the communities in which they travelled.

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PETERBOROUGH – LICENSING ENFORCEMENT

ISSUE

Peterborough city centre is relatively small compared to other city centres and has a low number of pubs

and clubs but was producing a disproportionate number violent crime and alcohol related incidents.

RESPONSE

A number of measures have been introduced over the last two years and are now featured as business as usual. The TKAP funding has enabled us to bring this all together by focusing and targeting additional weekend patrols to target offenders early on in the evening, send strong messages to the trade to ensure compliance through doorstaff checks, premise walk throughs, refusals/search logs checked to name a few. Which means incidents and problem premises are nipped in the bud. The feedback is all recorded and fed back to the licensing team who follow this up with a multi agency Monday morning meeting reviewing any crime and incidents plus feedback from the additional patrols and directs which areas need attention and what the issues are.

Through the above system a problem premise was identified by the additional patrols. It had a license until 0600 and was the venue where people went who didn't want to go home after the other clubs had shut.

Peterborough runs a three stage RAG grading for licensed premises. The first stage infraction invokes a warning, the second stage is for pro active monitoring and increased checks both overt and covert. The third is to take to Review. We went through our staged approach and this licensed premise was already on stage 2. Due to additional feedback and incidents the premises was taken to Review. At the Review the Partnership presented evidence and it was agreed by the committee that the premise should be closed and license revoked. During the 21 day appeal time period there were further incidents and feedback from the patrols so an Expedited review was completed (believed to be first in country) in 48 hours and the premise was shut down immediately.

RESULTS

A significant reduction in violent incidents. The feedback from the patrols had advised us what the issues are which we could target as compliance of the license.

By asking them to do specific checks we received detailed feedback that we could use. This approach has been really effective. It has ensured premises are brought into the staged problem solving system quicker and with details on the problems and conduct of the premise which has enabled a

timely, proportionate response which makes a positive difference.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The Partnership gained experience in working together, pooling intelligence and tasking resources. They gained confidence in working together as a team. They were now seen as having increased credibility by the licensing community, and by the public that use the city centre.

LESSONS LEARNED

We used the licensing legislation – when we did the expedited review it was over a bank holiday which was a challenge. Learnt from the documentation because we listed all the incidents and it went on the council website and the press had access to it. The bar had legal representation and so we sought legal advice which really helped the hearing.

WHAT THEY SAID

Feedback from the officers is that it works better because they are actually doing additional tasks and can see where it all fits in. They feed back if not happy with a “feel” of a premise.

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SHEFFIELD – OPERATION PORTCULLIS

ISSUE

Levels of violence in Sheffield City Centre were above Iquanta Most Similar Family Group averages and concern had been raised by the Home Office and Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber, as well as by the local police and partners.

The TKAP problem profile identified young people, aged between 13 and 24 years of age were likely to be the victims of violent crime.

Public perception of Sheffield being a violent city was also unacceptably high.

Violence affected visitors to the city centre, night time economy, particular licensed premises and neighbourhoods were known gang and organised crime groups operated.

RESPONSE

Operation Portcullis was a multi agency approach designed to target known individuals, provide a high visibility presence in the city centre and neighbourhoods, reassure the public and send a message that violent behaviour would not be tolerated in the city.

The operation had four key elements:

- Specialist search and Public Order – through appropriate use of legislation and procedures we will effectively engage with those suspected of SYV.
- Operation Staysafe – We will work in conjunction with partners to identify those who may be at risk and provide appropriate interventions.
- Firearms – Through application of the Conflict management model, we will respond appropriately to known/suspected firearms threats.
- ANPR – Road Policing Group – Through an intelligence led approach, we will engage with those suspected of involvement in SYV entering gateways to the city of Sheffield.

A Section 60 search authority was put in place for the 3 areas, including the city centre and two neighbourhoods.

ANPR, static cameras and mobile deployments were set up to monitor the city, which for the purpose of the operation was divided into 2 distinct sectors each having its own dedicated response to incidents of disorder/firearms/ANPR hits.

To compliment this deployment a large number of public order trained staff were deployed into areas identified by crime pattern analysis/intelligence gathering, as having recently suffered from crime, or areas around which it is suspected that known criminals gather.

ANPR staff and public order staff exercised their powers to stop/search safe in the knowledge that extra resources are available to them in the shape of public order reserves and dedicated firearms and specialist teams.

All subjects detained by officers were taken to the dedicated search centre for the operation situated at West Bar Police Station unless the detainee is arrested or shows any signs of violence.

Arrested persons and those becoming violent must be taken straight to the custody suite in the normal manner.

Vehicles in which the detainees are stopped will also be taken to the search centre for a detailed search.

A number of detainee transport vehicles have been assigned to Special Constables who will respond to officer's requests and transport detainees to the search centre. At the search centre will be a number of specialist resources and partner agencies who will search detainees, log their details, carry out relevant checks and processes accordingly. All detainees will be documented upon arrival, accounted for throughout the procedure and upon subsequent release.

In summary the following tactics / activities and personnel were deployed over the course of one evening, in total over 400 staff were deployed including police officers, youth workers, health staff and teachers:

- Home Office Scientific Development Branch specialist search equipment
- Automatic fingerprint recognition checks
- Stolen mobile phone checks
- Bespoke search literature
- Dedicated Communications room
- Air Support
- Enhanced cell capacity/custody triage
- Supported by Regional Roads Policing Group
- Local Councillors as observers
- Media coverage
- UK Border Agency support
- Deployment of Street Based Teams (see Street Based Teams case study)
- Intelligence-led Section 60 in force
- Specialist Search Facility
- ANPR and Road Crime Group assets
- Firearms Support
- Operation Scimitar & Sheffield VRU
- Special Constabulary

In addition Radion6 were commissioned to assess the impact of the operation on public opinion.

RESULTS

- 89 young people in TKAP age-range searched at specialist search centre

- 28 arrests for a broad range of offences, including robbery, drugs, wanted persons, drink/driving and public order
- 1 knife recovered
- £6K cash/£4K cocaine seizure
- One public house closed under emergency powers
- No alcohol related violent crime
- No serious youth violence offences on the night
- Over 100 young people positively engaged with by street based teams
- No legal challenges to Section 60
- No complaints against police
- Positive media coverage
- High levels of public confidence and satisfaction

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The operation had a profound effect on levels of violence within the city, with no serious incidents in the weeks following the operation.

The methodology was adopted as part of the TKAP programme and a further 10 areas delivered Operation Portcullis through the early part of 2010.

A number of areas have continued to use many of the tactics and multi agency working on a regular basis, utilising mainstream resources throughout TKAP 3.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. Increase the number of prisoner process teams available (became somewhat overwhelmed due to house searches, custody process etc)
2. Enhanced partnership working through the provision of medical services at the search site – whilst we did not require any immediate first aid should anyone detained controlled substances this would have presented a problem which should have been foreseen
3. Command protocols and the dual role – although not a major concern on the night there was some confusion amongst in relation to designated ‘tactical commanders’ responsibilities and potential overlaps – requires close monitoring and clarity by silver

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. Partnership inclusion/involvement from the outset – in particular Street Based Teams, Specialist

Services (Home Office Scientific Support, Borders Agency etc)

2. Radion 6 and the monitoring/gauging of public perception of the operation – maximising media opportunities to deliver key messages and stimulate a flow of dialogue across the communities
3. Clarity of purpose and channels to all those participating in the operation – large number of resources (including partner agencies and other police force resources) in a relatively small area required exceptional organisation and planning to maximise opportunities and use resources effectively/efficiently

WHAT THEY SAID

Radion 6, a consultancy that specialises in monitoring communication over the internet were used to aide the impact of Operation Portcullis and the perceptions of local people, a summary of their findings follow:

There has been sustained commentary about Operation Portcullis since Saturday 21st November 2009.

There have been 83 relevant mentions in social media as of 5pm on the 23rd November:

- 5 mainstream media articles with 15 comments
- 1 forum thread with 57 replies
- 1 blog post
- 4 Tweets

The public’s reaction to Operation Portcullis immediately after Saturday 21st November has been positive.

There was a large spike in conversation directly after the operation.

The Confidence Promoter Score of +28% indicates that a good majority of citizens feel confident in the policing of Sheffield as a result of Operation Portcullis.

The positive and negative sentiment expressed has fallen into six main strands. Positive sentiment demonstrated that the public felt reassured, appreciated the focus on knife crime and recognised the deterrent value of such operations.

Negative sentiment focused on accusations of expense, the low number of knives found and the civil liberties of those taken away for scanning.

The management of public perceptions around major policing operations should explain the overall value proposition and legal basis clearly.

Positive comments:

Such visible police strength was seen as reassuring: “I find it reassuring that they only found one knife but also that they will put the time and cost up to find it.”

The focus on knife crime was seen as appropriate: “It maybe 1 knife off the streets but it also goes to show that they are trying, and it also makes people feel safer... real police with real powers... its not just about man power and the cost, its also about what signs the police want to give the scum who carry knives and the general public who need to be shown that they do care...”

The future deterrent impact of this operation was appreciated: “If such a large Police presence on this occasion deters some **** carrying and using a knife in future then personally I think it’s a result all round.”

Negative comments:

Concerns about the low number of knives found as a result “300 officers in a knife campaign and they found 1 knife good work our boys in blue.”

Debate about the legality of certain measures taken “My sympathy goes to the many completely innocent people who had their evening ruined by this heavy handed and pointless exercise, especially to the ones dragged of to the “special search facility”. I wonder if they were threatened with sexual assault (strip search) if they failed to comply. If the Police were using special powers, going on the results of this, it’s about time they were curbed.”

Questions about the cost and value of such a large scale operation being undertaken “I could go out and find 1 knife on my own just go to the shops on manor parson cross etc 300 cops what a waste of time effort and money.”

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SOUTHEND – OPERATION REDBULL ISSUE

Anti social behaviour and escalating violent behaviour caused by young people having a significant negative impact upon communities across the borough of Southend.

RESPONSE

Building on the success of Operation Staysafe, Operation Redbull was developed to address youth anti behaviour across the borough. Weekly joint patrols between Neighbourhood Constables and Street Engagement Officers are carried out (usually Friday evenings). These officers are able to respond to reports received into Police of anti social behaviour occurring but are also able to use intelligence collated from Challenge and Support reports throughout the week thereby targeting patrols to identified hotspot areas.

The patrols are not to just disperse groups but to engage with the young people, provide them with information of ongoing activities, how to stay safe on the street, the impact their behaviour has on the wider community and identify vulnerable individuals and take appropriate action to secure their safety.

Information is also provided that feeds into the Challenge and Support Project and where appropriate enable swift approach to addressing those with increasing anti social behaviour habits and implement intervention and if appropriate enforcement action

RESULTS

From April 09-March 10 13 patrols were carried out with 1789 young people engaged, 17 youths taken to a place of safety and 136 referred to other agencies. Initially the operation ran with One Sergeant, 5 Neighbourhood Constables and 4 YOS workers however it was identified after six months that there was a reduction in the reports of youth anti social behaviour and risky behaviour. Therefore the number of officers reduced to one Sergeant, 3 Neighbourhood Constables and 3 YOS workers. This has had a significant cost saving to both organisations, and enabled other priorities within neighbourhoods to be addressed as well.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

We have been able to gain an insight into the needs of the young people across the borough which is being fed into the youth provision of activities and ensuring that the young people are involved in developing their service.

LESSONS LEARNED

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. The joint approach from both agencies to conduct the patrols,
2. The 'by-in' from other agencies that provide relevant and current information and intelligence to ensure targeted patrols
3. Engagement of Challenge and Support Project to ensure that young people who continually engage in anti social behaviour are given targeted support to change their behaviour and if they fail to do so, appropriate enforcement action is taken against them.

WHAT THEY SAID

Each ward in Southend has a neighbourhood action panel (NAP) attended by representatives of the community. Prior to this Operation running, youth anti social behaviour and the potential for escalation into violence was regularly identified as a key priority for the police through these meetings.

In the past twelve months, this issue has not focussed on a regular basis at any of the NAPs and attendees frequently state that they have seen a significant decline in youth ASB, risky behaviour, and of groups of youths congregating

Our multi agency anti social behaviour team has also identified a significant decline in reported incidents of anti social behaviour and state that they are able to target patrols immediately they have been identified through this operation

Our colleagues in social housing, South Essex Homes have also advised that they have seen an improvement in their satisfaction levels around youth anti social behaviour and their wider behaviour as they have been able to request targeted patrols across their estates

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SOUTHEND – OPERATION BACKSTREET

ISSUE

The Southend-On-Sea town centre night time economy is arguably the largest and most vibrant within the Essex Police area. The town centre boasts over 200 licensed premises, over 70 of which are pubs and clubs. The largest venues actively market their premises far afield and the larger clubs/pubs alone have a combined capacity of nearly 10,000 customers. The number of customers combined taking into account the smaller venues is well over 20,000. As such, Southend is considered to be one of the regional entertainment centres for the South East of England within the Licensed trade.

Southend has a wide variety of licensed premises on offer to customers and as a regional entertainment centre and, as with many other towns that have a more localised catchment area, attracts or suffers inherent issues of crime and anti social behaviour (asb) associated with the consumption of alcohol and controlled drugs.

Associated offences can include sexual offences, public disorder, criminal damage, drugs related offences and all forms of violence amongst others.

Analysis of the high volumes of crime and disorder related incidents and crime reports showed that the key times for offences were between 2100 and 0600. These offences were having a detrimental impact on crime and disorder reduction targets for Essex Police as well as the perception of the public about the safety of going out into the night time economy of Southend.

The Police and their partners have both a moral and legal responsibility to reduce crime and disorder in the town centre area of Southend.

RESPONSE

Members of the Night Time Economy Group, a sub group of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP, now Community Safety Partnership, CSP) made a request to the police to set up an operation to replace what was then in place, Operation Beaulieu, a predominantly vehicular based policing operation and an earlier operation, Op Cricket. These operations meant very little public and licensed premises contact or interaction with staff responding to incidents when and if reported. The Group recognised that what was needed was a more personable policing operation, accessible to the public

and licensed premises (and their staff) to ensure that crime and disorder was defused before it had started and if this was impracticable, then for offenders to be arrested and prosecuted wherever possible.

Out of this request was born Operation Backstreet.

The aim of the operation is for a stand alone team of police officers to deploy on foot, in high visibility clothing, interacting with licensed premises, door staff and to prevent and reduce and detect crime and asb around the town centre in Southend. Common sense robust policing is how the operation succeeds and a small, regular team, performs the role of an Operation Backstreet officer.

A returns document from both the team supervisor and the CCTV operator are returned after every deployment.

This operation, until now, has been funded through partner agencies including TKAP. There have been significant reductions made in drugs, sexual, criminal damage, violence and public order related crime and anti-social behaviour (asb) between the hours of 1800-0600, seven days a week and between April and December 2010. It is useful to note that there are additional policing resources on just two nights of the week (Operation Backstreet on a Friday and Saturday evening). The reductions have been made by:

- Business as usual policing by effective, professional staff including Specials
- The effective and robust scrutiny of incidents to ensure that where appropriate, crimes are recorded (or not) dependant on knowledge of National Crime Recording Standards (having arranged for staff to receive training) and asb related incidents updated accordingly based on incident content and again, based on staff knowledge having received National Standard Incident Recording training
- A good network of support groups and agencies all playing their part to make the night time in Southend town centre as safe as possible, including Clubwatch, the Night Time Economy Group, the SOS Bus, Essex police Licensing and the Town Centre Partnership group
- Increased coverage and quality of coverage by the Southend Council CCTV department

- The use of over 110 Town Link radios where needed, albeit this figure includes daytime users
- Adjusting the hours and team make up of Op Backstreet from 2100-0300 to 2200-0400 and more recently until 0600 hours to reflect closing times of some venues, increasing the team size but ensuring the staff deployed are effective and committed to what is sought to be achieved, the use of body worn video, section 27 Requirement to leave an area legislation, better interaction from Special Constables on Friday evenings, the increased use of specialist operational police resources e.g. mounted section, street briefings at the SOS Bus in the High Street
- Increased and sustained use of BOBB (behave or be banned)
- A prisoner process unit to effectively deal with arrested prisoners
- Increased use of the media to advertise positive results, the use of Twitter to do likewise
- A Licensing Sergeant in post to lead on a number of operations and take the lead to: arrange for a venue to move from glass to polycarbonate, taking another venue to a licensing hearing over asb and crime attached to their venue and 0500 closing times, and lead on a passive drugs dog operation in the district, and the team reviewing every incident after the event.

RESULTS

The below figures are for Operation Backstreet and cover from 01/02/04 – 30/06/07 (before Op Backstreet) and from 01/07/07 – 30/11/10 (since Op Backstreet began). The roads that are included are the High Street, Lucy Road, Pier Hill and Marine Parade and cover Friday and Saturday nights.

Before Op Backstreet	Since Op Backstreet Began	% change
960	425	-55%

The Night Time Economy Group (NTEG) of Southend CDRP (now CSP) the NTEG meets approximately every six weeks and is a partnership based group that seeks to reduce and prevent crime and disorder within all the roads, licensed and residential premises within the area below and as one of the sub groups of the CSP, reports its findings back to the CSP at every meeting.

The NTEG is accountable for reducing and preventing all forms of violent offences, sexual offences, drugs, criminal damage and public order offences in the area below, seven days a week between the hours of 1800-0600.

Other groups also play their part, including Clubwatch (predominantly licensed premises representatives), SSIBA (seafront traders) as well as policing resources based at Southend police station.

A 3% and 17% reduction in recorded crime and asb respectively has been achieved in 2010 compared to 2009.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

One by-product of this operation is the perception of safety that is now felt by those enjoying the night time and especially lone or groups of females. This has been reiterated by those spoken to by SOS Bus staff.

The operation is extremely well liked and supported by members of the NTEG, Clubwatch and other partnership groups. It was funded to the amount of £20,000 by the NTEG in 2010-11.

The operation is a good example of how high visibility policing can contribute to sustainably reducing crime and disorder in a busy town centre and is part of the evidence supporting the town applying for Purple Flag and city status.

LESSONS LEARNED

In terms of things being done differently the operation's operating hours have changed to finish at 0600 hours to take in the latest closing times of licensed premises in the town centre. On a further note, the South Eastern division licensing team now has a Sergeant in post, and an extremely pro active and enthusiastic one at that. Having him join the team earlier than late 2010 as he did might have further increased the positive results we achieved in 2010.

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. The reduction and prevention of night time related crime and disorder in the town centre;
2. The increased use of the media and other forums to promote this and other good work that the Police and other groups are engaged in;
3. A much more dynamic NTEG and other groups (especially Clubwatch) that take a real interest and lead in devising new ways of keeping the town centre as safe and appealing as it can possibly be.

WHAT THEY SAID

This operation is extremely popular with the officers that participate, licensees and partners alike, all of whom really believe in its merits and in the visibility of the project.

An Inspector from Kingston upon Thames has seen and praised the operational order for this project as there is no stand alone team in their royal borough. A visit to learn more is planned.

As it has been funded for much of its life there will distinctive challenges ahead with reduced funding available through and partnership funding to ensure that the operation continues by utilising existing resources.

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GANGS

The term ‘gangs’ means different things to different communities be it a street gang with a very specific identity and territory or a group of youths hanging about on the street corner. TKAP has built on the excellent work undertaken by the Tackling Gangs Action Programme (TGAP) in seeking to identify and address the specific nature of the problem where gangs are an issue locally.

BIRMINGHAM – OPERATION HARNESS

ISSUE

Since early 2010 the Highgate area of Ladywood constituency in Birmingham, was being affected by a local street gang. The gang took the name “B515” (a merger of the B5 & B15 postcode areas from which they came). The group was multi-ethnic, males and females between the ages of 13 and 27. One of the leaders of the gang was a 17 year old female.

The gang had evolved from low-level anti-social behaviour (ASB), such as graffiti, to more damaging activity such as tyre slashing and targeting members of the local community. The escalation in their offending led to two “stand offs” with local police in July 2010, which required several operational support units to disperse. Local intelligence indicated that the level of criminality was significantly increasing; Birmingham’s Multi-Agency Gang Unit (MAGU) recognised the gang’s existence; concerns included links with firearms incidents.

The impact on local residents was significant; these were individuals (in the main) from the estate. The gang had written several grime tracks, filmed themselves performing and posted them on sites such as you tube. The lyrics and style of delivery could be perceived as threatening to the community.

RESPONSE

The response to the gang was a multi-agency approach. It involved the use of civil tools and powers, as well as the development of “Operation Harness” – approaching those involved and their families at an individual level.

The individuals participating within the gang were identified. The “top 3” individuals of concern were managed separately from the rest of the collective.

Civil Tools and Powers:

Through the Multi-Agency Gang Unit and associated partners, the application for ASBOs was initiated. This approach was adopted so that the local community could see clearly that early robust action was being taken. The decision to undertake these actions ensured that a control strategy was in place to manage the behaviours causing concern. Applications were made for current behaviours and actions, not for retrospective issues.

Using a tiered intelligence approach, the three individuals of greatest concern were targeted with the higher level actions. Three ex-parte ASBOs were gained in August 2010; all three have since been secured for a period of 4 years in each case. The rest of the gang were identified as appropriate for ABCs.

Operation Harness:

The city had been considering the application of a “call-in” process for some time, as a way of tackling gang violence on many levels. The “call-in” has been deployed on a large scale in Glasgow and on a smaller scale within the Lambeth area of London. It was agreed that the behaviours of the B515 gang offered the opportunity for the partners within the city to run a similar approach in a controlled way.

The principles of the “call-in” process are that a message of intolerance must be sent to the people who engage in damaging gang related behaviours and that their behaviours will not be accepted. It then moves on to describe what enforcement action can and will be taken should any gang member offend in behave in an inappropriate way. It offers the chance of support to enable the gang member to choose a different route in life; so limiting their damage to the community and individuals, and in turn limiting the damage they will cause to themselves and their families.

The response in Birmingham was called Operation Harness, deployed in response to the behaviours and activities of the B515 gang. It was initiated once the civil enforcement action had begun.

Operation Harness invited the individual and family to attend a meeting with professionals representing key agencies, including The Safer Birmingham Partnership, the relevant Headmaster from their educational establishment, local policing team, relevant housing provider, safeguarding, anti-social behaviour unit and youth offending service. This invitation was issued after the notification of civil intervention was received (Acceptable Behaviour Contract). The meeting set out clearly to the individual, their parent or guardian that their involvement in gang activity had brought them to the attention of statutory agencies within the city. During the meeting it was made clear to the participants what the repercussions would be if they continued to participate in the gang and continued to persist with their behaviours. Repercussions could include additional contact with the local policing team, further civil interventions and recognition of the young person as a vulnerable child in need. The latter may already apply, based on the intelligence gathered in the process of working across all agencies.

To support the individual away from the gang a referral was made to the Urban Street Gang Young Persons Panel (USGYPP). This was discussed in the meeting with the young person and their family. The panel decides what positive and supportive interventions can be offered by a range of statutory and non-statutory agencies and further assessed known and immediate risks to the young person in relation to their gang affiliation and behaviours.

Following the meeting a formal notice was issued to the individual and their parents/carer. All young people called-in that signed an Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC) and were referred to the Youth Offending Service's Anti-Social Behaviour Support Team.

Tenanted parents were asked to sign a Good Neighbour Agreement (GNA) with their landlord.

RESULTS

Twenty-one young people were called-in. Of those sixteen attended. The remaining five were three who refused to attend, one who was abroad and one who could not be contacted. Good Neighbour Agreements were signed by fifteen of the families, along with fifteen Acceptable Behaviour Contracts.

Six months after the call-in gang activity in the area has significantly decreased. Concerns that displacement may have occurred to neighbouring estates are being monitored.

A small hard core of 5 gang members who were subject to ABC's have, following initial positive engagement with the Youth Offending Service, upped their criminal activity. These individuals have been subject to the focus of a multi-agency operational group and three families are now subject to Notice to Seek Possession proceedings through their registered social landlord and further criminal investigation. Throughout this period support to the young people and their families has either been maintained or increased.

The one individual who refused to sign an ABC has subsequently been arrested and bailed on suspicion of attempted murder.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

This operation has strengthened working relationships with those within Safeguarding Services, Youth Offending Services, Birmingham City Council Housing, the City's Anti-Social Behaviour Team, schools and other housing providers and made a significant difference to the community in which the gang had previously caused problems.

The model is transferable to other emerging gang issues.

LESSONS LEARNED

Things we would do differently:

1. Include signing of ABC and GNA as part of the meeting, rather than taking the family to a different room to sign. It was reported that families often became defiant and angry when asked to sign in another room.

The most important aspects of the project:

1. Having the evidence of wrong doing (witness sightings, police logs etc) to show parents tangible examples of their child's behaviour.
2. The link between the child's behaviour and the parent's or grandparent's tenancy.
3. Collecting people and bringing them to the interview ensured good turn out.
4. The panel was multi-agency, and many different aspects of their lives were affected by the behaviours.

WHAT THEY SAID

Consensus with partners was that the operation was a success (as determined in a post operation briefing). All partners are prepared to participate in further approaches or new areas as they emerge. It will be important now to continue work on the relationship with safeguarding teams to ensure that gangs and gang activity are linked in with their work, as well as more broadly into the Community Safety business area.

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BRENT – IN2DEEP

ISSUE

On Brent Borough there is a prevalent gang mentality among the youth of certain sections of the community. Police had noticed that membership of these gangs was often accidental on the part of the gang member or in some cases against their will as a result of duress. Further it was noted that often the relationship between these youths and police was entirely adversarial as a result of interaction on the street, this led to police being unable to identify those individuals that would wish to exit gangs and provide support, advice and diversionary activities.

This barrier to communication was directly affecting those most at risk of exposure to criminal gang activity and in particular those residing in the most economically dependent and gang affected areas, in particular the larger social housing estates.

RESPONSE

Brent police Youth Engagement Team started the 'In 2 Deep' project making approaches to individuals identified through police intelligence.

The Youth Engagement Team fostered a positive relationship with the gang members and their families or carers, offering practical advice and incentives to work with the project. This included positive reports to inform pre sentencing reports and access to diversionary activities to take them away from negative gang influences. The process of engaging with these youth was one of gradual development reliant on a bond of trust between the individual police officer and the youth and his family.

The biggest barrier to the project was that in many cases the subject identified for approach did not feel that membership of a gang was a negative, and in fact often, particularly where chaotic home conditions exist the gang membership was fulfilling what the youth sees as an important role within their life. Another significant barrier was the reluctance to communicate with police and the fear of being labelled a snitch.

In order to overcome this an engagement strategy was devised for each child considering the suitability of home visits and other suitable contact methods as well as offering assurances that the subject would not be asked to provide any actionable police intelligence.

TKAP money was used to fund contact literature for the project in the form of an advice leaflet explaining the project and giving simple practical advice for parents and the youths themselves. TKAP money was also used for support materials. Officers travel in unmarked transport in plain clothes allowing them to get around the Borough to visit identified subjects and to allow visits without other people being able to identify the officers as police

RESULTS

The results have been variable ranging from youths who have refused to engage with police entirely through to youths who have enthusiastically engaged with police officers and have undertaken diversionary activities. As a direct result of the 'In 2 Deep' project police have engaged with a number of youths who have been diverted away from gang activities. Some examples are given here

Subject A - a 15 year old male who was an established member of a criminal gang. He was reluctant to engage with police but his mother engaged well and kept up regular communication. It was quickly identified that the subject did not want to be involved with the gang; he had been involved in drug dealing and had been assaulted after having lost a firearm that he had been pressured into holding for the gang. The subject lived however in a location central to the gang and felt too afraid to state that he wanted to leave.

Communication was kept up with mother and police eventually met with the subject and had a frank and open conversation with him. He had been arrested for a robbery/ kidnapping along with other gang members with which he was charged, after consulting with Youth Engagement Team officer his mother refused him to use the house as a bail address for his own welfare and he was remanded.

Whilst he was in custody police called a professionals meeting and the group supported police advice that on release he should be re-housed in supported accommodation away from the area of gang influence. This was arranged and he was released in December 2010 into alternative accommodation. During 2010 this subject had come to police attention 81 times, which included a 2 month period of incarceration. Since his release in December 2010 until the present he has come to police attention 3 times, and although arrested on suspicion of robbery he was shown to have had no involvement in the offence.

He has not been identified as committing any offences during this time, his relationship with his Mother has seen vast improvement and he has not been recorded as being involved within his previous gang area or involved in any gang activity.

Subject B-A 17 year old male who although not a gang member had become involved in a dispute with a member of a gang. As a result he and a friend had been assaulted and stabbed in the head and neck respectively in an attack from this gang. This assault had gone unreported to police due to fear of retribution. However, Youth Engagement Team officers were informed through another source and made a direct approach. The young man was in genuine fear of his life and was too afraid to leave the flat he lived in with his mother who was also afraid he would be killed.

Police intelligence corroborated what he told officers but he was unprepared to support a police investigation for fear of retribution. With the victim's approval police adopted an investigative strategy that involved arresting all parties including the victim himself and relied on evidence gathered from other sources. Having placed stringent bail conditions on the aggressors police created a window of opportunity during which they were able to liaise with partner agencies and arrange an emergency move for the subject and his mother away from the borough and out of immediate danger. Police were also able to use intelligence gained in regard to dangerous individuals to separately target these individuals and take action against violent offenders without exposing the victim to possible recrimination.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The relationships fostered have generated excellent police intelligence in regard to individuals preying on and using young people in criminal activities.

Even in cases where the subject themselves does not engage with police engagement with the family can be a very positive thing allowing police a good insight into the subjects life and allowing police to bring positive influence to bear on subjects through family members.

Consequences include engagement with the most hard to reach communities in a positive manner, in turn increasing public confidence in the police and breaking down adversarial barriers.

LESSONS LEARNED

Things we would do differently:

1. Link the project in better with existing and reliable diversionary activities before it begins so that the process of referral and signposting to positive activities is in place before the start of the program.
2. Develop protocols and working practices to liaise with other agencies at inception of project and establish clear levels of communication.

The most important aspects of the project
Selecting the right personnel-it is vital that officers selected possess excellent communication skills, plenty of patience and display a high level of professionalism and ability to work often autonomously in a high risk environment.

WHAT THEY SAID

A parent of one of the subjects that had gone onto the 'In 2 Deep' project was contacted by the unit Inspector as part of a quality call back exercise into Youth Engagement team activities. The response was excellent stating that they had felt that the service they had received was first class and unexpected and had re-instilled them with confidence in the police after they had a number of bad experiences with the police. The subject had been diverted away from trouble and danger and was getting his life back on track.

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CARDIFF – GANGS POLICY DEVELOPMENT

ISSUE

There were concerns within the partnership that there was no mechanism for identifying and appropriately

addressing groups of young people showing low level gang-related behaviours that were at risk of escalating into more serious street gang behaviours, such as gang-related violence and drug dealing. Looking across the national media the constant focus on gangs in major cities led the partnership to identify it as a potentially vulnerable area of work within Cardiff. The desire was to prevent “gangs” emerging in Cardiff.

This example is shared to support other cities and towns which are unsure how to address the emergence of “gangs” or gang related behaviours within their area. It is not offered as a picture perfect example – it deliberately includes activity which has not borne fruit. Similarly at the time of submission the absolute outcome of the work is not known.

RESPONSE

The Community Safety Partnership established a “task and finish” group to define the term “gang” and its associated issues within Cardiff. The group was multi-agency and included: Youth Offending Service, Council Youth Service, Council Parks ASB Team, Victim Support, Communities First, South Wales Police, Probation (through the Prolific and other Priority Offenders scheme), Council Community Safety (inc ASB Team), Substance Misuse Action Team, Welsh Assembly Government Safeguarding Team, Council Children’s Services, Home Office Crime Team in Wales, Glamorgan University, Education Department and Health colleagues. Initially it was envisaged that the group would meet three times, agree the current position in Cardiff, whether there was a specific issue and then any activity to address the issues identified.

The group sought to define the term “gang”. It was difficult to agree the definition as the desire to be clear about the issue was placed alongside the political desire not to develop a definition which suggested that Cardiff had a problem with violent street gangs that didn’t actually exist. Gathering together a profile of the perceived risks was undertaken by the Partnership Co-ordinator, Researcher and Analyst. This used police data, Youth Service Information, open source social media (such as Facebook, Bebo and MySpace) and information from the graffiti removal team (regarding “tagging”). The profile suggested that there were several low level anti-social behaviour groups, but not the violent street-gangs included in the definition. However, at the same time South Wales Police (SWP) were engaged in an operation to dismantle drug dealing activity undertaken by an organised criminal

group with a clear identity, involved in street based violence – ergo a “gang”.

To endeavour to gather further information, and to ensure that lines of communication between each area were clear, the group sought to identify single points of contact (SPOC) in each relevant business area. The intention was that they would act as a conduit for information, reflecting and identifying gang related concerns. It was difficult to galvanise support for this. Information from each participating agency was requested to be returned to a central contact person, identifying what they already knew and along with what activity they were already undertaking which would address gang related issues. Drawing this information from those requested to participate was a challenge; effectively the participants were unsure as to who, what and why they were seeking to profile.

There have been significant issues around information sharing between partners. A number of partners are concerned about the potential effect of sharing personal information on the relationships they have with the young people they work with, in particular their concern about how the police would use the information, potentially for enforcement opportunities, that not all partners would feel were the best way to address the problems. There is now ongoing work to come to an understanding between partners about what information should be shared, what the purpose/benefit of this is and how the group will act upon it

Participating in the Tackling Knives and Serious Youth Violence Programme enabled the partnership to gain access to the support of the Association of Chief Police Officers’ “Gangs Network”. Representatives of the network agreed to meet with the partnership to discuss their actions to date and to consider with them the best approach for the future. The network offered to undertake a series of interviews with those identified by the partnership as key to unlocking the issue in the city. The findings of the interviews were collated and reported to the partnership with recommendations for an Action Plan going forward. They facilitated a workshop with senior agency leads to clarify and agree at that level the core strategic approach and develop a timetabled action plan. A number of these actions appeared to be particularly beneficial: the development of a local picture of the opportunities for intervention based on the life experiences of real local young person; the opportunity for a carefully facilitated discussion with

agencies which hold the bulk of the data about known groups within the city to come together to consider their joint knowledge; and support in drawing together a strategy to prevent young people becoming involved in gang related behaviours and encouraging all relevant partners to sign up to this. This work remains ongoing with the latter point critical to the whole project moving forwards alongside identifying the mechanisms for the timely sharing of information in the future.

RESULTS

It is difficult to provide clear results at this time. The action plan for the partnership was developed at the facilitated workshop and is being taken forward, subject to capacity, and it seeks to draw in the wide experiences of many other practitioners within the city. It will though need to be supported by a clear strategy across the whole partnership.

The change to date is in the awareness of the risk of gang activity, the increase in concern and the focus of partners such as the youth custody Triage provider, ASB Team, Youth Offending Service, Youth Services and Communities First.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

- The strength of links with those seeking to reduce bullying within the city. Cardiff was engaged easily around the successful existing work to reduce bullying.
- Clarity as to the barriers experienced by the different providers when seeking to share data effectively.

LESSONS LEARNED

Things we would do differently:

1. Not sought to define 'Gangs' but focussed on defining the issues the group were seeking to address.
2. Sought help from others with greater knowledge (such as the Gang Network) earlier (although it was not available at point of commencing the meetings) and identified a pro-active lead within the Partnership Support Team.
3. Undertaken activity quicker – many delays built in to the work which has dragged it out.
4. Avoided the early reliance on Police data only, where a much richer picture has been built up from the wider partners.

5. Gained a clearer picture around the information sharing concerns much earlier in the process to give an opportunity to address effectively which would have enabled the whole process to run much more smoothly.

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. Engagement with knowledgeable specialists within the Gang Network.
2. Gaining clarity around the understandings and concerns around information sharing across the relevant partner agencies.
3. Keeping the focus on prevention and early identification of potential escalation of young people into Gang behaviours and ensuring partners were bought into this objective. This involved recognising that we did not want to wait until we developed a Gang problem in order to address it, more to prevent one from developing.

No feedback provided.

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HACKNEY – GANGS PARTNERSHIP

ISSUE

Hackney Borough had seen an increase in gang related violence and critical incidents. This directly affected young people who were caught up in the violence, reprisals and attacks.

Young people not involved in the gangs stated that they were afraid to enter certain estates, post codes or areas and those young people directly involved did not have the resources or support to exit these gangs if they wanted to.

The violence also affected the wider community who were victims of the robberies or were caught up in the gang violence.

RESPONSE

In the Spring of 2010 Hackney Police and Hackney Council started work on developing a multi agency gangs unit that would initially try to dismantle an established gang on the borough, based on the Operation Ceasefire model from Boston, USA.

After a series of consultation groups it was decided at an executive level that the gangs unit would have to consider other gang members from different gangs from across the borough as a power vacuum may have been created if one gang was targeted. Thus the partnership decided to address one of Hackney's largest gangs identifying 100 members along with 50 other high profile gang nominals from a number of other Hackney gangs. The individuals were identified by interrogating police indices and utilising a bespoke matrix developed by the Metropolitan Police Service Intelligence Bureau.

The gangs unit included a team of 1 Inspector, 2 Sergeants and 8 Constables who worked along side a team of Hackney Outreach Workers called the Mobile Intervention Team (MIT) and representatives from the Probation service, Hackney Housing, Hackney Anti-Social Behaviour Team and the Council.

In September 2010 the project went live and a series of case conferences were held on every individual on the gangs unit list. During the case conference representatives from the above agencies and others such as Primary Care Trust, Third Sector and Social Services would identify any enforcement, engagement or diversion options and then attempt to implement the action plan. Each case was then reviewed periodically to ensure that the action plan was appropriate, effective and fit for purpose.

A barrier that had to be overcome was that of information sharing between Police and Youth Workers. To try and overcome this it was decided that the gangs unit be co-located, thereby building trust and an understanding of the work each respective organisation did. It is understood that presently no other agencies are fully co-located to combat the issues gangs bring. Initially the Police and the MIT workers were unhappy with working together as issues arose around confidentiality and trust. Once working practices had been put in place these concerns were resolved.

With regards to doing things differently-the police have utilised the ViSOR system and created a ViSOR record for each gang nominal. ViSOR is rarely used for violent offenders and normally only used for sex offenders or Prolific and Priority Offender's, however the executive committee decided that this would be the best way to record and monitor each nominal, allowing other partners to input information such as Prisons, UK Borders Agency.

The gangs unit have also placed Police National Computer (PNC) markers on all 150 nominals. This means that the unit is made aware of all nominals stopped not only in London but across the country, providing us fast time information of locations frequented, arrests, vehicles, associates etc.

RESULTS

The partnership approach has allowed fast time information sharing between all departments and fortnightly meetings allows all departments to report on progress made or present issues. To date the information sharing and close working partnerships has led to a number of significant arrests and prevented a number of potentially serious gang related incidents.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The use of ViSOR has meant that the Prison Service and other interested parties are now able to look at the action plans of the individuals being held in custody and can conduct a more thorough risk assessment. The prison can also tailor a particular engagement activity for the prisoner in line with their action plan. The use of ViSOR has meant that prison officers are more aware of who they have and can segregate troublesome individuals. East England National Offender Management Service (NOMS) has set up a working party to address gang activity within prisons and the use of ViSOR. Members of the gangs unit form part of the working group.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. Initially the executive committee wanted to focus on one gang at a time, identifying those responsible, and dismantle the gang before moving on to the next. We quickly established that only focusing on one gang allowed other gangs to increase their criminal activity and the vacuum left would quickly be filled with the next high profile gang. The committee agreed that the unit would also look at the top 50 gang nominals in order to have an overall understanding of the gangs and their criminal activity.
2. The number of nominals in itself presented a problem. The resources from a police perspective meant that each officer had approximately 25 nominals to work on. This became problematic during busy times and the officers found it difficult to prioritise work. In response to this the managers decided to prioritise the nominals using the matrix

system and utilised a traffic light system. The officers were asked to focus on Red (High) and Amber (Medium) risk offenders and to monitor the Green (Low) offenders. The managers also created a sleeping list consisting of nominals in prison.

3. The way in which the review process could be more streamline however the style of the review depends on the chair.

The most important aspects of the project:

1. The most important aspect of the gangs unit is to reduce the amount of serious violence that is generated within gangs and as a result of gang culture through targeted enforcement, diversion or engagement.
2. Co-location of key agency staff was also essential to the success of the project. By being co-located, cultural beliefs and practices were removed and trust between staff built. This then meant that information was more easily passed and captured.

WHAT THEY SAID

The work is on-going, however we have received thanks from parents and guardians of the identified gang nominals. Many parents struggle with managing their children's behaviour and one parent in particular struggled with her child obeying her rules about the times he should be home, where he was allowed to go and who he associated with. The gangs unit successfully obtained a bolt on ASBO for this child that prevented him from entering certain gang related areas and hanging around with other gang members. His mother was extremely grateful that these preventative measures had been put in place for her son.

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LAMBETH – GROWING AGAINST GANGS

ISSUE

Young people in London (and elsewhere in densely populated urban settings) being subject to increasing pressures to become involved in serious youth violence, other crime and anti-social behaviour, as witnesses, suspects and as victims, through the proximity of gang-associated behaviour.

RESPONSE

The Growing against Gangs and Violence team developed an integrated early intervention preventative education curriculum, with police, academics, education practitioners and other partners, to deliver across whole Year 6 and Year 7 school age groups. The programme brings together a range of single impactful preventative messages with the wrap around of an academically validated and tested curriculum.

There was recognition that many front-line professionals, statutory and voluntary organisations, and local communities had acknowledged the issues; had attempted to address these locally or by thematically addressing specific issues (eg: drugs, knife crime and violence) but none had joined-up the main messages of key agencies and units; made them universally targeted at the most vulnerable age groups; framed them within a curriculum with academic integrity; and the real difference – allowing the delivery to grow from the 'bottom up', by letting its reputation grow by word of mouth, amongst educational professionals, from school to school and through front line police officers – ensuring the programme was never perceived as being issued as top-down policy. Also different is the partnership arrangement of a voluntary sector organisation leading and coordinating key statutory sector partners, including a range of central units within the Metropolitan Police Service.

The programme currently includes the following segments:

Year 6 - Preliminary GAGAV programme entitled "Friends vs. Friendly".

The objective is support young people before they move from Primary to Secondary School by demonstrating the difference between "friendship" and "friendly." The session identifies strategies for keeping both the individuals and their wider peer groups out of gangs. It shows how a gang works, demonstrates why gang members are not your friends and identifies warning signs of gang membership in others.

Year 7 - Gangs: Myths and Realities:

The primary intention is to reduce the number of young people joining gangs. This session is delivered to students in their first year of Secondary School. It is led by a trained facilitator who is supported by a proactive Police Officer, primarily from the Territorial Support Group. The role of the officer is to be the essential reality check. The session assists young people to identify what gangs are about and why

people join them. The myths surrounding these “pull” factors are deconstructed in order to expose the myths and realities of gang membership. Young people are given a balanced perspective as to what gangs are about so that they can make informed decisions about them.

Year 7 - Weapons: Choices and Consequences:

The objective is to reduce the number of young people carrying and using knives. This is achieved by demonstrating the choices and consequences of weapon carrying. This is supported either with the physical presence of a Surgeon in the class room or through filmed material with leading Surgeons who speak of the physical and psychological consequences of knife crime.

Year 7 – Conflict Resolution:

TSG Stop and Search scenarios.

Year 7 – Bystanders and allies – Joint Enterprise

Year 7 – Community cohesion

Year 7 – Positive activities and attainable goal setting

Year 10 - Girls, Gangs and Consequences:

The intention is to reduce the sexual abuse of girls within the gang setting. Girls are made aware of the consequences of glamorising gang-involved boys. Both the risks to girls from gang members and the roles girls play within the gang setting are outlined. Power relationships and the control mechanisms employed are discussed.

The session is aimed at both boys and girls. Real life gang rape scenarios are discussed within single gender groups. Boys are made aware of the consequences of being involved in abusive relationships with girls. Girls are assisted to identify risks and make safe choices. This is followed by facilitated discussions as to what constitutes a healthy and respectful relationship as compared with one which is not.

This has been developed with significant contribution from the MPS Sexual Offences Command (SCD2) and

Victim Support Services, The Havens and is subject to external review and evaluation by academics from a leading university.

RESULTS

The rapidly developing demand for the programme has resulted in rollout across Lambeth schools; successful pilots in Wandsworth and Southwark; and the growing queue of currently six other London

Boroughs, plus other areas of the UK and pilots expected in the USA in the autumn.

The development of an integrated programme of key preventative educational messages has streamlined delivery and brought about significant potential cost savings. Core costs have been designed to be low (amounting to approximately £1 per young person per session) and policing contribution is limited to opportunity costs only.

The programme is subject to evaluation through key relationships with a number of Universities, participants in the programme are subject to attitudinal surveying and schools will be developing longitudinal studies of young peoples’ responses to the programme.

The responses from front line educationalists and from extensive debriefs with the schools receiving the programme has been very encouraging.

The programme is supported by whole school communities, including parent groups, governors and school staff. The evaluation of Young People experiencing the programme has shown an average 80% of participants recognising significant learning outcomes and an average 75% showing improved confidence in police.

‘Growing Against Gangs and Violence Programme’ - Sample Evaluation Results From Delivery to a School in S.W London – Dec 2010

Each pupil received approx 6 hours of structured engagement, giving a total of 198 pupil hours of preventative education in a single day;

- The ‘myths and realities of gangs’ and the ‘weapons - choices and consequences’ sessions were delivered.

These are two out of the seven sessions in the overall curriculum;

- Apart from the facilitator, the first session was supported by an officer from SO6 who is specially trained;

- The ‘weapons’ session was supported by a Trauma Surgeon, as part of the collaborative programme being developed by GAG with The Surgical Foundation at the request of TKAP.

The pupils were asked to complete feedback surveys to assess their post-delivery responses to the programme.

On a score of 1 (terrible) to 10 (excellent), they were asked to rate:

1. The overall performance of the teacher/facilitator:
60% responded 9 or 10 - Excellent
25% responded 7 or 8 - Good
15% responded 5 or 6 - Average to Good

A total of 85% of pupils scored the delivery of the programme as excellent or good

2. The overall performance of police:
90% responded 9 or 10 - Excellent
6% responded 7 or 8 - Good
4% responded 5 or 6 - Average to Good

A total of 96% of pupils scored the police involvement in the programme as excellent or good

3. Growing against Gangs as an educational programme:
78% responded 9 or 10 - Excellent
18% responded 7 or 8 - Good
4% responded 5 or 6 - Average to Good

A total of 96% of pupils scored the Growing against Gangs programme as excellent or good.

In terms of measuring confidence of young people in police and the delivery of preventative education messages, the pupils were asked “Have your experiences today changed your opinion about the police?”

- 22 (66%) responded positively to indicate increased confidence

- 8 (24%) responded that their attitudes to police had not really changed

- 3 (10%) gave no response

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The current economic climate means that police officer presence in the classrooms must be limited to that making the most impact, such as only that of Territorial Support Group officers in London.

The links, in London, with the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) Children and Young People strategy as it develops ensure that the programme is part of the local neighbourhood policing problem solving toolkit and meets many other MPS objectives around early intervention, youth engagement to improve confidence of young people in police, preventative education as part of improving safety, and the partnership working arrangements as delivering value for money.

Whilst the programme was originally designed for

a pan-London delivery, it has now attracted the attention of external partners in other Cities who are responding to issues around gang and knife crime and recruitment of young gang members within the school community and need to introduce awareness raising and personal safety work within schools.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. Ensure earlier and stable constitution of the organisation before entering into partnerships;
2. Ensure all resilience issues are addressed before commencing widespread delivery;
3. Establish highest possible level of patronage as soon as possible.

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. Maintain independent ownership of the programme to ensure integrity;
2. Establish clear partnership structure and memoranda of understanding detailing relationships and flexibilities;
3. Ensure programme content is continuously flexible and updated to meet local needs, developing academic and professional intelligence outcomes, and rigours of evidence-based outcomes and value for money evaluations.

WHAT THEY SAID

A sample testimonial to ‘Growing Against Gangs and Violence’ from the Principal of a leading inner city Academy:

Nick Mason and his colleagues have worked with Mark Scott, our lead learning mentor, to produce a challenging and exciting programme for our Year 7s.

“Growing against Gangs” goes beyond the type of targeted youth programmes that have been a familiar feature of inner city schools in the past decade. Instead “Growing against Gangs” is an entitlement for all students with the idea of growing a culture against the corrosive influence of gangs.

With imaginative use of urban resources, including city farms, and with a rigorous reach programme running alongside, the programme has made a deep impact with many of our students. Particularly encouraging has been the involvement of police officers who do not normally engage in this kind of work, altering

attitudes on both sides. I thoroughly commend the programme.

Stephen Potter, Principal, Lambeth Academy.

A sample evaluation from delivery at a school in SW London

All pupils were asked to complete a 'reflection pyramid' to identify 3 things they had learned, any questions they wanted to raise and the most important thing they had learned about themselves as a result of the programme.

Below is a sample of the responses given by the pupils:

"There are many serious injuries. To stop ourselves becoming victims we need to keep away from gangs"

"Do you know what, I have never said this before but yes I am confident in police"

"I didn't know that there are different types of police"

"I found out that I should not carry a knife"

"A small knife wound can do lots of damage"

"I liked that we got to speak to a surgeon"

"I have discovered that I want to be a doctor or surgeon"

"Crime is not a game to play"

"Gangs are dumb"

"Hurting people is not a game"

"To be honest I used to distrust the police, but now I want to become one"

"Gangs pass girls over to their mates"

"I have realised that police officers are not as bad as I thought they were"

"I must look after myself when I get older"

"Being in a gang don't make you hard"

"I learnt not to join a gang"

"Gangs members don't look out for each other"

"I know I have a choice"

The ASGBI Knife Injuries Conference consensus statement

The Charitable arm of the ASGBI, the Surgical Foundation, held a consensus conference in collaboration with the Metropolitan police to discuss issues of common interest and to address, in particular, causes of knife crime and their management. This statement is based on presentations delivered at that conference which was held at The King's Fund, London on Monday 15th November 2010.

Major areas of agreement were:

- Tackling violence needs close co-operation with police and other partners across the public, private and voluntary sectors - There is a need for all public services to work together more cohesively to break down barriers and tackle violence in the community and the role of the extended family requires support.
- There is a need for long term policy focusing on prevention - the best evidence for prevention lies in targeting children before they become involved in violence as either victims or offenders.
- Surgeons should get involved in early years peer group education programmes involving schools, youth organisations and local police forces.
- More needs to be done to link up new local violence campaign/ support groups and agencies to work collaboratively with existing organisations and pre-existing infrastructure.

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WOLVERHAMPTON – WORKFORCE TRAINING

ISSUE

The problem was the lack of knowledge by professionals working across the children's workforce on the gang issues affecting young people here in Wolverhampton.

RESPONSE

A multi agency group, led by colleagues in Children and Young People's Services, comprising West Midlands Police, the Youth Service, the YOT and

Schools worked together to share knowledge on existing activities and determine activities where gaps in provision were identified. It was agreed by all that the focus should be prevention and early intervention and that activities should be delivered at a universal service level. Two conferences were initially held in September 2009 as an awareness raising activity. They highlighted the concerns felt by a range of agencies at the vulnerability of some young people to the influence of gangs, and the lack of knowledge on the issue by professionals. They served to break down barriers and facilitated partners working together, particularly in relation to sharing knowledge and resources. We agreed a common, shared goal.

We agreed to develop a holistic approach to the problem:

- A training programme to enhance professional staff's understanding of the gang issue in the city, be clear on their individual roles and responsibilities and begin to identify appropriate referral pathways;
- Worked with The Kids Task Force to deliver training on "Watch Over Me" and "Miss Dorothydot Com" resources to secondary schools, Pupil Referral Units and Primary Schools respectively;
- The Youth Service commissioned the production of a film, "WV as One" which involved local young people in the production, filming and editing of. Teaching and learning resources are currently being developed by a group of school staff, youth workers, young people and colleagues from Children and Young People's Services to enhance the film and align it with a school curriculum. The film was trialled at a showcase event "Safer Nights Out Workshop" (this is an annual event organised by Creative Partnerships which a focus on personal safety) for Year 10 pupils where it was well received.

RESULTS

More staff are aware of the vulnerabilities for young people and are able to recognise local gang tags and colours. Staff have more knowledge on how they can support young people themselves and the resources

that are available to them as well as knowing where to sign post or refer them to.

19 volunteers were trained to deliver the training programme so capacity has been increased and we are optimistic that it can be sustained. (A formal

evaluation of the training will be undertaken upon completion of the training at the end of March 2011)

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Positive things:

- Our trainers have used the resources provided to train colleagues within their own organisations as well as other organisations;
- A number of our trainers have volunteered as trainers on other subject matters.

Not so good:

- We would have liked more engagement from schools in some of the events we have organised.

LESSONS LEARNED

The three most important aspects of the project:

- Committed individuals who are passionate about addressing this issue.
- Partnership working across a range of agencies
- Developing a shared vision that all partners agreed to;
- Timing. Some of our success was due to the profile of gang related activity and concern in the City at the time we started the work.

WHAT THEY SAID

Comments from those who attended the training: "We work closely in our schools with parents/carers and multi agency teams, it was useful to work with a variety of people from various backgrounds" (Head teacher).

"The course is an eye opener and very useful in the work we do with young people" (Residential Home Manager).

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GOVERNANCE AND PARTNERSHIP

Effective governance and partnership working has been a key success factor for ensuring that interventions to prevent and deter serious youth violence are driven forward at local level. A multi-agency approach to governance has been essential in directing work and delivering successful outcomes.

CARDIFF – RESTORATIVE APPROACHES

ISSUE

Cardiff is committed to working towards becoming a Restorative City. A partnership scoping exercise to identify the areas of greatest need for developing restorative approaches (RA) in the city and the Tackling Knives and Serious Youth Violence (TKAP) problem profile were drawn together. As TKAP was supported by financial resource and was looking for longer-term, sustainable approaches it was sensible to look at how the two elements of the Community Safety Partnership could work together.

The scoping exercise is available separately on request, however the following recommendations are particularly pertinent in this instance:

- Use of existing priorities, best practice and intelligence as a base for targeting restorative work in Cardiff. The Neighbourhood Management Team model offers access to a wide range of information and resources that can offer suggestions and respond to need.
- The priority will be developing more multi agency restorative early intervention and prevention work aligning with Safer Communities Fund (SCF) targets, following the All Wales Youth Offending Strategy. Engagement with adult offenders and victims will continue as part of the reducing re-offending target, and will be a necessary part of family based work.
- Develop and support existing best practice in RJ work in Cardiff e.g. Victim Support VOICE project, Cardiff Youth Offending Service Triage and Anti-Social Behaviour work and Restorative Justice victim liaison work, Cardiff Against

Bullying, Restorative Approaches in schools and residential homes, HMP Cardiff SORI (Supporting Offenders through Restoration Inside) and Youth SORI, restorative mediation in Housing Associations, family group conferencing

RESPONSE

There are four responses to the opportunity to make effective use of the TKAP funding opportunity.

1. **Domestic Abuse Victim Awareness Course held at HMP Cardiff**

Working in partnership between local Women's Aid trainers and Victim Support specialist staff to deliver a restorative justice based victim awareness course for under 25s who have been responsible for violent domestic abuse was piloted at HMP Cardiff. The course is voluntary but includes very careful multi-agency selection of participants. This ensures safety of participants and their victims and appropriately targeted work.

The course includes a restorative meeting between survivors of domestic abuse with supporters (not related in any way to the perpetrators) and the perpetrators. The course is being evaluated by the University of Wales Institute Cardiff (UWIC) and Oxford University.

The research has been approved, tutors selected, survivors identified with support, programme agreed (based in SORI), and will run in March 2011 at HMP Cardiff.

2. **Training ex offenders who have completed restorative justice work to become youth mentors, to undertake victim awareness work with staff involved with young offenders community based work**

We are training appropriate security cleared D cat prisoners (accredited training through Youth Cymru) to become youth mentors. They will work around restorative justice victim awareness work concerned with violence related crime and its effects. The prisoners have all been involved in

violent crimes in the past, including gang related violence, drug/alcohol related violence and using offensive weapons.

The mentors will be supervised by restorative justice practitioners and prison staff to work with individual young people and groups from Cardiff who have been identified through Youth Offending Service (YOS), schools and other community youth workers as being involved in violent behaviours and vulnerable to increasing their levels of harmful behaviours. We have already begun small group work in a local college in inner city Cardiff, and have identified agencies and groups who want to work with the ex-offenders as soon as they have completed their training and have been approved as suitable for working with young people (the training is part of the selection process as the men are being closely observed throughout).

3. Family Group Conferencing for violence reduction

We have delivered conferencing training with family group conferencing staff and prison/ YOS staff as part of the restorative approaches training roll out (TKAP funding meant we were able to invite the correct staff and trainers and agencies on another specific course). We have identified a persistently violent offender at HMP Cardiff, and his family members are very willing for a family group conference to take place. The conference will take place nearer release at the end of March and will involve the key support agencies already working with the family, who are also well known in the neighbourhood for anti social behaviour, with the older children being known to the YOS.

4. Restorative Approaches Training for staff working with vulnerable young people at risk of offending

The TKAP funding has enabled the expansion of the RA training programme to extend to include managers and practitioners and trainers from the Looked After Children (LAC) sector, Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) support staff and teachers, travellers' education staff, Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), behavioural support staff and pupil referral unit staff.

Two secondary schools and the college they feed into have been engaged and key schools and neighbourhood staff are being trained. All

of these staff work with vulnerable young people from deprived areas, including children from the travelling community, and have high levels of exclusions because of challenging and violent behaviours. The schools traditionally have been perceived as rivals in the local community with some pupil clashes, and the schools are due to be merged into a new school in the next 2 years.

Ongoing conversation with trainers for LAC staff have meant that RA are being adopted as part of core staff training, making it the preferred model of working with challenging behaviours and vulnerable children. The aim is to try to problem solve more effectively, equip staff and young people with non harmful conflict resolution skills, improve partnership working and avoid early criminalisation of young people and children by problem solving early and involving key partners.

The RA trainers are currently working with the LAC training dept to dovetail RA into the training of staff about to be employed in a new residential care home for vulnerable children and young people.

RESULTS

It is difficult to consider the current results of the work so far, as the impact of these projects is longer term. For example the benefits of training staff in restorative approaches when working with school pupils will come to the fore, it is anticipated, when the schools merge in 2013. In the interim the results have been about drawing staff from many agencies together, to identify a common way of working to problem solve and reduce conflict in the community.

All partners involved in the training have identified the immense value of early engagement with the most vulnerable young people at risk of violent offending along with their carers/ parents and peers. We believe – and have sound evidence bases already existing locally and nationally - that restorative methods enable problem solving and increase the skills of those involved practically, emotionally and effectively in violence, ensuring that it can be prevented, that violence can be de-escalated early and enable the harm to be dealt with. It benefits not just the harmer, but also those harmed, and the communities supporting all involved, by including them in the processes to put things right.

It is always going to be cheaper to prevent and intervene early, problem solve, and divert from

traditional criminal justice responses where safe to do so.

The challenge to being costs effective is not to think of restorative approaches or justice as an addition to existing practice but instead, wherever possible, for it to become core business, an agreed mindset and the preferred option where appropriate.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Many participants in the training have talked about how they have taken the skills from the course into their own lives and the influence it has had in the way that they parent at home.

A previous course of SORI (on which the domestic abuse victim awareness programme is based) an opportunity arose to facilitate a restorative meeting between a member of the prison staff and a course participant. The impact of that on the community from which they both came was significant, improving outcomes for both families after a tragic incident.

LESSONS LEARNED

Things we would do differently:

1. Try and get everything done earlier – but not compromise the benefits from taking our time (ensuring the right participants are involved).

The most important aspects of the project:

1. Shared multi agency training and sharing of partnership intelligence and skills is the most effective way to do this, and to also increase capacity.
2. Skilling the workforce to deliver restoratively in a variety of settings
3. Working with a wide range of providers across age bands.
4. Embedding the work beyond the period of available funding.

WHAT THEY SAID

None provided.

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GREATER MANCHESTER – GOVERNANCE

ISSUE

Greater Manchester Police (GMP) received funding under the Tackling Knives Action Programme and needed to ensure delivery against the programme objectives. Assistant Chief Constable Crime and Operations delegated authority for coordinating the programme to a lead officer to bring together the necessary internal and external partners.

RESPONSE

A multi agency programme delivery board was established, with delegates from within GMP who had authority to direct work and deliver policing actions, and external partners who could coordinate work for their organisations. The Board met regularly to commission work, review delivery and achievement and manage performance on behalf of GMP as the delivery organisation.

Key workstreams were prevention, particularly working in education, and regular partnership enforcement activity.

RESULTS

Reported crime went down year on year.

The partnership became very effective at collaborative working, particularly between Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) and non statutory partners like Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Much of the work has now become mainstream police and partnership activity, good examples would be the ‘portcullis’ type operations which now feature regularly in CSP activity. The unintended outcome of this is that the Project Board has not had to centrally manage this type of work as the CSP partnerships have fully embraced it.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. Reduce the number of delegates to the meetings.
The early phase of the programme brought many different groups in but not all were able to contribute in a substantial manner. If starting again I would be keen to have a smaller Board as this is where we have ended up and it has proved more efficient.

2. Refine the arms length management of partner organisations to reduce the number of meetings taking place outside the Board structure.
3. Be more confident of the diversionary work and weight more of the spend towards this and away from tactical policing operations.

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. Diversionary activity in education, particularly using Safer Schools Partnership officers and our outreach worker at the Force Museum.
2. Partner support from Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive.
3. In Phase 3 the engagement of the CSP lead officers.

WHAT THEY SAID

No feedback provided.

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LANCASHIRE – GOVERNANCE

ISSUE

The administration, governance and delivery of the TKAP programme within Lancashire.

In June 2008 the Violent Crime Unit within the Home Office launched the Tackling Knives Action Programme (TKAP Phase 1). The programme was extended for 2 further years until March 2011 and Lancashire Constabulary was one of the forces that participated in all 3 phases of the Programme.

Problem Profiles were completed in each of the phases to identify key threat that affected each Basic Command Unit (BCU) and were integral to the grant agreement.

Lancashire Constabulary consists of 6 BCUs and 14 Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) and it was imperative that a process was in place to ensure full utilisation of funds across Lancashire against the identified threats and that activity was focussed on areas with the most concerns with serious youth violence.

After the delivery of TKAP Phase 1 it was identified that more robust requirements were needed to ensure full utilisation of funds to its fullest effect.

RESPONSE

On the basis of the experiences delivering the TKAP Phase 1 programme, it was decided that more robust procedures and governance would be introduced for phase 2, to ensure full utilisation of funds to its greatest effect. The basis of this process was that each BCU in conjunction with CSPs could submit bids for funding based on analysis of their Problem Profiles.

A strategy meeting was held involving BCU TKAP Single Point Of Contacts (SPOCs), Youth Crime Action Plan (YCAP) SPOCs, CSP representatives, Local Authorities, Youth Offender Teams (YOT), Primary Care Trusts (PCT), Lancashire Criminal Justice Board (CJB), National Offender Management Service (NOMS), Home Office and numerous other key stakeholders which informed partners of the programme and included them in how the funding would be used within their own locality and the formulation of the bids. The Force SPOC decided the amounts awarded to each BCU based on their identified individual problems. TKAP Partnership Board meetings, which included representatives from the agencies listed above, were held on a quarterly basis.

A fundamental aim of the process was to ensure partnership buy-in and encourage greater activity from stakeholder agencies.

Part of the grant was retained at the centre to fund a dedicated TKAP Co-ordinator who supported, co-ordinated and monitored BCU/CSP activity and act as a contact both locally and nationally for the TKAP initiative. This also ensured that the Force SPOC was fully sighted on all issues and performance.

Proposals were submitted in partnership with CSPs and other third sector partners where appropriate, on how best to spend the funding on Serious Youth Violence and Knife Crime. The proposals incorporated multi agency collaboration and governance arrangements and were completed on a template to ensure consistency of approach.

Once proposals were submitted by BCUs/CSPs to the Force SPOC, a quality assurance process took place with the Serious Youth Violence Fieldworker, Home Office. These were then submitted to the Home Office together with the Delivery Plan which

detailed all activity taking place to tackle Serious Youth Violence (SYV) including initiatives not funded by TKAP.

Process maps were developed and can be provided by the contact below.

RESULTS

BCU activity was monitored locally through their own CSPs, MAPS Steering Groups and Violent Crime Groups. Corporately, governance took place under the auspices of the quarterly TKAP Partnership Board meeting chaired by the force SPOC as outlined above. Updates/presentations were mandatory from each BCU/CSP to outline progress and performance against their individual delivery plan.

The Force TKAP Co-ordinator met with the Local Advisor from the Home Office on a bi-weekly basis to discuss progress and general co-ordination of the force wide programme.

A monthly monitoring form was completed by BCUs/CSPs to inform of progress and performance against the key deliverables. The form also identified any additional issues/risks and any potential under spends. This was forwarded to the Force Co-ordinator who was then able to closely monitor all activity and spend. This also formed the basis of an update to the Home Office which was used to inform the TKAP monthly bulletin of various initiatives across the force area.

This process ensured an ongoing consistent methodology of reporting and evaluation within the programme.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Full involvement and representation from BCUs, CSPs and other key partners was achieved.

LESSONS LEARNED

The three most important aspects:

- Ensure full utilisation of funds across Lancashire against the identified threats and that activity was focussed on areas with the most concerns with serious youth violence.
- Ensure partnership buy-in and encourage greater activity from stakeholder agencies.
- Ensure a consistent coordination and monitoring of the progress of initiatives together with an ongoing methodology of reporting and evaluation within the programme.

WHAT THEY SAID

At the end of Phase 2, the national TKAP lead within the Home Office requested that Lancashire Constabulary produce a report on their Structure and Governance Model which was subsequently circulated to all TKAP forces as a best practice model which was used as a benchmark for other police forces to adopt in TKAP 3.

Key stakeholders have given feedback through the Partnership Board Meetings that the Structure and Governance Model has successfully informed partners of the programme and involved them in determining how the funding would be used within their own locality, together with the formulation of the bids. It also provided an opportunity for them to receive regular updates on the progress and performance of the initiatives.

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LIVERPOOL – DISARM GOVERNANCE

ISSUE

Liverpool, like most large cities, has in recent years suffered elevated levels of gun, gang and violent crime compared to non-metropolitan areas of the country. This led, in 2007, to Merseyside Police being one of four such areas to receive enhanced funding to tackle the issues through the Tackling Gangs Action Programme (TGAP), and has subsequently received funding from the Tackling Knives and Serious Youth Violence Programme (TKAP). Merseyside Police and its partners recognised that the establishment of a strategic multi-agency approach to governance was both necessary and essential.

RESPONSE

In 2004, Merseyside Police established its Matrix Unit, which has been extremely successful in targeting organised crime groups operating across the force area. In 2007, criminal activity within these groups had been stifled through a process of rigorous multi-agency enforcement. There was recognition that we could never simply arrest our way out of gang and gun crime and a need existed for a more inclusive strategy to ensure that the gains made were maintained and these crime types further reduced.

The Disarm Partnership was established later that year and a ten year strategy was developed with the following strategic themes:

- Enforcement
- Prevention
- Resettlement

In 2009, the Disarm Partnership accepted the governance role for the Tackling Knives and Serious Youth Violence Action Programme (TKAP) and amended its strategy to include these issues in its delivery framework.

The Partnership is populated by key stakeholders and decision makers from a wide range of agencies such as:

- Police – various roles including Head of Matrix, Senior Investigating Officer (SIO), representative and the TKAP single point of contact
- Head of Community Safety and Cohesion
- Head of Probation Service
- Head of Youth Offending Service
- City Domestic Violence lead
- Children’s Services Director
- Community Safety Partnership representatives
- Senior Fire Officer
- Charitable Sector representative
- Neighbourhood management Representative

The Disarm Partnership meets on a bi-monthly basis and has a delegated budget, which it uses to pump prime new innovative initiatives. The Partnership operates within a philosophy of ‘trying something different’ and it is this ethos that has led to many new ways of working across and within partnerships.

The strategic vision commits to:

- Reducing the involvement of young people in crime committed by armed groups
- Increasing communities sense of pride, confidence and safety in the areas of Liverpool most affected by armed groups
- Helping build a city region with a positive and forward looking reputation

It articulates this vision through the following values:

- We will work together and be able to demonstrate;
- Our commitment to social justice
- Our motivation to reduce social inequality
- We will manage risks to achieve results

- We will be open to new ideas
- We are focussed to deliver results
- We will be challenging of each other

All activity is managed through a multi-agency delivery plan and updates are given at every meeting. The Partnership also manages strategic risk in the area of gun and gang crime and serious youth violence.

RESULTS

Since its inception the Disarm Partnership has seen reductions in all areas of its business. (Performance summary available on request subject to Partnership approval.)

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Many new and emerging partnerships and collaborative projects outside of Disarm’s core business have occurred between participating members.

LESSONS LEARNED

The most important aspect:

The opportunity to be challenging with each other in an environment where this can thrive. This is seen as the key to success by all partners albeit, a little difficult for some to accept in the early days, as a legitimate way to do business. This ‘challenge’ mentality has led to many innovative approaches to tackling problems.

WHAT THEY SAID

The reputation of the Disarm Partnership is enviable across the City and many groups with parallel areas of community safety work have attended to observe the process.

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NORTHUMBRIA – PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

ISSUE

A lack of ways to enable Northumbria Police and local Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) to reach out to smaller, community and voluntary organisations to encourage and support their activities with young people.

There was no obvious existing ways for Northumbria Police to work closely with community and voluntary

groups to communicate information about the police and community safety messages to young people through less formal communication routes.

As part of the TKAP delivery plan and to support the community and voluntary sector had been identified, there was no open, fair and transparent way to directly fund local activities.

RESPONSE

Participatory Budgeting (PB) is a community engagement approach that gives local people control of how funding is allocated to community and voluntary groups within their area. The process works by inviting local groups to submit a project proposal including a summary of their activity, the audience, costs and anticipated impact. All proposals are gathered together and at the community event, each is given an opportunity to present their ideas. At the end, the community vote on the projects they want to see take happen within their community, the projects with the most community votes receive funding.

The rationale behind running a PB scheme under the Tackling Knives and Serious Youth Violence Programme was to encourage greater engagement on a number of different fronts.

The primary purpose behind running the Participatory Budget (PB) scheme was to engage with a wide range of voluntary sector agencies across the force area. The organisations and community groups were targeted by local neighbourhood officers, which would help to strengthen local links and relationships. Activities funded through the PB scheme provided an opportunity for services to actively engage with young people and impact on crime prevention and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in targeted areas across Northumbria force area.

The budget to be distributed was set at £20,000. Each project could request up to £2,500 and must demonstrate how it would tackle serious youth violence and ASB

Projects were requested through Police Neighbourhood Inspectors, Community Development and Youth Workers and community / voluntary networks.

Throughout December 2009 and January 2010 37 project applications were received.

In total 35 applications were received by the deadline of Wednesday 13th January 2010, an additional 2 projects were received after the deadline and discounted.

Of the 35 projects received, 18 were short-listed by an independent panel to attend the PB Event on the 22nd January and deliver a short presentation on their project and to participate in the voting process.

The voting process ensured that projects were unable to vote for themselves.

The community voted for 9 projects to receive funding.

Many of the organisations which applied to participate in the scheme focussed their work on specific neighbourhoods with particular objectives, which provided an opportunity for targeted work and engage with larger numbers of young people, whilst impacting on crime and anti-social behaviour in their communities

The Participatory Budget Scheme has also helped a number of projects to expand their services during this period, which opened up pathways to further funding opportunities and increases in young people volunteering, which has subsequently impacted positively on crime figures within the identified areas.

Many of the local projects funded through the PB scheme have also helped to enable better dialogue between young people and other members of the communities that they live in.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

None

LESSONS LEARNED

- A longer run-in time to gather more interest in the scheme
- Greater clarity amongst participants as to what a 'Participatory Budget' is – many organisations didn't seem to understand the 'participatory' aspect of the scheme
- Running the scheme earlier in the year would have allowed for more intensive monitoring and greater evaluation of the impacts and outcomes of the scheme

- The opportunity to engage at force-level with local projects
- Raising awareness of the wide range of voluntary sector agencies working with young people across the force

Allowing agencies to establish relationships with other projects in their locality which were unknown to them due to Local Authority boundaries

WHAT THEY SAID

Organisation/Project:

Jarrow Active Youth Development, Your Life:
Your Time

Funding:

A vandal proof portable base for young people was purchased. This steel unit and fixings is now regularly deployed for periods of time in identified areas and offer a place for young people to access link with youth workers from JAYD who offer detached youth provision in the area.

Achievement:

Many young people who used to hang around street corners are now congregating in an identified area (around 30 young people aged between 11-19 years.) which is preventing the perception of ASB. The base has provided a place where youth workers can meet young people and develop positive working relationships. The base is staffed by qualified youth workers and also provides a place where local residents can come and talk to detached youth workers about concerns around their homes. Local residents have said that it is providing real benefit to both the young people and the community, by giving them somewhere to go which is helping to prevent ASB.

East Shields Detached

Funding:

To promote awareness of knife crime with young people in East Shields. The project will equip the Mobile Youth Bus with information and resources relating to knife crime. Young people who engage with the project are also be given the opportunity to participate in activities at a time when they are more likely to involve themselves in ASB.

Achievements:

The funding helped plan diversionary activities and enabled young people to participate in activities that they may never have had a chance to try. The activities

offered the young people an alternative to hanging around the streets which were generally challenging and fun. East Shields Detached has managed to develop work with certain groups which prior to the funding would not have been possible. The biggest success has been the use of the Spoiled for Choice DVD on Knife Crime on the bus when young people have been on. It has enabled staff to listen to young people's views and debate the issue. The group took part in a water based activity that was funded through a participatory budget. The group have also put in a bid to take part in more activities at the Water Activities Centre and this all stems from the project having the money available from the PB Scheme to pay for the activity in the first place.

Some of the young people on activities have become more involved with the project. The more time they spent on the project gives them an alternative to either being involved or being around any criminal behaviour.

Oxclose and District - Safer Washington Youth Project

Funding:

Young people, with the assistance of a graffiti artist, have designed and created images which tackle the problem of violence, knife crime and disorder. These images are used in posters, leaflets and distributed on key rings as part of a Washington wide engagement initiative. Young people have also designed appropriate graffiti based art which has been displayed within 2 town underpasses, and organised & hosted an event which displayed the art and ideas be used in the initiative.

Achievements:

The project has engaged with 80 young people aged between 13-19 through knife crime consultation, which was hosted by 8 young people from the Washington Youth Matters Forum. Discussions took place with community groups about the graffiti designs and where and when subways could be sprayed. The graffiti designs were all created by young people, and have been approved by various organisations, and community members of all ages. Whilst engaging with the community group, the Safer Washington Youth Project was also able to promote their local youth projects that are available free of charge to youth age 13/19 years.

The Evening Chronicle (28/07/10) published article on the graffiti project with a community day having taken place on Thursday 29 July.

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THANET – PARTNERSHIP WORKING IN THE NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

ISSUE

Thanet received £50,000 of money to tackle serious youth violence through the TKAP programme in 2010/2011. It was clear that there needed to be effective Governance and partnership for Thanet to maximise the positive difference it was going to be able to make during the 12 months.

RESPONSE

We established a strong local Governance structure which had the additional support of Thanet CSP, the Kent Police HQ Partnership and Crime Reduction Team, The Kent Police Authority and the County level Community Safety Partnership (known locally as the Safer Kent Delivery Group).

The key issue was ensuring that an effective Governance and accountability structure was built and sustained throughout the TKAP programme. The problem profile which was undertaken at the start of the programme was able to incorporate partnership as well as crime data. This led to a greater understanding of the issues, ownership of the operational plan and performance accountability was properly shared.

The TKAP funding was also used in conjunction with other funding streams to bring effective intervention and engagement to focussed geographic areas within the Thanet CSP.

This methodology resulted in a much more integrated and sustainable approach to tackling serious youth violence

RESULTS

The actual performance results provide a good insight into the effectiveness of this local governance of TKAP. There has been a 37% reduction in Serious Youth Violence and a 50% reduction in knife enabled crime. This has supported an overall reduction in the TKAP Violent Crime categories for all ages of 5.7%.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

An additional benefit of the TKAP programme was a bringing together of the various agencies, professionals, voluntary organisations and communities who could impact on serious youth violence.

As a result of the Home Office funded TKAP there has been a substantial growth of understanding between partner agencies about the challenges that Thanet faces. Also each agency understands the options available to tackle Serious Youth violence both within and outside their own organisation and how to access shared services. The ongoing work of the partnership based “Margate Task Force” will continue to strengthen this process

LESSONS LEARNED

1. We ensured effective governance at local and county level. It is crucial to ensure Senior Executive support to the programme from both the Police and Partner agencies. This was achieved in Thanet (and in Kent)
2. As part of TKAP, extensive work was carried out in support of A&E data-sharing from the local hospital (QEQM hospital). There was effective governance through partnership engagement with the Kent Police Lead officer, the Director of Public Health, GOSE (Mr D Sheehan), and the local A&E nominated Consultant “Champion” (Dr Kisson). This led to a valuable data-stream of information from this hospital – and became the most effective example of sharing of information from any hospital in Kent.
3. Partnership engagement took place to ensure that all organisations involved provided relevant feedback and evaluation after their involvement in individual initiatives.

WHAT THEY SAID

In general, those who have participated in the various initiatives have provided positive feedback on both the intentions of the programme and its impact on the community they serve.

The public themselves have been extremely supportive and enthused. The most commented upon tactic (in a very positive way) – was the use of metal detector wands at pub/nightclub venues as a condition of entry. This sent a very strong message to the users of Thanet’s NTE that licensees were happy to work with

the Police to make Thanet a safer place, and that those who might wish to carry weapons, could be subject to search any given night when entering licensed premises. Each time the wands have been deployed, the consensus has been that the public are reassured and feel more confident in their safety.

The presence of the Community Safety SOS trailer and those staffing it has also attracted positive comments – we hope to continue with its regular use and seek to increase the number of organisations utilising the service.

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TKAP – PROBLEM PROFILE

ISSUE

At the start of phase two of TKAP we asked participating police force areas to base their response on a locally produced problem profile which we asked them to share with us. The product from the participating forces was variable with a few really good examples but several that had not appeared to consider some of the wider issues that may lead to serious youth violence, nor even looked at the risks associated with the different age ranges

RESPONSE

Following discussion with a number of the analysts who were involved in producing the original problem profiles, it was suggested that there were several reasons why the product differed so greatly. In particular it was suggested that the profiles were not commissioned adequately (and differently in each area) and that it would be helpful to seek more consistency by sharing better practice and by producing a template, agreed and created alongside the analysts that should lead to a better development of problem profiles from each area that had a consistent and comparable basic structure but still enabled the exploration of local issues. To do this a workshop was held where analysts from each of the participating forces worked through the key areas leading to a template for the production of a problem profile. This workshop was developed and assisted by the Head of Profession for analysis within the National Police Improvement Agency and this assistance was vital in extending our understanding

of how to commission a problem profile. The product was a problem profile template that included a basic data collation, split by a variety characteristics, by age groups, gender, ethnicity, victim/offender and types of violence. This data collection exercise (undertaken across all the areas) enabled comparison and aggregation of data across the TKAP areas and was the basis on which analyst was able to undertake the detailed analysis. We also supported and encouraged each area to seek out data from partners which would support their analysis, whether this be around A & E, from a local ASB team, or any other source of partnership data.

With the announcement of TKAP phase 3 in January 2010, this exercise was repeated and refined for subsequent problem profile requests and indeed was extended to consider wider issues than serious youth violence. In addition the problem profile was used to facilitate more effective join up and value for money with other government programmes such as Youth Crime Action Plan and Alcohol Programme as they had significant overlap with TKAP. Again workshops with analysts were held. However it should be noted that this extension in to other data sets substantially increased the workload for analysts.

RESULTS

The quality of the product of the analysis did improve significantly. There were clear advantages to working closer with analysts in developing the terms of reference and template for the problem profile. However, despite this a few areas subsequently produced a document that bore little or no regard to the template. Where areas did consider and work to the structure of the template the product was more meaningful locally. The integration of a range of partnership data was still inconsistent, but again the better products both utilised and interpreted partners' datasets. As the commission was extended, by considering other crime types and factors, this significantly increased workload and timescales for production were always tight (especially in view of other local priorities to which this was an additional request). Feedback from analysts was that they preferred the clearer advice and guidance they had by being provided with a template to work from and a core data collection process that provided the basis from their analysis. They also felt that being invited to contribute to the development of the template was helpful. They could advise those commissioning the problem profile locally what was possible, practical or useful. There was additional feedback that indicated

that a close working relationship during the production period between the analyst and the area single point of contact (SPOC) helped as they were able to refine the product jointly during the production of the document.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

It was very useful (from a commissioning point of view) to understand that you need to be clear, specific and understand how analysts work to get the best outcomes. We worked centrally with the Head of Profession at NPIA on one problem profile template and later with the Head of Profession with in the Metropolitan Police service. Their insight was critical in translating the requests of the programme centre to a group of analysts.

From commissioners who were comfortable in working within the partnership environment, it seemed natural to encourage a problem profile that used partnership data in order to enhance it. However, analysts tended to favour the ‘certainty’ of crime data and initially were unsure of the benefit of partnership data. As we refreshed the profiles though and shared good examples, this area of analysis improved in a number of profiles.

Extending the profile request to assist other government programmes seemed a sensible request (as opposed to seeking three separate profiles), however, this raised workloads in short timescales and consequently led to a lack of focus in a number of the profiles.

LESSONS LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. Be clearer what the problem profile is for, how it is to be used and the factors to be considered.
2. Involve analysts in the development of the template.
3. Recommend a continual period of communication between analyst and SPOC as the profile is being produced

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. When commissioning the problem profile try to understand how the analyst works and what information they have access to. If you are looking at a large data set as the base, be specific about the questions you want answering.
2. Work in partnership during the production of the

profile, it is too late if after 6-8 weeks, the product supplied is not what you wanted.

3. Feed back to analysts how the profile has been used and where further insight or analysis would have been helpful. Look to refresh it as soon as practical.

WHAT THEY SAID

A number of the analysts felt that a clear template/terms of reference was imperative to produce a problem profile that met the needs of commissioner.

They commented that the workshops held to run through and agree the profile template were a good opportunity to share ideas with analysts from other organisations.

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INTEGRATED OFFENDER MANAGEMENT

A number of areas are successfully using integrated offender management to address violent offending behaviour.

DURHAM – STEP 2

ISSUE

There was a gap in intensive support to violent/aggressive offenders, yet support is available to offender of acquisitive crime and Anti Social Behaviour perpetrators.

Based on the TKAP problem profile it was felt that violent and aggressive offenders posed a significant risk of harm to victims and the public (as well as local services staff who may encounter them).

It was felt that to address aggression and violence in the longer term the offenders needed to have intensive support with all aspects of their often chaotic lives, for example, many offenders have problems associated with unemployment, literacy, debts, communication and lack of negotiation skills and impulsiveness. It was clear support was required at the same time as any enforcement activity or criminal justice proceedings were taking place.

Also, referral criteria do not always fully take on board risk of harm and can focus too heavily on actual offences and convictions. Further, it was felt that there was an opportunity to work with the people we know who have not yet been arrested or convicted but are displaying all the types of behaviour that raise concern about an escalation towards a violent incident or outburst.

RESPONSE

The Step2 project was devised and implemented.

It was felt important to deliberately keep the referral criteria quite 'open' so any type of aggressive behaviour could be considered -such as ASB incidents underpinned by aggression -shouting in the street, confrontation, and alcohol related ASB. Perpetrators who have committed violent offences and have been arrested or who are known to Local Multi Agency

Partnership meetings (LMAPS) were also encouraged to be referred. Individual professionals and agencies can make a referral, for example domestic violence workers or the Youth Offender Service.

Support could also be given to perpetrators of anti-social/violent and aggressive behaviour who are at risk of eviction or other enforcement measures as a result of their behaviour.

A contract is agreed with each individual and the project will set out the changes in behaviour that are expected, the support that will be provided and the consequences that will follow should behaviour fail to change. Support can be provided to the client in the following areas:

- Accessing specialist services including legal advice
- Help to reduce anti-social behaviour
- Help to address violent and aggressive behaviour
- Improve negotiation and communication skills
- Help to tackle underlying causes such as substance misuse, debts and domestic violence
- Parenting support
- Access to children's activities, youth projects or after school clubs
- Help in maintaining your tenancy to reduce the risk of eviction
- Prevent the repeat cycles of homelessness
- Neighbourhood disputes and harassment
- Participation in the local community
- Knowledge of rights and responsibilities as a tenant
- Assistance with benefit and grant applications, correspondence and completing forms
- Help to liaise with other relevant organisations and local authorities
- Advice and practical help to develop independent living skills and confidence

- Advice on developing skills to obtain work and training opportunities
- Improving budgeting skills and assistance with debt problems
- Out of hours emergency help

RESULTS

The evaluation of the STEP 2 project also shows that there is a much more robust risk management package in place following the referral and a number of STEP 2 clients have been referred to Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC), Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPP), Integrated Alcohol Service, Mental Health Assessments etc.

An evaluation will be carried out at the end of the project in March 2011 to examine evidence of behaviour change and to try to assess cost-savings. A follow up evaluation will be required to examine the longer term impacts at 12 months after the end of the project. Accessing funding to continue the project is a priority.

The support is about enabling the individual to live independently whilst reducing anti-social behaviour to enable them to avoid eviction proceedings; their Support Worker cannot and will not do everything for them, but will offer guidance and be there for them while they complete certain tasks. The support Worker provides advice on various options available to enable them to make informed decisions about their home, their support network and other aspects of their life. The project requires that clients:

- Meet with their Support Worker to agree support and identify the goals to be achieved and agree a Support Plan to meet these goals
- Agree regular meetings to review and revise the Support Plan
- Always try to keep to the appointments arranged with the Support Worker but contact them to rearrange if necessary
- Understand meetings require one to one discussion so avoid having others in their home during these times. The exception of this is their children.
- Understand anti social behaviour, including swearing, aggression, threats or violence of any kind, is totally unacceptable and will lead to

withdrawal of the service and potential criminal proceedings

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

It has been surprising that there have not been more referrals but based on the experience with STEP 2 it takes a number of months for the project to 'bed in' and then it is expected that there will be an increase in referrals. When services observe the results achieved with clients and the potential longer term benefits the services they also tend to increase referrals. Between the beginning of October 2010 and the end of February 2011 the project has seen a total of 28 referrals.

LESSON LEARNED

There have been issues with referrals and this is one of the main barriers.

Some of the potential referrers appear to be referring after the event rather than in a more preventative way.

Setting up an arrest referral system for referrals would be a key recommendation from this pilot project.

Improvement could be to link the service in with the ASB Escalation Procedure but it was not possible to do this with such a short pilot project.

Now that the focussed work is taking place around High Impact Localities and Households it is expected that an increase in referrals will follow.

More awareness raising of the service has been promoted through the TKAP Board.

WHAT THEY SAID

TA was referred by the police after engaging in ASB in the local area; this included street drinking, substance misuse, violent behaviour and intimidation. TA was reluctant at first in regards to receiving support and he only attended the first meeting for a few minutes. The remainder of the first meeting was spent giving advice to TA's parents (he still resides in his parents' home) who had received little support in the past.

TA eventually got back in touch after his parents had asked him to leave the family home and had decided that he needed to get his life back on track. TA has been receiving support for approximately two months and in that time he has been referred to a drug and alcohol support service which he is now engaging with, he has been supported in accessing help in relation to his debts, he has had his banding improved

on the local housing register, he has started paying board money to his parents, he is also on a waiting list for another housing association and his general attitude has improved to a level which by his parents have allowed him to stay in the family home until he has secured alternative accommodation.

TA still has other goals which have been set out in his support plan and is working his way towards achieving these; such as gaining employment and accessing relevant training. There has already been a reduction in him playing a part in ASB in the local area and an improvement with relationships in the family.

TA is a good example of the type of people that the Step2 project can reach; TA was effectively regarded as homeless when he wanted to engage with support and many other projects that are similar would have been unable to offer the support without a tenancy involved. Also, the support that TA has already received has seen in a reduction in ASB which shows that by beginning to address the underlying issues in a persons' life it can have a positive impact on them and on the local community.

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GREATER MANCHESTER – SPOTLIGHT

ISSUE

Integrated Offender Management (IOM) provides partner agencies with a solid model to improve the joint management of those offenders who pose a significant risk of harm and re-offending in our communities. This model enables staff from different organisations to work more closely together, to share information and take joint decisions and actions, which will improve the behaviour of those offenders. The specific issue was to ensure that partner agencies were in a position to identify and effectively manage TKAP/Serious Youth Violence (SYV) potential offenders. It was recognised that the IOM approach could be as effectively used for violent offenders as well as serious acquisitive crime offenders.

RESPONSE

All the partner agencies worked together to identify a cohort of offenders in each Community Safety Partnership (CSP) area who would be effectively

managed at the right level by the partner agencies involved. The level of risk that these offenders provided was the important issue, they did not have to be actively involved in criminal activity at the time the cohort was formed, but their potential risk was what mattered the most. The overarching aim was to promote offender compliance alongside robust enforcement if that became necessary. Each offender within the cohort will be assessed on a daily basis using a centrally agreed risk criteria (i.e have we intelligence to say they are actively committing crime, have they been arrested, did they test positive for drugs etc).

The agencies within the IOM structure defined their own role and worked within their area of expertise, whilst also having an understanding of what the other agencies could provide. The IOM had a strong strategic/governance support which ensured that the programme runs effectively, is supported at a neighbourhood level and the right resources and commitment go into the IOM process. Data sharing is a vital part of the plan and all agencies will freely share relevant information with each other.

It was also important to set up post implementation reviews, to ensure that good practice was shared, quality assurance systems were in place, barriers that manifested themselves were addressed and overcome as necessary.

Each CSP area developed a co-located team whom have the following functions:

- An intelligence unit,
- A rapid response capability,
- Intensive supervision casework capability
- Non-statutory casework capability

Additionally a daily tasking meeting will review the current position re the cohort and decide on daily action.

There was also a requirement for staff to attend multi agency training in order to understand exactly what each others roles are, which would ensure better joint working and more likelihood of overall success.

RESULTS

The following results were achieved.

- A partnership approach to reducing the re-offending of high risk violent offenders
- A consistent area approach that has the flexibility to reflect local priorities and needs

- A model that manages both violent and acquisitive offenders
- Promoting compliance alongside robust enforcement
- Supporting the delivery of a more effective prevention strategy
- Re-aligning existing partnership resources
- A commitment to co location
- Real time intelligence sharing and risk management
- Each agency defines its own role and works within its area of expertise
- Delivering justice re-investment for both the partnership and the community
- Delivery at neighbourhood level

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

With the TKAP/SYV programme just coming to the end of its third year, the figures for GMP are very good and show considerable reductions. There may be many reasons for this, i.e enforcement operations, education in schools etc. But the successful implementation of the IOM model across GMP, must surely have had a considerable impact on managing violent and gang offenders.

LESSON LEARNED

None provided.

WHAT THEY SAID

- Case studies reflect success.
- PC was a high-risk, violent MAPPA offender with a criminal record including armed robbery and kidnapping. He was placed in Probation-approved premises outside Tameside and was given a prison licence condition not to drive or to be driven in a motor vehicle, as well as an exclusion from the district.

Staff from the Spotlight Team visited the premises and explained their role to staff. Later that week, the Spotlight Team received a call stating that a suspicious vehicle was in the car park at the same time PC had arrived to sign in. A check on the vehicle revealed the owner was a known criminal associate of PC's from Tameside.

Spotlight officers went immediately to the premises, arriving within 20 minutes of the call while PC was still inside. Although there was no direct evidence that PC had been in the vehicle he was warned about the consequences of such action and made aware that the Police, Probation and other agencies were working together to monitor his activity. The driver was spoken to and left the scene. The information was disseminated to Police and Probation staff.

PC has subsequently remained compliant with his licence conditions.

- LD had a history of domestic violence offences. After serving a custodial sentence he had been agitated with Probation staff regarding the restrictions of his licence conditions. Spotlight Police and Probation staff met him to discuss this further and for the Police to familiarise themselves with the case.

A few weeks later, there was an incident on the street, in the late evening, of an assault on a female by a male. When the response Police attended there was no trace of both, however an anonymous witness phoned the Police with a description of the male and female.

A Spotlight Police officer recognised the description of the offender as LD. He attended LD's home address immediately with a colleague. LD was not there. They then attended his partner's address. LD and his partner were in the house. His partner, in confidence, intimated that she was the woman referred to in the incident and LD was the perpetrator, but she refused to make a complaint. LD was aggressive in his attitude to the Police.

The following morning the officers liaised with their Probation colleagues who, on their evidence, commenced emergency recall proceedings. LD was arrested that day and was returned to prison.

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HARINGEY AND ENFIELD – GANGS ACTION GROUP

ISSUE

The problem solving group was set up in April 2009 to better bring together Partnership knowledge and capability following a rise in gang activity and shootings on the Borough. The increasing violence between rival gangs in the borough was seen as an issue that would be best dealt with by collective action, and would also be an avenue to link in with local voluntary and third sector organisations. In October 2009 this group was formalised as the Gang Action Group (GAG). Whilst the Local Authority and Police set up the group, it was set up as a collegiate response.

RESPONSE

Key feature of the GAG is that it is not simply an opportunity for the police to task other agencies – it is real partnership in action with both statutory agencies AND third sector. Whilst any agency can propose an individual for inclusion, they must be seconded by another. The police (as any agencies) do not have a monopoly on intelligence – the individuals and families most at risk of gang involvement may be known to a community group, but not to the statutory agencies. This has proved a way of involving third sector organisations and bringing them into the heart of partnership work.

By using a joined up method of engaging the gang member and, where applicable, their family the Partnership can best influence their behaviour, habits and actions thereby reducing the threat and risk to them and the wider community.

RESULTS

The expected outcomes of this group is to establish clear lines of accountability for managing gang members and an infrastructure for sharing information with a view to reducing violence between gangs.

Case study example – a young male not in education, employment and training was clearly involved in gang activity including posting raps on YouTube which were antagonistic to rival gang members. In early 2009 he was stabbed five and a search found him hiding five bullets. This led to his referral to the Gang Action Group. Partners shared intelligence about further attacks on his family and home. The GAG was able to fast track a move to another home outside the area which was successful in reducing the immediate risk. However the family felt isolated without a supportive network and chose to return back into Haringey.

The individual's attendance at the Pupil referral unit was rare and his behaviour was on the cusp of an ASBO. Previous enforcement options had proven unsuccessful so he was inducted into the Intensive Intervention Programme with the ongoing help and support of a youth outreach worker. Following this programme, combined with local Police and Housing support there were marked improvements in the individual's behaviour. His attendance at the pupil referral unit increased, and he was successful in completing his GCSE coursework within the deadline. Even more encouragingly he has stopped uploading antagonistic videos on YouTube and has been offered a place at the sixth form centre to study further GCSE's. In January 2011 he met with the local leader of the council and to discuss his journey with her. These positive outcomes have been achieved through the trusting relationship and persistent key working style of IIP, but also the effective communication and information sharing between the different agencies involved (Gang Action Group, Children and Young People's Services, Pupil Referral Unit, Youth Offending Service).

There have been regular inter-agency meetings to discuss any issues that have arisen. Since Autumn 2009 21 individuals have received interventions and support from agencies working together within the GAG. There have been substantial reductions to the threats and risks linked to their behaviour, resulting from significant life style changes. These successful interventions have meant not just a reduction in offences, but increased take up of education, training and employment opportunities.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Established relationships have led to information sharing between agencies in cases that do not involve gang activity.

Initially, there was reluctance to share information between agencies however this was a very brief period whilst individuals adjusted and received guidance from their line managers.

There were cultural differences between some partners who had not worked together previously. Where some partners had a focus of engagement they were less understating of the use of enforcement options and vice versa. Once the group developed relationships with each other they were able to work together to offer both options to obtain the desired outcomes of the group. There has been an increased level of trust as the relationships within the group matured.

LESSON LEARNED

Things we would do differently:

- To have worked with a lot of third sector organisations prior to their budget cuts and disbanding. Due to budget cuts several organisations which could have been commissioned and funded by the partnership will not be able to work with the group and accept referrals.

The most important aspects of the project:

- The buy in and willingness from each agency to information share and work together. As mentioned this was initially difficult due to cultural differences within partners. There is an emphasis on the individual members to conduct their actions outside of the meeting so that when at the next GAG meeting the next steps are decided and the focus is on future engagement, not chasing past actions.

WHAT THEY SAID

The relationships between partners, particularly non statutory have matured significantly and the needs and challenges of each organisation are better understood. This has allowed the GAG to operate more effectively and in particular third sector voices are now heard more clearly and acted upon.

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PRESTON – FOX STREET PARTNERSHIP

ISSUE

Gang related cultures in some neighbourhoods influence young people from some of the more deprived areas of the city to the extent that some youths who become involved in offending in their early teens which escalates into an increasing use of violence and threat from their mid teens onwards.

For the majority, the vulnerability to gang influences follow exclusion from other aspects of social society, for example difficult family circumstances; exclusion or poor school attendance; lack of stable accommodation and little prospect of employment. There are also challenges arising from substance misuse, poorer health and wellbeing.

The effect of their crime extends not only into their own neighbourhoods and gang tensions but also the local economy and quality of life for residents if not adequately addressed. Interventions are therefore introduced specifically around these individuals to address their offending and introduce positive directions in which to progress into a stable, social lifestyle.

RESPONSE

The scheme has operated for approximately two years and is jointly funded by the Community Safety Partnership. It was originally introduced for serious acquisitive offenders however and has always been very modest due to budget constraints. The TKAP contribution has enabled it to be extended to younger offenders who have committed violent offences.

The overarching approach is provided by applying integrated offender management within which this case study focuses upon a small employment opportunity scheme. Those brought into the scheme were initially approached by Police Community Support Officers, based within the Revolution Team. This formed part of rehabilitation for offenders included in the Community Safety Partnership's Prolific and other Priority Offenders Scheme.

Where youths were able to demonstrate that they had sufficient commitment to maintain a job, they have been offered part time employment for a period of up to three months, with some scope to extend this in circumstances which would result in permanent employment being obtained.

Those entering the scheme are employed directly by Methodist Action and work placements are arranged with small local businesses; churches and charities and the local Council. Each placement is for fifteen hours a week and is subject to no further offences being committed and regular attendance and acceptable behaviour in the workplace.

The range of duties is varied and the youths entering the scheme are able to select from the options available, including grounds maintenance; painting and decorating and general garage work. Supervision in the workplace is provided by the business and Methodist Action, whilst the Revolution Team co-ordinate action around the wider rehabilitation pathways including finding accommodation and monitor compliance with community supervision.

RESULTS

Not all of those offered an opportunity wished to take up the employment but it was encouraging to see those who were prepared to make the lifestyle change enthusiastically settle into their work placements.

Not all completed the three months placement, health issues and poor attendance intervened in a small proportion of cases. However, overall offending reduced even where the work placement wasn't completed. None of those taking part were asked to leave by the business and some were taken on into permanent employment at the workplace.

There is a precondition that there is no re-offending and one participant was removed from the scheme following a theft. However, none of the businesses were targeted by offending during the work placement and the trust which built up was reported by some participants in the scheme as one of the biggest motivating factors for them in their job.

Of the eleven offenders taken on to the scheme, seven were successful; one unfortunately died and another withdrew through ill health. Six went on into employment, one becoming self employed as a painter and decorator. Most significantly from the community and victim perspective, their offending ceased.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

One of the most significant consequences has been the understanding which has developed around the levels of support required to deal with the basics of holding down a job, for example obtaining adequate and suitable work clothing and notifying absence through illness.

In learning to adjust to these aspects of working life through the tolerant and supportive approach, those on the scheme became successful in engaging in a responsible working culture.

LESSON LEARNED

Through the development of the scheme we have made a number of adjustments in response to our experiences. In particular, we have provided higher levels of support in seeking other employment, including assisting preparation for job interviews. Ensuring that there is adequate work wear provided and providing some contributions to bus fares has also helped to ease those engaging in the scheme into the world of work.

The most important aspects of the scheme have been the flexibility to take people up onto the scheme at short notice, when individuals are willing to make lifestyle changes. Having work places in the scheme which provide a responsible and caring environment which encourages trust has also proved important.

The third important consideration has been to ensure that the businesses engaging in the scheme are informed about offending history with consent from the participant. This might be seen as a deterrent but in fact hasn't caused any difficulties in enabling us to place participants and for the businesses to support willing workers.

WHAT THEY SAID

During an independent evaluation a participant commented as follows: "Quite honestly it has changed my life. Considering where I've been, I've changed round, earning my own money".

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SANDWELL – INTEGRATED DIVERSIONARY OFFENDER MANAGEMENT

ISSUE

There was a lack of structured responses to the management of violent offenders who could cause severe harm to the communities and residents of Sandwell. The initial response was establishing the Serious Offender Planning Project (SOPP), a multi-agency forum planning interventions for violent offenders who were highlighted as posing a risk of committed serious violent crime but didn't fit the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) criteria.

The responsibility for offender management is shared between the local authority Police and probation. The legal responsibility for the supervision of statutory orders lies with Probation. The issue was that the SOPP had no legal standing and therefore all work was done either on a voluntary basis or as part of an Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC).

RESPONSE

The multi-agency management of violent offenders was highlighted as a clear gap during the development of the Integrated Diversionary Offender Management (IDOM) in Sandwell. There is an IDOM steering group through which clear models for intervention have been agreed for each strand of IDOM. Gang Linked Violent offenders are included in this.

At the same time a review was held into the functionality of the MAPPA processes. All stakeholders were involved in this and the conclusion was that sexual offenders were managed well under the MAPPA arrangements; however violent offenders were less well catered for. In response to this the Violent Crime MAPPA was set up.

All original nominations from the SOPP were moved to the Violent Crime MAPPA, the Prolific Priority Offenders (PPO) scheme or Deter Young Offender (DYO), depending of the level of harm posed; their statutory status; or their assessed impact on the local community.

There is a clear process for the identification and screening of all MAPPA cases. There is now an “Organised Criminal Gang /Street Gang” strand to the Sandwell IDOM. This deals with offenders as “Priority” offenders under the PPO arrangements. This designation is justified based on the risk of harm posed; risk of re-offending and the determination that multi-agency management can add value.

Young offenders who do not fulfil the criteria or are siblings of gang members are referred to the DYO strand, all three aspects of which are now managed under the strategic umbrella of “IDOM”. Under the IDOM model offenders will either be managed under the PPO strand or the Violent Crime MAPPA. Both PPO and the violent crime MAPPA have statutory requirements that can be added to licences designed to prevent further offending and protect the public.

Typically the cohorts participating in the IDOM process lack education, training and employment, they often have substance misuse issues and negative peer groups, all of which are risk factors. Therefore the implementation of a structured timetable upon release is a key part to achieving a successful outcome.

The main change in the management of violent offenders is the introduction of a multi agency team who manage and design sentence plans around a Court Order, and in addition to this tight license conditions

can be put in place upon the offenders release from prison that are legally enforceable.

RESULTS

The approach mirrors that taken with PPO, where offending levels have reduced by 43% in the last 12 months against a target of 17% (4th highest reduction in the West Midlands Criminal Justice Board area). The reduction of offences committed by PPO who test positive for drugs has dropped by over 50 offences through improved partnerships with the Drug Intervention Programme and the PPO scheme under IDOM. Other success factors are 100% of PPOs are in satisfactory accommodation upon release from prison, with the use of Bed and Breakfast being stopped for offenders on release.

Since September 2010 there has been a DIP funded full time PPO Accommodation Officer working solely on developing accommodation resources and obtaining accommodation for PPOs in the community and on release from prison.

Almost 90% of PPOs under supervision are in some form of training or employment; this has been achieved by building closer links with both private and third sector organisations. In Sandwell, the “Hub” has been established. It is a partnership project between the public, private and the 3rd sector to deliver construction training to offenders. Those who complete the training programmes are offered temporary and then permanent work.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The new developments have highlighted to a wide audience the robust and united response to high risk offenders taken by the agencies within Sandwell. On two occasions recently offenders have moved out of the area. A full transfer package was handed over to the new area and in each case; and in one case the decision was taken to jointly manage the offender between the two areas.

LESSON LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. The use of non-negotiable support, dependant upon achievements which are agreed upon release. For example, the offer of support with driving lessons on completion of 6 months of negative drug tests. We have an agreement in place with a private sector provider, it is recognised that the ability to drive increases the individual’s employability. This is not a reward scheme for ex-offenders.

2. Information sharing protocol should be completed at the earliest opportunity and although one has been signed up to by all partners now, early setbacks could have been avoided had the protocol been in place from the onset of the scheme. Information should be shared accurately in “real-time”.
3. The development of a broad range of bespoke support services and interventions through linking in with 3rd sector providers and accessing independent sources of funding.

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. Tight enforcement, with interventions agreed by all agencies.
2. An increase in the required contacts with the partners under the IDOM
3. A requirement in some cases for them to undergo a series of negative drug test within a specified timescale.
4. A requirement to engage with education and/or training providers

WHAT THEY SAID

The following comments are from PPOs who have been managed under the scheme which will now manage violent offenders.

“When I have come out of prison in the past I have been left to get on with it that normally means back to crime and drugs .this time I have a programme that I have to keep to and I am clean for the first time in 5 years”

“Can’t believe I have got a job with all my offences and the Police leave me alone”

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SOUTH YORKSHIRE IN2CHANGE

ISSUE

In2Change originally developed the 4 Change programme directed at young offenders in Prison. It was evident that this programme would be more beneficial to youths aged 10 - 17 on the cusp

of potentially going to prison and/or anti-social behaviour and low level crime.

This response is aimed at young people who are the subject of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts or Anti Social Behaviour Orders but it is clear that the prospect of a prison sentence does not deter them from committing further offences.

Gang and Knife crime is still prevalent in the media and to this also added concerns and interest from schools due to peer pressure, pupil exclusions and bullying.

Although there were local interventions to tackle these issues with children of this age, no-one dealt with targeting schools with a directed programme such as the 4 Change utilising ex-offenders to deliver real life factual presentations alongside South Yorkshire Police.

Utilising ex-offenders with a variety of personal experiences to discuss and present their own life experiences, criminal history and incarceration identified situations that youths could relate to their own situations and circumstances.

RESPONSE

In2Change was set up by staff at HMP & YOI Doncaster in December 2006 becoming a registered charity in February 2007.

The Charity has central locations based in Sheffield, South Yorkshire and Leeds, West Yorkshire

The aim is to expand and compliment existing community based projects within the community. The programme is targeted at bullying, gang, knife and violent crime and the consequences of what a criminal conviction or incarceration could lead to and the impact on themselves and their families.

The result is a direct fact based approach to youths from a variety of cultural backgrounds and communities identifying post code crime, bullying and sexual exploitation.

Key features of this approach are to ensure it is delivered by ex-offenders of a similar or slightly older age. No “punches” are pulled and ex-offenders talk about their lives and experiences in prison language.

Recruiting staff and volunteers, all of which are ex-offenders that have life experiences of Care Homes, Substance Misuse, Abuse, Violence, Sexual Exploitation, Prisons, Bullying, Gangs and

Homelessness. The team then demonstrate through presentations and role play comparisons with the young peoples own experience thus capturing their interest.

Utilising the skills of this unique group has developed a programme that is powerful, hard hitting and factual but gets the message across. In2Change is one of only two organisations (to the best of knowledge) that deliver a programme targeted at educating young people of school age utilising authoritative figures which in our which captures the true impact of crime and prison life from an offenders point of view.

The combination of working alongside the Police demonstrating weapons of crime is a powerful addition to this project and shows young people that ex-offenders can work alongside the Police. The project is specially suited to Youth Offending Services, Pupil Referral Units, Secure Units and Local Authorities. Further projects and add-ons include Social Enterprise opportunities, Court Buddy Scheme, Supported Housing Project and the potential of joining further presentations of 4 Change nationally to identify views from a younger person's perspective.

On arrival young people look upon the day as something that will be fun and perhaps something they can use to impress others. Once the presentation starts, attitudes change very quickly particularly given these young people carry out crime and disorder without fear of being challenged by their communities. Ex-offenders delivering the programme speak to them honestly, sometimes harshly, and have committed far more serious crimes than them.

The project focuses on:

- Year 10 and Year 11 youths (male/female) in the first instance
- Students involved in anti social behaviour in the community leading to criminal activity
- Disengaged from education and training providers (persistent absentees)
- Students receiving a high number of concern slips for their behaviour in school
- Students known to be members of postcode gangs or any other gang membership
- Students known to the Police and outreach youth workers

- Information from parents that suggests involvement in anti social behaviour/ criminal activity
- Students currently in the Youth Justice System

HMPs would be ideal to facilitate a 'prison setting' for In2Change to provide access for Schools and Organisations to deliver this presentation but this can prove difficult through Security restrictions. Utilising the "Lifewise Centre" in Rotherham has identical facilities to deliver this presentation through the "mock scenes" that have been specifically built to get the message across. In addition the project has "roadshow" which has portable materials and equipment used in all presentations which means In2Change can facilitate this intervention anywhere in the country.

The key aim for "4 Change" is to provide employment and training opportunities for ex prisoners to become peer support mentors essential for career progression within an area of experience that they are familiar with. The 'add on' value of "4 Change" is that a support mechanism could continue with young people attending this presentation and linking up with their own preferred support mentor to arrange visits to schools or supervised meetings.

RESULTS

- Out of 38 young people from Rotherham who engaged with "4 Change" project 31 returned to main stream education, saving schools £124k in exclusion costs.
- 125 out of 187 young people across South Yorkshire asked to work with the project further reducing local low level crime and the costs (£375K) to communities and businesses, with the majority returned to mainstream education.
- Testimonies and feedback from partner organisation and participants has highlight the project susses.
- In2 Change employs 3 ex-offenders saving £520k, who now contribute £135K to the local economy. 10 Volunteers saving a further £1.04 million
- Over 70 -80% of evaluations asked for support from the ex-offenders who delivered the programme which could impact on £375K saving on low level crime

- Feedback and testimonials has been encouraging to find the number of young people returning to mainstream education and progressing within the educational system rather than becoming a statistic of crime.
- In2 Change now have AQA centre approval to accredit the “4 Change” project over an 8 hour session with only a minimal cost but it means young people attending get a certificate on what they have learnt.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The project has been overwhelmed with the response and impact of the 4 Change Project, a number of young people have expressed an interest in working with the project in the future. They have gone through difficult experiences themselves at a young age and by getting the support from mentors within the programme makes them want to share their own problems and how to overcome these with other young people. This is an ideal add-on to the presentation to capture the interest of participants at the mix of presenters standing in front of them. A simple but effective programme has gained the interest from Student Services in Further Education Colleges and being part of a programme of a 2 year study in Public Service Award.

An unexpected consequence is the value ex-offenders gain from their input and self satisfaction at the evaluations of appreciation from some of the most problematic youths within areas of South Yorkshire. Working with ex-offenders has assisted in their own rehabilitation and community payback, but what is clearly evident is that 4 Change is a leading intervention directed and applicable to schools and youths of all ages.

Due to the number of young females the programme was further developed the programme to target specific groups to reinforce the message to both sexes that crime doesn't pay. It also highlighted the vast number of young people concealing weapons and drugs for their peers and partners resulting in identifying the consequences of their own actions.

LESSON LEARNED

- Look for more diverse ex-offender to attract multi-cultural engagement.
- Working alongside the Police and Schools to target street youths to encourage involvement in initiatives.

- Engage & recruit with offenders prior to release.
- Find out more initiatives that youths can relate to.
- Ensure a lot more volunteers have correct training to enhance Mentor Support.
- Ensure the team that deliver the project have a vast array of offences that youths are involved in.

WHAT THEY SAID

“The combination of 4 Change and Point 7 projects including both police officers and ex-offenders are very powerful, shows young people that the two can work together. This model is perfect to go into schools. Not only is it so real that kids will relate to it without feeling like they are being preached at, but also because it involves ex-offenders”.

(Brooke Kinsella) Feb 2011

Change for the Better – An initiative that gives ex-offenders work while helping to cut the region's crime rate (4 page magazine article South Yorkshire Business News) Feb 2011.

“You work in a school to help young people and I always talk to students about maximising life chances. However, this is always through education, enrichment and exam results. In the case of In2change and the vulnerable students we bring to their workshops they offer a service which can truly maximise life chances. They have the experience, knowledge and expertise to change the course of a life for a young person involved in crime. They offer a service no school can hope to match. What makes it so powerful is their unequivocal support for the work of schools and the partnership with schools they talk about to students. As a result of this students take notice as they realise schools do care. This partnership has one aim: to prevent young people becoming criminalised and being sent to prison”.

(Testimonial Deputy Head Teacher Sheffield)

“What makes In2Change different is they want to improve every time, they want to listen to advice and they take it on board. In other words they do in their delivery what they want young people to do in their lives: listen, learn and change”.

(Testimonial)

“Problem students attending the 4 Change project have done a U-Turn and it's good to see that some of my pupils have gone on to further education and into vocational jobs rather than following the wrong path that they were on”

(Teacher)

“Committing crime is something you don’t want to.
Could lead to more than one thing” Kyle (Evaluation)

“After today I don’t think I need support as the
presenters have already made me open my eyes to
what I am doing and the consequences that I face”
Debbie 14 year old (Evaluation)

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KNIFE CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMME (KCPP)

The Knife crime Prevention Programme was developed as the Youth Justice Board contribution to TKAP Phase 1. TKAP continued into a second phase in 2009/10 and a third phase in 2010/11 the commitment to provide a KCPP was extended to all participating Youth Offending Services using the lessons learnt from the pilot programmes.

COVENTRY – KCPP

ISSUE

At the beginning of TKAP in 2008 it was identified that there were no suitable programmes for working with young people in the community who were convicted of knife enabled crime across the country. In addition other family members, siblings at risk and vulnerable persons were also not being identified and positive interventions being put in place.

12 Youth Offending Services piloted during the initial phase of TKAP what was known as the Knife Crime Prevention Programme. Each YOT, working within a set criteria was tasked with developing an intervention programme relevant to their particular communities and social environment.

The purpose was:

1. To help young people to understand the consequences (to themselves and others) of carrying and using knives and removing the sense of impunity that many knife carriers have;
2. To encourage parental responsibility;
3. Listening more actively to the concerns of young people and allowing them to hold public bodies to account for keeping them safe.

As TKAP continued into a second phase in 2009/10 and a third phase in 2010/11 the commitment to provide a KCPP was extended to all participating YOS, using the lessons learnt from the pilot programmes.

RESPONSE

Coventry Youth Offending Service (CYOS) offers a range of offence specific programmes for young

people convicted of, or at risk of, committing particular crimes. All programmes are available to young people known to the core Youth Offending Service. Those of particular relevance to violent offences include 'Sticks n Stones' (a 2 session programme for assault offences), KCPP (an 8 week programme for knife/bladed article or knife enabled offences developed as part of Phase 2 TKAP) and Cut It Out (a 1-off session, originally developed as an offence specific programme as part of Phase 1 TKAP and now used as a prevention/educational programme).

The Sticks n Stones and Cut It Out programmes have been delivered to students at The Chase pupil referral unit (PRU), where approx 2/3 of their students are known to CYOS. They have also been delivered to the City College as part of their Citizenship/PSHE (personal, social and health education) curriculum.

CYOS responded to the need for a weapons based programme (as identified in the first phase of TKAP) by writing a knife specific offence behaviour programme called 'Cut It Out'. This was a one two hour session programme. This programme was run internally by support staff and was offered on both a group and on a 1:1 basis (where individual needs meant that group participation would be disruptive or problematic). This programme was agreed locally to be compulsory for all those convicted of a bladed article offence. It was also offered to all young people aged 14 years plus not in full time education, training or employment and as an 'added value' programme for those on Referral Orders. Other young people thought to be at risk of committing such an offence, for example from the prevention programmes, the Family Intervention Project and Youth Inclusion and Support Panel (FIP/YISP), could also be referred onto it.

The very quick introduction of the KCPP was problematic for practical reasons. The main initial barriers were:

- The time constraints. We were notified of the need to run this compulsory 8 element programme in July 09 and it had to be ready for delivery October 09. Given the summer holidays and no extra

funding available to support it (the funding was included in the generic prevention fund for Youth Offending Services). This was a real challenge.

- As we were not one of the pilot areas, we received no extra funding to set the programme up.
- Getting external agencies involved to deliver the more 'specialist' elements of the programme, such as health issues.

Our pilot programme was very much 'suck it and see'. Although we were able to use the services of Relate for the Conflict Resolution and Hewell Grange Prison for the Peer Offender element, we had to deliver the health element in-house. At this time, our attempts to get a specialist member of staff, though on-going, were fruitless. This is definitely an area that requires specialist input.

We continued to pursue the health option and through the Coventry & Warwickshire Hospital Trust Communications Manager, have secured the on-going support and contribution of Consultant Jim Davidson, Head of Children's A&E Dept.

Unfortunately, we were unable to secure Hewell Grange's services for the second programme run. We brought in a local ex-offender from the community, unfortunately though this highlighted the need for a little distance between the peer and the cohort attending the course. We have, however, since agreed that a specific prisoner from Hewell Grange will attend all Peer Offender sessions. He will be attending his 3rd session during the present programme run. This is proving to be particularly successful, with those who have met him in previous sessions in awe of his honesty – he has made it clear why prison is not where they want to be without preaching.

The compulsory elements make the whole programme very difficult to deliver on a 1:1 basis. The elements which are delivered by external agencies cannot easily be offered for individual young people. Whilst internal staff can offer a modified interpretation, these individuals lose out on the 'expert' intervention and subsequent impact. In the most recent 1:1 course the engagement from those experts has astounded staff however, with the A&E Consultant, among others, meeting with the young person on their own to ensure they have the fullest opportunity possible.

We are presently on the 5th run of the KCPP and feel confident that we have a cohesive and impactful

programme. To ensure that we are able to meet the different learning styles of the young people, we use a multi-modal delivery, including discussions, practical elements, film footage, music video, external visitors and worksheets.

RESULTS

As Coventry was not a pilot area, the programme was put together on a shoe-string budget. Fortunately, it was possible to 'beg, steal and borrow' and negotiate with a range of agencies to deliver sessions at no extra cost for the 8 compulsory elements. In return for a member of Hewell Grange staff accompanying the prisoner and the distance/time involved, we provide a 'fish & chip' tea for all participants.

The Coventry & Warwickshire Hospital Trust allows the Consultant to attend at no cost. In preparing for their participation we took the time to explain how they might use their involvement in the programme to meet some of their own objectives/outcomes!

Music video: loaned to us free of charge courtesy of Lost The Plot Music Productions

The Anger management element, initially delivered (again free) by Relate, is now delivered internally, together with Public Space Awareness and the Law. In response to participant feedback, we decided to add an accredited First Aid session. This is delivered by the St John Ambulance Service and costs £50 per session. This is nominal and is important both for the skills it provides the young people with and for the certification it gives (and subsequent increased confidence/self esteem of the young people).

Evaluation forms are completed by all participants after each session (young people, staff and session deliverers). There is also a 'whole programme evaluation' in the final week.

As a result of these evaluations, we are constantly modifying how we deliver all elements of the programme. This can relate to the content and focus of a session, the methods used, extra elements thought important (First Aid) and the order of the sessions.

Please refer to comments made by participants at the end.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

- As a result of having the A&E Consultant deliver the Health element, we have been able to use some of the qualitative data that he includes in the programme on other Offence Specific Programmes.

For example, gender differences and placements of knife woundings (e.g. females tend to inflict blade injuries to the other female's face) we have incorporated into our Sticks N Stones Programme which is for those convicted of violent offences. It is (obviously) hoped that we can prevent young people from escalating their violent behaviour so that they do not have to attend the KCPP. The consultant has also agreed to help us differentiate our programmes around violence so that we can better meet individual need. Although only at the discussion stage at the moment, we are also hoping to use hospital staff to help us with sexual health education etc.

- The effect attending the programme had on the Hewell Grange Prisoner (see quote below). He has been through the SORI Programme but being able to put his lessons learnt into practice had an effect not only on him but on all of those attending his session.
- An unintended outcome which arose as a result of participants' feedback, is that we have introduced a 9th element...a practical and accredited First Aid module.

LESSON LEARNED

Three things we would do differently:

1. When planning such a detailed and long programme, having adequate preparation time is vital to ensure that you can deliver the best programme possible, with the best professionals possible, from the out-set.
2. On the second programme run, we were unable to use Hewell Grange prison for the Peer Offender session. Instead, we used a local ex-offender (had been on our ISSP – intensive supervision and support programme) turned youth worker to come and talk to the group. He also appears in the locally set music video we use. We had hoped that the group would be able to learn from his journey and how he had managed to turn his life around. However, due to the geographical size of Coventry, he was still rather more known by our young people for his offending than we realised. Although we are still using the video, we have decided not to use this particular person to deliver a session at the present time, preferring to use Hewell Grange Prison.
3. Group dynamics: where possible, it is very important to ensure an appropriate mix of young

people. The YRO allows for Programme Requirements be staggered where appropriate and we have had to consider dynamics very carefully when making proposals to the court in order to separate co-defendants.

The three most important aspects of the project:

1. Having an existing 'real' prisoner from Hewell Grange Prison attend and discuss openly and honestly his experiences, the impact on his victims, himself, family etc. His initial visit to us was the first time he had been outside of the prison for 10 years....a very sobering thought for the young people.
2. Having the Children's A&E Consultant deliver the Health element. Mr Davidson brings real-life photographs and experiences to the session. As well as looking at the health impact of knife crimes, he also looks at the financial costs involved, from paramedics attending the scene through to post operative care etc.
3. Not losing the impactful elements of the initial Cut It Out programme. Several aspects of this programme have been incorporated into the KCPP, such as victim testimonies and film footage of a murder. Young people are forewarned of film content. These elements are effective though and show the reality of what can happen.

WHAT THEY SAID

The following are quotes made by young people who have attended the KCPP:

"The film was horrible.....it changed my view on carrying a knife. I would never carry one again"

"By doing the course, make me think twice about taking a knife out. Before, I wouldn't."

"All young people should attend the programme educate them"

"It made me think who I was hanging around with"
"Learnt that by stabbing them just once they can die (even in the leg)"

"Would say something to a friend if I knew they were carrying"

" He (prisoner) was very interesting, very honest and open. Found it useful and moving talking about family

and his child. Should use him on other programmes.”

“Maybe do a 1st Aid session. Show how to bandage someone, help if stabbed.” This we responded to and now have St John’s delivering...

“Learnt a lot about dressing wounds, about helping others recovery position and mouth to mouth. Certificate was nice hanging on wall at home.”

The following is a quote from the Hewell Grange Prisoner, in a thank-you card sent to us:

“Thank-you for inviting me on both occasions. It made me realise there’s a side to me I wasn’t aware of. You gave me an opportunity to speak to the youths and it’s something I enjoyed taking part in immensely...”

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LIVERPOOL – KCPP

ISSUE

At the start of TKAP it was identified that there were no nationally suitable programmes for working with young people in the community who were convicted of knife enabled crime. In addition other family members, siblings at risk and vulnerable persons were also not being identified and positive interventions being put in place.

The Youth Offending Service at Liverpool was one of 12 Youth Offender Services (YOS) nationally that piloted during the initial phase of TKAP in 2008 in what was known as the Knife Crime Prevention Programme. Each YOS, working within a set criteria was tasked with developing an intervention programme relevant to their particular communities and social environment.

The purpose was:

1. To help young people to understand the consequences (to themselves and others) of carrying and using knives and removing the sense of impunity that many knife carriers have;
2. To encourage parental responsibility;

3. Listening more actively to the concerns of young people and allowing them to hold public bodies to account for keeping them safe.

RESPONSE

A Knife Crime Prevention Programme and an accompanying DVD resource were commissioned, developed and delivered. The programme is a multi-agency, multi-focus strategy that is locally based and resourced. It has eight core areas; attitudes to knives, peer education, social and medical implications, first aid / keeping safe, law, social side / revenge and reprisals and victims that are each delivered to young people in a group work setting. The programme adopts an overarching cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) model. A number of key partners also deliver collaborative sessions with Liverpool YOS staff; a volunteer ex-offender, who has perpetrated knife crime, a Nurse Clinician in Emergency Medicine from a local hospital and a group of mothers who have lost children through knife crime. Mersey Tigers Basketball Team deliver a community based ‘Shape your Future’ programme subsequent to these 8 sessions to reinforce factors that can have a ‘protective’ role, combining a mentoring and sports engagement format. The programme also incorporates a separate parenting session for parents of young people completing the programme to attend. This session involves exploration of protective parenting strategies, and also an opportunity for parents to engage with the programme and reinforce its learning outcomes in the home environment.

A DVD video was produced by Insight Moving Images Ltd for Liverpool Youth Offending Service as part of the Programme. The DVD entitled ‘My Knife Story’ includes 5 x chapters and an hour of video resources to use in interventions with young people.

RESULTS

The most recent collated statistics from 2009 show that 98 percent of young people who have completed the Liverpool KCPP programme have not re-offended by committing a further knife related crime. Overall, 70 percent of young people completing the programme have not re-offended at all. We are currently undertaking a formal evaluation of the impact of the programme, comparatively analysing pre and post psychometric tests. The results of this evaluation will be available later in 2011

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The success of the programme has led to the development of two associated DVDs, which were not in the original project plan. The first, My Knife Story is a resource for other YOSs to use the programme content of Liverpool KCPP. The second 'Joseph's Story' is around the concept of joint enterprise and knife crime. Two initially unintended, but very positive consequences.

LESSON LEARNED

The importance of local partnership working. The Liverpool KCPP has developed based on the strength and location of its partners. Partners have been involved at all stages in the design and delivery of the programme and have substantial investment in the programme as a result and are the projects strength. The local base means that partners delivering sessions are real to the young people, for example, the nurse clinician from the Royal Hospital A&E gives education based on local experience and cases that are known by the young people in the group [within appropriate bounds of confidentiality]. Previous attempts in the projects early stages to engage national partners failed. The partners have endured, even in the current financial climate, based on the developed strength of the programmes partnership working.

In addition lessons were the available evidence base used to develop the programme and timescales. Given initial tight timescales, the YOS initially and quickly commissioned an external agency to write the programme. However, this intervention was not fit for purpose, nor evidence based, and the YOS produced the current and actual programme and evaluation format in house as a result based on available contemporaneous evidence of what works.

WHAT THEY SAID

The feedback from young people completing the programme has been extremely positive. One young person's views when feeding back included: "Since I finished the programme I haven't carried a knife. It scares me to think that there are people out there who want to hurt me. But it's even scarier knowing that by carrying a knife, there is a real chance that I could end up using it on someone, or that someone could take it off me, and use it on me. The programme really made me think. Up until this day I continue to attend the Youth Offending Service. A big part of the reason why I'm not locked up, or dead, is because I was forced to consider the harm that knife crime causes to the community.

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READING – KCPP

ISSUE

At the start of TKAP it was identified that there were no suitable programmes for working with young people in the community who were convicted of knife enabled crime across the country. In addition other family members, siblings at risk and vulnerable persons were also not being identified and positive interventions being put in place.

The Youth Offending Service at Reading was one of 12 YOS nationally that piloted during the initial phase of TKAP what was known as the Knife Crime Prevention Programme. Each YOS, working within a set criteria was tasked with developing an intervention programme relevant to their particular communities and social environment.

The purpose was:

1. To help young people to understand the consequences (to themselves and others) of carrying and using knives and removing the sense of impunity that many knife carriers have;
2. To encourage parental responsibility;
3. Listening more actively to the concerns of young people and allowing them to hold public bodies to account for keeping them safe.

RESPONSE

Reading developed a programme that is a resource providing lesson plans and learning outcomes. It is based around two DVD resources, a documentary DVD that focuses upon victims, families, emergency services and a perpetrator all affected by knife crime, and a dramatisation DVD looking at the impact of knife crime on two families, that of the perpetrator and the victim. The documentary drama was filmed by young offenders working with the YOS, whilst a small group of service users wrote and developed the script for the dramatisation, working with Reading University.

The Knife Crime Referral Programme delivers a minimum of eight full sessions focused on:

- Attitudes to knife carrying – Exploring attitudes to carrying knives and the rules young people apply to their lives, fear of crime, territoriality, gangs
- The law – The legal implication of the use of knives
- Health – Medical implications of using a weapon, first aid element. Raising awareness pictures of knife injuries etc
- Social Implications of weapon carrying – impact on family, community
- Managing conflict, helping young people understand their experience of youth violence, mediation skills
- Victim Interaction – testimonies from victims of knife crimes
- Public space awareness – enabling young people to keep themselves safe in their community
- Peer education – ex offenders presenting their own experiences and learning.

RESULTS

Due to small numbers convicted of relevant offences, the programme has been developed by other TKAP partners, Police and Schools to adapt the programme to work with young people at risk. The programme has enabled a positive response to an area that was lacking a positive input of any substance.

During TKAP 3 the programme was made available to YOTS nationally.

Crucially Reading developed the programme locally linking in with other TKAP partners to maximise the use of the programme.

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

The programme enabled a greater ability to act positively not just with young people coming through the system but with their family and siblings. Initially there were some barriers which were mainly to do with sharing the programme. Once it was identified how few a number of offenders coming through there were, it was easier to broaden the vision to encompass

partners who could then work with identified vulnerable persons without affecting the potential subsequent impact on actual offenders. In other words utilise the programme before offending. Additionally as above, the bonus has been the extra work in schools and this in turn has encouraged and developed a closer link with schools and Pupil Referral Units.

LESSON LEARNED

Be more pro active in pushing concept in schools. Not wait for the problem to come to us. Encourage more embracing of the project by partners rather than withholding potential. Integrate through the IOM programme and expand at an earlier stage.

WHAT THEY SAID

Schools have been complimentary of inputs and access to such a solid programme. Police Officers have felt confident and empowered to promote resource.

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