



## A WELCOME FROM THE PCC...

Welcome to the second edition of the Violence Reduction Unit's quarterly newsletter. I hope you all had great start to the New Year.

With your support, the Violence Reduction Unit is continuing to deliver fantastic results in line with my Police and Crime Plan and I wanted to share some of the work they are delivering to improve lives and prevent crime through their public health approach.

The Violence Reduction Unit will soon be heading into its 4th year and their continued focus will be on...

- tackling violence and vulnerability by providing interventions in areas of most need.
- providing community-based interventions involving individuals with lived experience.
- further engaging with young people to divert them from offending and reduce the risk of being drawn into crime.

**Kim McGuinness, Northumbria Police & Crime Commissioner**



## OVER THE LAST 12 MONTHS...

79

**YOUNG PEOPLE WITH  
REDUCED RISK OF  
COMMITTING SERIOUS  
AND VIOLENT CRIME**

22

**COMMISSIONED  
SERVICES**

51

**YOUNG PEOPLE  
WITH IMPROVED  
SCHOOL  
ATTENDANCE**

83%

**OF WOMEN WHO  
COMPLIED WITH  
THE WOMEN'S  
PATHWAY DID NOT  
RE-OFFEND**

83

**YOUNG PEOPLE  
WITH NO FURTHER  
POLICE  
INTELLIGENCE**

21

**FAMILIES WITH  
INCREASED  
RESILIENCE AFTER  
ACCESSING THE  
YOLO PROGRAMME**

86%

**OF V-AWARE  
PARTICIPANTS  
DID NOT RE-  
OFFEND**

645

**EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS  
DELIVERED TO ALMOST  
14,000 YOUNG PEOPLE.**

842

**FRONTLINE WORKERS  
RECEIVED KNIFE CRIME  
AWARENESS TRAINING**

Violence costs an estimated **£29.9 BILLION** per year and is a major cause of ill health and poor wellbeing, resulting in a drain on our health services and the wider economy.

## The World Health Organisation outlines 5 key principles:

1. Strengthening the public health approach to reducing violent crime:
2. Define the problem
3. Determine risk & protective factors
4. Develop & identify interventions
5. Implement interventions in a wide range of settings

Our public health approach seeks to improve the health and safety of all individuals by addressing underlying risk factors that increase the likelihood of someone becoming a victim or perpetrator of violence:

1. Find the problem and the effect violence has on our communities.
2. Why violence occurs, its causes and what increases the risk of it occurring.
3. Design, implement and evaluate interventions to find out what works.
4. Develop & identify interventions

By looking at the population rather than just high-risk individuals, we are able to tackle risk factors and reduce consequences. Key stakeholders, communities and individuals are involved in this approach to make the decisions that require long-term commitment to bring about change.



**FOR EVERY **£1** INVESTED IN VIOLENCE REDUCTION  
UNIT'S, **£3** IS SAVED TO THE PUBLIC PURSE.**

**THE MOST RECENT LOCAL EVALUATION FOUND  
THAT A COMBINATION OF THE NORTHUMBRIA VRU AND  
POLICE SURGE ACTIVITY, SHOWED SAVINGS OF**

**£7.5 MILLION PER YEAR**



## REDUCING RE-OFFENDING WITH THE RECRUITMENT JUNCTION...

Our Employment Pathway offers individuals a diversion from the criminal justice system by providing vital training and employment support that can improve lives and prevent re-offending.

This week we were delighted to hear of one individual's joy on having had a successful interview in Cramlington where he was offered the job and accepted on the spot.

## PREVENTING CRIME

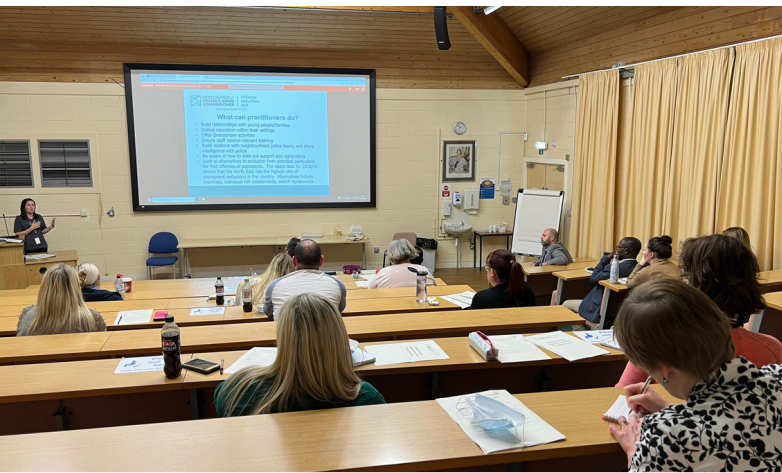


### THE EDUCATION TEAM...

Our Violence Reduction Liaison Officers deliver educational sessions in schools and community settings.

The educational sessions cover prevention and awareness of knife crime, county lines, malicious communications as well as child exploitation.

View our Education brochure [here](#)



### TRAINING THE FRONTLINE...

By increasing the number of people who know what to look out for, we can support more young people before they are exploited or get involved in crime.

That's why our Education Team continue to deliver training to those who work with young people and how in their role they can play their part in preventing knife crime.

### SHOWCASING CREATIVITY...

Students at The Beacon Centre have been developing projects to demonstrate their learning through songs, posters and models. A showcase event was held to recognise their creative ways of showing the dangers and impact of carrying and using a knife.

Listen to the powerful words written and spoken by students Chelsea & Corey [here](#)



Email [vru@northumbria-pcc.gov.uk](mailto:vru@northumbria-pcc.gov.uk)

## VULNERABILITY AWARENESS...

We provide online training for staff working in the night time economy to provide them with vital knowledge of vulnerability and information on actions that can be taken to reduce the risks for a vulnerable person.

To book a session please click [here](#)

## THE YOLO PROJECT...

This fantastic project continues to have a positive impact on some of our region's most vulnerable young people and has achieved an 87% reduction in those coming to the attention of the police, and a 66% increase in school attendance.



## IMPROVING LIVES



NORTHUMBRIA  
POLICE & CRIME  
COMMISSIONER

violence  
reduction  
unit



## THE LOCAL YOUTH FUND - ROUND TWO...

With up to £500 per project available, young people in Northumberland, Tyne and Wear have an exciting opportunity to bid for projects and activities that matter to them.

There's still time to apply for Round Two which closes on Wednesday 2nd February 2022 - [Apply Here](#)

## ISOLATION, POOR MENTAL HEALTH & LONELINESS...

Along with Rise North East, we are tackling all the above in young men across Berwick. Jaki, our fantastic Link Worker, provides 1:1 support for these individuals to improve their life chances, and ensure they are not exploited or enticed into crime.

Listen to Mark's story [here](#) on how the support is helping him.



## FREE DOMESTIC ABUSE TRAINING...

If you live in Northumberland, Newcastle or North Tyneside, you could be trained to help someone you know who may be suffering from domestic abuse and how best to support them --- Meet Fay who is ready to support people in her community.

For more information email [askme@wwin.org.uk](mailto:askme@wwin.org.uk)

FIGHTING  
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