A Serious Violence Prevention Strategy for Lincolnshire 2022-2025

Annex C to Appendix A

FOR CONSULTATION

October 2022

Lincolnshire
POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER
SAFER TOGETHER

Safer
Lincolnshire
Partnership

Lincolnshire
COUNTY COUNCIL
Working for a better future

Contents

Foreword

The Serious Violence Duty seeks to support local areas in overcoming the impact of violence on individuals and in communities. We know that the causes of violence are complex and interrelated; therefore addressing them requires strong relationships between agencies. The work relies on good quality data that is consistently collected. And it is dependent upon involvement from and engagement with the people most affected.

In Lincolnshire, as part of work by the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership, a Serious Violence Core Priority Group (SVCPG) has been established to lead on this important duty. The Violence Reduction Needs Assessment completed earlier this year identified the kinds of serious violence that occur in our county and described the causes of that violence through evidence, and will inform its work.

This Serious Violence Prevention Strategy is our initial statement of intent that aims to describe the priorities identified in the needs assessment, and how we plan to address them, in line with the Serious Violence Duty. This is a living document that will go on to reflect the views and ideas of the people of Lincolnshire, having laid a strong foundation for violence prevention work for all partners.

There are many forums that are already tackling some of the most pressing issues in the violence prevention agenda, such as

domestic abuse, substance misuse, reducing reoffending, and safeguarding our most vulnerable residents.

The SVCPG has prepared this strategy to guide members and our partners, across a range of stakeholders, in choosing high impact work to prevent violence and support those affected by it. The duty, and this strategy, shows the requirement for and the commitment of relevant authorities to plan and act together in order to make a difference to Lincolnshire residents by reducing violence in our communities.

Upon building a strong foundation for the work, we will publish the strategy for wider consultation as the duty comes into effect in early 2023. We want as many people as possible to have their say in what is important to them in regards to their feelings of safety and their experience of violence, and to hear their views and ideas on what to do about it.

This strategy will be kept under review and it will be revised and reissued regularly to reflect progress and changing community needs.

We are pleased to share this initial strategy with you, and we look forward to your engagement in its evolution and implementation as we continue to make Lincolnshire one of the safest counties in the country.

Marc Jones,
Police and Crime Commissioner, Lincolnshire

Councillor Patricia Bradwell, OBE
Co-Chair, Serious Violence Core Priority Group

Executive Summary

The Serious Violence Duty calls on authorities in an area to work collaboratively to "prevent people from becoming involved in serious violence, both as victims and perpetrators, and reduce instances of serious violence"[1].

Through community safety partnership structures, we are tasked with:

- Understanding local serious violence issues based on data and intelligence
- Preparation, publication, and implementation of a strategy
- Regular review and revision of the strategy.

The **Violence Reduction Needs Assessment (VRNA)** was completed in April 2022 in anticipation of the Serious Violence Duty. It provides a foundation for this Serious Violence Prevention Strategy which will deliver on that priority, ensuring Lincolnshire's fulfilment of the duty. It describes violence in the county, as well as the activity and structures working to address it.

Using the outcomes of data analysis, a review of evidence of best practice, and stakeholder interviews in the VRNA three main priorities were identified:

1. Take a multi-agency, place-based, whole system public health approach to violence prevention
2. Ensure interventions are designed, commissioned, and delivered to be effective, giving value for money through consistent and systematic use of robust data and evaluation
3. Invest in a monitoring, evaluation, and learning infrastructure

This strategy outlines actions to address each one, based on the recommendations from the VRNA.

Findings from the Violence Reduction Needs Assessment

There were **2209 serious violence offences** in Lincolnshire in 2021. This is **up 13%** over the prior 12 months (January to December 2020). Lincolnshire is **ranked 25th** in the country in terms of the lowest number of violence against the person (VATP) offences per 1000 residents. Lincolnshire residents have a **3% chance of being a victim** of violent crime.

Children and young people
Female admission rates to hospital for assault in Lincolnshire is **highest in the 0-4 year age group** (28.4 per 100,000).

The **causes of admissions in 0-4 year olds** were various 'assault', neglect and abandonment, and maltreatment.

Children ages 0-17 are **most at risk of sexual offences.**

Young adults, especially in transition years of 16, 17, and 18 are **more likely to be the offenders.**

Adults/gender
85% of perpetrators of serious violence are males.

72% of victims of serious violence are male.

Male perpetrations peak at 24 to 31 years of age. Female victimisations peak at 17 to 35 years.

Adults aged 30-65 are more likely to be victims of domestic, public space, and serious violence incidents.

Violence without injury occurs equally for males and females.

Men are much more likely to be victims of serious violence, when domestic violence is considered separately.

Domestic violence
Serious violence is a relatively small part of violence overall in the county.

The **serious violence statistics look predominantly male because:**

- **Domestic violence is listed separately,** and violence against women and girls occurs mostly in the home.
- **21% of all violence** with injury offences are incidents of domestic abuse occurring in the home.
- **There are nearly 5 times more domestic offences** in Lincolnshire than serious violent offences.

Night time economy
24% of all VATP offences are **night time economy related (NTE).**

34% of all violence **with injury** offences were NTE related.

The majority of NTE violent offices take place at **weekends between 01:00am and 03:00am.**

Serious violence **has clear links to substance misuse** in violent crimes.

In 44% of offences alcohol was an impact factor and in 7% drugs was an impact factor.

26% of serious violence offences involved the **use of a knife**, in the 3 year period ending June 2021.

Partnership working to reduce violence occurs in a complex social and structural landscape that includes activity on domestic abuse, substance misuse, violence against women and girls, work with families, programmes for children and young people, education, health and social care services, child and adult safeguarding and protecting vulnerable people, community safety partnerships, and beyond. The Serious Violence Duty emphasises the importance of building on established work programmes that support the prevention of violence in the local area.

The Serious Violence Core Priority Group (SVCPG) was set up through leadership and investment by the **Police and Crime Commissioner** as part of the **Safer Lincolnshire Partnership** (SLP).

This well-established partnership structure provides an ideal context in which the SVCPG can act as a focal point for work across the county that is ongoing to make our communities safer. It includes a remit to:

- Work with policing, health, local government, organisations, and community groups to develop a programme of prevention and early intervention to address violent crime and the drivers of criminality and vulnerability
- Provide strategic leadership and co-ordination for multi-agency collaboration locally and regionally
- Improve the sharing of anonymised, aggregated data and intelligence that supports the identification of the drivers of serious violence and the cohorts of people most affected
- Explore the commissioning of interventions based on the findings of the VRNA and learning from nationally funded Violence Reduction Units (VRU) about 'what works'.

> **Our vision is for a collaborative, ambitious violence reduction programme that reaches across agencies, across the county, to protect all residents from exposure to or involvement in violence.**

Lincolnshire has a very different profile of violence than indicated by initial guidance and the selection criteria for areas identified for VRUs, for instance. At the inaugural meeting of the SVCPG, data and findings from the VRNA were presented to contextualise the local picture and support discussion about serious violence priorities for Lincolnshire.

Therefore, **we will focus our strategic plans and interventions on:**

- public place serious violence, with or without a weapon, particularly in the night time economy and related to the illicit drug trade
- male on male violence, particularly in the under 25s
- sexual offences, particularly against the 0-19s
- assault, maltreatment, and neglect in the 0-4 age group
- emphasising action on the causes of violence, addressing prevention and early intervention in early years and families, and fostering protective factors.

Our ambitious and comprehensive delivery plan is designed to make real change happen, in ways that our communities can experience in their daily lives and our agencies can recognise in their ongoing work supporting them.

The intended long term impacts, based on the VRNA, include:

- Reduced knife-enabled serious violence
- Reduced violence related hospital admissions for 0-4 year olds, for assault, maltreatment, and neglect
- Reduced hospital admissions for violence in the night time economy
- Reduced homicides
- Reduced incidents of violence in the home
- Reduced male on male violence with injury

PRIORITY 1
Take a multi-agency, place-based, whole system public health approach to violence prevention

Aim
Build a community-centred approach that recognises the strengths and resources locally, building on existing initiatives and programmes and ensuring their long term sustainability.

How will it help us prevent violence?
Responsible authorities will have a forum in which to develop a shared view and plan for action targeted at preventing and reducing violence in the county.

Outputs
SVCPG members and partners agree an evidence based strategy and delivery plan and commit to its implementation.

Outcome measures
Members sign off on the strategy and delivery plan, and take ownership of actions for their agencies under their authority to contribute to the overall goal of preventing and reducing serious violence in the county.

Intended impact
Through collective efforts across agencies, the whole becomes more than the sum of its parts, and actions on primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention reduce serious violence across the county, with real improvements for individuals and communities.

Assumptions
All members and partners can commit to identifying and taking action as set out in the strategy and delivery plan. Identified key players will take necessary action for delivery of the strategy.

PRIORITY 2
Ensure interventions are designed, commissioned, and delivered to be effective, giving value for money through consistent and systematic use of robust data and evaluation

Aim
Interventions are invested in that address primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention. They are targeted to those who need them most, and are commissioned to be effective and efficient.

How will it help us prevent violence?
Cost effective, high quality programmes and services designed based on evidence of best practice will have a measurable impact on serious violence in the county, particularly on those individuals and communities most in need.

Outputs
SVCPG members and partners have a shared framework for demonstrating the impact and success of interventions, supported by input resulting from robust data sharing agreements and data analysis and intelligence capacity.

Outcome measures
Existing programmes and services, as well as newly commissioned ones, have demonstrable impact on key indicators of serious violence in the county.

Intended impact
Programmes and services are reviewed and evaluated using high quality data and evidence so that they meet people's needs and have a demonstrable impact on serious violence in the county.

Assumptions
An effective review framework can be agreed. There is sufficient intelligence capacity and access to the data and information needed to make decisions about programme design and delivery, funding and investment.

PRIORITY 3
Invest in a monitoring, evaluation, and learning infrastructure

Aim
Establish a robust performance management and continuous improvement infrastructure that all partners can utilise and benefit from in order to increase our impact on serious violence in the county.

How will it help us prevent violence?
Better, high quality data that is consistently produced and used in decision making will make for more cost effective programmes and services that can be shown to prevent and reduce serious violence across the county.

Outputs
Organisations have identified data and information they produce that can inform violence prevention. Processes are established to generate, collect, and analyse the data in a way that is consistent, reliable, and quality assured.

Outcome measures
The SVCPG and partners working to prevent violence use high quality data that informs decision making, investment, design and commissioning, and that demonstrates the impact of our work on our measures of success.

Intended impact
All partners are producing and using high quality data that informs design and delivery, investment and commissioning, of evidence based services and programmes that prevent and reduce serious violence.

Assumptions
Agencies have the knowledge, skills, and capacity to troubleshoot and resolve any data issues and build a process fit for purpose.

Our strategic principles include: a focus on a public health approach to prevention and early intervention across the life course; investing in evidenced-based programmes that mitigate risk factors and bolster protective factors; using a system-wide, partnership and place-based foundation; and informed by community insights.

The SVCPG's focus on prevention and early intervention gives it a unique position to lead on the 5 C's of a multi-agency response to serious violence, as illustrated in the violence prevention framework figure below.
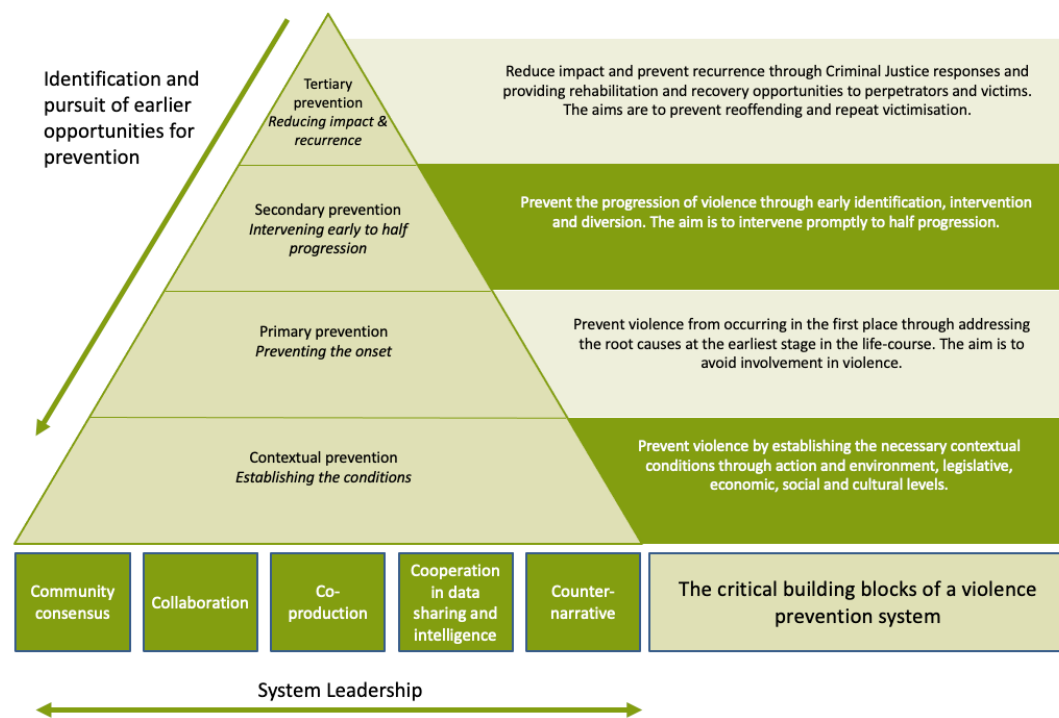
A place-based, whole system framework for violence prevention
From: Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland Violence Reduction Network

A programme for serious violence prevention will be developed through this strategy based on:

- The VRNA, including its recommendations and regular revisions
- Taking stock of relevant activity currently being delivered in the county
- Strengthening existing services where evidence indicates return on investment in capacity and building community assets, and a commitment to adding value and implementing sustainable solutions for the long term benefit of our communities
- Descriptions of possible interventions to address issues that require further investment, based on evidence of best practice, focusing on areas and populations facing the greatest inequalities in relation to violence, including those most at risk
- Improving data sharing and intelligence capability and capacity on serious violence
- Using the theory of change to assess our effectiveness and impact, and aim to continuously improve as we learn from evaluation and feedback.

Our commitment to a collaborative, ambitious violence reduction programme that protects all residents from exposure to or involvement in violence means we will hold ourselves and partners to account for the actions agreed in this strategy. We will endeavour to measure our impact, share learning, and continuously improve our efficiency and effectiveness through the implementation of this strategy.

Introduction

The Serious Violence Duty calls on authorities in specified geographic areas to work collaboratively to "prevent people from becoming involved in serious violence, both as victims and perpetrators, and reduce instances of serious violence in the area".[2]

Through community safety partnership structures, these authorities are tasked with:

- Understanding local serious violence issues based on data and intelligence
- Preparation, publication, and implementation of a strategy
- Regular review and revision of the strategy.

The Serious Violence Duty emphasises that existing partnerships should be used where possible, building on established information sharing and coordinated action that supports the prevention of violence in the local area.

All relevant organisations are obliged to fulfil the duty and cooperate across the partnership in a way that prevents and reduces serious violence and improves community safety and safeguarding. This means that existing infrastructure, strengths, and capacity are maximised toward these common priorities in a way that best suits the population and geography.

The Serious Violence Core Priority Group (SVCPG) was set up through leadership and investment by the **Police and Crime Commissioner** (PCC) as part of the **Safer Lincolnshire Partnership** (SLP). This well-established partnership structure provides an ideal context in which the SVCPG can act as a focal point for work across the county that is ongoing to make our communities safer.

We aim to fulfil the requirements for both the Serious Violence Duty and the Crime and Disorder Act through this collaborative Partnership, as we broaden our remit in anticipation of the duty coming into force in 2023.

The PCC's priority to establish a violence reduction programme that includes a Serious Violence Prevention Strategy, backed by a £3m commitment, provides the context for that partnership within the newly established SVCPG. Under his leadership on fulfilment of the Serious Violence Duty, this group has been given a remit to:

- Work with policing, health, local government, organisations, and community groups to develop a programme of prevention and early intervention to address violent crime and the drivers of criminality and vulnerability
- Provide strategic leadership and co-ordination for multi-agency collaboration locally and regionally
- Improve the sharing of anonymised, aggregated data and intelligence that supports the identification of the drivers of serious violence and the cohorts of people most affected
- Explore the commissioning of interventions based on the findings of the Violence Reduction Needs Assessment and learning from nationally funded Violence Reduction Units (VRU) about 'what works'.

Partnership working to reduce violence occurs in a complex social and structural landscape that includes activity on domestic abuse, substance misuse, violence against women and girls, work with families, programmes for children and young people, education, health and social care services, child and adult safeguarding and protecting vulnerable people, community safety partnerships, and beyond.

The Violence Reduction Needs Assessment (VRNA) was completed in April 2022 in anticipation of the Serious Violence Duty. It provides a foundation for this Serious Violence Prevention Strategy which will deliver on that priority, ensuring Lincolnshire's fulfilment of the duty. It includes the outcomes of data analysis, a review of evidence of best practice, and stakeholder interviews. It describes violence in the county, as well as the activity and structures working to address it.

Its suggested actions and recommendations have been considered by the SVCPG to inform the development of this strategy. It aims to answer two key questions from the guidance on the Serious Violence Duty:

1. What early intervention and prevention activity can we put in place in Lincolnshire that specifically addresses the categories of violence that affect the most people and that have the greatest impact on our population?

2. What activity would give communities and partnerships the support they need to address these issues?

As per the Serious Violence Duty guidance, this strategy includes:

- Details on the SVCPG arrangements that will provide the vehicle for delivering the duty, led by a dedicated coordinator

- A description of the SVCPG governance, which includes how the group will fulfil the requirements of the legislation through its regular meetings, monitoring arrangements, and its process and dates for review of the strategy

- Actions for improving data gathering and analysis, including ways to overcome some key challenges described in the needs assessment

- A description of how elements of the duty are being addressed in other core priority groups and related forums, indicating the key stakeholders and collaborative partners who are vital contributors to the serious violence agenda

- An initial inventory for completion over the coming year by group members and other stakeholders, to indicate commissioned services and existing funding for violence prevention and reduction activities, and to facilitate discussion on how we might look to commission to fill gaps in provision going forward

- A draft consultation plan, that includes how individuals and communities could be engaged in its finalisation

Lincolnshire's approach to preventing serious violence:
The Safer Lincolnshire Partnership Serious Violence Core Priority Group

Membership, governance, and delivery

The SVCPG has been established as part of the Lincolnshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) Public Health, and the SLP commitment to develop a violence reduction programme.

The SVCPG is chaired by the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, and co-chaired by the Deputy Leader of the Council, and as per the duty, has representation from:

- Lincolnshire Police
- Probation Services
- Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Services
- Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board
- City of Lincoln and Lincolnshire County Councils
- North Kesteven and South Kesteven District Councils
- West Lindsey District Council
- South Holland and East Lindsey District Councils, and Boston Borough Council
- LCC Safer Communities Service and Futures4Me
- Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner as representative of the PCC

At its inaugural meeting the SVCPG discussed inviting additional members from community and voluntary organisations and other agencies in future, as this strategy becomes ready for consultation and appropriate representation is identified.

The SVCPG terms of reference have been agreed and include the following responsibilities:

- Plan and carry out actions required to address the Serious Violence Prevention Strategy and parameters as assigned to the SVCPG by the Strategy Board.
- Manage and monitor ongoing multi-agency activity in pursuit of Serious Violence Prevention Strategy priorities and goals.
- Apply continuous learning to inform future activity of the SVCPG.
- Identify and monitor the risks and barriers that the SVCPG encounters whilst carrying out actions. Escalate risks that cannot be resolved by the SVCPG to the Strategy Board.
- Identify emerging and cross cutting issues requiring partnership attention and seek collaborative approaches as appropriate.

The terms of reference also describe how the work of the group, namely the Serious Violence Prevention Strategy, will be subject to the arrangements for independent scrutiny via the Strategy Board to the SLP Overview and Scrutiny Board.

The full terms of reference can be found at Appendix 1.

The role of a representative to the SVCPG includes contributing to data and information sharing, committing action to the delivery plan, and keeping the group informed of commissioning activity and emerging issues.

As per the Serious Violence Duty guidance, authorities may be called upon:

- To provide local intelligence which may contribute to the local problem profile.

- To provide data to feed into an evidence-based analysis of local causes of serious violence. The duty emphasises that authorities have power to share data and information with each other for the purpose of preventing and reducing serious violence.

- To deliver any actions resulting from the strategy at an individual institution level which have been pre-agreed with the relevant institution/s.

- To assess the effectiveness and outcomes of any actions resulting from the strategy involving or delivered by individual institutions.[3]

The SVCPG Coordinator, funded by the PCC and provided through the LCC Safer Communities Service, will lead on the strategy's development and implementation, coordinate the work of the SVCPG, and work with other coordinators, SLP members, and boards to prevent duplication and overlap whilst ensuring integrated and complementary work programmes.

Implementation of the strategy and its delivery plan will begin in Year 1 with bite sized pieces of action as informed by the VRNA recommendations to establish a robust foundation for future work. This will strengthen data and information sharing ensuring access to accurate intelligence that informs future action, as well as give time to map and galvanise efforts across groups, boards, and agencies avoiding duplication and overlap. An initial map of the opportunity landscape for delivery of requirements in the Serious Violence Duty can be found at Appendix 2. This will be reviewed and updated through the SVCPG. A template for inventory of current interventions to reduce serious violence is at Appendix 3.

Determining current commissioning and funding arrangements that support the serious violence agenda is essential to forward planning for co-commissioning opportunities, identifying funding to fill gaps in services, and designing new programmes and services that meet the needs of those at risk of or who are involved in serious violence.

Our Vision

This Serious Violence Prevention Strategy and its delivery plan will focus on a public health approach to prevention and early intervention, working to build up protective factors particularly for children and young people, but also within families and communities, whilst mitigating risk factors for involvement in violence. It also recognises and describes crucial elements of what constitutes serious violence for the people of Lincolnshire that are being addressed across a range of groups and forums—such as domestic abuse, substance misuse, efforts to reduce reoffending, violence against women and girls, and the illicit drug trade, to name a few.

Lead officers from across relevant programmes within the framework of the SLP and beyond will be engaged so that the sum of our efforts are more impactful than its individual parts in ensuring communities in Lincolnshire are as safe and free from violence as possible.

Our vision is for a collaborative, ambitious violence reduction programme that reaches across agencies, across the county, to protect all residents from exposure to or involvement in violence.

From our highly performing and comprehensive safeguarding programmes through to new efforts specifically for women and girls, there is established work for the Serious Violence Prevention Strategy to complement and strengthen, while supporting new interventions that work to "turn off the tap" of violence.

Our vision is for a collaborative, ambitious violence reduction programme that reaches across agencies, across the county, to protect all residents from exposure to or involvement in violence.

Our definition of serious violence

The World Health Organisation defines violence as: "the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment, or deprivation".[4]

The Police, Crime, Sentencing, and Courts Act 2022 includes domestic abuse, sexual offences, violence against property, and threats of violence within its provision for purposes of the Serious Violence Duty.

In the Serious Violence Duty consultation guidance, the Home Office specifies that local areas should define serious violence based on the outcomes of its strategic needs assessment, focusing on the kinds of violence that are most prevalent and impactful in the local area. It goes on to emphasise the importance of identifying the causes of that violence as much as possible.

We agree that the WHO definition is clear and inclusive in setting the scene for the work of the SVCPG, as well as a range of other groups across the SLP and beyond that are addressing many of the types of violence it refers to.

As Lincolnshire's PCC pointed out in his response to the Serious Violence Duty consultation, Lincolnshire has a very different profile of violence than indicated by initial guidance and the selection criteria for areas identified for VRUs, for instance.

At the inaugural meeting of the SVCPG, data and findings from the VRNA were presented to contextualise the local picture and support discussion about serious violence priorities for Lincolnshire.

Therefore, **we will focus our strategic plans and interventions on:**
- public place serious violence, with or without a weapon, particularly in the night time economy and related to the illicit drug trade
- male on male violence, particularly in the under 25s
- sexual offences, particularly against the 0-19s
- assault, maltreatment, and neglect in the 0-4 age group
- emphasising action on the causes of violence, addressing prevention and early intervention in early years and families, and fostering protective factors.

These priorities aim to address our main categories of violence as indicated by the needs assessment.

Identifying these priorities does not preclude, and indeed aims to complement, priorities identified in the needs assessment being addressed through existing groups, strategies, and action plans that have been doing intensive work on those main categories in forums across the SLP and in related forums. These include, but are not limited to:
- Domestic Abuse Partnership
- Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards
- Substance Misuse Core Priority Group
- Reducing Reoffending Core Priority Group, including Integrated Offender Management and the Lincolnshire Women's Strategy
- Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)
- Stay Safe (part of LCC Safer Communities).

This strategy indicates where key violence elements are being addressed across the wider partnership landscape, with robust governance and monitoring frameworks in place. The SVCPG's focus is on risk and protective factors which address all forms of violence regardless of the governance home within the SLP and partners.

It is important to note that a key issue that arose from the work of the VRNA is that definitions of violence have changed over the years across institutions and sectors. This may have been due to changes in guidance or legislation, data parameters or availability, or a myriad of other influences.

Characteristics of violence and therefore its data profiles have also been impacted by the covid pandemic and related lockdowns and other restrictions.

These issues are captured in the VRNA in its recommendations and the ways we will address them are captured in the data and information sharing actions in this strategy. This is important in order to be sure we review and update the problem profile for Lincolnshire regularly, and revise our strategic priorities as indicated by the data.

Our strategic principles

A public health approach, including prevention and early intervention

A public health approach to violence aims to prevent a problem before it occurs, and evidence indicates that violence is preventable once we understand where the problem begins. The SVCPG and its vision aligns with the Serious Violence Duty guidance that endorses the WHO definition of a public health approach:

- Focused on a defined population
- With and for communities
- Not constrained by organisational or professional boundaries
- Focussed on generating long term as well as short term solutions
- Based on data and useful information to identify the burden on the population, including any inequalities
- Rooted in evidence of effectiveness to tackle the problem.

Our VRNA means that we can build a systematic, data-driven strategy across agencies so that we can better understand the problem of violence in Lincolnshire and effective ways to prevent it in our communities.

This intelligence along with strong strategic leadership will ensure multi-agency efforts are joined up whilst avoiding duplication or overlap. Together we can identify and address the root causes of violence and design and commission programmes of support and interventions that truly meet the need. A long term sustainable action plan with this commitment is key to implementation that has real impact.

A life course approach

Violence affects our communities across all ages. We know that children exposed to violence are more likely to become involved in violence in later life. Indeed, focusing on a range of adverse childhood experiences (ACE) is an important part of preventing violence.

In Lincolnshire, young adults, especially in transition years of 16, 17, and 18, are more likely to be the offenders of serious violence. Supporting young people before and throughout these years, building resilience in individuals and cohesion in families and communities holds great potential for reducing violence in them.

Each developmental stage in life is an opportunity to break cycles of violence and foster protective factors. Targeting appropriate interventions **throughout the life course** can reduce individuals' likelihood of being involved in violence, such as:

- supporting parents and families
- developing life and emotional management skills in children
- working with high-risk youth
- reducing the availability and misuse of alcohol.

Mitigating risk factors and fostering protective factors

Addressing risk and protective factors is a key part of public health and life course approaches to violence.

This becomes especially apparent when the relationship between risk and protective factors is seen across settings. Individuals are part of family and community groups, and this includes school and peer group settings, for instance.

Protective factors act to mitigate risk factors. This may explain why not all people who face risk factors go on to commit violent behaviour or otherwise become known to the criminal justice system. This provides a powerful framework on which to build prevention and early intervention delivery plans.

Risk factors and protective factors

Risk Factors				
Childhood abuse and neglect Behavioural and learning difficulties Low self-esteem Alcohol or substance misuse Traumatic brain injury Gender	Low family income Inconsistent discipline Emotional, physical, sexual abuse Emotional or physical neglect Household alcohol or substance misuse, mental illness, offending Family violence Family breakdown	Low school performance Bullying others Truancy and school exclusion Delinquent peers	Unsafe or violent communities Low social integration Poor social mobility Lack of recreation infrastructure and diversionary activities for young people Delinquent peers	Deprived communities High unemployment Homelessness or poor housing Culture of violence, norms, and values which accept, normalise or glorify violence Difficulties in accessing services
Individual	**Family**	**School**	**Community**	**Society**
Protective Factors				
Healthy problem solving and emotional regulation skills School readiness Good communication skills Healthy social relationships	Stable home environments Nurturing and responsible relationships Strong and consistent parenting Frequent shared activities with parents Financial security and economic opportunities	Safe school environment Programmes teaching kindness, empathy, and emotional control Intolerance for bullying	Sense of belonging and connectedness Safe community environments Community cohesion/social integration Opportunities for sports and activities	Good housing High standards of living Opportunities for valued social roles

Figure 1: Adapted from Serious Violence Strategy (2018) and Public Health England CAPRICORN (2019)

Lincolnshire is at or better than the England average for important risk and protective factors for violence, such as school readiness, educational attainment, and first time offenders.

Only for **16-17 year olds not in education, employment, or training (NEET)**, or where their situation is not known, is Lincolnshire worse. However, it is significantly very worse than the England average and below the regional average.

But we have a strong foundation on which to foster protective factors and build prevention initiatives. For instance, **more than 80% of pupils in Lincolnshire are in a 'good' or 'outstanding' school** as determined by Ofsted. Lincolnshire also has a higher number of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) getting the additional support they need, at 12.9%— higher than the England average. The **county's Children's Services are rated as outstanding** and widely regarded as one of the best in the country.

A key function of this Serious Violence Prevention Strategy must be to nurture the protective factors in the context of people's lives throughout the life course.

Addressing risk and protective factors requires whole system multi-agency collaboration to provide services that support many of these. It takes that same collaboration to build communities that innately create the conditions in which these factors become standard for individuals and families.

A system wide, place based, partnership approach

The Serious Violence Duty encourages the use of existing partnerships for collaboration and coordinated action across the local area, with all parties accountable for activity and cooperation.

The SLP provides this forum and a framework to recognise existing activity that supports the Serious Violence Duty, while the SVCPG can coordinate communication on achieving the duties while also instigating new activity to fill identified gaps in provision.

The SVCPG's focus on prevention and early intervention gives it a unique position to lead on the 5 C's of a multi-agency response to serious violence, as illustrated in the violence prevention framework figure below.
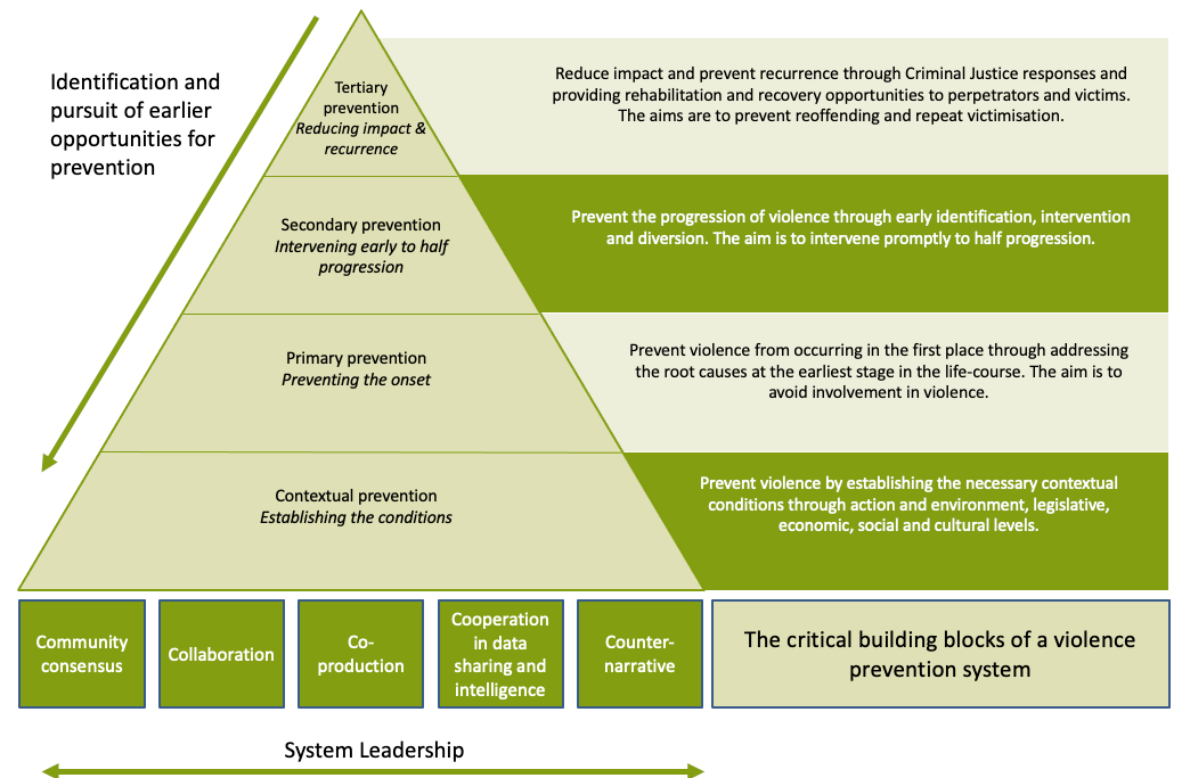
Figure 2: A place-based, whole system framework for violence prevention
From: Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland Violence Reduction Network

The Serious Violence Duty guidance clarifies that the vehicle of the community safety partnership can account for both the Serious Violence Duty and the Crime and Disorder Act requirements. This supports ongoing development of data and information sharing to the benefit of all SLP members, as well as other wider collaboration opportunities. Aligning efforts and strategies prevents duplication and overlap, and improves the capacity for joint working and problem solving across agencies.

This is where the opportunity lies to work with the unique characteristics of Lincolnshire, and target efforts and resources on the variety of challenges various geographical and socio-economic features present.

Evidence based approach

Whilst it is acknowledged that determining what works to reduce violence definitively can be difficult, evidence shows that interventions that work to address risk and protective factors and that work at the primary, secondary, and tertiary levels are most impactful.[5]

We are committed to following the evidence around the six main strategies that evidence shows are most effective in primary prevention of violence as part of our strategic development and action planning:

1. Promoting family environments that support health development: parenting programmes, family nurse partnerships, and therapeutic approaches to trauma

2. Providing quality education in early life: bullying prevention, school-based programmes and classroom management

3. Strengthening young people's skills: universal school programmes (e.g. social skills training) and behavioural/skill building interventions

4. Connecting young people to trusted adults and activities: mentoring programmes, after-school programmes and recreational activities

5. Creating protective community environments: limiting alcohol and weapon access, data sharing, hotspot and problem-solving policing, environmental design, and community norm change

6. Intervening to lessen harms and prevent future risk: therapeutic and cognitive-behavioural approaches for perpetrators, hospital-based interventions and substance misuse programmes.[6]

Community insights

Understanding how safe people feel in their homes and communities, learning from community and young people's insights, and hearing what concerns people most is essential to designing an effective violence reduction programme for our area. This must include a diversity of voices. Addressing priorities as informed by the people most affected by violence can ensure an effective, relevant, impactful Serious Violence Prevention Strategy that delivers for communities. In addition to building on past relevant surveys and consultations, we are committed to taking an inclusive approach to consultation and engagement through accessible methods, making it as easy as possible for everyone to have their say on this important topic.

Our draft consultation plan can be found at Appendix 4.

Findings from the Violence Reduction Needs Assessment

The VRNA took a public health approach using data and the available evidence base to answer the following questions for Lincolnshire:

- Who does violence affect?
- What types of violence effect which people most?
- When and where does violence happen?
- Is this different for different kinds of violence?
- How and why does violence happen?
- What leads to violence?
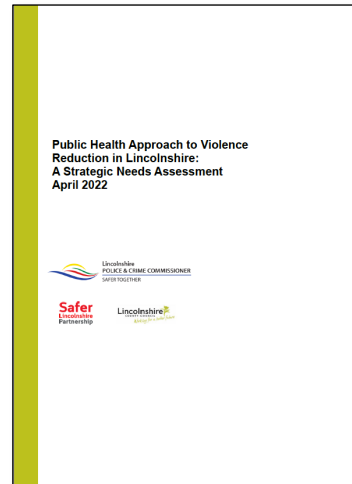
Lincolnshire is an incredibly safe county, but with very specific, and at times alarming, pockets of violence. For most serious violent crimes, including violence with and without injury, possession of weapons, and violence against the person, Lincolnshire is significantly or very significantly better than the England average. For homicide Lincolnshire is not significantly different from the England average, but is significantly worse against the regional average.

Public Health Approach to Violence
Reduction in Lincolnshire:
A Strategic Needs Assessment
April 2022

*The standard Home Office categorisations of crime were used. As such sexual offences do not include making/distributing/possessing indecent images of children (these fall within the category of 'Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society' and as such have not been included in the violence work). The majority of sexual offences are rape and sexual assault offences, although also included within sexual offences are exposure, inciting children to engage in sexual activity, sexual communication with a child, and voyeurism.

Findings from the Violence Reduction Needs Assessment

There were **2209 serious violence offences** in Lincolnshire in 2021. This is **up 13%** over the prior 12 months (January to December 2020)[7]. Lincolnshire is **ranked 25th** in the country in terms of the lowest number of violence against the person (VATP) offences per 1000 residents. Lincolnshire residents have a **3% chance of being a victim** of violent crime.[8]

Children and young people
Female admission rates to hospital for assault in Lincolnshire is **highest in the 0-4 year age group** (28.4 per 100,000).

The **causes of admissions in 0-4 year olds** were various 'assault', neglect and abandonment, and maltreatment.

Children ages 0-17 are **most at risk of sexual offences*.**

Young adults, especially in transition years of 16, 17, and 18 are **more likely to be the offenders.**

Adults/gender
85% of perpetrators of serious violence are males.

72% of victims of serious violence are male.

Male perpetrations peak at 24 to 31 years of age. Female victimisations peak at 17 to 35 years.

Adults aged 30-65 are more likely to be victims of domestic, public space, and serious violence incidents.

Violence without injury occurs equally for males and females.

Men are much more likely to be victims of serious violence, when domestic violence is considered separately.

Domestic violence
Serious violence is a relatively small part of violence overall in the county.

The **serious violence statistics look predominantly male** because:

- **Domestic violence is listed separately**, and violence against women and girls occurs mostly in the home.
- **21% of all violence** with injury offences are incidents of domestic abuse occurring **in the home**.
- There are **nearly 5 times more domestic offences** in Lincolnshire than serious violent offences.

Night time economy
24% of all VATP offences are **night time economy related (NTE)**.

34% of all violence **with injury** offences were NTE related.

The **majority** of NTE violent offences take place at **weekends between 01:00am and 03:00am**.

Serious violence has **clear links to substance misuse** in violent crimes.

In 44% of offences alcohol was an impact factor and in 7% drugs was an impact factor.

26% of serious violence offences involved the **use of a knife**, in the 3 year period ending June 2021.

Figure 3: Key findings from the VRNA[9]

Crime deprivation and place-based inequalities

The towns of **Skegness, Lincoln, and Gainsborough** have the highest rates of violent crimes in the county, with significant seasonal fluctuation in Skegness. These areas have the **highest levels of violence**, the highest rates of resident victims, and the highest rates of resident perpetrators. These towns are the most **disproportionately highly impacted** by violence.

They are also the **most deprived areas** of the county. There is stark geographic similarity between areas of highest deprivation and crime deprivation. There are significant social and economic disparities between rural, coastal, and urban areas of Lincolnshire. Lincolnshire's coastal neighbourhoods are classed as being in the most deprived 10 percent of neighbourhoods nationally. **Violence has one of the strongest inequalities gradients.**
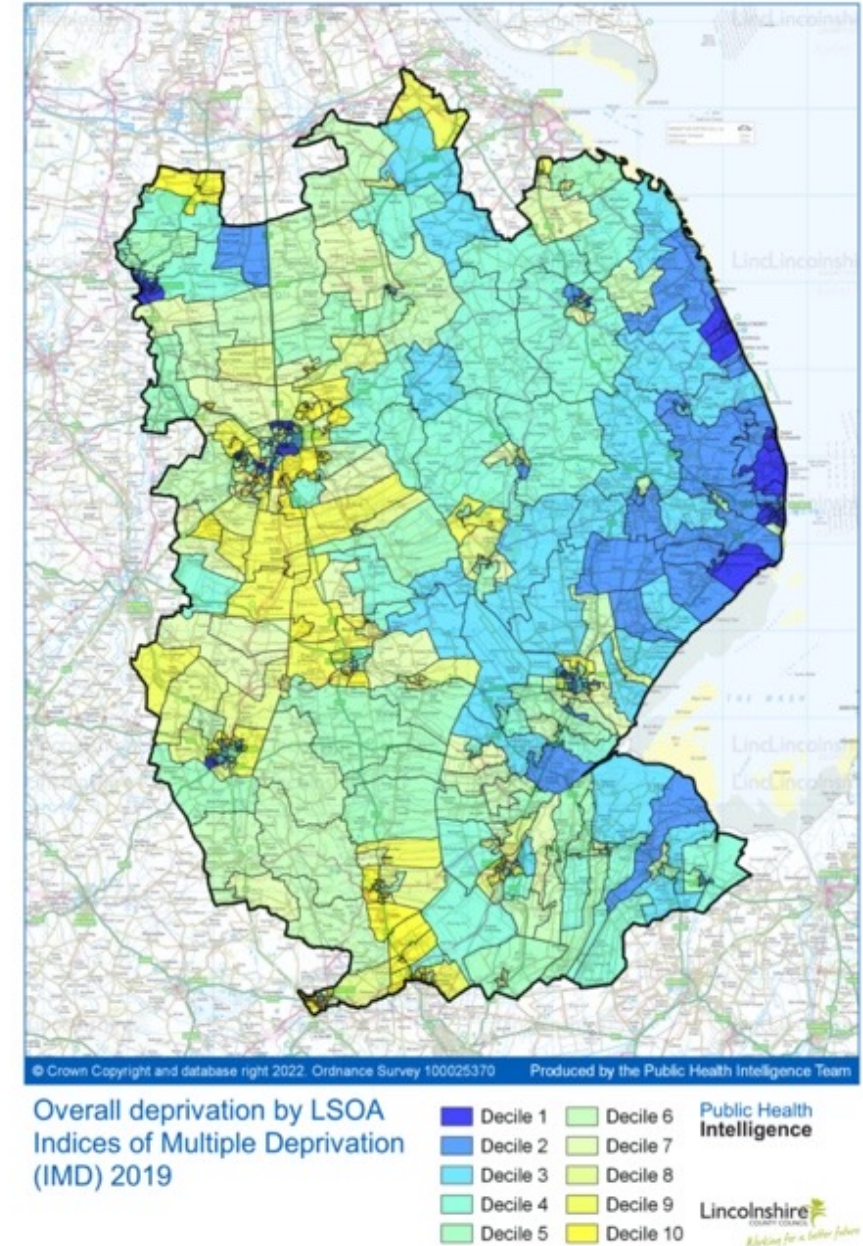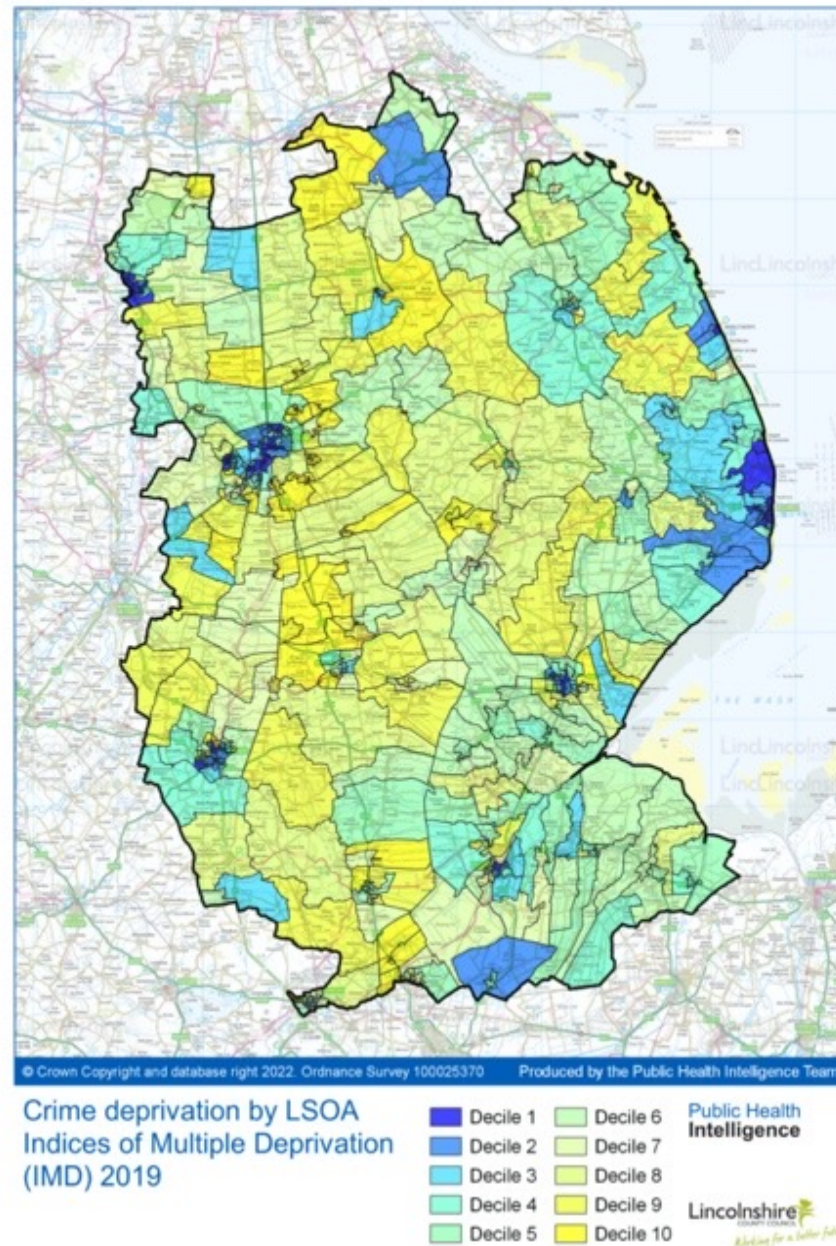
Figure 4: Crime deprivation and overall deprivation by Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOA) Indices of Multiple Deprivation (2019)

The data helps us understand our communities' experiences of violence. This is essential for designing and implementing targeted interventions to appropriate settings throughout the life course such as school, community, social, workplace, and home— meeting people where they are.

But all violence is subject to risk and protective factors for both victims and perpetrators, and must be addressed at a whole population level in order to reduce and prevent any and all forms of violence in communities. The following priorities for delivery and related actions aim to address the findings of the VRNA within the context of our principles.

A Serious Violence Prevention Strategy: Priorities for delivery

The Serious Violence Duty guidance states that a Serious Violence Prevention Strategy '…should comprise a range of new and existing actions that the partnership will take forward to prevent and reduce the serious violence issues and drivers that have been identified.'[10] This reinforces our approach to harness the ongoing efforts across the range of core priority groups and other forums, while addressing some key outstanding issues where the SVCPG can add value and complement that work.

Some main priorities for all authorities working together to address serious violence include:

1. Understanding the full range of services already commissioned locally, identifying:
    i. what's missing
    ii. whether the right services are available in the right locations
    iii. what should be continued or expanded in the future
    iv. what should not be continued, creating opportunities for resources to be used elsewhere
2. Working toward greater integration across agencies, including more inter-agency communication and data sharing
3. Working to plug gaps in existing service provision
4. Supporting an active network of leadership champions
5. Developing a sustainable financing model
6. Designing greater accountability for individual agencies with a responsibility to reduce violence into partnership structures

7. Committing to policy reform and system-wide change
8. Including primary, secondary, and tertiary interventions in provision
9. Engaging with communities and supporting building resilience[11]

The guidance, along with our vision and guiding strategic principles, informs the strategy and delivery plan development.

A programme for serious violence prevention can then be developed through this strategy based on:

- The VRNA, including its recommendations and regular revisions
- Taking stock of activity currently being delivered in the county
- Strengthening existing services where evidence indicates return on investment in capacity and building community assets, and a commitment to adding value and implementing sustainable solutions for the long term benefit of our communities
- Descriptions of possible interventions to address issues that require further investment, based on evidence of best practice, focusing on areas and populations facing the greatest inequalities in relation to violence, including those most at risk
- Improving data sharing and intelligence capability and capacity on serious violence
- Using the theory of change to assess our effectiveness and impact, and aim to continuously improve as we learn from evaluation and feedback.

The Home Office outlined three key outcomes for VRUs in its interim guidance : 1) A reduction in hospital admissions for assaults with a knife or sharp object and especially among those victims aged under 25; 2) A reduction in knife-enabled serious violence and especially among those victims aged under 25; 3) A reduction in all non-domestic homicides and especially among those victims aged under 25 involving knives.[12]

But as the PCC noted in his response to the Serious Violence Duty consultation, our VRNA showed that Lincolnshire's serious violence problem profile differs from the priorities set for VRU areas. Therefore our success measures align with violence elements that are most prevalent in the county and that impact our population the most, as indicated by the data. We can view these measures in a theory of change framework against the VRNA aims and recommendations. This will allow us to identify activities that address them and to also show how we will assess our achievement of them.

The 20 recommendations under 3 key aims from the VRNA are aligned below to years 1 through 3 of the strategy. These aims are our priority areas for these first few years of the SVCPG's work programme. Each recommendation has a measure of success identified. Together, each priority area along with its relevant recommendations shows how it will reduce violence in Lincolnshire, its outputs, outcome measures, and its intended impact, along with any assumptions made. These are summed up in overall long term impacts in which we aim to see reduced numbers of some of our most prevalent and impactful violence indictors.

Priority 1: Take a multi-agency, place-based, whole system public health approach to violence prevention

Aim: Build a community-centred approach that recognises the strengths and resources locally, building on existing initiatives and programmes and ensuring their long term sustainability.

How will this priority and its actions meet the goal to reduce violence in Lincolnshire?: Responsible authorities will have a forum in which to develop a shared view and plan for action targeted at preventing and reducing violence in the county.

1. Year 1 Objectives

1.1 Agree the scope of violence acknowledging where the most prevalent, impactful types of violence are already being addressed and enhancing that work.

Measure of success: The scope is agreed.

1.2 Ensure all partners are sighted and engaged across violence reduction wider programmes of work to avoid duplication, fill gaps, and make most efficient use of resources.

Measure of success: An inventory of activities addressing serious violence prevention is created and shared across groups. A communication plan and a process for review and revision have been established to keep it current. It is used as a tool to inform effective decision making, funding, and commissioning.

1.3 Agree the governance arrangements for strategic and operational violence prevention work and link in with existing statutory boards where possible.

Measure of success: The SVCPG has an agreed terms of reference, accountable membership and leadership, and shares information and communicates with other responsible forums addressing serious violence in Lincolnshire.

2. Year 2 Objectives

2.1 Map community assets, review current pathways and provision, and build on professionals' and community experts' views to develop and commission interventions.

Measure of success: The inventory of activities begun in year 1 is used as a tool for development into a more thorough and sophisticated asset review, with significant input from professionals and community experts. A programme of continuous improvement results from this action and dialogue across agencies.

2.2 Create opportunities for improving dialogue and engagement with frontline staff, local communities, and young people.

Measure of success: The Consultation Plan is reviewed and an action guide establishes effective, ongoing communication with those working on serious violence prevention and those most at risk of serious violence that provides valuable information for decision making, funding, and commissioning.

3. Year 3 Objectives

3.1 Invest in building the capacity and capability of professionals identifying and addressing the risk factors for violence in the community that enables early intervention

Measure of success: Funding and commissioning plans include recruitment and retention and training/skill-building, that enables identified programmes and services to flourish and be as effective as possible in their serious violence prevention and early intervention aims.

3.2 Invest in evidence-based programmes and services that foster protective factors to prevent violence from occurring

Measure of success: Existing programmes and services are invested in as identified by the SVCPG, and new ones are commissioned as necessary, with clear links to what the data and intelligence and consultations tell us is most needed.

Outputs: SVCPG members and partners agree an evidence based strategy and delivery plan and commit to its implementation.

Outcome measures: Members and partners have a collaborative commitment to the work detailed in the strategy and delivery plan, and take ownership of actions for their agencies under their authority to contribute to the overall goal of preventing and reducing serious violence in the county.

Intended impact: Through collective efforts across agencies, the whole becomes more than the sum of its parts, and actions on primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention reduce serious violence across the county, with real improvements for individuals and communities.

Assumptions: All members and partners can commit to identifying and taking action as set out in the strategy and delivery plan. Identified key players will take necessary action for delivery of the strategy.

Priority 2: Ensure interventions are designed, commissioned, and delivered to be effective, giving value for money through consistent and systematic use of robust data and evaluation

Aim: The services and programmes invested in and commissioned are effective and efficient, address primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention of serious violence, and are targeted for those individuals, families, and communities who need them most.

How will this priority and its actions meet the goal to reduce violence in Lincolnshire?: Cost effective, high quality programmes and services designed based on evidence of best practice will have a measurable impact on serious violence in the county, particularly on those individuals and communities most in need.

1. Year 1 Objectives

1.1 Target resources effectively through increased understanding of the population, its risk and protective factors, who is most affected by violence and in what context.

Measure of success: The VRNA is used by a wide range of partners and agencies to review existing programmes and services that are meant to address serious violence, and to inform the design and commissioning of new ones.

1.2 Build effective, sustainable, and robust information sharing agreements that enable and improve information flows between partners, and ensure that they are meaningful and properly maintained.

Measure of success: Using guidance for VRUs and as emphasised in the Serious Violence Duty, an assessment of current data sharing between partners informs the action plan for Years 2 and 3 to troubleshoot, improve, design, and implement more effective, fit for purpose information sharing agreements across agencies.

2. Year 2 Objectives

2.1 Build Public Health Intelligence and crime analysis capacity and capability that supports the work of the programme.

Measure of success: Gaps in capacity and capability are clearly identified and agreed across the SLP and with partners. Opportunities to utilise existing capacity differently to fill those gaps are considered, and new role specification(s) and resourcing of them are developed as required.

2.2 Support partners to be able to utilise the information that is produced so that all activity is evidence-based and evaluated for effectiveness, impact, and value for money.

Measure of success: The SVCPG has a VRNA annual review programme and an effective communication plan to share information with partners across agencies, that supports them in their business planning and decision making.

3. Year 3 Objectives

3.1 Develop an evaluation and review framework to be reported at the strategic level.

Measure of success: Using the outcomes of data and intelligence capacity review, the information sharing agreements, and VRNA reviews, establish an evaluation and review framework to take a violence reduction programme forward into years 4 and 5 and beyond.

3.2 Develop a single, shared set of success measures.

Measure of success: Agree measures of success that show the impact that the work of the SVCPG and its programme across partnerships is having on the incidence, types, and impact of serious violence.

Outputs: SVCPG members and partners have a shared framework for demonstrating the impact and success of interventions, supported by input resulting from robust data sharing agreements and data analysis and intelligence capacity.

Outcome measures: Existing programmes and services, as well as newly commissioned ones, have demonstrable impact on key indicators of serious violence in the county.

Intended impact: Programmes and services to prevent and reduce violence are regularly reviewed and evaluated using high quality data and evidence to inform decommissioning, new designs, recommissioning, and new investment so that they meet the needs of individuals and communities and have a demonstrable impact on serious violence in the county.

Assumptions: An effective review framework can be agreed. There is sufficient intelligence capacity and access to the data and information needed to make decisions about programme design and delivery, funding and investment.

Priority 3: Invest in a monitoring, evaluation, and learning infrastructure

Aim: As the work of the SVCPG becomes established and links across groups and partnerships strengthen, establish a robust performance management and continuous improvement infrastructure that all partners can utilise and benefit from in order to increase our impact on serious violence in the county.

How will this priority and its actions meet the goal to reduce violence in Lincolnshire?: Better, high quality information from a range of inputs that is consistently produced and used in decision making will make for more cost effective, fit for purpose programmes and services that can be shown to prevent and reduce serious violence across the county.

1. Year 1 will see the work in Priorities 1 and 2 lay a strong foundation for the work in Priority 3.

2. Year 2 Objectives

2.1 Analytical capacity and capability that works toward real time monitoring and analysis of multiple datasets in a usable and dynamic format.

Measure of success: Previous work on information sharing agreements and data analysis and intelligence capacity allows the development of a dynamic system that keeps datasets up to date and usable for a wide range of users, and that feeds in to the Health and Wellbeing Board and JSNA processes.

2.2 Accessible, high quality data and evaluation protocols are implemented across the partnership system and evaluation activity is embedded in its work to understand and demonstrate impact in the short, medium, and longer term and inform future strategic work.

Measure of success: Protocols are agreed and these, along with the emerging dynamic data sets, provide the tools that partners need for determining the effectiveness and impact of the work they are doing to prevent and reduce serious violence.

3. Year 3 Objectives

3.1 Conduct cohort analyses, deep dives, and case reviews that enhance understanding of local risk and protective factors.

Measure of success: Additional data analysis and intelligence capacity and higher analytical processes are being applied to available data and information for more sophisticated understanding of the prevention of violence, informing improved programme and service design.

3.2 New evidence and insights between and amongst partners is shared in an accessible and timely way.

Measure of success: A consistent, effective method of communicating and sharing learning is established that is a valuable tool in business planning and evaluation for better decision making.

3.3 There are meaningful opportunities for a diverse range of people to share their experiences to inform the work so that solutions are relevant, responsive, and effective.

Measure of success: Building on the Consultation Plan, a programme of engagement and consultation with and for communities is designed and implemented.

3.4 Utilise existing routes to engagement that may provide useful input, for example the Lincolnshire Youth Commission, and design public engagement into a strategy throughout the period it covers.

Measure of success: Links with key partners have been made which enhances the programme of engagement and consultation.

3.5 Consider and build into a strategy options for longer term sustainability, including how to develop self-sustaining activity or continuing work of a violence reduction programme within available funding beyond the initial funded period.

Measure of success: The programme of monitoring, evaluation, and learning has built a knowledge base that key stakeholders and decision makers use to access sustainable funding sources for ongoing evidence-based work for long term impact on serious violence.

Outputs: Organisations have identified data and information they produce that can inform violence prevention. Processes are established to generate, collect, and analyse the data in a way that is consistent, reliable, and quality assured.

Outcome measures: The SVCPG and partners working to prevent violence use high quality data that informs decision making, investment, design and commissioning, and that demonstrates the impact of our work on our measures of success.

Intended impact: All partners are producing and using high quality information that informs design and delivery, investment and commissioning, of evidence based services and programmes that prevent and reduce serious violence.

Assumptions: Agencies have the knowledge, skills, and capacity to troubleshoot and resolve any data issues and build a process fit for purpose.

Figures 5 and 6 on the following pages illustrate how the priorities and their objectives aim to help us achieve our serious violence prevention agenda, in the context of the Theory of Change, from years 1 through 3 of the strategy.

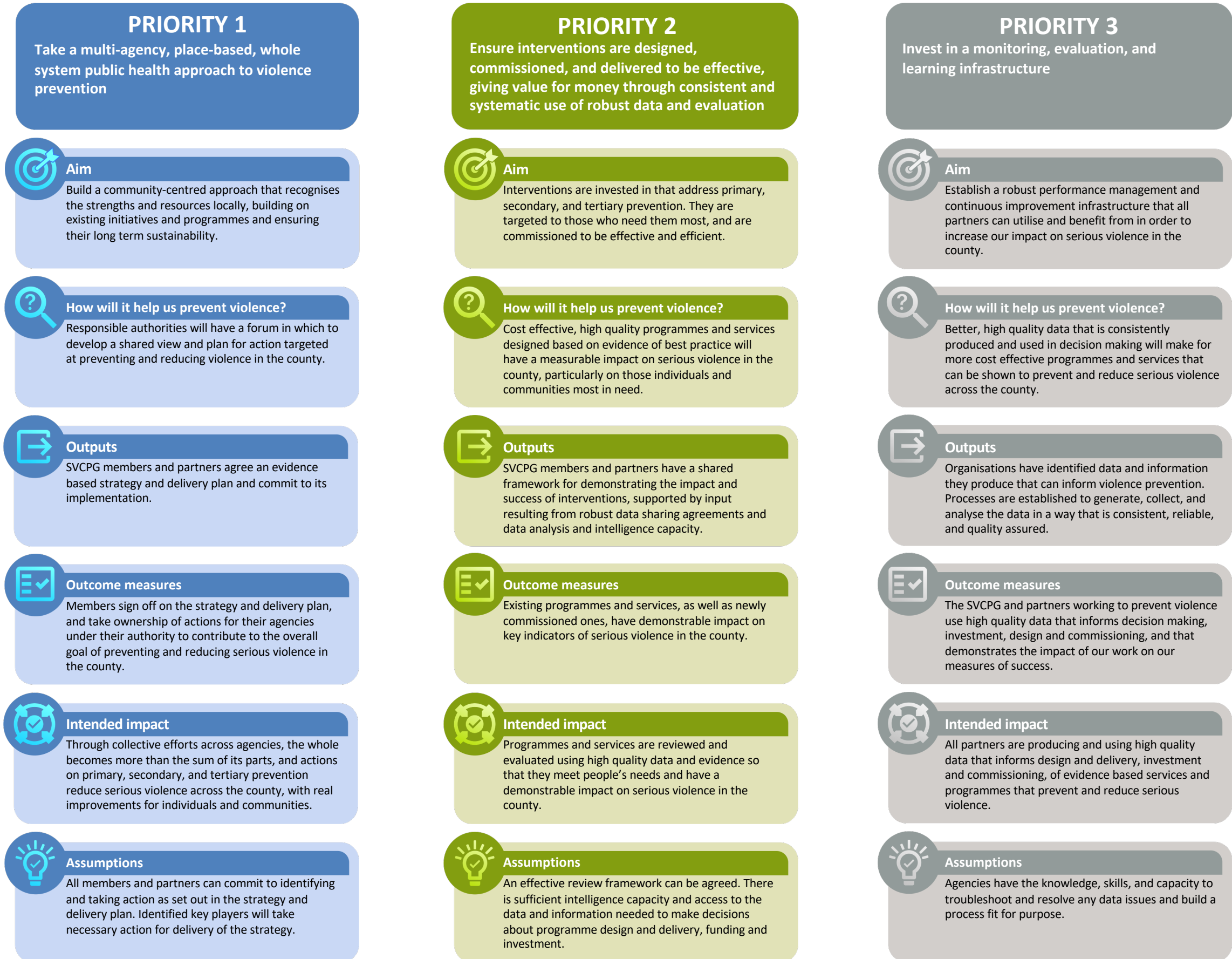## Figure 5: Strategy priority areas and their Theory of Change elements

PRIORITY 1
Take a multi-agency, place-based, whole system public health approach to violence prevention

Aim
Build a community-centred approach that recognises the strengths and resources locally, building on existing initiatives and programmes and ensuring their long term sustainability.

How will it help us prevent violence?
Responsible authorities will have a forum in which to develop a shared view and plan for action targeted at preventing and reducing violence in the county.

Outputs
SVCPG members and partners agree an evidence based strategy and delivery plan and commit to its implementation.

Outcome measures
Members sign off on the strategy and delivery plan, and take ownership of actions for their agencies under their authority to contribute to the overall goal of preventing and reducing serious violence in the county.

Intended impact
Through collective efforts across agencies, the whole becomes more than the sum of its parts, and actions on primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention reduce serious violence across the county, with real improvements for individuals and communities.

Assumptions
All members and partners can commit to identifying and taking action as set out in the strategy and delivery plan. Identified key players will take necessary action for delivery of the strategy.

PRIORITY 2
Ensure interventions are designed, commissioned, and delivered to be effective, giving value for money through consistent and systematic use of robust data and evaluation

Aim
Interventions are invested in that address primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention. They are targeted to those who need them most, and are commissioned to be effective and efficient.

How will it help us prevent violence?
Cost effective, high quality programmes and services designed based on evidence of best practice will have a measurable impact on serious violence in the county, particularly on those individuals and communities most in need.

Outputs
SVCPG members and partners have a shared framework for demonstrating the impact and success of interventions, supported by input resulting from robust data sharing agreements and data analysis and intelligence capacity.

Outcome measures
Existing programmes and services, as well as newly commissioned ones, have demonstrable impact on key indicators of serious violence in the county.

Intended impact
Programmes and services are reviewed and evaluated using high quality data and evidence so that they meet people's needs and have a demonstrable impact on serious violence in the county.

Assumptions
An effective review framework can be agreed. There is sufficient intelligence capacity and access to the data and information needed to make decisions about programme design and delivery, funding and investment.

PRIORITY 3
Invest in a monitoring, evaluation, and learning infrastructure

Aim
Establish a robust performance management and continuous improvement infrastructure that all partners can utilise and benefit from in order to increase our impact on serious violence in the county.

How will it help us prevent violence?
Better, high quality data that is consistently produced and used in decision making will make for more cost effective programmes and services that can be shown to prevent and reduce serious violence across the county.

Outputs
Organisations have identified data and information they produce that can inform violence prevention. Processes are established to generate, collect, and analyse the data in a way that is consistent, reliable, and quality assured.

Outcome measures
The SVCPG and partners working to prevent violence use high quality data that informs decision making, investment, design and commissioning, and that demonstrates the impact of our work on our measures of success.

Intended impact
All partners are producing and using high quality data that informs design and delivery, investment and commissioning, of evidence based services and programmes that prevent and reduce serious violence.

Assumptions
Agencies have the knowledge, skills, and capacity to troubleshoot and resolve any data issues and build a process fit for purpose.

Figure 6: Strategy objectives by priority and year and their measures of success

YEAR 1 OBJECTIVES

Agree the scope of violence acknowledging where the most prevalent, impactful types of violence are already being addressed and enhancing that work.

The scope is agreed.

Ensure all partners are sighted and engaged across violence reduction wider programmes of work to avoid duplication, fill gaps, and make most efficient use of resources.

An inventory of activities addressing serious violence prevention is created and shared across groups. A communication plan and a process for review and revision have been established to keep it current. It is used as a tool to inform effective decision making, funding, and commissioning.

Agree the governance arrangements for strategic and operational violence prevention work and link in with existing statutory boards where possible.

The SVCPG has an agreed terms of reference, accountable membership and leadership, and shares information and communicates with other responsible forums addressing serious violence in Lincolnshire.

Target resources effectively through increased understanding of the population, its risk and protective factors, who is most affected by violence and in what context.

The VRNA is used by a wide range of partners and agencies to review existing programmes and services that are meant to address serious violence, and to inform the design and commissioning of new ones.

Build effective, sustainable, and robust information sharing agreements that enable and improve information flows between partners, and ensure that they are meaningful and properly maintained.

Using guidance for VRUs and as emphasised in the Serious Violence Duty, an assessment of current data sharing between partners informs the action plan for Years 2 and 3 to troubleshoot, improve, design, and implement more effective, fit for purpose information sharing agreements across agencies.

YEAR 2 OBJECTIVES

Map community assets, review current pathways and provision, and build on professionals' and community experts' views to develop and commission interventions.

The inventory of activities begun in year 1 becomes a thorough asset review, with significant input from professionals and community experts. A programme of continuous improvement results from this action and dialogue across agencies.

Create opportunities for improving dialogue and engagement with frontline staff, local communities, and young people.

The Consultation Plan is reviewed and an action guide establishes effective, ongoing communication with those working on serious violence prevention and those most at risk of serious violence that provides valuable information for decision making, funding, and commissioning.

Build Public Health Intelligence and crime analysis capacity and capability that supports the work of the programme.

Gaps in capacity and capability are clearly identified and agreed across the SLP and with partners. Opportunities to utilise existing capacity differently to fill those gaps are considered, and new role specification(s) and resourcing of them are developed as required.

Support partners to be able to utilise the information that is produced so that all activity is evidence-based and evaluated for effectiveness, impact, and value for money.

The SVCPG has a VRNA annual review programme and an effective communication plan to share information with partners across agencies, that supports them in their business planning and decision making.

Analytical capacity and capability that works toward real time monitoring and analysis of multiple datasets in a usable and dynamic format.

Previous work on information sharing agreements and data analysis and intelligence capacity allows the development of a dynamic system that keeps datasets up to date and usable for a wide range of users, and that feeds in to the Health and Wellbeing Board and JSNA processes.

Accessible, high quality data and evaluation protocols are implemented across the partnership system and evaluation activity is embedded in its work to understand and demonstrate impact in the short, medium, and longer term & inform future strategic work.

Protocols are agreed and these, along with the emerging dynamic data sets, provide the tools that partners need for determining the effectiveness and impact of the work they are doing to prevent and reduce serious violence.

YEAR 3 OBJECTIVES

Invest in building the capacity and capability of professionals identifying and addressing the risk factors for violence in the community that enables early intervention.

Funding and commissioning plans include recruitment and retention, and training/skill-building, that enables identified programmes and services to be as effective as possible in their serious violence prevention aims.

Invest in evidence-based programmes and services that foster protective factors to prevent violence from occurring

Existing programmes and services are invested in, and new ones are commissioned as necessary, with clear links to what the data and intelligence and consultations tell us is most needed.

Develop an evaluation and review framework to be reported at the strategic level.

Using the outcomes of data and intelligence capacity review, the information sharing agreements, and VRNA reviews, establish an evaluation and review framework to take a violence reduction programme forward into years 4 and 5 and beyond.

Develop a single, shared set of success measures.

Agree measures of success that show the impact that the work of the SVCPG and its programme across partnerships is having on the incidence, types, and impact of serious violence.

Conduct cohort analyses, deep dives, and case reviews that enhance understanding of local risk and protective factors.

Additional data analysis and intelligence capacity and higher analytical processes are being applied to available data and information for more sophisticated understanding of the prevention of violence, informing improved programme and service design.

New evidence and insights between and amongst partners is shared in an accessible and timely way.

A consistent, effective method of communicating and sharing learning is established that is a valuable tool in business planning and evaluation for better decision making.

There are meaningful opportunities for a diverse range of people to share their experiences to inform the work so that solutions are relevant, responsive, and effective.

Building on the Consultation Plan, a programme of engagement and consultation with and for communities is designed and implemented.

Utilise existing routes to engagement that may provide useful input, for example the Lincolnshire Youth Commission, and design public engagement into a strategy throughout the period it covers.

Links with key partners have been made which enhances the programme of engagement and consultation.

Consider and build into a strategy options for longer term sustainability, including how to develop self-sustaining activity or continuing work of a violence reduction programme within available funding beyond the initial funded period.

The programme of monitoring, evaluation, and learning has built a knowledge base that key stakeholders and decision makers use to access sustainable funding sources for ongoing evidence-based work for long term impact on serious violence.

These ambitious and comprehensive actions are designed to make real change happen, in ways that our communities can experience in their daily lives and our agencies can recognise in their daily work supporting them.

> **The intended long term impacts, based on the VRNA, include:**
> - **Reduced knife-enabled serious violence**
> - **Reduced violence related hospital admissions for, 0-4 year olds for assault, maltreatment, and neglect**
> - **Reduced hospital admissions for violence in the night time economy**
> - **Reduced homicides**
> - **Reduced incidents of violence in the home**
> - **Reduced male on male violence with injury**

The work of the SVCPG requires input from a wide range of agencies, a variety of initiatives, and significant resource allocation, in time, capacity, and money. Therefore it is imperative that we understand the impact our collective efforts are having on individuals, families, and communities to positively effect levels and types of violence in the county.

We want to:

- Have an overview of our progress and its impact
- Hold ourselves and partners to account for actions agreed and outcomes planned
- Continuously improve our efficiency and effectiveness in prevention and reducing serious violence.

The outcomes of our processes and activity will be assessed, so that we can determine if any changes are needed to how we spend our time and resources.

This initial version of our priorities and actions will provide a basis for discussion and development as we progress through the life of the strategy. It will help us to:

- Establish and track outcomes
- Know if/how interventions are having an impact
- Continuously improve the design and delivery of our work
- Identify good practice and share it with others
- Provide the evidence for seeking and securing funding and other resources for delivery
- Assess our effectiveness as well as the outcomes and impacts of investment.[13]

As stated in the Serious Violence Duty guidance, the SVCPG will lead on the review of this strategy annually, report on its progress, and update and amend its priorities and delivery plan accordingly.

A draft Year 1 Delivery Plan can be found at Appendix 5.

Appendices

1. Serious Violence Core Priority Group Terms of Reference

2. Mapping the Serious Violence Duty opportunity landscape in Lincolnshire

3. Mapping interventions to reduce serious violence

4. Draft Consultation Plan

5. Delivery Plan/Action Planning Year 1

1. Serious Violence Core Priority Group Terms of Reference

Serious Violence Core Priority Group

Terms of Reference

Responsibilities

- Plan and carry out actions required to address the Serious Violence Strategy and Parameters as assigned to the SVCPG by the Strategy Board.
- Manage and monitor ongoing multi-agency activity in pursuit of Serious Violence Strategy priorities and goals.
- Apply continuous learning to inform future activity of the SVCPG.
- Identify and monitor the risks and barriers that the SVCPG encounters whilst carrying out actions. Escalate risks that cannot be resolved by the SVCPG to the Strategy Board.
- Identify emerging and cross cutting issues requiring partnership attention and seek collaborative approaches as appropriate.

The Role of Representatives

During SVCPG meetings agency representatives are responsible for:

- Contributing to the management of the Serious Violence Strategy Delivery Plan by sharing information and updates regarding relevant actions.
- Contributing to discussion of the actions required to address the focuses assigned to the SVCPG as well as being held responsible to complete some of the required actions as necessary
- Informing the SVCPG of any relevant updates/implications from your agency, including for example, commissioning activity, gaps, opportunities and/or emerging or cross-cutting issues

Outside of SVCPG meetings agency representatives are responsible for:

- Undertaking relevant tasks arising from attendance at SVCPG meetings.
- Sharing information from the SLP or/and SVCPG with their agency as appropriate
- Championing the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership and the work of the SVCPG in their day-to-day business.

Membership

- The SB is responsible for ensuring all the appropriate agencies are represented at the SVCPG.
- Agency representatives from statutory partners and other appropriate agencies will be invited to attend meetings as necessary according to each meeting's agenda.
- Any issues relating to SVCPG attendance should be reported to the SB.

Attendance

- All agency representatives will be invited to attend meetings of the SVCPG where the agenda items to be discussed are relevant to their agency.
- In the event an agency representative cannot attend the SVCPG meeting, they should forward their apologies and identify their replacement.
- Attendance will be monitored and reviewed at regular intervals by the SVCPG Chair.

Chair

The Chair of the SVCPG has been chosen by the Strategy Board.

- The Chair has been identified as Phil Clark; Deputy Chair is Cllr Patricia Bradwell, OBE.
- The chair will:
  - Chair SVCPG meetings
  - Confirm clearly meeting actions that have a purpose, deadline and an owner
  - Be the point of escalation for actions that are not completed by stated deadline
  - Attend SLP-SB meetings as required
  - Attend SLP Chairs and Coordinators meetings
  - Champion the SLP in their day-to-day business
  - Engage with SVCPG members outside of meetings

The Vice Chair will perform the duties of the Chair in the event of the Chair's absence.

The Chair will serve for a maximum of 3 years and will be reviewed annually.

Administration

- Secretariat support will be provided by the Lincolnshire County Council Safer Communities Service.
- The agenda and meeting papers will be circulated to all representatives a week before the meeting.
- The agenda must state whether the agenda item is just to make a point or whether this item needs discussing.
- Minutes and the action log will be distributed within two weeks of each meeting.
- On the agenda for the following meeting any amendments from previous minutes can be made and a revised version circulated if required.

Communication

- The SLP newsletter, compiled and circulated on a quarterly basis, offers an opportunity to communicate important SVCPG issues and updates to a wide range of partners. SLP updates on the SLP website (www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/safer-lincolnshire-partnership) and through SLP Twitter (@SaferLincs) are also possible communication channels for SVCPG messaging as appropriate.
- The SLP Business Support Officer will take submissions to the newsletter.

Coordination

- Coordination for the SVCPG will be provided by the Lincolnshire County Council Safer Communities Service; the role will:
  - Lead the development and implementation of the Serious Violence Strategy and plans and work to ensure objectives are being met
  - Co-ordinate the delivery of meetings and support the SVCPG Chair and members
  - Work with other co-ordinators, SLP members and other boards to avoid duplication of effort and identify and develop synergies in strategies and work programmes
  - Work closely with other lead professionals outside of SVCPG meetings
- Ensure emerging research, evaluation of relevant projects, inspection findings and best practice is shared across partners, to ensure continual practice development and performance improvement.

Meeting Agenda

- The Chair and SLP Board Manager where necessary will update the group with information from the meeting of the SB.
- The SVCPG will plan and manage the actions required to address the Serious Violence Strategy and parameters assigned to the SVCPG by the SB.
- SVCPG will monitor and manage the ongoing multi-agency activity as outlined in the SV Delivery Plan and the SVCPG action log.
- Emerging or cross-cutting issues will be taken to the SB.
- The SVCPG will identify any risks and these will be added to the SLP Risk Register. These will be reviewed and updated at each meeting.
- Every member has an equal right to place items on the SVCPG meeting's agenda. Agenda items should be sent to the SVCPG Coordinator at least 10 days prior to the next meeting. Urgent items which fall outside of this timescale will be addressed under AOB.
- Members should disclose any personal interests relevant to the business of the meeting at the beginning of each meeting stating the nature of the interest. If there is a conflict of interest in a matter to be discussed, the member will temporarily leave the meeting whilst the matter is discussed and will not be permitted to vote on this matter.

Meeting Dates

- This group will meet monthly.
- The venue for SVCPG meetings may rotate around suitable partner sites or held virtually, as determined by the group.

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually.

2. Mapping the Serious Violence Duty opportunity landscape in Lincolnshire

As mentioned previously, many issues and responsibilities within the Serious Violence Duty are being addressed across a range of existing forums in Lincolnshire. This diagram begins to map the current landscape, starting with the SLP structure and indicating forums adjacent to and outside of SLP governance. It reflects our commitment to a place-based, system wide approach.
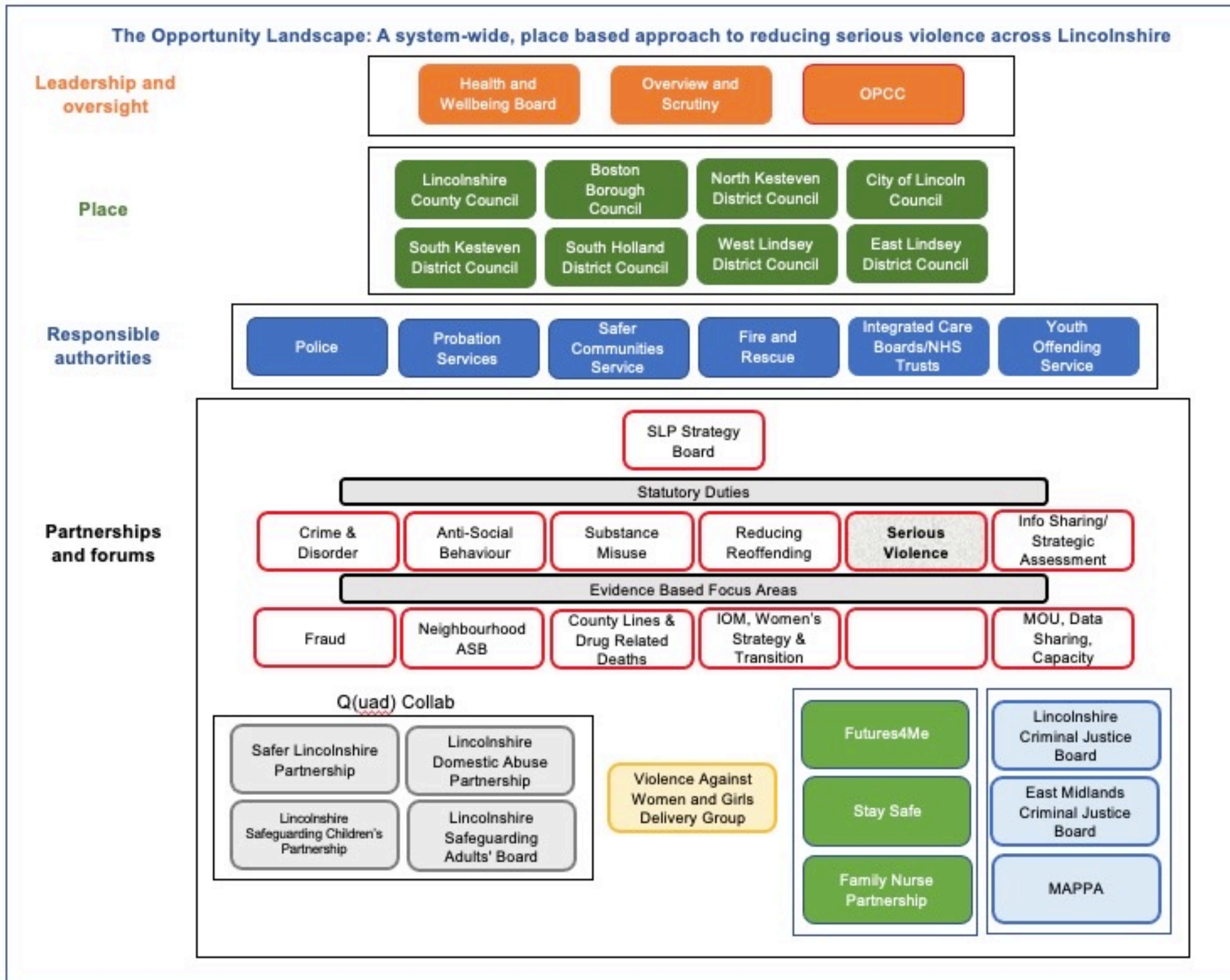

Figure 7 : Draft representation of our opportunity landscape for discussion

This is our guide that will assist us in avoiding duplication and overlap, while identifying gaps that we can fill using an integrated approach across the various forums as appropriate.

Engagement with education happens mainly through the Stay Safe team in the Safer Communities Team in LCC. Prisons engagement occurs mainly through the Reducing Reoffending CPG, including the Integrated Offender Management programme. In turn, this includes the Supporting Women and Girls at risk of entering the criminal justice system delivery group and the 18-25 year old offender priority group.

Under the Lincolnshire Public Protection Boards (PPB), the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children's Partnership (LSCP), the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB), the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership (SLP) and the Domestic Abuse Partnership (DAP) have recognised and committed to working more closely together on a number of cross-cutting themes. These four boards and partnerships have created the Q(uad) Collaboration Group to facilitate this work. Significant issues within the prevention and early intervention work on serious violence falls into the remits of these four groups. It is imperative that robust and appropriate communication links are established with the Q Collab as part of efforts to prevent duplication and overlap and fill gaps in provision.

Statutory duties that are ongoing that support the responsibilities under the Duty include but are not limited to:

- Police officers' core operational duties: maintaining law and order, protecting the public, prevention and detection of crime, protection of property, and the maintenance of civil order; individual policing

- Integrated Care Boards' statutory functions: such as planning and commissioning health care services for the local area, including mental health services, urgent and emergency care, elective hospital services, and community care

- Local authority functions, such as public health and social services, support for children and families, community safety duties and functions, crime and disorder implications, Youth Justice Offending service duties, Education, including schools' duties in relation to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of children, core housing duties, and fire duties, core duties for adult prisons, Young Offenders Institutions, probation services, Youth Offending Teams, including a youth justice plan, and fire and rescue services.[14]

Over the course of the Serious Violence Prevention Strategy, any additional groups, forums, teams, etc that might be either currently addressing, or in a position to address issues and actions identified by the SVCPG will be added to this mapping and invited to collaborate as appropriate.

3. Mapping interventions to reduce serious violence

An important action of the SVCPG, with partners, is to take stock of current interventions and consider these against the findings of the VRNA and the Serious Violence Duty. This is captured mainly in Priority 2:2.2, but also serves Priority 3:3.2 of the VRNA recommendations/strategy actions.

Surveying the types of interventions, considering them against the theory of change, including planning for their evaluation and measuring their impact, are important steps in designing a violence reduction programme in the course of this 3 year strategy for the SVCPG and its key partners.

Interventions should be described initially through their target group (e.g. people known to be at high risk, people currently involved in violence) and where they are delivered in order to reach that group (e.g. schools, custody). Types of interventions can be described along with their intervention points, such as in schools, or at night time economy hotspots, and how these map against the theory of change. In other words, we need to be clear how they are meant to have an impact on violence (culturally, through supporting parents, etc.) and how we will know if they are successful.[15]

Considering the integrated nature of work to prevent and reduce serious violence as discussed previously, some simple guidance for co-producing the design and delivery of future interventions to meet the community's needs is essential as a basis for decision making. The theory of change can provide this framework, with lessons learned from VRU's across the country. Outlining:

- Why the intervention is needed
- Who the intervention is for
- What the intervention is, and what the target group will receive
- What the intervention will achieve, and why it's important

is vital to violence reduction programme design and investment.[16]

The VRNA appendix Indicators and Success Measures includes a catalogue of these for reference when determining the outcome focus of interventions as they are chosen and developed.

The table below captures interventions mentioned in interviews with key stakeholders as part of the VRNA, and those included in the VRNA when reviewing evidence. It is intended to support initial discussion within the SVCPG for planning purposes going forward. SVCPG members will provide the information required to complete the inventory. This will provide a strong foundation for important decisions in subsequent years about investment and commissioning, and support securing funding.

Inventory template of existing programmes for completion by the SVCPG in Year 1

Intervention	Scope/Location	Benefits	Measures of success	Impact	Cost
The Family Nurse Partnership					
Incredible Years Preschool					
Incredible Years Child Training (Dinosaur School)					
Incredible Years Teach Classroom Management					
Family Foundations					
Triple P					
Empowering Parents Empowering Communities					
Community Initiative to Reduce Violence (CIRV)					
Identification and referral to improve safety (IRIS)					
The Good Behaviour Game					
Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies (PATHS)					
Let's Play in Tandem					
Multisystemic therapy					
Sure Start local programmes					
Think Sharp					
Future4Me					
Joint Diversionary Panel					
Mini Police					
The Lincolnshire Lives Programme- Homicide Prevention – Eastern District.					
Youth Endowment Fund					

4. Draft Consultation Plan

Issue Statement

The new Serious Violence Prevention Strategy takes a system wide, place based, partnership approach to prevention and early intervention for reducing violence in our communities. We want all individuals, families, and communities to feel safe and free from exposure to or involvement in violence. Many agencies and organisations, in formal group forums as well as in their every day roles, are working to support people most at risk of violence.

This strategy aims to fulfil the Serious Violence Duty, contributing new delivery on primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention as well as recording the existing efforts of agencies and partners across a range of important violence prevention-related interventions.

It will ensure everyone can be sighted on the range of work taking place, in order to prevent duplication and overlap, while identifying where there are gaps in provision and support for people in our communities most at risk of involvement in violence.

Objective

In this first year of the strategy, we aim to capture the views, experience, and knowledge of a wide range of individuals and organisations who are essential to this strategy's relevance and success. As we begin our work to fulfil the Serious Violence Duty, this consultation seeks feedback and comments on the content of the strategy so that it is developed to be as effective and meaningful as possible to people across the life course and across the county while supporting agencies to do their work serving our residents.

In Year 1, consensus on right action to the extent possible among stakeholders is important to get started developing the Delivery Plan and its interventions.

In Year 2 a consultation with the public on its content and proposed service changes and new programmes can take place.

In Year 3, the SVCPG can use the "You said, we did" format to further engage with stakeholders and communities, bolster its work, and inform its planning and delivery into Year 4 and beyond.

We will strive to make the strategy as accessible as possible, as well as making ways to have a say about it also as easy as possible in this year's and subsequent years' consultations. We will work with LCC's Community Engagement Team and work to the Engagement Strategy's principles on inclusivity and accessibility.[17]

Three key questions for Year 1 consultation

1. Are the priorities the correct priorities, and is the timing of them in Year 1, Year 2, and Year 3 correct?

2. What current and ongoing work are you aware of that is addressing the priorities in the strategy that you want to be sure to see recorded and included?

3. What subject areas, priority groups, stakeholders, or forums are missing that you would want to be recorded and included?

Target audience

An initial exercise of stakeholder mapping will be conducted within the SVCPG. These will form three broad target audience groups for consultations in each of the first three years of the strategy.

Initially, this strategy will consulted on within the **Serious Violence Core Priority Group**, for sign off by the Chair on its behalf.

This is inclusive of the authorities specified in the Serious Violence Duty guidance – police, local authorities, fire and rescue, health, criminal justice, as well as education, prison, youth custody- for the area.

Through the SVCPG, reach into a range of agencies and forums is expected, to ensure **key delivery stakeholders, including commissioners**, are sighted and have a chance to provide feedback and comments.

The **Strategy Board** in December 2022 will have final sign off before the Serious Violence Duty comes into effect in early 2023.

In this form, the strategy will be post-draft, pre-finalisation in keeping with the Serious Violence Duty guidance to gather "views and ideas of the voluntary and community sector, children and young people, adult victims (including survivors), service users and businesses operating in the area"[18]

Year 2's target audience will be individuals and communities most at risk of or experiencing highest impact of serious violence in our county, as well as the **agencies and organisations** who support them.

Year 3 will bring all the **targeted audiences together**, to hear the "You said, we did" outputs and to have the chance to provide insight on its success so far, and offer comments and feedback for changes and improvements.

Year 2's target audience will be individuals and communities most at risk of or experiencing highest impact of serious violence in our county, as well as the agencies and organisations who support them.

Year 3 will bring all the targeted audiences together, to hear the "You said, we did" outputs and to have the chance to provide insight on its success so far, and offer comments and feedback for changes and improvements.

Categories	List of Stakeholders
Groups that may be affected by the issues	
Groups that may care or have concerns about the issues	
Groups that have expertise that would be helpful to inform action	
Advocates	
Adversaries	
Groups who have a needed perspective on the issues, but who may find standard methods of engagement difficult to access	

Strategic Considerations and Analysis

Factors that may impact how this strategy may be communicated and received include:

- Perceptions of serious violence may not be the same as what data and intelligence indicates. Balancing the validity of both of these perspectives is key.

- Having a Serious Violence Prevention Strategy may be perceived as a negative indication of the level of violence being experienced in the county, or in any community.

- Target audiences may have very different views as to the correct approach and action to take on violence depending on their experiences, the work that they do, the places they live. These differences need to be treated sensitively yet transparently.

- Feedback may include valid comments and suggestions that are not politically, legally, or financially feasible, and reasons for rejecting them need to be clearly acknowledged.

Messaging during and after consultation should be straightforward and transparent.

There needs to be acknowledgement of how target audiences receive messages, and to meet them there in order to make the consultation as thorough and accessible as possible. This includes accommodating languages other than English, low literacy, gender and racial neutrality, and accessibility (where people get information).

Key messages

- What this strategy says

- Why it is happening (including what are the clear benefits to people, how will this meet their needs)

- What this engagement will be like (scope and nature)

- How the results will be used

Approach, including role of communications and engagement teams

- In-person sessions

- Virtual sessions

- Online

- Through existing forums, and meeting people where they are

- Media outlets, including Media Policy

- Interviews with key people, PCC, DPH, Chair, etc.

- Resources and materials required

Recording, reporting, and reflection on stakeholder input

- Publishing a "What We Heard" statement

- Summary statement

- "What We Did" statement

- These for each consultation from Year 1 to 3 to each target audience.

Publicising the consultation

Year 1

- Through SVCPG communications and distributions channels
- Through staff communication channels led by representatives on SVCPG to their organisations
- Within the SVCPG forum

Year 2

- On public facing forum websites, e.g. County and district councils, police, community safety, support organisations, etc.
- Publicising it in local libraries
- Hosting a consultation event
- Leafleting local homes and businesses
- Including details about:
- What the strategy and delivery plan says
- Where and when people can see the strategy and plan
- How people can comment
- Deadline for any comments
- Who is most affected

Year 3

This should be a comprehensive publication plan that conveys to all target audiences the "You said, we did" outcomes.

Understanding the duties for required authorities for the Duty is essential to planning engagement and consultation. These authorities must be consulted, but they also can be called upon to act and must act in that case. Authorities can also join collaborative forums of their own volition.

The role of the voluntary and community sector is highlighted for its position of trust in communities, its imperative of independence while acting as advocates for the people it serves, and for the expertise and valuable insight its staff offers.

Children and young people must be accommodated in a relevant and accessible consultation at the appropriate time. The guidance explains that this is especially true for those with experience of the related or relevant services. This may include an overlap with those who have been exposed to violence and become involved in violence. This group may have particularly input around understanding and reacting to feelings of safety while out in the community.[19]

5. Delivery Plan/Action Planning Year 1

The following delivery plan aligns to SLP guidance and is based on the VRNA recommendations and priorities as described in this strategy. Years 2 and 3 will evolve with the work of the SVCPG and partners in Year 1.

Action no.	Action	Target start date	Target end date	Progress update
Priority 1: **Take a multi-agency, place-based, whole system public health approach to violence prevention**				
P1 1.1	Agree the scope of the SVCPG and its working definition of violence for the purposes of the strategy and its work programme	October 2022	December 2022	The draft strategy presented to the 18 Oct SVCPG for agreement
P1 1.2	Complete the mapping and inventory of violence reduction related programmes of work with input from members and key partners	October 2022	December 2022	
P1 1.3	Agree the SVCPG terms of reference	August 2022	August 2022	Terms of reference were agreed at 17 Aug SVCPG
P1 1.4	*Assess the opportunities arising from the Serious Violence Duty Home Office Funding announcement to support delivery of the strategy's priorities and its delivery plan and agree a process for release of funds.*	October 2022	December 2022	
Priority 2: **Ensure interventions are designed, commissioned, and delivered to be effective, giving value for money through consistent and systematic use of robust data and evaluation**				
P2 1.1	Share the VRNA widely and systematically so that partners can utilise its information as appropriate to inform work on serious violence	From June 2022	Ongoing	VRNA was presented to Aug SVCPG. Information about the serious violence prevention work programme is hosted on the OPCC website, including the VRNA and the Serious Violence Prevention Strategy.
P2 1.2	Bring data, information, and intelligence partners together to: -determine the robustness and utility of existing data, -agree areas of improvement and action to fill any identified gaps, and -create a plan for sustainable information sharing, including reviewing existing data sharing agreements and identifying gaps/areas for improvement. We want to be able to answer key questions: 1) who the victims and perpetrators of violence are, 2) where violence occurs, and 3) what the consequences and costs are. The SV Duty emphasises that authorities have the power to share data and information for the purposes of violence reduction.	January 2023	March 2023	Work is ongoing to identify dedicated analyst capacity for the SVCPG. This will also assist in establishing quality assurance and data flow oversight.
Priority 3: **Invest in a monitoring, evaluation, and learning infrastructure**				
P3 1	Year 1 will see the work in Priorities 1 and 2 lay a strong foundation for the work in Priority 3 for Years 2 and 3.			

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