



South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit

Links to health and wellbeing

Sheffield Health and Well Being Board March 2023



Violence Reduction Unit Role – formal definition

To offer leadership, and working with all relevant agencies operating locally, provide the strategic coordination of the local response to serious violence.

*Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) activity must support a multi-agency, **public health approach** to preventing and tackling violence.*

Aim: To make preventing violence an everyday activity for all services

Vision: to empower and enable people in the communities of South Yorkshire to **work together and embrace opportunities** for preventing and reducing violence



Governance

South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Executive Board: chaired by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) senior members from each local authority, Integrated Care Board (ICB), South Yorkshire Police, Probation, education leaders, voluntary, community and faith sectors, Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) and Public Health.

Elected Members Reference Group: Cllr Richard Williams is the Sheffield rep

Preventing Violence Forum: open to any group or organisation in South Yorkshire

Community Safety Partnerships x 4



Story So far

3 years old: formed in September 2019 from a Home Office grant, one of 20

Countywide: based at Shepcote Lane Police Station

Small Partnership Team: with wide ranging skills and backgrounds from community development, housing, policing, early help to domestic abuse.

Strategy in place with action plans at the Authority Level

Needs Assessment annually refreshed – Area Profile with 16 priorities (Sheffield added a 17th to reduce and tackle poverty)

Currently leading on the implementation of the **Serious Violence Duty**



South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Priorities

1. Encourage safe, nurturing and stable relationships between children and their parents and caregivers
2. Encourage all professionals and organisations to continue to work toward becoming trauma-informed, to an approved standard for South Yorkshire
3. Work to end domestic abuse
4. Promote gender equality to prevent violence against women
5. Work in partnership to improve the mental health of the population, and advocate for those who need support to receive it in a timely manner
6. Support people who misuse substances to make more positive choices
7. Work in partnership to reduce the availability and harmful use of alcohol
8. Work in partnership to ensure that children and young people have equal access to education and that their differing starting points and situational context is taken into account



South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Priorities

9. Support people into employment, pathways to further education and re-training
10. Promote the importance of access to adequate housing for people to help them stay healthy and thrive
11. Increase community cohesion, supporting residents to identify/maximise assets
12. Support effective rehabilitation, providing ways out for those already entrenched in violence, or who have previously been in prison
13. Reduce access to lethal means
14. Work to change the cultural and social attitudes which contribute to violence
15. Work to embed this approach in Community Safety Partnerships, and ensure that existing mechanisms for change are fully utilised
16. Reduce violence through victim identification, care and support programmes
17. Reduce and tackle poverty in Sheffield

Health and Wellbeing Interventions

- Regular community engagement
- Preventing Violence Forums - voluntary sector
- Grant Funding of 18 activities

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 young people/ Violence against Women and Girls
<https://southyorkshireviolencereductionunit.com/violence-reduction-fund-2022-3/?area=sheffield>

- Plan B Custody Navigators
- Trauma Informed Training and mapping
- Domestic Abuse Pilot - South Yorkshire Police
- Violence Against Women and Girls mapping
- Learn Sheffield Student Wellbeing Resource
- A&E Navigators (Adults and Children)



A&E Navigators: Major Trauma Centre

- Use the reachable and teachable moment at the major trauma centre in South Yorkshire (Northern General)
- Provide person-centred support to people admitted to A&E, through 4 Navigators.
- Cover six out of eight weekend clinical shifts over Friday-Sunday nights and outreach cover Monday- Thursday.
- The team work with partners across Sheffield. Examples include the Police, probation, criminal justice, Door 43, Sheffield youth services, Roundabout, Amber Project, Archer Project, Sheffield City Council Housing, DACT, IDAS, The Corner, MAST and the Mental Health Liaison Team and Alcohol Liaison nurses



A&E Nurse Navigators Sheffield Children's Hospital

- 12 Month pilot project, introducing a navigator to the emergency department at Sheffield Children's Hospital.

To support CYP attending SCH involved in violence to live a happy, safe and fulfilling life

To support young people to make better and healthier choices

Signpost to specialist services

Reduce hospital attendances for violence related injuries

- **YourStance:** Deliver life support and haemorrhage control training to young people at risk based on the YourStance model developed in London
- Take a system approach, sharing our model and supporting teams in place to advocate for children and develop local services

Sheffield Children's: Progress so far

- 62 referrals so far
 - Assault victims
 - Assault perpetrator
 - Fighting at school
 - Behavioural issues/disruptive at school
 - Bullied at school
 - Anxiety
 - Anger outbursts causing injury
- Other services involved: Schools and school nurses, safeguarding, police, mental health services
- Referral sources: ED, mental health teams, wards.
- Education packages



Community Project example: The Sunday Centre



- The VRU has funded the core costs over the winter period for the Sunday Centre.
- A small, entirely volunteer run weekly service that offers a free hot meal and a friendly chat to around 100 street homeless or vulnerable adults in Sheffield
- A paramedic started attending last week to offer medical treatment to people at the centre
- The plan is now to link the Centre closer to support charities for the women who attend for advice on health, sexual abuse, street working and domestic abuse.

Any questions?

