



Serious Violence Duty Update

Autumn 2023

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Senior Responsible Officer

County Durham and Darlington Serious Violence Duty



Topics

- Partner workshops
- Agreement of strategic priorities
- Reporting mechanisms and structures set against the priorities
- Strategic needs assessment update
- Violence Prevention Fund



The journey so far...

- Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 created a **duty** specified authorities to:
- ***work together, share information, target interventions, collaborate, plan to prevent and reduce serious violence within local communities through a public health approach.***
- Strategic Group established and the partnership agreed our local area was as per the Police and Fire Service Boundaries
- Reporting mechanisms to primary partner structures identified – SDP and Darlington CSP.
- Serious Violence Definition and Strategic Needs Assessment completed.

Who must comply?

- Police
- Justice
 - Probation Service
 - Youth Offending Teams
- Fire and Rescue
- Health
 - Integrated Care Boards
 - Public Health
 - NHS Commissioning
- Local Authorities
 - Darlington Borough Council
 - Durham County Council





Who are our other partners?

- Police and Crime Commissioner
 - Victims Lead
 - Policy Leads
- Prison Service
- Department of Education
- Elected Officials
 - Cllr John Shuttleworth
 - Cllr Dr Amanda Riley
- Third Sector



Partner Workshops

- Three partner workshops held – multiple statutory and non-statutory partners attended, operators up to strategic leaders.
- Local Workshop - tested the Strategic Needs Assessment (quantitative).
- Two Crest Advisory (Home Office appointed support) Workshops.
 - Workshop 1 – First draft of our strategy and suggestions for priorities.
 - Workshop 2 – Confirmation of the priorities, feedback for community publication (duty requirement by end of January 2024). Feedback regarding our local definition.



Strategic Objective and Priorities

- Developed through the workshops and OPCC Policy and Commissioning Officer who has directly been working nationally with HMPPS on serious violence.
- Signed off as being the strategic priorities for our partnership until April 2026.

The Partnership vision

County Durham and Darlington are safe places where individuals, families and communities thrive, making the most of the opportunities to live, learn and work free from the fear of violence

Strategic Objective

We will work together to prevent and reduce serious violent crime by adopting a public health approach leading to fewer victims.

Strategic Priorities

Prevention and Early Intervention

1. Support for those aged 18 and under involved or at risk of being drawn into Serious Violence.
2. Reduce Alcohol-related violence in the Night-Time Economy.

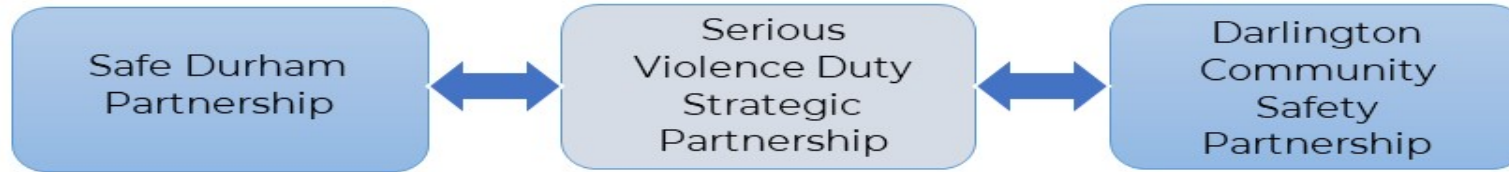
Criminal Justice and Enforcement

3. Support for those aged 18-35 already involved in Serious Violence, with a focus on males.
4. Reduce Domestic Abuse related violence with a knife or sharp instrument (repeat DA perpetrators and victims).



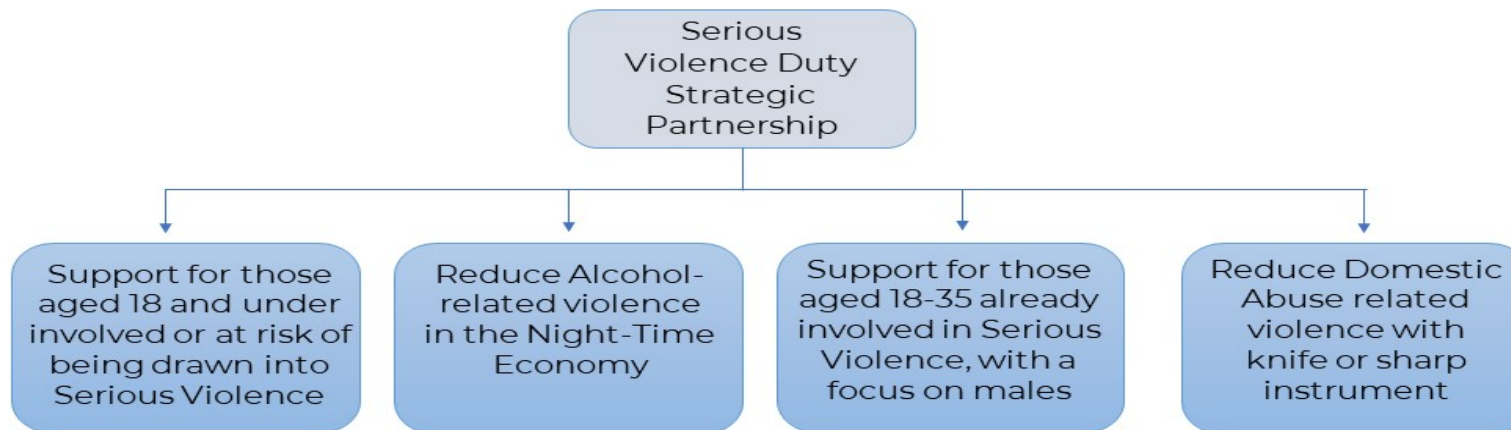
Reporting mechanisms and structures set against the priorities

- **Strategic Reporting**



- Priority for the group to understand the lower-level influencing groups, e.g. DASVEG, what else are we missing.
- Do not want to duplicate, compete against each other; dovetail, or only one group lead.

- **Group Reporting (SVD Coordinator)**





Strategic needs assessment (SNA) update

- Original SNA was worked on between October 2022 and completed April 2023 using data from 2021 – 2022. Some partner data proved difficult to obtain.
- Refresh commissioned in August using 2022-2023 data. In future, the SNA will be refreshed for June of each year, using the most up to date data from the previous financial year.
- Most data sets showing very similar findings to original SNA. Due for publication December 2023.
- Requirement to publish the high-level SNA findings, and the strategy. This will form part of a communication plan.
- Engagement with affected groups and including lived experience voices, including a Public Survey to provide qualitative insights to the SNA.

Violence prevention fund – delivery between January 2024 and March 2025



- C £700,000 of funding.
 - Max £5,000 for non-registered organisations and £40,000 for registered organisations.
- Grant funding opportunities against the priorities and;
 - Meet the needs of the local community in response to the issues they face around serious violence. This should be based on evidence provided by partnerships (including the SNA). Demonstrate the delivery of a multi-agency, collaborative approach to reducing serious violence.
 - Evidence based practice using resources such as College of Policing or Youth Endowment Fund Toolkit.
 - How the proposed intervention will result in a reduction of public spaces serious violence.
- Use of academics to evaluate initiatives.



Questions?