Scottish Public Health Network (ScotPHN)
Examples of projects to prevent and reduce violence in Scotland
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**Introduction**

The following document provides examples of violence-specific prevention and reduction projects in Scotland. This work has formed part of ongoing activity to develop a public health focused violence prevention and reduction strategy. The project examples were gathered via the use of a questionnaire distributed to a wide range of partners towards the end of 2017. This information was supplemented by telephone conversations with many of those who responded.


Part of the rationale for their work, and this current work, is to highlight activity. There is very limited published evidence in Scotland about projects that seek to prevent and reduce violence. However this does not mean that there is a dearth of interesting and successful activity, as the following project examples show. This is not an exhaustive overview of projects and 'mapping' the sector was not the aim of this work, given that violence prevention and reduction involves the collaborative efforts of many organisations and professional groups. The following sections provide information about interventions and these are organised into a number of themes based around population group (e.g. early years) or the form of violence (e.g. sexual violence).
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EARLY YEARS

New Orleans Intervention Model - NSPCC
Funding: NSPCC, Scottish Government
Location: Glasgow City
Sector: Third

The New Orleans Intervention Model, first developed in the U.S., helps professionals decide whether a child can return safely to their birth family or whether adoption is required. The aim is to provide an intervention to address the issues which led to the child going into care. A recommendation about long term care is then made. The model includes a multi-disciplinary approach including clinical psychology, psychiatry, judiciary, social work and support workers. The model seeks to improve decision making and to improve infant mental health and outcomes.

The model is currently being applied in the Glasgow area (and at one site in England) and puts a child's relationships at the heart of intervention and decision making, promoting stability and security as early in life as possible, with the aim of leading to improvements in their mental health and wellbeing. The aim is to improve the outcome for young children and babies from earlier intervention. It is a resource-intensive model, but it enables substantive decisions to be made and aims to alter the cycle of poor outcomes. The intervention is in the process of being evaluated by Glasgow University academic partners via the use of an RCT. See: https://www.nspcc.org.uk/services-and-resources/childrens-services/new-orleans-intervention-model/

Gender Friendly Nursery - NHS Health Improvement Team (GGC)
Funding: NHS Health Improvement Team (GGC)
Location: Glasgow City
Sector: Public

Gender Friendly Nursery is an early years primary prevention strategy. It has been piloted in North East Glasgow, and from August 2018 will roll-out to the rest of Glasgow, in partnership with Education Services. It aims to support early years
establishments to promote gender equality and reduce gender stereotyping, and understand the harms associated with lack of gender equality, with the aim of reducing gender based violence in the longer-term. Training has taken place with local authority nurseries and has been comprised of a full day of training with an audit, with action points determined and accreditation provided.

This was developed in partnership with a number of organisations including Zero Tolerance and Glasgow City Council Education. The NHS GGC Health Improvement Team have developed the training pack and are also involved in delivering training to nursery staff. During the pilot phase this consisted of whole-staff training followed by an action plan leading to an award. For the roll-out phase, the training will be provided to nursery managers, who will be supported to deliver this to staff. An evaluation has been carried out and a dissemination event took place on 31st May 2018. The full report will be available in Autumn 2018 along with training materials for other Local Authorities to use. Learning is being shared with Zero Tolerance and the Care Inspectorate, who are producing an updated gender equality guide for early years settings and with Education Scotland.

**Safe Strong and Free**
Funding: Mikel Fund, RS Macdonald, National Lottery, Robertson, NHS and Highland Council
Location: Highland Area
Sector: Third

*Safe, Strong and Free* is an abuse prevention programme. The programme aims to reduce children’s vulnerability to abuse and assault. It consists of three interactive workshops on the topics of bullying, strangers and secrets. Workshops are delivered in nurseries for all children in the Highlands and Moray in their pre-school year. The workshops teach children serious things in a ‘fun’ way and so don’t mention terms such as ‘sex’ or ‘abuse’, or what could happen if a stranger took a child. They focus on empowering children with tools to stay safe and the knowledge that their body belongs to them. The workshops teach effective assertiveness and resistance strategies. At the end of each workshop, the children take home a storybook to help
parents continue to reinforce key messages. Workshops have also recently been adapted for delivery to children with additional support needs at a special school in Highland. The aim is to ensure that children are confident to tell if they feel unsafe and can identify someone safe to tell. To ensure key messages conveyed during the workshops are learned and applied by the attending children, the University of Stirling are carrying out an evaluation of the programme. The evaluation will adopt a longitudinal approach to consider: a) child and parent overall satisfaction with the programme; b) key lessons learned; c) whether key messages from the workshops have been retained over time; and d) how learning from the workshops may be used in practice. The initial findings will be available in August 2018. See: http://safestrongandfree.org.uk/

**SCHOOLS**

*Speak out Stay Safe (SOSS) - NSPCC*

Funding: NSPCC and a blend of corporate, charitable trusts, individual funders and schools (this blend will differ across Local Authority areas)

Location: All Scotland

Sector: Third

SOSS delivers safeguarding messages to primary school children. The programme is delivered by NSPCC specially trained staff and volunteers. It consists of an assembly presentation for children aged 5 to 11, with a one hour classroom workshop for children in P6/P7. It aims to help children:

- understand abuse and neglect in all its forms and recognise the signs of abuse;
- know how to protect themselves from all forms of abuse; and
- know how to get help, and the sources of help available to them, including NSPCC ChildLine service.

The programme links directly to the curriculum to support school responsibilities to provide evidence that they are meeting statutory requirements. Project aims are to reach all primary school children and to assist them in knowing how to recognise abuse in all forms. This includes physical abuse, emotional abuse, domestic abuse,
sexual abuse, bullying / cyber-bullying and neglect, and how to seek help for any of these issues. The programme is delivered to three school groups, via use of animation, film as well as group interaction:

- **P1-P3 (assembly based):** Children are introduced to a mascot (*Buddy*) in a friendly and age appropriate way. They cover the right to speak out, be heard, be safe and get help. The session covers emotional and physical abuse, neglect, inappropriate touching by others, bullying and gaining support from adults;

- **P4- P7 (assembly based):** Children are introduced to an exercise which asks them about the types of things that they may worry about and that makes them feel sad, or unsafe. The children are asked which trusted adults they could talk to if they ever felt sad, worried or unsafe; and

- **P6-P7 (workshop based):** Developing on themes from the assembly, children work in groups to determine what might constitute abuse, as well as viewing an animation about neglect and how they can apply the learning to speak out to a trusted adult if required. Each child is given a Speak out Stay Safe kit in which they can record the people, places and things that make them feel happy and safe.


**Online Safety Workshop - O2 / NSPCC**

Funding: O2 and NSPCC  
Location: All Scotland  
Sector: Third / Private

The project consists of a free one hour online safety workshop for parents / carers and adults hosted in primary schools (private and state) by head teachers. It consists of a visual presentation combined with an NSPCC member taking attendees through the essential elements e.g. the need for early consistent and confident conversations with children about their online use, and signposting them to how they can get expert assistance with new applications, parental controls and privacy methods.
The programme emphasises the benefits to children of the online world and how that has to be embraced, while giving parents and carers the knowledge of the dangers that can be presented to children online. Parents learn about what children might do online, identify some of the risks children face and discuss the ways to respond, whilst learning practical tools to help start regular conversations at home. There are four principles which NSPPCC encourage parents to apply: explore, talk, agree and manage. The sessions highlight other resources available, including Share Aware and Net Aware - guides to the most popular sites, apps and games that young people use, including the associated risks and how to mitigate these. Parents are also informed of the support available on the O2 and NSPCC Online Safety Helpline (0808 800 5002), and through Guru appointments in O2 stores. Around 200 workshops have been provided to parents across Scotland.


**Schools Healthy Relationships Drama Programme - NHS GGC Health Improvement Team / Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership / Community Safety Glasgow / Glasgow City Council Education Services**

Funding: local Violence Against Women Partnerships; IGF funding through local Area Partnerships; NHS Endowments.
Location: Glasgow City
Sector: Public

Schools Healthy Relationships Drama Programme is focused on engaging staff and children on issues around domestic abuse and teenage relationships. It aims to increase awareness of the issue in children and young people and education staff to encourage children and young people to seek support and to equip staff to respond appropriately. The NHS GGC Health Improvement Team help to facilitate the delivery of this work in schools, co-ordinating funding and evaluation and in developing accompanying teacher’s packs.

*Gold Stars & Dragon Marks* (aimed at Primary School pupils, P5-7 and focused on the impact of domestic abuse, presented as a form of bullying) is a drama programme delivered in Glasgow schools by Baldy Bane theatre co. and supported
by the Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership. NHS Endowment funding has been used to update a film of *Gold Stars*, under the title *Keeping Mum*, to make this a sustainable resource that can be used across Scotland. Following the launch of the film on 15\textsuperscript{th} June 2018, learning and information about this programme, and access to the film will be available nationally.

*Crush*, aimed at S3 secondary pupils and focused on abuse in teenage relationships is delivered in Glasgow schools by Baldy Bane theatre co. and supported by the Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership.

**Equally Safe at School: A whole school approach to GBV prevention – Rape Crisis Scotland / Zero Tolerance**  
Funding: Scottish Government  
Location: Pilot schools in South Lanarkshire, Glasgow City and Falkirk with later areas to be confirmed  
Sector: Third

Rape Crisis Scotland and Zero Tolerance are currently piloting, testing and refining a ‘whole school approach’ and therefore engaging with staff as well as school students, to prevent gender based violence. This will take place during 2017-2020, with plans to extend the programme to other schools. The intervention is called *Equally Safe at School*, and is contained with the Scottish Government’s *Equally Safe* implementation plan, aiming to make a key contribution to the strategy’s aim to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls by supporting schools to take a holistic and multi-layered approach to the promotion of gender equality and prevention of GBV. The pilot is currently underway in two schools in South Lanarkshire. In years 2 and 3, Rape Crisis Scotland will work in other areas. Ultimately Rape Crisis are seeking to develop a model which can be widely adopted around Scotland, and are setting up an advisory group with stakeholders to help with this.

With regard to evaluation, Rape Crisis Scotland are working with the Social and Public Health Sciences Unit at the University of Glasgow who supported the design
of the intervention model and who will evaluate the intervention from 2018 onwards. An academic from Glasgow Caledonian University, who has an extensive research background in violence against women and schools is an advisor to the project. See: https://news.gov.scot/news/tackling-violence-against-women-and-girls-1

**Includem**

Funding: Robertson Trust / Challenge Attainment Fund  
Location: Dundee / Glasgow  
Sector: Third

Includem works with young people referred directly by schools in various locations in Scotland, including in every secondary school in Dundee. Young people at risk of being excluded from school, or who are non-attenders or are disengaged are referred to Includem by their secondary school. Includem provides out of school support for young people to address barriers to attendance and lack of engagement to help them achieve their full potential. The support is provided to young people and their families outside of school hours and also during school hours for young people who are not attending, to keep them safe and encourage them to return to school. A focus on what happens at home impacts positively on educational aspects of the young person’s life, contributes to positive behaviour and helps to reduce social work involvement. [http://includem.org/](http://includem.org/)

**Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) – Education Scotland**

Funding: Scottish Government via the Violence Reduction Unit  
Location: Edinburgh, Aberdeen City, Glasgow, Dundee, Aberdeenshire, Angus, Dumfries and Galloway, East Ayrshire, East Dunbartonshire, Falkirk, Inverclyde, Midlothian, North Lanarkshire, Orkney Islands, Perth and Kinross, Renfrewshire, Scottish Borders, Shetland Islands, South Lanarkshire, West Lothian, Fife, Highland and Orkney  
Sector: Public (Education Scotland but delivered in local authority schools)

MVP is a peer-education programme that gives young people the chance to explore and challenge the attitudes, beliefs and cultural norms that underpin GBV, bullying
and other forms of violence. Once schools and community partners receive initial training they then recruit and train a team of MVP mentors from the upper part of the school. It is this peer mentoring that has demonstrated positive outcomes for the MVP programme as well as giving MVP mentors valuable life skills. It addresses a range of behaviours including name-calling, sexting, controlling behaviour, consent and harassment, and uses a ‘bystander’ approach where individuals are not looked on as potential victims or perpetrators but as empowered and active bystanders with the ability to support and challenge their peers in a safe way. MVP was introduced to Scotland in 2012 by the Violence Reduction Unit and has its origins in the United States. The Programme seeks to inspire individual leadership from people faced with challenging situations. After discussing a particular issue the bystander is offered various safe and realistic options they could use to prevent or interrupt behaviours. MVP has been embraced in Scottish schools and adapted to the culture of Scotland whilst continuing to retain core features. It is delivered in most, but not all Local Authority areas with further authorities requesting training. A strong emphasis has been placed on building healthy, respectful relationships both in the school and in the community. Over 130 schools have now delivered MVP in 22 local authorities from Shetland to the Scottish Borders. See: http://mvpscotland.org.uk/MVPabout.html

**Medics Against Violence Interns – Medics Against Violence**

**Funding:** Scottish Government to Medics Against Violence  
**Locations:** Glasgow City, East Dunbartonshire  
**Sector:** Third

Medics Against Violence Interns is a new peer-education programme. It aims to train senior school pupils in violence prevention so that they can devise and present lessons on violence prevention to younger pupils in their school. Medics aim to provide training to senior pupils via 5-6 lessons supported by the teacher who provides training in how to teach. The goals are to reach as many of the young people in the school as possible so that the whole school takes a violence prevention approach. The project aims to keep the whole school safe. A further aim for senior pupils is to promote leadership. http://medicsagainstviolence.co.uk/
Action Against Abuse - NHS GGC Health Improvement Team / Health and Social Care Partnership / Glasgow City Council Education Services

Funding: NHS Health Improvement (GGC) (staff time only)
Location: Glasgow City
Sector: Public

Action Against Abuse is a long running schools focused resource about domestic abuse and violence within relationships, aimed at secondary school pupils. The pack has been updated by staff working within the Glasgow context to reflect understanding of more recently emerging cultural issues, such as FGM, honour based violence, forced marriage as well as financial abuse. Education staff are offered training annually on the new inserts / updates. The NHS GGC Health Improvement Team worked in partnership with Hemat Gryffe Women’s Aid and The Rosey Project to update this pack and they continue to deliver training, in partnership, to teaching staff in Glasgow.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

No Knives, Better Lives (NKBL)

Funding: Scottish Government
Location: Scotland
Sector: Third

NKBL is delivered by YouthLink Scotland on behalf of the Scottish Government. It is a national capacity building programme, with emphasis placed on the ‘bystander’ approach i.e. the notion that young people can challenge perceived norms and misconceptions which often negatively influence behaviour. The approach involves working with young people to empower them as active bystanders who have the ability to both challenge and support their peers in difficult situations which could cause emotional or physical harm. It engages local partners from various sectors involved in community safety, education, youth work and health and wellbeing. NKBL works with most local authorities to provide training for a wide range of individuals, who work with children and young people, who in turn deliver sessions to this group. NKBL has developed a range of resources to support this, e.g. lesson plans, as well
as drama based activities delivered to 60 schools during 2017. The learning objectives of the session correspond to “4 Rs”. These are:

- Reassurance that knife carrying is not common;
- Risks and consequences of the very serious legal and personal risks and consequences of carrying a knife;
- Resilience, so that young people are aware of the influences, fears and pressures that can lead to the decision to carry a knife; and
- Responsibility, so that young people are aware of the importance of telling someone if they know that someone is carrying a knife.

http://noknivesbetterlives.com/

**IMPACT Project – Includem**

Funding: Previously funded by Reducing Re-offending Change Fund (Scottish Government) and Community Planning Partnership in Glasgow. Ongoing funding is challenging.

Location: Glasgow City / West Dunbartonshire

Sector: Third

The project targets and engages young people in Glasgow to reduce prolific, violent and often alcohol-related offending. Through close partnership working between the Police and Includem, this project targets young people causing most harm in their communities and not engaging with any other support services. It aims to change their attitudes and behaviours, divert them away from becoming more entrenched in antisocial, violent and offending behaviours and prevent them being drawn into a cycle of custodial sentences. Referrals come directly from the Police within the *One Glasgow* structure. Police identify possible referrals aged between 14 and 21, primarily males, who are committing multiple offences, especially those with known violent offending. This includes alcohol fuelled violence, serious anti-social behaviour and gang related violence. Offending data and community Police intelligence inform this process, and a screening stage ensures the project targets those not engaging with any other support services.
Includem’s outreach practice model to reach this target group combines aspects of specialist intensive mentoring with 24/7 crisis support and a one-to-one personalised cognitive-based approach. This provides a supportive environment for young people to begin reflecting on their attitudes, behaviours and the choices they make. Initial contact involves a joint door-step visit by Includem and the Police to explain the consequences of continued violent behaviour and offer support to change. Often 2 or more visits are required to achieve sign-up. On average each young person is supported for 12 months. This involves 3-4 planned outreach sessions per week, often in the evening and weekends, plus access to Includem’s 24/7 helpline and crisis response.

https://includem.org/aboutus/what-we-do/


Medics Against Violence

Funding: Scottish Government

Location: Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Clackmannanshire, Dumfries and Galloway, East Ayrshire, East Dunbartonshire, East Lothian, East Renfrewshire, Falkirk, Inverclyde, North Ayrshire, North Lanarkshire, Scottish Borders, South Ayrshire, South Lanarkshire, Stirling, West Dunbartonshire, West Lothian

Sector: Third

Medics Against Violence uses healthcare workers to raise awareness of violence and its consequences among young people in schools, school refuser programmes and young offender settings to provide young people with knowledge of violence and its consequences in order that they can make informed choices. It seeks to raise awareness of the role of alcohol in violence and the damage that can be caused by weapons, to make young people aware of their choices in relation to violence and guide them to making better choices to reduce violence and injury.

http://medicsagainstviolence.co.uk/
Making Young People Equally Safe - Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership / NHS GGC Health Improvement Team / Glasgow Community Safety Glasgow / Glasgow Kelvin College
Funding: NHS Health Improvement (GGC) and Community Safety Glasgow
Location: Glasgow City
Sector: Public

Providers of services have been aware of child protection guidelines however no equivalent has been focused on youths. These guidelines seek to provide a means whereby those working with young people can access a GBV referral pathway and have the means and ability to respond to disclosures of GBV that complement existing child protection policies. A *Guideline for Responding to Gender Based Violence in Youth Work Settings* has been developed.

A training course has been developed to support this by introducing the topic to youth workers, exploring the attitudes and inequalities that allow GBV to happen and looking at appropriate prevention tools and responses to disclosures, using the *Guideline* as a reference. The training is based on Zero Tolerance’s *Under Pressure* training course, which NHS GGC Health Improvement Team staff delivered on a regular basis to youth workers. An SVQ-accredited training for trainers means that a cohort of trainers is now able to deliver training to youth organisations across Glasgow. Other Local Authorities are able to adapt this locally by getting in touch through the Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership.

**DOMESTIC ABUSE**

**Daisy Project**
Funding: Integrated Grant Fund (Glasgow City Council)
Location: Castlemilk, Glasgow City
Sector: Third

The Daisy Project is a small charity funded by the Integrated Grant Fund (Glasgow City Council) and the Health and Social Care Partnership. It is based in the south side of Glasgow (Castlemilk) and works to support women and their families
experiencing domestic abuse via the provision of tailored practical and emotional support. It works both within the local area and takes referrals from across the south of the city. Women may be referred from various agencies (Police, Health Visitors, ASSIST, social work, general practitioners) and may refer themselves. The project also works with BME women in South Glasgow and employs a staff member with several community languages to communicate with women from primarily South Asian communities. The project can therefore offer support to women from BME communities experiencing domestic abuse, and forms of abuse, violence and control specific to women in those communities.

The project provides continuous risk assessment and safety planning. A feature of the project is that it provides support for women for as long as it is required and seeks to build service provision around the individual. This may extend across a number of years and include support and advocacy where women are involved in criminal and civil court proceedings, social work and meetings with lawyers and further forms of practical support such as ensuring safety planning, e.g. that contributes to clients feeling safe within their own homes via the use of security measures. The Project works in partnership as part of a multi-agency approach and attends monthly Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) meetings for South Glasgow.

It further seeks to support women in accessing temporary housing and refuges, sources of emergency funds and foodbanks as well as broader opportunities for personal development and confidence building, e.g. with the view of supporting women into educational, volunteering and workplace opportunities, and engaging in activities such as leisure and health improvement opportunities. The project aims to tackle isolation and loneliness that can accompany domestic abuse. The project provides support to a women’s peer support group (Women Against Violent Environments). Preventive work in relation to domestic abuse and gender inequality has included work with schools, such as drama based programmes. See: http://thedaisyproject.org.uk/
Dundee Women’s Aid

Funding: Robertson Trust/ Northwood Trust and other small trust funds
Sector: Third

Dundee Women’s Aid aims to:
- Provide safe refuge;
- support women and children experiencing domestic abuse; and
- provide prevention of domestic abuse awareness session to schools, professionals and community groups.

It is a charity affiliated to national Scottish Women’s Aid and provides services to women and children. These include the provision of 17 refuge spaces in council or housing association properties in Dundee and women can use these spaces prior to being rehoused. The service also uses UK Refuges Online (a national service) that flags up spaces in refuges across the UK for women to access, where there is no suitable space in Dundee. The service provides follow-on services for 6 weeks to ensure that women have settled into their permanent tenancy and an outreach service to those not seeking refuge. A counselling service staffed by volunteers is also provided. The service works with the Right to Ask and the Power to Tell scheme (Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse Scotland), providing and sharing information about known perpetrators with the Police, and MATAC, focused on identifying and tackling perpetrators and protecting their victims. Services are provided to children, including 1 to 1 and group work, who can refer themselves to the service. Service staff are also engaged in providing preventive and awareness raising outreach work in local schools and community environments aimed at children and young people, professionals and community groups, although staff time is limited for this work.

Dundee Women’s Aid provide 1 to 1 and group work and participates in the Freedom Programme (http://www.freedomprogramme.co.uk/), a structured intervention aimed at helping women to identify abusive, manipulative and controlling behaviours among partners. The service offers a Solihull Parenting group for mothers or carers.
The service has partnerships with the following:

- NHS Tayside to provide support from a consultant grade clinical psychologist which is funded by the Tampon Tax fund; and
- the MIA service (Multi Agency Advocacy) is delivered in partnership with Barnardos to advocate on behalf of high-risk victims of domestic abuse and their children. It offers safety planning, assessment of risk and represents service users who are discussed at MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) which is an information sharing meeting focussing on reducing the risk for service users.  http://www.dundeewomensaid.co.uk/mia.php

**Defuse Project - East Ayrshire Council and Barnardo's**

Funding: East Ayrshire Council and Barnardo's Voluntary Funds  
Location: East Ayrshire  
Sector: Third / Public

Defuse Project takes a person centred approach and tailors each care plan to meet the needs of the individual on their journey. The project supports the domestic abuse perpetrator (male or female) to look at their behaviours and the impact these have on children, as well as partners. The project supports victims and children and will often work with families as a group. The project aims to help families stay together who want to do so. The project will meet with families in their chosen location.  Defuse supports individuals to understand the impact that domestic abuse has had on them and their children, whilst recognising their strengths and supporting them to enhance their coping strategies. It provides a safe space for children to explore their emotions and past and present experiences.

The project provides *Seasons for Growth* sessions, aimed at children and adults, to help then deal with trauma, loss and life changes.  The project takes a holistic approach when providing emotional and practical support to individuals to enable them to explore past and present experiences and feel hopeful about their future.  The project offers the support of an Independent Domestic Abuse Advocate (IDAA) and uses Safelives Risk Identification Checklists (RIC) and Safety Plans to maximise the safety of the Family.  Project clients and their families may be referred by the
Police, housing, social work etc. or by 3rd party reporting by concerned family members, school teachers etc. There is no limit to the length of time support is provided. The project has recently provided an open day for prisoners who may have a history of violent offending and are due to be released.

**ASSIST: Community Safety Glasgow**

Funding: Scottish Government
Location: Glasgow, Argyll and Bute, East Ayrshire, East Dunbartonshire, East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, North Ayrshire, North Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire, South Ayrshire, West Dunbartonshire

Established in 2004, ASSIST is a specialist domestic abuse advocacy and support service focused on reducing risk and improving the safety of victims of domestic abuse. The service covers around 40% of Scotland’s population, and the west command of Police Scotland (the legacy ‘Strathclyde Police Force’ area). It’s linked to all the Sheriff Courts in this area, including the Specialist Domestic Abuse Courts at Glasgow and Ayr. It supports male victims where the case is being heard at Edinburgh’s Domestic Abuse Court. The service works with women and men, who have experienced abuse, and whose partners have been charged with a criminal offence progressing through the courts. ASSIST works with victims to establish a risk assessment and safety plan and supports them through the court process. The Children and Young People’s Service supports young victims and children where they or their siblings are cited to give evidence in the case.

It can then refer victims to further forms of support available within the community, or to, e.g. refuges (such as Women’s Aid). Therefore ASSIST works primarily with those immediately following a period of crisis. Many of those who are eventually referred to the service are reported as having experienced domestic abuse by a third party (neighbour, relative, friend etc.). So part of the task for ASSIST may be in helping victims to recognise abuse. ASSIST participates in the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs) in six local authority areas (Glasgow, Inverclyde, South Lanarkshire, North Lanarkshire and Renfrewshire). The aim of ASSIST is to ensure that all victims of domestic abuse – women, children and men –
are safe, informed and supported throughout their involvement with the criminal justice system, by providing a high quality service tailored to individual needs and circumstances. See: http://www.communitysafetyglasgow.org/what-we-do/supporting-victims-of-gender-based-violence/assist/

**Ask Support Care - Medics Against Violence**
Funding: Scottish Government to Medics Against Violence
Sector: Third

This is a training initiative to upskill professionals on how to approach and respond to domestic abuse. It provides direct training and a train the trainers programme and aims to reach a wide range of professionals including doctors, dentists, vets, paramedics, nurses the Scottish fire and rescue service and hairdressers. The project also provides community training. The aim is to train people to ask about abuse, validate the person's experience, take accurate notes if their setting requires that and to refer or signpost towards specialist organisations. See: http://medicsagainstviolence.co.uk/DomesticAbuseTraining.html

**GENDER BASED VIOLENCE**

**Zero Tolerance**
Funding: Scottish Government
Location: All Scotland
Sector: Third

ZT is a Scottish charity working to end men’s violence against women by promoting gender equality and by challenging attitudes which normalise violence and abuse. Work began in 1992 with a series of iconic poster campaigns designed to raise awareness and challenge attitudes about violence against women. The focus of ZT’s work today is on primary prevention to change the social attitudes and values which permit violence to occur. ZT takes a practical, evidence-based approach to challenging violence and promoting change. The vision is of a world without men’s violence against women (VAW); in which women enjoy full gender equality and their
human rights are upheld. ZT are demanding full social, economic and political equality. The core belief is that men’s VAW is preventable; and should not be tolerated. Zero Tolerance Projects Include:

- **Under Pressure**: Launched in 2011, this is a training course for professionals working with young people. It is aimed at increasing awareness of the issue of abuse and sexual exploitation in young people’s relationships, as well as equipping workers with skills and knowledge to prevent and address this problem in their practice. The training covers challenging misogyny in the media, teen relationships and sexual exploitation and risk. From 2015 the training has also been delivered through a train the trainer model, in partnership with other groups including YouthLink;

- **Safe at work: tackling violence against women in the workplace**: this aims to make employers, unions and statutory bodies aware of the business reasons why a violence against women policy is needed in the workplace and acts as a tool for employers to access free information and support for policy development;

- **Early Years**: ZT’s *Just Like a Child* guide provides resources to support professionals and parents to raise children who are not limited by outdated or restrictive ideas of what is suitable for girls and boys; and

- **Media work**: ZT provides comprehensive advice and support to journalists and editors on writing responsible news coverage on violence against women. [https://www.zerotolerance.org.uk/](https://www.zerotolerance.org.uk/)

**Women’s Support Project**

Funding: includes Scottish Government, Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership and charitable trusts

Sector: Third

WSP is a voluntary organisation and charity with a long history of engaging in various forms of work to raise awareness of the extent and effects of violence against women (VAW), and to improve services for those affected. Current work includes two national strategic initiatives funded through the Scottish Government ‘Violence against Women Fund; firstly to raise awareness of commercial sexual
exploitation and support organisations and services in tackling this issue, and secondly to build capacity for training on VAW. These areas of work are delivered in partnership with local VAW Partnerships and various national bodies, including NHS Health Scotland. Other areas of work include:

- multi-agency and in-house training services across all sectors, on a range of issues such as child sexual abuse, FGM, domestic abuse and coercive control, grooming and sexual exploitation; and
- development of resources to support public education including information leaflets and resource packs, film and audio resources and on-line resources such as www.fgmaware.org and http://insideoutsidescotland.wordpress.com/

WSP also offers a Glasgow based ‘Rights & Choices’ service which supports women who have experienced gender based violence at any point in their life and who are socially isolated. www.womenssupportproject.org.uk

**Gender-Based Violence Services - NHS Lanarkshire**

Funding: provided by NHS Lanarkshire health improvement funds but has also until very recently included Alcohol and Drugs Partnership in Lanarkshire, and 3 years of Big Lottery funding which ended in November 2017
Location: North and South Lanarkshire
Sector: Public

NHS Lanarkshire is one of a small number of NHS Boards with a dedicated GBV service. The service falls within the Health Improvement Team in the public health directorate. The resources and training generated and delivered are tailored to the needs of the local board but are also shared with other NHS partners across Scotland, as well as internationally. The aim is to raise awareness, prevent abuse, provide advocacy, consultancy and training on all forms of GBV as a public protection issue. The service includes providing training and consultancy to operational staff around GBV, routine enquiry, risk assessment, and referral pathways; tailoring training sessions and resources for specific teams; the development of e-modules around FGM and trafficking, which are also shared and
used by other NHS Scotland boards. Other resources developed and available via NHS Lanarkshire Vimeo are around adverse childhood experience and abuse and include:

- Never too late to tell: [https://vimeo.com/247299177](https://vimeo.com/247299177); and
- Trauma and the Brain: Understanding abuse survivor responses: [https://vimeo.com/126501517](https://vimeo.com/126501517)

The team is involved in adapting and piloting a U.S. intervention *Safe and Together*, for use in North Lanarkshire. This will also be piloted in S. Lanarkshire. Lanarkshire is one of a handful of areas in Scotland that is testing or using *Safe and Together*. This is a model that seeks to improve case practice and cross system collaboration to create better outcomes for women and children experiencing domestic abuse. NHS Lanarkshire health staff are increasingly feeding into the local MARAC process.

**Dundee International Women’s Centre (DIWC)**

Funding: From a range of sources, including Dundee City Council

Sector: Third

DIWC seeks to raise awareness of GBV and all the harmful practices that occur under this. DIWC provides education, learning, social and training opportunities for all women in Dundee, as well as professional, community and student groups. The centre is an SQA centre providing opportunities for women around employability, ESOL, volunteering, play-work and childcare. The centre also provides services to women from a wide range of ethnic minority backgrounds including around ‘harmful practices’ specifically FGM, Honor Based Violence and Forced Marriage. The centre offers a two hour session to women on these issues and seeks to encourage an understanding of ‘rights’, i.e. that women, irrespective of ethnic background, have the right to not endure violence or forced marriage.

Professional and educational groups also receive this training including Police Scotland staff and Midwifery and Nursing students at the University of Dundee.
Sessions have also been provided at colleges. The sessions aim to challenge the frequently held notion that FGM is not a problem in Scotland. The centre also provides ‘Safety Net’, an awareness raising course for all women about the risks for themselves and family members in relation to the internet as a source of radicalisation, sexual exploitation and grooming. See: http://diwc.co.uk/

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Rape & Sexual Abuse Service Highland (RASASH)
Funding: Scottish Government funds via Rape Crisis Scotland, People’s Postcode Lottery, Voluntary Action Fund
Location: Highland
Sector: Third

RASASH is an independent organisation but it is part of the broader Rape Crisis Scotland network. Funding is received from a range of organisations (e.g. Scottish Government funds, via Rape Crisis Scotland, People’s Postcode Lottery). RASASH has developed and delivered a number of projects including projects unique to RASASH. These are:

- **National Prevention Project** (delivered by all Rape Crisis Scotland network partners) which seeks to change attitudes & behaviours around sexual relationships and sexual violence among children and young people; and
- the ‘No More’ project seeks to prevent sexual violence and abuse experienced by those with learning disabilities. This project is unique to RASASH, and has been developed in response to evidence that this group may be more likely to be the victim of sexual violence and abuse, with little evidence of similar work going on elsewhere in the UK. The project works with people with learning disabilities of all ages in various settings (educational, community, residential). The project has been through a pilot phase and is now in the process of being launched and uses trainers with and without learning disabilities and both will be present to deliver each session. The project intends to develop a quality assurance framework; and
- **StandUp RASASH.** This project seeks to recruit young people who wish to be active in addressing and challenging sexual violence within their communities.
The project works with young people, youth groups and networks to challenge issues such as increasing sexualisation of mainstream culture, to assess attitudes to this and to harness the energy of young people who oppose this. See: http://www.rasash.org.uk/

Ending Sexual Harassment and Violence in Third Level Education – Rape Crisis Scotland
Funding: European Union
Location: Glasgow City
Sector: Third (Rape Crisis Scotland is a third sector organisation but the intervention is being developed in partnership with universities)

This is an EU-funded project of which Rape Crisis Scotland is a partner. It is led by National Women's Council of Ireland with partners in Cyprus and Lithuania, and associate partners in Germany. The project started in October 2016 and will finish in March 2019. Rape Crisis Scotland are working in partnership with Glasgow Caledonian University and University of Glasgow, who each have their own wider Gender Based Violence prevention and response work underway, and operate a joint steering group. This project complements that work, and entails focus groups with staff and students, and development of a toolkit including training, awareness-raising and campaigning materials. A process evaluation is underway.

Project objectives are “To prevent and combat sexual violence and harassment (SVH) and build a culture of zero tolerance in universities and 3rd level institutions (UTLIs) throughout Europe through building; a feminist understanding and analysis, of the causes and effects of SVH.” The aim is to:

- Develop understanding and recognition of SVH as being rooted in gender inequality and build capacity on the part of UTLIs to combat and address it; and
- support UTLIs to articulate a clear message, commitment, set of core values, ethos procedures and protocols to build a Zero Tolerance Zone and provide opportunities for sharing models of good practice;
• increase knowledge amongst UTLI staff, of the higher risk of SVH amongst young women and its negative impact on student’s academic performance and overall well-being;
• raise awareness and provide information to students on consent, the myths surrounding rape, support available to victims, importance of reporting to the Police, and the importance of naming and acknowledging experiences of SVH; and
• raise awareness of the particular experiences of SVH in students with a disability and students from minority ethnic groups.

Note: Rape Crisis Scotland is starting a new project funded by the Scottish Government to develop, trial and build capacity for staff training and student education in collaboration with local Rape Crisis centres and other GBV organisations, as part of the implementation of the Equally Safe in Higher Education toolkit and drawing on the Ending Sexual Harassment and Violence in Third Level Education project. https://www.rapecrisisscotland.org.uk/

**National Prevention Programme - Rape Crisis Scotland**

Funding: Scottish Government current funding through Children, Young People and Families early intervention fund until March 2019. Additional funding agreed by Scottish Government to reach new local authority areas from April 2018 till March 2020 - through Equally Safe funding

Location: All Scotland

Sector: Third

Rape Crisis centres exist across Scotland and these are autonomous but affiliated to Rape Crisis Scotland. Rape Crisis Scotland’s national programme operates mostly in schools, and sometimes in community youth settings. The programme has been funded for several years, and has been provided to 1000s of secondary school students each year. The programme delivers high-quality evidence-based educational workshops, a resource pack has also been developed with material for 3 age groups within the secondary school cohort, to young people in secondary schools and youth settings around Scotland.
Prevention workers are based in local Rape Crisis centres and work with teachers and youth workers to plan programmes to meet their needs. A number of sessions / workshops may be provided by prevention workers, dependent upon local need and preferences. The prevention programme addresses 7 topics, each adapted to 4 age groups: Gender, Consent, What is sexual violence? Impacts and support, Sexualisation, Pornography and Social media. Funded outcomes are as follows:

- National and local strategic approaches to sexual violence prevention are more consistent and more effective;
- strategic partnerships between rape crisis centres and local agencies are strengthened, promoting shared approaches to sexual violence and support for direct interventions by centres;
- young people have increased knowledge and more positive attitudes towards sexual relationships, and less tolerance of violence; and
- young people have a greater role in shaping interventions in relation to sexual relationships.

By the end of the first grant (2013-16) Rape Crisis Scotland had delivered programmes of up to 3 workshops to 18,184 young people. To date through the current grant (April 2016 – December 2017) Rape Crisis Scotland has delivered to 22,166. Overall, the programme aims to reach 13,000 young people each year. Rape Crisis Scotland expect to reach up to 23,000 young people per year in the near future. For the recent evaluation see: https://www.rapecrisisscotland.org.uk/resources/final-evaluation-report-26-04.pdf

**Another Way – SACRO**
Funding: Scottish Government
Location: Lothians, Edinburgh, Scottish Borders
Sector: Third

*Another Way* is a person centred project providing support to women over the age of 18 working in the Lothians, Edinburgh and the Scottish Borders who are engaged in, or are at risk of, engaging in sex work. Sex work extends to all forms of prostitution,
such as sauna based work, street based sex work, online sex work, as well as those offering sexual entertainment such as lap dancing. Much of the project’s work supports street based sex workers and sauna based workers. The true extent of prostitution in Edinburgh can’t be fully gauged and many sex workers will remain invisible, particularly those selling services online.

Women can make a confidential self-referral to the service or referrals are accepted from professional agencies working with women. The aim of the project is to offer non-judgemental support for as long or as little as needed.

The project supports women in their choices and to exit if they so wish or to reduce and manage some of the risks associated with sex work if they wish to continue. The project often works on a 1 to 1 basis and delivers services from its Edinburgh offices as well as outreach services, delivered within private saunas and for street based workers, as well as from NHS facilities. The need for support is directed by the sex workers themselves. This support may take the form of working to address addictions, trauma and mental health, employment and training needs, housing, benefits, physical and sexual health, domestic abuse, and exiting sex work. The project works to educate sex workers about staying safe, consent and rape.

The project works in partnership with a Police Scotland prostitute liaison officer, who can offer support and advice, and this allows for good communication and the reporting of incidents to the Police. The project works with National Ugly Mugs, a third sector organisation working across the UK, that captures and shares information from various partner organisations about those who commit violence against sex workers. The aim is to ensure that this information can be shared with sex workers about violent individuals. Another Way is a partner in this and so can capture and share information with Ugly Mugs.

http://www.sacro.org.uk/services/criminal-justice/another-way-service
TARA: Trafficking Awareness Raising Alliance - Community Safety Glasgow
Funding: Scottish Government
Sector: Public

TARA, based in Glasgow, provides a confidential service to all women in Scotland over the age of 18 who have been trafficked for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation. Trafficking also applies to UK born women and not solely those born abroad. Non-UK born women are drawn from a range of nationalities including Albania, Romania, Vietnam and China. The problem exists across Scotland with around 27 of 32 local authorities having identified women who have been trafficked for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation. The problem is hidden, however, and so fully gauging prevalence is problematic.

There is an open 24/7 referral process for all organisations and women can self-refer although this is rare. Most women will be referred by other agencies. Upon referral, TARA will gather basic information about the woman from the referring agency and then seek to arrange an interview date with the woman as quickly as possible dependant on her circumstances. TARA undertakes a comprehensive four-week identification and assessment programme during which an evaluation of need and risk is completed.

Specialist service provision can be challenging when working with women who have been trafficked and who are not able to come to Glasgow, especially for those living many miles from Glasgow. Women who have been trafficked are often vulnerable for a range of reasons due to the experience of the existing abuse as well as previous experiences of abuse. They are vulnerable to their perpetrators and experience ongoing physical and psychological violence as well trauma.

TARA has a robust partnership with the Police and can act as a bridge between trafficked women and the Police. TARA can provide accommodation to women, has four dedicated beds and can refer women onto to other forms of support (GP, sexual health). They work in partnership with NHS GGC staff to provide psychological support to women receiving TARA services. There are many barriers to engaging
with trafficked women (fear, stigma, shame, language, presence of children, fear of deportation). TARA supports women in accessing legal advice especially around their immigration status and asylum seeking. Upcoming activity seeks to increase awareness of trafficking among vulnerable communities.


**Routes Out - Community Safety Glasgow**
Funding: Scottish Government
Sector: Public

*Routes Out* is based in Glasgow and works with women engaged in prostitution in the city’s red light district. Users of the service are women involved in on-street and off-street prostitution, typically aged between 35-45 and frequently chaotic opiate users. The service provides both daytime and evening drop-in services, as well as an outreach service, offering information and support, referral to other services (such as sexual health) and practical support in the form of harm reduction (condoms, needles, foil) as well as safety plans. The service seeks to build relationships with women, where women are happy to do so. Evening services are available until 1am from Wednesday to Saturday nights, offering practical and emotional support, as well as hot drinks and snacks.


**HOUSING, WIDER COMMUNITY**

**Community Improvement Partnership (CIP) - Wheatley Housing Group**
Funding: Scottish Government
Sector: Private

The CIP operates in Wheatley Group’s neighbourhoods across central Scotland, including Glasgow, Edinburgh, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire, West Dunbartonshire, North and South Lanarkshire and West Lothian. The CIP was first launched by Glasgow Housing Association (GHA) in 2010-11 with Police officers and a senior fire officer seconded to work with housing staff and tenants to tackle anti-
social behaviour, crime and fire safety in GHA’s communities. From the start, the CIP adopted a reactive approach, deploying its officers into communities for up to 12 weeks to crackdown on issues identified through shared intelligence. These highly-visible interventions were on top of regular Police resources and aimed to give GHA’s communities an increased feeling of safety. Since the creation of the CIP, the Police and fire services have become national services and GHA has joined forces with a number of other housing and care organisations to form Wheatley Group. Wheatley now operates across 17 local authority areas and delivers housing, care and property-management services to almost 250,000 people.

This has given the partnership the opportunity to strengthen its approach and to adopt a greater focus on preventing crime. The CIP now works closely with Housing Officers and Behaviour Change Officers in Wheatley, as well as other agencies in communities, not just to address crime but also to address some of the underlying causes such as alcohol dependency, youth disorder and habitual offending. The aim is that the partnership strikes a balance between reacting to issues to help communities feel safer while engaging with offenders; working with them and supporting them to change their behaviour over time.

See: https://www.wheatley-group.com/

**Alternatives to Violence Project - AVP Scotland**

Location: Glasgow, Edinburgh, North Lanarkshire

Sector: Third

AVP Scotland is an entirely volunteer led and provided third sector organisation offering workshops to those interested in reducing violence in their lives and their communities. AVP is an international organisation that has been delivering services in Scotland for a number of years to both victims, perpetrators and the wider community. At present this includes providing workshops for prisoners based at HMP Addiewell as well as workshops for the wider community in Glasgow and the greater Glasgow area (Coatbridge and Cumbernauld), linking with NHS teams in Coatbridge to do so. AVP Scotland works with a broad range of individuals, victims and perpetrators, with opportunities at some workshops for both groups to learn from one another. AVP facilitators are trained through joining the programme and working
through the workshops themselves before training to become facilitators. See: https://avpbritain.org.uk/

HOSPITAL BASED

Navigator – Violence Reduction Unit
Location: Glasgow Royal Infirmary A & E, Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, Queen Elizabeth University Hospital Glasgow
Sector: Third

Navigators are located in the A & E departments usually at the busiest times, and overnight. The project has been running since 2015 and aims to support patients for whom violence may be part of the reason why they have presented to A & E. The project provides those patients with time, kindness and compassion – to understand the nature of their lives, which may be characterised by complex problems, violence, alcohol, suicidal feelings, self-harm and substance misuse problems, and the time to find out what is going on, diffuse violent situations, and avoid people leaving without being seen by A & E staff. The Navigator will work with the person to develop tailored interventions, link out and refer to various services that reach beyond their spell in the A & E department, and will accompany them to appointments and provide advocacy. Navigators have backgrounds with lived experience, receive training and support and are paid employees. Evaluation is ongoing. See: http://www.actiononviolence.org.uk/news-and-blog/navigator-0

INJURY SURVEILLANCE

Lothian Assault Injury Surveillance - Community Planning Partnership
Funding: Funded within existing staff resource
Edinburgh and the Lothians
Sector: Public

This involves the use of NHS data which is then combined with Police data and disseminated across all local Community Planning Partnerships. The aim of this work is to provide an additional source of intelligence around violence-associated injury in Lothian. This can then be shared with Community Planning Partners to
inform local decision making regarding community safety. Please contact philip.conaglen@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk for further information about this work.

EX-OFFENDERS

Wise Group
Funding: Scottish Government
Location: Scotland Wide
Sector: Third

The Wise Group has a long history of working to coach, train and support individuals as they transition into the labour market, and, latterly to provide a specialist resource that seeks to mentor those in prison serving short term sentences. Wise Group have been developing and running prison programmes for a number of years and the current programme, New Routes, which is a Public Social Partnership delivered in conjunction with other major third sector organisations, including SACRO, is a bespoke mentoring scheme that begins to work with prisoners, and begin the process of building a mentor–prisoner relationship, 6 months before they leave prison.

Those who wish to engage with the programme do so on a voluntary basis. The programme is available nationally, the same service offered irrespective of geographic location, and is aimed at those under the age of 25 years and who are serving short term prison sentences only. This group are deemed to be most prolific in terms of committing crime and engaging in acts of violence, hence the focus on this group, and funding for the project by the Scottish Government. The cost of this project, per year, is substantially cheaper than the costs of housing a prisoner across the same time period.

50% of the team who provide mentoring are themselves former prisoners, and now paid employees of the Wise Group, who work alongside other Wise Group colleagues, who may not have had this experience. This serves to upskill and share learning between those with direct experience of imprisonment and its impact and those without this experience. This also means that the mentors have a strong sense
of the triggers for criminal activity and violence and the barriers that exist for those emerging from prison.

The project does have a focus on employability, but it is not exclusively an employability project. The project seeks to mentor those as they transition from prison back into the community to build and develop their lives and gain access to the essential resources (housing, finances, addiction services etc.) and develop/ re- establish relationships and positive attitudes. Therefore a good deal of emphasis is placed on ensuring that the building blocks are in place for those taking part in the mentoring scheme that will then allow them to feel secure and more able to access sustainable employment.

The Wise Group is also involved in delivering activities within a local authority area of Scotland (East Ayrshire) by sending mentors to schools to address issues around the pitfalls of violence, substance misuse and alcohol.

https://www.thewisegroup.co.uk/

Multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA)

Funding: Scottish Government
Information provided by the MAPPA representative in Inverclyde
Sector: Public

The MAPPA Unit are the single point of contact for all agencies involved in the management of Registered Sex Offenders, Other Risk of Harm Offenders and Restricted Patients. The MAPPA co-ordinator will work with the Scottish Prison Service in the months prior to the release of a prisoner or patient before assembling a group of organisations who will meet to consider the needs of those being managed by MAPPA. This includes Police Scotland, Criminal Justice Social Work, housing services and addiction services (this blend will depend on the needs and risks of the offender). Information will be shared relevant to the management of the risk of serious harm with other agencies within MAPPA on the basis that the information will be held securely and used by appropriate personnel within those agencies for public protection purposes. Some ex-offenders and former restricted
patients will require intensive support and resource to re-integrate, often into new locales, removed from the where their offence(s) had been committed. Around 350 ex-offenders and former restricted patients will fall with MAPPA’s remit in Inverclyde, for example, at any one time. Inverclyde provides a MAPPA service to 6 local authority areas, covering a wide geographical area.

**Braveheart Industries - Violence Reduction Unit**

Funding: Scottish Government, ESF  
Location: All Scotland  
Sector: Public

The project offers a supported work programme over 18 months for those most at risk of offending/re-offending. The mission is to provide a pathway out of hopelessness to affected young men and women, offering training and support thus allowing them the chance to transform and enrich their lives and contribute positively within their families. The vision is to realise people’s potential, create a fairer society and contribute to sustainable economic growth to contribute to a reduction in reoffending by creating sustainable employment opportunities for participants. Objectives include the development of a *Food Truck* project (i.e. selling ‘street food’) as the first social enterprise, to provide employment experience, training and jobs, to help break the cycle of violence, reoffending and imprisonment and to contribute towards local economic development.  
See: [http://actiononviolence.org/projects/street-arrow](http://actiononviolence.org/projects/street-arrow)

**TOWN CENTRE / NIGHT TIME ECONOMY**

**Operation Winter Shield - Police Scotland (Paisley)**  
Sector: Public

Operation Winter Shield has sought to tackle violence in Paisley town centre. This work has stemmed from a perception that violence, weapon carrying and the presence of a wide range of drugs and low cost alcohol in Paisley Town Centre has been increasing. The project has aimed to prevent violence by targeting individuals, based on data and intelligence, in a bid to identify those thought most likely to be
carrying weapons. This has resulted in the confiscation of a range of weapons, and is thought to have contributed to a reduction in assaults and serious assaults in Paisley. Further work has involved engaging with local licence holders, which has led to changes in door policies at a nightclub associated with problems stemming from violent activity.

This work is being extended to include other forms of prevention based activity, for example in educational settings, focused on the use of weapons, alcohol and drugs and the links between them. Further local developments include the creation of a community cohesion and tension monitoring group, identifying hate crimes in the local area.

**Street Assist**
Funding: NHS Lothian, Edinburgh Community Safety Partnership, Police Scotland.
Location: Edinburgh City
Sector: Third

Street Assist is a volunteer led charity which operates between the hours of 10pm to 4am every Friday and Saturday night within the city centre of Edinburgh. It aims to support the emergency services by reducing the time, resources and money associated with Night Time Economy issues such as overconsumption of alcohol with the objective of reducing the number of people presenting to A & E unnecessarily. The charity responds to contacts from licenced premises, CCTV operators, taxi companies, Police, taxi marshals and, increasingly the general public about individuals who may be under the influence of drugs or alcohol, been assaulted or deemed vulnerable in some way. The charity uses its vehicles to take those referred to it to its base in central Edinburgh to assess the needs of the individual, provide advice, practical support or to provide a safe space for individuals to sober up. They will then be collected by a friend or family member, taxi or the charity will take them home. The volunteers (some of whom are health professionals) are able to provide first aid, but work within boundaries and will access health services as required. A higher proportion of females have used the services of the charity and the charity has a higher proportion of volunteers who are female which is
useful in work with vulnerable females. The charity also receives requests for support from the homeless within the city centre at night time. Contact: neil@streetassist.co.uk
See: http://streetassist.co.uk/

Safer Streets: Moray (Elgin) – Community Safety
Funding: Moray Alcohol & Drug Partnership has funded the project, with Police Scotland support provided in kind
Sector: Public

The aim is to improve community safety within Elgin city centre ensuring patrons of the Night Time Economy (NTE) are safe by reducing opportunities for violence and disorder by persons under the influence of alcohol. Safer Streets has operated for a number of years and concentrates its activity during the festive period and weekends. Elgin is a small town but it is the provider of the NTE for many rural communities, and therefore is not without the issues associated with the NTE faced by bigger conurbations. Community Safety has access to Police Scotland data, and an analyst to interpret data and trends, and is able therefore to get a better understanding of the local picture in relation to ASB, violence and offending. Safer Streets involves Police Scotland, Street Pastors (all volunteers), taxi marshals (employed from a local security firm) and a local first aid provider. Safer Streets actively engages with alcohol licence holders and advertises and actively promotes the project. It is estimated that there has been a reduction in ASB, disorder and violence associated with the NTE as a consequence of the project.

Further NTE / alcohol-related interventions include:

- **You’re Asking For It**: This is a national (Scottish) campaign to prevent proxy purchase for under-18s and thereby reduce under-age drinking, crime and ASB. ‘You’re Asking for It’ was developed by Scottish Alcohol Industry Partnership (SAIP), Scottish Government with Police Scotland and North Lanarkshire Council. A pilot scheme has been run in Motherwell and Wishaw in 2015, followed by Leith in 2016. In 2017 it was rolled out across the whole of North Lanarkshire. See: http://www.youreaskingforit.com/
• **Best Bar None**: a national accreditation and award scheme aimed at raising standards and rewarding licensed premises who undertake positive management practices in support of social responsibility, a duty of care and safe nights out. It is delivered by the Scottish Business Resilience Centre, funded by the drinks industry, with a range of government and statutory agencies. It is delivered by partners, including the Police, across Scotland. See: https://www.bbnscotland.co.uk/

• **Pub Watch**: a national (UK) voluntary organisation, operating at local level (there are many Pub Watch schemes in Scotland). For example there are around 12 schemes in Lanarkshire with a focus on addressing issues associated with licensed premises including crime and violence in and around licensed premises. Several officers from Lanarkshire are attached to the scheme. See: http://www.nationalpubwatch.org.uk/

**HATE CRIME**

Fife Centre for Equalities (FCE)
Funding: Fife Council
Sector: Third

FCE is a registered charity, funded by Fife Council, with the aim of working in partnership to develop more inclusive and responsive services for people in Fife, and to build a positive picture of Fife’s diverse population. The centre seeks to engage with all groups with characteristics protected by the *Equalities Act* with the view to sharing their concerns and experiences with Fife Council and other partners. The centre is also a provider of training and workshops on equalities and diversity issues and related legislation. An objective is to co-ordinate work on raising awareness and engaging with Fife’s communities in order to tackle hate incidents and FCE seeks to improve reporting of hate incidents by a range of partners. FCE supports agencies to reduce rates of repeat victimisation of hate crimes and incidents, through the co-ordination of support to victims identified as at risk and to review and monitor systems and processes in place to improve case management and outcomes for victims. See: https://centreforequalities.org.uk/
KNIFE VIOLENCE

Knife Crime ‘Prevention through partnership’ - Police Scotland and partners

Locations: North Lanarkshire / South Lanarkshire
Sector: Public

Analysis in 2015 indicated that the most prevalent weapon used in a common assault in Lanarkshire was a knife. The scale of this problem was one that the Police could not undertake in isolation. Through significant effort, a multiagency group, chaired by the Safer Communities Inspector, was formed and brought together local and national partners including North Lanarkshire Council, South Lanarkshire Council, NHS Lanarkshire, Victim Support Scotland, Fast Forward, No Knives Better Lives, YouthLink Scotland as well as the Police.

The Safer Communities team at Lanarkshire Division through extensive consultation with the local analytical section, produced a user friendly product that mapped the location of incidents and hotspots for incidents but also overlaid those locations with the home addresses of those involved in Serious Organised Crime (SOC) and the catchment areas of local schools. The rationale behind the unique inclusion of SOC information was that those areas that are home to such individuals are consistently prone not only to extreme violence, but are likely to suffer such incidents in silence. The inclusion of school catchment areas added significant value as it identified those young people who were most likely to be directly or indirectly exposed to serious violent episodes. This triple layered approach identified those areas of Lanarkshire that posed the greatest threat, risk and harm to community safety and afforded opportunities for intervention.

Having prioritised geographic areas for intervention, the group secured free staff training through the national No Knives, Better Lives team. Listening to the community and recognising the need to ensure the inclusion of a peer-education approach, the group also secured free training for young people, including the local Police Scotland Youth Volunteers, who expressed an interest in helping to tackle this issue in their community. Using youth volunteers from hard to reach communities,
not from those groups who do not have ‘lived experience’ has been viewed as essential.

The multiagency group held a large-scale community engagement event in Motherwell that included presentations, drama performances, workshops and a talk from an award-winning actor who was once a knife-carrying Glasgow gang member. The audience included residents, community groups, schools and a range of partners from across the public, private and voluntary sectors. It was Scotland’s largest knife crime event in 2015 and the evaluation shaped the future direction of the group. Through targeted delivery and continual evaluation of their approach, group members tailored their delivery of preventative, interactive, educational workshops throughout Lanarkshire. A needs based approach resulted in some workshops being delivered by a single agency, others by peer educators and others in a multiagency format. An example of this included a series of joint Police/NHS inputs where NHS officers led discussions on the mental health implications of knife crime from the perspective of the victim, offender, witnesses and their families.

The workshops were complimented by an ongoing multiplatform social media campaign, which produced a counter narrative focusing on prevention, whilst also highlighting arrests to demonstrate the consequences of knife crime. Engagement with a marketing company resulted in high profile tactical media ground stencils being positioned at key locations across Lanarkshire to raise awareness and make individuals think about knife carrying.

As a result of this multiagency, multidisciplinary approach, face-to-face workshops were delivered to 8,700 people in communities across Lanarkshire and have encouraged conversations that would not otherwise have taken place, garnering political and media support. This approach has caused individuals and communities to look at their decision-making processes, challenge behaviours and report concerns, thereby influencing cultural norms. In the year since the group formed (1st September 2015 – 31st August 2016) there has been an estimated 67 fewer crimes in respect of murder, attempted murder, serious assault and common assault involving the use of a knife than the preceding calendar year.
This approach has now been subsumed into the regular duties of those involved in the project and the model is both sustainable and transferable. All aspects of this work, from training and research to marketing and delivery, have been secured free of charge to local partners. Prevention through partnership is considered best practice nationally.
For further information contact:

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