

SERIOUS VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAMME EVALUATION SUMMARY 2022-2024

1. Achievements & Recommendations



People

Progress

- 621 young people directly engaged in project interventions.
- Amplified voices of young people with lived experience of violence.
- Trauma-informed approaches adopted across services.
- VCSE training improved 222 practitioners' confidence and skills.

Learning

- Statutory services focus on young people at highest risk, which can create a gap for those at medium risk.
- Trusted relationships with adults are key to engagement.
- Short-term funding limits continuity and trust-building.
- Preventative approach had immediate impact on education and wellbeing outcomes.

Recommendations

- Invest in participation workers and trusted adults.
- Embed youth-designed tools into daily practice.
- Extend trauma-informed training to parents and community leaders.



Places

- Projects in Bodmin and Redruth reduced antisocial behaviour.
- Youth-led improvements to public spaces increased safety and ownership.
- Bleed control kits installed in identified communities.

- Place-based delivery effective but reliant on infrastructure and staffing.
- Youth feedback shaped safer spaces (e.g. Redruth Cards).
- Flexible planning responds to changes in local need and group dynamics.

- Maintain contextual safeguarding approaches.
- Formalise maintenance plans for bleed kits and safety assets.
- Support creative problem solving on the ground between agencies.
- Promote community ownership of public spaces.



Partnerships

- Strong multi-agency collaboration.
- Co-designed frameworks improved joint working.
- VCSE sector empowered through commissioning, training and Steering Group representation.

- System learning enhanced through real-time adaptation (e.g. Human Learning Systems).
- Data sharing improved but still limited for medium-risk youth.
- Responsive commissioning facilitated tailored and localised interventions.

- Embed young people's participation framework recommendations into programme governance and commissioning.
- Include provision for dedicated co-ordination capacity in future programmes.
- Co-design future training with VCSE feedback.

SVPP EVALUATION SUMMARY

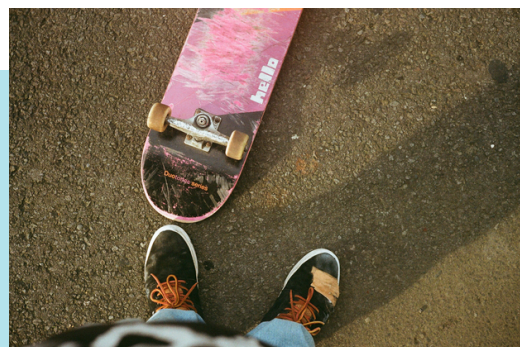
2. Programme Review

Established in 2022, the Serious Violence Prevention Programme (SVPP) played a pivotal role in supporting the implementation of the Serious Violence Duty by acting as the local delivery mechanism for the Peninsula Serious Violence Prevention Strategy, *Breaking the Cycle*. It combined strong multi-agency collaboration, enhanced data sharing practices and empowered the voluntary and community sector through inclusion and workforce development.

The programme coordinated a series of commissioned projects across Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, focused on young people under 25, and emphasised continuous learning and relationship-building to address identified needs and centre lived experience. By mapping local services, identifying gaps and piloting targeted interventions, particularly for medium-risk young people not meeting statutory thresholds, the SVPP helped operationalise the Duty's requirements for partnership working, strategic planning and early intervention.

This evaluation covers the first two years of the funded programme, which delivered the *Breaking the Cycle* strategy. Following this initial phase, the programme advanced into a second phase, with the SVPP as the core of the Serious Violence Prevention Strategic Framework for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

"The Redruth project stands out for its commitment to co-design and trauma-informed, context-sensitive approach - offering a clear example of how local, flexible interventions can break cycles of violence when community partners and young people work together."



3. Project Highlights

- **CAPI Pilot:** Supported 88 children affected by parental imprisonment, exceeding targets and delivering an estimated SROI of 8:1.
- **Place-based Projects:** The evidence supports a positive return on investment for a modest budget, delivering clear social value for money.
- **Bleed Control Kits:** Installed in high-risk areas, improving emergency response capacity.
- **Youth Participation Framework:** Engaged 303 young people, nearly half with lived experience of violence. the framework provides a set of guidelines for engaging young people meaningfully in future co-production and hearing their voices.
- **VCSE Training:** Trained 222 practitioners in areas including introduction to parental imprisonment and knife and weapons carrying, improving confidence and trauma-informed practice across sectors.

"There's been a lot of emphasis on investing in capacity and skills...looking at the longevity and legacy of the programme."

4. Learning Reflections

People: Empowering individuals, especially young people, through trusted relationships and trauma-informed support.

- Invest in trusted adults: Prioritise funding for Participation Workers and Mentors who can build long-term, meaningful relationships with vulnerable young people.
- Sustain youth voice: Embed co-produced tools and approaches into everyday practice across services, to ensure young people's perspectives shape safer communities.
- Extend trauma-informed training: Continue and expand practitioner training, tailoring it to Cornwall's rural and coastal contexts. Include parents and community leaders to broaden impact.
- Support medium-risk young people: Use service mapping insights to commission services for young people who fall below statutory thresholds but remain at increased risk of serious violence.

Places: Creating safer, more inclusive communities through place-based interventions and contextual safeguarding.

- Support contextual safeguarding: This approach addresses environmental risk factors and supports place-based prevention.
- Maintain community infrastructure: Formalise maintenance plans for bleed control kits and other safety assets to ensure long-term functionality and community safety.
- Enable flexible delivery: Ensure place-based projects have the staffing and infrastructure support needed to adapt quickly to local needs and feedback.
- Promote community ownership: Continue initiatives that empower community ownership of public spaces (e.g. skateparks), reinforcing safety and belonging.

"The place-based focus was designed to leave a physical legacy and strengthen community ties."

Partnerships: Strengthening multi-agency collaboration and system learning for sustainable violence prevention.

- Support a Human Learning System approach: Enabling adaptive, person-centred development by integrating lived experience, responding to emerging needs and driving continuous improvement in service design and delivery.
- Embed programme coordination: Replicate SVPP Coordinator role in future programming to connect research and delivery, monitor impact, share system learning and ensure continuity.
- Secure longer-term funding: Advocate for multi-year funding models to reduce fragmentation and allow partners, especially VCSE organisations, to plan and deliver with confidence.



5. Sustainability and Legacy

The SVPP has planned for sustainability by embedding interventions into local systems, investing in community capacity and aligning with strategic priorities such as Safer Towns plans. The initial mapping exercise provided an evidence base that informed commissioning, while the SVPP Coordinator role promoted system learning.

The programme demonstrated lasting impact through place-based interventions, youth-led initiatives and replicable tools like the Young People's Participation Framework. Continuing to meet the responsibilities of the Duty will require cross-sector commitment and integration of successful models into mainstream service delivery.

"Place-based outcomes have been integrated into the wider Safer Towns plans for Bodmin and East Cornwall, meaning serious violence prevention is now embedded as part of local annual safety priorities."

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Appendix: List of Projects

Mapping Mapped services for young people (16–24) at risk of serious violence in Cornwall.	Funding: £12,300
	Number of participants: n/a
Place-based youth projects: Bodmin and Redruth Multi-agency interventions, co-designed with young people in Bodmin and Redruth. Activities involved detached outreach, art film and social action projects.	Funding: £20,000
	Number of participants: 230
Programme co-ordination and support (0.6FTE) Dedicated coordination for programme monitoring, reporting, learning. Hosted by Safer Stronger Communities.	Funding: £36,072
	Number of participants: n/a
Support for Children Affected by Parental Imprisonment (CAPI) pilot Child-centred mentoring support for children with a parent in prison provided by Argyle community Trust. Specialist charity, Children Heard and Seen, delivered professional training and supervision.	Funding: £63,960 delivery £23,700 training £2,400 supervision
	Number of participants: 88 young people, 146 practitioners
VCSE organisations capacity-building training Capacity building training for voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations around helping young people understand and manage the risks of weapons carrying, county lines exploitation and associated behaviours.	Funding: £2,890
	Number of participants: 76 practitioners
Bleed prevention kits Provision of publicly accessible bleed control packs in key locations in Cornwall. These lifesaving kits will enable the necessary first aid to be provided to reduce blood loss until professional medical help arrives. Kits have been provided to venues and/or installed in public spaces.	Funding: £7,320
	Number of participants: n/a
Young people’s participation framework Co-produced by Young People Cornwall and young people engaged in different levels of peer-led participation, 48% of whom had lived experience of being involved in violence. Young people designed a practical framework and contract of expectations for service, based on their recommendations.	Funding: £9,992
	Number of participants: 197
The Education of Island Life: Isles of Scilly Living and working on the Isles of Scilly project was expected to engage 100 people in awareness raising and education-based programmes for all new staff and refresher for trained staff. A collaborative training event was also planned, delivered by partners to prevent and reduce serious violence and raising awareness of support and agencies on the Isles of Scilly, with a focus on prevention and early intervention.	Funding: £2,500
	Number of participants: Tbc (awaiting confirmation from Safer Scilly)