

SAFER CORNWALL

Kernow Salwa



PREVENTING AND REDUCING SERIOUS VIOLENCE

A Strategic Framework for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly

Update 2026



Contents

Our vision for Cornwall & Isles of Scilly	3
Introduction.....	3
Defining serious violence	6
Why focus on a prevention approach?.....	7
National Landscape.....	9
Our people: key statistics for Cornwall	11
Understanding the local picture	13
Local crime context.....	13
Prevalence and trends	14
People	14
Places.....	15
Multiple vulnerability	16
Isles of Scilly	17
Working together to make a difference.....	19
Strategic Framework Plan on a Page.....	22
Workstream 1: Prevention	23
Workstream 2: Culture and workforce	28
Workstream 3: Learning, evaluation and data	28
Evaluation and monitoring	29

Our vision for Cornwall & Isles of Scilly

We can all live free of violence and the fear of violence

Introduction

A Duty to prevent and reduce serious violence

The [Serious Violence Duty](#) was formally introduced in 2023. It places a duty on specified authorities to plan, **share data** and information, develop a **strategic needs assessment** and **publish a strategy**. Local areas are encouraged to adopt a **public health approach**.

The Duty also amended the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to ensure that tackling serious violence is an explicit **priority for all Community Safety Partnerships**. **Safer Cornwall co-ordinate the delivery** of the Duty in Cornwall and Isles of Scilly, through the Serious Violence Reduction Partnership.

The **Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner** (OPCC) act as Duty convenor at Peninsula level, bringing together the work of the Community Safety Partnerships within the OPCC footprint, liaising with the Home Office and co-ordinating the allocation of the **Home Office Serious Violence Duty Grant**.

Our local approach

When the Serious Violence Duty was announced, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly had an existing, **well-established governance structure** through which to deliver the new duty. In 2022, Safer Cornwall¹ set up a multi-agency **Serious Violence Reduction Partnership** (SVRP) to co-ordinate violence prevention work across all partners and develop a **system approach to tackling violence**.

This group links with the local **thematic Delivery Groups** – including Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership Board, the Community Drug Partnership and other partnership groups to ensure **shared ownership of the priorities**.

This is the second iteration of our Strategic Framework for **a system approach to preventing and reducing serious violence** in Cornwall and Isles of Scilly. It sets out the key **themes**, the priority **people and places** and the **outcomes** that we want to achieve that will help us move towards our **overall vision** that we can all live our lives free of violence and the fear of violence.

¹ Visit the Safer Cornwall website for more information, including the current [Partnership Plan](#) and [Constitution and Terms of Reference](#)

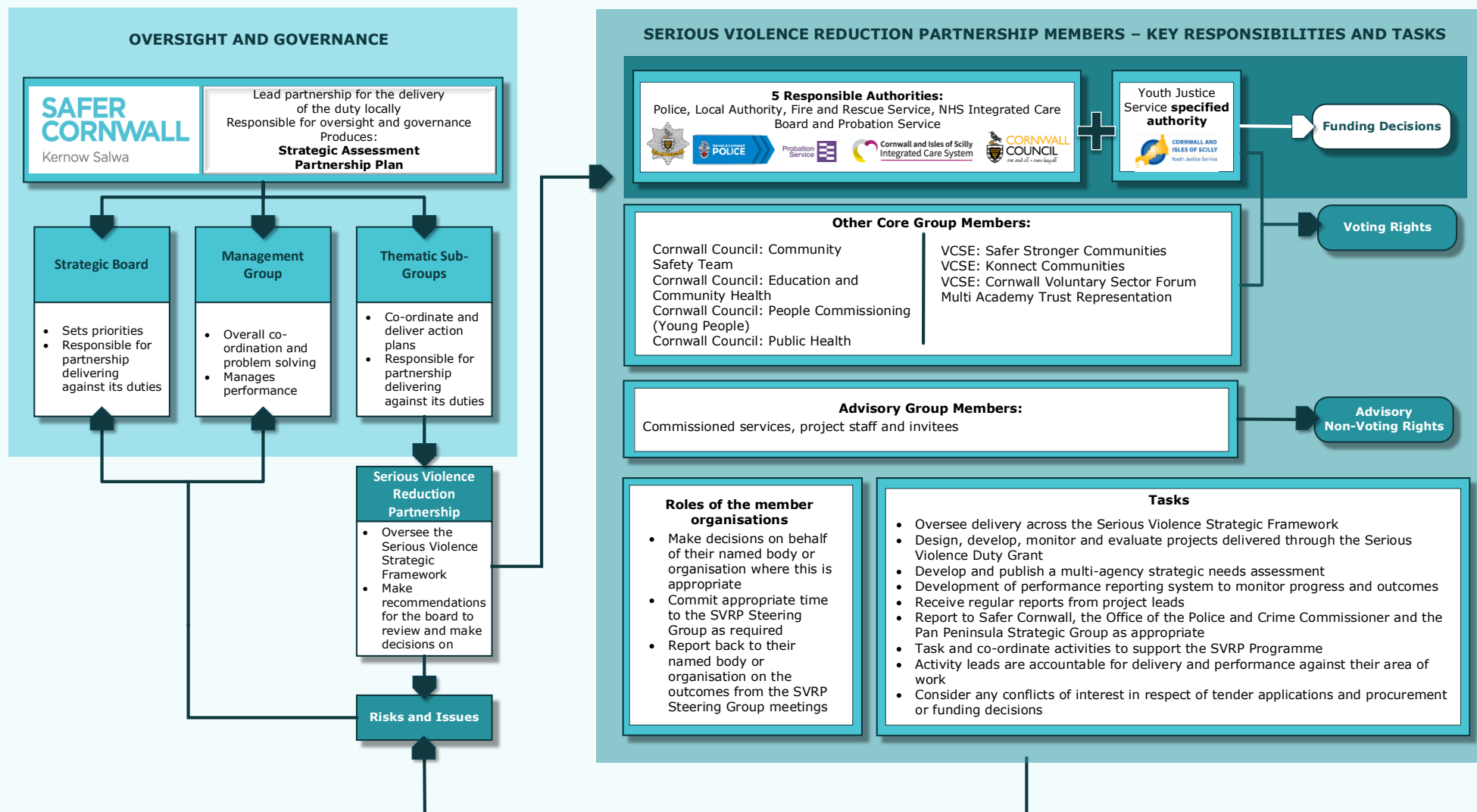
The Strategic Framework is supported by a **local needs assessment**² that helps us to understand key information about violence in Cornwall. The needs assessment shows us that **violence spans many contexts**, including domestic abuse and sexual violence, peer-to-peer violence amongst young people, violence in public places, and exploitation and drug trafficking, with significant overlap between them.

Priority themes	Priority People and Places
Domestic abuse and sexual violence	Pre-birth and children aged 0-5
Violence against women and girls	Children at risk of suspension/exclusion
Drugs and alcohol	Families going into temporary housing
Complex needs, multiple vulnerabilities	Geographical areas of deprivation / disadvantage
Exploitation	NEW Online space
Youth justice	
Reducing reoffending	

This Framework brings together the existing strategies that **target all of these different types of violence**. It shows the work that services are doing to **address the risk factors** of violent behaviours. It also describes what we could do better with a **joint approach**.

² Read the latest update on the [serious violence page](#) of Safer Cornwall website

PARTNERSHIP GOVERNANCE



Defining serious violence

The Government's Serious Violence Strategy had a specific focus on **young people, gangs, drug-related violence and weapons**. It referenced specific crimes such as homicide, knife crime, and gun crime. It also recognised types of **criminality that involve serious violence**, such as drug dealing.

In responding to the Duty, local areas were encouraged to explore and agree a **local definition of serious violence** based on local needs. In the first round of CSP-level strategic needs assessments, **each CSP area had its own definition**, albeit with a lot of commonality between them. All of them **included domestic abuse and sexual violence**, reflecting our local violence profile.

In 2025, the Peninsula CSPs and the Police agreed to use a **common 'technical' definition of serious violence** developed by the police, set within a broader, more prevention-focused analysis of the **contexts** in which violence takes place and the **most vulnerable people and places**.

The **current iteration** incorporates: homicide, violence with injury, death or serious injury caused by unlawful driving, robbery, knife and gun crime. Violence Against Women and Girls, Domestic Abuse and intrafamilial offending against children were **excluded from the general definition** because these issues have separate and well-defined strategic responses. Information drawn from this subset of crimes was included in our strategic needs assessment.

A further review by the police in 2025 identified an opportunity to **incorporate a wider view** of Serious Violence and the updated definition states that:

Serious Violence is defined as any act or credible threat of violence that causes, or is likely to cause, significant physical or psychological harm, including life-changing injury, trauma, death, or fear of harm, with substantial impact on individuals or communities.

The **wider context** includes the use of force, power, or coercion, and encompasses both the **intent** to cause harm and the **creation** of fear of harm. Violence may be **experienced directly or indirectly** and includes **behaviours** such as domestic abuse, sexual violence, stalking, knife enabled offences, serious assault, near-miss homicide, homicide, and wider violence linked to exploitation, substance misuse, or organised criminality.

As well as directing the Force's response to serious violence, this approach brings **police and CSP definitions into closer alignment**, helping to identify joint priorities across the Peninsula and **opportunities to pool resources**. It will also enable the Force to better support CSPs with meaningful **analytical products** based on identified priorities.

Why focus on a prevention approach?

A 'public health approach' means looking at crime not as isolated incidents or solely as an enforcement issue. Instead, it is seen as a **preventable consequence of a range of factors**, such as adverse early-life experiences, or harmful social or community influences. Public Health England³ sets out **three levels** of violence prevention:

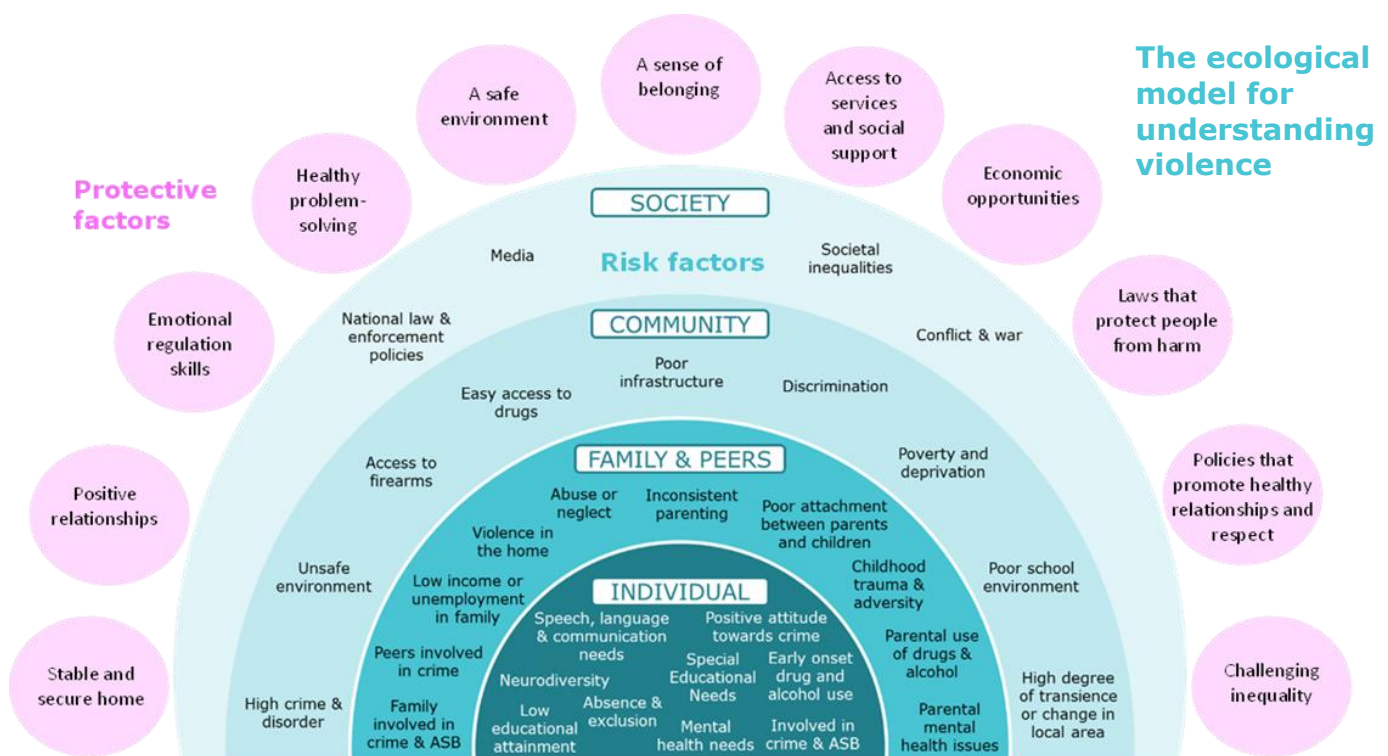
Experience of **violence is a risk factor for other negative health and social outcomes** across the life course, so preventing violence also makes a significant contribution to improving the **health and wellbeing of the population**.

Early identification and intervention are key to preventing violence and this requires a **long-term, whole system approach** and a shared, sustained effort by all organisations working together **in and with communities**.



No single factor explains why some individuals behave violently toward others or why violence is more prevalent in some communities than it is in others. Violence is the result of the **complex interplay of factors** at an individual and family level, and at a wider community and society level.

The ecological model for understanding violence



³ [Preventing serious violence: a multi-agency approach](#), Guidance, Public Health England, Department of Health and Social Care, and Home Office (2019)

These can **change over time**, depending on other factors like age. Risk factors often **occur in clusters** (and **interact with each other** within the broader social, cultural and economic contexts).

Protective factors act against risk factors and can explain why children who face the same level of risk are affected differently. A **combination of protective factors** can prevent the harmful influence of risk factors that have accumulated over a child's development.

Research by the Wave Trust⁴ shows that violence is a **behaviour that is caused and can, therefore, be prevented** by addressing the root causes at the earliest stage (amongst very young children aged 0-3). Strategies too often rely on addressing the symptoms of violence, which often present at crisis point when the response is at its most costly and resource intensive.

How do Adverse Childhood Experiences affect the lives of young people?

Adverse childhood experiences, or ACEs, are potentially **traumatic events that occur in childhood**. This includes experiencing violence, abuse, or neglect, witnessing violence in the home or community and having a family member attempt or die by suicide.

Also included are **aspects of the child's environment that can undermine their sense of safety, stability, and bonding**. Examples include growing up in a household where an adult has a drug/alcohol dependency, poor mental health, instability due to parental separation or a parent going to prison.

ACEs impact on a **child's development** and their **relationships with others**. Multiple ACEs increase the risk of engaging in **health-harming behaviours** and experiencing poorer **mental and physical health outcomes** in adulthood. Compared with people experiencing no ACEs, those with **4 or more ACEs** are:



Source: Public Health England, from Bellis et al, 2012 and 2013 studies

⁴ [WAVE Report 2005: Violence and what to do about it](#), G. Hocking and I. Walsh, Wave Trust, 2005

National Landscape

The Serious Violence Duty was built on the **Violence Reduction Unit** (VRU) approach. VRUs were established nationally in 2019 in the 20 police force areas with the highest rates of serious violence.

The objective of the VRUs was to adopt a **whole system approach**, improving multi-agency working between key partners including the police, local government, health and education professionals, community leaders and other key partners to **tackle the root causes** of serious violence.

The [2023 VRU evaluation report](#) found that multi-agency working had led to partners being **better able to respond to violence** with reduced duplication of activity.

The government's **Safer Streets initiative** first launched in 2020. It delivered 5 rounds over 5 years and focused on tackling anti-social behaviour, public space violence and violence against women and girls. **Cornwall received £1.19 million over 3 successive rounds** of the programme, delivering benefits for Falmouth, Truro, Camborne and Redruth.

The **updated Safer Streets mission** aims to reduce serious harm and increase public confidence in policing and in the criminal justice system. The Government's target is to **halve knife crime over the next decade** and reduce anti-social behaviour and violence against women and girls.⁵

The Labour Party 2024 Election Manifesto committed to a '**Young Futures Programme**' and this is now a key element of the **Safer Streets Mission**.

As part of this commitment, the government is funding **50 Young Futures Hubs**, with 8 Early Adopter Hubs operational by March 2026. The Young Futures Hubs bring together services to improve access to support for young people, targeting **areas with the highest need**.

Each Young Futures Hub will meet three key outcomes:

- Increasing **opportunities**
- Improving **mental health** and wellbeing
- Reducing **vulnerability** to being drawn into **crime**.

The Young Futures Hubs form part of a **£70m transformation programme** for local authorities until March 2029 to enhance and **improve local youth service offers** to enable young people to thrive, as announced in the National Youth

⁵ [Safer Streets - GOV.UK](#)

Strategy.⁶ They are just one part of **delivering support within a much wider youth landscape**. They will work closely with core services and wider initiatives spanning youth, education, employment, social care, mental health, youth justice and policing.

The Home Office published the findings of a process **evaluation of the Serious Violence Duty** in January 2026.⁷ The evaluation explores the impacts on **partnership working and outcomes** achieved and provides recommendations to support the further development of multi-agency approaches.

In January 2026, the Home Office announced a **new Serious Violence Duty Grant** for the three year period 2026/7–2028/9 providing further support for local partnerships to prevent and reduce serious violence. This is being provided as a **one year Grant initially** with funding in years 2 and 3 dependent on the outcomes of a review in the first 6 months.

Central to the funding are the delivery of **four specific outcomes**:

- **Building local capacity** – ensuring specified and relevant authorities have the time, skills and resources to meet the Duty
- **Efficient targeting of resources** – using resource strategically to achieve the greatest impact
- **Pursuing sustainability** – embedding the Duty into existing processes and organisational structures to reduce reliance on short-term funding
- **Motivating partners** – fostering engagement and commitment to maintain momentum and support long-term impact

The funding aims to bring together the VRUs, the Duty and Young Futures Programme into **one combined grant programme** with a shared set of requirements and outcomes, with the aim of bringing **greater consistency in delivery and shared learning**.

The requirements for the new Serious Violence Duty Grant include a stronger focus on **'high impact' changes evidenced through the Youth Endowment Fund toolkit** and this has underpinned thinking around future initiatives.

⁶ [Youth Matters: Your National Youth Strategy](#), Department for Culture, Media and Sport, December 2025

⁷ [Serious Violence Duty evaluation](#), Home Office, January 2026

Our people: key statistics for Cornwall

Key statistics on the Isles of Scilly can be found [here](#).

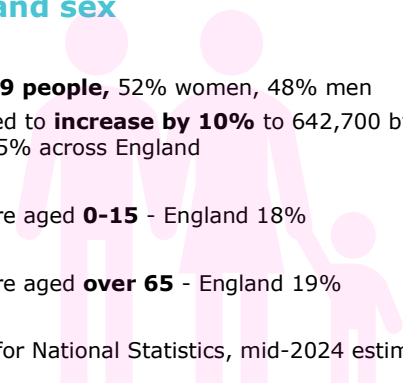
Age and sex

583,289 people, 52% women, 48% men
projected to **increase by 10%** to 642,700 by
2036 - 5% across England

16% are aged **0-15** - England 18%

26% are aged **over 65** - England 19%

(Office for National Statistics, mid-2024 estimates)



Other protected characteristics

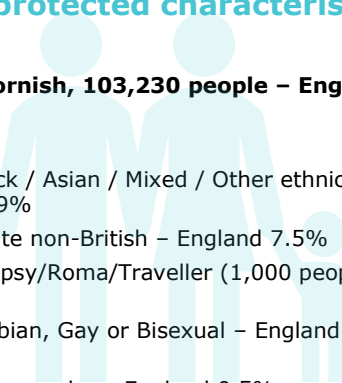
18.1% Cornish, **103,230 people** – England
0.2%

3.2% Black / Asian / Mixed / Other ethnic groups -
England 19%

3.2% White non-British – England 7.5%
- 0.2% Gypsy/Roma/Traveller (1,000 people)

3.2% Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual – England 3.2%

0.3% Transgender – England 0.5%

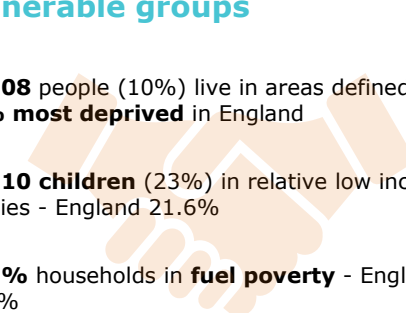


Vulnerable groups

58,608 people (10%) live in areas defined as the
20% most deprived in England

27,110 children (23%) in relative low income
families - England 21.6%

12.2% households in **fuel poverty** - England
11.4%



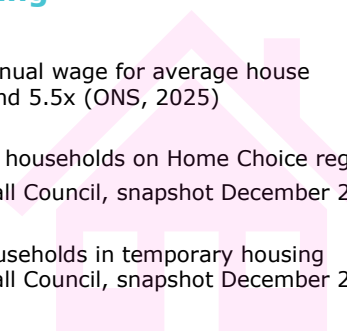
Housing

6.3x annual wage for average house
– England 5.5x (ONS, 2025)

23,842 households on Home Choice register
(Cornwall Council, snapshot December 2025)

846 households in temporary housing
(Cornwall Council, snapshot December 2025)

77 rough sleepers (Rough Sleeping Framework,
average monthly estimate, Oct 2024 - Dec 2025)



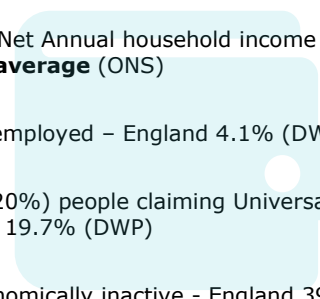
Economy

£32,694 Net Annual household income – **94%**
England average (ONS)

3.3% unemployed – England 4.1% (DWP)

67,898 (20%) people claiming Universal Credit
– England 19.7% (DWP)

44% economically inactive - England 39%

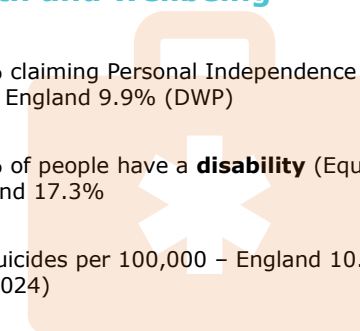


Health and wellbeing

11.6% claiming Personal Independence Payment
(PIP) – England 9.9% (DWP)

21.1% of people have a **disability** (Equality Act)
- England 17.3%

15.0 suicides per 100,000 – England 10.9 (ONS,
2022-2024)



All figures from the latest Census (2021) unless otherwise stated. Download Cornwall's [Local Insights](#) for more key statistics.

Cornwall is a place of contrasts...

Cornwall is the **second largest local authority area** in the region, covering an area of 3,559 km² and home to **583,289 people**. It is a place of contrasts, where **affluence** sits alongside some of the **most deprived areas** in England.

The **population profile is older than the England average** with proportionately fewer people aged 0-15 and more people aged over 65.⁸ Cornwall's population is projected to grow overall, but some **coastal and rural communities** will see their population decline and/or age, which will add to the challenge to pressures on existing services in these areas.

Whilst **94% of Cornwall's population are White British** our communities are home to people from a broad range of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds, but in very small numbers.

Around **30% of people live in the main settlements** of Camborne, Pool, Illogan and Redruth, Falmouth, St Austell, Truro and Newquay. Whilst Cornwall's **larger towns** are small in a national context, they are **no less urban** in nature.

Over **40% of residents** live in settlements of less than 3,000 people. Rural **isolation** is a challenge in accessing social networks and essential services. This can mean **harms are more hidden**, such as domestic abuse and drug use.

Wages in Cornwall are **below the national average** and the job market is reliant on **vulnerable sectors** (such as retail and hospitality). Since the pandemic, we have seen more people needing **temporary housing**, living in poor conditions or **homeless** and this is coupled with a housing shortage and unaffordable rents.

The UK continues to experience a prolonged **cost-of-living crisis**, with high and increasing costs of energy, food and housing. **Low-income households** are most **acutely affected**, including many families in work.

Although national measures do not highlight Cornwall as a deprived area overall, there are **pockets of significant deprivation** across the county. **58,608 people**⁹ live in areas experiencing **multiple deprivation** factors. **26% of children** in Cornwall live in **low income families**, compared with 20% in the UK.¹⁰ This equates to 27,504 children.

These areas typically face a combination of challenges in relation to **living standards, crime** and **health inequalities**.

⁸ Mid-2024 population estimates, Office for National Statistics

⁹ Index of Multiple Deprivation 2025

¹⁰ Children in low-income families, Department for Work and Pensions (2024)

Understanding the local picture

Every year we update our local evidence base using **the latest data and research** and review the findings with partners and stakeholders. The **top priority issues that cause the most harm** remain broadly the same but we have identified some rising issues, such as **online harms** and **exploitation**.

High rates of **violence** and sexual violence

Domestic abuse is the main driver of harm in Cornwall

Increasing threat from **online harms**

More **hate crime** and rising **community tensions**

Hidden risks and **vulnerable** groups

Exclusion/isolation – **belonging** as a protective factor

Complex **town centre** issues – ASB, drugs, visible vulnerability

More localised **County Lines** and **exploitation**

Trauma and adversity – **whole family** impacts

Multiple **vulnerabilities**

Transition is a vulnerable time; **co-ordination** needed

Access to **housing** and **mental health** support is vital

Local crime context

Cornwall's all recorded crime rate is **in line with the average** for similar areas nationally. **36,064 crimes** were recorded by the police in the last 12 months¹¹, equating to **62 crimes per 1000** residents.

Recorded crime is up by 7% on last year. The increase is mostly accounted for by rises in shoplifting, stalking and harassment offences, violence without injury, criminal damage and public order offences.

A third of the rise relates to **stalking and harassment offences** which surged after a high profile domestic homicide in Plymouth.

A key factor in the rise in recorded crime is the continuing impact of **changes made** by Devon and Cornwall Police to improve recording and investigation standards alongside improved call handling.

Understanding crime increases

Devon and Cornwall Police are focused on **keeping communities safe** and delivering justice for victims through:

- **Improved access for victims** via increased front offices and improvements in 101 call wait times
- Effective **hotspot policing** initiatives
- **Improving response times** to incidents
- **Pro-active operations** focused on serious and organised criminals
- **Securing more positive outcomes** for victims through improved investigation quality

¹¹ Police recorded crime, calendar year 2025 compared with the previous 12 months.

Violence with injury
4,740 crimes
▶ -2%

Serious violence
595 crimes
▶ -2%

Knife crimes
873 crimes
▲ +11%

Domestic abuse
(violence with injury)
1,681 crimes
▶ 0%

Sexual offences
2,203 crimes
▲ +4%



Prevalence and trends

- Using the police 'technical' definition, serious violence makes up **2% of all recorded crime**, with 71% of those crimes relating to violence with injury. The level of serious violence has **remained stable** compared with last year.
- The broader measure of **violence with injury accounts for 13%** of all recorded crime in Cornwall. This has also remained stable over the last year but has **fallen in areas** where we have **delivered targeted initiatives**, including within our Safer Towns and Hotspot Action Areas.
- **Knife crime accounts for only 2%** of all crime in Cornwall. Where we have had serious events involving weapons, these have a 'signal' effect on communities, driving up **fear of crime**. More rural areas are starting to experience **knife crime** where there may be less oversight and support.
- **Domestic abuse remains the main driver of harm** in Cornwall, both in the context of violence experienced now and as a feature of **Adverse Childhood Experiences** with long-term impacts on future outcomes.
- A third of violent crime is recorded as domestic. 1 in 4 children are estimated to live in households affected by domestic abuse. Experience of domestic abuse is a **strong theme across our most vulnerable cohorts** of young people, often present with other vulnerabilities such as mental health issues and substance use.
- Reports of **sexual offences** to the police have **continued to rise**, driven by an increase in reporting by **adult victims**.
- **County lines operations are increasingly controlled locally**, with an ongoing threat from Organised Crime Groups. The top concerns are crack cocaine, synthetic drugs and ketamine. **Violence taking place in this context is less likely** to be reported due to fear of reprisals.
- The **Isles of Scilly have very low crime rates** but there are specific features to consider – such as the impact of the huge influx of **seasonal workers** and **safeguarding risks for young people**, both on the islands and moving to the mainland for education. Like Cornwall, **domestic abuse is identified as a significant driver of harm**, the extent of which may be more hidden in close-knit island communities.



People

- For all types of violence, the risk of **victimisation is greater for younger people** and victimisation reduces with age. **Males and females** are equally likely to experience violence, but the type of **violence differs**. Females are

more likely to experience domestic abuse and sexual violence, whereas males are more likely to experience non-domestic violence (such as street violence).

- There has been a drop overall in violence with injury crimes involving **young people as victims**. There has been a **small increase**, however, in crimes where a **knife was used**, including some instances of wounding and GBH.
- A 2025 police profile on **Urban Street Gangs** indicated an increased level of intelligence about the involvement in **violence and County Lines** amongst specific groups of young people. Issues identified including drug taxing, cuckooing, Class A drug dealing and domestic burglaries/car theft.
- Offences related to **serious violence accounted for 10% of offences** committed by young people in 2025/26 (down from 22% last year). **Sexual offences** committed by young people have **increased**. Whilst the numbers of serious offences are small, it is recognised that the **impact on victims and communities is significant**.
- Schools and services working with young people report concerns about a **rise in misogynistic language and behaviours** and the impact on young people's relationships.
- We recognise that **children involved in crime are also victims**, often through abuse and neglect in early childhood, but also within their social networks and relationships with peers.
- **Children excluded/out of school** are identified as an **at-risk group** for exploitation and violence. Local rates of exclusion from school are **well above national rates** and we have seen significant pressures on **Alternative Provision** and support for vulnerable children and families.
- Other populations where there may be hidden risk include **marginalised** populations, people who are **rurally isolated** and people whose needs fall **below statutory thresholds** (so may be 'under the radar').
- **Most young people feel safe** and that they belong in their school and the wider community, but feelings of safety and belonging are lower for those of secondary school age, particularly **girls and children with SEND**. Age 15 is a **critical age** for boys and girls, when negative experiences are most acute.



Places

- Violence, particularly domestic abuse, is strongly correlated with the presence of **multiple deprivation factors**, and most strongly linked to **income, employment, health, and education, skills and training**.
- Our local Vulnerability Index identifies places with a **high level of combined vulnerabilities**, including higher than average rates of domestic abuse, drug and alcohol dependency, crime and anti-social behaviour. **6% of Cornwall's residents** (35,000 people) live in these areas, spread over 12 towns.

- Violence is **clustered in our main towns**. As well as containing some of our **most deprived areas**, the influx of people into town centres for **work, education and leisure** create more opportunities for crime and increase crime rates. We also see **predictable spikes** in anti-social behaviour, thefts and violence over the summer months.
- **Night Time Economy (NTE)** crime levels have reduced across Cornwall. In many places the level of NTE activity has not returned to pre-COVID levels.
- Complex town centre issues including persistent anti-social behaviour, drug use, street drinking and vulnerable populations needing support. Most people feel safe in their local area, but women feel less safe after dark. Visible drug use/dealing and anti-social behaviour are **key drivers of fear**.
- Over recent years, town centres in Cornwall have seen **more anti-social behaviour in the day time**. This has included some violent and aggressive behaviours, such as **assaults on shopworkers and emergency workers**.
- Anti-social behaviour contributes to fear of violence although in itself it is not violent. **Youth anti-social behaviour has been identified as a Cornwall-wide concern**, with some groups of young people travelling between towns and behaving anti-socially.
- **Online space** plays a key role in amplifying fear, spreading misinformation and **normalising harmful narratives**.
- We have seen **rising trends** in online threats of violence, bullying and sexual harassment. Use of **generative AI** is featuring in online sexual abuse and exploitation, sexually coerced extortion and bullying. **Online radicalisation** is a real and present threat and targets the most vulnerable people. **Risks are dynamic** and criminal use of technology moves at pace.



Multiple vulnerability

- **Multiple vulnerabilities** strongly featured across all thematic areas – with people seeking help from our services across the board (adults, children, families) facing **complex, overlapping challenges**, and needing longer, **more resource intensive interventions** that need to be **co-ordinated** across multiple services.
- We have a growing understanding of the prevalence and impacts of **childhood sexual abuse** – as a common thread in adult vulnerability, as well as children. **Unresolved trauma and adversity in a parent** impact significantly on children in a family as well as continuing for the parent.
- **Children in services show high needs** across neurodiversity, education, and mental health alongside adverse childhood experiences.
- **Young people** receiving help from drug and alcohol services in Cornwall are more likely to **start using drugs at an early** age and to be affected by **parental drug and alcohol use**. These issues can have a significant impact on how young people develop.

Isles of Scilly

Our people: key statistics for the Isles of Scilly

Age and sex

2,366 people, 50% women, 50% men
projected to **reduce by 8%** to 2,177 by 2036 –
increase of 5% across England

13% are aged **0-15** - England 18%

25% are aged **over 65** - England 19%

(Office for National Statistics, mid-2024 estimates)



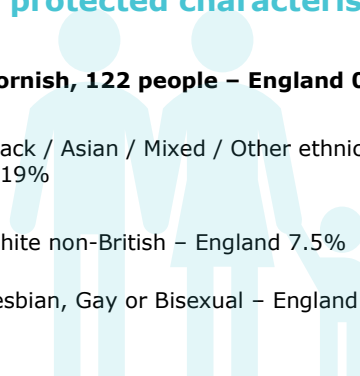
Other protected characteristics

5.9% Cornish, 122 people – England **0.2%**

2.5% Black / Asian / Mixed / Other ethnic groups -
England 19%

3.8% White non-British – England 7.5%

2.9% Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual – England 3.2%



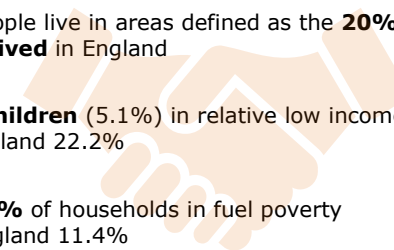
Vulnerable groups

0 people live in areas defined as the **20% most deprived** in England

41 children (5.1%) in relative low income families
- England 22.2%

17.1% of households in fuel poverty
- England 11.4%

17.2% one-person households aged 66+
- England 12.8%

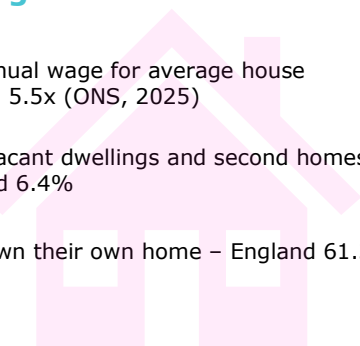


Housing

7.65x annual wage for average house
– England 5.5x (ONS, 2025)

38.2% vacant dwellings and second homes
– England 6.4%

44.4% own their own home – England 61.3%



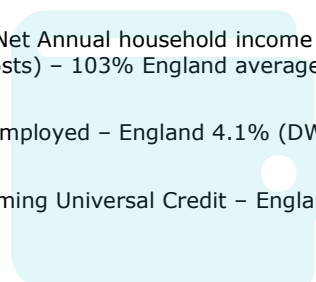
Economy

£35,734 Net Annual household income (after
housing costs) – 103% England average (ONS)

1.4% unemployed – England 4.1% (DWP)

5.7% claiming Universal Credit – England 19.7%
(DWP)

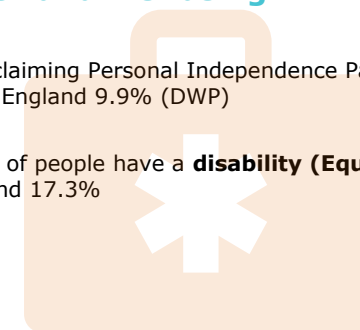
34.8% economically inactive - England 39.1%



Health and wellbeing

2.9% claiming Personal Independence Payment
(PIP) – England 9.9% (DWP)

14.3% of people have a **disability (Equality Act)**
- England 17.3%



All figures from the latest Census (2021) unless otherwise stated. Download Cornwall's [Local Insights](#) for more key statistics.

Reported crime and risk factors on the islands

The **resident population** on the Isles of Scilly is **fairly stable at around 2,400 people** and most live on St Mary's. During the spring and summer months there is a significant rise in population due to the **influx of seasonal workers and visitors**.

- **Overall, the Isles of Scilly has a very low crime rate** with 32.1 crimes per 1000 population. **76 recorded crimes** were reported to police in the calendar year 2025.
- **Violence accounts for 37% of all crimes** recorded on the islands. Violence with injury makes up two thirds of all violence but the **majority of offences relate to less serious violence**.
- Domestic abuse **accounts for 25% of all violent crime** reported on the islands over the last 12 months. Perceived under-reporting of domestic abuse and sexual violence due to **fear of lack of anonymity**.
- **Alcohol is a recognised risk factor** in community safety on the islands, particularly in the busy summer periods, but the harm is mostly low level and **there is little associated violence**.
- A survey of school children confirmed **drug and alcohol use on the islands' beaches** amongst young people.
- Local partners express concerns around risks related to drugs and alcohol and the potential for exploitation for **young people leaving the islands for post-16 education**. More work is required to understand what the potential harms may be for this cohort and what positive actions are being taken to reduce the risks.
- Because the islands are relatively isolated there is a **higher reliance on accessing information and services online**, particularly for young people and this is an added risk factor in the likelihood of exposure to harm.
- There is little information on the **vulnerability of seasonal workers** and isolation risks that they may face.

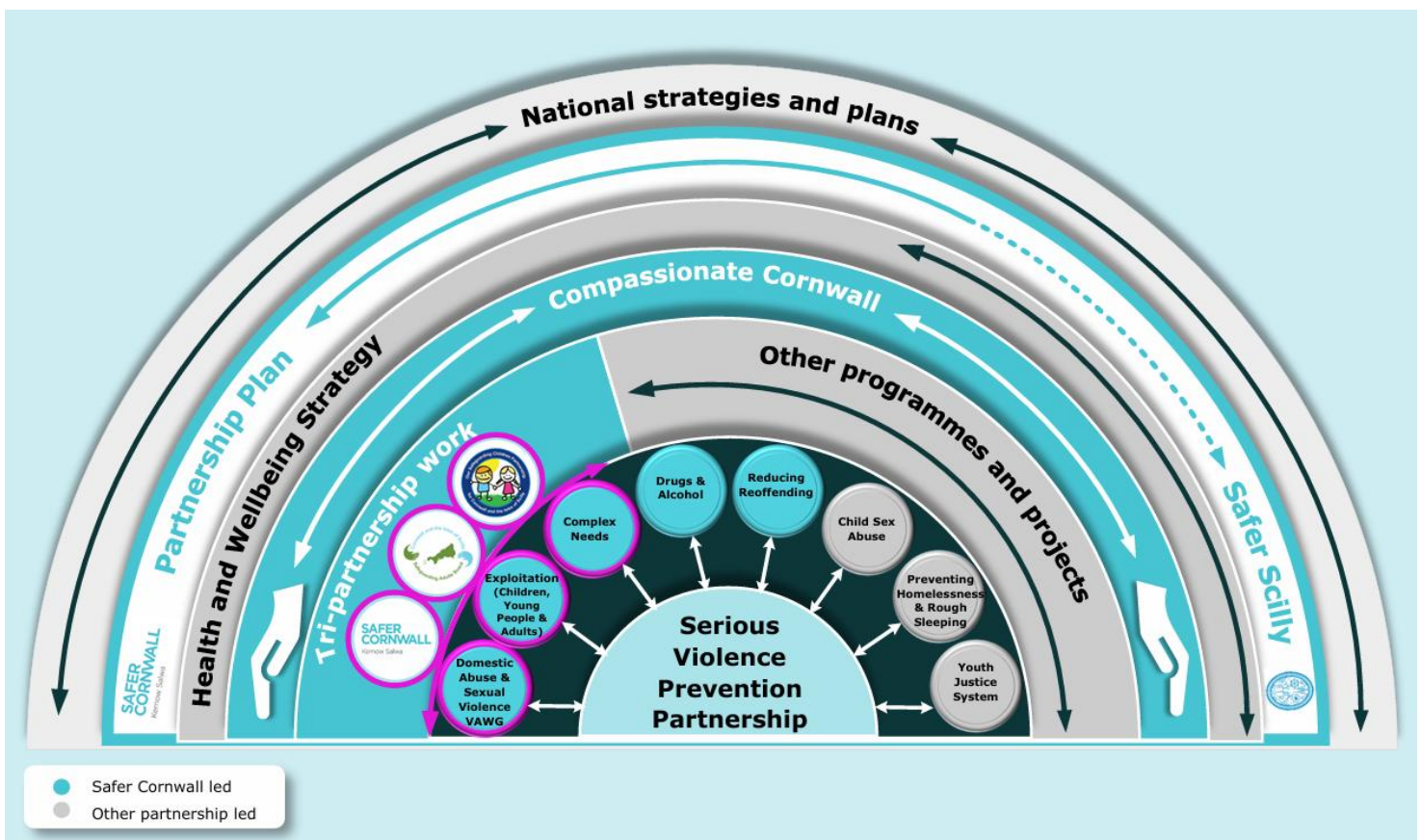
Access to specialist support on the islands, including domestic abuse and sexual violence services, drug and alcohol services, the Youth Justice Service and Prevent and Channel is **delivered through agreements with Cornwall Council** and/or part of commissioned community services.

Working together to make a difference

From the start, we recognised that we have **well-established thematic strategies** that address the **different contexts of violence** as critical issues in their own right, each drawing on their own evidence and needs assessments and providing a **prevention focus through a specific thematic lens**. These strategies include domestic abuse and sexual violence, violence against women and girls, drugs and alcohol, exploitation and reoffending.

In addition, there are many strategies and delivery models in place that aim to address the **underlying risk factors** for violent behaviours, **reduce health inequalities** and **build resilience** in communities.

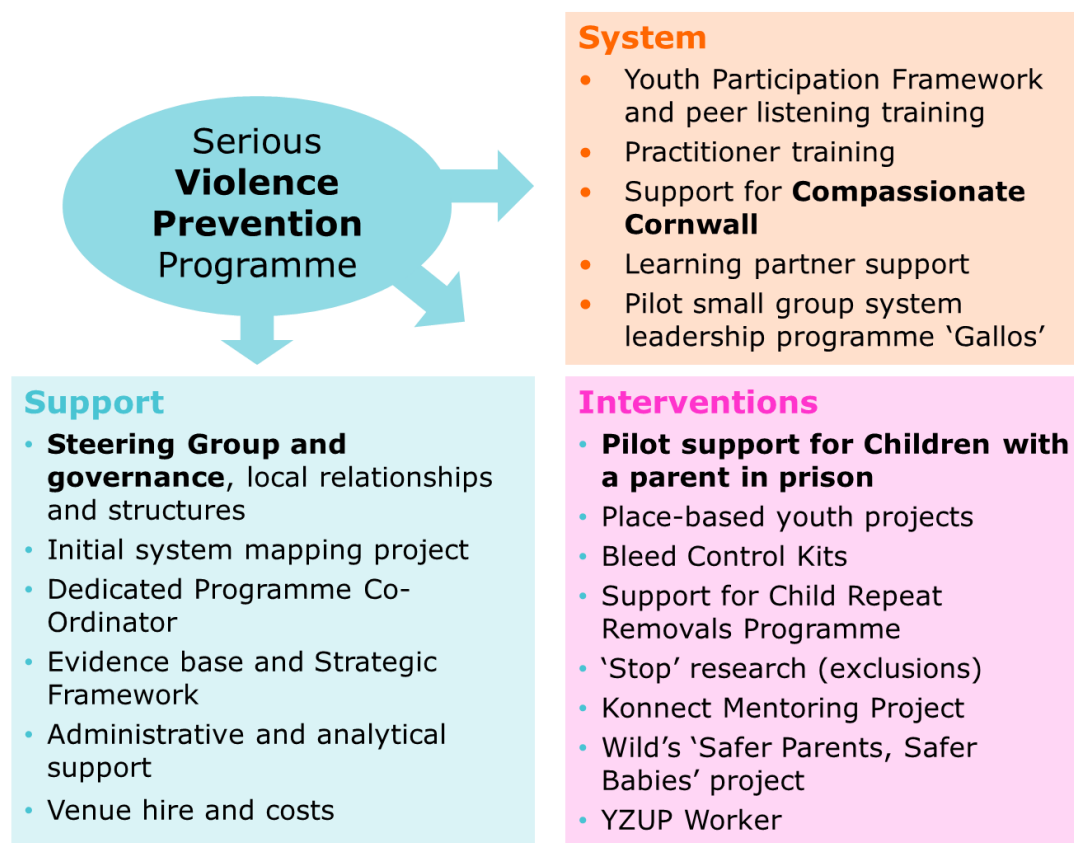
These strategies form part of a '**matrix approach**' to tackle violence in Cornwall, alongside the local Drugs Strategy and the Exploitation Strategy (under the umbrella of the Partnership Plan) and Youth Justice Plan. All of these strategies **include provision for the Isles of Scilly**.



These thematic strategies are also set against a backdrop of the [Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Health and Wellbeing Strategy](#) which focuses on **working together to tackle health inequalities**, so that everyone can enjoy good health and wellbeing, and grow, live, work and age well.

The work of the **Serious Violence Reduction Partnership** sits across these themes and focuses on what we need to do collectively to **add value** and lead a more effective system response. There is a particular focus on **young people up to the age of 25** – with funding provided through the Serious Violence Duty.

The key themes to add value were identified **collaboratively with partners** and this shaped the first iteration of our Framework and our collective workplan – the Serious Violence Prevention Programme 2022-2026. This has **delivered across three broad areas** – programme development and support; system development; interventions and projects



During the lifetime of the Serious Violence Reduction Partnership, we have fostered a **culture of continuous learning** to support a systems approach. We have supported partners to explore and learn together – through **testing different ways of working**, gathering data, reflecting on **what has worked well** and what we could do better, and **adapting our plans** accordingly.

In January 2026, we brought all of our **partners and stakeholders together** to reflect on what had been achieved in the first four years and **agree priorities to take forward** into the next phase.

Preparing for the close of the funded programme in March 2026, we reflected on what had been achieved in the first four years and **agreed priorities to take forward** into 'business as usual' across the system:

- Maintain **cross-sector commitment** to collaborating on and delivering the Framework as a **shared partnership endeavour**
- Build joint approaches to sharing, analysing and **interpreting data** on risks; ensure we embed lived-experience insights
- Ensure **prevention frameworks** are reflected in commissioning, frontline practice and workforce development
- Keep 'hidden harms' such as **parental imprisonment and domestic abuse** central to prevention planning
- Develop a roadmap for **system-wide implementation** of the [Compassionate Cornwall All-Age Framework](#)
- **Review barriers** to service engagement; **redesign pathways** to better support individuals with complex needs; implement **screening tools and training**
- Bring **other partners** more fully into partnership work – including probation, fire and rescue, education, housing, services for children and young people, and lived-experience voices (including promoting the [Youth Participation Framework](#) more widely).

We **re-confirmed our commitment to the Framework** – it still accurately summarises the **key themes**, the **priority people and places**, broad delivery areas and **intermediate outcomes** that contribute to achieving our overall vision. We have added '**Online space**' to priority people and places.

Strategic Framework Plan on a Page

Long term vision: We can all live free of violence and the fear of violence

Key themes and contexts

Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence	Violence Against Women & Girls	Drugs & Alcohol	Complex Needs, Multiple Vulnerabilities	Exploitation	Crimes committed by children & young people	Reoffending
----------------------------------	--------------------------------	-----------------	---	--------------	---	-------------

Priority people and places

Pre-birth & children aged 0-5	Children at risk of suspension/exclusion	Families at risk of going into temporary housing	Geographical areas of deprivation / disadvantage	On-line space
---	---	---	---	----------------------

Prevention				
Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Culture and workforce	Learning, evaluation and data
Tackle the risk factors for serious violence to prevent harm from happening	Early identification and intervention to stop an emerging problem from taking hold	Reduce harm and prevent further harm where violence is already happening		
A life-course approach - Pre-birth and early years - Schools - Adolescence - Transition - Parents and carers	Respond to emerging risk factors - see the signs and act early - Domestic abuse - Parental experience of adversity and trauma - Parent in prison or involved in crime/ASB - Drug and alcohol use - Isolation and exclusion - Poverty and deprivation Belonging as a protective factor, in education settings and the community	Co-ordinated, people-centred support – focus on “ <i>what happened to you?</i> ” Specialist support services that are trauma and adversity informed Co-ordination of services – reduce duplication and silo-working Trusted relationships and consistent support	Workforce - Further embed trauma-informed practice through the networks, tools and resources already invested in Service development - Develop commissioning frameworks that help mainstream prevention and support ‘whole family’ working - Strengthen lived-experience-led initiatives and co-production, including a stronger voice for young people Strengthen connections between VCSE organisations and statutory services Communities - Create trauma and adversity informed environments	Learning and evaluation: - An iterative approach – make space for reflection, healthy challenge, and collaboration beyond short-term funding cycles Test and learn – using a Human Learning Systems approach - Build understanding of what leads to positive outcomes – focus on learning not KPIs Celebrate success and share evidence of what works Data and research: - Identify new data sets and collaboration opportunities to develop the needs assessment - Foster learning and knowledge exchange between partners - Explore the complex links between serious violence and poverty

Intermediate Outcomes

Child assessments routinely ask about parental trauma and adversity ; a whole family approach is the norm	Families are offered support at the earliest opportunity ; support is easy to access and non-judgmental	Schools are supported to provide a protective environment ; children are not excluded	Families do not experience repeat child removals	Communities are aware of trauma and adversity and how it impacts; people show compassion to others	Services are designed by the people that use them; barriers to support are identified and removed	We develop, share and act on system learning	We improve our understanding of serious violence and its drivers; we build our knowledge about effective solutions
--	---	--	---	--	---	---	--

Delivery Plan

Workstream 1: Prevention

Serious Violence Prevention Programme 2026/27		
Partnership Response	Core delivery	How we will add value
Young Futures Prevention Panel pilot, using an education-based referral pathway (area-based pilot) Small area-based pilot in Camborne and Redruth in Year 1. This area has significant deprivation, high levels of multiple disadvantage and very high levels of suspensions and exclusions. County Lines, drug-related harms and exploitation have been identified as risks for young people in the area. <i>Focus on: children with risk and vulnerability factors, school inclusion and belonging, geographical areas of deprivation / disadvantage, 'whole family' approach, local projects</i>	- Discretionary pathway using school attendance and exclusions as criteria, with other risk factors and vulnerabilities built into triage. - Informed by the voices of children, young people and families in the area - Focus on children and families that are not receiving support from statutory services. - A co-ordinated and bespoke support offer for the child and family. Increased access to evidence-based high-impact interventions (such as social and emotional learning and positive activities) that will make best use of local provision. - Dedicated Young Futures Practitioners providing a trusted adult, assessment of needs and liaison between children and families, the Panel and schools.	- Builds on the success of our project to support Children Affected by Parental Imprisonment, expanding the model to support children at risk of exclusion from school/poor attendance with other risk factors. - Commitment to embed a whole family approach across all services, whereby child assessments routinely ask about parental trauma and adversity. Collaborative partnership approach in an area of high need will link to Youth Transformation, the PCC's Street Focus initiative and Turnaround. Strengthening connections between VCSE organisations and statutory services and integrating cross-sector learning. Measuring impact: - Children and families engaged in support Improvements in school engagement, health and wellbeing, diversion from crime and ASB - Impact stories and feedback
Improve access to structured sports activities in deprived areas/children with multiple disadvantage (Cornwall-wide) The scheme will focus on children and young people living in deprived areas and/or experiencing multiple disadvantage who are at risk (or already involved in) in violence, ASB and other criminality. <i>Focus on: children with risk and vulnerability factors, geographical areas of deprivation / disadvantage, high-impact intervention, local projects</i>	- Structured sessions will be delivered by local accredited providers and in line with best practice guidance for high-impact interventions in the Youth Endowment Fund Toolkit. - The activities will be targeted to children and young people that would most benefit and will link in other types of support and activities. - Activities will be co-designed with young people and families to get the best fit to local needs. - The programme will provide variety and choice, utilising a range of accredited local providers in areas of high need.	- Increasing co-production and strengthening the voice of young people and families. Strengthening connections between VCSE organisations and statutory services. Complements and builds on other community sports-based initiatives in Cornwall including Time2Move and Premier League Kicks (match funded locally by the PCC and looking to develop a police referral pathway). Measuring impact: - Children referred and sustained in activities Improvements in school engagement, health and wellbeing, diversion from crime and ASB - Impact stories and feedback

Priority themes: Domestic abuse and sexual violence / Violence Against Women and Girls		
Partnership response	Core delivery	How we will add value
Lead partnership: Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership Board Ensure effective delivery of our 5-year strategies to tackle domestic abuse, sexual violence and violence against women and girls. <i>Focus on: abuse in the home, parental trauma and adversity, sexual violence, young people and violent behaviours, safety in public places</i> Find out more: Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy DASV/VAWG Delivery Plan Support in Cornwall: Safer Futures integrated DA service – IDVAs, therapy, recovery toolkit, behaviour change programme, Reconnect Programme for children aged 5–18 who have experienced domestic abuse. Oak Service - counselling, specialist support and trauma stabilisation for survivors of sexual violence and abuse	Primary: - Develop the Healthy Relationships Alliance to increase delivery of Healthy Relationships education across Cornwall, targeting areas with the most need (Vulnerability Index). Train more people to deliver Healthy Relationships and Bystander interventions, using a 'Train the Trainer' approach. Secondary: - Enable schools to provide appropriate and timely support to children who have experienced domestic abuse (Operation Encompass) - Ensure that everyone is asked and given the opportunity to talk about the abuse that they may be experiencing. Tertiary: - Jointly commission sustainable trauma-informed services that meet the needs of adults and children across Cornwall. - Ensure there is support and behaviour change programmes available to both children and adults who engage in abusive behaviour. Promote safety where children are displaying harmful behaviours, understanding that this behaviour is often rooted in trauma. - Ensure support is provided within safe accommodation services, which is required of us by law.	- Keeping 'hidden harms' such as parental imprisonment and domestic abuse central to prevention planning - Commitment to embed a whole family approach across all services, whereby child assessments routinely ask about parental trauma and adversity - Promoting and implementing accredited tools and training to recognise and respond to domestic abuse and sexual violence Increasing early identification and access to support for young people and families through the Young Futures Prevention Panel, where there is domestic abuse or sexual violence. Measuring delivery and impact: - Take-up of Healthy Relationships Education Referrals into specialist domestic abuse services from across the system - Children and families engaged in specialist support

Priority theme: Working with young people who commit crimes		
Partnership response	Prevention	How we will add value
Lead partnerships: Local Youth Justice Board Deliver an outcome focused 'child first' approach to supporting children who offend, with a focus on their welfare and preventing further offending. <i>Focus on: young people and crime, risk factors and vulnerabilities, knife carrying, school inclusion and belonging, safety in public places</i> Find out more: Youth Justice Plan 2024-2027	Secondary: - Provide support to children who have been victims of crime, providing emotional and practical help and reducing vulnerability to future offending. - Provide early intervention and targeted support to address the root causes of knife carrying among children and young people, such as poverty, gang involvement, and mental health issues, rather than punitive measures alone – in line with the 2026 knife crime guidance for youth justice.	Strengthening support and early prevention for young people at risk of involvement in crime and ASB through the Young Futures Prevention Panel. - Commitment to embed a whole family approach across all services, whereby child assessments routinely ask about parental trauma and adversity. - Promoting and implementing accredited screening tools and training to identify and respond to problem use of drugs and/or alcohol, domestic abuse and sexual violence, ACEs - Strengthening lived-experience-led initiatives and co-production, including a stronger voice for young people.

Priority theme: Working with young people who commit crimes		
Partnership response	Prevention	How we will add value
Gweres Tus Yowynk Adolescent Service Gweres Kernow support for children and young people who display concerning or harmful sexual behaviours	Tertiary: - Through Gweres Tus Yowynk provide a range of specialist services that help prevent young people offending. Includes social work, targeted youth work, functional family therapy, and harmful sexual behaviour support. - The Turnaround Programme is designed to prevent children and young people from entering the criminal justice system by addressing the root causes of offending behaviour. A key initiative within the UK's youth justice system, its primary focus is on early intervention, diversion, and targeted support for those at risk of offending or reoffending. Multi-Agency Rapid Response Service (MARRS) provides intensive support for young people in mental health crisis, working holistically with social care to prevent the need for inpatient admission. It specifically focuses on children and young people with acute mental health difficulties, offering urgent care through collaboration between health and social care teams.	Measuring impact: Proven rates of reoffending for children in the Youth Justice System First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System - Impact stories and feedback

Priority theme: Drugs and alcohol		
Partnership response	Core delivery	How we will add value
Lead partnership: Community Drugs Partnership Reduce the harms linked to drugs and alcohol by delivering the Government's 10-year drugs strategy, focused on local priorities. <i>Focus on: drug and alcohol use, parental drug/alcohol dependency, school inclusion and belonging, safety in public places, drug-related violence, exploitation</i> Find out more: - Information about drugs and alcohol and how to access support in Cornwall. - Our latest report showcasing the work done locally in support of the national strategy - Our comprehensive annual report on drug-related deaths	Primary: - Increase delivery of drug and alcohol education in schools across Cornwall, providing consistent coverage and access to advice and guidance for pupils and staff. - Provide support to schools around developing their behaviour policies and reducing drug-related exclusions. - Use health data to improve safety in licensed premises. Secondary: - Improve pathways into treatment and confidence in non-specialist agencies to identify, refer and work with those impacted by alcohol and drug dependency. - Increase screening and earlier referrals from Health, Social Care and probation. - Identify and provide support to children as 'affected others' where there is parental drug and alcohol use. - Maintain assertive outreach and education for young people in areas of high need (currently Camborne and Redruth), delivering targeted 1:1 and group work in schools, including drop-in sessions at the APA.	- Recognising parental substance use and early onset drug use as key vulnerabilities - Promoting and implementing accredited screening tools and training to identify and respond to problem use of drugs and/or alcohol, including the Blue Light approach. Increasing early identification and access to support for young people and families through the Young Futures Prevention Panel, where drug and/or alcohol use is a vulnerability. Measuring impact: - Take-up of drug and alcohol education in schools Referrals into community drug and alcohol services from across the system - Children and families engaged in specialist support, including 'affected other' and parenting interventions - Engagement and positive outcomes for rough sleepers in community treatment services

Priority theme: Drugs and alcohol		
Partnership response	Core delivery	How we will add value
	Tertiary: - Commission outcome-focused and harm reduction-oriented drug and alcohol services for children, young people and adults, providing high quality open access and structured interventions that are safe, effective and evidence-based. - Continue to improve the quality and effectiveness of drug and alcohol treatment and increase 'substantial progress in treatment' by prioritising improvements in mental health, employment and housing and reducing caseload sizes. - Integrate risk management and interventions with domestic abuse and sexual violence services. - Provide assertive outreach and support to rough sleepers and people with multiple vulnerabilities; reduce the risks of exploitation and harm. Facilitate adoption of the Blue Light approach to support people with severe, long-term alcohol dependency who are not engaging with standard treatment. - Provide a co-ordinated response to reduce the harms of County Lines and Dangerous Drug Networks.	Community intelligence shared about drug use, dealing and organised crime

Priority theme: Exploitation		
Partnership response	Prevention	How we will add value
Lead partnership: Missing and Exploitation Group (tri-partnership – Safer Cornwall, Safeguarding Children Partnership, Safeguarding Adults Board) Proactively identify people at risk of exploitation and put support in place to prevent further harm. <i>Focus on: exploitation, young people and violent behaviours, knife carrying, drug and alcohol use, school inclusion and belonging, safety in public places</i> Find out more: Tri-partnership Exploitation strategy Delivery Plan – Adults Delivery Plan – Children and Young People	Primary: - Provide training and campaigns to raise awareness about the signs and symptoms of exploitation, including online, and how to get help. - Support schools and parents to promote inclusion and a sense of safety and belonging in school, using a 'whole school' approach - Improve access to education and training, both for staff and within the community. Support staff to build their digital knowledge and share information about risks and concerns - Promote ethical employment and supply chains to reduce the risks of modern slavery and criminal exploitation. Secondary: - Train our workforce to help them identify and respond to exploitation in their role, in our services and targeted roles in the wider community (for example taxi drivers and hotel staff).	- Commitment to embed a whole family approach across all services, whereby child assessments routinely ask about parental trauma and adversity. Strengthening support and early prevention for young people at risk of exploitation through the Young Futures Prevention Panel. Measuring impact: Children going missing and Return Home Conversations Safeguarding referrals and actions for people at risk of/experiencing exploitation Training needs analysis and delivery Recorded crimes related to exploitation and positive outcomes

Priority theme: Exploitation		
Partnership response	Prevention	How we will add value
	Tertiary: - Provide a rapid and effective local response when exploitation occurs, including co-ordinating help for victims. - Ensure that professionals work together effectively to ensure that exploitation is disrupted, and perpetrators are held to account - Ensure that there are clear processes and pathways between child and adult services that ensure that young adults at risk of exploitation are effectively safeguarded	Feelings of safety and belonging in school

Place-based approaches: Safer Towns Programme		
Partnership response	Prevention	How we will add value
Lead partnership: Safer Towns Partnerships Intensive partnership support for the areas with the greatest need, delivering local action plans that respond to the needs of the whole community. <i>Focus areas: Bodmin, Camborne and Redruth, Falmouth, Liskeard, Newquay, Penzance, Saltash, St Austell and Truro</i> These towns were chosen because they experience the highest levels of crime and anti-social behaviour, alongside complex issues around drugs, alcohol, rough sleeping and safeguarding vulnerable people. Find out more: Safer Towns Hotspot policing	Primary: - Raise awareness and build public confidence through campaigns and events and support local conversations about issues and concerns. - Support local businesses and community groups to take an active role in making communities safer for all. - Work with communities to create cleaner, greener spaces, and promote pride in place to help prevent ASB. Safer Summer programme including youth outreach and positive activities, public transport safety and Night Time Economy initiatives. Secondary: Bring partners together to find solutions that meet the needs of groups of people with complex needs, ensuring a balanced response. Focus on addressing issues early to prevent escalation. - Tackle root causes and environmental factors through targeted, evidence-based interventions. Tertiary: Support the roll-out of hotspots policing as a 'business as usual' approach, providing wider partnership insight, problem-solving, prevention activity and community intelligence. Utilising street marshal¹² and ASB team patrols where available alongside police resources. - Builds on the Home Office funded initiative to reduce anti-social behaviour and serious violence in priority town centre locations (Bodmin, Camborne, Newquay, Penzance, St Austell and Truro). From 2026, each police sector has an identified hotspot area.	- Increasing collective impact by strengthening collaboration and linking together approaches in priority areas– ensuring that services and initiatives meet local needs. Strengthening connections between VCSE organisations, statutory services and local businesses; sharing and integrating cross-sector learning. - Promoting and facilitating community engagement to develop a richer picture of community needs, assets and aspirations. Measuring impact: - Public and business perceptions of crime and ASB levels, feelings of safety and satisfaction with the local response - Levels of crime and disorder in hotspot areas; targeted patrol hours (police and partners) Safeguarding outcomes for vulnerable people Delivery and reach of community campaigns and events

¹² The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner has confirmed funding to continue Street Marshal/Ranger patrols in Penzance, Camborne, St Austell, Truro, Newquay, and Bodmin until 30th September 2026. Street marshals are employed by either the Business Improvement District or Town Council, using local providers. All street marshals have, or are working towards, [CSAS accreditation](#).

Workstream 2: Culture and workforce

Culture and workforce		
Cross-system response (established)	Developing	How we will add value
• Trauma Informed Network Cornwall (TINC) where professionals learn, share and evolve best practice. • Strengthened trauma-informed infrastructure – shared language and values, workforce development through TINC and the Compassionate Cornwall All-age Framework, promoting lived experience/co-production • Training and accredited tools to upskill the workforce are available in: Domestic Abuse, Trauma informed approaches, Trauma Stabilisation, Drugs, Alcohol, Suicide Prevention, Mental health and Dual Diagnosis. • An established learning approach across our community services, bringing together partners, experts by experience and practitioners to improve the system for those who use it. • Strong relationships with VCSE sector providers through the Thematic Alliances and partnership groups. Find out more: • Trauma Informed Network Cornwall • Compassionate Cornwall All-age Framework • Community Safety Training Programme	• A commissioning framework is being developed for commissioning services for people impacted by trauma and adversity, linked to the Compassionate Cornwall Framework. • More community awareness about what being trauma-informed means and how to recognise and respond to the impacts of multiple trauma and adversity. Community trauma training has delivered in locations across Cornwall in 2025/26. • Greater use of routine enquiry for ACEs and screening for the impacts of trauma and adversity within our services • Roll-out of <i>My Team Around Me</i> approach training and how to run an effective multi-disciplinary meeting. This approach is being actively encouraged and there is evidence of good practice in different areas. • Pilot of FERN, a multi-agency, collaborative approach to supporting parents who have experienced, or are at risk of, having a child removed from their care. It focuses on breaking the cycle of repeated child removal by providing a safe, trauma-informed space where parents can build trusting relationships, reflect on their experiences, and access practical and emotional support. • More co-production with communities, informing local outcomes and the way we design services that are needed. • Evolving effective use of infant voice and youth participation frameworks.	• A shared commitment to maintaining momentum across the system in trauma-informed practice, community capacity-building, and co-production. • Developing commissioning frameworks that help mainstream prevention and support 'whole family' working. • Reviewing barriers to service engagement and redesign pathways to better support individuals with complex needs. • Strengthening lived-experience-led initiatives and co-production, including a stronger voice for young people. • Bringing other partners more fully into partnership work to prevent violence – including probation, fire and rescue, education, housing, services for children and young people. • Supporting improved access to education and training around online harms, both for staff and within the community, ensuring that it provides consistent and up-to-date information. This will include supporting staff to build their digital knowledge and share information about risks and concerns.

Workstream 3: Learning, evaluation and data

Learning, evaluation and data		
Cross-system response (established)	Developing	How we will add value
• Overarching Information Sharing Protocol in place – core data sets (such as police data) are routinely shared. • Multi-agency Serious Violence Strategic Needs Assessment; supported by thematic needs assessments, learning and research. Reviewed and refreshed annually. • Interventions are robustly monitored and outcomes are tracked, including impact stories. • Evaluations of existing programmes and interventions; sharing success and learning with other CSPs	• Using 'journey maps' to enhance the evidence base, ensuring our understanding of violence and what works to prevent it is grounded in real people's experiences. • Our work is informed by research into effective approaches to reduce violence and address risk and protective factors. • Improved availability/quality of data and information to enhance the evidence base, including securing Emergency Care Data on assault presentations.¹³ • Promoting and applying a Human Learning Systems approach to violence prevention.	• Developing Theory of Change and Logic Models to support good practice. • Strengthening evidence about 'what works' from our own system (for example, Behaviour Change interventions). • Developing an outcomes framework, drawing on existing measures and expertise.

¹³ [Information Sharing to Tackle Violence](#) – Emergency Care Data Set v4.0 included ISTV data items from July 2023 (NHS).

Evaluation and monitoring

How will we know we are making a difference?

At national and police force level, the success of the Duty is measured through a reduction in **three headline indicators**:

- **Hospital admissions for assaults with a knife or sharp object** and especially among victims aged under 25
- **Knife-enabled serious violence** and especially amongst victims aged under 25
- **All homicides** but especially those that are non-domestic and among those victims aged under 25 involving knives

Whilst we acknowledge that these measures are set at national and police force level, there is agreement locally that these measures **do not reflect our local profile** of violence and do not align to a prevention approach. A further consideration for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly is that the numbers for these measures at local level are **too low to provide a meaningful measure** of impact or change.

Patterns and trends in violent behaviours in our communities are observed, analysed and reported to Safer Cornwall on an ongoing basis – using a broad **range of data and insight** alongside police recorded crime. We monitor some broader **violent crime measures** as part of our overarching performance framework, such as violence with injury crimes.

We have gathered and shared **project-specific outcomes** around engagement and successes, including insight from personal stories and experiences. We are developing our use of **Theory of Change** as a means to plan, monitor and evaluate projects delivered through the Serious Violence Prevention Programme.

Progress towards our vision will be seen over the **longer term**. We have committed to developing our prevention approach to serious violence following the principles of Human Learning Systems.¹⁴ Throughout the programme to date we have **captured learning and feedback** in ways that can be used to **make change**.

In this iteration of the delivery plan, we have identified existing **impact measures** that could be used to demonstrate progress towards our intermediate outcomes. We will use these to build an outcomes framework to **monitor jointly with delivery partners** that reflect the priority areas in the Strategic Framework, drawing on expertise from the thematic groups.

¹⁴ [Human Learning Systems](#)



If you would like this information in another format, please contact:
Community Safety Team,
Community Services, Cornwall Council

Telephone: 0300 1234 100 email: communitysafety@cornwall.gov.uk

www.safercornwall.co.uk