

# Serious Youth Violence in West Berkshire

## Information Booklet

Version 1 – 2022



# Introduction

This information booklet has been created in collaboration with West Berkshire Council's Building Communities Together Team, West Berkshire Youth Offending Team and Thames Valley Police. It is aimed at parents, professionals and teachers of children aged 10-18 living in West Berkshire. It provides information and guidance in respect of serious youth violence tailored to the West Berkshire area.



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## Serious Youth Violence

The Thames Valley Violence Reduction Unit formed by the Government's Home Office in 2019 currently define Serious Violence as the following:

- 'Possession of a weapon or bladed article in a public place, where the suspect was aged under 25 at the time of the offence
- Any Violence Against the Person, Robbery, Sexual Offence, Burglary or Public Order offence where the offence was recorded as involving a bladed article or a firearm
- Any offence of Violence Against the Person of Grievous Bodily Harm level and above
- Any offence of Possession with intent to supply drugs or concerned in the supply of drugs, where the suspect was aged under 25 at the time of the offence'

The definition of Serious Violence will be changing nationally and therefore locally to include Domestic Abuse and Sexual offences following the Police Crime Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 which contains the Serious Violence Duty gaining Royal Assent in April 2022.

## Why is there a focus on Serious Youth Violence?

Serious violence has been increasing country wide since 2014, proving more needs to be done to reduce the issue. At the end of 2021, 30 teenagers in London were killed as a result of serious violence, the highest number ever recorded for the capital. Across England and Wales there were 1.77 million violent crimes against people recoded by police between April 2020 and March 2021. The drug market is considered to sit at the heart of this increase.

## Serious Violence in West Berkshire

West Berkshire is the lowest area for serious violence across the Thames Valley and incidences of serious violence decreased by 34% in 2021. However we are not complacent and want to work with young people and their families to make sure that the current situation doesn't change for the worse.



*"We want to work with young people and their families to make sure that the current situation doesn't change for the worse."*

## Who is vulnerable?

Becoming involved in serious violence or being exploited can happen to any child, however research has identified certain factors that can make a child more vulnerable these include:

- Low self-esteem or self-confidence
- Lacking friends from the same age group
- Being a young carer
- Being in or leaving care
- A history of abuse
- Recent bereavement or loss
- Homelessness
- Links to a gang through relatives, peers or intimate relationships
- Living in a gang affected neighbourhood
- Having a physical or learning disability
- Having mental health or substance misuse issues
- Lack of a safe/stable home environment now or in the past (domestic abuse or parental substance misuse, mental health issues or criminality)

## County Lines

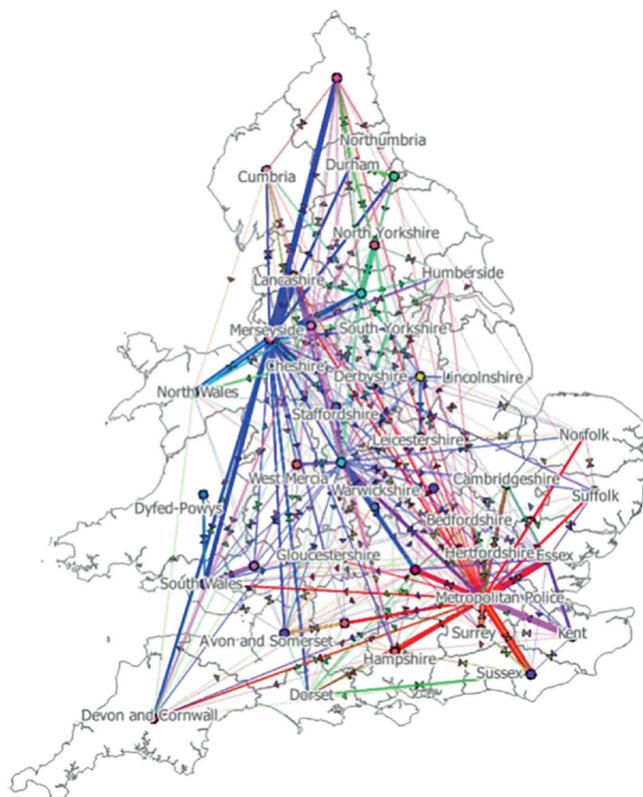
A County Line is essentially a mobile phone. To set up a County Line, a person from an organised crime group (OCG) or 'gang' in London or another metropolitan area will travel to a rural town, find someone who looks like they use drugs hanging around in the park or town centre, approach them and usually in return for drugs get their telephone number or phone along with the telephone numbers of all those in their phone that are drug users. The OCG or gang member will then contact the people on the phone and sell them drugs this starts a 'deal line' which then subsequently grows and grows. Violence can often occur when a new deal line is being set up as the 'new dealers' are taking over another dealers 'patch' which causes conflict as 'deal lines' are worth a considerable amount of money.

The National Crime Agencies (NCA) Strategic Assessment 2020/21 reported there being in the region of 600 operational county lines in any given month.

It is understood that 80% of known deal lines in 2021 were exported from London, West Midlands and Liverpool.

Approximately 20% of those individuals identified as being involved in county lines are children, the average age being 15.8 years however children as young as 12 have been identified as being involved. Children tend to play a 'workforce' role, used to 'run' drugs from urban areas to county and coastal towns.

When children/young people arrive in areas to set up a new county line or run drugs they can be in an area for a number of days and therefore require somewhere to stay. Sometimes they are put up in a accommodation provision such as an air BnB but often they are expected to find their own accommodation, this can result in a process called 'cuckooing'



## Cuckooing

Cuckooing is the term used when a person from a gang or OCG infiltrate the property of an often vulnerable person such as a drug user, sex worker or someone with a disability. The address is then taken over by the 'cuckoo' and used for the purpose of committing crime such as the selling of drugs.

## Organised Crime Group (OCG)

The National Crime Agency define an OCG as 'a group of three or more people whose purpose (or one of its purposes) is the carrying out of criminal activities.'

## Gang

There is no agreed definition for the term "gang"

The Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) defines a gang as 'a relatively durable, predominantly street-based group of young people who:

- see themselves (and are seen by others) as a discernible group, and
- engage in a range of criminal activity and violence.

They may also have any or all of the following features:

- identify with or lay claim over territory
- have some form of identifying structure feature - there is often a hierarchical structure to a gang based on age, experience, involvement
- are in conflict with other, similar gangs'

It is not illegal to be part of a gang, however gangs are often linked to illegal activities.

## County Lines in West Berkshire

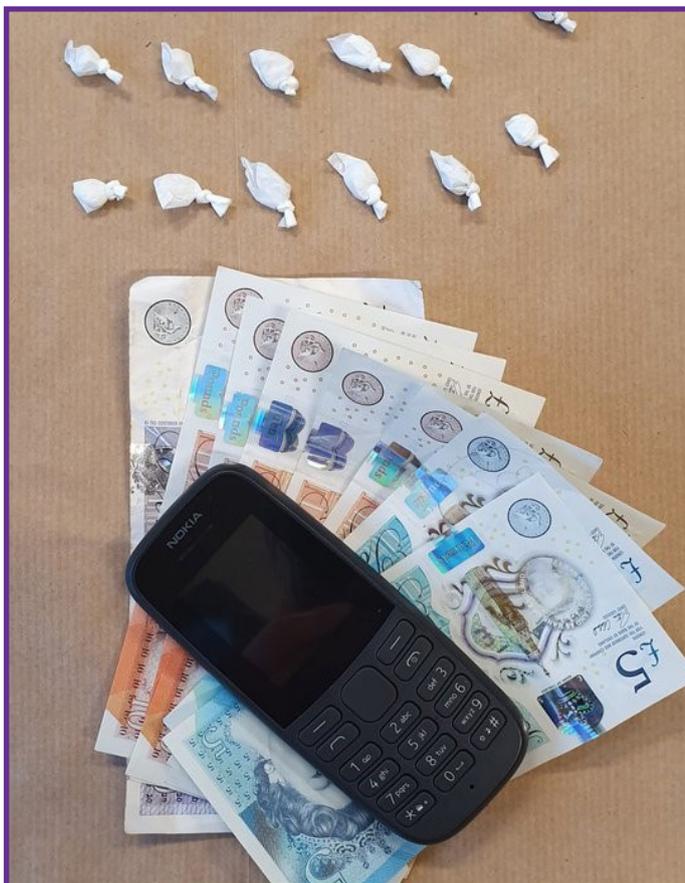
At the beginning of 2022, there were less than five county lines operating in West Berkshire, this number often changes, however remains low. At the time of writing this booklet we have no known defined 'gangs' in West Berkshire.

West Berkshire's central location and good road and rail links makes it an attractive locality for county lines, as a consequence our local police force have worked hard over the years to disrupt, 'drive out' and prevent the setting up of county lines within the area and with that protected our local children from becoming embroiled in these criminal networks.

## Signs a child may be involved in County Lines

This is not an exhaustive list, however some of the signs a child may be involved in county line drug running or a gang include:

- Staying out late or overnight, or sudden and often frequent missing from home episodes - being found in locations for which they have no known connection
- Disengagement from school, hobbies/ interests and peer group
- Unexplained money, gifts and/ or clothing
- Increase in substance misuse
- Spending more time on social media and being secretive about use
- Finding large quantities of drugs, weapons, money and/or drug related equipment such as scales, 'deal' bags, basic low cost mobile phones hidden by the child
- Change in peer group including older peers/ more secretive about peer group and how they spend their time
- Frequent phone calls or messages at all hours which may trigger an anxious response
- Unexplained injuries
- Change in personality or behaviours
- Getting in trouble with the police for offences such as possession of substances



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# Knives

It is illegal to possess a knife within a public place unless you have a justifiable reason such as for work purposes. The Offensive Weapons Act (2019) introduced laws in respect of the types of knives/ weapons you can own even if they are kept within your property and used as a display piece, for example samurai type swords displayed on a wall or mantelpiece are now illegal to own. It also intends to restrict the purchasing of bladed articles online and introduces Knife Crime Prevention Orders (KCPO) which can be given to those over 12 who are believed to or known to carry knives. KCPOs are applied for by the police in court and can include restrictions on travel, use of social media, curfews along with requirements to engage in interventions and being forbidden to carry a knife. KCPO's are currently being piloted by the Met Police before they are made available throughout England and Wales.

**The images below taken from the National Business Crime Centre website detail the knives and weapons you can no longer own.**

	<p>■ <b>Knuckleduster</b>; a band of metal or other hard material worn on one or more fingers, and designed to cause injury, and any weapon incorporating a knuckleduster.</p>		<p>■ <b>Footclaw</b>; a bar of metal or other hard material from which a number of sharp spikes protrude, and worn strapped to the foot.</p>		<p>■ <b>Curved Sword</b>; a sword with a curved blade of 50 centimetres or over in length; and for the purposes of this sub-paragraph, the length of the blade shall be the straight line distance from the top of the handle to the tip of the blade.</p>		<p>■ <b>Blowpipe/Blow Gun</b>; a hollow tube out of which hard pellets or darts are shot by the use of breath.</p>
	<p>■ <b>Handclaw</b>; a band of metal or other hard material from which a number of sharp spikes protrude, and worn around the hand.</p>		<p>■ <b>Flick Knives</b>; any knife that opens automatically from a closed position, or partially opened position, to a fully opened position by means of any manual pressure that is applied to a button, spring or other device which is contained either within the knife or is attached to the knife.</p>		<p>■ <b>Shuriken/Death Star</b>; a hard non-flexible plate having three or more sharp radiating points and designed to be thrown.</p>		<p>■ <b>Kusari Gama</b>; a length of rope, cord, wire or chain fastened at one end to a sickle.</p>
	<p>■ <b>Belt Buckle Knife</b>; a buckle which incorporates or conceals a knife.</p>		<p>■ <b>Cyclone/Spiral Knives</b>; a weapon comprised of a handle with a blade with two or more cutting edges, each of which forms a helix and a sharp point at the end of the blade.</p>		<p>■ <b>Balisong/Butterfly Knife</b>; a blade enclosed by its handle, which is designed to split down the middle, without the operation of a spring or other mechanical means, to reveal the blade.</p>		<p>■ <b>Kyoketsu Shoge</b>; a length of rope, cord, wire or chain fastened at one end to a hooked knife.</p>
	<p>■ <b>Push Dagger</b>; a knife the handle of which fits within a clenched fist and the blade of which protrudes from between two fingers.</p>		<p>■ <b>Telescopic Truncheon</b>; a truncheon which extends automatically by hand pressure applied to a button, spring or other device in or attached to its handle.</p>		<p>■ <b>Manrikigusari/Kusari</b>; a length of rope, cord, wire or chain fastened at each end to a hard weight or hand grip.</p>		<p>■ <b>Swordstick</b>; a hollow walking-stick or cane containing a blade which may be used as a sword.</p>
	<p>■ <b>Hollow Kubotan</b>; a cylindrical container containing a number of sharp spikes.</p>		<p>■ <b>Zombie Knives</b>; a knife with a cutting edge, a serrated edge and images or words suggesting it is used for violence. All elements need to be present.</p>				

## Knife crime examples

- Buying a knife you are under 18
- Carrying a knife/ weapon including weapons that are self-made such as a sharpened comb or hidden within another object such as a fidget spinner, in any public place for example a park, school , town centre, even if it is hidden in a bag, unless you have a justifiable reason
- Owning a banned knife/ weapon even if it is kept in your home at all times
- Threatening someone with a knife/ weapon even if you do not have one on you, e.g. threatening to stab someone
- Using a knife/ weapon to threaten or harm someone this could include using a pencil to pierce someone's skin right through to using a knife to commit murder

## Why do children carry knives?

Research by Barnardo's in 2019 identified that the most significant reason children carry a knife is for their own protection owing to a belief that the police did not provide the protection they needed.

## Other facts about knives

- Children are 3 times more likely to get stabbed if they carry a knife
- A person stabbed in the heart can bleed to death in 1 minute
- Being found in possession of a knife even if not used to threaten or hurt someone can result in a prison sentence of up to 5 years
- The police can stop and search a child believed to be carrying a knife or weapon
- Self-defence or 'for my own protection' is not a justifiable reason to carry a knife
- There is no safe place in the body to be stabbed
- If someone is killed or injured by a knife and there is a group of children present all can be sentenced for the crime committed under a Joint Enterprise ruling
- A child can receive a life sentence for murder where a knife was used to kill the victim
- Both victims and perpetrators of knife crime can suffer PTSD
- Children who commit offences involving a knife often regret their actions after

## What to do if you believe a child is carrying or know a child is carrying a knife

- Remove the knife and put it in a safe place where the child cannot access it
- Contact the police via 101 or 999 in the case of an emergency they will attend and safely remove the knife

In West Berkshire, Thames Valley Police Safeguarding Officers and the Youth Offending Team can provide tailored knife crime intervention to children within schools or at an alternative location, in groups or on a one to one basis, for those identified as being at risk of or have been found in possession of a knife or weapon.

## Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE)

The NSPCC define CCE as children and young people being manipulated and coerced into committing crime. It is considered to be a form of child abuse and a form of modern day slavery.

### Dangers of Criminal Exploitation

- Being subject to threats, violence or blackmail
- The safety of the child, their friends or family threatened
- Being forced to commit crimes such as selling drug, carrying money or weapons, harming people
- Being arrested
- Drug and alcohol abuse
- Risk of emotional abuse, physical harm, rape and sexual abuse
- Risk of serious injury or death
- Long term impact on the child's emotional and mental health
- Long term impact on the child's education and employment prospects

### Signs of Criminal Exploitation

The signs a child is being criminally exploited are similar to those of a child who is involved in county lines, as being involved in county lines is often considered to be a form of CCE.

### The National Referral Mechanism (NRM)

The NRM is a framework for identifying and referring potential victims of modern slavery and ensuring they get appropriate support and protection. Children under the age of 18 do not have to consent to an NRM referral being made. The police can make these referrals.

If a child is found via the NRM process to have been a victim of modern slavery any pending criminal charges that are proven to have been committed as a result of them being exploited may be dismissed or down-graded to a lesser charge.



*“The signs a child is being criminally exploited are similar to those of a child who is involved in county lines, as being involved in county lines is often considered to be a form of CCE.”*

## Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

The Government define Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) as a form of child sexual abuse. *'It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.'*

### Types of CSE

CSE can include physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside clothing. It may include non-contact activities, such as involving children in the production of sexual images, forcing children to look at sexual images or watch sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet).

### Grooming

Grooming is a process that involves an individual/ group using tactics such as befriending, giving of gifts or money or bullying and intimidating child into engaging in sexual activities. The child is manipulated, threatened and made to feel that they are 'owned' by the groomer/s. The fear and/or lack of understanding that they have been groomed and are being exploited stops the child from telling others what has happened/ is happening to them.

Groomers can be of any gender, age, race, religion and background. They can be strangers that meet a child out in the community or over the internet or a friend or relative.

*"Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology."*



**There are currently five recognised models of grooming:**

### **The Party Model**

The child is invited to a party, transport to the party is provided by the groomer and once at the party the child is given alcohol, cigarettes and/ or drugs. The groomer does this to gain power over the child. Once power has been gained the groomer and/ or others engage in sexual activity with the child.

### **The Peer Model**

This model involves the peer/ friend of a child from school or the community being forced by the groomer to introduce the child to alcohol and or drugs to gain power over the child. Once the peer considers they have power, they then introduce the child to the groomer/s who will engage in sexual activity with the child.

### **The Boyfriend/ Girlfriend Model**

The groomer is generally older than the child in this model and convinces the child that they are in a loving relationship through the showering of gifts and affection. The groomer will be the only one having sex with the child initially. Once trust has been gained and the child is dependent on the groomer, the groomer will convince the child to have sex with others.

### **The Gang and Group Model**

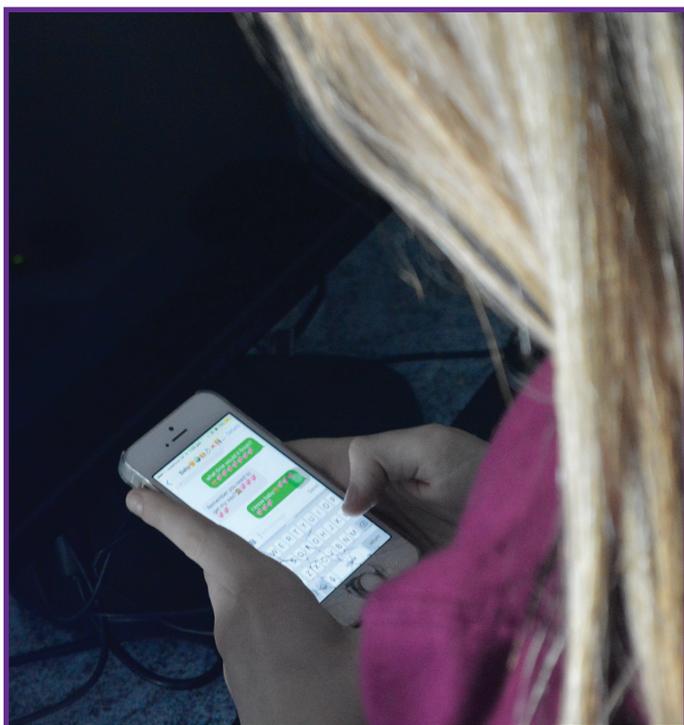
The child is passed around members of a group or gang and forced to have sex with each of them, this may be to pay off drug debts, as an initiation or as punishment if the child is from a rival gang or group.



*“The child is invited to a party, transport to the party is provided by the groomer and once at the party the child is given alcohol, cigarettes and/ or drugs”*

## CSE online

CSE and grooming does not always happen in person, it can also happen online. Groomers use the various social media platforms to target children through the use of fake profiles and build relationships with them. Once a relationship has been built, the groomer may persuade or force the child to send or post explicit images of themselves, film or stream themselves engaging in sexual activities and/ or have sexual conversations. Once the groomer has the images, videos or copies of conversations they may use these to threaten or blackmail the child into taking part in other sexual activities. The groomer may also share what they have with others or upload them online.



*“Groomers use the various social media platforms to target children through the use of fake profiles and build relationships with them.”*

## Signs of CSE

Many of the signs of CSE are similar to those of a child who is involved in county lines or CCE, however other signs include:

- Having an older boyfriend or girlfriend
- Being found in hotels or areas of concern
- Pregnancy
- Sexually Transmitted Infections
- Unexplained injuries including to the genital or anal area
- Age inappropriate sexual knowledge/ behaviour
- Changes to clothing, this could be dressing in what could be considered a more provocative way, conversely dressing to 'cover up'
- Lack of attention to hygiene

## Child Financial Exploitation

The exploiter will befriend a child through social media and online games. They offer the child gifts, promise easy money, gaming credits, skins or cryptocurrency. Once trust has been gained the exploiter forces the child to carry out fraudulent activities, like opening a bank account for the perpetrator or allowing providing the exploiter with the details of their existing bank account to allow the exploiter to deposit and transfer money.

A child whose account is found to be making fraudulent transactions can risk having their bank account suspended for between five and seven years or receive a prison sentence of up to 14 years. These potential consequences can have a significant impact on a child's future.



### What to do if you suspect a child is being exploited

- If you are able, talk to the child openly about your worries, concerns and the risks associated with CCE.
- Contact the police on 101 or 999 in the case of an emergency
- Contact West Berkshire Children and Family Services on 01635 503090 or [child@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:child@westberks.gov.uk). A Social Worker may undertake an assessment and offer support to the child and their parent/ carer under a Child in Need Plan or Child Protection Plan

# Drugs

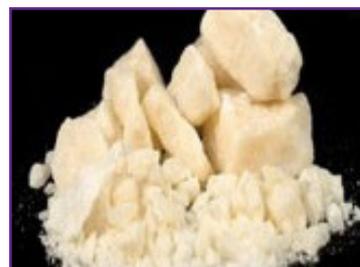
## Class A

Drugs classified as Class A are considered to be the most harmful. A child caught in possession of a Class A drug could face up to seven years in prison. A child caught in possession of Class A drugs with intention to supply could face life imprisonment.

Class A drugs include: **LSD, magic mushrooms, methadone, methamphetamine (crystal meth)**

The most common:

**Crack cocaine:** A crystallised version of cocaine it looks like crystal rocks and is normally heated up and smoked in a pipe.



**Cocaine:** A white powder which can be either snorted or smoked.



**Ecstasy (MDMA):** Tablets or white/grey crystals which is swallowed. Ecstasy tends to refer to the pill form and powder often referred to as MDMA. Powder is rubbed in gums.



**Heroin:** Is mostly a brown powder which is either heated into a liquid and injected, smoked or bombed.



## Class B

A child caught in possession of a Class B drug could face up to five years in prison. A child caught in possession of Class B drugs with intention to supply could face up to 14 years in prison.

Class B drugs include: **Amphetamines, codeine, Ritalin, synthetic cannabinoids**

The most common:

**Cannabis:** Comes from a plant, it has a distinctive strong smell and is generally grinded up and smoked with tobacco in a 'joint'.



**Cannabis Edibles:** Edibles are food products infused with cannabis such as brownies or sweets. They can easily be mistaken as legitimate sweet bags.



**Ketamine:** A medical anaesthetic usually sold as a grainy white powder. It is usually snorted but can be injected.



## Class C

A child caught in possession of a Class C drug could face up to two years in prison. A child caught in possession of Class C drugs with intention to supply could face up to 14 years in prison.

The most common Class C drugs include:

**Anabolic steroids:** A performance enhancing drug which can increase muscle mass it comes in liquid, tablet or powder form and can be injected or swallowed.



**Benzodiazepines (Valium/Xanax):** A medication with sedative effects used to treat anxiety. It comes in tablet form and is swallowed.



**GHB:** Is a depressant, which can cause an initial 'high' and hallucinations, however when mixed with alcohol can cause blackouts. It comes mostly in liquid form and is mixed with a drink and swallowed. It is usually colourless and odourless.



## Reducing Serious Violence in West Berkshire

When considering approaches to reduce serious violence in West Berkshire, a great deal of thought and effort has had to go into ensuring the correct balance between making sure we don't cause unnecessary panic or concern amongst local residents whilst also providing the correct interventions and messages to those who need it. Consequently West Berkshire have taken a predominantly preventative approach to serious violence.

Monitoring of serious violence incidents and those who are most at risk of being involved in serious violence takes place at the weekly Knife Crime Meeting chaired by a TVP Inspector

### Drug Diversion

Children aged between 10-17 years found to be in possession of small quantities of illegal substances of any classification either within school or the community are issued with a Community Resolution by the police, in the presence of a parent or carer – A CR does not show up on a criminal records check.

The child is referred by the police to the local The Edge Substance Misuse Service to undertake on a voluntary basis a minimum six week Drug Diversion intervention programme.

If the child completes the intervention and is found to be in possession of illegal substances on another occasion they can have a further CR and be offered the Drug Diversion again. If the child has failed to engage in the Drug Diversion when offered and is found in possession of illegal substances on another occasion a more formal outcome may be imposed by the police



*“The child is referred by the police to the local The Edge Substance Misuse Service to undertake on a voluntary basis a minimum six week Drug Diversion intervention programme.”*

## Work in schools

Prevention Intervention Programme (PIP) - a child or groups of children aged 10-17 who are identified within school as displaying challenging/ inappropriate behaviour within school or are considered to be at risk of becoming involved in ASB/ crime are referred by the school to the TVP Safeguarding Police Officers. Following consultation with the referrer, a short piece of intervention is voluntarily undertaken by either a trained officer within the Safeguarding Team, the YOT Police Officer or YOT Teacher with the child individually or in a group. The objective being to reduce the risk of the child/ children involving themselves in further unacceptable behaviour



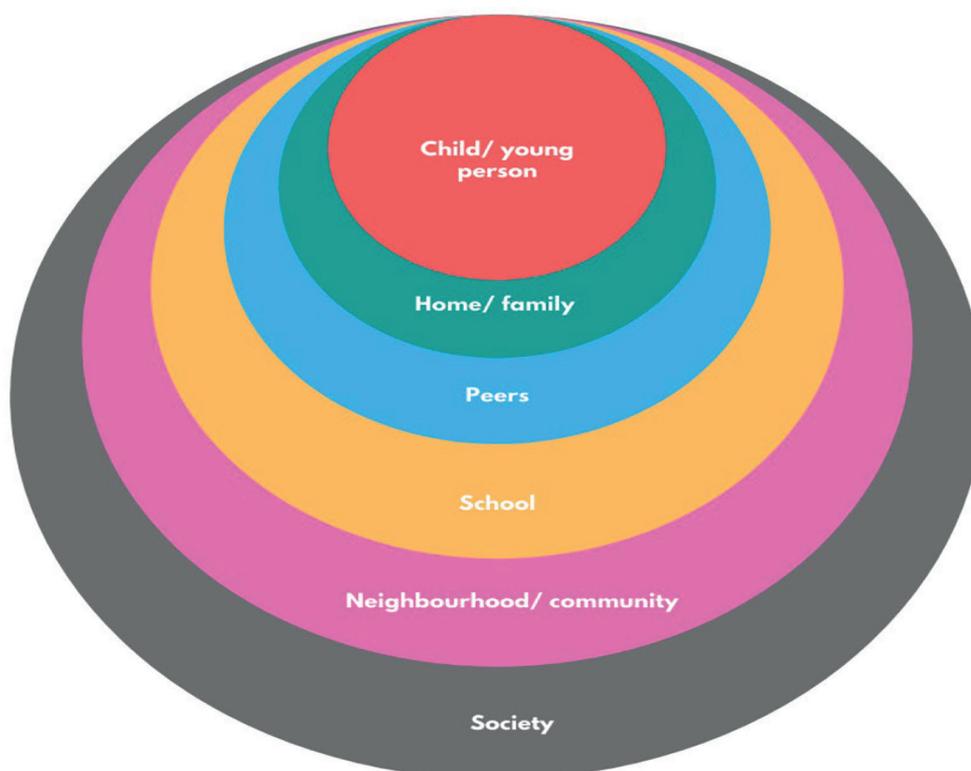
### Prevention Letters

Children aged 10-17 years who are identified or believed by a Police Officer or PCSO as being involved or at risk of being involved in ASB or crime are issued with a Prevention Letter.

The letter is sent to the child and their parent/ carer stating the child has come to the attention of the police and that the YOT will be making contact to offer a voluntary programme of intervention. A YOT Officer contacts the family to offer a voluntary assessment and intervention. This can be for both the child and the parents/ carers. Intervention lasts up to 12 weeks.

## Contextual Safeguarding

Contextual Safeguarding recognises that as children grow older, their influences and experiences of significant harm extend beyond the home and their family. For example, their education setting, peer group, community and online. Contextual Safeguarding considers how we can best understand these influences and risks, engage with children and help keep them safe.



### Contextual Safeguarding within West Berkshire

Within West Berkshire we take a multi-agency approach to safeguarding children involving colleagues from Children and Families Services, Education, Health (both physical and emotional and mental) Police, Youth Offending Team, Probation, Youth Services, Building Communities Together, Drugs Services, Domestic Abuse Services and Housing.

Various meetings take place to ensure that information is shared amongst professionals in respect of those child at risk of exploitation and/ or criminality.

## Exploitation Missing Risk Assessment Conference (EMRAC)

Taking place on a monthly basis, EMRAC is a multi-agency meeting that oversees the intervention being undertaken for those young people in West Berkshire who are being or at risk of being criminally or sexually exploited and those who are believed to be the exploiters.

## Child Protection Conference

Children who are assessed as being at significant risk of harm either due to factors within their home environment or within the community in which they spend their time are subject to a Child Protection Conference. The conference is chaired by an Independent Reviewing Officer and attended by any relevant professionals who are working with or have knowledge of the child and/or their family, along with the child and their parent and/or carer. After hearing all relevant information in respect of the potential risks posed to the child, a collective decision is made as to whether the child is made subject to a Child Protection Plan under one or more of the following four categories: Neglect, Emotional Abuse, Physical Abuse or Sexual Abuse.

Children subject to a Child Protection Plan have an allocated Social Worker who oversees their case. In addition a multi-agency plan is agreed with the objective being to reduce the identified risk/s to the child. The plan is regularly reviewed and updated based on progress made. Once identified risk/s have reduced a collective decision is made to remove the child from the Child Protection Plan.

## Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Meeting

Taking place on a monthly bases Mini MAPS is a multi-agency meeting which monitors and formulates plans to address ASB across West Berkshire.

## Youth Work

West Berkshire Council work closely with Berkshire Youth who provide youth work support to young people across the area. Berkshire Youth have a dedicated Youth Worker within every secondary school across West Berkshire to provide independent help and support to pupils within. Furthermore, Berkshire Youth have a detached Youth Worker scheme who they can deploy to different areas across West Berkshire where there is a perceived need to engage the children and potentially steer them away from involving themselves in ASB or crime.

Berkshire Youth also seek the views of children within West Berkshire in regards to their experiences of living within the area and how they feel the area can be improved. These views are then provided to parish and district councils for consideration.

## Slang Dictionary

Below are some words you may hear children use along with what they generally mean. Please be aware that language used by children is forever changing due to numerous external influences, so whilst these words are what we consider to be current and relevant terms used within West Berkshire, these may change/ evolve over time.

### Knife crime

Bora – Knife  
Carve – Cut  
Rambo – Knife  
Samurai – Knife  
Shank/ed – Knife or Stab

### Friends or peer group

Boys – Friends  
Bredrins – Friends  
Brother – Friend  
Cuz – Friend  
Day one – Term of endearment to a childhood friend  
Elder – Older males in a group  
Gs – Friends  
Road Man – Friend  
Man Dem – Friends  
Young'uns – Younger males in a group

### Drugs

Benzos – Diazepam  
Bud – Cannabis  
Cali Weed – Californian Cannabis  
Charlie – Cocaine  
Coke – Cocaine  
Crack – Crack cocaine  
Joint – Cannabis rolled into a cigarette  
Ket - Ketamine  
Mandy – MDMA/ Ecstasy  
Molly – MDMA/ Ecstasy  
Pills – Ecstasy  
Spliff – Cannabis rolled into a cigarette  
Weed – Cannabis  
Zoot – Cannabis rolled into a cigarette

## Drug Dealing

Bagging up – Preparing drugs for sale  
Bando – Place drugs are sold from  
Beef – Have a disagreement with someone  
Burner phone – Phone used to deal drugs  
Crackhead – Derogatory name for crack cocaine user  
Half – Half an ounce of a drug  
Kilo – Kilo of a drug  
Nitty – Derogatory name for a drug user  
Ounce – Ounce of a drug  
Plug/ plugging – Insert drugs internally  
Ps - Money  
Tick – Buy drugs on credit  
Trapping – Drug Dealing  
Trap House – Place drugs are sold from  
Trap phone – Phone used to sell drugs  
Shotting – Drug Dealing  
10 bag – £10 worth of cannabis

## Other

Bare – Lots of/ many  
Beat – Have sex with  
Ends – Area  
Feds – Police  
Gassin – Lying/ oversharing  
Hoe – Derogatory term for a female  
Leng - Good  
Manor – Area  
Nicked – Caught by police  
Nuff – A lot/ enough  
Pagen – Two faced person  
Peak – Bad  
Pen – Prison  
Pigs – Police  
Sket – Derogatory term for a female  
Stick it on – Confront someone/ chat up a girl  
Ting – Female  
Violated – Disrespected  
Wah gwan – Greeting – what's going on  
Wasteman – Derogatory term for a male  
Whip – Car  
Yard – Area/ house  
5.0 – Police

## Useful contacts

**Berkshire Youth** - 0118 909 0927 or [admin@berskhireyouth.co.uk](mailto:admin@berskhireyouth.co.uk)

**Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)** - 01635 295555

**Emotional Health Academy** - 01635 519018 or [emotional.health.triage@wesberks.gov.uk](mailto:emotional.health.triage@wesberks.gov.uk)

**Police** – 999 for emergency or 101 for non-emergency

**West Berkshire Children and Family Services** - 01635 503090 or [child@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:child@westberks.gov.uk)

**Central Family Hub - Thatcham** - 01635 865318

**East Family Hub** - Calcot - 0118 9456157

**West Family Hub** - Newbury - 01635 31143 Or [familyhubs@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:familyhubs@westberks.gov.uk)

**West Berkshire Youth Offending Team** – 01635 553600

**West Berkshire's young people's substance misuse service** – 01635 553600

## Further Information

<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk>

<https://nbcc.police.uk/knifeguidance>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>

<https://www.talktofrank.com/>