



STRATEGIC POLICING AND CRIME BOARD
1st March 2016

<p>West Midlands Police Strategic Assessment 2016/17</p>
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

To introduce the 2016/17 West Midlands Police Strategic Assessment

BACKGROUND

The Strategic Assessment for 2015/16 identified Violence and Intervention and Prevention as key priorities for the force, and these two areas formed the basis of the force control strategy, with the force appointing dedicated 'Champions' in each of these areas to help us to understand better the risks surrounding violence and the opportunities presented by targeted interventions. This has helped us to see that the focus on violence and intervention and prevention is still valid.

When we use the term violence it encapsulates the world health organisation typologies, to pick up not just on PPV (public place violence) but on hidden crimes such as FGM (female genital mutilation), hate crime, Modern Slavery and HBV (honour based violence). The assessment addresses the damaging effects of exposing young people to violence at an early age, and socialising them into an acceptance of violence towards them, and as an outlet for their own frustrations, and the enduring impact of violence such as domestic abuse, and child sexual exploitation on future levels of crime and vulnerability.

Intervention and prevention was considered as a way to reduce the amount of violence in our society, so that not only could we attempt to make things better for our communities but we could try to impact on the demand on all agencies.

This year's assessment is very different to previous ones, because we already know that a continued focus on Violence and Intervention and Prevention is appropriate,

Inspired by some work that police Scotland had done with a boy called David, we identified a young offender involved in a violent crime and spent some time getting to know the offender through an analysis of his life, by collecting as much information from a range of agencies as we were able to gather. The strategic assessment details what this information and what academia and other sources tells us about how to address violence, and a range of associated crimes through effective intervention.

It focusses on intervention and prevention being a solution and seeks to explore how we might identify the next Craig, at the earliest intervention point by having better data integration; it also considers how we intervene in the best, most cost effective way.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

1. none

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

2. none

RECOMMENDATIONS

3. The Board is asked to receive the Strategic Assessment

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