

New investment to support young people at risk of serious violence

News story

The Home Office is investing £17 million in early intervention and preventative activity to support young people at high risk of involvement in serious violence.



This investment by the Home Office will fund 3 types of the best evidenced and most innovative serious violence youth interventions. These are:

- high-intensity therapeutic interventions such as cognitive behavioural therapy, which the [Youth Endowment Fund's Evidence Toolkit](#) identifies as likely to be highly effective in reducing violent crime
- 'teachable moment' style interventions for young people involved in serious violence which capitalise on important moments when they are likely to be most receptive (for example, admission to A&E or in police custody), connecting them to a package of support enabling a more positive life course
- trauma-informed training for frontline professionals to help them improve support for young people by developing a greater understanding of different types of trauma that may have been experienced by the children and young people they work with

In May 2021, a competition was opened for violence reduction units (VRUs) to bid for funding to deliver these interventions.

VRUs were selected as the delivery body as they operate in the 18 areas across England and Wales most affected by serious violence, which supports the Home Office's targeted approach to serious violence.

Additionally, VRUs bring together essential partners to reduce violent crime and address its underlying causes, making them best placed to understand the local needs of the area and identify where and how these interventions would be most effective.

Funding for serious violence youth intervention activity in VRU areas announced today for 2021 to 2022 is subject to grant agreements being signed with VRUs.

In addition, the Home Office worked with the Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) to create the opportunity for additional multi-year co-funding and for enhanced evaluation to improve the evidence base for these interventions, which will be implemented by VRUs.

The outcomes of the YEF's co-funding will be announced by the YEF in due course.

High-intensity therapeutic interventions

Location	Funding amount (to nearest £1,000s)
London	5,000,000
West Midlands	1,176,000
Merseyside	853,000
South Yorkshire	500,000
Kent	535,000

Teachable moments

Location	Funding amount (to nearest £1,000s)
London	500,000
West Midlands	455,000
Greater Manchester	332,000
West Yorkshire	485,000
Thames Valley (Police custody and hospital)	305,000
Thames Valley (Police custody and hospital)	483,000
Lancashire (Police custody)	405,000
Lancashire (Hospital)	216,000
Avon & Somerset	492,000
Kent	204,000
Northumbria (Police custody)	296,000
Nottinghamshire (Police custody)	443,000
Nottinghamshire (Police custody)	233,000
Leicestershire (Schools)	383,000
Leicestershire (Police custody)	233,000
Sussex	228,000
Hampshire	240,000
South Wales (Hospital)	206,000
South Wales (Police custody)	252,000

Trauma-informed training

Location	Funding amount (to nearest £1,000s)
Avon & Somerset	305,000
Greater Manchester	226,000
Leicestershire	319,000
Hampshire	460,000
Lancashire	415,000
Sussex	291,000
West Midlands	591,000

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