

B&NES Serious Violence Plan 2024-2025

This summary outlines a high-level plan to reduce serious violence in B&NES, through the B&NES VRP and BCSSP. It is intended to complement, support and inform the concurrently and collaboratively produced A&S VRP serious violence strategy.

Summary of Current Situation

- B&NES is experiencing increasing levels of violent crime
- Perceptions of the prevalence knife crime amongst residents is relatively high
- Violence is concentrated in areas of high footfall such as the City Centre, Keynsham, Somer Valley and Radstock.
- Violent offences peak in the summer months and tend to cluster overnight and around school finishing times

Risk Factors for Serious Violence

- Aggressive and Antisocial Behaviour
- Worse emotional and mental health and well being experiences
- Children in need
- Exclusion from school
- Domestic violence and adverse childhood
- Educational need and attainment
- Peer influence
- Substance misuse
- Organised crime and gang involvement
- Social media and online content
- Deprivation
- Unemployment
- Poor Housing

Priorities:

1. Prevention and Early Intervention
(i.e. *Primary Prevention*)
2. Response and Support
(i.e. *Secondary and Tertiary Prevention*)
3. Community engagement and ongoing assessment of need
4. Alignment and collaboration within and across organisations

Measures of Success:

1. Improving the key determinants of serious violence
2. Harm Reduction
3. Perception of safety
4. Delivery of our commitments

Next Steps:

An implementation plan for 2024-2025 to operationalise these priorities