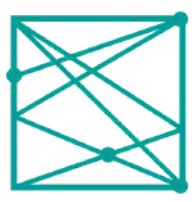




NORTHUMBRIA VIOLENCE REDUCTION UNIT



PHASE 1
INTERVENTION IMPACT



**NORTHUMBRIA
POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER**

**violence
reduction
unit**

Improving lives to prevent crime

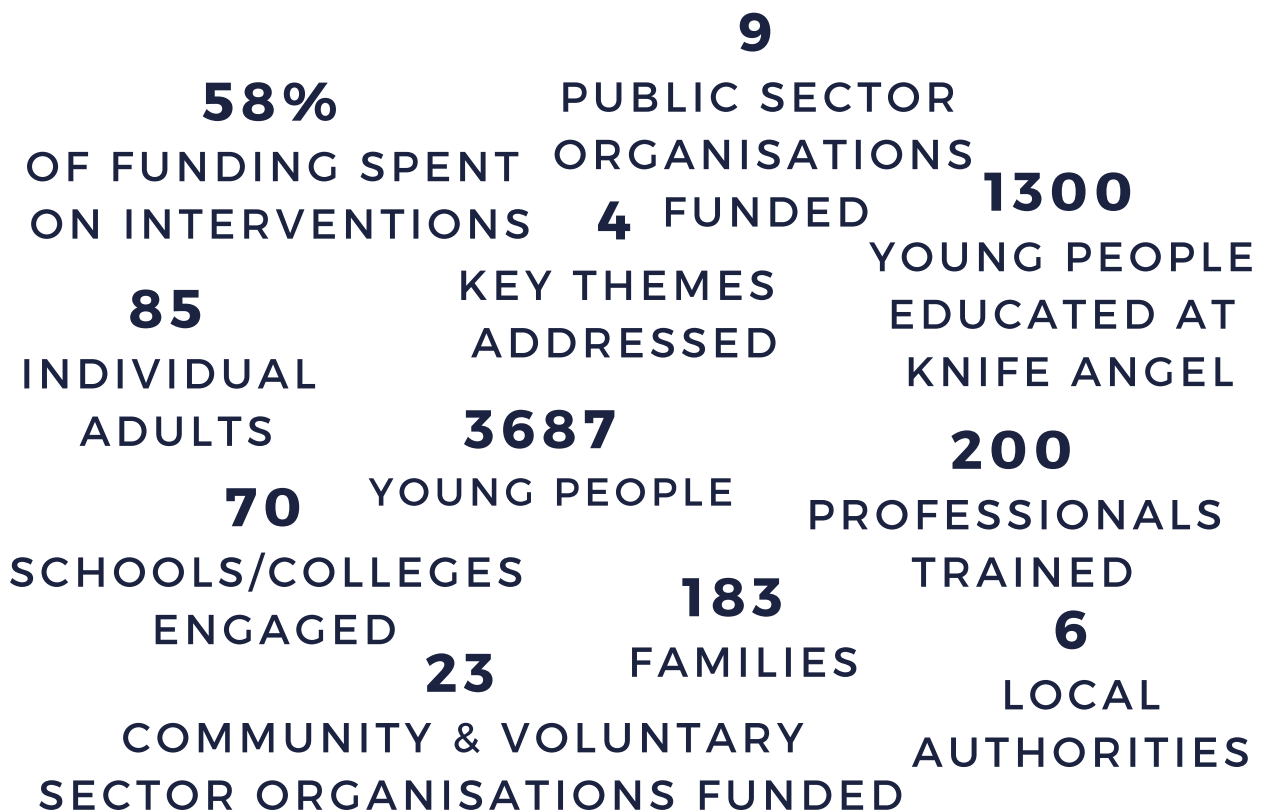
NORTHUMBRIA VRU

OUR INTERVENTIONS

"DANIEL HAD BEEN FOUND SLEEPING ROUGH BY OUR STAFF WHILE CONDUCTING A COUNT OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS. HE WAS INVITED TO ATTEND OUR HOMELESS DAY SERVICE THE FOLLOWING DAY. WHEN HE WAS THERE, HE WAS SUPPORTED TO FIND TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION FOLLOWED BY MORE PERMANENT HOUSING A FEW WEEKS EARLIER. HE IS NOW ADDRESSING HIS MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AND IS MORE CONFIDENT. THE ACTIVITIES DANIEL TOOK PART IN HELPED BUILD TRUST ENABLING HIM TO REACH OUT AND ACCEPT HELP. HE IS NOW MORE INDEPENDENT AND LESS RELIANT ON INDIVIDUALS THAT WERE NOT CONDUCIVE TO HIM BUILDING A SAFE AND FULFILLED LIFE."

INTERVENTION - OASIS COMMUNITY HOUSING

The Violence Reduction Unit supported 32 interventions that worked directly with people to reduce violence and the harm, whilst also educating people so they don't become involved in the lifestyle. Supporting these interventions has been critical in allowing us to deliver on our objective of 'improving lives to prevent crime'. This is just the beginning of our work and it has yielded some notable successes to date already - the future looks positive as we build on the initial success of phase 1.



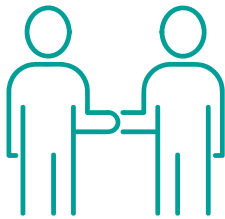
NORTHUMBRIA VRU

OUR INTERVENTIONS

"HE WAS ON A DOWNWARD SPIRAL AS FAR AS BEHAVIOUR WAS CONCERNED IN SCHOOL AND OUT IN THE COMMUNITY. HIS MOTHER EXPRESSED REAL CONCERN ABOUT HIS FRIENDSHIP GROUPS OUT OF SCHOOL AND HIS ATTITUDE TOWARDS HIS EDUCATION. HE WAS ON THE VERGE OF EXCLUSION AS THE SITUATION HAD BECOME SO BAD.

WORK STARTED WITH NUFC FOUNDATION AND THIS SEEMED TO HAVE A VERY POSITIVE IMPACT ON HIS BEHAVIOUR. HIS MOTHER SAID IT FELT THAT SHE HAD A DIFFERENT YOUNG PERSON LIVING WITH HER AS HIS ATTITUDE AND BEHAVIOUR HAD IMPROVED SO MUCH. I ADDED THAT HIS ATTITUDE TO LEARNING HAD IMPROVED IN LESSONS AND HE WAS STAYING BEHIND TO DO HIS HOMEWORK."

TEACHER, HEAD OF YEAR
INTERVENTION - NEWCASTLE UNITED FOUNDATION



- Improve development of social interaction skills
- Improved engagement/delivery with education
- Improved opportunities for personal development
- Improve multi-agency working/information sharing



NORTHUMBRIA VRU

OUR INTERVENTIONS

“THE SCARY THING WHEN ASKED, IS THAT I ENJOYED PRISON. HOWEVER, NOW, I WILL NEVER GO BACK. THANKS TO PAG I NOW HAVE A HOUSE AND CAN BE A GOOD MAM TO MY DAUGHTER IN A SAFE ENVIRONMENT. I CAN ACCESS A RANGE OF WORKSHOPS AND SESSIONS TO DEVELOP MY PERSONAL SKILLS AND START AGAIN. I HAVE THEM TO THANK FOR EVERYTHING.”

INTERVENTION - PALLION ACTION GROUP



- Preventing offending
- Reducing re-offending
- Tackle/reduce school exclusions

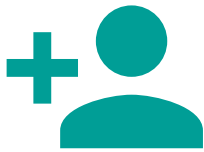


NORTHUMBRIA VRU

OUR INTERVENTIONS

"I WAS OFFENDING FROM A YOUNG AGE, GETTING INVOLVED WITH POLICE FREQUENTLY AND EVENTUALLY GOT A CUSTODIAL SENTENCE IN DECEMBER 2015. ON LEAVING PRISON, I HAD NOTHING. I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO, OR HOW TO SURVIVE. PROJECT NOVA WORKED WITH ME TO SECURE ACCOMMODATION AND THAT HAS CHANGED MY LIFE. I WAS PREVIOUSLY ON THE STREETS, DIDN'T HAVE ANY STABILITY AND IT WAS A MASSIVE RELIEF - I WAS CONCERNED FOR MY WELFARE AND WHERE MY LIFE WAS HEADING. GARY IS MY GUARDIAN ANGEL, WITHOUT GARY & PROJECT NOVA I BELIEVE I WOULD HAVE BEEN FOUND DEAD, THEY PULLED ME BACK FROM THE BRINK."

INTERVENTION - PROJECT NOVA



- Increase engagement with veterans
- Increase awareness of harm regarding drugs and alcohol
- Increase awareness of exploitation
- Increase engagement with drug and alcohol services
- Increase awareness of domestic abuse



NORTHUMBRIA VRU

OUR INTERVENTIONS

“WE ARE CURRENTLY WORKING WITH A YOUTH THAT HAS QUITE A PROLIFIC RECORD, BUT BY WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE POLICE, YJS, SOCIAL WORKERS AND OTHERS, THEY ARE NOW NOT INVOLVED IN ANY TROUBLE AND HAVE A BRIGHT FUTURE AHEAD OF THEMSELVES. WE WERE JUST A VOICE FOR HIM. IT WAS BEING THAT VOICE AND BEING THERE TO SUPPORT AND GUIDE HIM AND WORKING WITH THE OTHER SERVICES INVOLVED TO BE ABLE TO GIVE HIM A BIT OF A BREAK. SUPPORTING HIM WITH REMINDERS AND ENSURING HE WAS ATTENDING APPOINTMENTS, APPROACHING HIM IN A DIFFERENT WAY AND USING THE EXISTING RELATIONSHIP WE BUILT WITH HIM TO GET THE BEST FOR ALL.”

INTERVENTION - EDGE NORTH EAST



- Engage with more high-risk young people
- Engage more high-risk adults
- Empower communities
- Engage young people through sport



NORTHUMBRIA VRU

OUR CURRENT POSITION

“RESILIENCE RELATES TO THE ENVIRONMENT AROUND A CHILD - IT IS SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY BASED: IT IS NOT SOMETHING THAT IS IN THE CHILD OR INDIVIDUAL; IT IS HOW THE CHILD IS ABLE TO ELICIT HELP AND USE IT FROM AROUND THEM, BUT IT IS ALSO ABOUT THE SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL RESOURCES AROUND THE CHILD” -
PROF. EAMON MCCRORY, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

Insight Report

The VRU has developed an Insight Report into serious violence and vulnerability across Northumbria. This report has been developed collaboratively with key local partners, using and layering data from police, fire & rescue, local authorities, CRC and probation, public health, NHS (A&E departments), and the voluntary sector. The insight report will provide the basis for the VRU and the partners to identify the key ‘harm hotspots’ across Northumbria, supporting the development and evaluation of interventions and support implementation.

The insight report has identified a link between the levels of serious violence and levels of deprivation. In general, violent offences in Northumbria are higher than the national average, and reflects a more deprived demographic population, further supporting the link between poverty and violent crime.

IN THE PERIOD APRIL TO SEPTEMBER 2019, 4,004 KNIVES WERE REMOVED BY OR SURRENDERED TO POLICE, AN INCREASE FROM 1,882 KNIVES FOR THE SAME PERIOD IN 2018.

IN THE 12 MONTHS TO 29TH FEBRUARY 2020 THERE HAS BEEN A 72% INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF STOP AND SEARCHES FOR OFFENSIVE WEAPONS.

SOURCE: NORTHUMBRIA POLICE

NORTHUMBRIA VRU

OUR PARTICIPANTS

"If I wasn't here I would be out on the streets making hell on, that's how I ended up getting referred in first place. Since coming here, I haven't had any problems at all, it's really helped. I enjoy having a place to go and something to do - I absolutely love it here. It's given me plans for the future."

Participant, Sunderland Community HUB

"I love working with the Foundation on the Premier League enterprise course, I really look forward to a Friday afternoon as my favourite time of the week. Ed is great, he is a really nice man, who gives time to talk and get to know all of the students. We get the chance to talk and discuss work with each other in class, which has helped my confidence in speaking out loud and working with other people. The course has inspired me to think about my future, I would love a career in football or engineering when I'm older. We have learnt about lots of amazing jobs connected to Football and I now know that I need to work really hard in lessons to get the best possible grades. This is one of the reasons I have managed to turn my behaviour round this year."

Participant, Newcastle United Foundation



NORTHUMBRIA VRU

OUR PARTICIPANTS

"i really enjoy talking with the workers, they help with any problem you have. It's not just one night of help, they've helped me with my CV, getting into work. They have supported me through my apprenticeship and now I've been offered a part-time role. I've developed a range of skills and been to places that I would have never got to experience otherwise."

Participant, St Pauls Community Partnership

"Support from IOM, and Mark in particular has changed my life. When you leave prison there are so many obstacles in the way, you need all the help and support you can get. Housing is crucial - without this, you can't get work, can't feel, or have any stability. I'm trying to set up a home for my kids, it's not fair on them to have to keep moving - they are the ones getting impacted and that's not right.

There has to be someone there to support people, show them what is possible and give them aspiration. People have to work hard though, they have to meet halfway. Family is a key driver - I would do anything for them.

If you get to the parents, then you get the kids as well. If I start committing crime again, my son will get dragged in, I don't want that. Help the parents first, and the kids will benefit."

Participant, Integrated Offender Management

"We previously had problems with him running away, constantly having to get the police involved - not listening, using drugs, hanging round with older kids and other issues. Since coming here, he's now in a routine - he's off the streets and really behaving to make sure that he can attend on a Monday & Friday. He's now doing really well at school and everyone has noticed the difference in him - this intervention has really changed him for the better. He trusts the staff, has the confidence to speak to them and knows now what he should and shouldn't be doing."

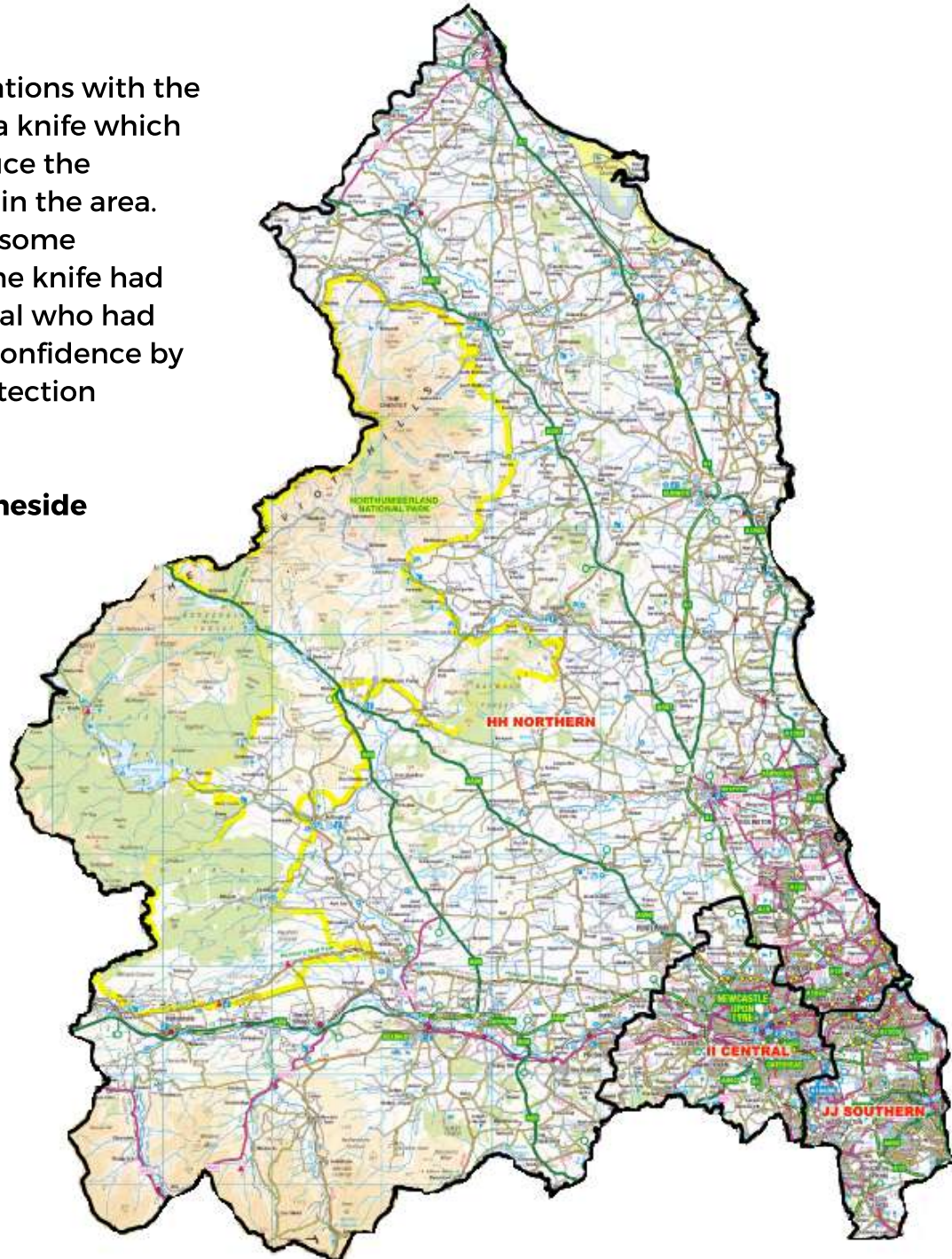
Mother of participant, Foundation of Light

NORTHUMBRIA VRU

OUR PARTICIPANTS

"Really interesting conversations with the young people about using a knife which have hopefully helped reduce the chances of a knife incident in the area. They also provided us with some intelligence about where the knife had come from and an individual who had been involved all taken in confidence by police and Community Protection Officer."

Project Manager, North Tyneside Council



"Participant A's mental health has significantly improved since engaging at Larkspur House, she volunteers multiple times a week with the children's groups and facilitated a 'Crafternoon' for MIND which was a great success. She has repeatedly thanked staff for providing opportunity for her and her family, "Thank you for letting me be a part of it and giving me a sense of purpose... it's been really nice being [here]".

Project Manager, Edberts House