

## **Appendix B**

### **Summary of Preventing Serious Violence Strategy 2024-29**

The Preventing Serious Violence Strategy outlines an overall vision and priorities for the prevention of violence in Devon.

#### **Vision**

The Strategy's vision is for people, families and communities in Devon to thrive, safe from the risk and experience of violence.

#### **Priorities**

The Strategy outlines 5 core priorities and 2 cross-cutting priorities for delivery:

##### Core priorities

- Priority 1: Shape a series of preventative responses for young people and adults who, based on their individual needs and experiences, are at greatest risk of involvement in violence, taking account of intersecting needs and the individual ways needs may present.
- Priority 2: Strengthen our understanding and response to contextual harms to reduce exploitation and peer group related risks.
- Priority 3: Strengthen our early years and early help targeted offer for families where risk and vulnerability factors in relation to violence are present.
- Priority 4: Challenge the normalisation of violence, particularly in relation to young people - supporting them to develop healthy and respectful relationships, both intimate partner and peer to peer.
- Priority 5: Work towards creating inclusive and supportive education environments where all young people can thrive, with a focus on strengthening their wellbeing, resilience and opportunities.

##### Cross-cutting priorities

- Priority 6: Work towards trauma, shame and neurodivergence-informed systems (see appendix 1 for our definitions of these terms).
- Priority 7: Strengthen our learning about serious violence, needs and drivers, and what works well as prevention.

#### **Areas of focus: people and places**

Delivery against the priorities is informed by the 'people and places' of focus identified in the Strategy. These form three key areas of focus, within which specific groups and places have been identified where consideration would be beneficial based on the findings of the Needs Assessment.

##### Focus 1: Me (my experiences and needs)

- Children who have care experience, and children who are open to social care
- Children with Special Educational Needs (SEND), Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) and who are neurodivergent, particularly

where there are compounding risk factors, and including where needs are undiagnosed and unidentified

- Adults who experience multiple disadvantages

#### Focus 2: The people around me

- Young people and families who are affected by imprisonment or involvement in crime or violence
- Young people and families who are affected by the needs of parents and care givers, for example substance misuse and/or mental health
- Young people and families who are affected by domestic violence and abuse

#### Focus 3: My community and society

- Education settings (schools, alternative provision and colleges)
- Communities experiencing the greatest levels of violence, harms and factors known to influence this, for example deprivation, poverty, the presence of drug activities and concerns around the Night-Time Economy
- All young people, focusing on safety and exposure to violence and harmful behaviours in adolescence