

Scottish Violence Reduction Unit

Business Plan 2022/23 Summary Report of Activity

May 2023



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The following document is a reflection of the activity undertaken by the SVRU against the agreed business plan for 2022/23.

There were a number of logistical challenges throughout the year primarily driven by significant reductions in the team headcount due to unplanned retirement and the inability of Police Scotland to fill vacant posts due to this being a force wide issue. This combined with posts being held vacant due to potential funding issues resulted in some actions being moved to the next financial years and others not being fully realised.

Overall, despite the significant staffing pressures and the strain that this placed on the organisation the SVRU had a number of notable successes, with the growth of the Custody Navigator programme and the You Decide Team (in Dundee and Ayr), as well as the significant work curtailing youth violence in Glasgow East. The team worked with partners to expand trauma training across Police Scotland and other partners and new approaches in Harmful Sexual Behaviour and suicide prevention were being tested.

With the launch of the new website and online prevention toolkit, the SVRU is now more forward facing than ever.

The deliverables in 2022/23 are framed around the six key actions as defined in the SVRU 5 year plan.

Action 1: Better Use of Data

In Scotland, the police, health service, and the rest of the public sector are huge purveyors of data. By linking and sharing information between services, there's the potential for well-analysed data to offer substantial intelligence and insight that can be utilised to enhance citizens' safety and wellbeing.

Linking and triangulating the data will give us a better understanding of the picture; however, it is only through better analysis and research we can understand... WHY?

Working with analytical colleagues in policing, health, and government, we can improve the understanding of what is happening, and through our relationships within universities and academics across the world, we can understand what to do.

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Action 2: Addressing the Vulnerabilities

With better evidence and understanding, we must reduce the vulnerabilities in society that enable violence to exist. Tackling issues such as gender inequalities or the impact of early year's trauma is part of the many solutions, understanding the effects of poverty or the protective aspects of employability or mentoring.

Understanding and addressing the drivers of violence will also have knock-on effects on other areas. For example, high-quality early-year enrichment programmes do not just reduce the chance of future violence; they also reduce addiction's susceptibility and improve mental health and wellbeing. In comparison, a reduction in problematic drinking will have benefits in the number of violent assaults and a reduction in the number of health problems.

The challenges and solutions are inter-connected, so it's crucial not to view challenges through a single lens. Solutions must be innovative and holistic, addressing the symptoms and, more importantly, the causes of violence.

Action 3: Place-led approach

The places where we live and work can impact almost every area of our lives, from our relationships to our safety and success. So, we must take in the whole view when we look to solutions and not just isolated sections. By considering the whole community – how well it is working for everyone and what it needs to work better – we have the best chance of improving the lives of all those who live in that area.

The SVRU has a long history of working hand-in-hand with communities, identifying the assets within those areas, leading to the transformation. Over the next year, we will test a range of place-based interventions, including community assets and the democratisation of communities. We will LISTEN to communities to develop new ways of working to improve the outcomes of some of the most vulnerable individuals and families.

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Action 4: Expanding the delivery

The VRU was created by the legacy Strathclyde Police in 2004/5 to tackle Glasgow's rising homicide rates. That year there had been 41 deaths in Glasgow alone. The need in the city to find a different approach to reduce violence was urgent. However, in 2006 the VRU was made into a national unit by the then Scottish Executive with a remit covering the entire country.

While we have retained our base in Glasgow, much of what we have done has had a national reach. For example, in our early years, we pushed for tougher laws around knife carrying. Many of our projects have also extended across the country. Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP), delivered in partnership with Education Scotland, is now Scotland's largest anti-violence schools programme operating across 29 local authority areas from Shetland to the Scottish Borders.

As part of the VRU delivery across Scotland, we will continue to work with our local teams in Ayrshire, Dundee and Edinburgh with potential expansion in other areas. From experience, we recognise that a one size fits all approach is neither effective nor the best use of resources and a more bespoke approach should be adopted to effect change on a local level.

Action 5: Thought Leadership

The SVRU was set up with the instruction to 'think differently', and that is what we've sought to do throughout the last fifteen years. We have tried to look at violence from a different perspective, to see the causes not just the symptoms. We don't just want to take the knife from someone's hand; we want to stop them from picking it up in the first place.

We've looked around the world for knowledge and inspiration to do this. We've sought out the evidence of what does and doesn't work. Adapting those initiatives that look most promising then testing and rolling out those that fit Scotland's needs best. In this process, we've benefitted enormously from a

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global community of individuals and institutions who have generously shared their knowledge and experience. In turn, we have tried to pay this forward by sharing our learning where it is requested or needed in Scotland and beyond.

Action 6: Joining the Dots

If there is one lesson we can take from COVID-19, we must work together. Even if our part in overcoming the pandemic was simply to 'stay at home and stop the spread', it was still an important role and crucial to success. Just as ending the pandemic wasn't just the job of the NHS, overcoming violence is not just the job of the police. Every profession, and every person, has a part to play. We know how successful, strong partnerships can be, so now is the time to forge alliances that can overcome violence and the devastation it causes.

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Action Area	Workstreams	Summary	High Level Summary of Activity
Action1	To work with Police Scotland to identify new opportunities	To make better use of Police Scotland Data to understand the picture of recorded violence in Scotland.	With the reduction in analytical capabilities over the year, progress in this action was limited to local support and discussion with analysts and the APU on the analysis of violence for both the police strategic assessment and ongoing analytical work for the Violence Portfolio lead.
Action 1	To develop new research partnerships	To work with universities, funders and other researcher providers both directly and in directly to improve the understanding of violence; its causes and its consequences.	<p>Over the period 2022/23 the SVRU continued to develop its research partners and knowledge base.</p> <p>With participation in the new policing and vulnerabilities ESRC research centre the SVRU is helping to shape research in areas such as mental health, county lines and youth violence to identify best practice in addressing these complicated challenges for policing</p> <p>Closer links with the psychology departments in Strathclyde and Glasgow Caledonian are being fostered to develop a cadre of MSc students to help with future evaluations.</p> <p>The SVRU is also working with and supporting SCADR (Scottish Centre for Administrative Data Research) to help to understand some of the underlining violence trends this is also in partnership with the Public Health Youth and Violence Reduction team (Glasgow Uni, Open Uni and London School of Economics)</p>
Action 1	Targeted Data Sharing	Identify opportunities to share data nationally through the proposed violence prevention framework	Data sharing conversations paused whilst discussions are ongoing with the data team at Police Scotland and other partners.
Action 2	Custody Navigator	Using the model developed for A&E departments as a template. Develop a service that would operate with those in police custody.	The custody Navigator programme has seen significant development over the last year with expansion of the Fife pilot to 4 Navigators and securing additional funds through ADP and SACRO an estimated 500k that secure the delivery of this service for up to 4 years in 2 sites (Glenrothes and *****)
Action 2	Alcohol	Alcohol remains one of the key drivers of violence in both private and public spaces	Ongoing no specific programmes of work were developed in 2022/23

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<p>Action 2</p>	<p>Supporting the Growth of the One Community Charity</p>	<p>The VRU One Community Programme has morphed into an independent charity in 2021.</p>	<p>THE SVRU provides back office and specialist support to aid the SVRU funded Project Manager for OCS. This programme of work is especially relevant as it has been historically difficult to connect with young people from the BME communities. Working with vulnerable young people and their families OCS is able to prevent and deter future violence and other significant social challenges. Examples of their work below:</p> <p>The Young Ethnic Minority People Making Healthy Choices programme</p> <p>OCS centres the role of young people in shaping their activities and services in response to their unique circumstances and needs. Based on the insights gathered from supporting communities, and perspectives gathered through engaging with young people, The Young Ethnic Minority People Making Healthy Choices programme was implemented. The goal of this programme is to deliver activities that make a contribution towards addressing both the causes and consequences of substance abuse and enhance opportunities for better physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing amongst young NewScots.</p> <p>In particular, the programme intends to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce feelings of isolation and loneliness.• Improve connection with community.• Improve mental health and well-being.• Improve confidence and self-esteem <p>Activities delivered by The Young Ethnic Minority People Making Health Choice Programme and progress towards outcomes</p> <p>A variety of activities have been delivered to address the aims of the programme and to support young people in making progress towards the intended outcomes highlighted above. Each of the activities will be discussed alongside feedback provided by those who participated.</p> <p><u>The Health and Vested Girl project</u></p> <p>The Health and Vested program was created for young BME girls, encouraging them to hone their confidence and leadership skills. The programme is tailored to the needs of young women from refugee/asylum backgrounds facing barriers relating to education, employment, in-turn affecting their ability to achieve their full potential. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Scottish Government noted that the BME people have been acutely affected by pre-existing inequalities including health, education, employment, mental health, housing and limited public funds policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delivered regular training sessions covering a variety of relevant topics (e.g. sexual consent, confidence/leadership building, personal statement writing, CV and interview workshops).• Collaborating with partners to create work experience opportunities for young people• Coordinated a trip to Edinburgh Zoo which was attended by fifteen young girls, most of them were able to visit outside of Glasgow for the first time.
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sixteen young girls regularly participated in this project and continued using our services and other projects. <p>The activities delivered as part of this project reduce feelings of isolation and loneliness, improve connection with community, improve mental health and well-being and improve confidence and self-esteem in attendees.</p> <p><u>Father's Day event</u></p> <p>Father's Day is dedicated to children and their dads offering an opportunity to enjoy multiple activities in order to connect further and improve their relationships. Families living in areas of social deprivation are often introduced to several obstacles impacting the opportunities for fathers to spend time with their children/child. Indeed, Covid-19 and the rise in living costs have limited fathers' opportunities to engage in various activities. Thus, OCS delivered events committed to tackling this growing social issue. Over the year OCS held six events where we reached over 80 fathers. Around 63 young participants attended with their fathers for these activities and enjoyed, participated, and engaged with the bonding experiences which they normally don't get to do often with their fathers. The majority of those who completed the survey were interested in attending more community events with their children.</p> <p><u>Residential Weekend away</u></p> <p>One Community Scotland and SVRU have partnered with SU—Lendrick Muir, based around a country house with extensive grounds and stunning scenery. They coordinated numerous outdoor activity bases, from high ropes courses to team-building games in the forest, archery, mountain biking, and water-based activities. SU instructors lead all of the more skilled pursuits. During that weekend, we focused on teamwork, mental well-being, and of course - outdoor activities. The residential weekend reached 40 young people, 61% of whom said that they found the mental wellbeing workshop useful and that they would be keen to attend future workshops. The participants and their families continued to be engaged with One Community Scotland's services and projects. This activity supported the goals of reducing feelings of isolation, improving connection with community and improving confidence.</p> <p><u>October Training Event</u></p> <p>One Community Scotland has conducted a project to impart essential skills to young BME communities in Glasgow. The goal was to increase employability amongst young people to enter the workforce. This training event provides skillsets such as financial literacy, work experience/volunteering, mental well-being, first aid and employability for young people to prepare them for employment, whether it is during the summer holidays or in general. Thus, we have day 1 financial literacy, day 2 mental well-being and day 3 employability.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 17 young people participated in this event.• 4 of the participants have entered the workforce.• 1 has created an online business for themselves.• 12 participants have formally asked to join One Community Scotland's Youth Advisory group. <p><u>Substance abuse awareness workshop</u></p> <p>One Community Scotland organised a substance abuse workshop where we discussed and spread awareness about the warning signs of substance/alcohol abuse and its impact on mental health among young people. The workshop was split into a three-day event where participants were introduced to themes such as; the relationship between</p>
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			<p>mental health and substance abuse, the dangers of addiction, awareness about adverse childhood experiences and were able to hear about the experiences of BME people living in Scotland and working in different sectors. The three-day event involved a mix of training, fun activities, and guidance in order to equip young people from BME communities with the nuanced support they need and a safe space for open discussion. The workshop was attended by 25 young people attended the substance abuse awareness workshop and 3 volunteers were able to cultivate their skillset and aid in facilitating the workshop by supporting participants in filling out forms, communicating with guest speakers, lunch and producing observational notes.</p>
Action 2	Bystander and Relationship based practice	Develop the existing Bystander programme training.	<p>Scottish Government Bystander Training A number of Inputs provided through the year with meetings culminating on 30/3/23 with Training Leads and Representatives to agree finalised materials and method of delivery for the Scottish Government. Next stage is Train the Trainer Training being collaboratively developed and delivered with 12-16 representatives over the coming weeks and warm transfer to operationalise delivery to Scottish Government through May and June.</p> <p>Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) Catch up meeting held on 20th March to share information and re-establish links with National Steering Group to ensure SVRU Influence and contribution to the ongoing programme delivering in all Local Authority Areas of Scotland. New materials are being developed (e.g. NKBL, Mental Health and Misogyny) may overlap SVRU effort if dialogue is not maintained.</p>
Action 2	Mentoring	To examine and evaluate the use of mentoring in novel areas and with high risk individuals	<p>Mentoring and support provided via the YDT programme in the East to groups of young people involved in Gang violence. The delivery of the social work project examining the high intensity mentoring has now been completed, and the interviews of the staff and clients involved has been undertaken. During, 2023/24 the SVRU will seek to work with partners in Academia to undertake the analysis this data to improve the learning on high intensity mentoring and the impact that this had both on the clients and the services it worked along side.</p>
Action 2	Mental Health	To examine the potential cross overs and opportunities for joint working in the area of mental health and violence	<p><u>Barbers Project – ‘reach-in male mental health conversations’</u></p> <p>The SVRU co-created and piloted the 2.5 hour training package to our pilot barbers in Glasgow</p> <p>Rebel Rebel Barbers in Finnieston Glasgow. The feedback we received was excellent and the barbers feel that their confidence levels have grown from pre-post training from 3 to a 7/8 when considering opening up these conversations to clients and offering support and/or taking 5 minutes to talk them through using the Brothers in Arms app online.</p> <p>There is a meeting planned early May with a female hair stylist who runs her own barbers in Merchant City Glasgow who has heard about the training and would like to hear more information about how to get her barbers involved.</p>

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			<p>Dr. Kirsten Russell from the University of Strathclyde is evaluating this pilot project and has support from her supervisor at Strathclyde University who would like to look at financing part of this project to help evaluate it academically and to help to fund the barber's time so that the training can be sustained and we keep barbers and hair stylists interested</p> <p>An additional aspect to the project could be developing an additional input to female hair stylists around discussing the content with female partners of males who are struggling with mental health/suicidal ideation and upskilling female partners in the use of the BIA app and how to support their male partners with 'reach-in' conversations.</p>
Action 2	Domestic Violence	The development of an intervention programme to address the attitudes of young men involved in violence.	<p>A multi-agency partnership approach to undertake exploratory analysis of the need and desire from young people of a co-created and co-produced group work programme aimed at young people engaged in violence and using/experiencing harmful behaviours in their relationships.</p> <p>6 representatives from the following organisations have agreed to join a steering group to develop and deliver this project;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Glasgow Women's Aid - Youthlink - Scottish Sports Futures (SSF) Youth work organisation - Criminologist and lecturer from Glasgow Caledonian University - PhD student from Durham University undertaking collaborative PhD thesis with SVRU around contextual safeguarding and young people and HSB. - SVRU staff <p>In the last year over 110 young people aged between 12-16 engaged in face to face focus groups and shared their needs and desires of what they wanted to learn about HSB and healthy/unhealthy relationships.</p> <p>Also conducted a focus group with 7 DA survivors from Women's Aid service to capture a survivor's voice in the research.</p> <p>Conducted a focus group with 10 youth workers to engage them in the conversation of vulnerability, confidence and need/desire to have these challenging conversations with young people.</p> <p>Taking all of this research into account – there is a desperate need for a co-created and strength based group work programme for young people aged 12-14 and aged 14-16 looking at reducing HSB, intimate partner violence and abuse and improving young people's knowledge and experience of healthy relationships and how to respond and communicate safely and with consent.</p>

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			<p>In April the our social work partners secured £19,000 to support the development of a project which will improve staff members response to these complex young people and possibly the development of the aforementioned group work programme. This development will continue this year and a third sector partner Scottish Sports Futures is now involved who can provide national youth work staff members who could deliver the programme.</p>
Action 2	Youth Violence	<p>Target the increasing levels of youth and 'gang' violence which is becoming evident across Scotland, and Glasgow in the main, potentially resulting from the COVID pandemic reduction in services and support</p>	<p>The SVRU worked with Gang members and Schools across the east end of Glasgow supporting community groups and the campus officers.</p> <p>The team provided a mix support for individual young people involved with the gangs involved in the violent feud and managed to reduce the tension; preventing retribution and further connected assaults.</p> <p>Additional support was provided to the schools by provide relationship training to teachers and staff in the service days across a number of Schools including St Andrews, Bannerman and Eastbank.</p> <p>Working in partnership with MAV, the SVRU have been providing additional specialist support to help reduce the violence and tension in the Eastbank high School. This partnership has been an effective use of resources and has enabled each organisation (including community partners) to contribute. The SVRU and the YDT is providing longer term support for the young people and specialist group work to increase the resilience in the care givers and parents.</p> <p>Over the last year the fear around young people in Schools and violence has escalated particularly with circulation of violent content on Instagram, snapchat, whattapp and tiktok. This combined with reports of teachers threatening industrial action and a push towards increasing levels of exclusion. The SVRU worked with the Daily Record to repoint there campaign away from a blame shame and fear campaign to a campaign on the dangers of social media and the need for youth work.</p> <p>It is evident from discussions in schools with teachers, parents and campus cops that behaviour is becoming more challenging this has not yet manifested into wide scale serious violence. To avoid this agencies and services must continue to work in partnership with communities to ensure that the violence does not return to the levels witnessed in the mid 2000s.</p>
Action 2	Prisons	<p>Following several high profile incidents and community intelligence suggesting that violence and youth gangs were on</p>	<p>Over the last year the SVRU has continued to work with prisons.</p> <p>Through the partnership with Perth Prison, the SVRU examined the service gap for remand prisoners and the risk that non engagement can have on communities. Through local partnership with the YDT in Dundee this was able to work to pick up some of the capacity for those living in the Dundee area. This approach has recently been adapted to support clients in Glasgow leaving Barlinnie through the YDT partnership with SISCO the recovery charity.</p>

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		the increase in Glasgow East and beyond.	Addiewell Prison have also contacted the SVRU and over Q4 we have been looking for opportunities to work with the prison to deal with the levels of serious violence they are witnessing. This violence accounts for a disproportionately high level of violence in the West Lothian area.
Action 2	Trauma Informed Justice	To aid in the training and support of trauma informed practices within the justice system	<p>The SVRU has presented and trained trauma informed approaches to the judiciary in Scotland through a mix of National and local events.</p> <p>Working with the Trauma informed lawyers we have been able to work with and train both fiscals and defense lawyers by providing inputs at CPDs</p>
Action 3	Glasgow North	In support of the place based in Glasgow North	<p>This programme of work was curtailed due to staffing shortages through illness.</p> <p>However, despite the capacity issues in partnership with YDT and One Community Scotland there were a number of community building activities, including winter warmers in Barmulluch and the Weekly Drop in Sessions in Possilaprk.</p> <p>The Winter Warmer campaign was in response to the impact of the cost of living crisis and increasing energy bills on some of our most vulnerable communities. On weekly basis the team would provide, hot food in a warm environment where community members could come and share stories with each other over food. The YDT team would also engage and provided a safe confidential space to help work through their challenges. The programme ran for 12weeks from November to January, which saw an average of 30 people per week turn up for support and help (on issues ranging from loneliness/isolation through addiction and debt issues).</p> <p>The Possilpark drop in centre was established in November 2022 and was set to test the whether or not community members would seek help and support. Through volunteers the service provides tea, coffee and roll but it is primarily used to engage with the public, the mums and toddler groups and other groups that use the Possilpark church for respite. Through this approach the YDT team were able to pick on average 3-5 new clients every time they ran the drop in as well as wider engagement with the communities to encourage others to help out and support each other.</p> <p>Through the YDT and community meetings the SVRU has been able to develop a number of allies and is working with a network of small organisations to walk alongside and provide mutual support at a local level, in areas such as housing, mental health, social development, addiction/recovery and advocacy.</p>
Action 3	Ayr Wallacetown	Developing the Community level response in the Wallacetown area of Ayr.	Over 2022/23 there was significant community building activity undertaken in Wallacetown. The impact of the totality of this work will be assessed during 2023/24

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The recruitment of a 'You Decide Team' Community Navigator in partnership with the Riverside Community Trust and South Ayrshire Council to support those living in the area access relevant support and regain control over all aspects of their life. - The opening of a 'community space' in the heart of Wallacetown (as requested in the community survey) – a former shop/office which has been modernised and now used by various services (smoking cessation, housing support providers etc.) to offer support and to facilitate new youth groups, women's groups etc. - The recruitment of a new Coordinator for the Wallacetown work to act as a key link between residents and service providers. - The production of a 'Working For Wallacetown' logo the original of which was created with residents and service providers making their mark (fingerprint) and signing up to working together to improve the area. - The planting of an 'apple avenue' – apple trees in an area suggested by residents and planted by residents/Local Authority staff and primary school pupils. - A programme of events including monthly community bingo, summer fun day, Burns Supper, Jubilee Celebrations, Christmas Events etc. - A fire-service led 'Future of Wallacetown' banner competition where primary pupils were encouraged to provide feedback on what they wanted to see in the area. - The installation of a permanent swing for children – in a collaborative project between pupils at Newton Primary and South Ayrshire Council – to replace a rope swing that had to be repeatedly cut down due to Health and Safety restrictions. This was funded through a participatory budget project with £10,000 provided by the local Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP). - Publication of a 'tri-service' research project with positive feedback and some recommendations on the work undertaken and partnerships developed between 'police, fire and ambulance' in Wallacetown. While document doesn't name Wallacetown specifically this was the focus of the research. - Completion of the 'seldom heard communities' photo-voice research where young people living in the area used photographs to highlight the good things and less good things about living in Wallacetown for action by service providers (fed back at a SIPR event in April 2023) with praise from Executive Level Police Leaders, Researchers and Scottish Police Authority representatives. - Work ongoing into 23/24 to restructure the Community Planning led Strategic Delivery Partnership ensuring a continued focus on Wallacetown by service providers to build on the work undertaken to date while HSCP and others look to widen focus to Ayr North locality.
Action 3	Capture and Cascade	Understand the learning gathered from the different approaches used and how they interact with each other	<p>The Wallacetown Seldom Heard Voices Report was completed and published. Work ongoing to operationalise the findings of this report and the breadth of partnership work being undertaken</p> <p>www.sipr.ac.uk/projects/shc-williams-wyatt-peter/</p>

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Action 3	You Decide Team (YDT)	Expansion of the You Decide model across the country	<p>The YDT was launched in both Dundee and Wallacetown (Ayrshire). The initial start-up budgets from the SVRU of £25k were supplemented locally by over £100k in total.</p> <p>The Dundee project is in partnership with Positive Steps and is primarily concentrating on those with Violence and Addiction issues as well as a significant number of returning citizens either from prison or on remand etc</p> <p>Referrals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• You Decide Dundee has had interactions and interventions with 77 service users to date.• 71% (55) had substance misuse issues• 61% (47) have both substances misuse issues and a criminal history.• 41% (32) have been self-referrals or from drop-ins.• 20% (16) internal referrals from Positive Steps projects.• 28% (21) From Third sector services, 10% (8) from statutory services• 10% (8) returning for secondary interventions <p>Completed Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 Service users, referred to an employability pathway, 1 of which has been in full-time employment for 3 months at the time of writing.• 7 Service users referred to suitable housing support.• 1 Service user has gone into Positive Steps accommodation with support.• 1 Service user signposted on to a rehab pathway, entering rehab on March 23• 8 service users referred to an continue to access drug or mental health treatment services. <p>The Wallacetown (Ayrshire) YDT</p> <p>Delivered in partnership with Riverside Community Trust, this approach will concentrate on the day to day challenges that the residents of the Wallacetown community face. Delays on the release of funds from Ayrshire Council due to procurement challenges was resolved in Quarter 4 and the programme has now employed their first Navigator. The SVRU will continue to monitor the progress and outcomes from this program and report back through 2023/24</p>
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			<p>YDT Glasgow (April 2022-March 2023)</p> <p>Total - 67 Drug and Alcohol services referral - 5 clients Housing referral - 20 clients Criminal Justice referral - 2 clients Health Services referral - 7 clients Prison referral - 1 Self referral - 17 clients Possil Hub – 14 clients Youth – 1 client</p> <p>All closed in 2022</p> <p>2023:</p> <p>Total - 61 Drug and Alcohol services referral - 14 clients Housing referral - 21 clients Criminal Justice referral - 2 clients Health Services referral - 6 clients Prison referral - 3 clients Self referral - 15 clients</p>
Action 4	Further Establishing local footprints	Over the year the VRU will continue to look at extending its Geographic footprint.	<p>The loss of staffing and the current operational challenges within the wider Police Scotland it has been a challenge to increase the geographic footprint. However, the SVRU work is ongoing to try and increase the SVRU footprint in areas such as West Lothian with the recruitment of the new Inspector.</p> <p>The resourcing challenge is effecting most areas of the country for example, the ongoing engagement work with partners in Caithness/Sutherland</p> <p>In conversations with community based outreach Police Officer based in Caithness who would like to model the Youth Navigator programme (YDT) but need help finding a lived experience mentor. SVRU have offered trauma and relationship based practice online training to Officers up North to help them build relationships within their</p>

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			communities where they are seeing an increase in young people carrying weapons and youth violence. There is no direct YDP supervisor/manager at the moment to direct this work too but hopefully that post will be filled and the successful candidate can help to develop the model in the North of Scotland in association with a third sector partner locally.
Action 4	Ayrshire	To increase the local delivery of prevention activity across the whole of Ayrshire	<p>The delivery of the YDT programme (see Action 3 YDT)</p> <p>The Wallacetown place based approach (Action 3 Wallacetown)</p> <p>The area PM was pivoted to help cover the BHI programme in Glasgow, and the Ayrshire wide area projects were transferred to the local public health prevention policing team.</p>
Action 4	Dundee	Using a public health approach to address the drivers of violence and other connected social problems.	The retirement of the Police PM and the staff shortages within Police Scotland resulted in this post been vacated, curtailing the wider work. However, the work in Dundee continues through our partnership with Positive Steps and the growth of the YDT programme in the area. (see Action 3 YDT)
Action 4	Edinburgh and the East	To increase the local delivery of prevention activity across the whole of the City of Edinburgh and its environs	<p>Delays to recruiting and embedding the new officer in Q4, has led to a number of the partnership projects being paused. The SVRU continued to support the local delivery of programmes such as the CRIB (bus) and the ongoing refit of the second bus.</p> <p>The SVRU is in the process of repointing service delivery in the East to address areas where the challenges of violence are more prominent. The new PM has engaged with services, organisations and communities in the North of Edinburgh and West Lothian.</p>
Action 5	Development and ongoing maintenance of online toolkit	To develop an easy to use site containing evaluated programmes and implementation instructions	<p>The first phase of the tool was launched in March 2023.</p> <p>This first phase is concentrating on youth violence, the development and future phases will be an iterative process as new content and sections will be added as and when research resources allow.</p>
Action 5	Develop training solutions to support front-line delivery of	By working with frontline partners in violence prevention, there is often a need for training	<p>A series of meetings attended to provide ongoing assistance to the National Peer Support Group Trauma Training Group and Improvement Service including Information sharing and guidance provided to the Trauma Informed Consultation and Assessment Framework from a SVRU perspective.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Meetings/Training included</p>

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	<p>violence prevention activity</p>	<p>in a variety of specialist areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions on how to incorporate Conflict Management/ Relationship Based Practice with Staff at SPC • Discussions ongoing on the infusion of Trauma Training/Relationship Based-Practice within the National Probationary Training Curriculum • CPD support and development for specialist officer (inc Rape Review Taskforce) • Development and support in the delivery of bereavement training <p>You Decide Team East Hub Support for the programme of training continued throughout the year for the gang members to divert from gang violence and provision to positive pathways. All 5 remaining members have maintained engagement in school with no offending and all have positive pathways to continuing education and prospective employment. ‘Silent Streets’ film premiere (1/11/22) filmed and developed with the cohort of gang members shown at Kelvingrove Museum. Collaborative effort involving St Andrews RC Secondary, Glasgow University, SVRU and Chocolate Films. Film to be shown in London as an exemplar for a similar project there.</p> <p>Training highlights Provided numerous training inputs to Schools, Communities, conferences and workshops, highlights include the 4 Nations Conference on Trauma where the SVRU was pivotal on the design of the day, the St Pauls Youth Forum in support of their ERASMUS project looking at GBV and the Scottish Womens Development forum on trauma.</p>
<p>Action 5</p>	<p>Work with service providers including policing to develop public health responses</p>	<p>To encourage the uptake of violence reduction activity and the principles of the public health approach across other organisations</p>	<p>Conferences Members of the VRU have spoken at numerous conferences, participated in various meetings and conducted a number of media interviews both at a local and national level. Through these we have highlighted the impact of the key drivers of violence and other social issues, particularly poverty, and promoted the power of collaborative working at all levels.</p> <p>Leadership Programmes The VRU continues to work with the Collaborative Leadership for Scotland programme and is supporting the development of an international public sector leadership programme with Edinburgh Business School.</p> <p>UK VRU Network With the latest additions of Humberside and Cleveland there are now 28 VRU’s across the UK. The SVRU maintain contact with many of these and, during 2022/23, the SVRU participated in a number of learning networks and events to share best practice</p> <p>Examples of delivery Expansion of the YDT approach The growth of Custody Navigator and the external funding supporting it.</p>

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			<p>The development of the Barbers project</p> <p>The development of the Harmful Sexual Behaviour project in Lanarkshire.</p>
Action 5	CPDs and other Training	Provide opportunities for learning and bringing together specialists to share best practice	See Action 5 Trauma Training Solutions
Action 5	Advocacy	To continue to work to deliver a message of effective evidenced based activity addressing the drivers of violence.	<p>Throughout 2022/23 the SVRU engaged with groups and organisations across the country to further the message of violence prevention and the need for evidenced based practice.</p> <p>The SVRU engaged with the media across the year examples below:</p> <p>Media coverage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opinion piece from SVRU head of unit published in Scotland on Sunday and reproduced on SVRU website. https://www.scotsman.com/news/crime/a-public-health-response-to-violence-means-you-need-to-follow-the-science-niven-rennie-3702810 • Head of unit interview with Policing Insight • Head of unit interview with The Independent on youth violence and cost of living crisis • Mail on Sunday comment on crime and cost of living crisis • Response to release of newly published recorded crime statistics. NATIONAL STATISTICS: RECORDED CRIME IN SCOTLAND BULLETIN JUNE 2022 STATEMENT Scottish Violence Reduction Unit (svru.co.uk) • Participation in Toronto Star interview. Reporter the recipient of scholarship funding travel to look globally at different policing methods, as interest in Canada grows in the public health approach. Awaiting publication. • College of Policing podcast with head of unit. • Head of unit live interview with BBC Radio Ulster on their Evening Extra programme • Comment to Daily Mail on recorded crime stats.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coverage from BBC Scotland on the You Decide Team. https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-63991329 Also ran as BBC Radio Scotland GMS feature with Will Linden interview 16/12/22 and later as a package across BBC Reporting Scotland and The Nine.• SVRU featured in Time Out magazine, alongside CIC Heavy Sound, in article about The Crib. https://www.timeout.com/uk/news/the-community-centre-on-wheels-changing-lives-across-scotland-102422• Response to latest homicide figures https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/out-of-harms-way-7ch9803jr (Also main news article)• News piece about the Glasgow Hope Hack https://news.stv.tv/west-central/around-100-young-scots-to-debate-how-to-create-fairer-society-at-glasgow-event• Coverage of Moira's Run: https://news.stv.tv/west-central/runners-return-to-honour-moira-jones-who-was-murdered-in-glasgows-queens-park https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/23052724.moiras-run-returns-glasgow-two-year-break-due-covid-19/ Also a BBC Scotland article and Radio Clyde piece• Hosted Canadian journalists covering work of the SVRU. https://www.lapresse.ca/international/europe/2022-11-13/la-presse-en-ecosse/comment-glasgow-brise-le-cycle-de-la-violence.php• Radio Tay pre-recorded interview with head of unit on disruption in Dundee.• TV5 Monde (French public television network) Dep head of unit and YDT navigator interviewed for programme looking at how Scotland uses a public health approach to preventing violence https://revoir.tv5monde.com/toutes-les-videos/info-societe/nous-les-europeens-stopper-la-violence-la-methode-ecossaise-1• Dep head of unit interviewed for Daily Record's Our Kids, Our Future campaign www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/our-kidsour-future-daily-record-29100909?int_source=amp_continue_reading&int_medium=amp&int_campaign=continue_reading_button#amp-readmore-target• Dep head of unit quoted on female homicide feature in Holyrood magazine. https://www.holyrood.com/inside-politics/view,as-killings-of-women-increase-in-scotland-is-femicide-the-real-f-word• Article on SVRU input to the Police Scotland family liaison officer training published on PS intranet
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviews carried out in Q4, awaiting publication - Tern TV for BBC Scotland on “Scotland’s street gangs” - Opinion piece on knife imagery for Children and Young People Now - Interview for Holyrood magazine on justice challenges
Action 5	National Violence Prevention Conference	To deliver a National Conference that will look to bring together examples of innovative and effective activity to help shape policy and action	Delayed until 2023/24
Action 5	Leadership Programmes	To work with other organisations to inform and improve the knowledge on public health and trauma informed approaches	Supported the delivery of the collaborative leadership training programme and the Edinburgh University Business School on the delivery of their public sector leadership training programme.
Action 5	Networks	Working with and support external networks	<p>The SVRU is supporting numerous research and development networks in the delivery of violence prevention.</p> <p>Aside from membership of the UK VRU network and the WHO.</p> <p>The SVRU is also supporting the new Policing and Vulnerability Research Centre providing specialist advice on violence and public sector advocacy.</p> <p>As part of the Salzburg Global Initiative the SVRU has access to fellows across the world from a variety of disciplines from Art to Law, from Music to Politics. The SVRU is connected into academics, influencers and policy makers across the world.</p>
Action 6	To work with local services	To work with partners at local level to improve service delivery and reduce silo approaches.	This has been key to delivery of local projects and local successes with partners on the ground with a local footprint and the knowledge and credibility the SVRU has been able to work to deliver a number of programmes including the place based community work, the development of the approaches to support schools and the growth of projects such as the You Decide Team and the community navigation work that make a difference to so many people.

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Action 6	To work with National services.	To work with services including Policing, Social Work, Health, Local Councils and third sector Organisations to improve service delivery	Across the full range of portfolio projects the SVRU was been working with partners in Policing Health and Social Work etc. This has included work at an innovation level such as the development of the HSB project in Lanarkshire or delivering training in Police Scotland in trauma and relationship based practice. The SVRU has worked alongside the SVRU in the development of a potential violence framework, which will help guide violence prevention activity in the new few years.

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SCHEDULE 3

NARRATIVE BREAKDOWN

Organisation: Violence Reduction Unit (Police Scotland)

Bank details: SC 60 70 80 A/C 10019510

Programme: Violence Reduction Unit

Total agreed for 2021-2022: £1,170,500.00

Latest forecast of expenditure of grant for: £1,104,098.91

Grant claimed to date: £1,154,937.00

Completed by: S38(1)(b)

Position: Admin Officer

Contact Details: 01786 896 785 S30(c) @scotland.pnn.police.uk)

Date:

Items of Expenditure

Please list in the table below all discrete items of expenditure relevant to the above period and the type of documentary evidence that has been submitted to substantiate each amount.

A	B	C	D
Item	Amount (£)	Paid Invoice [Y/N]	Other (please specify, e.g. certificate of payment in kind)
Salary Costs	£ 691,922.27	Y	
Invoice Costs £	£412,2176.64		
Navigator, Ayrshire Pilot	£40,000.00	P	Accrued awaiting authorisation

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Trauma Practices	£33,000.00	Y	
Community Approaches	£30,000.00	Y	
One Community	£35,000.00	Y	OCS Project Salary
Partnership Development/YDT	£216,000.00	Y	Salaries/Accommodation
Partnership Training			
Operational	£22,792.16	Y	Includes Travel, events, general office equipment/printing stationery/Training
Conference/Training	£22,000.00	Y	
COMMS/ICT	£13,384.48	Y	
TOTAL GRANT CLAIMED	£1,154,937.00		Grant claimed total £1154,937.00 – total spend £1,104,098.91 Returned £50838.91 – salary underspend

* Note the total should add up to the total expenditure claimed for the period.