



**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE  
POLICE & CRIME  
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**VRP** Violence  
Reduction  
Partnership  
Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire

## **Another Way Project**

**Updated July 2023**

Another Way is a violence reduction project targeted at young people aged 14 to 24 years. The project is limited to those who live in the City of Nottingham and who are seen to be at risk of violence – both as victims or offenders – due to associating with a group or gang or being exploited by a gang, for example through County Lines. It will run until Summer 2025.

### **Why is the Project happening?**

The Violence Reduction Partnership supports a partnership approach to reducing violence across both City and County. We know the harm that violence inflicts on teenagers and young adults both from our Strategic Needs Assessment and from what community and practitioners tell us. In many cases, those involved in violence are involved in groups or gangs, although the overlap is complex and sometimes that involvement is a result of exploitation by organised criminals. We were invited to bid for funding to the Youth Endowment Fund for a project to tackle this project using an approach known as Focused Deterrence. That bid was successful

### **What is Focused Deterrence?**

Focused Deterrence is an approach to reducing group violence that originates in the USA but has been tried in various forms in the UK. In summary it:

- Identifies a group or groups involved in violence;
- Works with local communities to gain support and assistance with the programme
- Offers support to group members to change behaviour
- Where groups or their members don't comply they are the subject of robust enforcement.

This can be delivered in several ways. We are still working on our model and informing and engaging key stakeholders including Communities to help shape the Project.

### **How will it work?**

Having identified those most at risk, there will be some difference in support depending on age.

- For under 18s, their primary contact will be with Targeted Youth Support workers in the EVR Hub (within the Council's Early Help and Youth Justice Service).
- For 18 – 24 year olds, their primary contact will be with Another Way workers within the Slavery & Exploitation Team (within the Council's Community Protection Directorate).



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- Not everyone approached will agree to be involved. Where individuals refuse support, the project will continue attempting to involve them, and where appropriate their families, and identify ways to reduce the risk of harm.
- Those who do engage will have support to access a range of support including access to employment.
- We are also looking to find practical ways to address mental health issues such as trauma including employing a mental health nurse.
- Resources are also available for youth work, mentoring and community engagement – still to be allocated.

Police and partners will step in where necessary and will, of course, continue to take action against those who exploit children and cause violence.

### **Project Delivery**

Similar projects are running in Leicester, Coventry and Wolverhampton and Manchester all funded by the Youth Endowment Fund. There is also an evaluation team that will be measuring the impact of all the projects and which will interview and survey local people. Locally, the project is managed by the VRP. Community engagement is a core element of the programme and commissioned consultation across a range of individuals and local groups continues to shape the Project. The project will also work closely with the Police who will act where young people continue to offend and where there is evidence of criminals exploiting young people.

The project launched on 21 June 2023 and will run until **to Summer 2025**. We are currently recruiting additional staff and developing the operating model.

### **For more information about Another Way:**

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**Additional Documentation**