

Progress on Recommendations from Peer Research Report 2020-21

8 months on...

**MERSEYSIDE
Violence
Reduction
Partnership**



Feelings of Safety

You found that young people want:

Better Street Lighting
More Police on the street
Self-defence classes



Photo by Bozan güzel from Pexels

We have:

- Shared feedback with key partners
- Local Authorities who have received Government Safer Streets funding have been able to invest in CCTV and mobile CCTV for public spaces and continue to work on improving street lighting
- Merseyside Police are currently evaluating what impact having more Police on the street has on crime rates. This suggestion will therefore have more conclusive evidence in the coming year.
- Currently there is very little evidence to suggest that self-defence is an effective violence prevention strategy. However, we have listened and will continue to research the best methods of implementing this, should the evidence support it.

Reporting a Crime

You found:

Young people would report crime if they could do so in secret

Young people felt that they didn't want to interfere in other people's business

Young people want better awareness of their rights



Photo by Anna Shvets from Pexels

We have:

- Continued to advocate using Fearless to report 100% anonymously
- Expanded Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) to 20 secondary schools across Merseyside. A core aspect of this programme is learning about how to be an effective bystander.
- Merseyside Police Community Engagement Team can offer sessions on your rights and access to be on the Stop and Search scrutiny panel. Contact Community.Engagement@merseyside.polic.e.uk



Awareness of Services

You found:

Young people do not know where to turn to
for support

There are lots of reasons why a young person
might need support, preventing violence.

You identified: low self-esteem, peer pressure,
drugs and alcohol, and lack of support or good
role models



Photo by Tara Winstead from Pexels

We have:

Looked to find young person-friendly ways of finding support locally. We found the following against some of the key themes you identified:

- Mental Health - there have been improvements made to the CAMHS website, with support available to children and young people via Kooth
- Drug and Alcohol: We are With You have developed a services directory for drug and alcohol support
- The Hub of Hope is an excellent resource and very accessible to young people

Activities

You found:

Young people wanted positive activities which are accessible and available. These included mental health support and access to youth clubs and sports activities.



Photo by Tima Miroshnichenko from Pexels

We have:

- Designed a community grants programme to fund sports, arts and cultural activities for children, young people and their families. Programmes to be announced soon...
- The focus of these activities is to offer activities, but more importantly access to positive role models, opportunities to develop resilience and access emotional support.
- We continue to lobby for more open access youth clubs. Our funding does not stretch far enough. If this remains important to you, please write to your local MP or start a petition with signatures to send to your local MP. Central government needs to invest in open access youth services and youth worker development.

Next steps:



Youth-led research and social action to reduce violence, it's impact on communities and to influence policy and decision makers.

Want to get involved?

Email: luise.watson@ypas.org.uk

Call Luise on: 07467 864 570