



Early Intervention Youth Fund

Project Overview

Contents

Project overview 3

 Introduction 3

 Background and approach 3

 Delivery 3

 Contacts 4

Tier 1: Broad reach awareness and upskilling professionals 5

 Tier 1a: Theatre performance for schools 5

 Tier 1b: Workshops for young people 5

 Tier 1c: Training for professionals 6

Tier 2 – Tackling exclusion in schools 7

 Buckinghamshire Youth Offending Service 7

 Milton Keynes Youth Offending Team 7

 Berkshire Youth 7

 SOFEA 8

 Youth Ambition (Oxford City Council) 8

 Nomad Youth and Community Project 8

Tier 3 – Detached youth work 9

 Milton Keynes Council (Youth Faculty) 9

 Buckinghamshire Youth Offending Service 9

 Berkshire Youth 9

 Didcot Train 10

 Nomad Youth and Community Project 10

 Youth Ambition (Oxford City Council) 10

Tier 4 – Intensive 11

 Reach Every Generation 11

 Adviza Partnership 11

 TRAX and RAW Workshop (collaboration) 11

Appendix 1 – Provider Matrix 13

EIYF Project Overview – VP1

Project overview

Introduction

This document contains an overview of activity being delivered as part of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley’s Early Intervention Youth Fund project.

Background and approach

In November 2018 the Home Office awarded the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Thames Valley £822,000 from its Early Intervention Youth Fund (EIYF) to tackle youth, violence, vulnerability and exploitation across Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire.

The funding, which runs until March 2020, will deliver a four tiered programme of work (as depicted below) aiming to prevent young people being exploited into violence and offending through gangs and County Lines drug dealing. This will range from broad reach awareness raising in schools to targeted intervention with young people already involved in gangs and knife crime.



Not all of the above interventions will be implemented in all areas. Local areas will negotiate and identify individual needs and how they will contribute towards making that work.

This project forms part of a larger conversation about “improving outcomes and changing the trajectory of young people’s lives” across the Thames Valley.

Delivery

The OPCC is leading on the programme through Community Safety Partnerships which include the police, youth offending teams, youth service providers, local authorities, secondary schools and charities.

The funding has been awarded to 14 organisations who will deliver interventions at either a local or Thames Valley wide level. These are as follows:

EIYF Project Overview – VP1

Thames Valley wide:

- AlterEgo Creative Solutions (Tier 1)
- Crimestoppers (Tier 1)
- Reach Every Generation (Tier 1 and Tier 4 in Bucks)

Berkshire:

- Berkshire Youth (Tiers 2 and 3)
- Adviza Partnership (Tier 4)

Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes:

- Milton Keynes Youth Offending Team (Tier 2)
- Milton Keynes Council (Youth Faculty) (Tier 3)
- Buckinghamshire Youth Offending Service (Tier 2 and 3)

Oxfordshire:

- RAW Workshop and TRAX (Tier 4)
- SOFEA (Tier 2)
- Youth Ambition (Oxford City Council) (Tier 2 and 3)
- Didcot TRAIN (Tier 3)
- Nomad Youth and Community Project (Tier 2 and 3)

See [Appendix One](#) for details of all the providers and a summary of what they will be delivering.

Contacts

For more information about the EIYF project please contact:

- Holly Turner: Project Manager, OPCC - Holly.Turner@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk
- Cath Marriott: Policy Development, OPCC - Catherine.Marriott@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

EIYF Project Overview – VP1

Tier 1: Broad reach awareness and upskilling professionals

Tier 1 is made up of three sub-tiers targeting young people and professionals across the Thames Valley.

Tier 1a: Theatre performance for schools

Targeting: Secondary school students (years 7 and above)

Provider: [AlterEgo Creative Solutions](#)

Area: Thames Valley wide

Timings: September to December 2019

A theatre performance touring secondary schools to raise general awareness of: County Lines, grooming, Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE). The play is based on real life accounts taken from young victims of County Lines from around the UK.

This is delivered as a 50 minute performance which includes a short post-show talk clarifying subjects covered in the play. Young people are provided with an information leaflet at the end of the performance with more details including signposting to sources of help and advice. The schools will also be provided with access to online resources that were created for the project by the Children's Society.

Activity under Tier 1a seeks to improve overall awareness of County Lines and wider exploitation issues with young people across Thames Valley to help them; recognise the signs, make better choices and seek help should they have concerns about themselves or a friend. It will also open a dialogue within the schools for young people that may currently be being exploited to disclose this.

Tier 1b: Workshops for young people

Targeting: Young people (11 – 16 years)

Provider: Crimestoppers via their youth service [Fearless](#)

Area: Thames Valley wide

Timings: July 2019 to March 2020

Workshops held in secondary schools and youth centres, educating young people on gangs, knife crime and County Lines to reduce the risk of them becoming involved in criminality.

The sessions aim to educate and empower young people to help them make the right decisions about crime and violence. They will address issues which have been chosen in consultation with young people and demand from local police and schools like; how easy it is medically to kill someone if you have a knife, how tough sentencing can be, what it's really like in prison and the ripple effects a murder has on the victims and perpetrator's parents and siblings. It will also include testimony from victims and families.

The workshops are interactive, listening yet challenging young people's misconceptions about crime - particularly when it comes to debunking myths or glamorizing particular lifestyles. Sessions provide a safe platform to discuss issues in a non-judgmental way in order to educate & change young people's behaviour & perceptions.

EIYF Project Overview – VP1

Activity under Tier 1b aims to reduce violence and offending whilst removing the underlying sense of fear that young people have which feeds their desire to carry weapons or join gangs.

Tier 1c: Training for professionals

Targeting: Professionals working with young people

Provider: [Reach Every Generation](#)

Area: Thames Valley wide

Timings: June to November 2019

Workshops aimed at frontline professionals to raise awareness and develop skills in relation to young people and gangs. This is delivered as a full day session, covering a number of areas including: how gangs operate, girls in gangs, County Lines, the emotional and psychological impact of gang involvement, trauma and contextual safeguarding. It will also include personal testimony from ex-gang members.

Attendees will be encouraged to interact with the trainer and share their views on the topics being discussed within group work, role play scenarios and open dialogues throughout the day. They will also receive information and slides to help them disseminate their learning to other colleagues.

Activity under Tier 1c aims to upskill and increase confidence of professionals working with young people across the Thames Valley. The workshops will encourage staff to see beyond what they are presented with, to challenge their levels of professional curiosity to identify risk, manage trauma and safeguard young people.

EIYF Project Overview – VP1

Tier 2 – Tackling exclusion in schools

Targeting: Young people and staff in schools

Provider: Multiple (see below)

Area: Buckinghamshire, Milton Keynes, Berkshire, South and Vale, Oxford City

Activity under this tier will connect schools with youth professionals in order to tackle exclusions. Specialist support will be provided to approximately one third of schools in the Thames Valley.

This will be led by Speech and Language Therapists in Bucks & MK, Youth Workers in Berkshire and local youth organisations in Oxfordshire. The organisations delivering this tier are as follows:

- Bucks – Bucks Youth Offending Service
- MK – MK Youth Offending Team
- Berkshire – Berkshire Youth
- South and Vale – SOFEA
- Henley - Nomad Youth and Community Project
- Oxford City – Youth Ambition (Oxford City Council)

Buckinghamshire Youth Offending Service

Provision of Speech and Language Therapists (SALT) to work with young people and staff in secondary schools and the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU). Work will include improving the ability of school staff to understand speech and language barriers so they can better support students as well as helping students in the PRU return to mainstream education.

Bucks YOS will also be delivering detached work under [Tier 3 of this project](#).

Milton Keynes Youth Offending Team

Delivery of Speech and Language Therapy which will focus on assessing children at secondary school level who are being excluded or are going through managed moves to the PRU. This will help identify underlying, unrecognised needs, help professionals working with the children engage with them more effectively and also ensure that the school can adapt their approach to prevent the child being excluded further.

Berkshire Youth

Youth workers being placed into secondary schools across Berkshire to help young people at risk of exclusion. This will include preventative education, helping with early identification of those at risk of gangs, drug and knife crime.

This activity will seek to assist young people by: increasing the number of positive relationships they identify with, decreasing the numbers who feel socially isolated and empowering schools / communities to better support them.

Berkshire Youth will also be carrying out detached youth work as part of [Tier 3 of the project](#).

EIYF Project Overview – VP1

SOFEA

Working with young people in secondary schools across South and Vale to get them to engage with learning, skills development and employment as well as training and upskilling school staff.

A bespoke staff training package will be delivered in each school by experts in coaching, drugs education and attachment. This will include: identifying young people with Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and working with challenging behaviours, attachment disorders and drug and alcohol misuse.

Schools will refer young people for direct support focusing on making connections including: forming positive and meaningful relationships, understanding and being able to interact within home, social and work settings and removing barriers and self-limiting belief systems to enable young people to develop positive strategies for their future.

Youth Ambition (Oxford City Council)

Youth workers deployed into secondary schools and the PRU to carry out a non-formal educational programme with at-risk young people. The programme will be catered to the interests of the individuals, which could include art, music and sport.

The aim of the project is to: increase school attendance and reduce expulsions, engage young people with the local community around them and reduce the likelihood that they will become involved in knife crime or drug dealing.

Youth Ambition will also be delivering detached work as part of the activity under [Tier 3 of the project](#).

Nomad Youth and Community Project

Targeted mentoring programme aimed at diverting young people from their negative behaviours, helping them to make healthy positive choices for their lives.

The mentoring project is embedded in a range of other services provided by Nomad in the local community, enabling them to connect with young people out of school hours and beyond school age. There will also be a focus on developing relationship with 16+ age group identified as at risk of: being not in education, employment or training (NEET), substance misuse and offending.

Activity delivered by Nomad Youth and Community Project also falls under [Tier 3 of the project](#).

EIYF Project Overview – VP1

Tier 3 – Detached youth work

- Targeting:** Young people who may not be engaged in mainstream services
Provider: Multiple (see below)
Area: Buckinghamshire, Milton Keynes, Berkshire, South and Vale, Oxford City

Detached youth provision in key towns across the Thames Valley, targeting young people who are not engaging in mainstream services or are not in education, employment or training (NEET).

Activity in this tier aims to reduce the inequality of access for young people to reduce the likelihood that they will get involved with gang crime and violence. This will be delivered by the following organisations:

- Bucks – Bucks Youth Offending Service
- MK – MK Council (Youth Faculty)
- Berkshire – Berkshire Youth
- Didcot – Didcot TRAIN
- Henley – Nomad
- Oxford City – Youth Ambition (Oxford City Council)

Milton Keynes Council (Youth Faculty)

Youth work aimed at engaging hard to reach young people through approaches including peer learning and interactive education. They will develop a programme of activities aiming to educate young people on the dangers and consequences of being in gangs and promote positive life choices.

The programme will use creative and interactive learning activities and workshops, developed in collaboration with the young person, to help them make decisions and to enable them to improve their own life choices. Workshops will include: music, drama, sport, voluntary work and acquiring life skills.

This activity will seek to increase positive engagement with young people, reduce first time entrants and reduce the amount of young people moving to the PRU as a consequence of ASB.

Buckinghamshire Youth Offending Service

Detached youth work focused around community based engagement, including local police stations, to support young people at point of custody and other key teachable moments.

This will be delivered by youth workers who will be vetted to enter police stations. This means that when a child is arrested and taken to custody a youth work intervention can be offered at the earliest possible stage. It also gives the youth worker the flexibility to continue that relationship once the child has been released. Outreach will also take place in other key locations identified by the youth worker.

Berkshire Youth

Youth Workers will carry out street based youth work, ensuring that young people are not exposing themselves to risk outside of school hours.

EIYF Project Overview – VP1

The specialist on-the-street youth workers will help young people in Berkshire who are at risk of being exploited, coerced into gangs or becoming the victims of knife crime. They will interact and build relationships with young people where they 'hang out' e.g. shopping precincts and parks late at night.

Each young person will receive 1:1 mentoring and support from trained community volunteer mentors for up to 12 months. Trusting relationships will be built between the young person and their volunteer mentor to help transition vulnerable or disadvantaged young people from the streets and into local youth activities.

Didcot Train

Youth workers will deliver detached and outreach activity, connecting young people in Didcot with Didcot TRAINs mentoring and youth participation programmes. Activity will include: engaging young people through outreach activity in known ASB hot spots, signposting into a 1:1 mentoring programme and involving young people in positive social action and community activity - building resilience and unlocking access to wider support resources and opportunities through positive community participation.

Nomad Youth and Community Project

Detached youth work in key locations in Henley, after school and during school holidays, to build positive relationships with young people, divert them away from negative behaviours and create opportunities for them to engage in positive activities.

This will run alongside Nomad's mentoring programme in schools and will also focus on developing relationship with 16+ age group identified as at risk of; being NEET, substance misuse and offending.

Youth Ambition (Oxford City Council)

Detached youth work to build meaningful relationships with disadvantaged young people in the community.

Detached youth workers will engage with young people in their neighbourhoods and, based on their personal interests, guide them towards the opportunities that are available to them in the local area. This will include education, employment and cultural and leisure activities. The aim of the project is to engage young people with the local community around them and reduce the likelihood that they will become involved in knife crime or drug dealing.

EIYF Project Overview – VP1

Tier 4 – Intensive

- Targeting:** Young people already involved in gangs or knife crime
Provider: Multiple (see below)
Area: Oxford, MK, Aylesbury, Wycombe, Bracknell, Slough, Reading

Intensive support working with young people at risk or already involved in gangs or knife crime.

This will be delivered by:

- Bucks and MK – Reach Every Generation
- Berkshire – Adviza Partnership
- Oxfordshire – TRAX and RAW Workshop (collaboration)

Reach Every Generation

A specialist mentoring service for vulnerable young people identified as at risk of, or already involved in, criminal exploitation, grooming, serious youth violence and gangs.

Activity will consist of 1:1 mentoring sessions and group work as part of a high intensity bespoke intervention programme developed in conjunction with the young person.

This work will increase the young person's confidence and knowledgeable about local career pathways and opportunities and get them to engage in local positive activities. Young people who complete the project will be offered the chance to join the team and support with the delivery and development of the project moving forward to ensure they are champions within their communities and amongst their peers. They will also be supported into education, training and employment / apprenticeships as appropriate.

Adviza Partnership

A personalised intensive support programme delivered by dedicated youth workers who are experienced in supporting young people involved with crime/gangs.

The focus will be on reaching young people who do not generally voluntarily engage with public sector programmes and services; taking referrals directly from police, Youth Offending Service (YOS), schools and others.

The worker will target support to meet each young person's specific needs and what they want to achieve; focusing on self-determination and assisting them to progress and re-engage positively in education, employment and training. This will also include engagement with families and networks around the young person, to help them develop positive, supportive networks and challenge negative ones (e.g. gangs).

TRAX and RAW Workshop (collaboration)

1:1 and group sessions with specialist youth workers to build trust, encourage disclosure and co-design personal plans to support positive progression.

This will include:

- Team building and leadership events
- Education, skills and training

EIYF Project Overview – VP1

- Engagement in social enterprises and work experience
- Trips and speaker events
- Access to health and fitness sessions

This work aims to reduce violent crime committed by young people who enter the project and get more young people engaging in a positive, regular activity.

Appendix 1 – Provider Matrix

	Berkshire	Buckinghamshire	Oxfordshire
1a Broad reach awareness in schools	AlterEgo Creative Solutions 'County Lines' secondary school theatre performance, to raise awareness and signpost young people to advice and support		
1b Workshops for young people	Crimestoppers (Fearless) Workshops educating young people on gangs, knife crime and county lines to reduce the risk of them becoming involved in criminality		
1c Professionals training	Reach Every Generation Full day training delivered to professionals working with young people, sharing real experiences to raise awareness and upskill staff		
2 Tackling school exclusions	Berkshire Youth School based youth work to help young people at risk of exclusion, including preventative education	Bucks Youth Offending Service / MK Youth Offending Team Speech and Language Therapy to identify underlying and unrecognised needs, enabling support to be provided to retain children in school and limit further exclusion	SOFEA (South & Vale) Working in schools to engage young people in learning, skills development and employment Youth Ambition (Oxford City) School engagement centring on non-formal education to tackle some of the issues that young people face Nomad Youth & Community Project (Henley) Targeted mentoring programme to divert young people from negative behaviours, and help them make healthy, positive life choices
3 Detached youth work	Berkshire Youth Street based youth work to help young people who are at risk of being exploited, coerced into gangs or becoming victims of knife crime	Bucks Youth Offending Service Detached youth work focused on community based engagement, including local police stations, to support youth at point of custody and other key teachable moments. MK Council (Youth Faculty) Youth work aimed at engaging hard to reach young people through approaches including peer learning and interactive education	Didcot TRAIN Outreach activity connecting young people to mentoring and participation programmes Nomad Youth & Community Project (Henley) Detached work in key locations to build relationships with young people Youth Ambition (Oxford City) Detached youth work to build meaningful relationships with disadvantaged young people
4 Intensive	Adviza Partnership Personalised support programme delivered by dedicated workers experienced in supporting young people involved with crime/gangs	Reach Every Generation Mentoring service for young people identified as at risk of, or involved in, criminal exploitation, serious violence and gangs	RAW & TRAX (collaboration) 1:1 sessions with specialist youth workers to co-design personal plans, build trust and encourage disclosure