

INFLUENTIAL FACTORS FOR SERIOUS VIOLENCE

INTRODUCTION

The West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Partnership's Influential Factors document aims to increase understanding of factors influencing violence by:

- collating and reviewing appropriate evidence,
- providing a contextual summary of several risk and protective factors,
- highlighting knowledge gaps and,
- offering recommendations for provision or future research.



RISK & PROTECTIVE FACTORS

- Influential factors can also be referred to as risk and protective factors. Risk factors are associated with a higher likelihood of engaging with or experiencing violence and exploitation. Protective factors are the inverse, whereby they can reduce the likelihood of engaging with or experiencing violence and exploitation
- Some factors are on different ends of the same continuum, for example unemployment has been identified as a risk factor for violence and conversely quality employment may be a protective factor against violence
- A crucial part of reducing violence, helping communities stay safe as well as improving health and wellbeing is understanding influential factors
- The VRP uses the four-level socio-ecological model (individual, relationship, community and societal). This emphasises that single risk factors do not directly cause violence, instead it is the interaction between different factors that influences the level of risk

