

# Serious Violence Strategy for Hertfordshire

Gary Ray

Tracy Pemberton

County Community Safety Unit



# Background

- CCSU was tasked with producing a needs assessment for Serious Violence, which formed the base of the strategy, in partnership with a multi agency group.
- The needs assessment identified the following:
  - Nationally Police Figures show knife crime is at its highest level for seven years.
  - In Hertfordshire, domestic abuse related knife crime accounts for 20% of all recorded knife crimes; alcohol related are 15% and drug related 5%.
  - The majority of victims and perpetrators are males aged 18-29.
  - There is evidence that county lines activity takes place in Hertfordshire.

# Governance

- There is senior level commitment to work together to tackle serious violence in Hertfordshire from the following countywide boards who are responsible for achieving the actions in the delivery plan.
- Community Safety Board.
- Domestic Abuse Executive Board.
- Drug and Alcohol Strategic Board.
- Integrated Offender Management Board.
- Safeguarding Adults Board.
- Safeguarding Children's Partnership.

# Key Outcomes

- There are five key outcomes which the strategy aims to achieve.
- These are linked into a whole system approach, from Prevention, Early Intervention to Reactive intervention and enforcement.
- The five outcomes are as follows:
  - A reduction in the number of people carrying and using knives in Hertfordshire.
  - Young People receive intervention as early as possible to stop them becoming involved in gangs and serious violence.
  - People receive intervention as early as possible to stop them becoming involved in gangs and serious violence.
  - People already involved in gangs, county lines activity and committing serious violence will receive the right support.
  - Knife crime and county lines criminality will be tackled robustly.

# Next Steps

- A detailed delivery plan has been developed to support the strategy.
- Some of the priorities are as follows:
- We will seek to develop resilience, social and emotional skills among young people.
- We will work with partners to reduce the harm caused to victims in incidences of domestic abuse.
- We will commit to the early identification of vulnerable people and types of vulnerabilities of those at risk of involvement in serious violence through a common assessment process.
- The six countywide boards, are now populating the delivery plan with specific actions in order to achieve the five priority outcomes.