

Greater Manchester Violence Reduction Unit



**VIOLENCE
REDUCTION
UNIT**

DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY FOR
GREATER MANCHESTER'S COMMUNITIES

Our purpose

Established in October 2019, the Greater Manchester VRU is a team of subject leads and experts from the police, probation, public health, education, community voluntary sector, youth justice and local authorities, working to address the underlying causes of violence and working together with communities to prevent it.

This is what we do:

In July 2020, the VRU launched its [Serious Violence Action Plan](#), which sets out seven priorities for the unit and the framework through which serious violence will be addressed.



1. Improve criminal justice response



2. Provide interventions in areas of highest need



3. Support for families and communities



4. Support for victims



5. Maintain a dedicated Violence Reduction Unit



6. Implement place-based approach



7. Collaborate with schools, colleges, and alternative provision

This is how we do it:

Community-led approach to violence reduction:

The VRU works closely with communities to identify priorities, problem solve and direct investment and interventions accordingly, building on the strengths of the community.

Community alliances across Greater Manchester, made up of local VCSE organisations, have been awarded funds as part of GM's £800,000 investment in community-led pilots.

Delivery groups: [The VRU is made up of six delivery groups](#), each with terms of reference, a set of agreed objectives, and a designated budget.

1. Communities
2. Criminal Justice
3. Health and Wellbeing
4. Education
5. Research and Evaluation
6. Communication and Engagement

Our principles:

Community-led

Evidence based

Public health approach

Multi-agency

Include young people's voices

How we'll know we are making a difference:

Reduction in the following, especially in the under 25 age group:

- Hospital presentations and admissions for assaults with a knife or sharp object
- Knife and gun enabled serious violence
- Non-domestic homicides
- Personal robberies
- Severity of serious violence incidents
- Fear of knife crime and serious violence across all our communities