

## Initial Equalities Screening Record Form

<b>Date of Screening:</b>	<b>Directorate: People</b>	<b>Section: Community Safety: Early Help and Communities</b>
<b>1. Activity to be assessed</b>	Serious Violence Strategy	
<b>2. What is the activity?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy/strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Function/procedure <input type="checkbox"/> Project <input type="checkbox"/> Review <input type="checkbox"/> Service <input type="checkbox"/> Organisational change	
<b>3. Is it a new or existing activity?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Existing	
<b>4. Officer responsible for the screening</b>	Alison O'Meara	
<b>5. Who are the members of the screening team?</b>	Alison O'Meara and the Community Safety Partnership who will have responsibility for the Strategy	
<b>6. What is the purpose of the activity?</b>	<p>The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 introduced a Serious Violence Duty on specified authorities within a local government area. As part of the Duty, a strategy is required to be prepared, publicised and implemented:</p> <p>'In order to prepare and implement a strategy for exercising their functions to prevent and reduce serious violence in the area, the partnership must collectively develop a strategy which should outline the multi-agency response that the partnership will take to address the drivers identified in the strategic needs assessment'.</p> <p>This first Serious Violence Strategy for Bracknell Forest is a commitment to work effectively across organisational and professional boundaries to deliver a truly multi-agency approach. It is vital that relevant services work together, share information and target interventions effectively.</p>	
<b>7. Who is the activity designed to benefit/target?</b>	<p>Victims of serious violence</p> <p>Perpetrators of serious violence</p> <p>Wider community</p> <p>Children who experience Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) which research shows can lead to a risk that they will become involved in violence.</p>	

Protected Characteristics	Please tick yes or no		Is there an impact? What kind of equality impact may there be? Is the impact positive or adverse or is there a potential for both? If the impact is neutral please give a reason.	What evidence do you have to support this? E.g., equality monitoring data, consultation results, customer satisfaction information etc Please add a narrative to justify your claims around impacts and describe the analysis and interpretation of evidence to support your conclusion as this will inform members decision making, include consultation results/satisfaction information/equality monitoring data
<b>8. Disability Equality – this can include physical, mental health, learning or sensory disabilities and includes conditions such as dementia as well as hearing or sight impairment.</b>	<u>Y</u>	N	Positive impact.	<p>According to the World Bank and WHO, 15% of the world’s population has a disability and these individuals are frequently reported to be at increased risk of violence. Adults and children with disabilities are at a higher risk of violence than non-disabled adults and children, and those with mental illnesses could be particularly vulnerable.<sup>1</sup></p> <p>Research by Victim Support (VS) reveals that people with a limiting disability or illness are almost three and a half times more likely to suffer serious violence.<sup>2</sup></p>
<b>9. Racial equality</b>	<u>Y</u>	N	Positive impact.	<p>Risk factors are understood to be variables which can usefully predict an increased likelihood of violent crime, drug use, gang involvement, property offences and antisocial behaviour. The extensive body of data and analysis suggests very little if any relationship between ethnic category and involvement in these categories of crime.<sup>3</sup></p> <p>In contrast to the Serious Violence Strategy, where the evidence of a relationship between ethnicity and violence was at best mixed, the Home Office report of 2019 found no association between ethnicity and serious violence related behaviours (for example, carrying of weapons)<sup>4</sup></p> <p>‘Men from Mixed ethnic backgrounds (21%) were more likely to be victims of crime than men from any other</p>

<sup>1</sup> [Disability and violence | Source \(asksources.info\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> [VS research finds people with disability at increased risk of violence - Victim Support](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Understanding ethnic disparities in involvement in crime – a limited scope rapid evidence review, by Professor Clifford Stott et al - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Understanding ethnic disparities in involvement in crime – a limited scope rapid evidence review, by Professor Clifford Stott et al - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

				ethnic group for the 3 years from April 2017 to March 2020'. <sup>5</sup>
<b>10. Gender equality</b>	<u>Y</u>	N	Positive impact.	Women are considerably more likely to experience repeated and severe forms of abuse, including sexual violence. They are also more likely to have experienced sustained physical, psychological, or emotional abuse, or violence which results in injury or death. <sup>6</sup>
<b>11. Sexual orientation equality</b>	<u>Y</u>	N	Positive impact	Two-thirds (64%) of LGBTQ+ people had experienced anti-LGBTQ+ violence or abuse. Of these, 9 in 10 (92%) had experienced verbal abuse, 3 in 10 (29%) had experienced physical violence and 2 in 10 (17%) had experienced sexual violence. <sup>7</sup>
<b>12. Gender re-assignment</b>	<u>Y</u>	N	Positive impact	Recorded hate crimes against transgender people in England and Wales rose 11% to 4,732 offences in the last year, according to Home Office figures. <sup>8</sup>
<b>13. Age equality</b>	<u>Y</u>	N	Positive impact	In the UK, young people aged 20-24 are more than three times as likely than those aged 10-14 to suffer injury by sharp object. <sup>9</sup>
<b>14. Religion and belief equality</b>	<u>Y</u>	N	Positive impact	Religious hate crimes fell by five per cent (to 6,822 offences), down from a peak of 7,203 in the previous year. This was the first fall in religious hate crimes since year ending March 2013. <sup>10</sup>
<b>15. Pregnancy and maternity equality</b>	<u>Y</u>	N	Positive impact	Pregnancy may increase the risk of violence <sup>11</sup>

<sup>5</sup> [Victims of crime - GOV.UK Ethnicity facts and figures \(ethnicity-facts-figures.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.service.gov.uk/ethnicity-facts-figures)

<sup>6</sup> [Domestic abuse is a gendered crime - Women's Aid \(womensaid.org.uk\)](https://www.womensaid.org.uk)

<sup>7</sup> [LGBTQ+ facts and figures | Stonewall](https://www.stonewall.org.uk)

<sup>8</sup> [Trans hate crime rises 11% in past year in England and Wales - BBC News](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-57444444)

<sup>9</sup> [Youth violence – RCPCH – State of Child Health](https://www.rcpch.co.uk)

<sup>10</sup> [Hate crime, England and Wales, 2019 to 2020 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

<sup>11</sup> [Domestic violence and pregnancy | The BMJ](https://www.bmj.com)

				Pregnancy can be a trigger for domestic abuse, and existing abuse may get worse during pregnancy or after giving birth. <sup>12</sup>
<b>16. Marriage and civil partnership equality</b>	<u>Y</u>	N	Positive impact	Single adults were more likely to have experienced sexual assault in the last year than those who were married, widowed, separated, divorced or cohabiting <sup>13</sup> .
<b>17. Please give details of any other potential impacts on any other group (e.g. those on lower incomes/carers/ex-offenders, armed forces communities) and on promoting good community relations.</b>	<p><b><u>Impact of those who are most deprived:</u></b></p> <p>A recent 2019 study into the causes of violent crime in London found that the proportion of children under 20 living in poverty was the main factor correlated with levels of youth violent crime in London Boroughs.<sup>14</sup></p> <p>The new figures show that three-quarters of the boroughs in London with the highest levels of violent offending are also in the top 10 most deprived, while the same boroughs also have higher proportions of children under 20 living in poverty than the London average.<sup>15</sup></p> <p>Bracknell Forest is in the least deprived 10% of local authorities in England and more than a third of the neighbourhoods are also in the 10% least deprived nationally. Although none of the neighbourhoods are in the 20% most deprived areas in England, there are areas of higher deprivation within Wildridings and Central, Crowthorne and Great Hollands North.<sup>16</sup></p>			
<b>18. If an adverse/negative impact has been identified can it be justified on grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one group or for any other reason?</b>	N/A			
<b>19. If there is any difference in the impact of the activity when considered for each of the equality groups listed in 8 – 14 above; how significant is the difference in terms of its nature and the number of people likely to be affected?</b>	The impact of the strategy is beneficial for all of the equality groups above.			

<sup>12</sup> [Domestic abuse in pregnancy - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

<sup>13</sup> [Sexual offences victim characteristics, England and Wales - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](http://ons.gov.uk)

<sup>14</sup> [Poverty is the Main 'Cause' of Youth Violent Crime in London.....](#)

<sup>15</sup> [Revealed: full links between poverty and violent crime in London | London City Hall](#)

<sup>16</sup> [Bracknell-Forest-People-and-Place-Summary-February-2023 \(3\).pdf](#)

<b>20. Could the impact constitute unlawful discrimination in relation to any of the Equality Duties?</b>	Y	<b>N</b>	See above.	
<b>21. What further information or data is required to better understand the impact? Where and how can that information be obtained?</b>	The local profile of serious violence will develop as more partner data is included into the strategic needs assessment which is required as part of the Duty. Resident feedback which will also be repeated will help the CSP understand the impact of the work plan.			
<b>22. On the basis of sections 7 – 17 above is a full impact assessment required?</b>	Y	<b>N</b>	This strategy will not have a negative impact on any people with protected characteristics.	
<b>23. If a full impact assessment is not required; what actions will you take to reduce or remove any potential differential/adverse impact, to further promote equality of opportunity through this activity or to obtain further information or data?</b>				
<b>Action</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Milestone/Success Criteria</b>	
As we monitor progress against delivering the Strategy, any emerging impacts will be considered, and we will take appropriate action to mitigate any negative impacts.	Ongoing – bi-monthly monitoring	BF Serious Violence and Exploitation Strategic Sub-Group of the Community Safety Partnership	As identified.	
<b>24. Which service, business or work plan will these actions be included in?</b>	Statutory Partnership: Community Safety Partnership Serious Violence and Exploitation Strategic Sub-Group			
25. Please list the current actions undertaken to advance equality or examples of good practice identified as part of the screening?	To identify emerging equality issues, the following are identified as important to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of SNA incorporating a wider set of partner data</li> <li>• Review of resident feedback on what would help reduce serious violence involvement</li> <li>• Linking in with the East Berkshire Combatting Drugs Partnership and Strategy</li> <li>• Quarterly review of serious violence action plan</li> </ul>			
<b>26. Assistant Director/Director signature.</b>	Signature:		Date:	