



CURV: TOWN CENTRE VIOLENCE REDUCTION PLAN

INTRODUCTION

In line with the new Police and Crime Plan, the TCVR plan takes its origins from the NTE Action Plan delivered previously and will look to deliver improved safety in the defined areas where NTE and DTE merge. This expansion recognises the overlap between day and night time economy and the transferability of safety measures. It reflects a collective approach, working in collaboration with town centre leaders from local authority and the Police force, that seeks to create a safe and thriving town centre for visitors to enjoy and businesses to succeed.

Objectives:

- Deliver Cleveland wide initiatives that seek to reduce public space serious violence in defined town centres.
- Work collaboratively with partners and support local initiatives where possible.
- Widen the number of locations where people can reach out for help, to include retail spaces and transport hubs.

Principles:

- **Evidenced Based Approach.** In reflection of the expansion of the plan, CURV will draw on surveys outlining the experiences of businesses and other town centre stakeholders to ensure delivery is reflective of need. If there is a need, CURV will update the NTE Problem Profile to expand into DTE.
- **Partnership Working.** The Action Plan will seek opportunities to implement whole system ways of working, promoting joint working and problem-solving between all partner agencies.
- **Sustainable rather than temporary.** As with the NTE Action Plan, the Town Centre Violence Reduction Plan will look to introduce interventions which are low cost with embedded support materials to ensure the long-term sustainability of successful interventions.

Measuring success:

As CURV's 25-26 Action Plan sets out, the overall success measures are set out by the Home Office. This plan will also support the objectives of the Safer Streets Mission, looking to increase public space safety, halve violence against women and halve knife crime. Success measures include:

- NHS data on Hospital admissions for assaults with a knife or sharp object (for all ages, and especially those under 25-year-olds);
- Knife and sharp enabled serious violence recorded by the police for all ages, based on police recorded crime data.
- Homicides recorded by the police but especially among those victims aged under 25 and in non-domestic settings (where the data allows).

This Action Plan will also measure success through more plan-specific indicators such as:

- Contributing to an increased perception of safety (town centre surveys).
- Contributing to a reduction in offences within the defined areas (police figures).
- Contributing to a wider objective of increasing footfall into town centres.

CURV will also look to carry out an evaluation of all process, including those introduced as part of the NTE Action Plan which continue to contribute to town centre safety.

CURV Town Centre Safety Action Plan:

The concept of the Town Centre Violence Reduction Plan is to work collaboratively with partners and key stakeholders to deliver initiatives that can be applied across Cleveland's many town centres. As outlined in Appendix 1, a number of initiatives will be delivered across the next 12 months to increase safety in town centres. This focuses on the key areas of Child Sexual Exploitation, Bleed Control, Safe Spaces and Day and Night Time Economies. This supports the Home Office requirements for Violence Reduction Units to prepare for a broader focus of Violence Against Women and Girls, Anti-Social Behaviour and Child Sexual Exploitation.

Next Steps

The next steps for this action plan will be to cost and deliver these initiatives across the next 12 months.



NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED



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APPENDIX 1:

CURV Town Centre Safety Action Plan

Area of Work	Aim	Activities
Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	<p>Aligning with Operation Makesafe, CURV will work with partners to raise awareness of CSE in the business community, centred around town centres.</p> <p>Key town centre stakeholders such as shops, transport workers, security staff and taxi companies will be empowered to recognise signs of CSE and to report to police.</p> <p>Enhance public safety and confidence and protect vulnerable young people from exploitation.</p> <p>This will be linked to the work being delivered across the area through the Harm Outside the Home priorities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enhanced Training. CURV will expand its work on providing training to hotel and licensed premises and engage with the business community to ensure a whole system approach to identifying CSE in town centres. This could be addressed through the community guardians scheme.• Test Purchasing Operations. Ensure that those who have been trained do respond adequately to the signs of CSE. Offer further training to those who need additional support.• Online support. Provide a range of resources on the CURV website to ensure signposting to the information businesses need to enforce CSE policies.• Communications. Raise awareness to a wider audience of the signs of CSE to spot through social media. Highlight businesses or organisations who successfully report incidents; this will work to improve public confidence and perceptions in the town centre.• QR code development. Linking to online support, look to roll out QR codes around town centres that signpost to the CURV website. This will work to promote bystander intervention, across the priorities within this plan and wider.
Bleed Control	<p>Increase the availability and awareness of bleed control cabinets and kits in town centres, including police stations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bleed cabinets. CURV will continue to expand on the roll out of Bleed cabinets and will coordinate training to those working in the retail space.

	<p>Work with town centre stakeholders to deliver training in the use of bleed kits to ensure a rapid and effective response to a catastrophic bleed.</p> <p>Increase public knowledge around the presence of bleed cabinets and how they can be used, emphasising that this is not solely for knife crime.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bleed Kits. Look to provide bleed kits for security teams working within town centres who can provide an immediate response to a catastrophic bleed. • CAD Systems. CURV will work with partners to ensure the assets are registered on a CAD system and will ensure the roll out synchronises with efforts associated with Martyn's law. • Awareness Campaign. Work with partners across Cleveland to promote a joined up awareness campaign, ensuring this does not impact the perception of the town centre. • Knife Bins. Work with local authorities and Cleveland Police to increase the effectiveness of knife bins currently in place and work with town centres to increase the number in place.
Safe Spaces	<p>Widen the number of locations where people can reach out for help, to include retail spaces and transport hubs.</p> <p>Effective intervention for vulnerable members of the public.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced Training. CURV will explore what is currently offered in town centre spaces and look at other initiatives across the country noted as good practice. This will be achieved by working with stakeholders to deliver a minimum standard of vulnerability support. • Awareness Campaign. Work with partners across Cleveland to promote a joined up awareness campaign, ensuring that members of the public are aware of this resource. • Online Support. Provide a range of resources on the CURV website to ensure signposting to information to support this initiative, particularly for new members of staff.
Night Time Economy	<p>The final phase of the NTE action plan is focused on Safer Transport; delivery will be informed by the Transport Survey.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer Transport. CURV will work with partners, including the Tees Valley Combined Authority, to provide a number of initiatives that work to increase safety on buses, trains and in taxis. This could include piloting of 'pink' taxis focused on providing female taxi drivers as an option when booking, a standards of behaviour campaign for using public transport and safer car parking. <p>UPDATE: ACTIONS RAISED FROM THE TRANSPORT SURVEY REPORT</p>

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raising awareness of how to report incidents across all three forms of transport and how they will handle the complaint. 2. Discuss the use of alcohol on buses and trains. 3. Awareness around how to effectively use the BTP text service. 4. Awareness of how transport staff can react to passengers causing issues and what action they can take. 5. Standards of behaviour campaign addressing the behaviour making people feel unsafe as outlined in this survey. 6. Awareness of level of CCTV coverage. 7. Exploration around use of body worn cameras. 8. Greater security- use of BTP specials. 9. Roll out of Ask for Angela/Ask for Angel Street. 10. Explore levels of female drivers. 11. Aggressive manner of driving of taxi drivers. 12. Complaints handling by taxi companies. 13. CCTV pilot. 14. Awareness around licensing of taxi drivers- safer taxi scheme promoting those licensed by a Cleveland authority. 15. Language barriers and knowledge tests. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accreditation. CURV will build on its extensive work around supporting the NTE but provide more targeted support. We will look to work with local authorities on implementing initiatives such as Business Improvement Districts and Purple Flag Accreditation. • Drug Boxes. Explore the use of drug boxes within licensed premises as part of a drug testing scheme. • Radios. Ensure this resource remain in place with licensed premises as we have seen reduction in serious violence and increased partnership working through their presence.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online Support. Provide a range of resources on the CURV website to ensure signposting to the information NTE stakeholders need.
Day Time Economy	Support business networks in ensuring communication between premises and increased confidence in reporting incidents to police.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shopwatch. Similarly to CURV's previous work with Pubwatch, support the Shopwatch networks across the area to ensure that businesses can communicate between each other, and with CCTV control rooms. • Business Crime Reduction Partnerships. Explore the interest of implementing BCRP's in areas with strong business networks.