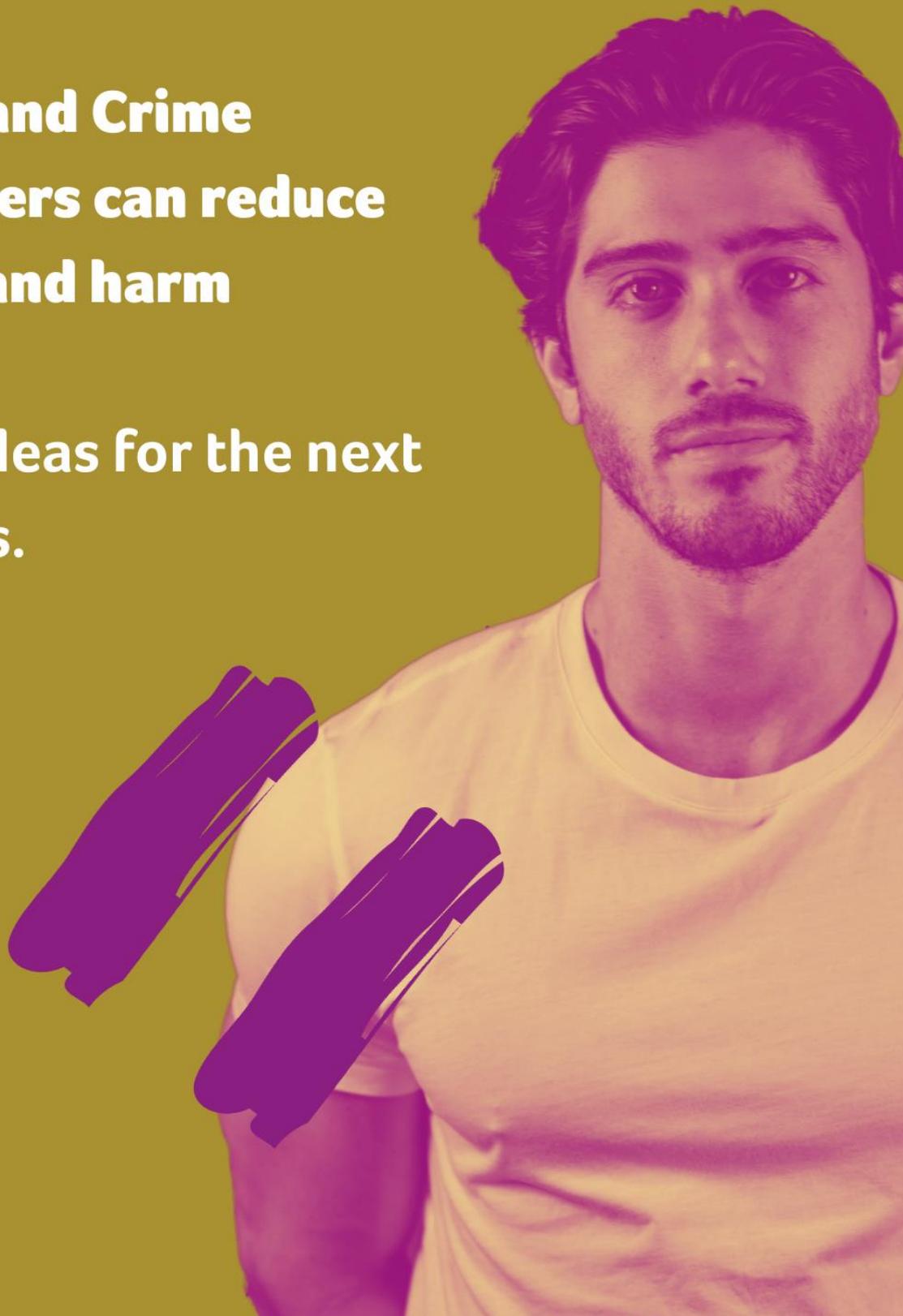


CRANSTOUN

Empowering People, Empowering Change

How Police and Crime Commissioners can reduce cost, crime and harm

Innovative ideas for the next term of PCCs.



Cranstoun

Cranstoun has been making a difference since 1969. We offer a wide range of services across England, including criminal justice services, community-based substance misuse services, supported housing, specialist services for young people, families, carers, and domestic abuse services.

There is the potential to **change offender behaviour through early intervention** whilst **improving victim satisfaction** and **increasing reporting by reluctant victims**.

All services inspected in 2019/20 were rated 'Good' by the Care Quality Commission.

98.4% of young people achieved the goals agreed on their care plans, compared to an 87% national average.

"We get the freedom to develop things in a way that will make them better. The areas we work in tend to be based on our strengths – it's how Cranstoun gets the best out of people."

Cranstoun staff member

"I got caught as a first-time offender when I was 18. If I hadn't gone on this course my life would have been screwed because I'd have had a criminal record saying I'd done drugs."

Divert participant

Introduction

This document is for Police and Crime Commissioners and their teams. Setting a Police and Crime Plan for the next 3 years gives PCCs the opportunity to prioritise the issues facing their areas. Here, Cranstoun present options on how to prevent offending, reduce reoffending and reduce demand on policing and the wider criminal justice. As a result, saving cost, crime and harm to the most vulnerable people in society.

At Cranstoun, we can contribute to reducing reoffending behaviour, tackling the root causes of criminality. Cranstoun is a Social Justice Charity, our vision is to bring world class services to help rebuild lives and to inspire and empower people to live healthier and safer lives. Across the services we offer, we work to identify, develop and deliver innovative, evidence-informed solutions that rebuild lives. At Cranstoun, we pride ourselves on creativity and collaboration. Where gaps in services exist or ideas are in their infancy we are able assist in service design and operationalising strategic ideas.

This overview presents innovative work and practice to support PCCs to reduce cost, crime and harm and respond to some of the main challenges facing our communities, criminal justice system and policing.

1. Breaking the cycle of re-offending
2. Tackling serious violence by reducing the demand for drugs
3. Supporting young people



1. Breaking the cycle of re-offending

A report published by the Ministry of Justice in 2019 presented the cost of reoffending to society at £18.1 billion. The report also found that low-level theft offences made up most of the estimated costs for adults at £9.3 billion, followed by violence against the person offences at £4.2 billion¹.

Adult offenders who had previously received a custodial sentence accounted for over £6 billion of the costs, which suggests that, an investment in intervention and prevention at the earliest point of offending would save cost to the reoffending bill.

Most PCCs now chair their Local Criminal Justice Boards, which are arrangements for partners to come together locally to ensure an efficient and effective criminal justice system. With the change to Probation services in June 2021, this provides a huge opportunity for PCCs to drive innovation with partners to break the cycle of reoffending.

Cranstoun Arrest Referral Service (CARS)

Police Forces engage with vulnerable people on a daily basis. These individuals, who come into custody, are managed by Offender Managers or are victims of crime. Many individuals engaging with the police are using drugs and alcohol to some level and may not be accessing the support they want or need.

Cranstoun's approach to custody based substance misuse workers engages with individuals at any point within the criminal justice system, improves treatment pathways, increases the use of Community Sentence Treatment Requirements and reduces drug related crime. CARS can be available to young people and adults depending upon local policy and address both drug and alcohol use.

Cranstoun's Arrest Referral Service operates 7 days a week with hours tailored to suit local arrest trends. Our web-based booking systems provide easy referral processes for police staff and officers for out of hours appointments.

Interventions delivered include

- Lifestyle Assessment including all aspects of an individual's life
- Drug Specific Harm Reduction Advice
- Naloxone Advice & Supply
- Tailored Individual Advice & Support
- Onward Referrals to Specialist Treatment
- DRR & ATR Suitability Assessments at first contact
- Case Management

West Midlands CARS
In 12 months:

- 2400 assessments
- 1400 referrals to treatment
- 290 Community Sentence Treatment Requirements

¹https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/814,650/economic-social-costs-reoffending.pdf

Alcohol Related Violence Programme

West Midlands Police commissioned Cranstoun to deliver an Alcohol Related Violence scheme across the whole force area. This programme forms part of a wider diversion, prevention and intervention strategy, managed by West Midlands Police (WMP), which is aimed at reducing offending and reoffending.

The estimated cost of alcohol-related violent crime is nearly £1 billion per annum. Offenders are routinely arrested, cautioned and processed through the criminal justice system. Cranstoun’s Alcohol Related Violence Course provides police forces the opportunity to refer offenders to a meaningful intervention via an Out Of Court Disposal (Conditional Caution or Community Resolution). This scheme aims to contribute to a culture change in policing. WMP strategy is to work with partners and divert emerging offenders from court into the most appropriate intervention to reduce reoffending.



Cranstoun has developed a programme that aims to reduce alcohol related violence within the area of delivery. Delivered either as a face- to-face group or as a Zoom group this course engages with people who were under the influence of alcohol when committing a violent crime.

Cranstoun’s Alcohol related Violence course provides individuals with information about safer drinking levels, tips to manage their own alcohol consumption, dealing with conflict and self-awareness.

Within the West Midlands, we have witnessed significant reductions in reoffending:

12 months	Control	Partial engagers	Completers
% Reoffend	39.0	23.0	14.3
		41% reduction	63% reduction
Average number of offences	3.3	2.1	1.4
		36% reduction	58% reduction
% Violent offenders	34.0	19.0	10.4
		44% reduction	69% reduction
% Alcohol offenders	13.0	6.0	3.4
		54% reduction	74% reduction

2. Tackling serious violence by reducing the demand for drugs

Tackling substance misuse is a crucial part of reducing drug related crime. According to the Government's Drug Strategy 2017, 'every £1 spent on drug treatment yields a £2.50 saving on the social costs of drugs, including crime', and recent Ministry of Justice research found that treatment cut crime by a third.

Furthermore, the provision of high-quality harm reduction is cost-effective because it cuts crime and improves health long-term.

DIVERT (Pre-Arrest Drug Diversion)

The majority of offenders charged to court for low level drug offences will receive a fine or custodial sentence. This punishes the individual but is unlikely to change offending behaviour. It is also well-evidenced that short prison sentences increase the totality of an individual's offending across their criminal lifespan.

Cranstoun's Out of Court Disposals are effective, compared to court prosecution, at reducing harm and reoffending and sustaining victim confidence and satisfaction. Cranstoun have developed an education programme that improves treatment pathways, diverts drug users from longer-term drug use and reduces drug related crime. The DIVERT Programme can be delivered remotely or in person and caters for anyone (Young People and adults) found in possession of any illicit substance.

The DIVERT Programme enhances substance misuse treatment capacity with the delivery of brief interventions and providing enhanced pathways from the criminal justice system.

The content of the programme includes:

- Drug Specific Harm Reduction Advice
- Naloxone Advice & Supply
- Economic & Lifestyle Impact of Drug Use
- Tailored Individual Advice & Support
- Onward Referrals to Specialist Treatment & Wrap Around Services



89% of offenders have not reoffended in the 6 months post course.

3. Supporting young people

Children and young adults aged 14-25 are at a stage in their development where they may lack reasoning, engage in reward seeking behaviours, be overly-influenced by their peers, and lack trust and confidence in the law and criminal justice agencies. These distinctive needs make it appropriate for criminal justice agencies, including the police, to adopt a particular approach to this group that recognises their developmental maturity.

Historically, the police's use of stop and search has disproportionately affected people from Black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds, undermining their trust in the police. Recent research has shown that diversion schemes for young people, which do not rely on an admission of guilt, can help

divert more Black, Asian and minority ethnic people from being swept into the criminal justice system, instead helping them to access support services.

DIVERT Young People

In many cases, where a young person is found to be in possession of illegal substances they will be arrested and either charged or cautioned. This punishes the individual, but is unlikely to change behaviour and could cause greater issues and vulnerabilities. This scheme aims to contribute to a culture change in policing.

Cranstoun have developed an education programme that aims to divert drug users from longer-term drug use. The DIVERT Programme is available to young people found in possession of any illicit substance. It replaces a cannabis warning and seeks to engage the young person instead to understand why drugs are being used and providing harm reduction advice.

As part of DIVERT all individuals referred undertake an assessment to ensure suitability for the group based sessions, identify vulnerabilities that need immediate attention and to collate information for onward referral (where appropriate).

The content of the programme includes:

- Drug Specific Harm Reduction Advice
- Economic & Lifestyle Impact of Drug Use
- Tailored Individual Advice & Support
- Onward Referrals to Specialist Treatment
- Assessment that considers all lifestyle aspects
- Onward referral as necessary
- Use of statutory partners where necessary (Police, YOTS, MASH etc.)

Working with schools, DIVERT works to change policy and reduce exclusions for possession of drugs therefore ensuring protective factors such as education remain in place. The option of DIVERT for schools and colleges that would otherwise automatically exclude a young person for drug possession is an important tool to preventing school exclusions and the potential to be drawn into other forms of criminality and serious violence.

Service Design and Creativity

At Cranstoun, we pride ourselves on creativity and collaboration. Where gaps in services exist or ideas are in their infancy we are able assist in service design and operationalising strategic ideas.

Further information

For further information about any of the services details above or Cranstoun, please contact Luke O'Neil (Senior Contract Development Manager) lonel@cranstoun.org.uk