

Subject: Norfolk Office of Data Analytics – Serious Violence Duty and Norfolk Community Safety Partnership

Originator: Serious Violence Duty Project Manager

Decision no. 28/2026

Reason for submission: For decision

Submitted to: Mark Stokes – Acting Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk

Summary:

1. The Serious Violence Duty commenced in January 2023. The Duty places a legal duty on a number of organisations to work together to prevent and reduce serious violence. Under the Duty, local areas are required to develop an evidence base to inform a local strategy setting out how the partnership will work together to prevent and reduce serious violence.
2. The Home Office have allocated funding to meet costs arising from the Duty. The funding is allocated to local policing bodies who can subsequently allocate funding to duty-holders.
3. Norfolk's Police and Crime Commissioner is the grant holder of Home Office funding to deliver a local response to the Serious Violence Duty.
4. As part of Norfolk's response, the Serious Violence Duty responsible authorities have agreed to allocate £64,074.00 to provide strategic analytical leadership for Serious Violence Duty including the Norfolk Community Safety Partnership activity through the management and development of data and analytical work which aims to further the understanding of the risk factors relating to serious violence and community safety at a local level.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Police and Crime Commissioner provide Serious Violence Duty grant funding of £64,074.00 to the Norfolk Office of Data Analytics (Norfolk County Council) to deliver strategic analytical support for Serious Violence Duty and Norfolk Community Safety Partnership activity and supporting partners response to the community safety agenda.

Outcome/approval by: Mark Stokes – Acting Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk

The recommendations as outlined above are approved.

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Stokes', written in a cursive style.

Date: 03/07/2026

Detail of the submission

1. Objective:

- 1.1 The Serious Violence Duty (the Duty) is a key part of the Government's programme of work to collaborate and plan to prevent and reduce serious violence: taking a multi-agency approach to understand the causes and consequences of serious violence, focusing on prevention and early intervention, and informed by evidence.
- 1.2 The Duty requires the specified authorities in Norfolk to collaborate and plan to prevent and reduce serious violence.
- 1.3 The Serious Violence Duty encourages the application of a public health approach to preventing and reducing serious violence. This requires a good understanding of cohorts that are most vulnerable to serious violence.

2. Background:

- 2.1 The Serious Violence Duty has been introduced to support a coordinated partnership response to preventing and reducing serious violence, including strengthening the Community Safety Partnership's understanding of cohorts most vulnerable to harm.
- 2.2 Serious violence has a devastating impact on lives of victims and families and instils fear within communities and is extremely costly to society.
- 2.3 The Serious Violence Duty requires the Community Safety Partnership and its member organisations to develop a robust evidence base (Strategic Needs Assessment) and to create and implement a strategy that sets out tailored approaches for how partners will work collaboratively to prevent and reduce serious violence.
- 2.4 The Home Office have allocated funding to meet costs arising from the Duty. The funding is allocated to local policing bodies who can subsequently allocate funding to duty-holders. This includes funding allocated to evidence informed interventions which are aligned to the response strategy.
- 2.5 There is a growing body of research nationally and internationally exploring why some people or groups are at higher risk of violence while some are protected from it. Although risk and protective factors are not predictive of future behaviour, research has found that reducing risk factors and strengthening protective factors has been found to be effective in preventing violence.
- 2.6 Whilst the approach to using risk and protective factors in predicting outcomes is still developing, they can be utilised to support strategic decision making, planning and allocation of interventions and resources. Considering protective factors, alongside the risks is important in developing approaches which are strength and asset based. The Youth Endowment fund endorses approaches that aim to change outcomes (or risk and protective factors) for young people that are related to violent and criminal behaviour later.

- 2.7 The analytical function working with Norfolk Office of Data Analytics (NODA) will provide strategic insight to support both the Serious Violence Duty and the Norfolk Community Safety Partnership, enabling an evidence-led approach to preventing and reducing harm. It ensures the development and maintenance of key analytical products, supports statutory requirements such as the Strategic Needs Assessment, and contributes to a shared understanding of local priorities. Through collaboration, insight generation, and effective communication at partnership and stakeholder forums, this work strengthens coordinated evidence led responses across agencies and informs decision-making at both local and national levels.

3. Areas for consideration:

- 3.1 This programme of analytical work delivers significant benefits by strengthening Norfolk's ability to meet statutory duties, while enhancing evidence-based decision making, transparency, and alignment with local and national priorities. It supports more effective targeting of resources, improves partnership cohesion through a shared understanding of need, and enables agencies to work collaboratively using robust, shared data. In doing so, it maximises impact, improves efficiency, and supports a more coordinated and proactive response to preventing and reducing harm.
- 3.2 The outcomes of this programme will be monitored reviewed and reported through the local and Home Office grant monitoring returns process, Serious Violence Duty Group and the Norfolk Community Safety Partnership.

4. Other options considered:

- 4.1 Do nothing. The current partnership resource cannot support this work; as a result, the absence of this analytical function would significantly reduce the partnership's ability to respond effectively, proactively, and collaboratively to serious violence and community safety challenges.

5. Strategic aims/objective supported:

- 5.1 This work will directly benefit the following aspects of the Police and Crime Plan (2025-29):
- Preventing crime: reduce serious violence.
- 5.2 This work supports the delivery of Norfolk's Serious Violence Duty Strategy published in January 2024.
- 5.3 This work directly contributes to the following enables of the Safer Norfolk Plan:
- Effective interventions are in place that prevent Antisocial Behaviour and crime, their causes, make communities safer, provide support to victims, and improve feelings of safety.
- 5.4 This intervention contributes to a range of national strategies, including:
- Serious Violence Strategy

- Beating Crime Plan
- Antisocial Behaviour Action Plan
- Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy
- Protecting lives, building hope: a plan to half knife crime

6. Financial and other resource implications:

6.1 To deliver the work, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk will grant £64,074.00 of Serious Violence Duty Funding to Norfolk Office of Data Analytics, Norfolk County Council for the financial year 2026/27 funded by the Home Office Serious Violence Funding.

7. Carbon emissions and other environmental implications:

Carbon Emissions

7.1 The estimated impact on our carbon emissions that must be reported under current statute from this proposal is:

Emission Categories:	Increase in tCO2	Saving in tCO2
Scope 1 – Fuel – Building Heating	0	0
Scope 1 – Fuel – Transport	0	0
Scope 2 – Electricity	0	0

Environmental Implications

7.2 No material implications.

8. Other implications and risks:

8.1 In line with usual government grants, PCCs must ensure that organisations do not use the funding for any other activities:

- Religious activities outside of the programme benefiting the wider community and not containing religious content;
- Political or lobbying activities;
- Loan repayments; or
- Activities that make profit for private gain

Originator checklist (must be completed)	Please state 'Yes' or 'No'
Has legal advice been sought on this submission?	No
Has the PCC's Chief Finance Officer been consulted?	Yes
Have equality, diversity and human rights implications been considered including equality analysis, as appropriate?	Yes
Have human resource implications been considered?	Yes
Is the recommendation consistent with the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan?	Yes
Has consultation been undertaken with people or agencies likely to be affected by the recommendation?	Yes
Has communications advice been sought on areas of likely media interest and how they might be managed?	Yes
Have sustainability and environmental factors been considered (e.g. biodiversity, employee commuting, business travel, waste and recycling, water, air quality, food and catering and estates construction)?	No
In relation to the above, have all relevant issues been highlighted in the 'other implications and risks' section of the submission?	Yes

Is this report a Confidential Decision?

No

If yes, please state reasons below having referred to the [PCC Decision Making Policy](#)

Approval to submit to the decision-maker (this approval is required only for submissions to the PCC).

On behalf of Chief Executive

I am satisfied that relevant advice has been taken into account in the preparation of the report, that the recommendations have been reviewed and that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the PCC.

Signature: 

Date: 03/07/2026

Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer)

I certify that:

- a) there are no financial consequences as a result of this decision,
Or
- b) the costs identified in this report can be met from existing revenue or capital budgets,
Or
- c) the costs identified in this report can be financed from reserves,
And
- d) the decision can be taken on the basis of my assurance that Financial Regulations have been complied with.

Signature: 

Date: 03/07/2026

Public access to information: Information contained within this submission is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and wherever possible will be made available on the OPCC website. Submissions should be labelled as 'Not Protectively Marked' unless any of the material is 'restricted' or 'confidential.' Where information contained within the submission is 'restricted' or 'confidential' it should be highlighted, along with the reason why.