



Vulnerability Knowledge
& Practice Programme

Stakeholder Bulletin



August 2022

Welcome to the third edition of The Stakeholder Bulletin from the VKPP – a new bulletin from the Vulnerability Knowledge and Practice Programme (VKPP) designed to keep stakeholders and partners updated with our work.

We have refreshed the VKPP's vision and mission that both shape and inform our work and our ambition.

Vision

The VKPP - Coordinating and improving and the police service response to vulnerability.

Mission

We gather, develop and use evidence and practice knowledge to drive joined up improvements across policing's response to persons who are vulnerable and / or subject to abuse, neglect and exploitation.

We use our insight and reach to influence policy and practice, enable cross partnership working and improve outcomes for those requiring a policing response.



Workstreams Update

Domestic Abuse Project

Watch a recording of a brilliant presentation by Katie Hoeger and Thien Trang from the VKPP's Domestic Homicide Project team on [Learning from Domestic Homicides and](#)

[Suspected Victim Suicides During the Covid-19 Pandemic](#) highlighting key findings from the Year 1 Report. The Year 2 report will be published in the early autumn of 2022.

The input was given to the Wales ExChange Summer Conference in June 2022. For more on all presentations please visit (<https://www.exchangewales.org/when-home-is-where-the-hurt-is/>)



VKPP Vacancies

The VKPP have secured Home Office funding to significantly expand our team and our work. From practitioners, researchers and analysts to senior managers, we are seeking committed, passionate people who want to use their experience and skills in a national policing programme, turning insight into meaningful action.

Some vacancies are available as short term secondments and others are offered on a fixed term basis. The VKPP is a great, passionate and supportive team. To find out more about the roles available please visit the Join Us section of the VKPP's website www.vkpp.org.uk



VKPP Team News

We would like to welcome **Kelly Agudelo** as our new Head of Analytics. Kelly comes with a wealth of experience, having been seconded to the VAWG taskforce as the Safer Spaces delivery Lead from her Senior Intelligence Analyst role within the Metropolitan Police. We are excited for Kelly to join us and to lead a team of analysts to inform and support the work of the VAWG taskforce.



Opportunities to Get Involved

VKPP Annual Conference 2023- 15 March 2023

Springing forward, the VKPP will be holding their remote annual conference on Wednesday 15 March 2023. So - plenty of time to save the date! More details to follow soon.

Information for prospective cadre members

The VKPP peer review team are recruiting a cadre of subject matter experts who are currently working in, or have experience of working within, vulnerability, either with adults or children.

Subject matter experts play a key role in informing and influencing the response to vulnerability. Being a member of the VKPP cadre offers a great opportunity to engage face to face with police forces across England and Wales to review and support the current policing response across all strands of vulnerability. You will bring both your insight from your own organisation into the review, as well as knowledge sharing across other organisations.

We are keen to hear from individuals with experience of working with vulnerability, particularly in from **partner or third sector organisations** who bring a diversity of background and experience.

To find out more please visit our website by clicking on the link to our website [Peer Review offer from the VKPP](#)

If you are interested in finding out more or to apply, please contact the VKPP by email diane.malkin@norfolk.police.uk



Stakeholder/Partner News

Hydrant Programme update

Operation Hydrant is changing! Working to a new set of strategic objectives, Hydrant's focus will move from non-recent child sexual abuse within the established Operation Hydrant criteria, to now working across the whole of the Child Protection Abuse and Investigation portfolio encompassing child sexual abuse and exploitation.

To highlight this move away from operational coordination responsibilities, from 1st August Operation Hydrant became the Hydrant Programme. The new name aligns with sister national policing programmes – the [Tackling Organised Exploitation \(TOEX\) Programme](#) and the [Vulnerability Knowledge and Practice Programme \(VKPP\)](#) and reflects the growing collaborative approach between these three programmes.

From 1st August the Hydrant Programme will offer the following key elements:

- An enhanced peer review, peer support and learning function working across all elements of child abuse and child protection, which forces can access at no cost
- An analysis and research team that will work in collaboration with the VKPP and NCA to enhance our understanding of the prevalence of child sexual abuse and exploitation and the risk and harm it presents. This will help to address a number of gaps in our national capability highlighted by the IICSA and others
- A partnership hub that will continue to support key stakeholders and organisations with operational child protection and safeguarding issues
- The ability to coordinate issues of national operational criticality within the vulnerability portfolio when this is appropriate (for example policing's response to incidents like the Everyone's Invited movement and the football abuse scandal)

Operation Hydrant – Annual Report 2021- new link

The Annual Report offers analysis and a national picture of the reporting of allegations of non-recent child sexual abuse within the Operation Hydrant criteria for the calendar year 2021. It also gives an overview of the work the team has completed with partners and stakeholders during the year.

For the first time, Operation Hydrant's Annual Report is not protectively marked. This is because the information within the Report may be useful in informing the work of key partners and stakeholders, please do share with those you feel would benefit from the insight the Report provides.

Please note new link to access the annual report - [Operation Hydrant - Annual Report 2021](#)

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch at operation.hydrant@southyorks.pnn.police.uk

Home Office response to child sexual exploitation by organised networks report by the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) – 27 July 2022

The government have responded to the IICSA report into child sexual exploitation by organised networks. It is relevant to any organisation in local children's partnerships, in particular to executive leaders charged with coordinating multi agency work and ensuring they identify and respond to the needs of children in the local area.

The Home Office response outlines the funding of child sexual abuse and exploitation analysts in every policing region to drive improvement in the collection, analysis and use of data on CSE.

To read the response in full please follow this link [Child sexual exploitation by organised networks report by the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse \(IICSA\): government response \(accessible version\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Updated Child Exploitation Toolkit – 19 July 2022

The Home Office have published the updated Child Exploitation Toolkit, developed to support frontline practitioners to safeguard children and young people under the age of 18 from sexual and criminal exploitation. This includes social workers, police officers, housing officers, education staff, healthcare staff, charity staff, and others. Additionally, the toolkit sets out supportive information to assist information sharing and multi-agency working as well as intelligence and evidence gathering and profiling.

To access the toolkit please follow this link [Child exploitation disruption toolkit \(accessible\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

The Home Office will also be enabling the toolkit email inbox: CEtoolkit@homeoffice.gov.uk

This will allow them to centralise work and collate discussion on the toolkit including any thoughts, feedback and updates on future related work or progress.



Contact Us

We always welcome enquiries regarding our work. Do get in touch!

You can also now us find us on [LinkedIn](#)



Visit us online:
www.vkpp.org.uk



Follow us on Twitter:
[@TheVKPP](https://twitter.com/TheVKPP)

Email us:
vkpp@norfolk.police.uk



Vulnerability Knowledge
& Practice Programme