



April 2024

The VKPP Bulletin

Coordinating and improving the policing response to vulnerability

Welcome to the March edition of The VKPP Bulletin from the Vulnerability Knowledge and Practice Programme designed, to keep you updated with our work.

The team have been busy over the last few months improving the policing response to vulnerability and public protection as it continues to evolve nationally.

Work in the VKPP is making significant progress with transition to the College of Policing imminent. This marks a significant step forward in aligning vulnerability-related initiatives with broader policing objectives, aiming to improve the overall response to vulnerability and enhance public protection. By joining forces with the College of Policing, VKPP seeks to maximise opportunities for collaboration and leverage resources more effectively. This transition underscores a shared vision of professionalising public protection and driving evidence-based responses to vulnerability.

The third annual report from the national Domestic Homicide Project sheds light on the reality of domestic abuse-related deaths in England and Wales from 2020 to 2023.

The report, alongside its Executive Summary, provides crucial insights into the demographics of victims and perpetrators, aiming to enhance

understanding and response to domestic abuse, homicide, and victim suicide. The report serves as a stark reminder of the ongoing challenges in combating domestic violence.

The widespread media coverage following the report's launch underscores the urgency of addressing this issue and calls for more support for domestic abuse victims. It highlights the need for concerted efforts from, policymakers, and society to prevent such tragedies and support survivors.

The successful delivery of the Vulnerability and Exploitation Conference in 2024 signifies a collective commitment to addressing vulnerability and exploitation. The collaboration between various programs and organisations, including

- VKPP
- TOEX
- The Hydrant Programme
- NAPAC
- Leaders Unlocked

demonstrates a multifaceted approach to tackling these complex issues.

Additionally, events like the VKPP Sharing and Learning event for Analysts and Researchers highlight ongoing efforts to enhance understanding and response to vulnerability within policing.

As we reflect on these developments, we wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude to each one of you who have been instrumental in our journey since our inception. Your unwavering support and dedication have been pivotal to our success.

We want to express a special thank you to our esteemed colleagues in Finance, ICT, HR, information security, and legal departments. Your expertise and collaboration have been invaluable to our operations.

Furthermore, we extend our deepest appreciation to the Chief and his executive team for their continuous support and guidance throughout our partnership.

Although our paths may diverge, the impact of our collaboration will be cherished and remembered. Thank you for your unwavering commitment and professionalism.

Gareth Edwards, Director of VKPP



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Domestic Homicides and Suspected Victim Suicides 2020-2023 Year 3 Report published

The third annual report from the national Domestic Homicide Project which works across England and Wales, Alongside the main report is an Executive Summary with the key findings and recommendations.

The report examines all deaths identified by police as domestic abuse related to improve understanding of risk indicators, victim and perpetrator demographics. The unique dataset collects detailed information on these deaths not available from any other source to help police and partners improve their response to domestic abuse, domestic homicide and victim suicide following domestic abuse.

A total of 242 domestic abuse related deaths were recorded between April 2022 to March 2023, including:

- 93 suspected victim suicide following domestic abuse (SVSDA)
- 80 intimate partner homicides (IPH)
- 31 adult family homicides (AFH)
- 23 unexpected deaths
- 11 child deaths
- 4 'other' deaths (individuals living together who are not family members or intimate partners)

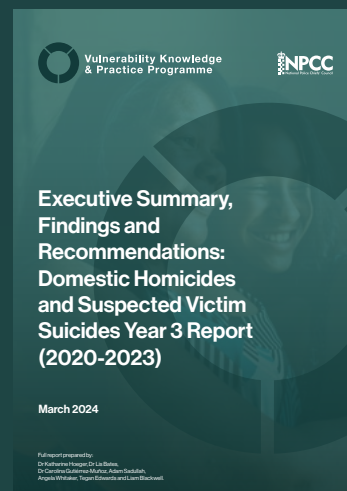
To learn more about the key findings and to read the report & the executive summary in full follow the links below:

https://www.vkpp.org.uk/assets/Files/Domestic-Homicides-and-Suspected-Victim-Suicides-2021-2022/Domestic-Homicides-and-Suspected-Victim-Suicides-Year-3-Report_FINAL.pdf

[Executive Summary, Findings and Recommendations: Domestic Homicides and Suspected Victim Suicides Year 3 Report \(2020-2023\) \(vkpp.org.uk\)](https://www.vkpp.org.uk/assets/Files/Domestic-Homicides-and-Suspected-Victim-Suicides-2021-2022/Executive_Summary_Findings_and_Recommendations_Domestic_Homicides_and_Suspected_Victim_Suicides_Year_3_Report_(2020-2023).pdf)

Widespread national media coverage following launch of Domestic Homicide and Suspected Victim Suicides 2022-23 report.

- [The Guardian](#)
[Suicide toll prompts call for more support for UK domestic abuse victims | Domestic violence | The Guardian](#)
- [The Telegraph](#)
[Domestic abusers who kill partners are known to police in 80pc of cases \(telegraph.co.uk\)](#)



Tackling Online Harms Transforming the Whole System Approach 20-22 May 2024

PIER24 is the annual conference of the Policing Institute for the Eastern Region (PIER), part of Anglia Ruskin University.

The conference brings together leading voices from across the world to discuss the way forward in global efforts to tackle online child sexual abuse. Aimed at professionals in sectors including:

- Policing
- Public protection
- Safeguarding
- Regulation
- Technology
- Education
- Probation
- Offender management
- Victim support
- Charity and third sector.

The sessions include:

- Keynote presentation from Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel de Souza
- Education and awareness – challenges, keeping children safe and the way forward for education
- Big tech and supporting big tech with compliance – including legal approaches to supporting big tech on compliance and the implications of regulation
- Responding to victims – What next after IICSA? Understanding and acting on lived experience
- The role of safeguarding partners – Serious incident notifications / delivering effective oversight of review recommendations
- Tech-enabled crime disclosure – procedures teachers and social workers should follow.

Location : Renaissance Hotel, Heathrow and online

In-person tickets: £55 per day Virtual tickets (limited access): Free

Programme information and booking [PIER24 - Crowdcomms](#)

Vulnerability and Exploitation Conference 2024 – Successfully delivered

The National Vulnerability and Exploitation Conference took place on Thursday 7 and Friday 8 March 2024, hosted by the Hydrant Programme, Tackling Organised Exploitation (TOEX) Programme and Vulnerability, Knowledge, and Practice Programme (VKPP).

The Vulnerability and Exploitation Conference brought together voices from victim, survivor, and young people's perspectives, thanks to the collaboration with NAPAC and Leaders Unlocked. Gratitude is extended to all involved, including VKPP, TOEX, The Hydrant Programme and the College of Policing. From insightful discussions on justice to impactful

testimonies from the Football Association panel, the conference fostered crucial conversations. Participants reflected on the privilege of sharing the stage with incredible individuals, emphasising the dedication of programs like VKPP, TOEX, and The Hydrant Programme.

Moreover, the conference provided a platform for profound reflections on the lifelong impacts of abuse, as evidenced by the poignant testimonies of Gary Cliffe, Dion Raitt, Jamie Cartwright, with support from Sue Ravenlaw. Their willingness to share deeply personal experiences served as a catalyst for collective action

and reaffirmed the importance of fostering a culture where victims feel empowered to come forward and seek support.

Additionally, the engagement of the IOPC Youth Panel and the insights shared by Gabrielle Shaw, Kim Bond, and NAPAC added depth and authenticity to the discussions, ensuring that the voices of young people and victims remained at the forefront of the conversation.

Overall, the Vulnerability and Exploitation Conference was not just a forum for dialogue but a catalyst for tangible change, inspiring participants to redouble their efforts in the fight against exploitation and injustice.



VKPP Sharing and Learning event for Analysts and Researchers - Identifying Vulnerability in Policing - Tuesday 13 February 2024

This in person event, hosted by VKPP aimed at **intelligence analysts and researchers in policing** and focused on how we can better identify vulnerability, share emerging practice and provide the analytical and research community a chance to network.

The event has been a big success for the VKPP and policing community with a busy day sharing practice and research findings whilst providing valuable networking opportunities to a fully booked audience. We were excited

to invite a large range of speakers representing both policing and partners within the vulnerability space which provided an insightful day for our delegates and plenty of information to take back into their roles and share with colleagues. Enthusiasm for the event aimed specifically at the analytical and research community will see us move forward to produce annual face to face events whilst also maintaining a sense of connection between our practitioners through virtual monthly micro CPD sessions.



Transition to the College of Policing

From 1 April 2024 the Vulnerability and Knowledge Practice Programme (VKPP) is joining the College of Policing.

The VKPP has been hosted and supported by Norfolk Constabulary from its formation in 2018. Since then, the programme has grown significantly in terms of the scope and ambition of the work undertaken and the impact it seeks to achieve in the vulnerability space. To that end the VKPP is now embarking on an exciting transition to join the College of Policing in April 2024. The VKPP will remain a distinct programme but with key intersections mapped into core College activity, to begin maximising the opportunities that the transition brings and enhance the collective offer to policing. Both organisations share the same vision in supporting policing, alongside our many partners and stakeholders to improve the response to vulnerability, reducing threat and harm, as well as increasing trust and confidence, especially for victims. The VKPP transition to the College



Vulnerability Knowledge & Practice Programme

Great News!

The VKPP has joined the College of Policing



College of Policing

of Policing is a key part of a broader ambition within the College to professionalise public protection and drive effective evidence based responses to vulnerability.

Please note new email address – vkpp@college.police.uk

For further information www.vkpp.org.uk/vkpp-work

Do follow us on LinkedIn for all our latest news and information [VKPP LinkedIn](#)