

## About the Area Leaders Programme

The Area Leaders Programme (ALP) will help local strategic partnerships work better together to prevent children's involvement in violence<sup>1</sup>.

Our programme hypothesis is that areas are more effective at preventing children's involvement in violence if they do five things well (5Ps):

- **Partnerships:** Build strong, accountable partnerships with clear roles, governance, and measurable goals.
- **Profile:** Understand the local drivers, context, and patterns of serious violence.
- **People:** Identify the children most at risk and ensure they get the right support at the right time.
- **Places:** Pinpoint high-risk locations and take action to make them safer.
- **Practice:** Share and apply best practice consistently across all key agencies.

We know that area leaders share our focus on improving the lives of children and young people. But inconsistent understanding of need and interventions, gaps in shared information, differing priorities and practices between agencies, complex systems and constrained resources can all present significant challenges. Being part of ALP will increase knowledge and tools available to multi-agency partners to take evidence informed approaches to preventing violence. ALP will support partnerships to identify and take tangible actions to meet the needs of children, families and communities and reduce the harms that result from violence.

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<sup>1</sup> By strategic partnerships, we mean multi-agency partnerships that include representatives from statutory and voluntary sector organisations that play a role in violence reduction. We expect partnerships will align with an existing local governance structure such as a Community Safety Partnership, Safeguarding Children Partnership, or a subgroup focussed on serious youth violence. We expect that partnerships in the ALP will include and build relationships between agencies from all seven sectors identified by YEF as important to violence reduction.

In 2025–26 the ALP will work with 10 local partnerships. Each will get:

- Tailored workshops, tools and expert support on topics related to the 5Ps
- Support to dig into local problems and agree practical plans to fix them
- A community of practice – regular opportunities to share learning and get peer support
- £25k for a part-time coordinator to keep things moving

ALP is a long-term programme. We expect to make a further opportunity available in 26–27; and we will work with the 25–26 areas to generate learning about how we can grow and scale ALP's impact.