

## Referral process

If you would like to refer someone or even yourself to the Gang Peer Advisor Programme, please ask for a referral form by sending an email to:

[stgilesreferral@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:stgilesreferral@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk)

The form will ask the following:

- Personal details - name, contact details, etc.
- What services you/the client is known to
- Reason for referral
- Last offence
- Any licensing conditions or outstanding matters
- A signature for consent for personal data to be shared

Once accepted, you will be contacted by a member of St Giles Trust. You can leave the programme at any time and your personal data will no longer be shared.

Good luck.

## Programme Precision

West Yorkshire Police are dedicated to protecting your child and the general public from gangs, and serious and organised crime. Programme Precision is a joint partnership approach between WYP, the public and partners to tackle serious and organised crime.

For further information and resources under Programme Precision, please visit:

[www.westyorkshire.police.uk/precision](http://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/precision)

## Case Study

Growing up BH inherited links to a gang, and soon became a 'Younger'. BH became a prominent member when others were given multiple life sentences for gangland executions.

BH moved to Wakefield where he continued his involvement in the drug culture. He was subsequently convicted of Possession with Intent to Supply, operating via county lines. Upon his release he continued to reside in Wakefield where he was supported by myself, with a view to address his offending, gang lifestyle and aid in his transition to employment and away from a criminal lifestyle.

Through intensive support and guidance by SOS Yorkshire, he successfully completed the CSCS course, has been in employment for 4 months, continues to make positive relationships, and has even expressed an interest in wanting to be trained up to a Level 3 in Information, Advice and Guidance. BH would be an excellent Peer Adviser as he can be seen as a positive role model by others.

*Toseef Khan – October 2018*



# GANG PEER ADVISOR PROGRAMME



“For me, this opportunity has helped change my mindframe and thinking. If I hadn't had it, there is a possibility I might have gone back to my old lifestyle. It's also had a benefit on my partner and three children. They know i'm coming home now.”

*Verrell - former SOS client who progressed to become an SOS caseworker*



## Gang Peer Advisor Programme

The West Yorkshire Police (WYP) and St Giles Trust Peer Advisor Programme offers support to offenders to break free from gangs, drugs, weapons and serious violence. This programme offers a tailored package of support for adults or young people to help identify alternative goals and lifestyles.

The programme may be suitable to those that have been unsuccessful with other services in the past or to those that are currently engaging but would benefit from speaking to someone who has been through similar experiences.

The programme is delivered by trained caseworkers who are ex-offenders with first-hand experience of the issues that their clients are facing. Caseworkers will help identified adults or young people by offering support and guidance, and are able to cater packages to individuals with a variety of needs. The programme may be challenging for some, but the long term achievements will be forever rewarding.

## WE WOULD LIKE TO PREVENT PEOPLE FROM ENTERING A LIFE OF CRIME

Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) is a real issue and is estimated to cost the UK £37 billion annually. Between 2016/18 there has been a 25% increase in firearm offences.

We understand that many individuals involved in SOC have been recruited and groomed from a young age to become part of a gang, and committing crime soon becomes normalised. WYP and ST Giles Trust understand the reality that young people can be both criminals and victims, and we would like to stop them from entering a life of crime.

# St Giles Results



**24,982**  
People helped  
in 2017/18



**4,793**  
People were helped  
to find a permanent  
home in 2017/18



**795**  
Clients helped in to  
paid work in 2017/18



**517**  
Number of people  
who trained as Peer  
advisors in 2017/18



**£8.34**  
Saving to the tax  
payer for every £1  
invested in our  
Peer-led services

We understand that it is not easy for people to leave gangs ('gang exit'), and that is why we provide a multi-agency approach to support those people. As well as this, our caseworkers will be able to provide first-hand experience to help their client with any issue.

We believe that people with prior experience of leaving gangs and overcoming issues as such as homelessness, substance misuse and offending hold the key to positive change in others.

**WE WORK TOGETHER BY IDENTIFYING THOSE AT RISK OF EXPLOITATION AND THOSE INVOLVED IN GANGS. WE THEN SUPPORT THEM THROUGH THE PROCESS OF 'GANG EXIT'**

Many individuals will find that they need support in a variety of areas, this programme can offer that support, including:

- Housing
- Education
- Training
- Preparation for work
- Relationships
- Self-esteem

The benefits this programme has achieved are substantial: re-offending is reduced, a reduction in weapons crime and innocent victims becoming involved.

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