

# London Vision

## Reduce the prevalence and impact of violence



**Our ambition:** every Londoner feels safe, knowing that we have reduced violence in their community

**Our commitment:** we will work collaboratively with the London Violence Reduction Unit to develop and implement effective ways of reducing violence, including addressing its root causes

## The challenge we face...

The number of violent incidents across England and Wales has increased each year since 2014. Whilst London has observed a lower rate of increase than other areas, the number of violent incidents in London is unacceptably high and is one of the Mayor of London's highest priorities<sup>56,57,58</sup>

# 200,000

offences of violence including 120 homicides were recorded in London in the 12 months to March 2019



The Royal London Hospital on average admits two people a day with a stabbing injury, having a devastating effect on families and placing avoidable pressure on NHS staff



The VRU unites specialists from health, police, local government, probation and community organisations

# 28%

of Londoners report feeling that knife crime is a problem in their local area

# 7%

Violent incidents have increased by 7% in London and by 22% nationally in the 12 months to March 2019



The areas of London most affected by violence are often those with high deprivation

## Our commitments so far...

- Working at neighbourhood level and with local Community Safety Partnerships we are continuing to **develop best practice and multi-agency action plans that address violence in local areas**, which can be evaluated and promoted by the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU)
- Embedding case workers in Major Trauma Centres for example St. Giles Caseworkers who **offer support to young people** admitted to the Royal London Hospital as a result of serious violence
- Building on the Information Sharing to Tackle Violence (ISTV) programme, we are continuing to work together to review opportunities to: **identify individual and community risk and preventative factors; build the evidence base, and to share data** with the VRU and its partners
- Supporting the VRU to **develop a movement against violence** that promotes positive messages and activities for London citizens, building stronger and safer communities

## Our next steps...

- NHS London will establish a clinical and professional network that provides leadership across the health system and establish a Violence Reduction Academy to support and equip local health systems to develop and implement best-practice evidence-based models across the capital
- NHS London will explore a more integrated trauma model so Londoners affected by violence and trauma can receive more effective, joined up physical and psychological support
- Violence reduction will be factored into JSNAs and into the work of Health and Wellbeing Boards
- Local health and care partnerships will interrogate existing care pathways for opportunities to reduce violence and social risk factors
- We, as a London-wide partnership, will identify promising new or non-traditional models of prevention and early intervention and look to evaluate, share and scale good practice across the capital
- Working with the VRU and other agencies across London, we will develop new models of care for people affected by violence, which will be co-produced with the people they aim to support
- We will support the VRU's work to strengthen London's network of support for those affected violence and trauma. This will include expanding support to parents and families; investing in London's youth workers and developing trauma-awareness among frontline professionals

