

Scottish Violence Reduction Unit

Glasgow, Scotland

<http://www.actiononviolence.com/>

Detective Chief Superintendent John Carnochan and his fellow co-director Karyn McCluskey established the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) within Strathclyde Police in January 2005 with the aim of developing a strategy that would bring about sustainable reductions in violence within Strathclyde. In April 2006 the Scottish Executive (now Government) extended the VRU's remit nationwide, thus creating a national centre of expertise on violence prevention. The VRU's fundamental tenet is that "violence is preventable – not inevitable".

VPA focal person



Karin McCluskey

Tel: +44 141 532 5806

Fax: +44 141 532 5847

Email: karyn.mccluskey@vruscotland.pnn.police.uk

Karyn has over 15 years experience working in intelligence analysis for police forces across the UK. She was head of intelligence analysis at West Mercia Police prior to joining Strathclyde Police eight years ago as Principal Analyst. During her time with Strathclyde she set up the force's intelligence analysis function and was responsible for over 90 staff. Originally trained as a registered nurse, Karyn holds a BSc and MSc in Psychology and has published on violence reduction and the social structure of teams committing armed robbery. She has worked in the National Health Service and Her Majesty's Prisons, as well as in Africa. In 2009 she successfully completed the Strategic Command Course for senior leaders in the Police. She recently finished a year's secondment to the Metropolitan Police, developing their violence plan and leading the Territorial Policing Change Programme. Karyn is an Honorary Lecturer in Medicine at the University of Glasgow and a Fellow by distinction of the Faculty of Public Health – an arm of the Royal College of Physicians. She was instrumental in helping to found Medics Against Violence, which aims to prevent violence related-injuries through education.