

# Violence Prevention Board, Cardiff Community Safety Partnership

<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/violence-research-group>

The Violence Prevention Board is the operational arm of the Violence Research Group (VRG) and is a member of the World Health Organization's Violence Prevention Alliance (WHO VPA). As part of the statutory Cardiff Community Safety Partnership it is responsible for violence prevention across the capital city of Wales.

The Prevention Board has implemented many of the innovations initiated and developed by VRG. These include the use of ED data for violence prevention (the "Cardiff Model"), the substitution of annealed with toughened and polycarbonate glassware, and the partnership approach to prevention which involves the police, city government and health working together.

The Prevention Board's work is associated with a 50% reduction in violence-related ED attendances in the County over the period 2002-2014. The Group has hosted visits from successive Home Secretaries and representatives of police forces, city governments and safety organisations from across the UK and overseas including from the Netherlands, the United States and Australia.

The Board's agenda remains sharply focussed on achieving further reductions in violence. Current initiatives include work with city licensing authorities to improve alcohol regulation, work with third sector organisations especially the Street Pastors, the development of the pioneering Cardiff Alcohol Treatment Centre, work with the UK departments of health to implement new information standards for violence prevention and wider implementation of the Cardiff Model for information sharing and use.



Standing, left to right: South Wales Police Commissioner's representative, Local Authority official, Cardiff Emergency Department senior nurse, Cardiff County Licensing official, Public Health lead, Cardiff Safety Partnership chief analyst, Cardiff Street Pastors' manager, three South Wales Police officers. Sitting: left to right: Cardiff Licensees Forum spokesman, Police Chief, Professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery (Group chairman).

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*VPA focal person*



**Professor Jonathan Shepherd**

Director, Violence Research Group

Cardiff University

Chairman, Violence Prevention Group

Cardiff Partnership

Cardiff CF14 4XY Tel: 0044 (0)29 20744215/2447 Mobile: 0777 949 0022 Email: [shepherdjp@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:shepherdjp@cardiff.ac.uk)

Jonathan Shepherd is Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Vice Dean at Cardiff University. On completion of his clinical training at Kings College Hospital he graduated from the University of London in 1973. After House and Senior House Officer appointments at Kings, the Queen Victoria Hospital East Grinstead and the Eastman Dental Hospital in London he was appointed Registrar in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in Oxford where he held a Research Fellowship in the Nuffield Department of Surgery. His research for his Oxford MSc established that lack of scarring following low temperature injury reflects preservation of the extracellular matrix and that healing by primary and secondary intention represents a continuum rather than distinctly different processes. He completed his specialist surgical training in Leeds University Hospitals during which a UK Government Overseas Development surgical appointment took him to the Ahmadu Bello University Hospital in Nigeria where he investigated the association of Epstein Barr virus with ameloblastoma. These findings were published in the journal Cancer.

Observations that the miners strikes in the Yorkshire Coalfield in the 1980s were associated with increased community violence prompted his PhD, "Assault: characteristics of injured and injuries", after his appointment as Senior Lecturer/Consultant at the University of Bristol. This interdisciplinary research, spanning the social and medical sciences, provided many new insights, particularly the great extent to which violence resulting in NHS treatment is not reported to the police and the substantial mental health impact on victims; posttraumatic disorder and other conditions. These discoveries were published in medical and social science journals and he summarised implications for clinical services and violence prevention in a series of 10 BMJ and Lancet editorials which have informed his implementation and research work since then.

Professor Shepherd is an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, the Royal College Surgeons of England, the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, the Royal College of Emergency Medicine and of the Faculty of Public Health at the Royal College of Physicians. He was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences in 2002 and to the Academy Council in 2011 and is a Fellow of the Learned Society of Wales. Major awards include the 2008 Stockholm Criminology Prize (The "Criminology Nobel"), a 2010 Queen's Prize in Higher Education and the 2014 Colyer Gold Medal of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. He was appointed CBE in the 2008 New Year Honours for services to the justice system and to healthcare.

He lives with his family in leafy north Cardiff, where, with others interested in the Industrial Revolution in Wales, he built a working blast furnace. He is an elected member of the Governing Body of the Church in Wales

#### *Current Appointments*

- Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
- Vice Dean for Innovation and Engagement
- Honorary Consultant Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon, Cardiff Health Board
- Director of the Cardiff University Violence Research Group
- Director of the Cardiff University Crime and Security Research Institute

#### *Current committee/task group roles*

- Cabinet Office What Works Council
- Home Office Science Council
- Trustee, Hunterian Museum, Royal College of Surgeons
- Right to be Safe Board, Welsh Government
- Royal College of Surgeons Honours Committee
- Wales Advisory Committee on Clinical Excellence Awards
- Commission on a Royal College of Teaching, Prince's Teaching Institute
- Public Services Leadership Board, Welsh Government
- Domestic Violence (Wales) Bill Task and Finish Group, Welsh Government
- Information Sharing to Tackle Violence Board, Department of Health
- Government and Partners Alcohol Working Group

Jonathan Shepherd has either authored or co-authored over 150 articles in refereed scientific journals.