

2

PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION:

Improving safeguarding
in physical and
virtual space

A report by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) noted 'The police service must place as much emphasis on preventing crime as it does on responding to and investigating crime once it has happened.' Prevention or earlier intervention with children, young adults, and people with multiple needs who come into repeated contact with the police is the key to ending 'revolving door' offending.

Prevention and early intervention are vast in scope but the following areas require particular attention:

- Cyber and digital crime (henceforth referred to as 'cybercrime')
- Young people at risk
- Perceptions of crime
- Whole place approaches

Cybercrime

Cybercrime has grown dramatically as the internet and social media provide the opportunity to commit crime and enable some crime types to be committed on a huge scale. The Office of National Statistics (ONS) estimated that 5.8 million incidents of fraud and computer crime were experienced by adults aged 16 and over in England and Wales to the year ending March 2016, exceeding the total volume of recorded crime across England and Wales over the same period.

80%

of cybercrimes are preventable
by implementing simple safety
measures' - GCHQ

