



College of
Policing

Leadership
Standards
Performance

What is meant by Hot Spots Policing? Reflections on national implementation

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Aims

What is meant by Hot Spots Policing

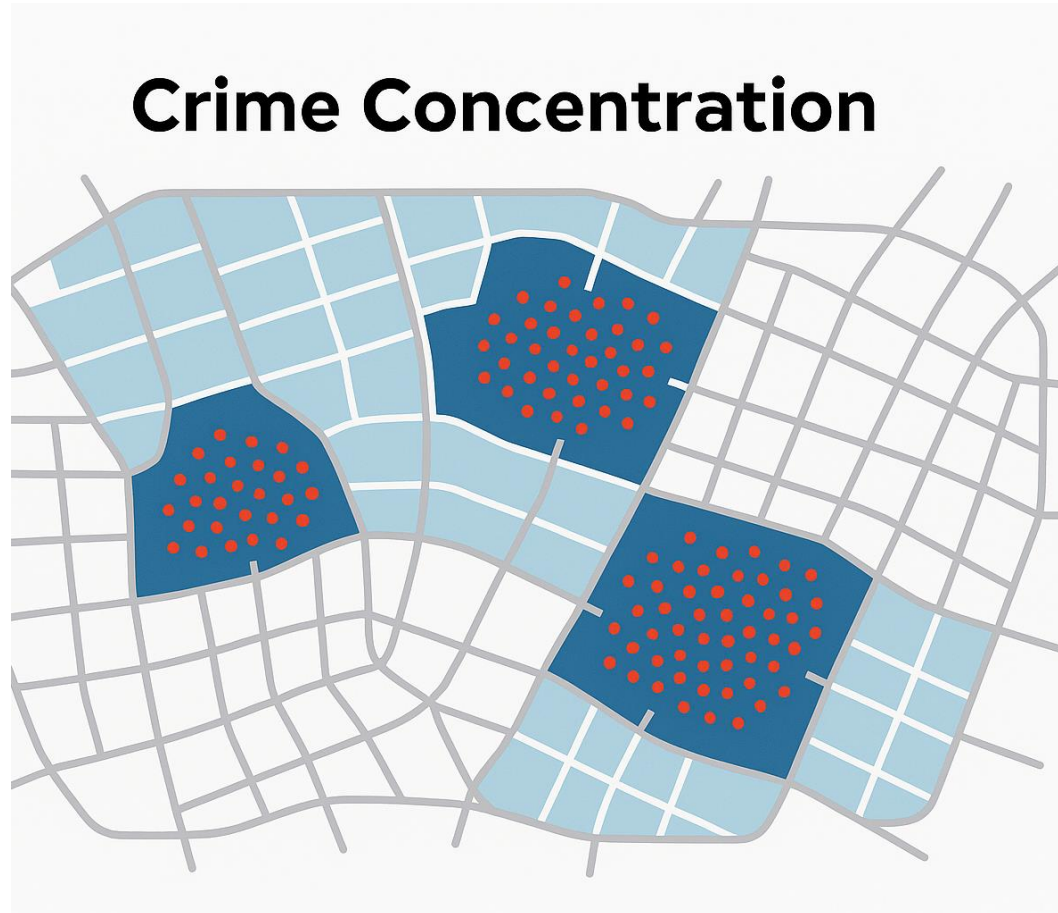
National hots spots policing programme

What's needed for successful implementation

Areas for further research









Hot spots policing



- Hot spots policing involves the deployment of police personnel to specific streets, intersections, or public places (such as train stations) where crime is known to concentrate (Braga & Weisburd, 2010).
- 1% of places in a city account for about 25% of crime, 5% of places account for about 50% of crime (Lee, Eck, Martinez, 2017)



Does hot spots policing work?

Effect scale	Quality of evidence				
	Effect Impact on crime	Mechanism How it works	Moderator Where it works	Implementation How to do it	Economic cost What it costs
  Overall reduction	 Very strong	 Moderate	 Moderate	 Low	No information

How does hot spots policing work

Deterrence Theory



Likely Offender



Punishment



Perceived Deterrence

Routine Activity Theory



Likely Offender

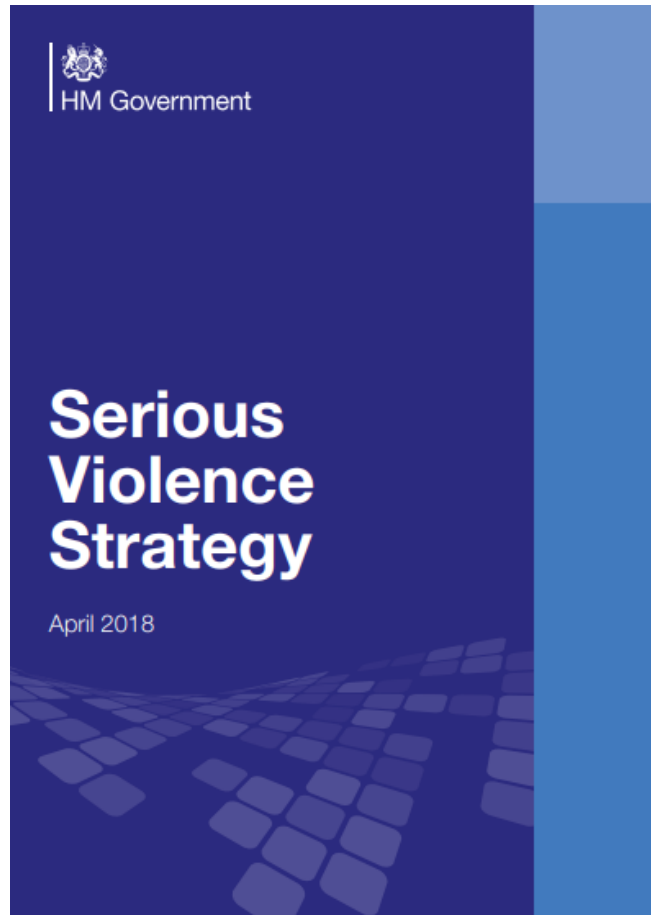


Suitable Target



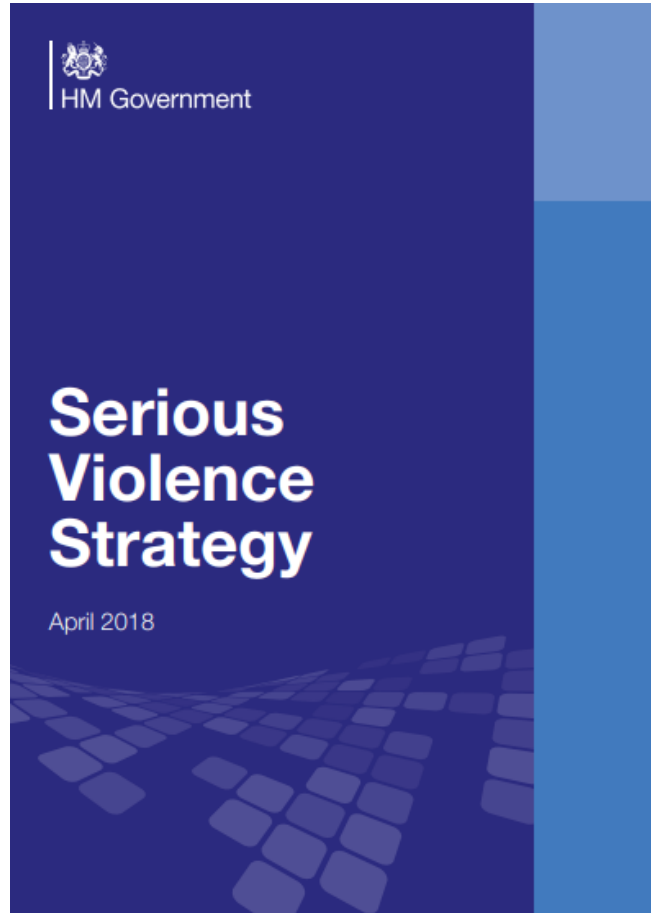
Absence of Capable Guardian

National investment in hot spots policing



- 2021-2022 – Grip fund - £30m for hot spot policing in 18 forces
- 2022 – Grip expanded to include problem solving
- 2022-2024 – Multiyear agreement to deliver Hot Spots Policing programme
- 2024-2025 – Hot Spot Response Fund for serious violence & ASB
 - Given to all 43 forces
- 2025-2026 – Hot Spot Action Fund and Hyper Local Targeting Approach programme for serious violence, ASB & knife crime

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From suppression to solving the problem

Hot Spots Policing

Suppress the violence



Broad – less concerned about type of violence in street setting



Problem solving

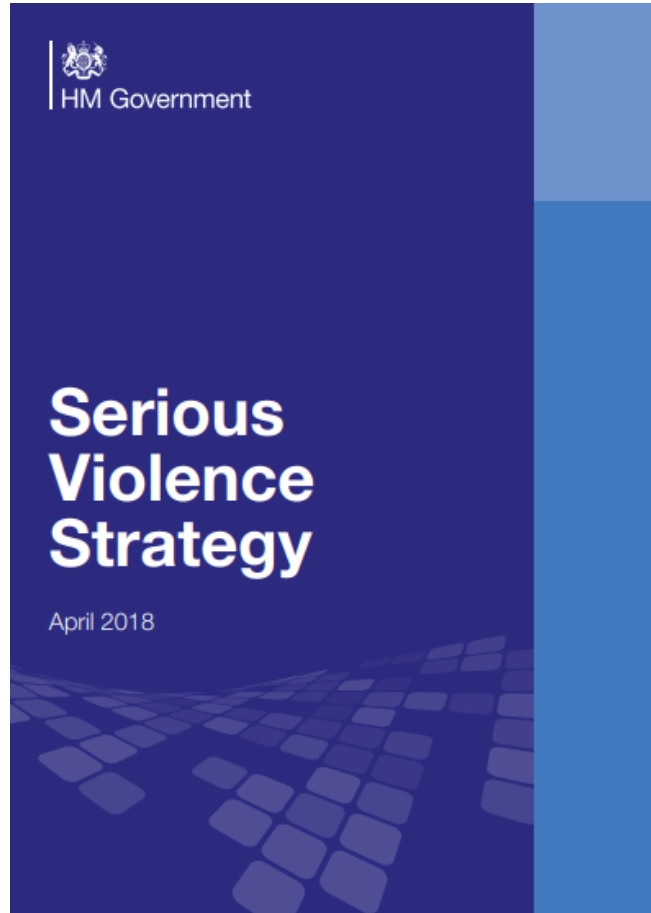
Implementation of longer term solutions



Specific – digging deeper, focusing on specific violence problems

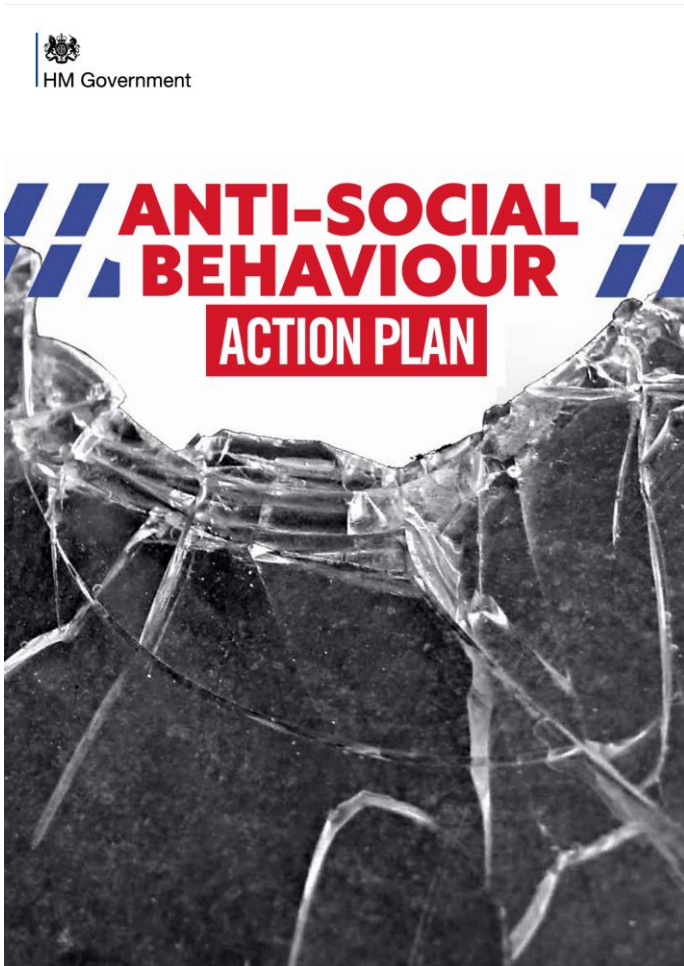


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How to successfully implement hot spots policing



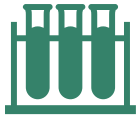
Targeting

Those areas with highest levels of harm & greatest potential for reduction



Tracking

Ensure officers are in the right place at the right time



Testing

Establish what is most effective & cost-effective



Technology

To direct patrols, monitor compliance & record activity



Tasking

Shifts match crime patterns, with appropriate supervision



Training

To improve understanding and get buy-in

Cambridge Centre for Evidence Based Policing



Evidence gaps

- How do we make hot spots policing BAU?
- How do we build public trust and confidence in areas where they don't receive hot spots patrols?
- How long should patrols be?
- Who should do the patrols?
- Does hot spots policing work in lower crime, lower density areas?

