

Annex 2: Understanding the risk and protective factors for crime and violence

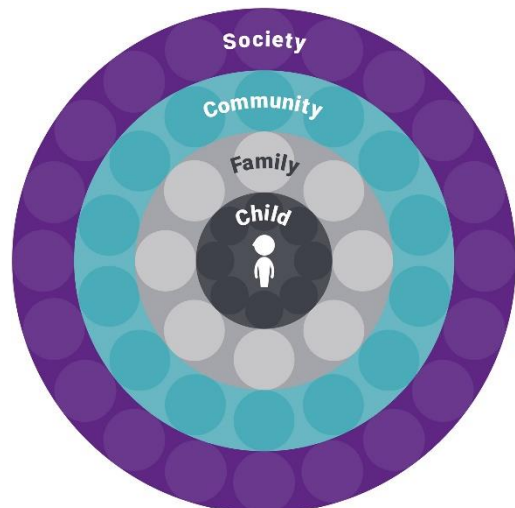
Preventing crime, violence and antisocial behaviour is one of EIF's seven key outcome areas where early intervention can support typical development.

Risk factors occurring in a child's life

As set out in 2018 report *Realising the Potential of Early Intervention*, we have a good understanding of the risk factors that threaten children's life chances through limiting opportunities, and increasing the likelihood of mental health problems, involvement in crime and violence, substance misuse and exploitation or abuse in later life.

We set out a framework of how risk factors exist at different levels and interact in complex ways to influence how vulnerable children are to negative life outcomes.

Risk factors that may relate to antisocial or criminal behaviour include aggression and emotional self-regulation (child level); parents' education levels and the presence of substance misuse (family level); housing quality, community safety and peers (community level); and employment and poverty levels (society level).



These risk factors are not deterministic or predictive at an individual level: they cannot tell us which child or young person will need help. But they can help us to identify children who are vulnerable and would benefit from extra support.

Our holistic framework of children's development will underpin all our activity, including our approach to attracting, selecting and evaluating interventions; our method for identifying cohorts of children and young people who would benefit from support; and our approach to deciding on the upstream outcomes we will address alongside our focus on interventions which target crime and reoffending directly.

