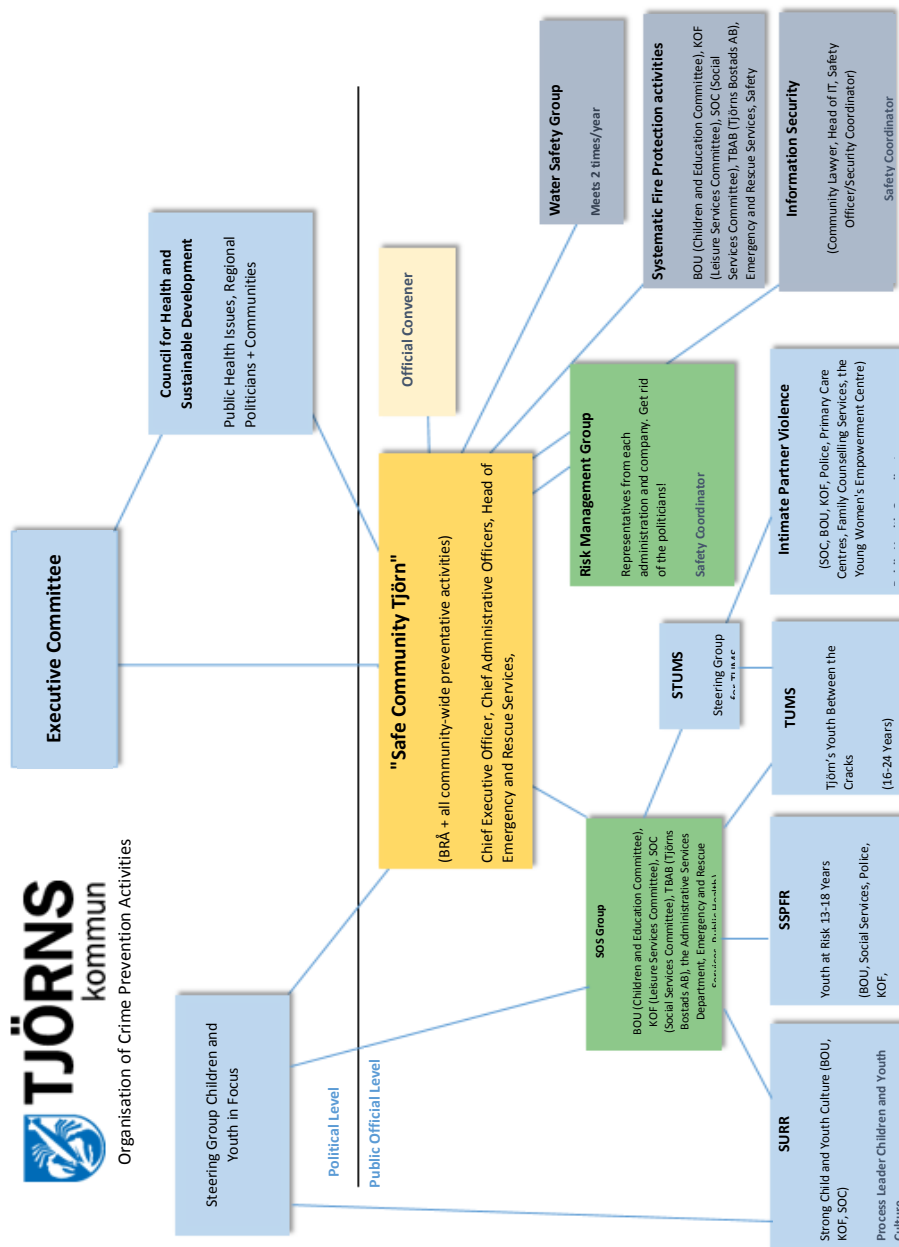


The programs we want to "feature"/best practices"

The cooperation we have within the community around preventative initiatives for Children and Youth is something we are very proud of. The work is managed by the "Strategic Group Children and Youth in Focus".



The Strategic Joint Action Group, the **SOS Group**, is Tjörn Community's link between policies, decisions and missions in work for and with children and youth 0-24 years. During times of exceptional needs and events, the group is mandated, based on specific criteria, to provide suggestions for reprioritisation, within the common agenda. The Group follows a *Child and Youth Plan* that covers 2013-2023. The group is headed by process leaders for children and youth, and meets once per month. The SOS Group consists of heads from all of the administrative offices and companies, public health strategists and process leaders. Follow-up of the group's work is given to the Strategic Joint Action Group's steering group, called Child and Youth in Focus.

There is collaboration with school student councils to include young people's opinions. In addition, the municipality regularly conducts surveys with the youth of Tjörn. The surveys are often followed by workshops to present the responses and elaborate on views.

SURR is a joint action group with mandate and mission to execute the decisions in the activity plan for Strengthened Child- and Youth Culture, the *Child and Youth Plan*. The SURR-group is also responsible for future development of the local Child- and Youth Culture. To assist, SURR has three so called TRIO-groups, in each of the different administrative offices (unit managers, person responsible for youth culture within the administrative office, and a third worker). The TRIO-groups work as a link between the administrative offices and the central SURR-group.

SSPFR stands for the collaboration between school, social service, police, culture and leisure as well as emergency services for youth between 12-18 years of age. It is a permanent forum with a team of professionals from the respective units. The goal is to catch youth, at an early stage, who are at risk of becoming socially excluded, using drugs or getting involved with criminal activities. The work consists of providing support to the young people and their family and to collaborate with the involved actors.

TUMS (*Tjörn's Youth Between the Cracks*) is a team consisting of staff from the Children and Education Department and Social Welfare Services. The objective of TUMS is to identify and activate youth, primarily between 16-24 years, who neither study nor work. The community's obligations are regulated in the Education Act, Chap. 29 §9.

Tjörn Community convenes meetings for a community-wide joint Action Group for **Intimate Partner Violence** via the public health strategist. The group includes representatives from IFO, elderly care, the Disabilities Department, crisis centres, family counselling, the police, youth health clinics, BVC (Local Child Health Care Centre), schools, preschools, family centres, Save the Children and Tjejjouren Väst (Young Women's Empowerment Centre Väst). The group holds discussions on common routines for victims of violence and what the operations need, in the form of training and lectures.

Other initiatives that strengthen the work:

- In 2015, the community's field assistants received a new work description and title, that of Youth Coordinator. They became the source of contact for youth, along with maintaining an increased focus on parents and youth in a risk zone and is they are the key actors in the *Joint Action Group SSPFR's* work. The Youth Coordinator also receives tasks from the administrative offices and collaborates with Primary Health Care Services, MiniMia and the police.
- The Youth Clinic for youth between 13-24 years, with a midwife, welfare officer, and doctor, works to promote young persons' physical and mental health, and strengthen and help youth in the transition from youth to adulthood. The youth clinic is medical, socially and psychosocially oriented and is run by the Tjörn Community in cooperation with the Health and Medical Services Committee (HSN).

Examples of methods, work methods and programmes:

- Schools on Tjörn have a *Safe School Team* that consists of school management, a school welfare officer and staff from each work team and a school monitor. The Safety Team is responsible for:
 - Confronting and investigating repeated intimidation and harassment that is reported/discovered
 - Informing the affected staff (for example mentors) at the school about any current matters
 - Initiating preventative activities at the school
 - Mapping the school's psychosocial and physical environments, by conducting surveys
 - Working with the peer supporters
 - Together with those responsible, present a completed plan for the school personnel
 - Map the school's environment from a physical and psychosocial viewpoint, via surveys
 - Suggest measures as needed
- Systematic Work against Discrimination in Schools
 - All school classes receive *education* in fundamental values and safety issues.
 - The schoolyard environment is discussed in the *class council* (klassråd) and during *circle time* (kompissamtal).
 - *Surveys and interviews and follow-up activities* to prevent discrimination, risk for humiliating and oppressive treatment.
 - *Schoolyard monitors* are active in discussions or play in order to prevent and discover intimidation and harassment.
 - Talks with the involved students
 - Information to class teacher/leisure-time teacher
 - When necessary, custodian contact, and follow-up discussion
 - If not resolved, the matter is sent to the Safety Team
 - Individual discussions with all of the involved students
 - The students' custodian(s) is/are informed
 - Follow-up discussions.
- *Disa/Machofabriken* (educational programme for Grade 8 to prevent stress, depression and violence and increase awareness of gender equality)
- Preventative work through the *Youth Counselling Centre* around sexuality, setting limits and respect for each other as well as the effects of alcohol and drugs.
- *Lifebuoy* (a meeting place for ages 7-20 and youth with a close relative who drinks too much alcohol, takes drugs or has a mental illness, or if the young person has experienced violence in their presence). The objective of the groups is to meet other children and youth in the same situation, gain knowledge of alcohol, drugs, mental illness and violence, and how these things can affect everyone in a family.
- *Skilda Världar (Separate Worlds)*, a *group activity* for children 7-12 years that is separate from their parents, to give children the opportunity to share their thoughts and experiences in connection with their parents' divorce. The activity is run by the *Family Team*, social service's out-patient care, together with the Swedish Church. It is estimated that, during 2015, Lifebuoy reached out to 750 children/youth, 1,300 parents and 100 colleagues, within the community.
- *Signs of Safety*, a method used to strengthen children, protecting them during investigative processes and create a long-term change. By including the child, his or her opportunity to be heard and be able to describe their situation is strengthened.