

## Graham Goulden Hosts MVP Masterclass

In March we welcomed schools and colleges from across LLR to attend a special MVP event. Involving those already part of the MVP programme as well as those entirely new to the project, attendees heard from Graham Goulden (Cultivating Minds and David Ribbins (VRN Lead for Children and Families) about the success and reach of the programme as well as next steps. The afternoon focussed on how the programme can be shaped to suit the flexible needs of the schools and its students, and young people also took to the stage to talk about their experiences of mentoring younger pupils.



The latest schools to adopt the MVP programme are currently undergoing training from existing school staff and will begin their journey in the new term.

As well as expanding the current MVP programme, we're developing the MVP programme further to make it suitable for alternative environments such as primary school and community settings. We hope to begin delivery in these settings later this year!

[Read more](#)

## Focus on the Reach Programme



The YEF have recently published the results of an evaluation of the Reach Programme. Funded by the Youth Endowment Fund and codesigned by the VRN and Leicester City and County Council Youth Justice Services, the programme involves youth workers mentoring young people at risk of suspension in order to reduce the risk of offending in the future. The programme is underway in schools across LLR and initial findings indicated the flexibility of the programme and ability of Youth Workers to draw on a range of resources is a key factor in its success and high rates of engagement.

[Read more](#)

## Fresh Look to LiveSafe

The [www.livesafe.org.uk](http://www.livesafe.org.uk) website had undergone an overhaul. With the help of the partnership, we've updated the LiveSafe website to include brand new images featuring well known LLR locations as well as young people from across the county.

LiveSafe now has brand new content on substance use and we plan to release further content focusing on healthy relationships later this spring. There's also the option to translate the website into other languages. The new look site has been promoted across LLR to young people, parents and carers via targeted social media campaigns using Snapchat, Instagram and Facebook. Huge thanks goes out to partners who reviewed content, and especially to Go Getta and all of the young people who helped with the photoshoot and codesign of the website.

[Read more](#)

## Hope Hack Event Breaks New Ground

We were thrilled to take part in the first ever Hope Hack event in a Young Offenders Institute in February this year. In conjunction with the Hope Collective and colleagues from London, the West Midlands and Greater Manchester alongside partners Ingeus UK, UK Youth, and the NCS Trust, we visited young people at Werrington Young Offenders Institute. On the day young people attended workshops on the root causes of serious violence and identified possible solutions. Similar to previous Hope Hack event held up and down the country, the day focussed on issues faced by many young people: poverty and inequality, race and diversity, and education alongside keynote speakers and a showcase of ideas presented at the end of the day – not to mention some well earned tea and cake!



The findings from Hope Hack events will be collated in the Re-Imaged Report due for publication by the Hope Collective later this year. A very special thanks to all the staff and young people at Werrington for being such great hosts and to Ingeus UK for their kind donation of Marcus Rashford's book 'You are a Champion' for all the young people on the day. We're already planning more Hope Hack events with young people throughout the UK in 2023.

[Find out more](#)

## Showcase Celebrates New Cohort of Community Leaders

After three months of study, we were sad to see the end of the third iteration of the Community Leadership Programme but overjoyed that that another 18 participants have now completed the course and will go on to use their skills within their respective LLR communities. Previous graduates of the programme have started their own organisations, become business owners and won awards for their community work – well done to Farhiyo at Women 4 Change! We celebrated the end of the programme and amazing success of the leaders with their friends, families and previous cohorts in a special showcase event at St Martin's House. Our newly graduates spoke of their personal journeys and their ambitions for the future – we can't wait to see what happens!



Find out more about the programme on the VRN website and be sure to follow the Community Leaders Network on Twitter (@CLN\_LLRL) to receive regular updates on their collective progress.

[Find out more](#)

## Trauma Informed Partnership Hosts First Co-Production Event

In March we welcomed partners from across the network to discuss the development of our Trauma Informed Strategy for LLR. Focusing specifically on the five key priority areas of Building Resilience in Partnership with Communities', 'Developing Prevention Strategies', 'Equipping and Supporting our Workforce', 'Supporting Organisations to Become Trauma Informed, and Increasing



Awareness and Understanding', partners workshoped progress so far and next steps for the year ahead. We look forward to disseminating the final strategy with partners at a Trauma Informed Partnership conference later this year.

Part of our commitment to ensuring LLR becomes a truly Trauma Informed area includes free online Trauma Informed training for those in LLR who work within services who support children, adults, families and communities. Use the link below to sign up for the next round of training taking place throughout May.

[Find out more](#)

## Meet the all new Community Oversight Group

As part of our commitment to working ‘with and for communities’ we’ve launched a brand new project involving community members from across LLR. The Community Oversight Group joined us in April when the members came together for their very first meeting. To ensure our local communities are represented in all that we do, the group consists of eight members from local communities who have an established interest and/or experience of violence prevention. They will meet at regular intervals throughout the year to jointly review and shape our services to ensure they develop in line with our community involvement framework. Watch this space for regular updates!



[See more](#)

## Serious Violence Duty – Support for Schools

To prepare schools and colleges for the Serious Violence Duty, which came into effect in January 2023, the VRN held a number of well attended online briefings for education partners. Hosted by Grace Strong (Strategic Director), David Ribbins (Lead for Children and Families) and Lisa Wilkinson (Lead for Young People and Community) the briefings outlined the Duty, roles and responsibilities of partners and next steps of the process for the education sector and ourselves.

In addition to online briefings the VRN are co-hosting a range of in person events with colleagues from Leicestershire Police on May 9<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Schools and colleges will have the opportunity to help develop our partnership strategy and hear about the education offers provided by ourselves and Leicestershire Police. We’ll also have a guest speaker, Andrew Oliver, Deputy Head Teacher of the Holte School in Birmingham, sharing his insights on partnership working.

[Book here](#)

## Meet the VRN Team

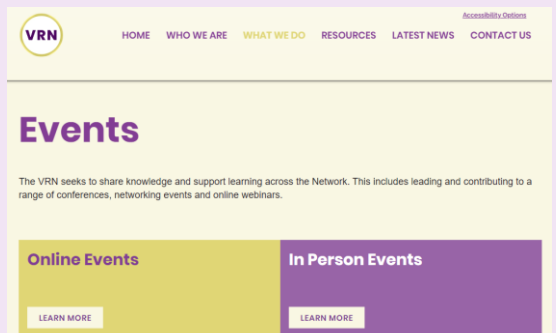
Laura Summers joined the VRN team as our Lead for Trauma-Informed Practice in July 2022. Laura has worked directly with children and families locally for 6 years and specialises in



attachment based parenting interventions and therapeutic direct work. Laura’s role spans both the OPCC and VRN team within which she supports the partnership with a whole-system approach to preventing and mitigating the impacts of childhood trauma and adversity locally.

Laura is currently studying towards her MSc in Integrative Psychotherapy with children and young people at the Northern Guild.

## VRN Website Updates



Keep informed of all VRN and co-hosted events we’re holding, from webinars to conferences, and book online all through our brand new VRN Events page. Never miss out on a VRN event ever again!

[See more](#)

## Useful Resources

As well as the Serious Violence Duty itself, you can also view a recording of the Serious Violence Duty online briefing for education partners and download the accompanying slides.

[See more](#)