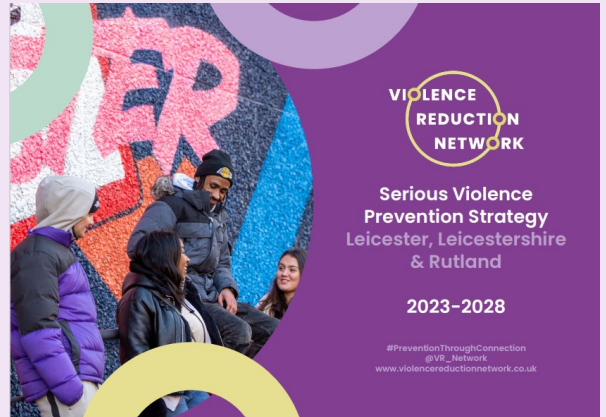


Serious Violence Prevention Strategy

We're pleased to announce our latest Strategy setting out the LLR-wide strategic approach to preventing serious violence across LLR is now available on the VRN website.

The Strategy builds on our previous Response Strategy and sets out the collective action the partnership will take to over the next five years.

Based on the findings of the VRN's previous Response Strategy and latest Strategic Needs Assessment the Serious Violence Prevention Strategy explains how our partnership adopts a public health approach, uses data and evidence to understand serious violence and its root causes, designs and implements evidence-informed responses, and evaluates impact.



Prevention Priorities

- Providing collaborative and courageous leadership.
- Using data and evidence to improve and understand the effectiveness of our collective work.
- Supporting families to provide nurturing and safe environments.
- Building protective and cohesive communities
- Providing safe and inclusive education.
- Connecting children and young people to purposeful activities and trusted adults.
- Providing opportunities for rehabilitation and recovery to lessen future harm.

The Strategy continues to be underpinned by the firm belief that **everyone has a role to play in preventing and reducing serious violence.**

You can find out what these shared responsibilities are, and for who, within the Strategy as well as a specific focus on the important role that communities play.

There's also more detail on how we'll work with communities and a brand new, co-produced Community Partnership Framework illustrating how we seek to **inform, consult, collaborate and empower.**

You can also read about our evolving definition of serious violence and why we've expanded it to include bullying, intimidation, coercion, exploitation, physical, sexual and emotional violence and abuse.

Along with our refreshed definition, we've further co-developed 7 inter-connected Prevention Priorities informed by well-established and evidence-based violence prevention, and designed 7 Core Principles which will guide our collective efforts to prevent serious violence.

Core Principles

- Empower everyone, including young people. and communities, to play a role in preventing violence.
- Secure maximum impact through maintaining a population focus and tackling inequalities.
- Ensure our work is evidence-based.
- Adopt a life-course and trauma-informed approach.
- Promote whole-system thinking and action.
- Add value and create sustainable solutions.
- Commit to continuous learning and improvement.

Find out more

Community Leadership Programme 2024

Following the success of cohort three last year, we're pleased to announce recruitment for a fourth round of community leaders starts in February.

The Community Leadership Programme (CLP) is a joint project between the VRN and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. It aims to enable local community leaders to develop their leadership style, knowledge and skills and apply this to their work with the purpose of building stronger and safer communities across LLR. The Programme takes place over a three-month period, involving both online and in-person sessions and will run between April and July this year. At the end of the programme, we welcome graduates old and new to celebrate their success and ongoing achievements alongside friends and family.



Community Leaders Network (follow them on [Twitter/X](#)) and we hope to further increase membership in 2024. You can find full details of the process as well as the all-important application form on the VRN website from February 12th 2024.

Submit your application by midnight on 11th March 2024!

[Find out more](#)

Home Office Evaluation

Every year the Home Office publish an evaluation of the 20 Violence Reduction Units established across England and Wales UK. The Report assesses the impact Units have had on Serious Violence over the last year and since their inception in 2019.

Key highlights from this year's Report includes:

- An estimated 3,220 hospital admissions for any violent injury have been prevented since 2019.
- Since 2019, hospital admissions for stabbings are down 24 per cent.
- More than 9,300 young people in LLR have been supported and encouraged to turn their lives away from serious violent crime.

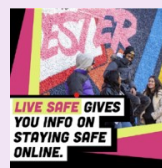
Policing Minister Chris Philp said the Report "proves we are going in the right direction to help at-risk young people."

[Find out more](#)

New Live Safe Toolkit

Alongside the refresh of the [Live Safe website](#), we've launched a brand-new toolkit to help partners promote the site to young people, parents and carers across LLR. The toolkit has ready-made posts and graphics to use on Instagram, Snapchat and Facebook covering the six subject matter areas:

- Substance Use
- Healthy Relationships
- Criminal Exploitation & Gangs
- Staying Safe Online
- Knife Crime
- Make a Stand Against Violence



[Find out more](#)

An Update from the Community Oversight Group

The Community Oversight Group have continued to regularly meet over the last quarter to directly influence, shape and scrutinise the VRN's suite of interventions and projects. Areas covered this quarter include:

- Co-produced activities within the Community Partnership Delivery Plan 2024.
- Shared insights on ways to improve data sharing amongst communities which has been incorporated within the Preventing Serious Violence Strategy.
- Co-produced a Guide for Person Centred Communities.



The next meeting is scheduled for February, and we'll share more updates from the COG, including the new members in the next VRN quarterly newsletter.

[Find out more](#)

Community Oversight Group – New Members Needed

The current members of the Community Oversight Group (COG) are reaching the end of their 12-month tenure, and we'll soon be looking for 8 new members to take their place.

Members of COG regularly meet to review and help develop our partnership approach towards reducing local serious violence. To ensure that communities most affected by violence are represented, members include people who meet one of the following criteria:

- Live or work in a community with higher levels of serious violence and/or
- Have lived experience of being affected by serious violence

You can find full details of the application process as well as the all-important application form on the VRN website from February 16th. **The deadline for applications is 12pm on 14th March 2024.**

[Find out more](#)

Forthcoming Events

This quarter we're excited to be co-hosting a number of training, co-production, youth voice and celebratory events for schools, young people, community groups, the voluntary sector and the wider partnership.

February

- Trauma Informed Partnership (TIP) online training from [Winston's Wish](#).
- The first [Community Sports Cluster Meeting @King Power Stadium](#).
- Co-hosting this year's community partnership event '[Stronger Together](#)' @ [Big Shed Conferences](#).

March

- TIP online training - [Linking Principles of Polyvagal Theory to Support Practices with Young People](#)
- The first [Mentors in Violence Prevention](#) Masterclass for Primary Schools with Graham Goulden of [Cultivating Minds](#).
- Due to popular demand, an additional TIP online training date with Winston's Wish.
- LLR Hope Hack 2024 @ [The Venue, DMU](#).

April

- Mentors in Violence Prevention Schools Celebration.

[Find out more](#)

Useful Resources

You can access and download our Serious Violence Prevention Strategy via the VRN website along with slides from past events such as last year's Trauma Informed Conference and the Serious Violence: Research and Evaluation Conference.

[Find out more](#)