

## National Focussed Deterrence Conference

On Wednesday 12th March, members of the Phoenix and VRN Teams attended the national Focussed Deterrence Conference hosted by the Youth Endowment Fund in Birmingham. Attendees were from police services and other partner organisations from across England and Wales as well as academics and researchers involved in the evaluation of the current trial.

Our Director, Grace Strong, presented on how a wide range of partners were involved in the design, delivery and evaluation of the Phoenix Programme and the strengths and challenges of our collaborative approach. Lisa Wilkinson, our Community and Young Person Manager also presented on the different ways we worked with communities and weaved community involvement into all elements of Phoenix. It was also an invaluable day for learning from other areas and the evaluators.




**VIOLENCE  
REDUCTION  
NETWORK**

Serious Violence  
Strategic Needs  
Assessment  
Executive Summary

2024 - 2025

#PreventionThroughConnection  
@VR\_Network  
www.violencereductionnetwork.co.uk

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## Publication of refreshed SNA

Our annual strategic needs assessment is now live on our website! This is the sixth iteration of the VRN's SNA, and builds upon our learning from previous years, strengthening our understanding of the extent and nature, distribution and timings of violence and supporting the partnership in identifying the people and groups who are most vulnerable to being or becoming victims or perpetrators.

Please find our executive summary on the website which summarises the key findings from this year's report and outlines 12 recommendations for the core membership.

 [www.violencereductionnetwork.co.uk](http://www.violencereductionnetwork.co.uk)

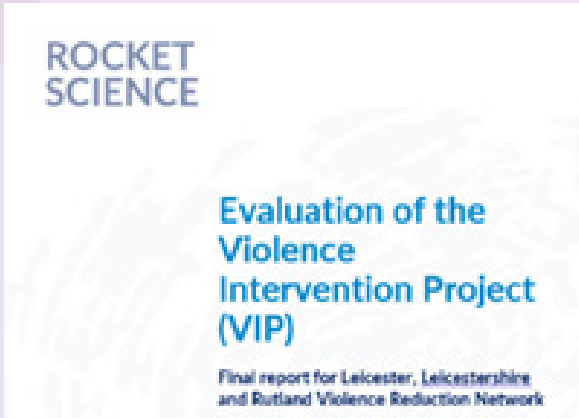
 [@VR\\_Network](https://twitter.com/VR_Network)

 Violence Reduction Network LLR

 Violence Reduction Network LLR

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## Evaluation of VIP Coming Soon!

The VRN recently commissioned Rocket Science Ltd to conduct the second evaluation of the Violence Intervention Project in A&E and Custody. Look out for the final report on our socials and website soon!

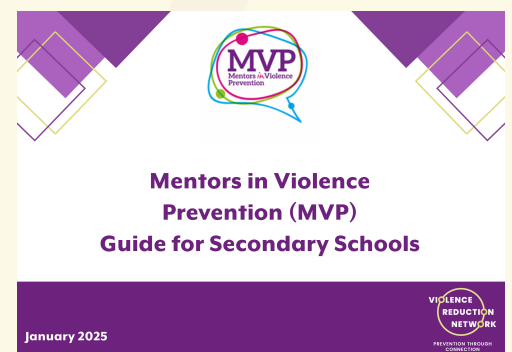
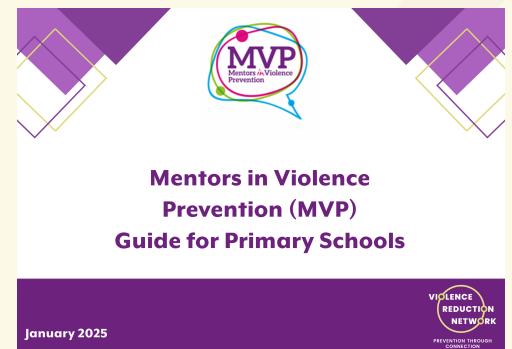
## Mentors in Violence Prevention

MVP is a peer-led leadership and bystander programme which involves young people as mentors and equipping them with the confidence, knowledge and skills to identify and speak out against bullying, abusive behaviour and violence. It aims to tackle the beliefs, attitudes and culture which can give the message that violence is acceptable. Ultimately MVP promotes the healthy social norms and culture which is known to prevent violence.

A total of 6 secondary and 8 primary schools were involved in completing 2 more MVP training waves, attended by key educational staff from the schools.

The staff are now ready to share their learning with student mentors to support plans to mobilise the MVP in their schools in the next academic year.

Guides for both Primary and Secondary schools have been developed for use by schools delivering MVP and also for schools that are considering if MVP could be a good fit for their school. Both guides provide an outline of the programme, aims, benefits and how it works.



**MVP Guides**





## Wider training summary

The VRN have held a series of training sessions and webinars over the last year for community partners and intervention provider leads to empower them to play their role in preventing violence across LLR. Training topics include Cultural Competency, Exploitation, Online Harms, Exposure to Porn amongst Young People, Emotion Coaching and Neurodiversity & Exploitation. Webinar topics include Substance Misuse Awareness, What Works in Preventing Violence, Understanding Serious Violence and Writing a Safeguarding Policy. Training and webinar sessions have received positive feedback on how the content will support them in their role. Training and webinar sessions are advertised on our Ticket Tailor.

[Ticket Tailor Link](#)

## Phoenix Programme x Youth Endowment Fund

We had the honour of working with the Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) to produce a series of videos which detail on the focussed deterrence model and highlight the incredible work of the Phoenix Programme! The YEF released new guidance on Focused Deterrence, outlining 9 recommendations for its effective and equitable delivery in the UK. This follows their £8 million programme, funded by the YEF and Home Office, which is currently being tested and evaluated in Coventry, Nottingham, Leicester, Manchester, and Wolverhampton.

[Link to YEF Guidance](#)



## Community Campaign

The VRN has been working with a local creative agency to develop a campaign with communities across LLR. The campaign highlights the VRN's mission and core messaging that Violence is Preventable and we need to all play a part to successfully reduce and prevent it.

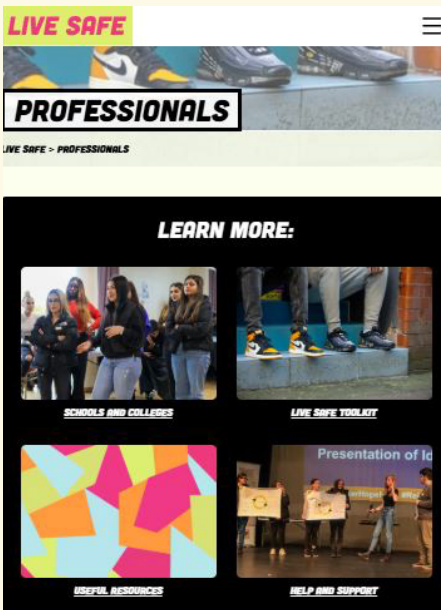
The campaign aims to:

- Increase awareness around the existence of the VRN partnership and its mission.
- Increase collaboration amongst the VRN partnership to prevent violence.
- Increase confidence in our collective effort to prevent violence.

Whilst achieving its aims and objectives, we want to promote positive and relatable messaging that change is possible, encouraging hope and positivity and benefits of a world without violence.

In line with the VRN's core principle to work with and for communities, the campaign has been co-produced with communities from the outset and has a design group consisting of community members from across LLR to support its development, as well as inclusion of insights from our Community Oversight Group.

Readily available digital assets will be available soon on our website.



## Launch of Professional's Pages

The VRN partnership have launched a new page for professionals on the Live Safe website. The professionals page includes useful guidance and information, training and online webinars and resources. There is a section for Schools and Colleges including details of networks and resources for teachers. The page will be refreshed regularly with new resources and information.

**Click "Live Safe" below to see the pages!**

# LIVE SAFE



## Complete the National Youth Sector Census

The National Youth Agency (NYA) manages the National Youth Sector Census to provide a baseline of data showing where youth work is taking place, the type of services offered, as well as highlighting discrepancies in funding and areas of local need. The National Youth Agency is also working in partnership with the Home Office this year to support the scoping of local youth provision as part of the Young Futures Prevention Partnerships element of the Young Futures programme. This year the Census will provide detailed insights related to this programme. This will support the development of local Young Futures Prevention Partnerships supporting integrated and preventative approaches to safeguarding those most at risk of being drawn into youth violence.



In particular, the NYA is keen to hear from any organisations that are providing support, either directly or indirectly, to young people who are increasingly vulnerable and at risk of being drawn into harmful and criminal behaviours. In particular, those at risk of engaging in antisocial behaviour, knife crime or violence against women and girls. This includes Violence Reduction Units, youth organisations working in the youth justice space and youth services.

The Census is located on the Youth Work One digital platform; a one stop shop for training, resources and events for the sector.

### By completing the Census, you will:

- Minimise the burden on local areas to map services as part of the Young Futures Prevention Partnerships element of the Young Futures Programme
- Increase your visibility to Government, commissioners and prospective partners who might benefit from your expertise / services.
- Help demonstrate a need for increased provision and help get more funding flowing into your area.
- Help update the interactive digital map of current youth work provision which will be used by policymakers, MPs and other others to understand the picture of youth work provision in your area.

**The deadline for completing the Census is 30th April. Find out more and ensure your youth provision is counted at <https://qrco.de/NYACensusHO> or click the link below.**

**Sign up to Census**

 [www.violencereductionnetwork.co.uk](http://www.violencereductionnetwork.co.uk)

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