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**VRP**

Violence  
Reduction  
Partnership

Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire

# The Youth Charter: How we are responding to young people's needs and expectations?

Nottingham City Children's Partnership Board –  
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Erica Doran, Interim Head of the VRP





## Our vision

Our vision is for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire communities to feel safe from violence and the fear of violence.

## Our mission

We will work with communities to prevent violence and reduce its harmful impacts through developing a detailed understanding of its causes and investment in evidence-based interventions that make a lasting difference.

## Our principles

We will:

- Focus on what will make a difference to whole populations
- Work as a whole system, rather than individual organisations
- Intervene early to prevent issues emerging
- Consider and respond to the 'causes' of serious violence
- Ensure our work is evidence-informed to make the most impact

# "We believe that violence is preventable"



### Provide inclusive system leadership

We will work with partners in the local safeguarding and community safety partnerships, including third sector, to drive system change required to prevent serious violence in the long term.

#### For example

We will develop and implement a Trauma Informed Strategy to ensure communities have access to trauma informed services. We will also implement our Youth Work Strategy to ensure all children and young people have access to high quality youth services.



## Our priorities

### Make best use of data sharing, insight and evidence

We will use multi-agency data, insight and evidence to improve our understanding of the nature and causes of violence locally to shape our system wide response.

#### For example

We will gain more insight by listening to communities, young people and those with lived experience to shape our response. We will also ensure we have access to high quality data from across the partnership.



### Deliver and evaluate early intervention and prevention activity

We will co-design, implement and evaluate evidence informed interventions that address causes of serious violence, whilst contributing to the local and national evidence base.

#### For example

We will work with partners and communities to deliver projects that support children and young people here and now, including targeted outreach, sport and therapy, and we will evaluate them to inform our understanding of 'what works' to reduce serious violence.

## Our impact

Children and young people achieve positive outcomes

Communities feel safe

Serious violence is reduced





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***“Quality Youth Work is key to preventing crisis for young people”***



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# Background and context

## Partnership landscape

- OPCC & VRP core duty to work with VCS to prevent crime & serious violence / key funders of youth diversion
- VCS bring wealth of knowledge and experience, yet inequity of access to training and framework for development
- More broadly - reductions in, and pressures on, public funding for youth services
- Continued concerns about serious violence and young people's risk and exposure to vulnerability

## 2019/20 - OPCC / VRP Commissioned Independent Review of Youth Diversion by NTU

### Recommendations (not exhaustive)

- PCC/ VRU to agree a joint 'Youth Work Charter'
- Development of a youth work standards framework

## 2021/22 – Stage 1: Design

- National Youth Agency commissioned to develop a strategic plan
- Strategic Plan 'signed off' by VRU Board including Youth Charter and outline framework

## 2022/23 – Stage 2: Implementation...

- VRP Youth Work Project Lead recruited
- Youth work training offer
- Launch, promotion, embedding and whole systems change

**Vision: “Young people accessing youth diversion provision in Nottingham City and County will have access to projects and practitioners that bring places of safety, opportunity for informed and positive choices, which are connected through a shared vision for young people and youth work.”**

### Objectives:

- Keep young people and communities safe
- Create opportunities for young people to develop skills and knowledge for positive choices
- Reduce the risk of criminal engagement or exploitation
- Ensure young people receive the quality of services that they deserve

### Aims:

1. Organisations sign up to the principles set out in the **Youth Charter**
2. Understanding the skill base, capacity and capability through a **Skills Audit**
3. Practitioners have access to high quality **Training Pathways** to meet the needs of young people
4. All organisations are committed to improving the quality of their service to young people and achieving excellence against the **Quality Endorsement Framework**



Youth Charter



Training Pathways



Quality Framework

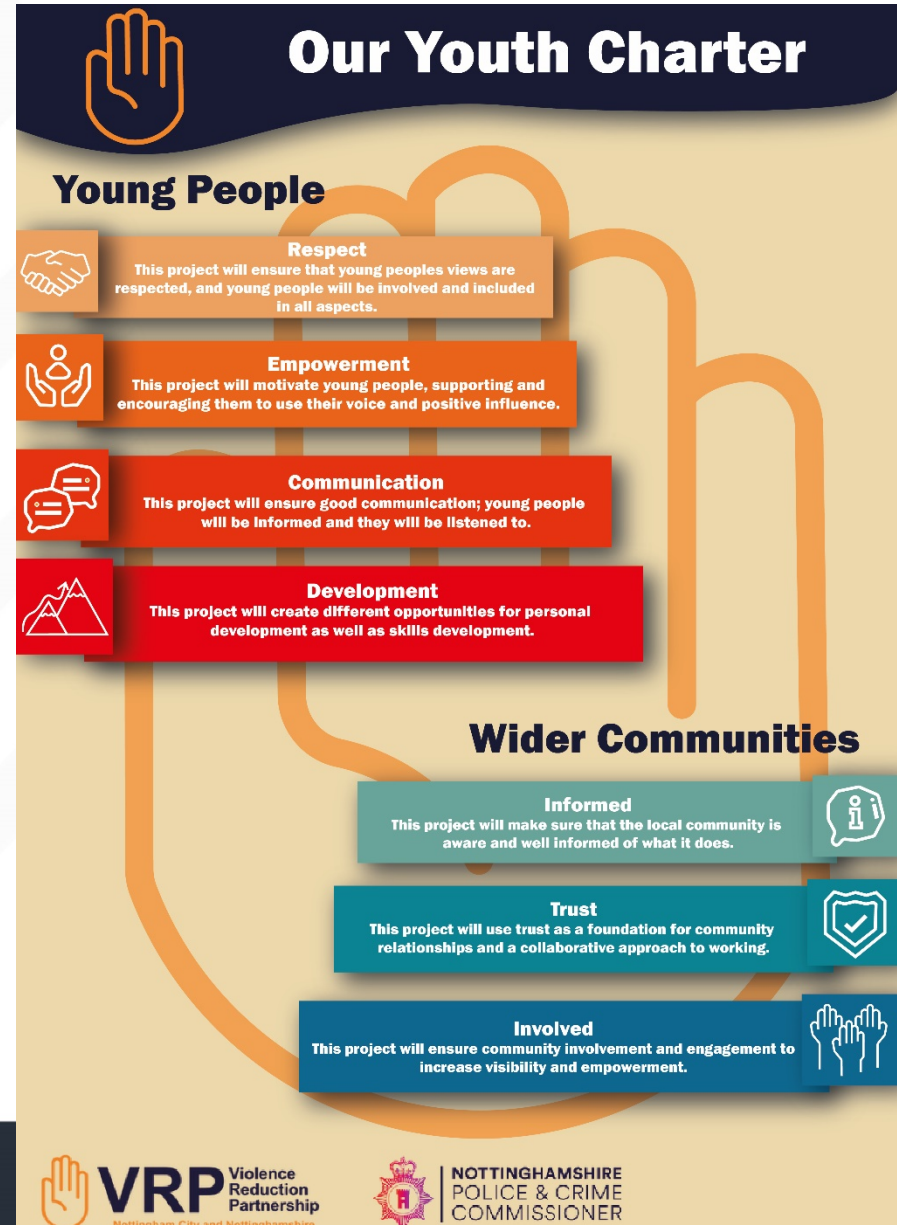


# The Youth Charter

- Designed by young people from across City and County
- Sets out young people’s vision and expectations
- Available to download on VRP website

**Next steps** - Call for organisations to make a pledge to the charter

- *Not just a paper exercise* - should filter through all levels of an organisation – including governance and direct work with young people



- The aim:
  - equity of access to training and workforce development for those working with CYP in the VCS;
  - improved youth work outcomes;
  - safer young people and communities.
- In order to ensure training pathways meet the needs of VCS practitioners and organisations working within the youth work sector in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire a skills audit is necessary to determine gaps in knowledge and understanding, and to highlight additional areas of continuous professional development which the sector may benefit from.
  - Capacity building;
  - Sustainability.



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## Training pathways

- No standardisation of training and professional experience of people that work with young people.
- Across VCS there is a diverse range of training, skills, knowledge, and experience - access to training is scarce and often costly.
- Builds on previous consultation on training needs conducted by the Ending Youth Violence Network.
- Training Provider appointed – Base 51.



Training Pathways





# Training pathways

## Min basic requirement for all practitioners:

- Safeguarding
- Engaging and communication
- SEND
- Equality, diversity and inclusion
- Exploitation awareness
- Health, Safety and Risk Assessment
- GDPR – information recording, sharing and storing

## Those with organisational accountability and responsibility:

- Volunteering and the law
- GDPR
- Planning and evaluation
- Governance
- Partnership and multi-agency approaches
- Management health and safety
- Safer recruitment
- Financial management

## Continuous Professional Development

## Accredited Level 2 & 3 Youth Work Qualifications



Training Pathways



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# Quality Endorsement Framework

- VCS organisations are at different stages of development - the Framework creates a mechanism to:
  - Recognise and celebrate high quality practice
  - Support and build the quality of emerging organisations
  - Standardise the quality of provision
  - Promote a culture of learning and growth
- Three key areas:
  1. Young People's Experiences
  2. Youth Work Practice
  3. The Organisation



Quality Framework



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## Next steps...





# Our Youth Charter

## Young People



### Respect

This project will ensure that young peoples views are respected, and young people will be involved and included in all aspects.



### Empowerment

This project will motivate young people, supporting and encouraging them to use their voice and positive influence.



### Communication

This project will ensure good communication; young people will be informed and they will be listened to.



### Development

This project will create different opportunities for personal development as well as skills development.

## Wider Communities

### Informed

This project will make sure that the local community is aware and well informed of what it does.



### Trust

This project will use trust as a foundation for community relationships and a collaborative approach to working.



### Involved

This project will ensure community involvement and engagement to increase visibility and empowerment.



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