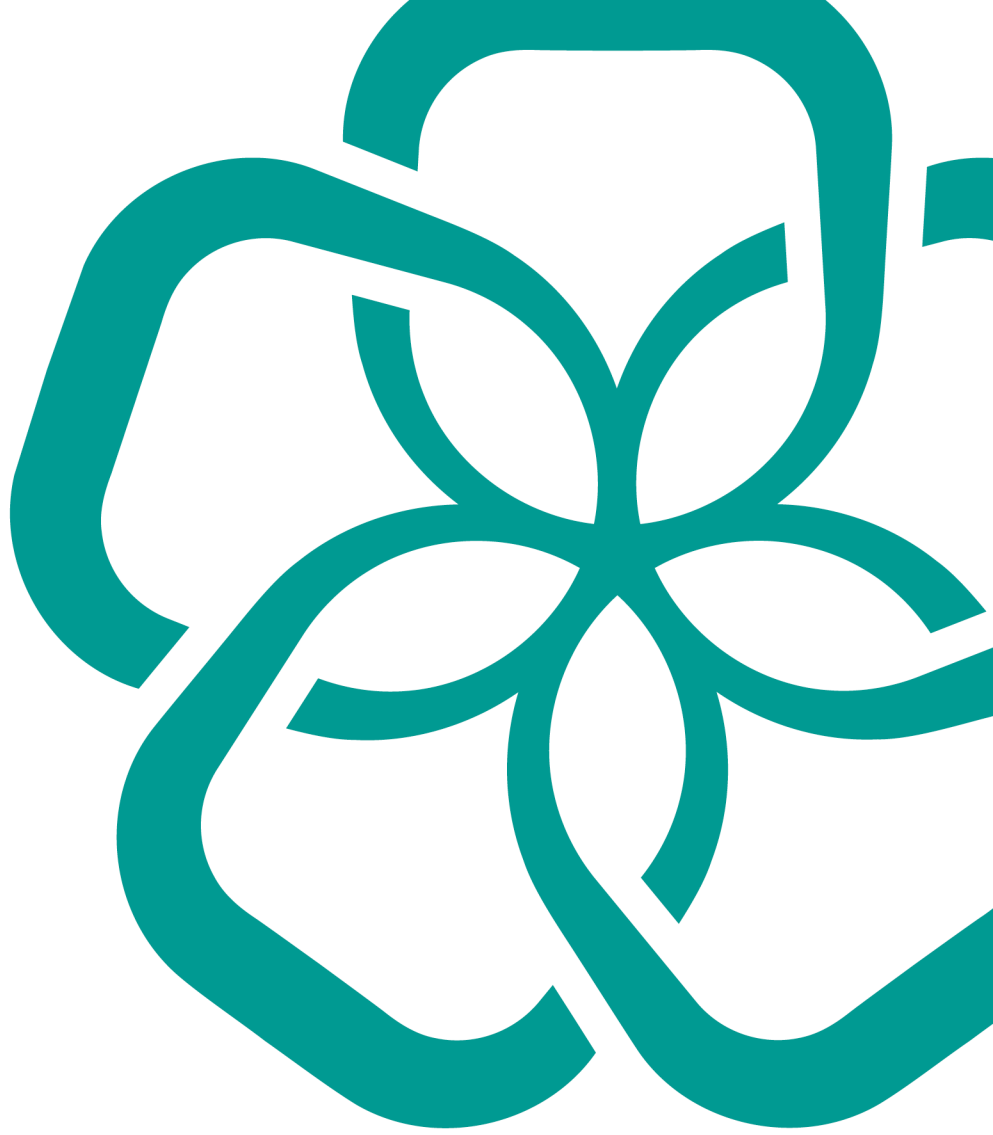




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Supporting Information

Virtual Decisions – Delivery Partner 2026-27

June 2026

Introduction

The West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) are seeking to commission a delivery partner to undertake delivery of our Virtual Decisions programme across West Yorkshire. The Virtual Decisions programme involves delivering the virtual reality films and targeted delivery of the extended learning package.

A successful pilot year of delivering the Virtual Decisions programme through a dedicated funding partner has been completed successfully and the VRP wish to continue this approach.

Background

In 2023, the West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Partnership purchased a license for the Virtual Decisions programme acquiring the virtual reality headsets to accompany the programme.

Virtual Decisions are a creative arts company that specialise in the use of technology in education. Virtual Decisions is an innovative virtual reality educational programme which is aimed to support children and young people who are at risk of criminal exploitation. Virtual Decision films enable participants to experience multiple dilemmas and illustrate the impacts of different choices. The choose your own path format provides over 3,000 different paths for a user. The experience promotes awareness, empathy, and critical thinking.

The programme objectives are:

- Educate children on social issues, such as gang culture and knife crime
- Reduce youth crime, youth violence, and criminal exploitation
- Empower young people to make informed decisions and take positive actions, contributing to a safer, more inclusive community

Following the virtual reality experience, facilitators are expected to use the extended learning package available to run workshops that explore the issues raised in more depth with targeted groups of children in need. The workshops allow the children to reflect on their personal journey and discuss it with others to share and learn from each other's experiences.

The Knives film explores the reasons why young people carry knives, the implications of carrying a knife and how social pressure impacts choices, decisions, and behaviour. The Identity film aims to reduce health inequalities and helps young people to reflect on their own attitudes and behaviours by exploring addictive behaviours, mental health, and healthy relationships. The Influence film explores the influences at play in the lives of children and helps them to recognise the signs of exploitation.

Delivery 2025-26

The pilot year of centralised delivery, this section provides an overview of the Virtual Decisions delivery from 1st June 2025 until 31st March 2026.



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- 126 workshops were held by the delivery partner across the year reaching over 1,100 children in Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, and Leeds
- The knife crime and anti-social behaviour films were the most common films used
- Increases in knowledge were evident for all the topics
- Across all the films, children felt that virtual reality was a good way of teaching them about these topics and found the discussions interesting
- Children felt the identity film helped them to tell the difference between good and bad traits in people

Accompanying Evaluation and Learning

The VRP takes a public health approach to violence reduction, which includes being evidenced in understanding what works in reducing violence. This includes evaluating the programmes we deliver and commission to understand their reach and impact.

Evaluation of the commissioned delivery of the Virtual Decisions programme will be led internally by the VRP with the exact expectations for the commissioned partner outlined in the grant agreement.

The evaluation will look to understand the quality, experience, and impact of the training for the children and delivery partner. The commissioned delivery partner will be expected to collect monitoring data regarding the children reached and facilitate completion of evaluation surveys with the children.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Under the Equality Act 2010, the West Yorkshire Combined Authority has an ongoing legal duty to pay 'due regard' to the need to: eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other prohibited conduct; advance equality of opportunity between different groups (those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not); and foster good relations between different groups.

The provider must:

- Act in accordance with this duty, as well as the more general provisions of the Equality Act.
- Understand the diversity of West Yorkshire and ensure the service is accessible focus and commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI).
- To proactively, and through an intersectional lens, consider how interventions are supported and embedded both within the organisation and in work with local communities and partners, to achieve quality social and inclusion outcomes.
- Actively attract, nurture, and retain a diverse and talented workforce.

Safeguarding – Disclosure and Barring Service

Due to the nature of the provision, we require suppliers to check someone's criminal record as an employer and for those working on the contract to have Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) in place. Disclosure and Barring Service checks carried out on those who have direct contact with vulnerable groups or potential vulnerable groups

Link to Disclosure and Barring Service <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service>

It is required that any staff member or volunteer involved in delivering the service have Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) in place. Disclosure and Barring Service checks carried out on those who have direct contact with vulnerable groups or potential vulnerable groups.



Find out more
[**westyorks-ca.gov.uk**](https://westyorks-ca.gov.uk)

West Yorkshire Combined Authority

Wellington House
40-50 Wellington Street
Leeds
LS1 2DE



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All information correct at time of writing