



Service Specification Psychology Services

1. About West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership (WMVRP)

The West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership (WMVRP) is one of twenty VRPs across England and Wales, established in 2019 and funded by the Home Office to build capacity in local places and systems, to tackle the root causes of violence. The VRP consists of public, private, voluntary and community sector organisations, bringing efforts together across the West Midlands Metropolitan Region to deliver on this objective.

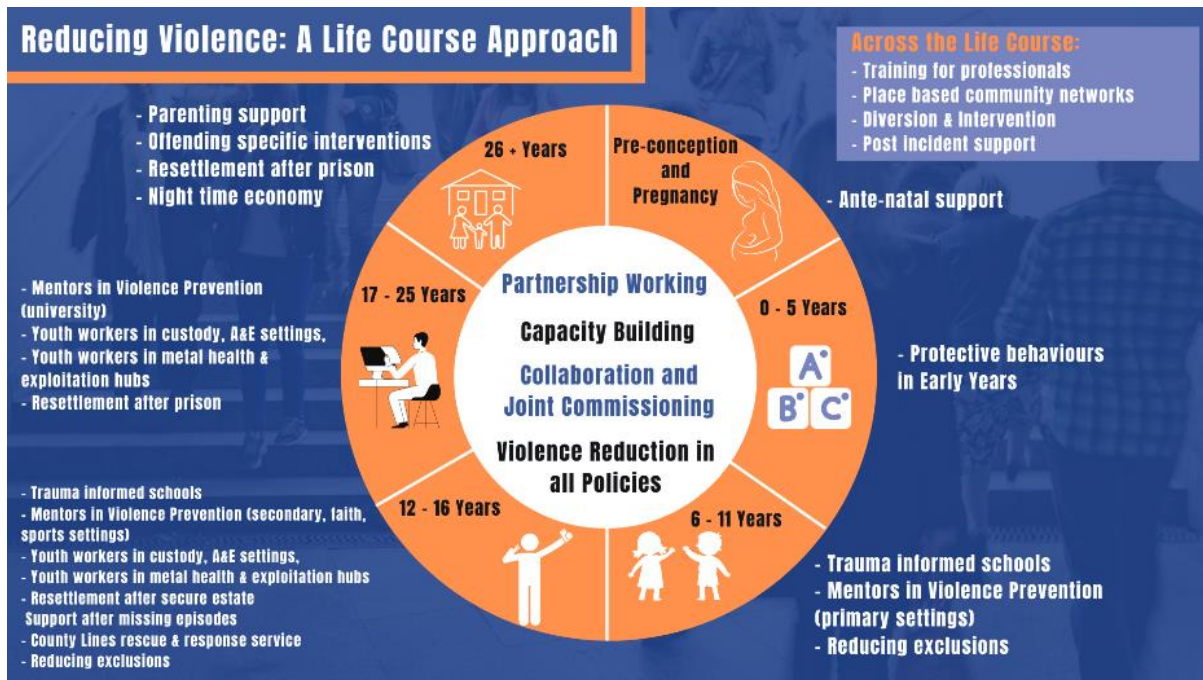
The WMVRP Team is made up of a range of specialists who work regionally and locally to facilitate and encourage the development of system wide responses to preventing and reducing violence, as well as directly delivering and commissioning a range of services/interventions. The Team actively work with local violence reduction partnerships to support their local violence prevention/reduction systems, enabling everyone from frontline workers to senior leaders to access data and information about the nature of violence in the region; support them to prepare for the requirements of the Serious Violence Duty; and lead on developing and sharing a robust evidence base to understand the impact of interventions.

The VRP adopts a public health approach to preventing violence. This means focusing on understanding the root causes of the problem and testing, evaluating and upscaling interventions. Developing stronger data, analysis and evaluation is key to working in this way. A public health approach to preventing and reducing violence:

- Is collaborative
- Develops the evidence base
- Promotes innovation
- Promotes equity and equality
- Builds on the strengths of individuals and communities

The VRP takes a life course approach, ensuring interventions and support to prevent violence is available at each life stage. The image below details the support we provide.

Reducing Violence: A Life Course Approach



2. Psychology Services

West Midlands VRP recognises the critical role of psychology services in contributing to preventing and reducing violence and has been partnering with psychology service providers since 2022. These services have focused on:

- Working with the seven local violence reduction partnerships to provide consultations, case formulations, clinical supervisions and incident response.
- Providing psychological advice, formulation and guidance to inform service development and intervention planning and evaluation.
- Developing psychologically informed toolkits and resources for partners engaged in preventing and reducing violence across the region.
- Delivering workforce development training to embed evidence based, psychologically informed best practice across the children and young people's workforce.
- Delivering specialist evidence based, formulation driven psychological interventions as required to meet the needs of new projects.

3. Vision for Psychology Services

West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership are seeking to extend and develop new projects with a psychology services partner.

To ensure continuity and resilience, we are seeking services from a team of psychologists rather than independent practitioners or a consortium approach which would provide the same assurance.

The provider(s) will work with WM VRP to agree a delivery plan for 11 months (up to the end of March 2027), which will include the following activity:

- Delivering consultations, case formulations, clinical supervision and incident response.
- Delivering psychological advice, formulation and guidance to inform service development and intervention planning and evaluation.
- Developing psychologically informed toolkits, resources and practitioner guidance to support individuals and partnerships responsible for preventing and reducing violence across the region.
- Delivering workforce development training to embed evidence-based, psychologically informed best practice across the children and young people’s workforce.
- Delivering specialist evidence-based, formulation driven psychological interventions, as required to meet the needs of new projects.
- Having the capacity to deliver NICE compliant, trauma-informed neurodevelopmental psychological assessments.
- Where required, physically embedding a psychologist in teams delivering interventions to high risk children and young people.

4. Investment over the course of the project

- a) Psychology Services £100,000.
- b) Payment terms are 30 days payment. Payment will be made on satisfactory monitoring as per section 6.
- c) Investment is for the period 1st May 2026 – 31st March 2027.

5. Key Performance Indicators

Key performance areas (the main areas of activity/responsibility)	Objectives (Outcomes or results, must be SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound))	Success measures (What will be used to monitor and determine success)
1. Safeguarding	Provider confirms that organisational safeguarding policies are appropriate and robust, and reviewed/maintained as and when necessary. All staff have valid and up-to-date DBS checks; any concerns are identified and flagged to VRP immediately/as they occur. Any safeguarding and/or critical incidents as per the VRP relevant process [attached as separate document] are flagged to	Staff have valid and up-to-date DBS checks Any concerns/issues are communicated within agreed timeframes. Staff are trained in safeguarding and are aware of relevant policies and procedures. Comply with any requests from VRP to provide documentation related to DBS checks of staff.

	VRP within the required timeframes.	
2. Performance monitoring and quarterly returns	<p>To provide accurate quarterly returns reflecting service delivery, using VRP agreed/approved templates, recording against the required measures; no amends to be made to these templates without prior consultation with VRP and our Evaluation Team.</p>	<p>Accurate, timely and coherent qualitative and quantitative returns, that are consistent in terms of info reported across the two templates.</p> <p>Engage in quarterly monitoring process and review meetings, as required.</p> <p>Where appropriate, track progress of implementation of recommendations arising from evaluations in returns.</p> <p>Financial returns must reflect any abstractions in staff/resources.</p> <p>Risks are identified and managed, and where any acute risks emerge, these are communicated immediately to the VRP.</p>
3. Engage in evaluations and implement recommendations	<p>Ensure robust and consistent collection of data, providing a foundation for potential future evaluation.</p> <p>Collect appropriate evidence of impact that can be used to demonstrate effectiveness and impact of service.</p> <p>Incorporate learning from evaluations and participate in workshops that can facilitate and strengthen improved quality of data.</p> <p>Where necessary, work with evaluation team and VRP to ensure that information governance is robust, and that where necessary, data is handled in a legally compliant way.</p>	<p>Respond to, progress and implement recommendations made by evaluations.</p> <p>Demonstrate how the service is embedding learning from evaluations into delivery, monitoring, data capture and service delivery.</p> <p>Engage with services offered by the Evaluation team.</p>

4. Quantitative Outputs	<p>Working with/for: 100 young people under the age of 25</p> <p>Supporting the professional development of:</p> <p>500 professionals working to support and safeguard children and young people across the region.</p>	<p>Delivering case formulations, assessments, interventions, and/or contributing to coordinated partnership responses to incidents of serious violence.</p> <p>Delivering training, webinars, clinical supervision, and/or developing toolkits, guidance and resources.</p>
5. Qualitative outcomes	<p>Pre and post feedback from workforce development and training.</p> <p>Case studies demonstrating the impact this work is having on young people under the age of 25.</p> <p>Impact reports.</p>	<p>Formats to be agreed with WM VRP.</p>

6. Performance monitoring

Quarterly reporting via SUMS (provider will have access) on the below dates after (financial) quarter end) on quantitative data, project progress, outcomes/ KPIs and impact, risk and a case study/ Testimonial of individual young people's impact

Monitoring return dates:

- 10th July 2026
- 12th October 2026
- 11th January 2027
- 12th April 2027

7. Staff qualifications/skills and/or standards

Providers must demonstrate:

- Relevant clinical psychology qualifications.
- Clinical supervision is in place for psychologists.
- Ability to access Assistant Psychologist and Psychology students.
- Strong safeguarding policies and procedures.
- Proven experience of delivering psychology services to vulnerable/high risk children and young people.
- Proven experience of delivering projects regionally.
- Proven experience of working with diverse communities and ability to deliver culturally sensitive support and services.

- Other relevant experience, skills and qualifications associated with working with vulnerable young people.

8. Project Timescales and Implementation

Task	Anticipated Completion Date
Opening	W/C 23 rd February 2026
Deadline for Clarification Questions <i>[Please submit clarification questions to commissioning@westmidlands.police.uk responses will be sent directly to those asking the question, and will be published on the OPCC website alongside the advert]</i>	10 th March 2026
Closing date <i>Proposals received after the deadline stated or not properly completed will be disregarded.</i>	2 nd April 2026 17:00
Award Contract	W/C 20 th April 2026
Contract Commencement Date	Friday 1 st May 2026

9. Scoring Criteria and decision process

There is an online application form to help evaluators decide which provider to fund. The application questions will be worth 60% of the final score, and will be scored according to how the requirements of this specification have been met. The individual questions are weighted as below:

#	Question	What the evaluator is looking for	Weighting
1	Please tell us why you are applying to be a psychology services partner to the VRP	Demonstration of: Your organisation's experience of delivering psychology services to/for the benefit of children and young people who are deemed "at risk" or vulnerable. Your organisation's experience of delivering projects across the West Midlands region. Your organisation's experience of working with diverse communities and delivering culturally sensitive support and services.	20%
2	Please tell us how you would be able to fulfil section 3 of the specification (Vision for Psychology Services)	Demonstrate experience of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering consultations, case formulations, clinical supervision and incident response. • Delivering psychological advice, formulation and guidance to inform service development and intervention planning and evaluation. 	40%

	demonstrating your approach, relevant experience and skills to deliver a successful project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing psychologically informed toolkits, resources and practitioner guidance to support individuals and partnerships responsible for preventing and reducing violence across the region. • Delivering workforce development training to embed evidence-based, psychologically informed best practice across the children and young people's workforce. • Delivering specialist evidence-based, formulation driven psychological interventions, as required to meet the needs of new projects. • Having the capacity to deliver NICE compliant, trauma-informed neurodevelopmental psychological assessments. • Where required, physically embedding a psychologist in teams delivering interventions to high risk children and young people. 	
4	Please tell us how you would be able to successfully deliver on the Key Performance Indicators for the project.	<p>Demonstration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your organisation's approach and ability to comply with expectations around performance monitoring and quarterly returns. • How you will manage and monitor the quantitative outputs. • How you will manage and monitor the qualitative outcomes. 	40%

The evaluators use the following to score your applications:

Score	Scoring Principles
0	Rejected – the question is not answered or the response is completely unacceptable
1	Very Poor response – Only partially answers the requirement with major deficiencies and little relevant detail proposed
2	Poor response – only partially acceptable with deficiencies apparent. Some evidence provided but response falls short of providing full confidence in the approach/solution described
3	Acceptable Response – meets all or most requirements but limited and/or could have been expanded upon further. Any weaknesses can be addressed.
4	Good response- Meets all requirements fully. Good level of detail, response provides high levels of assurance in relation to the proposal.
5	Excellent response – Exceeds requirement in some or all areas. Comprehensive responses demonstrating a detailed understanding of requirement and/or customer. No weaknesses noted.

Value for money / budget will make up 20% of the final score.
You are required to submit a completed budget sheet for evaluation.

The lowest overall cost will be awarded full marks available for price and all subsequent bids will receive a proportion of the available marks based on the lowest overall submission.