



# Community Leaders Programme

Programme Brief

2026



# Course Description

The [West Yorkshire Violence Reduction](#) Partnership (VRP) is seeking applications from a diverse range of community members and potential leaders to take part in a three-month training programme, starting in September 2026. Applications are open to those aged 18+ and are encouraged from those:

- Working to tackle serious violence, including knife crime & violence against women & girls
- Working with children & young people
- That are part of local grassroots organisations, such as CIC's

We are hoping to identify, develop and support a network of 20 community leaders across West Yorkshire who are connected to, working or volunteering in the voluntary and community sector.

The Community Leader Programme is a leadership development Programme built for VRU's, Police & Crime Commissioners and Local Authorities to offer local leaders, as part of a whole systems, public health approach to reducing violence and improving community safety. It is delivered by experienced leadership coaches from Jones Consulting and following a review against global quality measures, has been awarded ILM recognised status.

Feedback from past participants has been extremely positive:

*"The Community Leader programme has profoundly influenced my approach by emphasising the importance of collaboration & proactive community engagement"*. Brown Giwa, Spotlight, Calderdale. More information on the course is outlined [here](#).

By joining this programme, participants will have the space and support to develop their unique leadership style and make even more of an impact in their community work, as well as having the opportunity to become part of the [Community Leaders West Yorkshire Network \(CLWY\)](#) once graduated from the programme. Whilst this is a practical (not assessed) programme, graduates will receive an ILM digital credential which can be used on CV's and social media along with a paper certificate issued from ILM. Participants will gain the knowledge to build a strong grounding as a community leader and practice using tools and techniques with our coaches and with the other leaders on the programme.

The programme will be delivered via **a mix of face to face and online sessions over the course of three months, sessions will take place on Wednesday evenings between 5:45pm and 8:45pm at locations across West Yorkshire.** Participants will also receive one to one coaching.

As part of our core capacity building work, we have commissioned this programme for a fourth time to continue supporting communities to support themselves as we believe it is one of the best ways to effect long term sustainable change within local areas. Building and harnessing a foundation of skills amongst those who are, and who will remain part of the fabric of our local communities, is key to increasing community safety and reducing violence.

# Timeline & Commitment

## Attendance

Please review the below dates and time commitments for the leadership programme BEFORE APPLYING.

The programme consists of FACE TO FACE (locations across West Yorkshire to cater for participants from across the districts) and ONLINE sessions as well as self-learning outside the programme.

Participants will receive a certificate of full completion for the programme based on the following criteria:

- Minimum of at least 78% (11 out of 14 sessions, which includes induction and showcase)
- Completion of 2 coaching sessions
- Completion of a 3 minute presentation at the Showcase event on their community leadership work

Travel expenses can be claimed upon agreement, evening food provided.

## Timeline & Modules

This programme runs from the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2026- 13<sup>th</sup> January 2027.

Module	Session Topic	Date	Time
INDUCTION	<i>Introductions, Role and work of the VRP, Programme overview &amp; Coaching intro</i>	2nd Sept	17:45 - 20:45
Module 1: Leadership - Understanding yourself & others	<i>Session 1 - Leadership definitions, leadership styles and leadership presence - Personal values and purpose.</i>	9th Sept	17:45- 20:45
	<i>Session 2 - Leading complex social change in the community, Imposter syndrome, Managing bias and power</i>	16th Sept	17:45 - 20.45
Module 2: Community Empowerment	<i>Session 1 - Asset based community development inc. Positive Deviance and Co production approaches</i>	23rd Sept	17:45- 20:45

	<i>Session 2 - Community empowerment - Managing a community organisation effectively</i>	30th Sept	17:45-20:45
	<i>Session 3- Techniques for engaging seldom heard individuals - Leading with love and compassion</i>	7th Oct	17:45-20:45
Module 3: Project Development	<i>Session 1 - Trauma Informed Leadership &amp; Person Centred Approaches</i>	14th Oct	17:45-20:45
	<i>Session 2 -Setting up projects and aligning them to the public health approach</i>	21st Oct	17:45-20:45
<b>WEEK OFF- 28<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>			
	<i>Session 3 - Evaluating the impact of your work - Developing a Theory of Change &amp; Violence Reduction &amp; Prevention Strategies</i>	4th Nov	17:45-20:45
CATCH UP SESSION (OPTIONAL) ONLINE	<i>Topics voted for by cohort</i>	11th Nov	17:45-20:00
Module 4: Operational Management	<i>Session 1 - Fundraising &amp; Bid writing</i>	18th Nov	17:45-20:45
	<i>Session 2 - Managing teams - (how to build a team and keep it motivated)</i>	25th Nov	17:45-20:45
Module 5: Effective communication, Influencing & using social media	<i>Session 1 - Using social media to reach your audience</i>	2nd Dec	17:45-20:45
	<i>Session 2 - Effective communication - Influencing others</i>	9th Dec	17:45-20:45
<b>BREAK</b>			

CATCH UP SESSION (OPTIONAL)- <b>ONLINE</b>	<i>Topics voted for by cohort</i>	6th January 2027	17:45-20:00
Showcase and Certificate presentation	<i>Celebrate success, hear about participant projects and network with public sector officers and other community leaders</i>	13th January 2027	09:00-17:00

## Application Form

There are 20 spaces available on the programme.

Please complete the online application form via the link here: [West Yorkshire Community Leaders Programme Application 2026 – Fill in form](#)

*If you would like to complete this application via **word document**, or if you have any reasonable adjustments and would like to complete this application via another format, such as **video or audio**, please email us at [deren.phillips@westyorks-ca.gov.uk](mailto:deren.phillips@westyorks-ca.gov.uk) where we can assist.*

**Closing date: Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2026, 11:45pm**

Notification of invite to interview by: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026

Interview dates: ONLINE 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> July 2026

For any queries or to find out more about the programme please contact: [deren.phillips@westyorks-ca.gov.uk](mailto:deren.phillips@westyorks-ca.gov.uk)

# Privacy Notice

For the purposes of the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR), the ‘controller’ of the personal data you provide is West Yorkshire Combined Authority (‘the Combined Authority’, ‘we’, ‘us’) of Wellington House, 40-50 Wellington St, Leeds LS1 2DE (tel: 0113 251 7272) who are the responsible statutory body for WY Metro. The Combined Authority is registered with the Information Commissioner’s Office with registration number ZA051694.

The Combined Authority is collecting this data and will process it for the purpose of reviewing applications for the Community Leaders programme. We will also collect some protected characteristics data from you to understand the inclusivity and diversity reach of the programme. For successful applicants, the consultant appointed to deliver this programme will collect feedback from pre and post surveys to monitor the success and outcomes of the programme. In some instances, we may capture visual media (images and/or video) of you, where you provide consent, for the purposes of showcasing success stories.

The Combined Authority will share personal data (name and contact details) of successful applicants with Jones Consulting Limited (ICO reg. Number: ZB171340) who has been appointed to deliver the programme. The Combined Authority will not share data regarding your protected characteristics with any other organisation.

We will not share your information with any organisation or third party other than stated above, except in certain circumstances, which are:

1. if we have a legal obligation to do so or if we are required or requested to do so by a competent authority such as the police or a court;
2. if we need to use or disclose your information to obtain legal advice or in connection with legal proceedings;
3. if we need to share your information to protect your vital interests if you are unable to give us consent or it is unreasonable for us to ask for your consent in the circumstances (e.g. if you are injured).

For successful applicants, we will retain your information until the end of the project completion, which is end of March 2027 to ensure the successful delivery of the programme. For unsuccessful applicants we will only retain your information until it’s necessary to review applications and thereafter delete it. This is in accordance with our information retention policy and on the expiration of such period we will safely delete it.

Information provided to the Combined Authority will be processed under Article 6(1)(e) of the UK GDPR which states that processing is necessary for the purposes of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller and;

Article 6(1)(a) of the UK GDPR which states that the data subject has given consent to the processing of their personal data for one or more specified purposes

As a data subject you have a number of rights under the UK GDPR. These include the right to access the information which we hold about you. In some cases you may have a right to have your personal data rectified, erased or restricted, and to object to certain use of your data.

This would not affect the legality of what we do with your personal data before you make such a request and would not stop us from continuing to use your data to the extent that we do not require your consent. It would stop us from further using data for purposes which require your consent (e.g. marketing).



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We act in accordance with our corporate privacy notice, which provides further information on personal data processing, how to contact the Data Protection Officer, how to make a complaint under the UK GDPR and how to make a rights request:

<https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/footer/privacy-and-cookie-policies/>

If you are unsatisfied with the manner in which we collect or handle your personal data you have a right to make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office. Information about how to make complaints can be found on the ICO's website at <https://ico.org.uk>

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



**West Yorkshire Combined Authority**

Wellington House  
40-50 Wellington Street  
Leeds  
LS1 2DE



All information correct at time of writing