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## **New v exciting youth advisory board announced**

v, the youth volunteering charity, has selected a brand new team of 16 to 25 year olds to make up its innovative youth advisory board for the next 12 months. The new v20 volunteers will take the baton from the current board to share their cares, interests, passions and beliefs to guide and lead the charity.

The v20 youth advisory board will meet every six weeks to discuss youth volunteering issues and will have the opportunity to represent the charity at a whole range of conferences and events. Last year's inaugural v20 had a fantastic year with highlights including organising the charity's first Parliamentary Reception and attending a breakfast meeting with Gordon Brown to discuss youth issues.

Student Rajay Naik, 19, from Coventry is excited to have been selected for the board, saying: "You get a lot out of volunteering, which is priceless. People ask me why I do something for nothing, but through volunteering I've been able to travel the world and meet so many different, interesting people. I now wonder what I did with my time before I became a volunteer!"

The new recruits have already had their first induction weekend where they had a chance to meet the staff at v and get to know the rest of the v20 team.

Russell Brooks, 21, from London, said: "I am so excited to be joining v20. This is a great opportunity to really champion youth volunteering. I just want to make the most of the moment, there's nothing holding us back and we just need to dare to dream."

Terry Ryall, Chief Executive of v said: "Youth involvement is integral to the charity's work. Young people are the future and the new v20 board look set to be just as dynamic and enthusiastic as the team last year. I'm really looking forward to getting to know them and working with them all."

To keep up to date with the work of the v20 youth advisory board log on to [vinspired.com](http://vinspired.com) where young people can also search for suitable volunteering opportunities as well as meeting a whole host of like-minded people.

## ENDS

**For further information, photographs or interviews, please contact**

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## Notes to Editors

- v is the new youth volunteering charity launched in May 2006 whose mission is to inspire a million more young volunteers in England aged 16-25.
- The charity was set up to implement the recommendations of the Russell Commission outlining a new national framework for youth action and engagement, following a nationwide consultation which included 6000 young people.
- v is led by the cares, interests, passions and beliefs of young people. A Youth Advisory Board made up of twenty young people called v20 is involved in all aspects of the charity's work. Four members of v20 sit on v's Board of Trustees.
- v works with and builds upon the current voluntary sector infrastructure, funds the creation of volunteering opportunities through grants rounds and implements programmes to create awareness and positive understanding of volunteering for young people.
- v has been formed as an independent charity using an innovative new model which allows funds raised from the private sector to be matched by the Government. Up to £50 million has been allocated by the Government for this purpose over the next three years. For more information on v, please visit [www.wearev.com](http://www.wearev.com)
- v has created a web-based portal designed by young people to provide a unique environment for them to find out about volunteering and search for volunteering opportunities in their area. For more information, please visit [www.vinspired.com](http://www.vinspired.com)