



Department for
Digital, Culture
Media & Sport



NATIONAL
LOTTERY FUNDED



YOUTH-WEST PARTNERSHIP

LED BY YMCA NORFOLK



The **Benjamin** Foundation



SWAN PROJECT
Youth Opportunities in South West Norfolk



THE GARAGE
NORWICH



West Norfolk

**Partnership: YMCA Norfolk, The Benjamin Foundation, the SWAN Project,
The Garage, West Norfolk MIND, St Edmunds and the National Youth Theatre**

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Overview of the Youth-West Partnership

Youth-West is a partnership of seven organisations led by YMCA Norfolk working collaboratively together in West Norfolk to:

- a) Establish a network of local youth clubs across West Norfolk which creates five new youth clubs and increases open access provision across the area, focusing on a total of nine open access youth clubs
- b) Introduce a carousel of activities for young people across West Norfolk that addresses key priorities raised locally including Mental Health, Increased Opportunities, Places to Go (information provided by the Youth Advisory Board consultation in March 2017)
- c) Develop a centralised training and development programme that will benefit and build up local organisations and their workers, volunteers and young people. This will strengthen the core offer of open access opportunities for young people in West Norfolk over the longer term and will include core youth work skills as well as related training such as safeguarding and professional boundaries.

The seven partners listed below bring a wealth of local knowledge and experience of youth work delivery across Norfolk as well as bringing countywide and national experience in the arts.

YMCA Norfolk – a local youth charity that supports homeless young people and provides positive activities, mental health training, families work and youth provision.

The Benjamin Foundation – a local charity with its roots in youth work provides services around homelessness, family work, childcare, behaviour and wellbeing.

SWAN Youth Centre – an open access facility for young people with programmes addressing behaviour and wellbeing, also providing sports and employability skills.

The Garage – is a hub for performing arts providing high quality arts programming, participation, education and training for all ages with a focus on young people.

West Norfolk MIND – works with adults and young people 16+ to address a range of wellbeing issues including depression, anxiety and other mental health conditions.

St Edmunds – a charity specialising in training, employability and careers skills delivery to young people who are marginalised, excluded or struggling to achieve in education.

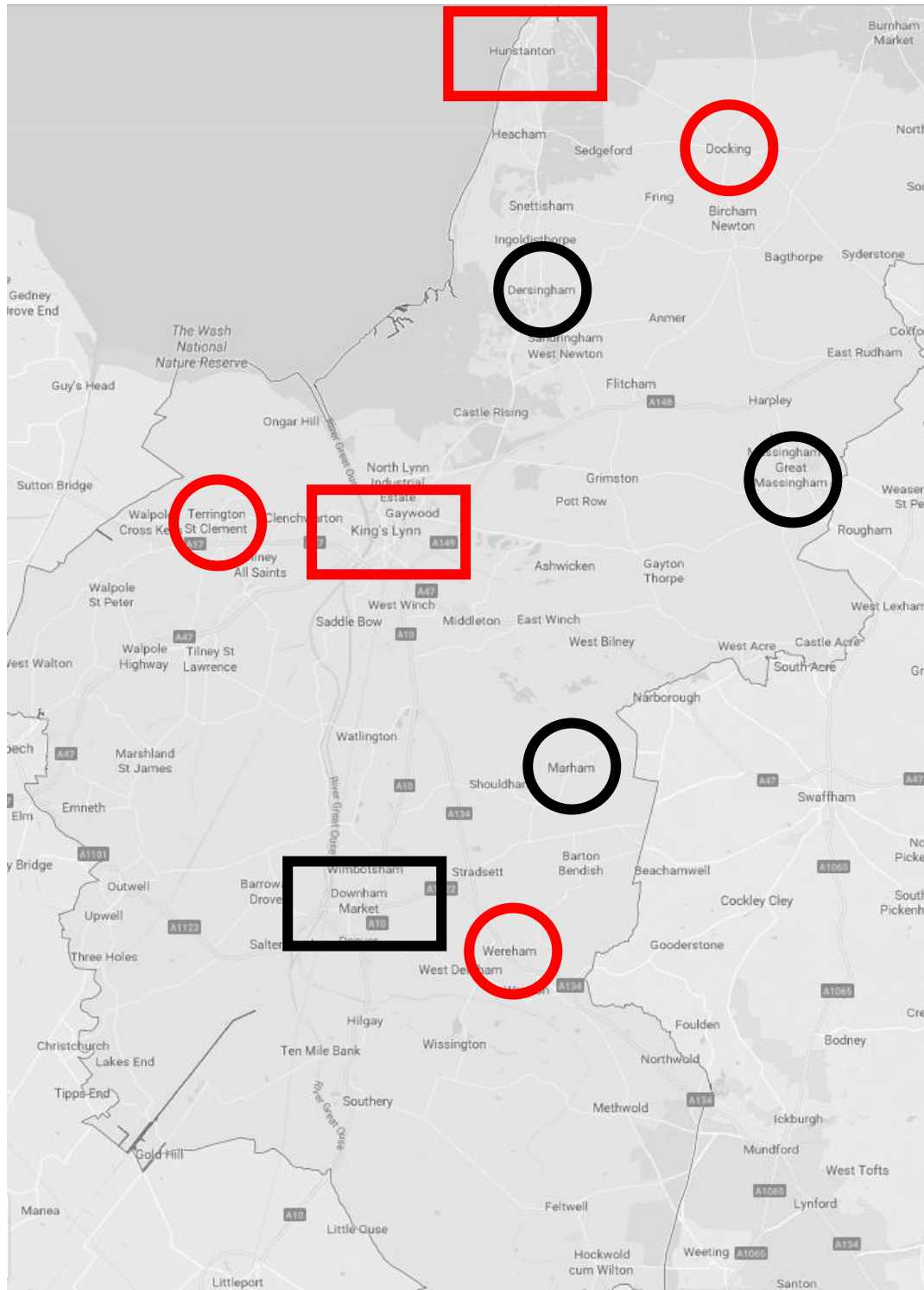
National Youth Theatre – a youth arts organisation, inspiring and developing young people in areas such as team-working, communication and presentation skills.

YMCA Norfolk, The Benjamin Foundation and The SWAN Youth Centre will deliver new open access youth clubs across West Norfolk and will offer a range of holiday activities for young people during the year with the support of The Garage and the National Youth Theatre.

The Garage, West Norfolk MIND, St Edmunds, the National Youth Theatre and YMCA Norfolk will offer a range of activities to support the development of youth provision and youth aspiration.

YMCA Norfolk will develop a training hub making use of local expertise and training provision in the area of youth work, establishing a programme to increase skills and opportunity.

Map of Youth West Area and Proposed Hubs and Satellites



New Hub



New Satellite



Existing Hub



Existing Satellite (proposed)

Purpose of the Youth-West Partnership

Youth Investment Fund

The ambition of the Youth Investment Fund is to deliver, expand and create high quality open-access local youth provision. This includes:

- Ensuring young people are in the lead and involved in all aspects management, delivery and evaluation
- Creating sustainable provision after the project ends, with diversification of income streams and increased use of volunteers in delivery
- Delivering best value for money
- Focusing on continuous improvement and learning, using a common measurement framework to measure impact (and working with a learning and impact partner)
- Maximising match funding from other sources
- Ensuring young people and vulnerable adults are safe

Nationally, 91 projects have been funded by the Youth Investment Fund (YIF). The Youth-West Partnership has been allocated £448,652 of funding for a period of 2 years and 10 months, operating from 1 June 2018 until 31 March 2021. The YIF is funded jointly by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and the Big Lottery Fund.

YMCA Norfolk, as the lead partner, receives funding directly from the Big Lottery Fund on a quarterly basis and distributes it to each partner based on the activities they are delivering. Youth-West is one of five projects that have been funded with a much stronger emphasis on partnership working.

Primary Outcomes

Our primary outcomes are that young people will have:

- **increased opportunity** through more open access activities, participation and training and development
- **improved mental health and wellbeing** because of increased awareness and access to local mental health support
- **greater aspirations** resulting from increased participation in new opportunities and local taster opportunities

Youth-West is using YMCA Norfolk's asset-based monitoring system to gather data and analyse it. The partnership is working with the Youth Investment Fund's Learning Project to monitor the outcomes from this project.

Delivery Goals

In order to meet this ambition, the Youth-West partnership will:

- Establish a network of open access youth provision with hub and satellite venues
 - King's Lynn + Terrington St Clement
 - Downham Market + Wereham
 - Hunstanton + Burnham Market
 - Engage and seek to support other existing local youth club provision (e.g. RAF Marham, Great Massingham etc.)

- Provide positive activities for young people each year
 - 36 Music and Dance activities per year (12 at each Hub)
 - Auditions and audition practice for National Youth Theatre opportunities
 - 36 Resilience support sessions for 16-18 year olds
 - 12 advice and guidance sessions and 6 vocational taster sessions
 - 27 mental health awareness sessions and termly champions training

- Develop a centralised training and development programme
 - Six Level 2 youth work qualifications
 - Two Level 3 youth work qualifications
 - Six half-day Safeguarding and Professional Boundaries courses
 - Two Youth Mental Health First Aid 2-Day Courses

- Strengthen the core offer of open access opportunities
 - Offering long term development as per training options above
 - Liaising with partners and other stakeholders across the district to develop stronger relationships and improved local youth work provision
 - Increasing funding and sustainability from local sources such as parish councils and businesses

- Offer holiday activities each year
 - 24 holiday workshops over 8 weeks in the 3 hubs (The Garage)
 - 24 holiday activities over 8 weeks in the 3 hubs (Open Access providers)
 - 21 holiday activities over 3 weeks in the satellites (Open Access providers)
 - Run a Holiday Theatre Project for one week in Year 2 and two weeks in Year 3
 - 18 pop-up youth club sessions in rural villages in the summer holidays

- Establish a Young People's Steering Group with autonomy to choose activities
 - Regular steering group meetings (10 per year)
 - 15 opportunities for young people to identify activities to run on behalf of other young people in the area

- Work with 800 individual young people over the 2 years and 10 months of funding
- Leave a legacy of ongoing youth provision after the funding ceases

Youth-West Partners

Lead organisation

YMCA Norfolk is a local independent charity committed to supporting young people and families in crisis to enable them to reach their full potential. The organisation believes that all children, young people and families deserve to have a safe place to live and a supportive environment in which to develop. Main activities include:

- Housing and Accommodation – providing housing and hostels across Norfolk for young people who are homeless or at risk of being homeless. YMCA Norfolk has a range of housing to accommodate up to 240 young people at any one time, from emergency accommodation schemes to longer term housing provision in preparation for living independently.
- Health and Wellbeing – delivering mental health awareness sessions for young people and training them to be Mental Health Champions among their peers. Training is provided for professionals for Youth Mental Health First Aid.
- Training and Education – residents can access positive activities and programmes that develop their skills focused around building confidence, life skills and employment skills.
- Family Work – supporting 30 single parent families with accommodation and tenancy support. The Families Team works with Children’s Services to provide specialist interventions to families in crisis providing parenting skills, cognitive behavioural therapy, re-unification, Family Group Conferences and other interventions.
- Youth and Community – delivering youth clubs and holiday activities in several local communities across Norfolk for children and young people aged 5 to 19.

YMCA Norfolk’s mission is to enable transformation in the lives of young people across Norfolk so that they can truly belong, contribute and thrive. The organisation is value-driven and core values affect all activities, behaviours and policies. YMCA Norfolk aims to be hope-filled, inspiring and empowering in everything it does for children, young people and families.

YMCA Norfolk accepted the role of **Lead Organisation** and submitted the Youth Investment Fund grant application on behalf of the Youth-West Partnership. YMCA Norfolk will be solely responsible to the Big Lottery Fund for delivery of the project in accordance with its terms and conditions.

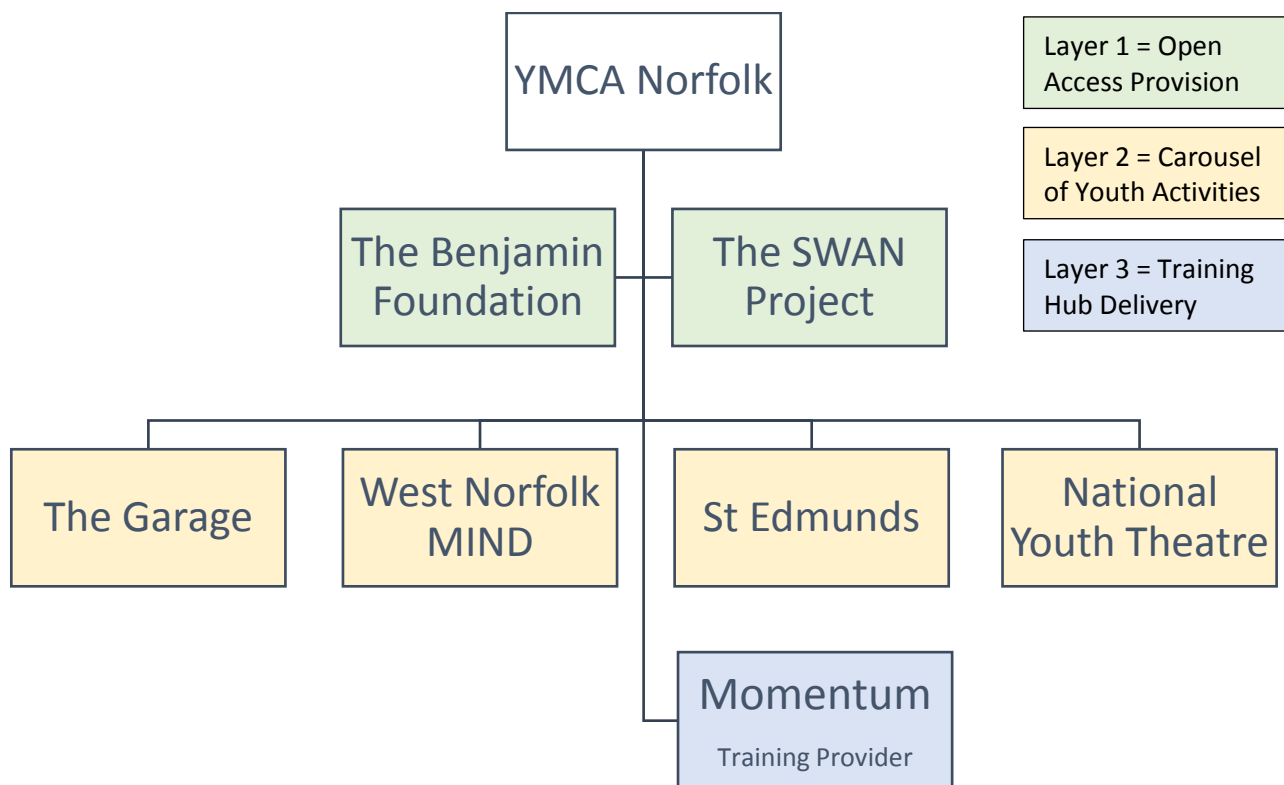
Partner organisations

Partner Organisation	Relevant Experience, Skills and Capacity
The Benjamin Foundation	<p>The Benjamin Foundation has its roots in youth work and exists to help people deal with the challenges that life throws at them. With over 200 staff, we work across the following areas:</p> <p>Homelessness - accommodation centres for young adults provide support and a safe place to live while we help them get their lives back on track.</p>

	<p>Families - supporting those who need help to strengthen family relationships.</p> <p>Children - working with schools to support children with issues such as bullying. We also provide childcare and pre- and post-school clubs.</p> <p>Furniture stores – our three stores raise money to support the rest of our work by selling donated furniture and electrical goods.</p>
SWAN Project	<p>The centre is an open access facility for young people from age 8 upwards supported by trained youth workers and volunteers it delivers 2 open sessions a week to approximately 50 young people, and at other times runs a series of programmes addressing behaviour and wellbeing, music and sports as well as NEET support Programmes include young leader and national validated qualifications in employability skills There is capacity to expand the open provision through the appointment of further worker time to develop provision in Downham and the surrounding areas Next steps to do this have been identified</p>
The Garage	<p>The Garage is a hub for performing arts, a creative playground – from first steps to professionals; it’s a safe place for everyone to learn, experience and create, to be inspired to succeed.</p> <p>Located in Norwich, The Garage is an important creative space for the communities of Norfolk and beyond. Working with local and national partners to provide high quality performing arts programming, participation, education and training for all ages. It is a place for everyone but has a particular focus on young people from all backgrounds.</p> <p>The charity has a strong emphasis on engaging those with least access to the arts, particularly young people. The outreach team works with funders, local authorities, schools, statutory agencies and referral partners to deliver year-round access, inclusion and development initiatives based both at The Garage and beyond.</p>
West Norfolk MIND	<p>West Norfolk Mind runs a service for 16 to 25 year olds (Supporting Transition and Resilience - STAR) and since its inception in November 2016 has worked with 90 young people with depression, anxiety and other mental health conditions. Many have self-referred through college or sixth form. Whilst primarily being a one to one service, we have a developed a good understanding of young people’s needs and have set up a drop-in service in response to these local needs.</p>
St Edmunds	<p>A charity that specialises in training, employability and careers skills delivery to young people age 14+ who are marginalised, excluded from formal education or struggle to achieve in mainstream education. Currently providing up to 100 places a week to the 14+ age group, it is an accredited training centre with full tutor and social work support as</p>

	well as careers and functional skills teaching. St Eds is currently creating a skills centre in Kings Lynn for alternative provision in partnership with a local SHP.
National Youth Theatre	The National Youth Theatre of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (NYT) is a world leading youth arts organisation, inspiring, developing and showcasing exceptional young people aged 14 to 25. NYT has over 60 years' experience of enabling young people to develop skills and behaviours that help them to succeed and excel in education and employment, such as team-working, confidence, effective communication, flexibility, empathy, listening, presentation skills, and aspiration and ambition. We create skills development programmes that nurture and support talent, providing alternatives to formal training which respond to and meet young people's needs.

Partnership Structure



YMCA Norfolk will support all three delivery elements (Open Access Provision, Carousel of Activities and Centralised Training) of the Youth-West project working with partners in all aspects of delivery and coordination.

Working in Partnership with the Wider Community

Youth Work Organisations

A key part of the Youth-West brief is to support existing youth work provision in West Norfolk. Youth-West will engage with other providers of open access youth delivery and share the benefits of this funding by facilitating access to training. A meeting with West Norfolk YAB was scheduled and postponed, but will take place in due course.

Discussions have taken place with community and youth club staff at RAF Marham who have indicated they would like to take up the offer of Youth-West partners delivering activities. They are particularly interested in the training provision for volunteers. We have also had discussions with Great Massingham Youth Club and will be meeting them to discuss the Youth-West offer. When the Youth-West concept was conceived, we planned to partner with Dersingham Youth Club. This youth club is no longer operational so we do have capacity to support another existing youth club in the West Norfolk area.

Borough and Parish Councils

The Youth-West Partnership will engage with King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council and local Parish Councils to promote the delivery of youth work in West Norfolk. We hope over time to establish dialogue around longer-term funding opportunities that will help sustain the delivery that is being developed.

YMCA Norfolk has had positive discussions with the Parish Council in Terrington St Clement where we are planning to establish a new youth club on Monday evenings. The Parish Council is reviewing whether Youth-West can access the pavilion free of charge to run this youth club. There are ongoing discussions with other Parish Councils about the delivery of 'Pop-up Youth Clubs' over the summer holiday period.

Business and Community Organisations

Youth-West has already established a positive working relationship with Freebridge Community Housing. This has resulted in additional funding to extend the role of the Youth-West Co-ordinator from 3 days per week to 5 days per week. The Youth-West Hub will be based at the Freebridge Discovery Centre in North Lynn and discussions continue about the delivery of an open access activity for older young people aged 18-25. By partnering effectively in the community, Youth-West aims to attract young people and other organisations to make full use of the facilities that are available.

In Year 2 of funding, a key priority will be to establish greater contacts with local businesses with a view to identifying financial and in-kind support that will enhance delivery. A simple example is a recent offer of garden plants and materials from a local garden centre who have offered to help develop the garden at the Discovery Centre. Offers such as these are important if the Youth-West Partnership is to continue to deliver beyond the end of the funding period (31 March 2021).

Support from King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council

The Youth-West Partnership recognises that to successfully deliver its objectives, it needs the support of a wide range of stakeholders, including young people, other Youth Work Providers in the area, King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council, Parish Councils in the Borough, local charities and not-for-profit organisations, local businesses and the local community at large.

The partnership would appreciate the support of the council in the following areas:

- identifying a main point of contact who the Youth-West Coordinator can liaise with
- promoting the work of the Youth-West Partnership to Parish Councils
- promoting Youth-West activities across the borough through the council's own stakeholders (publicity is in development at present and will be shared once completed)
- informing the Youth-West Coordinator of any potential opportunities for funding or partnership working

Partnership Contact Information

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