NCS Community Experiences: A guide for applicants

Introduction

Our vision is of a country of connected, confident and caring citizens where everyone feels at home. More than 700,000 young people have taken part in NCS over the last decade, completing over 15 million hours of community based social action, and gaining priceless life experiences.

NCS offers a range of experiences for young people that support them to become world-ready and work-ready - through growing their confidence, independence and skills; connecting them with people from all walks of life; and empowering them to make a difference in their communities and wider society.

We are evolving, and giving young people more choice about how and when they engage with NCS - through trips away from home, programmes that take place in their community, and through online activities. Whatever their experience, they will have the opportunity to build skills for work and life, get involved in social action and volunteering, and meet a diverse range of people. All whilst having a great time.

Through having an NCS experience at a pivotal moment in their lives, we aim to support a generation of young people to seize opportunities and face the future with confidence, to have an appreciation and tolerance of different views and perspectives, and to be more actively engaged in civic life. These are the ingredients of a more socially cohesive society.

NCS Strategy 2023 - 2025

Our strategy for 2023 - 2025 outlines the impact we are seeking to achieve, our priority objectives, and how we will deliver them. Our strategy is responsive to young people's changing needs, our learning from the past 12 years, the priorities of the youth sector and Government.

Through engaging in NCS we want young people to:
- Become world-ready and work-ready;
- Have greater confidence, resilience and wellbeing;
- Feel better able to have an impact on the world,
- And have respect and tolerance for difference and diversity

We will achieve that through commissioning residential, digital, and community experiences for young people with the following objectives:
- Develop life skills and support independent living
- Build employability and work-readiness
- Provide opportunities for volunteering and social action
- Enable social mixing of young people from all backgrounds

More information on our plans for 2023 - 2025 is available [here](). Commissioning community experiences through grant funding is a core part of delivering on our strategy, and the [National Youth Guarantee]().

NCS Community Experiences
NCS Trust will be offering over £20 million of grants up to 2025 to deliver community experiences. As a partner and commissioner, we are looking to work and collaborate with a range of organisations, building on the experience and expertise that exists across the youth sector to deliver our strategy and advance progress towards the National Youth Guarantee.

We are commissioning two types of community experiences:
- **Open-to-all:** Regular programmes that are embedded in young people's local communities, with structure and support from NCS Trust, but locally tailored by you
- **Targeted:** Innovations and projects that support underserved young people in their local communities

Through our community experiences, we are seeking to provide young people with **regular activities close to home**, giving them more **choice and flexibility** in how they engage with a **year-round** NCS offer. One of our key priorities is to increase the provision of services to **underserved young people**, and learn more about **what works** for these groups.

We are using grants as a commissioning tool as we believe it will support us to deliver the NCS community offer through **working with and learning from a range of organisations experienced in working with young people**, many of whom are better able to engage with grant funding than commercial procurement. We also believe it offers us opportunities to explore **match-funding** partnerships with other funders, and to **create and promote meaningful youth engagement** in our own practice and that of grantees. Ultimately, we believe this is a **flexible approach** that prioritises **outcomes and impact** for young people.

As per the [NCS Act]() and Royal Charter, NCS Trust commissions experiences for young people that are 16-17 years old to coincide with a key transition to adulthood. In exceptional circumstances, we may apply a broader age range. NCS Trust recognises that for some young people, additional statutory support is provided for the transition to adulthood whilst aged 18-24, for example with an Education, Health and Care Plan. Under these circumstances, extending access to a broader age range may be considered. We will be sharing more detail about how this might feature in the application process. **We are primarily interested in commissioning experiences for young people aged 16-17.**

Community experiences should comprise activities that align with the four key objectives from our strategy:
- Develop life skills and support independent living
- Build employability and work-readiness
- Provide opportunities for volunteering and social action
- Enable social mixing of young people from all backgrounds

More detail on the core objectives and what they mean in an NCS context is provided below (p.6).

For clarity, all open-to-all experiences should include content that covers ***all*** of these objectives. For targeted experiences we expect that you may want a particular focus on one or more of these.

The NCS Theory of Change includes some key features of experiences that support young people in achieving outcomes. **In describing your community experiences, your application will need to tell us how the activities you design to meet our core objectives will also include the following approaches:**

1) **Fun, engaging experiences**

   Our ambition is for all young people to enjoy brilliant and engaging activities as part of all NCS community experiences.

2) **Be young person-led, providing opportunities for young people to experience project-based learning**

   Grantees should deliver experiences that empower young people to make decisions, take on meaningful roles and ownership of parts of planned activities, with support from youth workers and trusted adults. Project-based learning is a method in which young people gain knowledge and skills by working for a period of time to investigate and respond to a real life and engaging question, problem, or challenge. Using this approach can support young people to experience and navigate challenges and encourage a sense of self-efficacy in both future world and workplace environments.

3) **Collaboration with local organisations, charities and community groups, utilising connections and partnership within the local community**

   Support and engagement from local and relevant employers, charities and other organisations helps young people build greater connections in their local communities. It upskills young people to engage in their surroundings, understand real-world issues first hand, and know their future opportunities, allowing progression within voluntary or paid space.

4) **Application of a universal design approach**

   Universal design (also referred to as inclusive design) means designing products, services and spaces in ways that enable the widest possible range of people to use them. The basic principle is that by designing for diversity from the outset, the outcome is the creation of an environment which is easier for everyone to use.

   In applying this approach it would be beneficial to consider the following:
   ● What is the anticipated make-up of the young people in your cohort?
   ● What is the make-up of your own team, and are you engaging them in the design of your NCS activities?
   ● Who is under-represented in your area, and in your existing projects and programmes?
   ● How might you engage under-represented voices in the design of your NCS activities?
   ● How will you double-check for unseen barriers young people might face?

5) **Alignment with the Skills Builder Framework**

   NCS is part of the *Skills Builder* Partnership, which brings together over 700 schools, employers and non-formal organisations to align language, approaches and outcomes

around a set of eight essential skills. These skills underpin individual success at each stage in life and support all young people in developing their independence.

There are 8 essential skills as follows:
- **Listening** - *the receiving, retaining and processing of information or ideas*
- **Speaking** - *the oral transmission of information or ideas*
- **Problem-solving** - *the ability to find a solution to a complex situation or challenge*
- **Creativity** - *the use of imagination and the generation of new ideas*
- **Staying Positive** - *the ability to use tactics and strategies to overcome setbacks and achieve goals*
- **Aiming High** - *the ability to set clear, tangible goals and devise a robust route to achieving them*
- **Leadership** - *supporting, encouraging and motivating others to achieve a shared goal*

6) Support for young people through guided reflection

Reflection activities should retain a focus on the learning outcomes and their transfer to other contexts (i.e. the essential skills that were used in the application of practical skills, and the awareness and knowledge that young people have developed around issues). Guided reflection should be embedded throughout the programme and experiences to support the young people's awareness of the (Skill Builder) skills they have developed and how they have achieved this.

Further requirements for open-to-all experiences
Open-to-all experiences are regular programmes that are embedded in young people's local communities, enabling us to deliver on the National Youth Guarantee. NCS Trust has defined a broad required structure for these experiences, but activities and delivery on the ground is shaped by grantees depending on their local area.

The structural requirements for open-to-all experiences are as follows:
- Funding will be offered for a minimum of 48 hours of activity per year delivered in a chosen physical location
- These hours are divided roughly into 3 programmes of activity (e.g. programmes of 12-20 hours each)
- Young people are given the opportunity to remain engaged following each of these programmes (e.g. they may stay engaged for a year or more)
- There is programmed activity in at least 9 months of the year, though scheduling is for the grantee to agree (e.g. a blend of shorter evening sessions, longer sessions on regular weekends)
- Experiences are open to, and inclusive of, a diverse cohort of young people aged 16-17
- Opportunities for young people to engage in all of NCS' objectives (independent living, social action, employability, social mixing)

Young people will be accessing NCS residential and digital experiences through the MyNCS digital platform, hosted through the NCS website. We want to help you engage new young people and diverse cohorts through ensuring open-to-all experiences are visible to all young people in your areas. In order to provide young people with this route to access your offer, NCS Trust will require timely information on the structure of these experiences in order to make them visible to young people who have registered a MyNCS account. Grantees will be able to engage young people in the way that works for you locally, and NCS will create a mechanism for young people coming through MyNCS to reach you and explore your offer.

You may already deliver programmes with some alignment to NCS objectives, or containing some of the elements and features described above. In applying for an open-to-all grant, we would encourage you to draw on your experience in these areas, putting together an NCS-branded programme of activity that meets the requirements set out in this guidance.

Further requirements for targeted experiences
Targeted experiences are projects that support underserved young people in their local communities. We will fund either:
- Innovations that aim for NCS outcomes
- Scaling existing projects that have evidence for contributing to NCS outcomes

In contrast to open-to-all experiences, there are no minimum/maximum length requirements for targeted experiences. We are open to funding a range of youth work models and approaches, including some use of residential provision. We will not, however, fund activity that is very similar to our commissioned NCS residential and digital experiences (i.e. we would not fund a 4-night, 5-day residential activity).

Targeted activities should reach cohorts of young people who are known to be underserved by existing youth provision aligned to NCS outcomes. This may include cohorts which existing services do not reach and engage and/ or young people growing up in geographic areas that lack service provision/ infrastructure.

Grantees should outline the needs of the cohort they are working with, why existing services are failing to reach these cohorts, and how the proposed provision will reach them.

The targeting criteria may overlap in some projects.

Targeting criteria	Definition
Targeted Geographies	NCS Trust has 53 Priority Areas, underpinned by the Index of Multiple Deprivation. These are detailed in the appendix.
Targeted Settings	Pre-existing group of young people gathered in a location. For example, educational establishments or existing youth clubs/groups.
Targeted Demographics	Groups of young people defined by common individual characteristics. For example, young carers.

Note: proposals will be accepted for provision targeted by setting or demographics in non-priority geographic locations.

<u>Exploring the four key NCS objectives</u>

Building employability and work-readiness

NCS community experiences shaped around this objective should primarily be about young people experiencing and navigating challenges as they develop and apply their skills to projects that reflect real world business or enterprise challenges. Secondary aims might include young people understanding how they can make a difference in a work environment

in order to raise confidence and aspirations, and connecting with new people in potential employment fields to understand how to build professional relationships.

Use of the Skills Builder Framework (see above) will ensure that these experiences are aligned with a large number of organisations that work to connect young people with employment skills and opportunities, and with a number of significant employers themselves. Supporting NCS participants to practise, develop and reflect on these essential skills will enable young people to articulate them more effectively when accessing training or employment opportunities.

Using project-based approaches under this theme is important, as they connect young people with real-world challenges from relevant employers in their areas. Taking this approach - as opposed to more straightforward information sessions on workplaces - encourages a sense of self-efficacy in workplace environments.

Support and engagement from local and relevant businesses and employers should be sought for a range of activities under this objective. Activities relating to this theme should leave young people with clear information as to further opportunities available to them if they would like to explore particular employment routes further.

Developing life skills and supporting independent living

NCS community experiences shaped around this theme should primarily be about young people understanding how to make a difference to their lives through effective self-management and the development of practical life skills as they transition to adulthood. Secondary aims might include young people connecting with their peers through shared experiences (e.g. through cooking and sharing meals), and learning practical life skills so they can experience and navigate challenges more effectively. The choice of these practical skills should be relevant to the young people, their needs, and the local context.

Reflection activities should retain a focus on the learning outcomes and their transfer to other contexts (i.e. the essential skills that were used in the application of practical skills, and the awareness and knowledge that young people have developed around issues).

Providing opportunities for volunteering and social action

NCS community experiences shaped around this theme should primarily be about young people having a practical experience of making a difference to their communities (or communities local to delivery) through approaches that seek to address the causes of identified issues, or to boost community assets and strengths. Secondary aims might include young people experiencing and navigating challenges in working as a team to do so.

NCS aligns with the #iwill movement's definition of high quality social action. Grantees should ensure that experiences shaped around this theme:

- Are youth-led, giving young people a high degree of agency over shaping their solutions to issues
- Are challenging and stretching for young people
- Engage young people in activities that have a clear social impact
- Allow progression to other volunteering and social action activities
- Support young people to embed ongoing engagement in social action and volunteering in their everyday lives

- Enable reflection on both the value and impact of the activity on others, and on the young person's development through engaging

Grantees should support young people with a clear and structured approach to the process of designing and delivering social action, so supporting young people to apply this approach in the future.

Enabling social mixing of young people from all backgrounds

An important outcome of NCS experiences is that young people develop a greater understanding and awareness of others from diverse backgrounds. To support this outcome, social mixing in an NCS context refers to:
   a. the levels of diversity existing within a cohort; and,
   b. the opportunities for interactions within that group.

There are therefore two main steps to ensuring social mix is considered and supported within NCS community experiences.

a) Engaging a diverse cohort of young people

All NCS activities should reach and support the full participation of a cohort of young people which is broadly reflective of the diversity of the local area.

The levels of diversity existing within the NCS cohort is monitored and measured by considering:
- Eligibility for free school meals (FSM)
- Presence of an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), with further data on young people who disclose any special educational needs but do not have an EHCP
- Ethnic minority groups
- Care experienced young people (as per national statistics on children looked-after)
- Gender

For open-to-all experiences, demographic data will be collected from all grantees (NB: the mechanism for this is to be confirmed). Grantees will be asked in the application how they will reach and engage a diverse cohort of participants.

For targeted experiences, where the cohort size will be significantly smaller, some anonymised demographic data should be submitted by the grantee. Demonstrating reaching a diverse cohort will be largely applicable to activity 'targeted by geographic area'.

b) Meeting and mixing: opportunities for interaction

The purpose of NCS experiences has always included creating opportunities for young people to interact with and build relationships with new people, and with people who are different to themselves and have had different experiences. Historically, this has been most impactful when significant parts of the cohort are coming together for the first time and don't know each other.

Meeting and mixing can be achieved by:
- Broadening social networks by mixing young people into small groups with others they haven't met before (e.g. building cohorts from your different programmes who are new to each other)

- Maximising opportunities to build meaningful relationships via purposeful and structured activities
- Development being underpinned by guided reflection

Where there are limited opportunities to meet and mix with new people, meeting and mixing may also be facilitated via:
- Activity content that enables the cohort to develop a greater understanding and awareness of others from a range of diverse backgrounds
- Exposure to a diverse cohort of staff and other adults (e.g. community organisations)

For grantees seeking to scale provision for an existing cohort, it would be beneficial to consider how scaling your provision will create more opportunities for young people in existing cohorts to meet new people.

What grants are available?

At a snapshot:

	Open	**Targeted**
Total amount available	£13 - £15mn 2023-2025	£5mn - £7mn 2023-2025
What grants are available?	18 grants sized individually for different areas of England (English Regions and Combined Authorities)	Small grants from £10,000 to £100,000 Large grants from £100,000 to £500,000
Cost-per-head	£200 - £300 *£250 as a baseline*	Low band: £10 - £250 High band: £250 - £500
Duration	Up to 31st March 2025	Up to 31st March 2025

Note: Numbers are rounded

1. **Open-to-all**

Geography
To deliver on the National Youth Guarantee, we must ensure that there are open experiences available across England for all young people. Therefore we will be offering grants to deliver across a particular geographic area.

Within these geographic areas we would like to see a broad spread of opportunities available so as many young people as possible can engage close to home, but how you achieve this is up to you. You are the experts in your community, so that's up to you and you can show us in your application how you'd deliver across your area. We will preference applications that achieve a good geographic spread across their area.

We've chosen these areas based on the English Regions typically used for public services, and Combined Authorities, coalitions of Local Authorities working together with devolved powers (these are often in or around cities). A grant for a Region is to deliver across everywhere in that Region, excluding any of the Combined Authorities situated within that Region. This means that there is no grant for the North East Region, as all Local Authorities in the North East are in a Combined Authority and so receive a specific grant.

A map that outlines our 18 areas is available [here](#).

Our 18 areas are:
- Combined Authorities:
    - Cambridgeshire and Peterborough
    - Greater Manchester
    - Liverpool City Region
    - North of Tyne Combined Authority
    - South Yorkshire
    - North East Combined Authority
    - West Midlands
    - West of England
    - West Yorkshire
    - Tees Valley Combined Authority
- Regions (excluding any Combined Authorities within that Region)
    - North West
    - Yorkshire and the Humber
    - East Midlands
    - West Midlands
    - South West
    - East of England
    - South East
    - London

A full list of these areas with the included Local Authorities is in the appendix.

Cost-per-head

We are funding a cost per head for open experiences of £200 - £300. This cost per head applies to 48 hours of delivery, which would be 3 experiences over the year.

We believe that it costs around ~£250 per young person to deliver this experience for a year based on the staff time (using [JNC payscales](#)) involved in delivering and meeting your other responsibilities as a grantee, including allocations to overheads and additional equipment or costs. We expect this to be the baseline you should use.

You might have a lower cost per head if you can secure additional savings such as leveraging existing funding or infrastructure; or you might have a higher cost per head if you are working with young people with additional needs, or are in a more rural community. As part of the application you can submit a budget and explain your costs to us.

Grants available

We have sized open grants on the basis of three factors:
1. **Relative population of the 15-17 year old age group that live in the area**: to deliver on the National Youth Guarantee and ensure nationwide spread of open experiences. There is a 75% weighting to this factor.
2. **Average travel times to public services by public transport**: To reflect that more rural areas or those with more difficult transport might need more experiences available. There is a 10% weighting to this factor.
3. **The relative population of the 15-17 year old age group that live in one of our 53 Priority Areas**: to reflect that these areas may have less access to youth provision currently. There is a 15% weighting to this factor.

Grants are available for your area within a range, so you have flexibility to do your own budget and tell us what works for young people in your community.

Area	Minimum available	Maximum available
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough	360,000	470,000
Greater Manchester	740,000	850,000
Liverpool City Region	400,000	510,000
North of Tyne	230,000	340,000
South Yorkshire	420,000	530,000
Tees Valley	220,000	330,000
West Midlands Combined Authority	840,000	950,000
West of England	220,000	330,000
West Yorkshire	590,000	700,000
North East Combined Authority	340,000	450,000
North West	650,000	760,000
Yorkshire and Humber	480,000	590,000
East Midlands	1,090,000	1,200,000
West Midlands	700,000	810,000
South West	1,060,000	1,170,000
East of England	1,230,000	1,340,000
South East	1,990,000	2,100,000
London	1,730,000	1,840,000

Note: Numbers are not rounded, these are exact. This is to be paid over 2 years, up to 31st March 2025.

How many experiences do I have to deliver?
The number of experiences we expect you to deliver will be based on your budget - the cost-per-head and grant size you apply for. As per the requirements outlined above, we expect your 48 hours to be spread across the year into a few programmes; therefore one 48 hour place is equivalent to 3 experiences. Note that we would like to see sustained engagement with the young people you're working with - so 3 experiences might all be completed by the same young person; an 'experience' does not mean a unique young person.

Therefore if your grant were ~£1mn per year at a ~£250 cost-per-head, we'd expect that to be ~4000 experiences a year. That does not necessarily equate to ~4000 unique young people, as one young person may participate in multiple experiences, demonstrating sustained engagement.

2. Targeted

Cost-per-head

We anticipate funding a broad variety of innovations and projects under the targeted strand, so have identified two bands of cost-per-head to guide you in preparing a budget:
- **Lower band: £10 - £250**
- **Upper band £250 - £500**

You might be in the lower band if your activity is with a large number of young people for a less intensive time commitment; you might be in the higher band if you are working with young people with particular additional needs, or your project is particularly intensive or high cost. You can explain your costs to us in your application and budget, particularly if you're in the upper band.

Because we expect to see a broad variety, we'll work with you to define what counts as an 'experience' with your targeted funding.

Grants available

We want to work with both larger national or regional organisations, as well as small, local organisations. Therefore we have two categories of grants available under targeted:
- **Large grant: £100,000 - £500,000**
- **Small grant: £10,000 - £100,000**

We hope to give out a number of small grants, and would anticipate only giving out a few large grants, to ensure we have the chance to partner with a variety of organisations.

How many experiences do I have to deliver?

The number of experiences we expect you to deliver will be based on your budget - the cost-per-head and grant size you apply for. We will work with you to agree what a single experience is depending on the nature of your innovation or project.

3. Eligible and ineligible expenditure

We will fund:
- Core Costs e.g. staff costs, central management, venue costs
- Projects for young people that:
    - Enable social mixing of young people from all backgrounds
    - Develop life skills and support independent living
    - Build employability and work-readiness
    - Provide opportunities for volunteering and social action

We will not fund:
- Any ineligible or prohibited expenditure as outlined by the Cabinet Office's Functional Standard on Grants
- Payments for activities of a party political or exclusively religious nature
- Residential activity that is more than 2 nights
- Grants that are solely religious activity
- Management costs beyond 8% of the grant value

How do I apply?

Applications will open at 11am on Monday 13th February and close at 9am on Monday 20th March. The application will be a two-stage process. The first stage will be an eligibility and due diligence checker with yes/no questions. Any organisations that pass the first stage will be automatically invited to the second stage. This will be a longer application form with a range of

question types. We will aim to share the outcome of the application process at the end of April.

The full application form will be available to view when applications go live so that prospective applicants can see all of the questions before submitting an application.

The eligibility criteria for the lead applicant is outlined below:
- Organisation type:
  - Non-profit
  - Community interest company
  - Voluntary or community group
  - Registered charity
  - Co-operative
  - Local authority
  - Charity Incorporated Organisations
- Organisations based in England
- Organisations with experience working with and delivering opportunities for young people in their local area

The lead organisation of any consortia must meet these eligibility criteria

We are encouraging consortia applications, particularly for Open experiences and will preference these applications in the assessment process. By consortia we mean groups of organisations working together to deliver experiences across the region. We will also:
- Preference consortia applications for larger grants
- Preference consortia that include frontline delivery organisations
- Have a maximum cap of 3 areas that a single organisation or consortia can apply for
- The lead organisation in a consortia must have experience of delivering youth-led community activity, or working with local youth sector organisations
- Applicants must explain how their consortium will add value for money and bring extra to their delivery (for example, providing networking/practice sharing sessions for the sector)

At the in-person market engagement events we will be consulting on the application process and the exact questions. The final version of the applications will be seen when applications open on 13th February. The application form will cover the following topics. Please note that this list is not exhaustive:
- Applicants purpose/motivation
- Delivery plan/activities
- NCS objectives
- Youth voice
- Social Mix
- Inclusion
- Reaching and engaging young people
- Geographic spread
- Monitoring & Evaluations
- Budget plans & match-funding
- Safeguarding
- Quality assurance

A group of young people from NCS Trust's Youth Voice Forum are being consulted on the application process and are ensuring that young people are part of the assessment process in a meaningful and supportive way.

Appendix 1

Geographic areas for open grants by Upper Tier Local Authority

Area	Local Authorities
North West	Warrington, Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool, Halton, Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester, Cumbria, Lancashire
Yorkshire and the Humber	Kingston upon Hull, East Riding of Yorkshire, North East Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire, York, North Yorkshire
East Midlands	Derby, Leicester, Rutland, Nottingham, Derbyshire, North Northamptonshire, West Northamptonshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire
West Midlands	Herefordshire, Telford and Wrekin, Stoke-on-Trent, Shropshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Staffordshire
South West	Plymouth, Torbay, Swindon, Cornwall, Isles of Scilly, Wiltshire, Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, Dorset, Devon, Gloucestershire, Somerset
East of England	Luton, Southend-on-Sea, Thurrock, Bedford, Central Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Norfolk
South East	Medway, Bracknell Forest, West Berkshire, Reading, Slough, Windsor and Maidenhead, Wokingham, Milton Keynes, Brighton and Hove, Portsmouth, Southampton, Isle of Wight, Buckinghamshire, East Sussex, Essex, Hampshire, Kent, Surrey, West Sussex, Oxfordshire, Suffolk
London	Hounslow, Islington, Kensington and Chelsea, Kingston upon Thames, Lambeth, Lewisham, Merton, Newham, Redbridge, Richmond upon Thames, Southwark, Sutton, Tower Hamlets, Waltham Forest, Wandsworth, Westminster, City of London, Barking and Dagenham, Barnet, Bexley, Brent, Bromley, Camden, Croydon, Ealing, Enfield, Greenwich, Hackney, Hammersmith and Fulham, Haringey, Harrow, Havering. Hillingdon
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough	Cambridgeshire, Peterborough
Greater Manchester	Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford, Wigan
Liverpool City Region	Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens, Wirral
North of Tyne Combined Authority	Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland
South Yorkshire	Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham, Sheffield
North East Combined Authority	County Durham, Gateshead, South Tyneside, Sunderland
West Midlands	Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall
West of England	City of Bristol, South Gloucestershire, Bath and North East Somerset,

	North Somerset
West Yorkshire	Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds, Wakefield
Tees Valley Combined Authority	Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland, Stockton-on-Tees

53 Priority Areas

This list is made up of the areas that are priority areas for the Youth Investment Fund, Opportunity Areas, and Integration Areas.

Region	Local Authorities
East Midlands	Derby
East Midlands	Leicester
East Midlands	Nottingham
East of England	Cambridgeshire
East of England	Norfolk
East of England	Peterborough
East of England	Suffolk
London	Barking and Dagenham
London	Tower Hamlets
London	Waltham Forest
North East	County Durham
North East	Darlington
North East	Gateshead
North East	Hartlepool
North East	Middlesbrough
North East	Newcastle upon Tyne
North East	Northumberland
North East	South Tyneside
North East	Stockton-on-Tees
North East	Sunderland
North West	Blackburn with Darwen
North West	Blackpool
North West	Bolton
North West	Halton
North West	Knowsley
North West	Liverpool
North West	Manchester
North West	Oldham
North West	Rochdale
North West	Salford
North West	Sefton
North West	St. Helens
South East	Brighton and Hove
South East	East Sussex
South East	Portsmouth

Region	Local Authorities
South East	Slough
South East	Southampton
South West	Plymouth
South West	Somerset
South West	Torbay
West Midlands	Birmingham
West Midlands	Coventry
West Midlands	Stoke-on-Trent
West Midlands	Telford and Wrekin
West Midlands	Walsall
Yorkshire and The Humber	Bradford
Yorkshire and The Humber	Doncaster
Yorkshire and The Humber	Kingston upon Hull, City of
Yorkshire and The Humber	North East Lincolnshire
Yorkshire and The Humber	North Yorkshire
Yorkshire and The Humber	Rotherham
Yorkshire and The Humber	Sheffield
Yorkshire and The Humber	Wakefield