

Rural Skills Report

Over the past 12 months NYLC has been undertaking an important research project, funded by the Skills Funding Agency, to explore rural inequalities across North Yorkshire and the East Riding.

The research demonstrates that rural disadvantage is not concentrated in specific geographical areas but dispersed across rural settlements. As a result pockets of severe rural deprivation are hidden within otherwise affluent areas and the usual indicators of rural deprivation do not usually show the real extent of rural deprivation.

With a view to identifying this hidden deprivation, based on work previously undertaken in Norfolk and followed up by the CRC, the specific research for this project utilised an analysis of data at a very local level - areas of population of 300 people - as opposed to the areas of 1500 people normally used in the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). The report's findings will be of great interest to those setting policy and working within rural areas across the County.

The comprehensive report will be available shortly and gives good insight into the issues affecting our rural areas. The report has particularly highlighted issues in Ryedale, the Wolds and the coastal areas of Filey and Withernsea, but will also have relevance for those concerned about wider rural inequalities.

We will be publishing this report on our website soon so please keep checking back.



Spotlight...

North Yorkshire Learning Consortium

bringing learning together ►►



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Community Grants Programme

The current round of Community Grants Fund is due to complete in September this year. By then twenty six partner providers will have taken part in the scheme with over 600 learners receiving new skills and taking part in a diverse programme of community based initiatives.

A1 Community Works Ltd focuses on regeneration in the area between Stapleton and Catterick village. The Community grant funding supported a number of training activities to be delivered – particularly focusing on IT and a series of 'bite size' outreach events.

York Bike Rescue used the Community Grant to fund a community learning workshop and train participants in cycle maintenance, non mechanical skills training and other learning tailored to the specific needs of the learners.

The Rainbow Centre in Scarborough used the funding to support thirty learners to gain basic work skills and provide support to a community with significant deprivation issues. The participants faced significant barriers to work due to recent substance misuse or homelessness.



Trish Kinsella - Centre Manager at the Rainbow Centre reported –

"The scheme has been a real opportunity for growth and has allowed a number of our team to gain real work skills, confidence and encouragement to enter the job market. The paperwork was a bit of a challenge but I'd really encourage partners to take part if the scheme is repeated. We saw real benefit and it helped to move people on in their lives."

NYLC were really helpful in 'hand holding' and were always on the end of a phone to help out. Thanks a lot."



welcome...

Welcome to our new look "Spotlight".

Since our last edition our staff team has grown, we have moved into larger offices at Conyngham Hall and secured several new contracts that are bringing benefit to our partners and their clients across York and North Yorkshire.

As well as securing new work we are now receiving feedback on established contracts, with Future Jobs being singled out as one of the most successful programmes in the country. Our work under Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities (NLDC) was used in the national LSC's final publicity information as an example of best practice and our Association of Learning Providers LIG5 funding received national recognition for excellence by the funder.

However, the future of all these funding streams (along with many others) is either ended, at risk or under review. The cuts have come hard and fast in the learning and skills arena and the way forward is, as in all areas of our sector's work, uncertain.

Bucking the trend, our up-coming funding round for NLDC has slightly more money to put out to partners this year. Also our Skills Funding Agency/ESF Adult Engagement Contract in Scarborough has secured additional funds due to high performance.

NYLC believe there will be opportunities as well as threats in the coming months and we will do our best to influence and negotiate a fair deal for the sector, utilising our extensive networks and strategic voice. We are confident that our partners have many of the solutions the new government is searching for, providing services that demonstrate financial and social value.

Sue Vasey
Chief Officer

We believe that the consortium model works and partnership working can make a real difference to people's lives. This edition focuses on Patrice Gotting who works as part of NYLC's admin team on the Future Jobs Programme.

Hi Patrice thanks for taking time out from your busy day. How long have you worked for NYLC?

No problem....I've been working since May this year – so I've been part of the team for a couple of months or so.

And what do you do?

I work as Administrative Assistant as part of the support team. I do filing, photocopying and provide other teams with admin support. There's lots to do and the work is really varied. The team is really great, everybody is really friendly and supportive.

Tell me about the recruitment process? Were you nervous...?

I went to the Future Jobs event in Harrogate. I was really nervous but I met with two of the employers who were there. I was offered an interview a couple of weeks later. That made me even more nervous but I had the interview and was successful in getting the post.

What difference does being in work make?

Having a job means that you have a purpose in your life which is really important. It has helped boost my confidence levels, learn new skills and use the skills I already have in a work environment. Working has helped me to be braver and encouraged me to get out more.

What do you hope to be doing in the future?

I don't know what I want to achieve in the future yet. I really hope to continue working with NYLC for the next couple of years and then who knows....

What message would you want to give someone who is finding it difficult to find work?

Keep on trying! I was unemployed for eight months or so and it was really hard to keep optimistic and motivated. I know it's difficult to believe sometimes but things will work out eventually.

Three words to describe your day?
Different, Varied, Positive



Future Jobs Fund

The Consortium have been responsible for running a very successful Future Jobs project in the region with a focus on giving long term unemployed young people the opportunity of paid work experience for six months with a number of different employers.

The scheme is run as part of the Government's 'Young Person's Guarantee' and has proven to be a positive experience for a number of participants.

North Yorkshire Learning Consortium have engaged with over sixty different voluntary sector employers across North Yorkshire and Humber, running eight events across York and North Yorkshire. Two more are planned before the end of the year.

The events are run to provide additional benefits for the young people and employers and are free to attend. The aim of the events is to encourage young people to discover their employability and develop their interview skills. All training is done in a vibrant, interactive way through workshops and group work.

The afternoon session aims to give attendees a chance to meet prospective employers. These sessions are informal and allow employers to find out more about their potential applicants than might have been possible through traditional employment procedures.

So far 98 young people have engaged in the programme with 12 out of the first 19 young people securing permanent jobs through the scheme.

Matthew who got a job through the scheme said ...
'I wouldn't have a chance to do a job like this before'.

The NYLC Future Jobs Fund still has fifty five jobs to allocate to young people in the region. As you may know the new government has reviewed the scheme and is planning on scaling back the programme in 2011.

This is a real disappointment as the scheme has provided great opportunities for significant numbers of young people. Who knows what the future holds - we'll keep you informed of any schemes as they are published.



GlaxoSmithKline Impact Awards

Would you like to receive an award of up to £35,000?

GlaxoSmithKline's IMPACT Award reward charities' excellent work to improve people's health. Up to 20 awards are available plus free training valued at £4000.

The award is open to charities that are at least three years old, working in a health related field in the UK and with an income between £10,000 and £1.5million
To apply go to www.kingsfund.org.uk/gskimpactawards

Closing date 24th September



Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities 2010

NLDC funding aims to support Community Sector organisations in developing their capacity to deliver learning opportunities for the residents of disadvantaged neighbourhoods. NYLC will be managing the next round of NLDC Funding and will be launching the new scheme at the end of August and we'll be promoting the round in the next few weeks.

What does being an Affiliate Member mean...?

"Teamwork is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results." - Andrew Carnegie

York and North Yorkshire is home to a dynamic and vibrant community sector. In 2000 it consisted of at least 3000 organisations providing a vast range of services and opportunities and the sector is estimated to have increased at a rate of 3% a year since then. **North Yorkshire Learning Consortium aims to encourage partnership working - recognising the strengths in working together.** If you are involved in a charity, support project or social enterprise based in North Yorkshire then why not become an Affiliate member?

It is free to register and will open the door to new funding streams and development opportunities.

For more information please get in touch with us - our contact details are on the reverse of this newsletter—or go to our website at www.nylc.co.uk



Congratulations to ORB

Well done to ORB Community Enterprise—one of our delivery partners as they have been named as Mayoral charity for the year by Harrogate District's new mayor—Bill Hault.

ORB aims to help vulnerable individuals to overcome barriers of inclusion, confidence building and personal development. Activities include a range of creative and learning activities such as IT, film stage sound & lighting and music production.

www.orb-arts.org

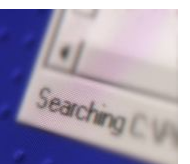
New Trustees Needed...?

This new online resource from NCVO has been designed to help find, recruit, induct and keep Trustees.

It has been developed with small voluntary and community organisations (VCOs) in mind. NCVO recognises that Trustee recruitment can be challenging for small organisations that have limited resources.

For the purposes of this resource 'trustee recruitment' also refers to the recruitment of management committee members, members of the committee, council members, and executive committee members. No matter what title your organisation gives them, this resource is intended to help you recruit new members of the governing body.

Visit www.ncvo-vol.org.uk to access the resources.



Free Software ...!

UK charities can receive a donation of Microsoft software, including Office 2010 and Windows 7, through CTX (subject to eligibility). They are one of a number of major technology companies, including Cisco and Symantec, who use CTX to manage their donation programmes in the UK. To see the full range of donors, available products and how to apply for a donation, go to www.ctxchange.org.