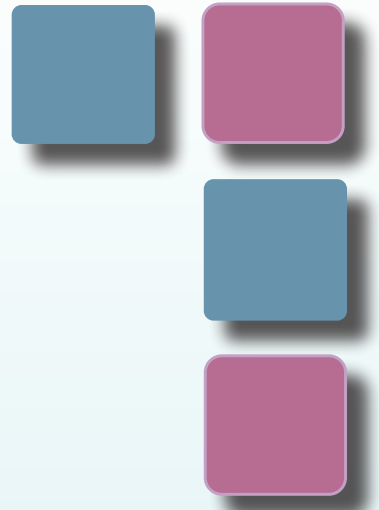
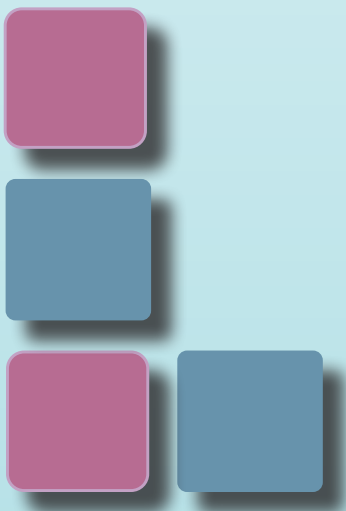




Youth Focus West Midlands

Annual Report
2025-2026





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About YFWM



Youth Focus West Midlands is the non-aligned network lead and support for work with young people in the West Midlands & the lead for the national youth work infrastructure partnership in the West Midlands Region

YFWM was established to build upon the work of the previous West Midlands Regional Youth Work Unit; continuing to work with youth work and related youth professionals, agencies and policy makers to support the development and delivery of high quality youth work opportunities for young people across the West Midlands region.

The aim of YFWM is to encourage, promote and support both individual practitioners and organisations that look to develop and deliver youth work across the West Midlands region.

We believe this approach is an essential element in ensuring that young people are offered personal development experiences regardless of where they live in the West Midlands region. YFWM leads a number of professional networks; bringing together strategic leads and specialists

At the heart of the organisation's role is the development of clear communication routes and networks that complement a consistent understanding and approach to youth work.



Phil Pusey - Chief Executive
Staffordshire Council of Voluntary Services



“For a local youth infrastructure organisation such as Staffordshire Council of Voluntary Youth Services (SCVYS), strong connections at both regional and national levels are essential. Each layer of the youth infrastructure ecosystem brings distinct value, and effective collaboration between us is key to maximising our collective impact supporting frontline organisations and young people”

Chair's Foreword

When considering the past year, it is reassuring to note how busy our organisation has been and how robust our position remains. That busyness must be why this annual report seems to have come around so quickly!

Youth Focus West Midlands (YFWM) has continued to establish itself as the “go to” organisation for national, regional and local organisations that want an informed, skilled and trusted partner to work with them on the crucial recovery of the youth work sector.

Changes in government policy have been welcome but the pace of change has been impacted by competing priorities nationally and internationally that are likely to have distracted political leaders from their stated commitments to supporting young people. However, it was good to see the launch of the new National Youth Strategy after so many years of delay.

We will work with partners at all levels to continue to lobby and raise the profile of the vital agenda that this strategy sets out and press for the action and spending that now needs to follow it. The Strategy states that the Government wants to be held to account on their delivery of it – we must play our part in that by enabling young people and sector partners to communicate their experiences and opinions effectively.

We have continued to adjust and develop our business practices and service offer and to respond with agility to changes that occur. At the end of the financial year we said goodbye to Emma Boundford as an employee of YFWM and welcomed her into a freelance role to continue the valuable part she has played in transforming our business and finance systems and processes over the year.

Emma's work put us in a good position to review our team roles and functions and we decided that the most efficient way forward was to enhance the role of our accountant, Kim Cleminson, and enable her to work with Emma Keenan, Ruth and the Board of Trustees more directly. We look forward to this new way of working.

The Board of Trustees has also spent significant time this year reviewing our governance arrangements, role and purpose. This led to us agreeing to convert the organisation to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and



to further clarify what Infrastructure Support really means for YFWM in our region and beyond.

We have four main work drivers that now comprise our core business:

- Workforce Development
- Youth Voice
- Capacity Building
- Policy, Strategy & Leadership

How this translates into our day-to-day work will be demonstrated in the pages that follow. All of our progress and on-going work is made possible by a very small, but cohesive and effective team led by Ruth, our CEO. The Youth Voice Team is led by Aimee Sharpe and Cal Williams has continued to reshape and strengthen our training centre which is so crucial to the workforce development in the region. Emma Keenan works closely with Ruth and our accountant on our finance and reporting, alongside providing vital support for the Training Centre and the organisation more widely.

My thanks go to all our staff, associates and trustees for a year that has continued to shape and strengthen this organisation. Looking forward, there is every reason for optimism as we continue to work together as a revitalised sector in this region and nationwide.

Paul Finnemore

Chair of Board of Trustees

CEO's Report

Overview

2025- 2026 has been another significant year for YFWM both in terms of contract delivery and organisational development.

The organisation is now in a strong place, but we recognise the fragile nature of funding and policy environments.

DCMS support has been invaluable in helping sustain the core functions of the organisation and consolidating core organisational infrastructure

YFWM has been pleased to support the launch of the National Youth Strategy. The key drivers to support the Strategy are all key areas of delivery for YFWM

- Fragmented to Collaborative
- National to Local
- From Excluded to Empowered

We are now working closely with DCMS and local partners on key areas of focus and development

- Partnership and Sector Support
- Workforce Development
- Youth Empowerment & Democracy
- Youth Accountability.

YFWM has also actively supported the Local Youth Transformation Programme that has been taking place in Stoke on Trent, Shropshire and Birmingham



We are continuing to build on the solid foundations that YFWM now have in place in order that YFWM sustains the capacity to provide key infrastructure support for the youth work sector across the region.

What remains important is our primary focus on the needs of young people, who continue to tell us they want safe spaces in local communities along with trusted adults, and I think it goes beyond just particular safe spaces for young people; I believe it's about safe communities for young people to grow up in.

Youth work and youth workers are not the only answer, but as a profession that moulds services around young people's needs and other provision, they are a significant part of the picture. As always, we face these challenges with commitment, as facilitators, negotiators and above all passionate advocates for the young people who are our future: I look forward to continuing to work with our national partners and the youth work sector across the region to ensure that youth work is recognised, understood, and effectively financed.

At national strategic level, working as a member of the Network of Regional Youth Work Units has also been invaluable in helping grow our work nationally and in raising the profile of the importance of regional infrastructure to the youth work landscape. As a national network we are exploring with DCMS how this work and its legacy could be continued and developed moving forwards.

Kayleigh Wainwright - DCMS
Senior Leader | Public Policy, Programmes & Stakeholder Engagement

“One of the things I’ve been doing on secondment at Department for Culture, Media and Sport is to open up more connections and collaborative working between Government and the youth sector. I truly believe that relational practise supports better outcomes (must be the youth worker in me!!)



The Regional Youth Work Units provide vital support for local youth organisations including workforce development, leadership and opportunities for young people.

They are a core part of the youth sector infrastructure landscape”.

*You can see more info here;
<https://lnkd.in/e-gpi48c>*

Workstreams

Workforce Development

Training Centre Achievements

YFWM has been an Accredited Training Centre for 8 years delivering both level 2 and 3 accredited qualifications in youth work and we have built a strong reputation, recognised by the awarding body as delivering a quality service as confirmed by feedback from our EQA at Skills Education Group.

The Training Centre has registered and supported 57 learners at level 2 and 5 at level 3

Bursary Management

The organisation has successfully delivered the management of the training bursaries programme for the last six years and look forward to a further 12 months of managing this programme delivered in partnership with the NYA

The allocation target for bursary numbers was 49 places: The YFWM Training Centre allocated 60

Training Centre Development

The 'Learner Journey' for workers setting out on the youth work pathway varies greatly with the shifting landscape that youth work has navigated in recent years; bringing challenges that impact on course design, assessment methods and individual support needs. The challenge of encouraging learner success and course completions without compromising professional standards means that reflection and adaptation is a living commitment for the YFWM trainer / assessor team. Through regular professional discussion and dedicated team away days the materials and approaches for both course content and assessment are modified and adapted to accommodate differences in learner access to appropriate developmental youth work experiences, and also to minimise 'academic' obstacles facing 'returners to learning'.

Following the initial move to 'bite sized worksheets and the Google Classroom, experience over time has led to a second redesign and restructure, one which combines a more thematic approach to group sessions and portfolio building with clearer guidance, additional theme based resources and a shift from a reliance on academic answers towards 'demonstrating understanding' through evaluating their own reflective practice, and sharing their experience of developmental youth work relationships and programmes.

These extensive changes and development over the past twelve months mean that the YFWM Training Centre offer is now focused, robust and in the strongest position to both lead and support workforce development and capacity building across the region. 7

IQA Support

YFWM also provides IQA support to five other centres nationally, helping them embed strong standards for delivery and achievement outcomes for learners.

We have registered and provided IQA for 87 learners at level 2 and 8 at level 3



Abi Bush - Independent Trainer / Assessor

"The IQA process has been incredibly robust and has given me confidence in my assessment practice. I always feel well supported through the constructive feedback I receive, which helps me continually develop as an assessor. There is open and honest communication within the team, making it easy to discuss challenging assessment decisions and ask questions whenever I'm unsure. I feel safe to raise concerns, knowing they will be listened to and responded to in a supportive way. As a result, I continue to grow professionally while maintaining confidence in my decisions. Most importantly, the IQA process consistently reinforces that our role is to uphold the standards of youth work and ensure young people receive the highest quality learning and support through fair, consistent assessment."

Partnerships & Capacity Building

We are pleased to have been able to extend our capacity building programme working with Shropshire who now have 3 trainer/assessors who are gaining their assessor qualification and are now in a position to deliver the level 2 award.

Our current pool of trainer/assessors have also worked with us to support delivery of the level 2 award in Stoke on Trent



Leisa Taylor
Associate Trainer / Assessor

"It's been a real pleasure to work with YFWM over this last year. I was supported to achieve a Level 3 Assessors Certificate which has had a great impact on my CPD and my confidence to come back to youth work training and assessing. Ruth, Cal & the team are clearly passionate and knowledgeable about youth work principles and practice. It's been a great honour to be warmly welcomed into a team of professionals who are dedicated to training youth workers to a high standard which ultimately is of benefit to young people across the West Midlands and beyond."

YFWM remains as the accredited centre providing registration, administration and quality assurance for all courses.

Professional Pathways

We are now working with strategic leads on the development of Workforce development strategies and the development of Trusted Adult Training.

This work aligns well with the National Youth Strategy - Youth Matters, and links to the NYA led review of the qualification framework, which looks at the youth work pathway spanning levels 1 - 6, with entry and exit points all the way through thus aiming to increase the opportunities for qualification at all levels.

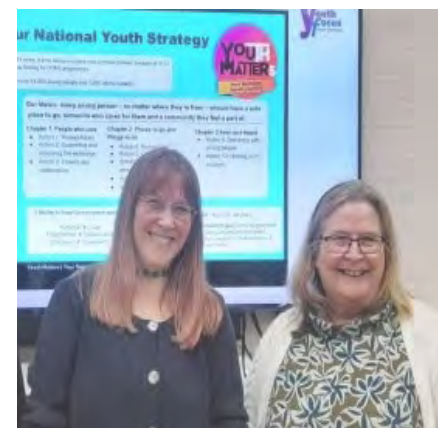
There has also been development of the level 3 and 6 degree apprenticeship routes, with a number of Local Authority areas now employing apprentices at both levels 3 and 6

We are working with the NYA through engagement in the Education & Training Standards Committee to look at how all of this can best be supported.

Through our working relationship with the national awarding body SEG (Skills and Education Group) we remain well informed about their engagement in national consultation and we are also able offer professional perspectives and feedback.

Local Youth Partnerships & Youth Offer

Staffordshire, Solihull, Birmingham, Shropshire, Stoke, Warwickshire and Coventry have all developed or in the process of developing local youth partnerships which provide vital infrastructure support for the development and delivery of the Local Youth Offer.



Ali Wood - Chair
YO Solihull

"YFWM are great to have as a support mechanism for YO Solihull as a 'newish' partnership network. Being able to come to regional meetings and get up to date national information as well as listen to others sharing their experiences and procedures is always really helpful and makes us feel more informed and less isolated."

Ruth also joined and spoke at one of our network meetings earlier this year about the National Youth Strategy which was really insightful for some of our members who rely on us to make sense of wider goings-on as they are so occupied with day to day delivery."

Ruth has also responded to email queries from me and signposted me to where I need to go. All very useful and supportive!"

Strategic Youth Leads

The Strategic Youth Leads Network brings together key leads from across the region to look at a range of issues including; policy into practice, horizon scanning, sharing management and practice perspectives and local developments.



**Helena Williams - Youth Support Manager
Shropshire Council**

‘One of the greatest strengths of the Regional Strategic Youth Leads Group is its ability to bring together strategic leaders from both local authorities and the VCSE sector. This has created a genuinely collaborative forum where different perspectives, expertise and experiences can inform regional thinking. By sharing innovation, tackling common challenges and supporting one another, the group is helping to strengthen youth work across the region and ensuring that national reforms are translated into meaningful local action for young people and communities’

Feedback from members of the network has been extremely positive with colleagues welcoming the opportunity to come together and share information, intelligence and learning.

The network now covers all 14 of the local authority areas across the region.

“Through engagement in the regional strategic leads’ network, SCVYS remains well positioned to anticipate national policy developments and respond alongside peers to emerging local opportunities and challenges.

Our connection to Youth Focus West Midlands (YFWM) also enhances the experiences of young people involved in our programmes, enabling them to participate in regional initiatives that elevate and amplify their voices with decision-makers.

Phil Pusey - Chief Executive SCVYS

Youth Voice

Youth Focus West Midlands has continued to strengthen youth voice across both the East and West Midlands, providing strategic leadership, regional coordination and direct support to young people, local authorities and partner organisations. Through our work as the regional delivery partner for the UK Youth Parliament (UKYP), alongside wider youth voice activity, we have continued to ensure that young people are not only represented within decision-making but are actively influencing local, regional and national policy.

Throughout 2025/26 our work has focused on creating meaningful opportunities for young people to develop as leaders, strengthening regional partnerships, supporting local democratic engagement and ensuring that youth voice remains embedded within wider policy discussions. Despite significant uncertainty surrounding the future of the UK Youth Parliament programme during much of the year, the Midlands has continued to demonstrate a strong commitment to participation, collaboration and youth-led decision making.

Youth Parliament & Regional Youth Engagement

Youth Focus West Midlands continues to coordinate and support the UK Youth Parliament programme across both the East and West Midlands, working alongside local authorities, youth organisations and the National Youth Agency to ensure consistent, high-quality delivery across the region.

Throughout the year we have supported local authorities with elections, inductions, campaign development and ongoing support for Members of Youth Parliament (MYPs). Regional meetings have provided opportunities for young people to build relationships across authority boundaries, share local priorities and develop the knowledge and confidence required to influence decision makers.

This year also marked an important period of transition for the programme. Following confirmation of an additional year of Government funding, YFWM worked closely with partners across the region to support local elections, manage programme transitions and ensure continuity for young people despite national uncertainty. The overwhelming majority of local authorities continued to deliver elections, demonstrating the strength of regional partnership working and a shared commitment to democratic youth participation.

Alongside supporting young people, YFWM has continued to convene regional youth voice workers, providing opportunities to share good practice, discuss emerging challenges and strengthen collaboration between local authorities. These networks continue to play an important role in improving consistency, reducing duplication and strengthening youth voice across the Midlands.

Developing Young Leaders

Throughout the year, young people have participated in a wide range of regional engagement opportunities designed to develop leadership, confidence and democratic understanding.

Regional meetings combined team building, policy discussion, campaign planning and leadership development, creating opportunities for young people to explore the issues affecting their communities whilst learning from one another. Young people were encouraged to lead discussions, present ideas and shape future priorities, helping to build confidence in public speaking, critical thinking and collaborative working.

Creative approaches to engagement continued to encourage participation from young people with different experiences and communication styles, ensuring that regional activity remained inclusive and accessible. By placing young people at the centre of planning and delivery, participants increasingly viewed themselves not simply as representatives, but as leaders capable of influencing change within their communities.

West Midlands Combined Authority Area

The WMCA Area has had three strategic youth voice groups over the last few years covering the West Midlands Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Violence Reduction Partnership and the WMCA itself. YFWM is now working with these key stakeholders to develop a more joined up approach to Youth Voice across the WMCA area.

Two regional youth voice development days have now been held and young people are now starting to shape the regional agenda for Young Leaders

National Youth Strategy

Alongside delivery of the UK Youth Parliament programme, Youth Focus West Midlands played a significant role in supporting young people's involvement in the development of the Government's National Youth Strategy.

Working alongside local authorities, youth organisations and national partners, YFWM supported engagement activity across the Midlands that enabled young people from diverse backgrounds to contribute their views, experiences and priorities to the national consultation. This work ensured that the voices of young people from across the region helped shape one of the most significant developments in youth policy for many years.

The publication of the National Youth Strategy demonstrated how local youth voice can influence national policy. YFWM also supported young people's attendance at national strategy events, reinforcing the connection between local participation and national decision making whilst ensuring Midlands voices continued to be represented throughout the process.

Annual Conference & House of Commons

The UK Youth Parliament Annual Conference and House of Commons Sitting remain highlights of the democratic calendar for Members of Youth Parliament.

Throughout the year YFWM supported young people to prepare for these national opportunities through regional workshops, debate preparation and policy development sessions. Young people explored the national manifesto themes, developed evidence-based arguments and strengthened their understanding of parliamentary processes before participating in national training delivered by the National Youth Agency.



Eighteen Members of Youth Parliament from across the Midlands attended the House of Commons Sitting, contributing confidently to debates on issues affecting young people across the United Kingdom. For many participants this represented the culmination of months of campaigning and preparation, providing a unique opportunity to represent the experiences of young people from their local communities within one of the country's most recognised democratic institutions.

Campaigns and Youth Influence

Campaign activity throughout the year has remained firmly youth led.

Young people have explored issues including mental health, education, transport, poverty, crime, housing, employment, youth work and environmental sustainability, ensuring that campaign priorities reflected the lived experiences of young people across the Midlands. Regional meetings provided opportunities to review existing campaigns, develop new ideas and strengthen evidence that could influence both local and national decision makers.

A continued focus has been helping young people understand how local concerns connect with regional and national policy. By supporting campaign development through discussion, research and democratic decision making, YFWM has enabled young people to move beyond raising awareness and towards influencing policy and practice.

Supporting Programme Development

Alongside delivery, YFWM has continued to contribute strategically to the ongoing development of the UK Youth Parliament programme.

This has included supporting the implementation of the newly established Steering Group, contributing to programme development discussions with the National Youth Agency and supporting the creation of improved guidance and resources for both young people and delivery partners. Throughout the year there has been a continued focus on strengthening governance, improving consistency across regions and ensuring that the programme remains youth led.

The year has also provided an opportunity to review regional delivery models, refine induction processes and strengthen support available to both young people and local authority partners. These developments will provide a strong foundation as the programme enters its next phase.

Youth Voice - Looking Forward

Whilst 2025/26 has been characterised by change and uncertainty, it has also demonstrated the resilience of both young people and partner organisations across the Midlands.

The continuation of the UK Youth Parliament programme provides an opportunity to build upon the strong relationships, regional networks and youth leadership established during the past year. With a newly elected cohort of Members of Youth Parliament, the introduction of the Steering Group and the implementation of refreshed guidance and regional delivery models, Youth Focus West Midlands is well placed to continue strengthening youth voice across the region.

As we move into 2026/27, our focus will remain on ensuring that young people have meaningful opportunities to influence the decisions affecting their lives, whilst continuing to strengthen partnerships, support local authorities and champion the value of youth voice at every level of decision making.

CEO - Strategic Reflection & Direction

The work of YFWM has been extensive this year and all of this in the context of the roll out of “Youth Matters” and all that it has brought with it: a national strategy, recognition and support for the youth sector, a number of significant funding streams and a stronger place for youth work and young people nationally.

A significant year for the sector.

I am delighted to be able to lead this small but impactful organisation and to work with a team of highly committed, passionate and enthusiastic individuals who make all of this possible.

Thanks to our funders for their ongoing support, the trustees for their time, energy and commitment to help steer the ship and keep us on course, our national partners for the opportunities for collaboration, our strategic youth leads for managing, developing and delivering strong local infrastructure and high quality opportunities for young people and last but definitely not least the amazing young people we work with that help keep our feet on the ground, remind us of what's important and for bringing their passion, energy and commitment to help ensure we continue to listen and act on building and creating the very best services and opportunities across the West Midlands.

I look forward to another year of growing and building the work of YFWM along with all those involved in working with us to support continued improvement and growth in services and opportunities for young people.

Ruth Rickman-Williams
Chief Executive Officer

“YFWM continues to play a vital role in strengthening regional collaboration, and as an example, we were delighted to be invited to contribute to the National Youth Strategy regional roadshow, where we shared elements of our work.

This led to a range of follow-up discussions with colleagues across the region, reflecting growing interest in our approach.”



Phil Pusey - Chief Executive - SCVYS

“Another year has passed in which BAYC has benefited immensely from its strong and successful partnership with Youth Focus West Midlands”

As part of our role within YFWM as the Birmingham youth work training arm, we piloted the new version of the Level 2 Youth Work course this year. The updated course moved away from Google Classroom and introduced the use of Google



Docs. Youth Focus West Midlands guided us throughout the process and provided valuable support in delivering the first cohort of this new version.

We have also benefited greatly from the quarterly Strategic Youth Work Leads meetings. These meetings provide an important opportunity to hear about the experiences of other organisations and local authorities, share our own learning, and discuss concerns, challenges and opportunities across the sector.

Through our work with the Birmingham Youth Partnership, Youth Focus West Midlands was not only an initial catalyst for opportunities involving the YPF Trust, but has also continued to provide valuable advice, support and access to wider networks. This has helped us remain connected across the West Midlands and has provided the guidance needed to navigate some challenging situations.

The relationship between Youth Focus West Midlands and BAYC continues to be as strong as ever, and we hope that this partnership will continue to benefit both organisations in the years ahead.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone at Youth Focus West Midlands for all their help and support throughout the year. We greatly value the partnership and look forward to continuing our work together over the coming year".



STAFF / WORKSTREAM LEADS:

Ruth Rickman-Williams
Chief Executive Officer
ruth@yfwm.org.uk

Emma Keenan
Training & Finance Administrator
emma@yfwm.org.uk

Cal Williams
Training Centre Coordinator
cal@yfwm.org.uk

Aimee Sharpe
Youth Voice Network Lead
aimee@yfwm.org.uk

Emma Boundford
Business Support
emmab@yfwm.org.uk

TRUSTEES:

Paul Finnemore

Kerry Barnes

Amanda Groves

John Boagey

Simon Gillings

ASSOCIATES:

Ed Wright
Lead Trainer / Assessor

Bradley Edmunds
Lead Trainer / Assessor

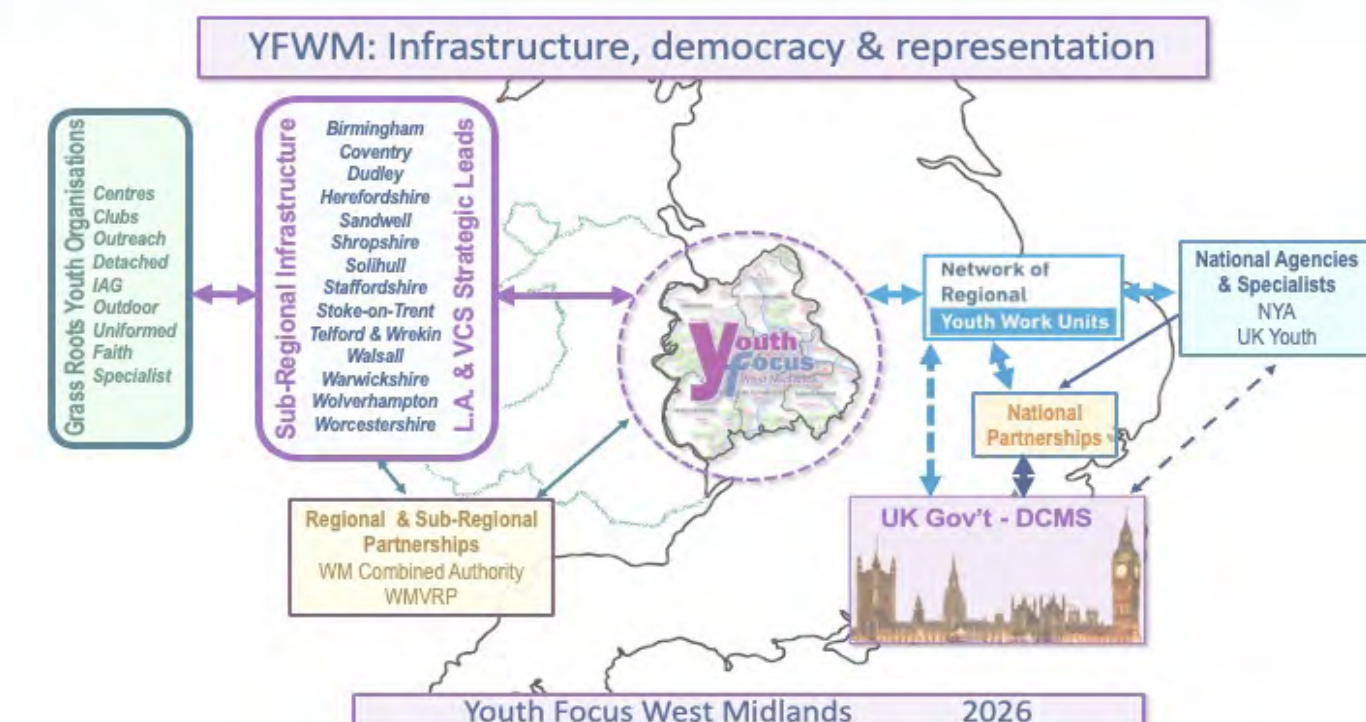
Leisa Taylor
Lead Trainer / Assessor

REGISTERED OFFICE:

32 Ombersley Street West
Droitwich

WR9 8QZ

www.yfwm.org.uk



YFWM is...

- The representative network lead and support for quality work with young people in the West Midlands.
- The regional hub for the National Youth Work Infrastructure Network*

YFWM was founded upon the work of the West Midlands Regional Youth Work Unit continuing decades of work with a wide range of public and voluntary sector youth workers and related professionals, agencies and policy makers. YFWM continues to operate as the infrastructure catalyst, conduit and support for the development and delivery of high-quality development opportunities for young people across the West Midlands Region.

- Supporting and advocating for high-quality work with young people
- Supporting strategic networks and infrastructure
- Building capacity for training & workforce development
- Facilitating youth voice & linking local to national youth engagement
- Facilitating stakeholder collaboration and the development of common language and outcomes / metrics.

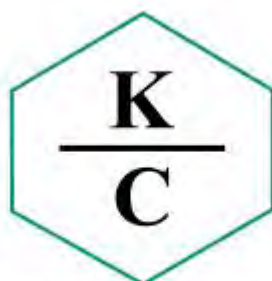
* Network of Regional Youth Work Units

Charity# 1148687

Company# 8114745



**YOUTH FOCUS WEST MIDLANDS
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026**



ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES

Youth Focus West Midlands Contents

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Comparative Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)	6
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Notes to the Financial Statements	8—12
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Detailed Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)	13

Youth Focus West Midlands
Company No. 0 114745
Trustees' Report For The Year Ended 31 March 2026

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Objectives and Activities

Aims and Objectives

YFWM Aim
To Support Quality Work with Young People

Objectives
To:
Connect the youth sector
Influence policy and practice
Support collaboration across the youth sector
Promote quality, standards and impact
Amplify youth voice
Support workforce development

Public Benefit

YFWM was established to build upon the work of the previous West Midlands Regional Youth Work Unit; continuing to work with youth work and related youth professionals, agencies and policy makers to support the development and delivery of high quality youth work opportunities for young people across the West Midlands region.

The aim of YFWM is to encourage, promote and support both individual practitioners and organisations that look to develop and deliver youth work across the West Midlands region.

At the heart of the organisation's role is the development of clear communication routes and networks that complement a consistent understanding and approach to youth work

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees

Kerry Barnes
Mr Jon Boagey
Mr Paul Finnemore
Mr Simon Gillings
Ms Amanda Grove

Other Personnel

Ruth Rickman-Williams - CEO
Emma Keenan - Training and Finance Administrator
Emma Boundford - Business Support

Charity Number

1148687

Company Number

08114745

Registered Office

32 Ombersley Street West
Droitwich
WR9 8QZ

**Youth Focus West Midlands
Trustees' Report (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2026**

Independent Examiner

KC Accountancy Services FMAAT
KC Accountancy Services
FMAAT

**Youth Focus West Midlands
Trustees' Report (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2026**

Small Company Rules

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' report was approved by the board of trustees and signed on its behalf by:

Mr Paul Finnemore

Trustee

22/9/2026

Youth Focus West Midlands
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Youth Focus West Midlands
For The Year Ended 31 March 2026

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

KC Accountancy Services FMAAT

22/9/2026

Youth Focus West Midlands
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2026

			2026	2025
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:				
Charitable activities:				
Charitable activities		128,447	24,418	152,865
Investments	3	2,755	-	2,755
		131,202	24,418	155,620
EXPENDITURE ON:				
Raising funds	5	-	-	-
Charitable activities:	5			
Charitable activities		(102,824)	(55,178)	(158,002)
		(102,824)	(55,178)	(158,002)
NET EXPENDITURE		28,378	(30,760)	(2,382)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		28,378	(30,760)	(2,382)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:				
Total funds brought forward		134,307	67,427	201,734
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	14	162,685	36,667	199,352

The notes on pages 8 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

Youth Focus West Midlands
Comparative Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2026

		2025		
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:				
Charitable activities:				
Charitable activities		90,585	47,667	138,252
Investments	3	2,926	-	2,926
		<u>93,511</u>	<u>47,667</u>	<u>141,178</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:				
Raising funds	5	(2)	-	(2)
Charitable activities:	5			
Charitable activities		(81,648)	(64,477)	(146,125)
		<u>(81,650)</u>	<u>(64,477)</u>	<u>(146,127)</u>
NET EXPENDITURE		<u>11,861</u>	<u>(16,810)</u>	<u>(4,949)</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>11,861</u>	<u>(16,810)</u>	<u>(4,949)</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:				
Total funds brought forward		122,446	84,237	206,683
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	14	<u><u>134,307</u></u>	<u><u>67,427</u></u>	<u><u>201,734</u></u>

The notes on pages 8 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

**Youth Focus West Midlands
Balance Sheet
As At 31 March 2026**

				2026	2025
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	10	3,249	-	3,249	2,815
		3,249	-	3,249	2,815
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	11	53,206	-	53,206	22,190
Cash at bank and in hand		144,065	36,667	180,732	199,683
		197,271	36,667	233,938	221,873
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	12	(37,835)	-	(37,835)	(22,954)
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)		159,436	36,667	196,103	198,919
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		162,685	36,667	199,352	201,734
NET ASSETS		162,685	36,667	199,352	201,734
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Restricted Funds				36,667	67,427
Unrestricted Funds				162,685	134,307
TOTAL FUNDS	14			199,352	201,734

For the year ending 31 March 2026 the charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

On behalf of the board

Mr Paul Finnemore
Trustee
22/9/2026

The notes on pages 8 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

Youth Focus West Midlands

Notes to the Financial Statements

For The Year Ended 31 March 2026

1. General Information

Youth Focus West Midlands is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England & Wales, registered number 08114745 and registered charity number 1148687. The registered office is 32 Ombersley Street West, Droitwich, WR9 8QZ.

2. Accounting Policies

2.1. Basis of Preparation of Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)", Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Companies Act 2006.

The charitable company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

2.2. Incoming Resources

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Grants and donations are recognised when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the funds. Where a grant is subject to performance conditions or terms which must be met before entitlement arises, income is deferred and recognised as those conditions are fulfilled. Grants received for specific purposes are accounted for as restricted funds and any unexpended balances are carried forward in those funds at the year end.

Income from charitable activities, including the provision of services under contract, training and related fees, is recognised as the related services are performed. Amounts received in advance of the delivery of services are deferred until the charity becomes entitled to them.

Government grants are recognised on the same basis as other grant income, when there is entitlement, receipt is probable and the amount can be measured reliably.

Investment income comprises bank interest and is recognised on a receivable basis.

The value of services provided by volunteers is not incorporated into these financial statements.

2.3. Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of the fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Computer Equipment	10% Reducing Balance
--------------------	----------------------

2.4. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are basic financial assets and include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and are readily convertible to a known amount of cash with insignificant risk of change in value, and bank overdrafts.

3. Investment Income

	2026	2025
	Unrestricted	Unrestricted
	funds	funds
	£	£
Bank interest receivable	2,755	2,926

Youth Focus West Midlands
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2026

4. Net Income (Expenditure)

The net expenditure is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2026	2025
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets - owned	361	313

5. Analysis of Expenditure

	2026
	£
Activities undertaken directly	Support costs (see note 6)
£	£
Charitable activities	158,002

	2025
	£
Activities undertaken directly	Support costs (see note 6)
£	£
Raising funds	2
Charitable activities	146,125
	146,127

6. Support Costs

	2026
	Charitable activities
	£
Employee costs	55,632
General administration	6,868
Depreciation	361
Interest payable	25
	62,886

	2025
	£
Raising funds	Charitable activities
£	£
Employee costs	53,441
General administration	7,234
Depreciation	313
Interest payable	60
	61,050

Youth Focus West Midlands
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2026

7. Independent Examiner's Remuneration

	2026	2025
	£	£
Independent examination of the financial statements	1,500	1,260

8. Staff Costs

Staff costs were as follows:

	2026	2025
	£	£
Wages and salaries	50,021	49,128
Other pension costs	883	1,063
	<u>50,904</u>	<u>50,191</u>

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000.

9. Average Number of Employees

Average number of employees during the year was: 3 (2025: 3)

10. Tangible Assets

	Computer Equipment £
Cost	
As at 1 April 2025	3,475
Additions	795
As at 31 March 2026	<u>4,270</u>
Depreciation	
As at 1 April 2025	660
Provided during the period	361
As at 31 March 2026	<u>1,021</u>
Net Book Value	
As at 31 March 2026	<u>3,249</u>
As at 1 April 2025	<u>2,815</u>

11. Debtors

	2026	2025
	£	£
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	52,781	21,723
Other debtors	425	467
	<u>53,206</u>	<u>22,190</u>

Youth Focus West Midlands
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2026

12. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	2026	2025
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	115
Other creditors	-	183
Taxation and social security	157	376
Accruals and deferred income	37,678	22,280
	<u>37,835</u>	<u>22,954</u>

13. Pension Commitments

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund.

During the year the charge to the statement of financial activities in respect of defined contribution schemes was £883 (2025: £1,063).

At the balance sheet date contributions of £NIL were due to the fund and are included in creditors.

14. Movement in Funds

	As at 1 April 2025	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	As at 31 March 2026
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General:					
General unrestricted fund	134,307	131,202	(102,824)	(5,058)	157,627
Designated:					
Redundancy monies	-	-	-	5,058	5,058
Total unrestricted funds	<u>134,307</u>	<u>131,202</u>	<u>(102,824)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>162,685</u>
Restricted funds					
NYA Bursary Round 5	19,760	-	(7,728)	-	12,032
NYA - Bursary Round 6	47,667	24,418	(47,450)	-	24,635
Total restricted funds	<u>67,427</u>	<u>24,418</u>	<u>(55,178)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,667</u>
Total funds	<u>201,734</u>	<u>155,620</u>	<u>(158,002)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>199,352</u>

	As at 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	As at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General:				
General unrestricted fund	122,446	93,511	(81,650)	134,307
Restricted funds				
NYA Bursary Round 4	11,481	-	(11,481)	-
NYA Bursary Round 5	66,577	-	(46,817)	19,760
NYA - Bursary Round 6	-	47,667	-	47,667

...CONTINUED

Youth Focus West Midlands
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2026

Awards for All	6,179	-	(6,179)	-
Total restricted funds	<u>84,237</u>	<u>47,667</u>	<u>(64,477)</u>	<u>67,427</u>
Total funds	<u>206,683</u>	<u>141,178</u>	<u>(146,127)</u>	<u>201,734</u>

15. Transactions with Trustees

During the year the expenses reimbursed to the trustees or paid directly to third parties were as follows:

2026	2025
£	£

16. Related Party Disclosures

Cal Williams

Spouse of employee Ruth Rickman-Williams

Payment to Cal for services provided to the charity - £12,239.40

17. Company limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company, in the event of a winding up, such an amount as may be required not exceeding £1.

Youth Focus West Midlands
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For The Year Ended 31 March 2026

	2026	2025
	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:		
Charitable Activities:		
Charitable activities		
Income from charitable activities	152,865	30,025
Provision of services under contract	-	14,600
Grants	-	20,000
Government Grants	-	73,627
	<u>152,865</u>	<u>138,252</u>
Investments		
Bank interest receivable	2,755	2,926
	<u>2,755</u>	<u>2,926</u>
	<u>155,620</u>	<u>141,178</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:		
Raising funds		
Sundry expenses	-	(2)
	<u>-</u>	<u>(2)</u>
Charitable Activities:		
Charitable activities		
Materials	(54,760)	(44,183)
Subcontractor costs	(32,506)	(16,550)
Other direct costs	(7,850)	(24,344)
Wages and salaries	(50,021)	(49,128)
Employers pensions - defined contributions scheme	(883)	(1,063)
Travel and subsistence expenses	(4,728)	(3,250)
Computer and IT consumables	(2,653)	(1,934)
Insurance	(771)	(737)
Printing, postage and stationery	(854)	(208)
Advertising and marketing costs	(496)	(229)
Telecommunications	(120)	(107)
Independent examiner's fees	(1,500)	(1,260)
Accountancy fees	(216)	(1,492)
Consultancy fees	-	(620)
Sundry expenses	(258)	(647)
Depreciation of computer equipment	(361)	(313)
Bank charges	(20)	(60)
Late payment tax charges	(5)	-
	<u>(158,002)</u>	<u>(146,125)</u>
	<u>(158,002)</u>	<u>(146,127)</u>
NET EXPENDITURE	<u>(2,382)</u>	<u>(4,949)</u>

