



VIY hit the treble with Community Renewal Fund

We are delighted to announce we have received significant funding to deliver multiple local community projects in partnership with three local authorities (Nottingham, Nottinghamshire and Norfolk), thanks to the Community Renewal Fund.

The £220million national fund is designed to help pilot programmes and new approaches in local communities, to invest in people and boost skills. This is exactly what we do day in, day out, so we couldn't be better placed to deliver this for the local communities we'll be working with.

We're thrilled to be chosen as one of four projects working with [Nottinghamshire County Council](#) across communities in North Notts, aiming to help more local people back into work and to support businesses following the pandemic.

For Nottingham City Council, we're again one of four projects improving skills, boosting employment and helping businesses to grow across the city.

Finally, we'll be working across Norfolk County Council as one of 14 projects across the area, focused on building skills and fostering innovation.

All works are subject to final contracts.

Across all of our projects with the Community Renewal Fund, we'll be supporting over 1000 young people at risk of marginalisation who'll be volunteering with local trade mentors, learning and applying vocational construction skills whilst breathing life back into buildings at the heart of communities in Nottingham/Nottinghamshire and Norfolk.

As an official [City & Guilds](#) skills centre, whilst volunteering on our projects our young volunteers will also be given the opportunity to earn City & Guilds trade skill accreditations with us, along with dedicated support to help them to progress into further education, training or employment.

Tim Reading, CEO of VIY, commented on the announcement: *"We're delighted to see young people, skills and employability outcomes recognised across this fund for all three councils, three things at the heart of our VIY mission, and we're delighted to be one of four projects*



delivering further on these priorities, working directly with young people and communities in Nottingham.”

We're incredibly grateful to our growing [team](#) who have helped us reach this point, and who are continuing to work tirelessly to make this happen.

If you'd like to find out more about volunteering your time with us on our upcoming projects in the Nottingham/Nottinghamshire or Norfolk areas, as an experienced tradesperson with skills and knowledge to pass on to the next generation, please contact us [here](#).

About Volunteer It Yourself

Volunteer It Yourself combines DIY and volunteering by challenging young people aged 14-24 to help repair and refurbish youth and community facilities, whilst learning vocational trade skills on the job. We also deliver 'early intervention' construction sector employability skills and careers training for 10-14 year olds in schools.

VIY participants are mentored by local professional tradespeople and can work towards and gain Entry Level City & Guilds trade skills accreditations, and the majority of young people who take part are disengaged or excluded (or at risk of disengagement/exclusion) from mainstream education and training, and/or unemployed.

Since 2011, nearly 12,000 young people have volunteered at 600+ VIY projects UK-wide, supported by 1,000+ trade skills mentors. Outcomes include 40% of all participants achieving the Entry Level 3 City & Guilds skills qualification and 30% of NEET participants aged 16+ progressing to further training or employment. 65% of participants also report increased confidence levels across seven key personal skills linked to employability.