

RESPONSE PROVIDED

East Midlands Combined County Authority
Northern Gateway Enterprise Centre
Saltergate
Chesterfield
S40 1UT

10/07/2025

Freedom of Information Request – Ref: FOI 64

When and where were Expressions Of Interest requests published for EMCCA's Youth Guarantee Trailblazer (YGT)?

The Expression of Interest request was published around the 7th of March 2025 via EMCCA social media channels and partner newsletter.

How many organisations applied for a grant?

47 organisations expressed their interest before the advertised closing date. Of these there were single and joint EOIs made by organisations. Some organisations were part of joint EOIs as well as submitting separate single EOIs on behalf of their organisations. In responding to this question, we have counted such organisations once.

How many organisations were successful in securing a grant?

17 organisations were successful in securing a grant. Of which 6 organisations are acting as the Lead Partners- receiving the grant funding directly from EMCCA to disseminate as subgrants to their delivery partners, acting as lead point of contact for EMCCA, and leading on reporting.

Please name the organisations who were successful and the size of the grant that they secured.

Lead Partners

- 1. Derby City Council - £785,000**
- 2. Derbyshire County Council - £126,928**
- 3. Nottingham City Council - £490,000**
- 4. Chesterfield College - £900,000**
- 5. Nottingham College - £900,00**
- 6. West Nottinghamshire College - £515,000**

Delivery Partners as of 25th June 2024

- 1. ATTFE**
- 2. Futures**
- 3. Inspire (Learning)**
- 4. Inspire and Achieve**
- 5. NHS Nottingham & Nottinghamshire ICB**
- 6. Newark College**
- 7. Portland College**
- 8. RNN Group**

9. YMCA
10. Burton and South Derbyshire College
11. Derby College
12. T2

EMCCA have provided grant funding to partner organisations, who may in turn have issued sub-grants to other entities to support elements and delivery of their projects. These sub-granting arrangements may not be fully known to us at this time.

Please state the deliverables related to YGT grants, namely, what did grant recipients have to do to secure the full financial value of their grant?

Recipients of the EMCCA YGT grant set out the number of young people/ staff/ employers that they plan to support with their proposed YGT plans, the support that would be offered, the cost and the outcomes that they aimed to achieve. The outcomes included (but not limited to): numbers of teaching and support staff receiving specialist mental health training, numbers of young people receiving holistic support (Counselling, coaching, mentoring), numbers engaged in work experience, employment opportunities, training, numbers of young people supported with practical support to overcome barriers to EET.

As stated in the Get Britain Working White Paper, the YGT Programmes are test and learns. EMCCA is working with the grant recipients to deliver their proposed plan to test their impact on the aimed outcomes. Grant recipients will need to address any risks or issues that impact their delivery and are expected to work with EMCCA in ensuring the delivery is in line with the plan that has been agreed. Grant recipients will be remunerated in arrears for actual expenditure incurred that meet the criteria for eligible expenditure.

Please state the payment structure relating to outcomes (such as starts, completions, progressions, etc).

All grants are paid on a fixed grant profile on a quarterly basis based on an actual expenditure incurred.

What efforts were made to ensure fair competition to provide services to young people in the region wasn't distorted, restricted or prevented?

The expression of interest request was publicly available for organisations to respond to. This was published on the EMCCA LinkedIn page as well as the "The Mayor's Newsletter" update. The activities for which the grants are made are not deemed to be economic activity for the purposes of subsidy control, so we do not consider that fair competition was impeded through this process.

How did EMCCA ensure compliance with the UK Subsidy Control Act and Subsidy Exemption Regime?

EMCCA undertook a review of the applicability of the Subsidy Control Regime pursuant to the Procurement Act 2023 by assessing the project against the following questions:

1. Is the financial assistance given, directly or indirectly, from public resources by a public authority?
2. Does the financial assistance confer an economic advantage on one or more enterprises?

3. Is the financial assistance specific? That is, has the economic advantage been provided to one (or more than one) enterprise, but not to others?

4. Will the financial assistance have, or is it capable of having, an effect on competition or investment within the UK, or trade or investment between the UK and another country or territory?

In the circumstances it was determined that the project does not involve a subsidy as the provision of the funding pursuant to the project to Local Authorities and the Education Institutions is not economic activity for the purposes of the Procurement Act 2023

Were any grants issued to individual organisations of a value in excess of £315,000 over three years?

Yes for the following partners:

Derby City Council

Nottingham City Council

Nottingham College

Chesterfield College

West Nottinghamshire College

If so, did EMCCA secure clearance with Cabinet Office prior to making these grants?

No - only State Aid must be cleared with the Cabinet Office, these grants were not subsidies.

I hope this satisfies your request.

If you are dissatisfied with this decision, you may write to request an internal review. The internal review will be carried out by someone who did not make the original decision, and they will re-assess how the Department handled the original request.

If you wish to request an internal review, please write or send an email to the Information Governance Team within two months of the date of this letter, at the following address:

Information Governance Team
East Midlands Combined County Authority
North Enterprise Gateway
Saltergate
Chesterfield
S40 1UT
e-mail: FOI@eastmidsdevo.org.uk

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you remain dissatisfied after an internal review decision, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office. You can find further details on how to do this via Information Commissioner's Office website: [FOI and EIR complaints](#) | [ICO](#).

Regards

Information Governance Team

East Midlands Combined County Authority