



Year 3 Impact Report

Overview June 2022 – May 2025

UK YOUTH

Coca-Cola EUROPAFIC PARTNERS

Introduction

Building Connections is a three-year programme designed to bridge the gap between young people, youth workers, and employers - creating meaningful, sustained, and inclusive pathways to employment.

Delivered in partnership with Coca-Cola Europacific Partners (CCEP), the programme helps youth organisations embed employability support into long-term community infrastructure through a strategic three-year arc:



**Year 1:
Connecting**

**building local relationships
and pilot events**



**Year 2:
Deepening**

**expanding employer
networks and refining
delivery**



**Year 3:
Embedding**

**creating sustainable
models and peer learning
between cohort**



Building Connections: Three year data snapshot

UK YOUTH

Coca-Cola EUROPA
PARTNERS

4,356 

young people reached

 351

World of Work
days attended

5,553

employability
connections
made



73%
of event
attendees
**felt more
confident**
about
applying
for a job

 170

started a
volunteering
role

123 

young people
supported
**into paid
work**

2,063

young
people
**attended
events**



Demographics

 **44%** young women
and girls

 **55%** young men
and boys

 **1%** other



26%
currently
NEET



28%
at risk of
NEET

<16

8%

aged
under 16

[16-18]

58%

aged
16 to 18

18+

33%

aged
over 18

Further opportunities

In addition to programme activities, youth workers have connected young people to 1184 further opportunities that go above and beyond the requirements of the programme as seen below.



351 attended a World of Work day



234 took part in work experience



170 started a volunteering role



65 obtained fixed term employment / placement



58 obtained a permanent job



306 were supported in other ways

Case study

Spotlight on: Wigan Youth Zone

Louis' path to employment



Louis joined the Building Connections Programme as he was feeling lost in his search for employment. He wanted not only to find a job but also to discover his strengths and identify a career path that suited him. Louis was facing challenges due to a lack of qualifications and low confidence in himself.



“What I was doing before Building Connections programme was job searching but never getting no where with it and really struggling to find a pathway to employment I was trying to find employment by going to businesses in the local area and also applying everywhere online.

My current situation is definitely 10x better from the day I got referred to the programme.

The Building Connections programme has helped me massively by gaining confidence and belief that even though you're in a rough patch there's always a goal. I've achieved part time employment with the help of the Building Connections programme by the staff working with me on a 1-1 and referring me for a position at Wigan Youth zone and off the back of that working in an after-school club.

Sam and Amy from Wigan Youth Zone have been belting with me and I can't thank you both for helping me out so much will always be grateful for it.”

Louis, Young Person

Showcase: Young Leicestershire (YL)

- ✓ They connected with new groups of young people and explored local partnerships, including with **Severn Trent**, to **deliver accessible employability workshops**, covering inclusive recruitment practices.
- ✓ They began developing a **practical guide on workplace accessibility** for employers.



See the wrap-up of Young Leicestershire journey here



Young Leicestershire

Young Leicestershire received The King's Award for Voluntary Service in November 2024. This award recognises their efforts in transforming the lives of disadvantaged young people and making a positive difference in the community. The King's Award for Voluntary Service is the highest award a voluntary group can receive in the UK.



Key learnings & legacy

Deep Dive peer-learning sessions improved delivery across organisations.

Building Connections' "test and learn" culture was key to adapting support to local needs.

Delivery capacity, staff investment, and better gender targeting are priorities for scale-up.



"Throughout the delivery of our Building Connections programme, Sculpt worked diligently to forge new industry connections while also strengthening existing partnerships. As a result of this work, we established positive relationships with all our partners on this programme.

Our industry partners were consistent and supportive throughout our delivery, demonstrating openness and understanding regarding the need for flexibility when working with young people."

Youth worker, Sculpt

UK YOUTH

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