

# Guidance notes for the Peer Review Expression of Interest process

May 2025

# Peer Review programme 2025 - 26

## Purpose of this programme

The purpose of this programme is to provide Local Authorities (LAs) access to expert consultancy as part of a model of sector-led improvement. The Peer Review process is designed to support LAs in addressing key challenges, sharing best practices, and driving improvements in service delivery.

A Peer Review is free for LAs to access and will be delivered over four days by a team consisting of Peer Reviewers, NYA staff and young people, where appropriate.

The Peer Review framework covers the following areas:

- Leadership and Management
- Practice and Impact
- Sufficiency
- Partnerships
- Youth Voice and Participation

The NYA will work with successful LAs to determine areas for focus as part of the review.

We expect to offer up to three reviews FY25/26 as well as some consultancy support.

## Expressions of interest

We would like to invite Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from LAs across England, to review their youth offer.

The application is split into four sections:

1. **Local Authority details**
2. **Peer Review focus** – details the purpose for and benefit of a Peer Review in your Local Authority
3. **Readiness and commitment** – provide actions currently in train to address challenges and commitment from Senior Leadership/DCS to support a Peer Review
4. **Declaration** – must have DCS commitment

If the programme is oversubscribed, we will prioritise LAs based on the following criteria:

1. **Strategic need:** LAs demonstrating significant challenges in key service areas, where a peer review can have a tangible impact
2. **Commitment to change:** Evidence of leadership buy in and readiness to implement recommendations
3. **Geographical balance:** Ensuring a diverse range of LAs across different regions and population sizes

Successful LAs will be expected to work with the NYA to coordinate the Review, submit a range of documents about the service, ensure key stakeholders are available. Post visit,

LAs will be expected to attend a feedback session with the NYA evaluation team, complete an action plan and attend a 6-month review.

If the programme is oversubscribed, some LAs may be offered limited free consultancy support from our Head of Quality and Standards and/or Local Quality Improvement Manager as an alternative.

## Timeframe for EOI applications

Activity	Date
Assess first round for Peer Review 1	End of May 2025
Assess second round for Peer Review 2 and 3	End of June 2025
Peer Review 1	June / July 2025
Peer Review 2	September / October 2025
Peer Review 3	January / February 2026
Delivery ends	March 2026

## Evaluation

The NYA will facilitate a feedback session following each review. We will also host our annual networking event for LAs, NYA, and DCMS colleagues in Autumn 2025.

## Submission Instructions

Interested LAs are requested to submit an [EOI form here](#). We may follow up with a phone call to understand more about your service and discuss the preferred model.

## Queries

For any queries or clarifications, please contact [support@nya.org.uk](mailto:support@nya.org.uk)



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