

COLOURS & CULTURES

Project Impact Report

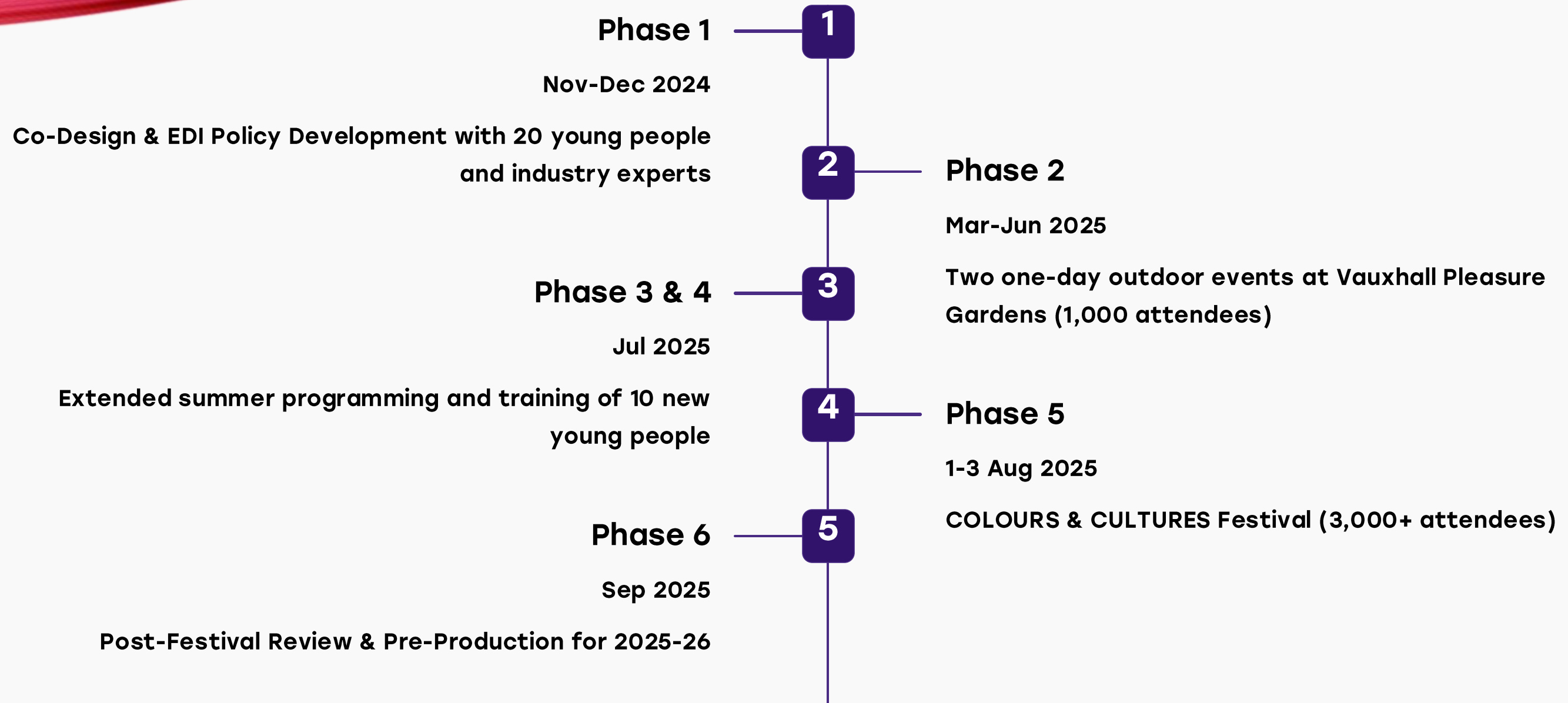
August 2025

A celebration of cultural diversity, skills development, and community co-creation through event management training and festival delivery.

N E O N
P E R F O R M I N G
A R T S



Project Journey: November 2024 - August 2025



Your **£10,000 investment** funded training and paid work placements for 20 young people, forming the core delivery team across all events.

EIF-Funded Impact

40 **800+** **£10K**

Young People

20 retained and 20
new trained &
employed at
London Living Wage
(£13.85/hr)

Paid Work Hours

10% funded by EIF

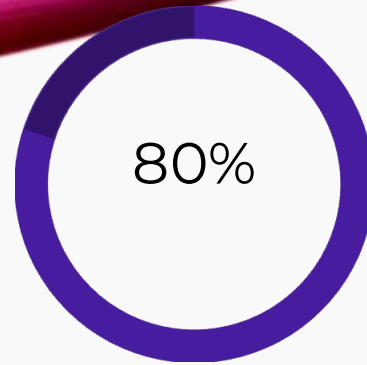
EIF Grant

Unlocked over
£100,000 in co-
funding

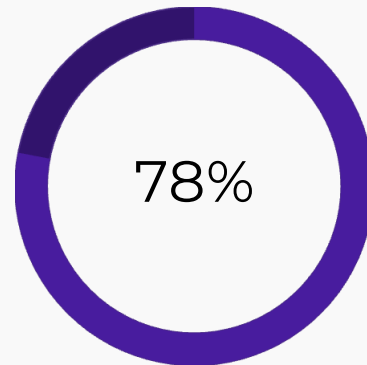
Participants filled critical roles in event production, stewarding, artist liaison, technical crew, and social media content creation.



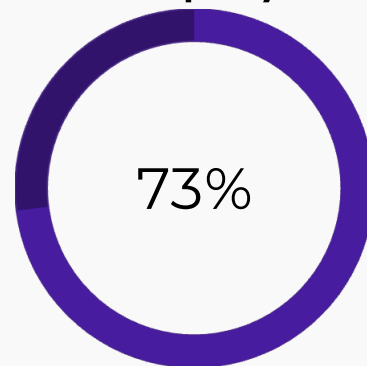
Programme Reach & Scale



From Global Majority communities



Previously NEET
(Not in Education, Employment or Training)



Neurodiverse participants

Overall Programme Impact

- 2 one-day outdoor events (1,000 attendees)
- 3-day COLOURS & CULTURES Festival (3,000 attendees)
- 444 paid opportunities for young people
- 130 paid artist/community partner roles
- £34,000+ total earnings to young people
- Ongoing summer programming with Vauxhall One



COLOURS & CULTURES Festival

1-3 August 2025

A free three-day outdoor festival co-created by NEON's youth participants, attracting over 3,000 attendees.



Live Music & Dance

Performances celebrating cultural diversity



Food Markets

Local vendors showcasing global cuisines



Creative Workshops

Interactive sessions led by trained young people



Key Outcomes

Increased Civic Pride & Action

Local issues addressed creatively through performances and workshops, with participants proposing community-led solutions.

Greater Green Space Engagement

Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens became a safer, more inclusive space, attracting more diverse use by residents without gardens.

Industry Impact

Diversified the talent pipeline with trained, work-ready young people – 18 participants secured ongoing freelance roles with partner organisations.

Cultural Recognition & Social Inclusion

Celebrated diverse heritage while reintegrating ex-offenders, strengthening ties with local police, and building social capital.



Voices from the Programme

"Being part of COLOURS & CULTURES was a turning point in my life. I went from unemployed to working on a festival backed by the Mayor of London."

– Santanna, 24

"NEON gave me my first paid job in events – now I've gained skills, built contacts, and secured more work. I didn't think this was possible for someone like me."

– Shaq, 21





Catalyst Effect of EIF Funding

Financial Snapshot – EIF Grant

Training delivery	£3,200
Paid work placements	£5,540
Mentoring & support	£1,260
Total	£10,000

Legacy Infrastructure & Partnerships

- Secured a 20-year rent-free cultural incubator (House of NEON) valued at £3.9 million
- Partnership with Vauxhall City Farm & artist Vicky Long to build a permanent Treehouse Stage for 2026
- Youth co-created EDI policy will form a chapter in The Purple Guide

COLOURS & CULTURES is now established as an official annual event, embedded in NEON's long-term programme and backed by multi-year funding from the Mayor of London (confirmed July 2025).

Challenges & Triumphs

Challenges Overcome

Compressed Timelines

Funding confirmation delays condensed planning period, requiring flexible scheduling and condensed training modules.

Participant Logistics

Balancing participant travel, availability, and other work commitments required additional mentoring and coordination.

Triumphs

- ✔ Multiplier Effect: Your £10,000 grant unlocked over £100,000 in co-funding, amplifying impact tenfold.

Despite challenges, all EIF-agreed milestones were delivered on time and to a high standard, while building sustainable infrastructure for future growth.

Looking Forward: 2025-2026



Active Sundays

Year-round programming at House of NEON with free sports, dance, and wellbeing activities in Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens



Treehouse Stage

Collaboration with artist Vicky Long on a movable structure inspired by Vauxhall's history, debuting at 2026 festival



International Growth

Production planning for Tenerife collaboration (Sept 2026) featuring Big Narstie, with NEON-trained young people as crew

Thanks to EIF's funding, network, and visibility, we are now able to expand our placement model to reach 60 young people annually, integrating event production, technical skills, and cultural programming across the UK and beyond