Warwickshire Libraries is seeking proposals for a creative practitioner/ organisation to:

- Develop a free and accessible Yoga for Wellbeing series of courses across Warwickshire Libraries in 2025/26.
- Deliver a Chair Yoga for Adults daytime course in spring/summer 2025.
- Deliver 2 Yoga for Adults evening courses in autumn 2025.
- Deliver a Baby Yoga course in spring 2026.

Fee: a maximum of £3,000 (plus VAT if applicable); an inclusive fee (to include all travel, materials, equipment & delivery costs).

Deadline for application: Friday 28th March (12.00 midday) 2025

Summary of Brief:

Warwickshire Libraries became a National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) in 2023, directly funded by Arts Council England (ACE), to deliver a range of innovative programmes and activities. We are seeking an experienced creative practitioner/ organisation to deliver the Yoga for Wellbeing Commission.

This will include:

- Piloting the Warwickshire Moves Yoga for Wellbeing course for adults and babies in 2025/26 focusing on Nuneaton, Bedworth and the North of Warwickshire.
- Being accessible to all participants by providing all the required equipment for free at all sessions.
- Delivering a course of 6 sessions (45 minutes to 1 hour) of Chair Yoga for adults potentially in June 2025 in a library (venue tbc) during the daytime with 8 participants per session.
- Delivering 2 separate courses of 4 sessions each (45 minutes to 1 hour) of Yoga for adults in a library (venues tbc) during the evening to start in September 2025 with 8 participants per session.
- Delivering a course of 6 sessions (45 minutes to 1 hour) of Baby Yoga during the daytime for babies and their parents/ carers in a library (venue tbc) in March 2026 with 16 participants per session.
- Supporting health and wellbeing of Warwickshire communities through a free and accessible Yoga offer.
- Attracting new audiences to Warwickshire Libraries and to Yoga for Wellbeing.





Working in partnership with the Warwickshire Libraries NPO Team to:

- Incorporate evaluation, data capture and consultation including photography and filming where appropriate into the sessions/ courses.
- Develop digital content that can be shared to promote and market the sessions/ courses on Warwickshire Libraries' social media channels.
- Promote and embed environmental responsibility throughout the sessions/ course and commission, to reflect best practice in this area.
- Adhere to Warwickshire County Council's health and wellbeing protocols, photo/ filming permissions, GDPR guidance and, where appropriate, Risk Assessments.
- Raise awareness of Warwickshire Libraries and their free services across the county.

Please note the NPO Team will arrange the library venues for the courses and will use Warwickshire Libraries Eventbrite for bookings.

Delivery Timeframe: June 2025 to April 2026.

Timetable:

Deadline for submissions: Friday 28th March 2025 (12.00 midday) **Informed of invitation to selection meeting**: Friday 4th April 2025 **Selection meeting:** Date to be decided (early April) – Nuneaton Library **Successful creative practitioner/ organisation informed:** Thursday 17th April 2025

Planning meeting with NPO Team: April/May 2025

Location: Working from your own premises, as well as meetings (live and on-line) with the NPO Team and delivering sessions/courses within Warwickshire Libraries venues during the daytime and evenings.

Fee: The maximum amount available is £2,500 (plus VAT if applicable). Your proposal must include a full breakdown of costs to include all expenses, goods, travel, materials, and services. This includes any equipment needed for participants to take part in the sessions for example mats, water, etc.

Reporting to:

- Dr Anjna Chouhan – NPO Creative Producer

Contractual Details: Please note that Warwickshire Libraries will contract the supplier to deliver the commission and the payments will be staged depending on your budget to deliver the proposal.

How to Submit a Proposal (see below for details)

Proposals are welcome from individuals as well as organisations.



Proposals should include the following:

- Credentials for your organisation and/ or CV; please include a CV for any individuals who will be involved in this delivery.
- Examples of similar programmes/ courses/ sessions you have delivered, via websites, LinkedIn, or other evidence.
- An outline proposal of your initial ideas for delivering the commission and a delivery plan, based on this brief.
- A methodology of how you propose to meet the requirements and outputs of the brief. This should be no more than 500 words.
- A cost breakdown/ budget. Your proposal must include a full breakdown of costs to include all expenses, goods, materials, equipment, travel and services (please itemise VAT if applicable).
- Details of two referees for whom you have done similar work.

Please note, if you would like to submit your proposal in an alternative format or require additional support to make the application and/ or deliver the commission, contact Dr Anjna Chouhan to discuss this further.

Selection – Proposals will be assessed against the following:

- How well the proposal meets the brief;
- Knowledge and passion for libraries and the role they play in their communities;
- Knowledge and passion for health and wellbeing;
- Experience of delivering sessions/courses for adults including chair yoga;
- Experience of delivering sessions/courses for babies and their parents/carers;
- Ability to meet established budgets and work to a schedule; and value for money/ price.

Please note: if you are successful, we will ask for Public Liability Insurance and DBS.

Warwickshire Libraries wishes to attract a more diverse range of proposals from people of different ages, ethnicities, and educational backgrounds, from all parts of the wider community, who can bring fresh ideas and new perspectives. Previous experience is valued; however, we aim to take a whole person/ organisation approach to our commissions.

Please e-mail your proposal and any supporting documentation by Friday 28th March (12.00 midday) 2025 to:

Dr Anjna Chouhan – NPO Creative Producer, Warwickshire Libraries: anjnachouhan@warwickshire.gov.uk

For any queries:

- Dr Anjna Chouhan: anjnachouhan@warwickshire.gov.uk



Warwickshire Libraries – Yoga for Wellbeing 2025/26

Further Information:

Warwickshire Moves is part of the Year 3 Activity Plan for the Warwickshire Libraries NPO, which is informed by the ACE Let's Create strategy – <u>www.artscouncil.org.uk/lets-create</u>. There are three outcomes for the strategy, and this commission sits within Creative People as everyone can develop and express creativity throughout their lives.

The commission outcomes are to:

- Support people at all stages of their lives, to design, develop and increase their participation in high-quality creative activities.
- Helping to improve and signpost to creative opportunities in the local community to people at all stages of their lives.
- Providing high-quality early years activities that reach families from a wider range of backgrounds.

Background Information

Warwickshire Libraries NPO

As the first library service in the West Midlands to become an NPO, Warwickshire Libraries is being funded directly by ACE from April 2023 to March 2026/27, with the opportunity to reapply at the end of the period. It is both an honour and an accolade to be awarded NPO status.

ACE describes NPOs as "leaders in their areas, with a collective responsibility to protect and develop our national arts and cultural ecology." The NPO award will provide funding on top of the service's Warwickshire County Council budget for additional activities and programmes to extend and enhance our arts, heritage and culture offer across the county, particularly focusing on areas of greater need.

Our overarching ambition is to grow and develop a high-quality cultural offer for the people of Warwickshire that delivers against Warwickshire County Council priorities, ACE's Let's Create strategy and four investment principles:

- Inclusivity and relevance
- Environmental responsibility
- Dynamism
- · Ambition and quality

In essence, the NPO is about making arts and culture more attractive and accessible to all Warwickshire residents, wherever they live, whatever their circumstances or previous levels of engagement.



The Warwickshire Libraries NPO will focus heavily on the levelling-up agenda. The NPO Team will support Warwickshire County Council ambitions towards narrowing gaps and creating equality of opportunity for all Warwickshire residents, with a particular emphasis on rural communities, young people, and those living in less advantaged parts of the county. Of the 23 Warwickshire areas identified for levelling-up, 18 are in the Nuneaton and Bedworth district.

For more information on Warwickshire County Council policy on levelling-up:

https://api.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/WCCC-970487194-271 https://api.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/WCCC-808477336-692

Warwickshire Libraries

We have 18 council-run libraries, three mobile libraries and a Schools Library Service. In addition, Warwickshire Libraries has specialist reading and learning, digital and outreach teams, and has recently introduced a tablet lending scheme. We also support a vibrant network of 12 social enterprise libraries, and our services actively involve hundreds of volunteers.

The Warwickshire Libraries service is part of the British Library's Living Knowledge Network and has a crucial role to play in delivering the Warwickshire Waterways Strategy, as well as the Warwickshire Heritage and Culture Strategy 2020 – 2025. Both are key five-year strategies for Warwickshire County Council, shaped around three main themes: health and wellbeing, sense of place, and economic vibrancy.

Our work and programmes need to meet the key aims of the Council Plan, which prioritise the following:

• To have a thriving economy and places that have the right jobs, skills, education, and infrastructure.

A county where all people can live their best lives; where communities and individuals are supported to live safely, healthily, happily and independently.
Sustainable for the future, which means adapting to and mitigating climate change and meeting net zero commitments.

Key themes in our NPO Programme support all the above.

For further information: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/libraries

