

Who we are:

Beam is an arts, architecture and learning company working throughout the Yorkshire region and beyond. We provide services and programmes to help people make better and more sustainable places. We do this through meaningful engagement, knowledge and skills development, the promotion of good design, and the imaginative use of the arts in the public realm.

Beam has over 20 years' experience supporting regeneration, renaissance, and cultural projects in urban and rural towns, parks and neighbourhoods, housing schemes, schools, colleges, mixed use developments, and hospitals. Our highly skilled staff and associates can deliver our services and programmes anywhere they are needed.

Our work is focused, client-centred and cost-effective. We use a cross-boundary approach, drawing knowledge and experience from across professional disciplines. Creativity and practicality are at the heart of what we do.

**Place
making
concerns
everyone**

Beam works with:

- Local authority officers and members
- Architects, planners, highway engineers
- Teachers and educationalists
- Developers and property specialists
- Young people
- Community leaders
- Professionals in regeneration, culture, health and other sectors
- The general public

'Beam's work was instrumental in getting our directorate to work in different ways, and helping to make place important'
York City Council

Our Services

Engagement and Consultation

Beam brings analysis, creativity and experience to stakeholder engagement in places where change is planned or underway. We offer real involvement, helping to connect design and regeneration teams with the people they are designing for. We use a range of proven tools and methodologies.

• Creative Scoping & Facilitation

We work closely with project leaders, design teams, investors and key stakeholders to define a project in its early stages, exploring its potential and establishing a common set of principles and goals to inform the scheme's successful delivery.

• Community Involvement

Beam's community engagement approach ranges from one-day to year-long activities. We provide meaningful consultation and learning for individuals and groups, adults

and young people, offering them a real voice in the future of their places.

• Spaceshaper

Spaceshaper is a tool developed by CABE Space to help stakeholder groups assess the quality of public spaces prior to investment in the site. Our staff are trained facilitators. **Spaceshaper 9 to 14.** Working with CABE Space and Bristol and Kent Architecture Centres, Beam has led on the development of an innovative national toolkit to engage young people in the measurement of the quality of public spaces.

• Design Review

Beam manages a panel of experts who review and comment upon plans for buildings and public spaces. A Design Review Service has been provided to Wakefield Council since 2007, and Beam is also involved in supporting the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Design Review Service.

Learning and Skills Development

Beam supports skills development and knowledge exchange among professionals in regeneration, culture, education, health, the built environment and other sectors. We have developed special programmes to support particular groups, and also use our experience to design new approaches that are tailor-made to our clients' needs.

• Local Authorities

Design Awareness and Training for local authority members and officers raises awareness and skills in built environment design principles, policy and practice. Already delivered in Barnsley, Bradford, Wakefield, York and North Yorkshire, each programme brings national and regional context to local issues.

• Future Schools

Beam offers a range of practical and creative activities for the whole school community – young people, teachers, governors and parents, as they consider the creation of environments to support learning in the 21st Century. We have an innovative programme that helps teachers make use of the built environment as an exciting cross-curricular learning resource. Beam has been awarded the Learning Outside the Classroom quality badge.

• Professional Development

Beam provides a range of activities - talks, conferences, study trips and best practice workshops to support the further development of knowledge and skills for those working within or affected by regeneration and the built environment.

Arts in the Public Realm

Beam believes in and promotes the contribution that artists can bring to place making, both as producers and creative thinkers. The term 'public art' now covers an exciting and wide range of activity, from sculpture to lighting to outdoor arts. Artists can also add huge value to design and regeneration teams, and we make use of their skills in many aspects of our engagement, consultation, learning and skills programmes.

• Public Art Commissioning and Management

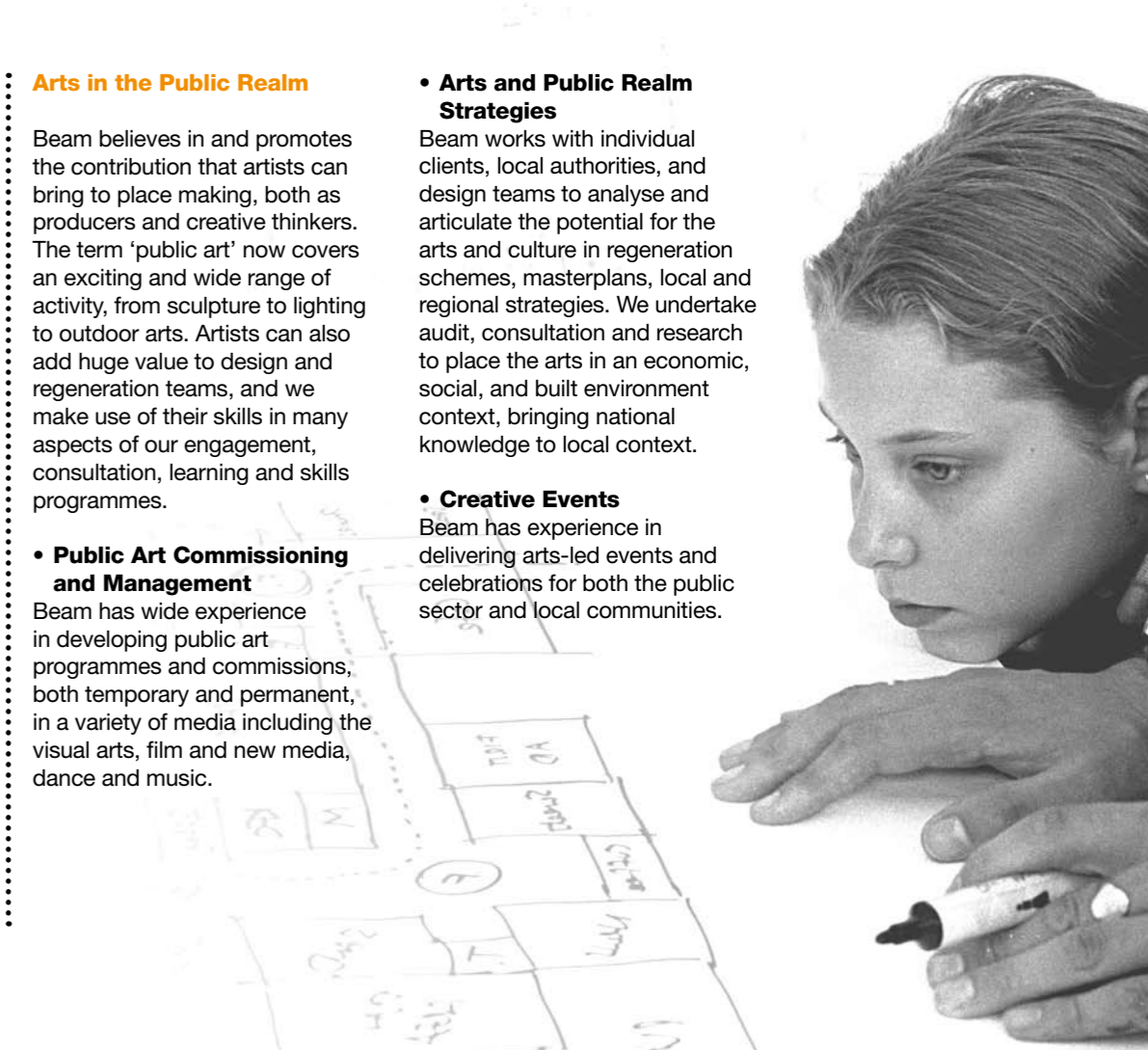
Beam has wide experience in developing public art programmes and commissions, both temporary and permanent, in a variety of media including the visual arts, film and new media, dance and music.

• Arts and Public Realm Strategies

Beam works with individual clients, local authorities, and design teams to analyse and articulate the potential for the arts and culture in regeneration schemes, masterplans, local and regional strategies. We undertake audit, consultation and research to place the arts in an economic, social, and built environment context, bringing national knowledge to local context.

• Creative Events

Beam has experience in delivering arts-led events and celebrations for both the public sector and local communities.



Case Studies

Partnership Skills Programme

A four year programme commissioned by the Regional Development Agency Yorkshire Forward as part of its Renaissance programme, working with over 20 towns and in excess of 1,300 individuals to develop skills for sustainable communities. It included workshops, conferences, study tours, action-based learning events, creative community consultation and engagement.

Client:
Yorkshire Forward
Partner: CIDA International

The Arts of Place

The Arts of Place is Beam's innovative multi-disciplinary approach to place-making. It combines the arts, learning and public engagement, and places the arts and artists at the centre of regeneration. Supported by Arts Council England and activated so far in Wakefield and Bradford, this flexible programme has involved regeneration professionals, artists, teachers, and young people in public art commissions, site visits, mentoring, and workshops.

Clients:
Wakefield Council,
Bradford Council,
Arts Council England,
CABE

People Changing Places

A year-long programme using a regeneration site as a learning laboratory for stakeholders, who are taken on a design 'journey'. The programme has been delivered in Wakefield and York. It is tailored to the needs of the client group and includes study visits, design workshops, awareness-raising and training, good practice seminars, and the temporary transformation of a site. A broadcast event disseminates best practice.

Clients:
City of York Council, CABE
Partner: DSDHA – Architects

Shared Space

In 2008 Beam took 50 Town Team members from across Yorkshire and the Humber on a study tour to the Netherlands. We explored the concept of 'Shared Space' and looked at examples of varying sizes in Drachten, Oosterwolde and Makkinga. A 'Shared Space' masterclass followed which brought together Town Teams with Local Authority members and officers from across Yorkshire and Humber to learn from experts and discuss the issues arising from introducing the 'Shared Space' concept into the region. Beam continues to have strong links with the Shared Space Institute in the Netherlands.

Client:
Yorkshire Forward

Making Places Great

Services and Programmes

- Creative Scoping & Facilitation
- Community Consultation
- Spaceshaper & Spaceshaper 9-14
- Design Review
- Local Authority Design Training
- Future Schools
- Professional Development
- Public Art Commissioning
- Arts and Public Realm Strategies
- Creative Events

Beam is a company dedicated to involving people in the imaginative understanding and improvement of the public realm – our urban and rural streets, buildings, parks, neighbourhoods and public spaces.

*Beam is a member of **The Architecture Centre Network.***

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Our Services

