

Chief Executive's Message - Phil East

I don't know about you, but I still find that I have something of a 'back to school' mentality when September rolls around. Even though I left school more years ago now than I care to remember! There's something about the darkening evenings, the end of everyone taking their holidays, the autumnal leaves appearing. It drives me towards improved disciplines, resetting goals and getting back to regular routines.

One of the new things for us at Salford Foundation as we start our 'new term' this September is that we have refurbished our HQ at Foundation House, to better accommodate and meet the needs of our beneficiaries. Previously, our building housed our office and meeting space for staff and we had some under-used space. Over the summer we've transformed the ground floor into two new spaces. We've relocated our women's centre from Eccles to occupy half the space. This will host a wide range of projects and services helping women to reach their full potential (we support around 500 women facing a range of significant challenges each year). On the other side of the building, we've created a dedicated space for The Shed – our project supporting men with complex needs. In between the two, we've kitted out a large training room. This will house a range of projects helping people gain new skills and get access to accredited training and job opportunities. As we move through the autumn, there will also be the opportunity for some of our women and men to transform our gardens and outdoor spaces, with support from RHS Bridgewater.

So, it's another exciting time for us as we push a bit further and harder to do all we can to help people to build better futures. If you would like to take a look around our new facilities, do contact [Helen Fenton](#). (And if you think you could help us to finish off and improve some of the smaller things that we've not been able to afford as yet, do let us know.) As always, thanks for your ongoing interest in and support for our work.