



THE LOOP

Issue 19 | September 2025





Phil East

Chief Executive's Message

I wonder how many people reading this will have a memory of completing work experience as a young person? Many of us will have taken part in this 'rite of passage' in our teenage years. And, for those who remember doing it, how good and effective was it as part of your preparation for working life? Unfortunately, answers to that question are likely to be mixed at best. Connecting young people seamlessly to their future world of work has never been our strongest suit in this country.

However, young people consistently tell us they want better experiences and preparation for work; and businesses often tell us that young workers are not arriving with the skills and aptitudes they require. So, it's not surprising that when we were developing our new strategy for the next 5 years, 'working futures' quickly emerged as one of our headline priorities.

Often after a gap of many years. People's needs in this arena – both young and old – are as pressing as they have ever been. If we're to tackle disadvantage alongside changing individual lives, we need as many people as possible to find good work which maximises their income. This will lift families and communities out of poverty and enables us as a society to invest in public and charitable services which help those in most need.

So, I hope you enjoy reading about our incredibly important work in this area. And if you've carved out a working future for yourself that you're happy with and proud of, I'd encourage you to give back a little of your time or resource with us, to help those who need a 'leg up' to understand what their working future could hold and to grasp it.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phil East".



Elevate Salford is a Learning Skills and Work Partnership managed by Salford CVS and delivered by VCSE organisations including Salford Foundation. The partnership aims to work together to help a total of 1,500 unemployed adults and those in work wanting to develop their skills, to achieve their goals and move forward.

Support provided includes:
One to one practical information, advice and guidance to identify suitable careers, group-based health and wellbeing activities, help in developing a bespoke action plan, training to develop new skills, offering volunteering opportunities, work placements, job search and preparation to access local employment opportunities.



Salford Foundation is a key delivery partner for Elevate Salford. We are on target to support 300 men and women over 3 years. Since January 2023 to June 2025, we have helped a total of 318 people move closer to work including:



228 bespoke action plans completed

20 people completed a volunteering or work placement opportunity

79 people starting paid work

Employability Journey



Are you a local business or employer in Salford or Greater Manchester? Join us in our Mission to Tackle disadvantage and Change Lives by offering work placements, volunteering opportunities, skills training, or job openings to help people thrive in your community.

To explore how your business can help us, please contact

Kevin Scovell

Project Co-ordinator & Employer Engagement Lead

Email: kevin.scovell@salfordfoundation.org.uk

Mobile: [07526017960](tel:07526017960)



We help unemployed adults and those in work on low incomes experiencing financial hardships to understand what benefits they can claim, how to maximise their household income and reduce debt.

Nationwide currently supports our **Homeless Prevention** project for men in Salford. They have become the first UK financial provider to offer free benefits support over the phone in addition to online support. The service is open to **everyone** to use, not just its **own customers**.

2,229 households found they were eligible for over £550 a month on average since the calculator was launched in late June 2025. Click here [**"Better Off"** benefits calculator](#).





Tackling unemployment & economic inactivity

Greater Manchester's Live Well programme is central to Andy Burnham's manifesto commitment to tackle health, social & economic inequalities and persistent barriers to Living Well in Greater Manchester neighbourhoods.

Programme partners include:

- **Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA),**
- **Greater Manchester Integrated Care (NHS GM),**
- **Greater Manchester voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise sector (VCFSE) sector**
- **Greater Manchester's 10 local authorities and communities**

The model for GM Live Well consists of 4 key elements:

1. **Live Well centres, spaces and offers**
2. **Neighbourhood model with multi-agency teams**
3. **Resilient and connected VCFSE Eco-system**
4. **Culture of prevention and person-centred approach**

New Economic Inactivity Trailblazers were launched in 2025/26 across GM funded by the Department for Work and Pensions. £10m funding will be available for Trailblazer programmes to support those furthest from the labour market. As well as developing new ways to tackle unemployment using a place-based approach and building on the GM Working Well model. Watch out for further updates!

Meet the Raising Aspirations Team



Hi, I'm Jason King. Since 2017, I've been with the Foundation, initially on the Business Education Partnership. Currently, I lead the Raising Aspirations team, overseeing projects aimed at partnering with Greater Manchester businesses to implement employee volunteering opportunities, ultimately raising young people's aspirations regarding work.

I'm Fiona Cruice. I've worked at the Foundation since 2019, Currently, I coordinate the Kickstart Your Future program, connecting with high schools in Greater Manchester to provide students opportunities through one-day events aimed at introducing them to the workforce. I also collaborate with corporate businesses, enabling their employees to volunteer at our school events and contribute to the local community.



My name is Emily Dunn, I joined the Foundation in 2025 as part of the Raising Aspirations team. I am a coordinator for the Kickstart Your Future program, through this I get to connect and collaborate with businesses within various sectors and their volunteers who support our activity offer.

Hi, my name is Eleanor O'Connell. I joined the Foundation in November 2024 as a Business Administrative Apprentice on the Raising Aspiration's team. My role is to help the team by taking on most of the administrative work of handling day-to-day tasks to ensure the business runs smoothly. This is so the coordinators can have more time to recruit businesses and help young people with their futures.



Hi, I'm Rebekkah Cox and I've been working with the Foundation since July 2025. I work on the Raising Aspirations team, specifically working with the 16-30 age group on the Inclusive Futures project. Engaging colleges, sixth forms and community groups in activities and opportunities to improve their employability and life skills.



World of Work

Our World of Work activity is designed to provide insight into different jobs and career pathways for young people and this all starts from a conversation with you!

As a **business volunteer**, you will engage in brief yet meaningful conversations with students about your identity, work, and career journey. These discussions can highlight available opportunities and offer insights into achievable paths after school, starting with GCSE selections.

Some of the things you might want to highlight through conversation or activity include:

- **What is your job?**
- **What does the day-to-day look like?**
- **What do you do that is different to other roles in the business?**
- **Does it require specific qualifications?**
- **Who is the company you work for?**
- **What does the company do and how does your role fit in it?**
- **How did you get to where you are now?**
- **Are there any potential opportunities for young people at 16 or 18 years old?**

We have upcoming World of Work activities at:

- **12/11/2025 | Westhoughton High School, Bolton | 8:30am to 2:00pm**
- **27/11/2025 | Hollingworth Academy, Rochdale | 8:30am to 2:00pm**
- **9/12/2025 | Lostock High School, Trafford | 8:30am – 3:00pm**

If you would like to take part in and volunteer in one of the above schools or other schools, please contact us at

raisingaspirations@salfordfoundation.org.uk



Support US through Payroll Giving

Tackling disadvantage and changing lives, one payslip at a time

Our priorities

Best Start in Life

Ensuring children and young people have the best start in life and enter adulthood with great life chances. We will prioritise issues such as good education for all; parenting; healthy relationships; wellbeing; and life skills.

Working Futures

Ensuring young people are inspired and informed of future careers, adults gain skills and receive support to work for a living wage, promoting volunteering and alternative employment opportunities.

Safe & Strong Communities

Inclusive, supportive communities. Preventing domestic abuse, preventing people being drawn into crime, helping people in the criminal justice system rebuild positive and productive lives.

What is payroll giving?

Payroll Giving, also known as GAYE (Give As You Earn) is a simple, tax-efficient way for employees to donate to Salford Foundation directly from their salary. It's automatic, secure, and makes a lasting impact.

This means you get tax relief on your donations, as the donation is taken before tax is calculated on your income.

- **Provides regular, long-term income streams – helping Salford Foundation plan more effectively for expenditure**
- **Removes the need to claim Gift Aid – saving Salford Foundation valuable time and money**
- **If you pay the basic 20% tax rate and donate £10 each month, Salford Foundation will receive £10, but only £8 will be deducted from your net pay**
- **[Find out more here](#)**



Working Futures

7,342

people progressed
education, employment
& training

251

people moved into
jobs or training

6,093

young people with
raised aspirations

469

people volunteered
with us

4,066

hours of support
from volunteers

618

private, public &
charity organisations
worked with us

3,512

young people feel inspired for the future through employer and
workplace encounters

4,413

young people developed employability skills

Do you want to create Social Value and give back to help your local community by helping residents and young people progress their working futures? You can help by offering meaningful employer encounters, delivering employability skills workshops, hosting work place visits or work placements and advertising job vacancies.

Thank you to all our Funders



Corporate & Charity Partnerships

Join our Mission

To find out more about how you can support Salford Foundation and how we can help to deliver your Social Value, please do get in touch:

fundraise@salfordfoundation.org.uk



Helen Fenton
Corporate Fundraiser

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