

Economic Inactivity Trailblazer Update

Delivering Everyday Support in
Every Neighbourhood

December 2025

Collaborating

Empowering

Delivering

Trailblazer: Setting the Scene

Purpose of Report - Summary

Greater Manchester was selected to be one of 8 Economic Inactivity Trailblazer (EIT) areas as outlined in the DWP Get Britain Working White Paper required to test and learn new approaches to tackling economic inactivity.

Responding to Economic Inactivity is a key part of our ambitions for Live Well and is one of the major focuses of work for the Prevention Demonstrator. We know, however, that the underlying causes of and challenges around Economic Inactivity are fully interrelated with other areas (physical health, mental health, skills, housing, safety, family relationships and so on) all of which are priorities for Live Well and crossover with other key cohorts for the Prevention Demonstrator (in addition to Economic Inactivity).

This report will Deep Dive into the Economic Inactivity Trailblazer (EIT) highlighting the activity to date, setting out the ambition over the coming months and demonstrating how we will move beyond the trailblazer as a standalone programme towards its potential role, impact and delivery for the Prevention Demonstrator, Live Well, the wider skills and employment system and most importantly our residents.

Points to Consider throughout:

Are you seeing Trailblazer activity addressing the challenges in your locality?

How well are employment and skills activities connecting with the local Live Well agenda?

What further system-wide concerns could we tackle together through the Trailblazer?

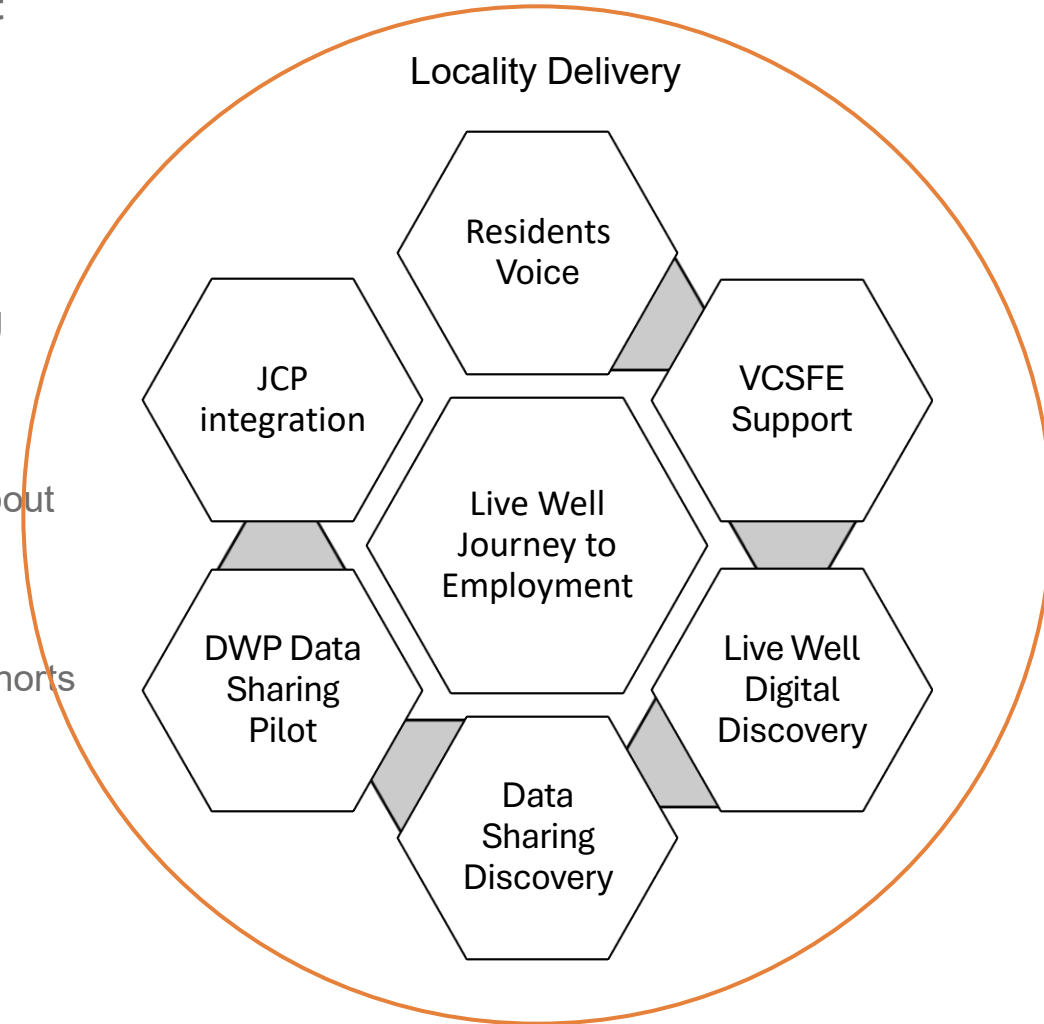
Sarah's Story: From Setback to Strength

When Sarah's 12-year marriage ended, she faced being a single parent to three young children with emotional, financial and professional difficulties. Previously thriving in her career, Sarah had to leave her role due to unsociable hours and childcare pressures. Her situation worsened when Universal Credit continued to account for her husband, reducing her benefits and leaving her unable to cover rent. With advocacy and support, her entitlement was reinstated, and she received a refund - a major turning point to restore her financial stability. She also secured a Household Support Fund payment for essential living costs and registered with Darnhill Food Pantry for ongoing support.

Determined to rebuild, Sarah engaged with Trailblazer and the New Pioneers Project to explore new employment pathways. She joined a financial literacy programme to strengthen her budgeting and planning skills. She is currently enrolled on a Level 3 Mental Health First Aid course and preparing for an Information Advice and Guidance Level 3 course in December. Sarah will also start volunteering in an administrative role to gain hands-on experience and confidence. With her youngest now in nursery part-time, Sarah is focused on re-education, life skills and finding work that fits her family life.

GM Economic Inactivity Trailblazer- Catalyst for Change

- The Economic Inactivity Trailblazer is **enabling the shift in the GM employment and skills system to a Live Well model** which takes a **prevention-focused approach** and provides the foundation for future delivery in this area which is **fundamental to Live Well and the Prevention Demonstrator**.
- The **key contributors** are: GMCA and LAs, the VCFSE sector, DWP and JCP.
- The **key beneficiaries** are: GM residents including targeted cohorts experiencing inequalities and high levels of economic inactivity.
- The £10m fund is being used across 2 test areas that both **fills gaps in current delivery and starts to shape the system for the future**. As a 'trailblazer' it is about **testing, learning and then adopting what works**:
 - **Direct support for residents on their journey towards work** - Almost 40 different interventions across all 10 localities targeting a range of priority cohorts and learning 'what works' to engage and support 4500 residents on their journey towards work.
 - **Embedding a Live Well Journey to Employment** - System shaping work across digital and data needs, growing VCFSE capacity and capability, amplifying residents voice and JCP integration. The diagram to the right provides an overview of this work.



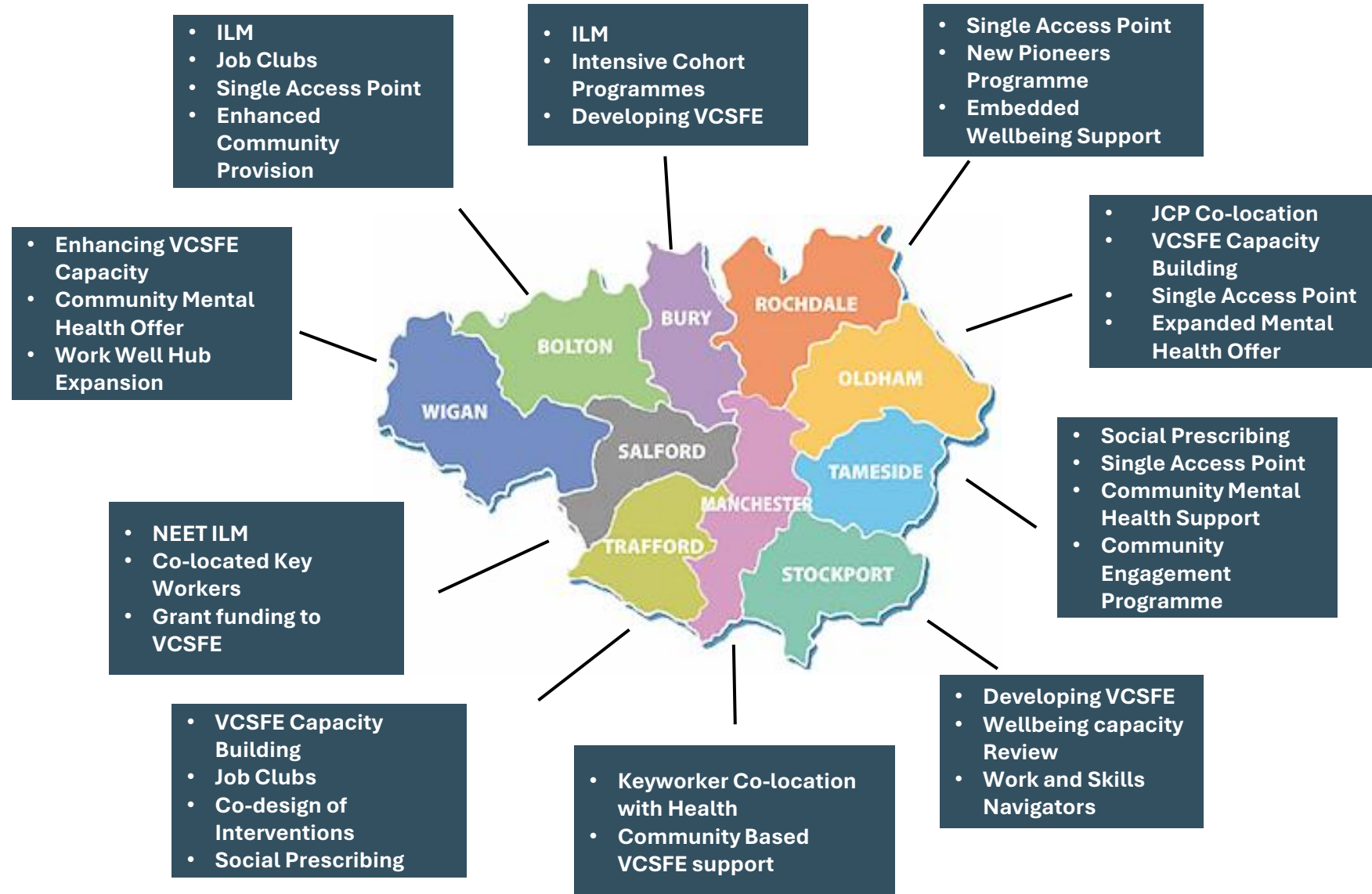
Local Delivery: Direct support for residents on their journey towards work

Directly Supporting Residents on Their Journey Towards Work

Localities are implementing a range of different interventions which are being tested for priority cohorts across each of the 10 localities.

As well as filling locally known gaps in current activity, these interventions will also provide significant learning about how we move towards a new way of working as part of Live Well, allowing us to better support residents on their journey towards and ultimately into work.

NOTE – A detailed breakdown of activity by each LA can be found in Annex A



Key Metrics to Date

Total residents participating so far = **898 out of an ambition to reach 4500 during the life of the programme**

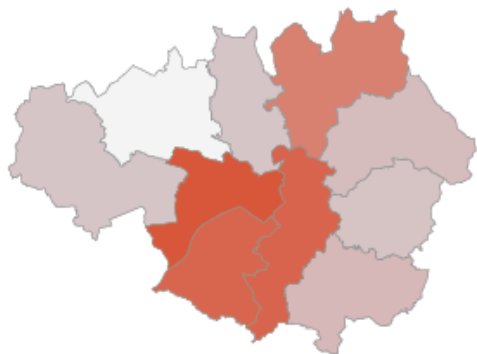
Outcome	Count
Gaining qualifications, licences and skills	43
Increased employability through development of interpersonal skills	15
Number of people in employment, including self-employment, following support	9
Number of people in volunteering/ work opportunities	39
Number of people sustaining engagement with key worker support and additional services	35
Number of people with basic skills following support	36
Number of people with ESOL qualifications	3
Number of people with life skills following support	14
People in employment, including self-employment, following support	16
Reduced social isolation - connectivity with their community	9
Reduced structural barriers into employment and into skills provision	23

Outputs	Count
Engaging with Keyworker	174
Exploration and trial of volunteering/ work/ skills opportunities	88
Support engaging with the skills system	64
Support to access basic skills	163
Support to develop interpersonal skills	52
Support to engage with life skills	122
Support to gain employment	221
Support to reduce social isolation	52
Support to reduce structural barriers	56
Support with ESOL	30
Supported to engage in life skills	1

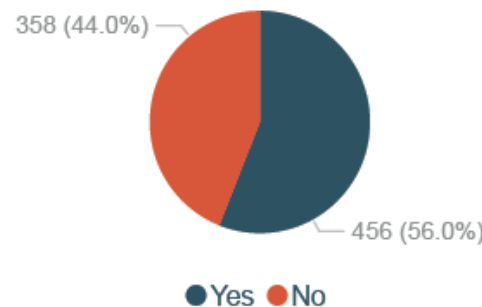
Note – This is from 5 LAs, the remaining LAs will begin to report from November onwards

Who has been engaged so far? – Live data and available to each LA on a monthly basis

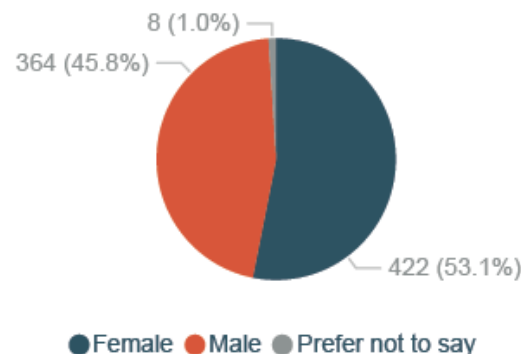
of Participants by Local Authority



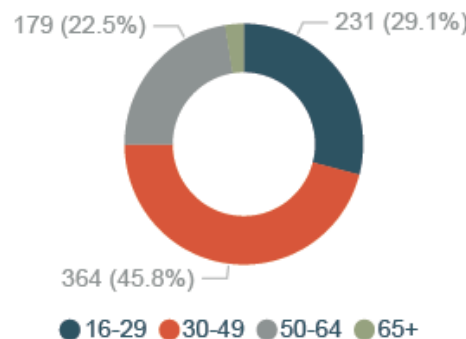
% of Participants by Primary Health Related Barrier Status



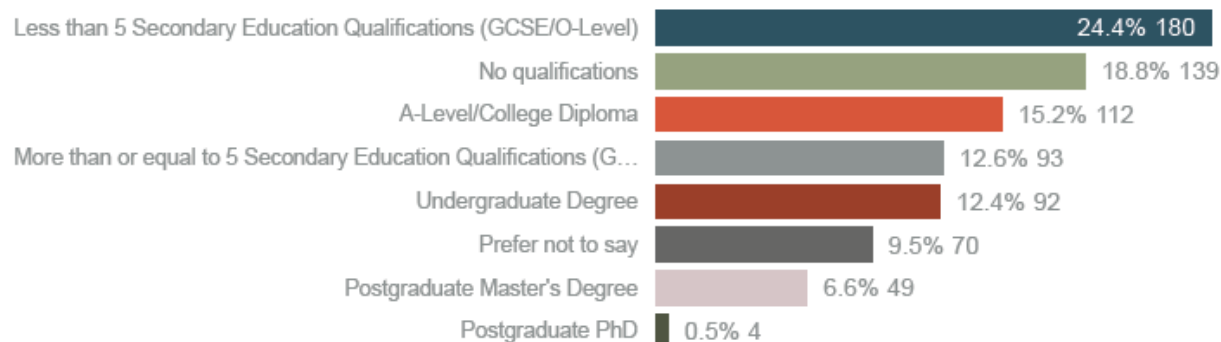
Participants by Gender



Participants by Age Group



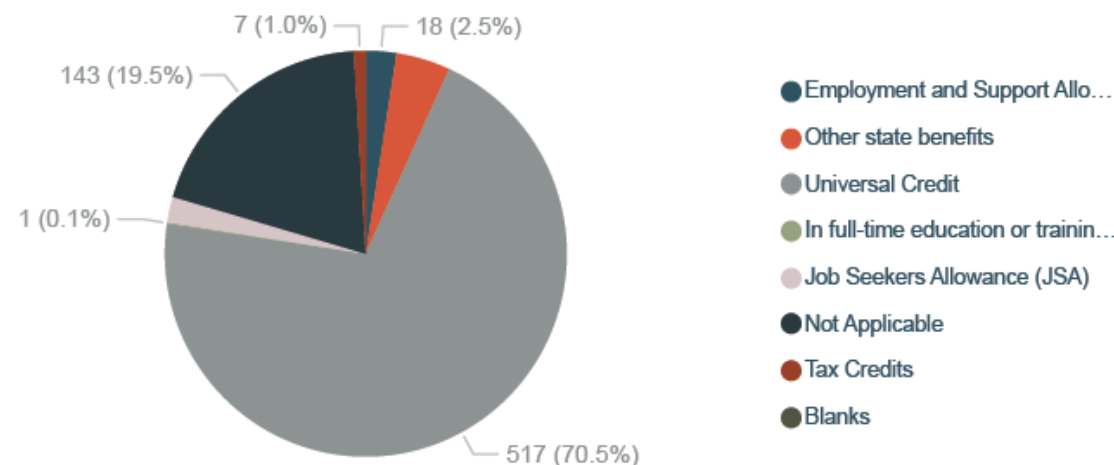
Participants by Highest Educational Achievement Upon Joining



All

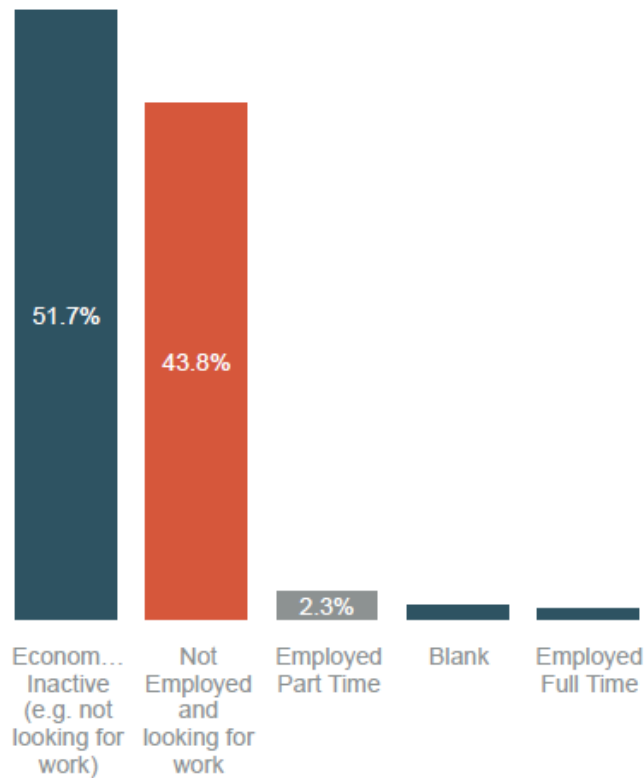
Ethnicity	% of Participants
English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British	49.0%
African	9.7%
Pakistani	9.6%
Any other Asian Background	5.1%
Any other ethnic group	4.7%
Any other Black, Black British or Caribbean background	4.3%
Arab	3.7%
Any other white background	3.2%
Any other mixed or multiple ethnic background	2.8%
White and Black African	1.8%
Prefer not to say	1.5%
Chinese	1.3%
Bangladeshi	1.0%
Caribbean	0.8%
White and Asian	0.6%
Other	0.4%

Receipt of Benefits selected



Demographics Cont.

% of Participants by Employment Status at Start



Number of Participants by Primary Non-health related barrier to work or education

Primary Non-health related barrier to work or education	Number of Participants
Blank	149
Skills	118
Suitable Jobs	106
Confidence	101
Language Barrier	85
Other	81
Childcare	62
Transport	42
Caring Responsibilities	35
Not applicable	35
Total	814

Number of Participants by Referral Route into Trailblazer

Referral Route into Trailblazer	Number of Participants
Self-Referral	244
Other	211
Jobcentre Plus	151
Local Authority (for example, social workers)	104
Voluntary or Community Sector	80
Blank	16
Local health services (e.g. local mental health support)	3
Referred from GP or Primary Care setting (including social prescribing)	3
Employer	1
School / College	1
Total	814

Trailblazer in Place – Oldham

Presented by Jonathan Phillips – Head of Service (Employment and Skills)

What Oldham Is Doing Through the Trailblazer

Working with Community Organisations

- Partnering with local groups through Action Together to deliver community-based activities that help residents build confidence and take first steps back into support.
- Testing different activities in neighbourhoods to see what residents engage with and what needs changing.
- Using simple tools (e.g., Outcome Star) so community workers and volunteers can support residents in a structured and consistent way.

Linking Health, Social Prescribing and Employment

- Social Prescribing teams refer residents into GOW and community organisations for early support.
- GOW provides practical help: therapy, health and wellbeing, gym access, digital support, and specialist advisors.
- MSK, Social Prescribing and GOW now share clearer referral routes to reduce waiting lists and direct residents to the right place sooner.

Better Pathways for Residents

- Residents can start with community activities → then volunteering → then training and employment options.
- Support is timed around when the resident is ready, not when the system is ready.
- All activity is being monitored to understand what works and where improvements are needed.

How the Trailblazer Links the Key Projects Together in Oldham

Project 1: Community-Led Support

- Community partners being recruited to deliver early engagement activities.
- 85 referrals generated; 25 onboarded; first residents now taking part.
- Focus on building routine, confidence and basic life skills.



Project 2: One Front Door (Social Prescribing & Navigation)

- Over 160 residents identified so far.
- Clear referral routes from MSK, GPs, GOW and community organisations.
- Social Prescribing triage ensures residents move to the right support quickly.



Project 3: Volunteering into Employment

- Residents who are stable and ready are supported into volunteering roles.
- These placements will link into work experience, skills and employment opportunities.



Project 4: Making Employment Accessible

- Working with council departments and employers to create supported placements.
- Built around people with additional needs (e.g., SEND/LD) or health conditions.



Project 5: Get Oldham Healthy

- Residents can access gym membership, wellbeing sessions, and counselling through GOW.
- Linking physical activity, therapy and employment support together.
- Joint work underway with MSK to reduce waiting lists and connect people into community support sooner.

Systems Change: Embedding a Live Well Journey to Employment

Live Well Journey to Employment

Early in the EIT mobilisation phase, Local Authorities, VCSFE and other partners were brought together to create a system co-designed Live Well Journey to Employment. This is now forming the basis for Greater Manchester's vision across all partner activity enabling the system shift which needs to happen to take a prevention-focussed approach. An overview of this vision is set out to the right.

Live Well vision for Employment



Residents Voice

The Trailblazer has allowed the funding of Elephants Trail to develop community reporting and capacity building. This work has supported lived experience storytellers to capture insights from residents moving towards work.



Impact:

- Ensures that stories, insights, and innovations from residents facing barriers to work continue to shape employment support design and delivery across GM.
- Builds long-term capacity within communities by equipping residents who are economically inactive with transferable skills in digital media, interviewing, and storytelling — strengthening confidence, employability, and participation.
- Embeds resident voice as a recognised and consistent source of evidence for Trailblazer learning, policy influence, and system reform.

From our resident voice engagement work we know that from their perspective the participant journey could be improved through:

- Clear access points for support rather than “*locked doors*”.
- Flexible and person-centered support driven by needs to achieve longer term job outcomes rather than determined by benefits status and focused on job starts driven by KPI, “*ask what can help me*” rather than “*tick-box support*” which is “*too pushy*” and “*doesn’t look deep enough*”.
- A more coherent offer which reduces duplication and gaps, resulting in a “*powerful reset of the system*”.
- A whole life offer which removes arbitrary age-related transition points that are driven by policy and funding, avoiding support given at “*not the right time.*”
- The Elephants Trail have developed a video which raises awareness and understanding of creating places of hope towards good work, their links with and support for community-led health and well-being, and the potential for solutions to spread: **Hope - creating Live Well centres 03.2025** (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wWINCzriOf4>).

Supporting VCFSE Engagement in Employment Support

Presented by John Hannen – Work and Skills Lead and Voluntary Sector North West

Project Activity

- Strategic advice to public sector
 - Studies of VCFSE activity to show good practice are underway now
 - Generating intelligence from VCFSE providers
 - Producing insight from local infrastructure organisations
- Building capacity in VCFSE organisations
 - Supporting local infrastructure to understand the changing environment
 - Training and support sessions in the new year
 - Producing development plans for each district

Impact - increasing ability of VCFSE to deliver

- Better VCFSE engagement with employers
- VCFSE organisations more comfortable with data requirements
- Commissioners understanding nature of the market

Data and Digital Transformation: Live Well Digital Offer Discovery Project



- Work is underway on a digital project which aims to understand the current ways of working and propose solutions for a Live Well digital offer.
- This work includes the following:
 - An analysis of existing digital services across localities in Greater Manchester which will support the GM Live Well programme
 - A gap analysis of existing and planned local and national Live Well digital solutions across Greater Manchester
 - Define user story/user requirements for a GM Live Well digital offer
 - Develop wireframes and/or prototypes for a GM Live Well digital solution
- The project will deliver an options appraisal document which maps out the user requirements and proposes a digital solution, this will complement the existing systems and optimise the current ways of working, which are fundamental to an integrated Live Well system.

Data and Digital Transformation:

Data Sharing: Case Finding Discovery Project



- The EIT has explored how combining different data sources helps target residents more effectively and match their needs to available opportunities, using a “names not numbers” approach to providing strengths-based and person-centered support.
- This has been achieved through:
 - Identifying and testing potential use cases for data sharing
 - Understanding what needs to happen in practice to unlock the potential of wider and longer-term data sharing in the future
 - Exemplar project design and roadmap for longer term action with named owners
- This is central to the Prevention Demonstrator, through providing a foundation to test working with central government and local areas to link additional datasets across themes and groups for better insight, targeting, and tracking.
- This work will be taken forward by the Joint Data Collaborative, which brings together GMCA, LAs, NHS, VCFSE and national government to further the ambitions of the Prevention Demonstrator.

Data and Digital Transformation: DWP Data Sharing Pilot



Department
for Work &
Pensions

- To fast track the work on data sharing, GM have been working with UK Government over the summer to unblock the barriers to data sharing so we can connect residents who are economically inactive and known to DWP but not accessing JCP Work Coach support to appropriate local offers, including EIT offers.
- We have agreed in principle with DWP to repurpose the existing Household Support Fund (HSF) data share between DWP and LAs.
- Initially the pilot will run in Rochdale and Stockport - LAs and GMCA are working together to finalise the data matching and evaluation approach prior to going live.
- If this is successful, there will be scope for DWP to amend the national policy to mainstream this approach, and for GM to embed this into future delivery and roll out across the other 8 LAs.
- This provides an early test case for the broader data sharing and integration principles being explored through the Joint Data Collaborative to further the ambitions of the Prevention Demonstrator.

JCP Integration

The logo for Jobcentreplus, featuring the text "jobcentreplus" in a sans-serif font. "job" is in white, "centre" is in yellow, and "plus" is in white, all set against a green rectangular background.

JCP are an integral contributor to realising a Live Well Journey to Employment due to the contact they have with residents who are not in employment.

Work is underway to integrate JCP with the Live Well model, led by a member of staff seconded from DWP to GMCA. This is supported by national changes within DWP to bring together JCP and the National Careers Service to form a new Jobs and Careers Service, meaning all responsibility for 18+ careers information, advice and guidance will be delivered by DWP from 1st October 2026. Although this is a national service there is mandate for localised delivery which we are maximising through this piece of work, building on the GM All Age Careers Trailblazer agreed in a previous devolution deal.

Joint working will enable more residents to access a wider range of statutory and community-led services providing personalised support when, where and how they need it.

Progress to date includes:

- Mapping JCP outreach activity in over 90 community-based locations including family hubs, youth hubs, libraries and prisons, and planning further opportunities to work alongside localities and support LiveWell centres and spaces as they evolve.
- Enabling closer working relationships between JCP and locality teams. Improving the visibility of all employment and skills offers to JCP frontline teams.
- Scoping opportunities for JCP staff development as part of the wider Live Well workforce.

Beyond the Trailblazer

Beyond the Trailblazer

The Economic Inactivity Trailblazer is not a stand-alone programme; it is a catalyst for change which:

- **Accelerates the move towards Live Well-** through articulation of a Live Well Journey to Employment, enabling systems change needed to realise this vision and providing insights into new Live Well delivery models that can be shared across other areas.
- **Supports the Prevention Demonstrator-** through enabling activity to be tested and scaled at pace, demonstrating what works to address economic inactivity, providing early insights into digital and data transformation work to be scaled up and contributing to the broader evaluation.
- **Furtheres the priorities of the Greater Manchester Strategy-** through bringing together activity that supports the GMS workstreams **Clear Line of Sight to High Quality Jobs**, **Everyday Support in Every Neighbourhood** and **Great Place to do Business** to enable both prevention and growth, providing a blueprint for the future delivery of employment and skills support.
- **Forms the building blocks of our Get GM Working Plan-** which outlines our ambitions to reduce the gap between the GM and national employment rate through focusing on four key areas: prevention and working differently with our residents, inclusive growth and the fundamental role of employers, health integration and maximising our unique system conditions including devolution, collaboration and partnerships, our digital and data capabilities and research evidence base.

Strategic Employment and Skills Approach: A blueprint for the future

A Live Well approach throughout - from Prevention to Growth

Creating an employment and skills system that supports everyone when and how they need it to improve their lives through better work



Engage and Inspire

Support for residents facing significant barriers to work

Outcome: People engaged and feeling inspired to look for work



Pathways into Good Work and Better Skills

Support for residents ready to look for work or better skills

Outcome: People entering work or achieving new skills / qualifications



Sustain and progress

Support for residents at risk of falling out of work or looking to progress / develop

Outcome: People sustaining their job and / or progressing in work

Neutral referral routes and triage / navigation processes throughout

2 Commissioning Models:

Locality led grants to LA's, VCFSE, Anchor institutions (e.g. FE Colleges)
Pan – GM contracts for specialist and cross-locality support

Discussion

Are you seeing Trailblazer activity addressing the challenges in your locality?

How well are employment ad skills activities connecting with the local Live Well agenda?

What further system-wide concerns could we tackle together through the Trailblazer?

Annex A – Additional Delivery Information

The following slides provide the following:

- A high-level outline of each LAs projects, including any target cohorts
- Key LA contact details

Priority Cohorts Supported Across Different Localities

Through a bottom-up approach working with localities and those with lived experience, the following priority cohorts have been identified within the wider 'economically inactive' population in GM

At Risk Groups

- Ex-Offenders
- Ex-Armed Forces
- People with Drug/Alcohol dependency
- Homeless/Rough Sleepers

Health and Disability

- Muscular Skeletal Conditions
- Mental Health
- Individuals with disabilities

Demographic Groups

- Young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)
- 50+
- Carers/Caring Responsibilities
- Lone Parents

Ethnic & Cultural Communities

- Orthodox Jewish Community
- South Asian Community
- Communities experiencing racial inequalities

Bolton

Project	Summary	Cohorts
Intensive Cohort Commissioning	Funds to develop and run test and learn projects to enhance existing community provision to operationally link to mainstream services	Young People; Ex-Offenders; Drug & Alcohol; Homeless/Rough Sleeping; Ex-Army/Veterans
Bolton Employment Hub	Recruit a Team Manager to deliver on Boltons Employment Hub and recruit 3x new Triage Officers to deliver on the employment hub both centrally and the spoke hubs.	All Bolton residents
Community Employment Support	Expanding Community job clubs; Test community language acquisition pilot; work with schools to test approaches within school settings in our targeted neighbourhoods where our neighbourhood teams operate	All Bolton residents
Building Boltons Futures	Create and test ILM model focussed on disadvantaged cohorts enabling these residents to build their skills and employment prospects.	Construction Sector

Bolton Continued

Project

Bolton Live Well Programme

Bolton Connexions Service - Skills
Construction Academy

Summary

Community and Digital Connectors to upskill residents on an accredited training and mentoring programme. The project aims to reduce digital exclusion, improve employment prospects, and build a stronger, more connected community

12 Week construction skills course for 12 NEET Young People. This will be ring fenced for individuals working with the Bolton Connexions Team.

Cohorts

Marginalised and priority cohorts.

NEET young people

Bury

Project

Bury Works – Bury Goals

ILM Strand

Summary

- Build upon the learning from the Key Worker Model to create a menu of sequenced activity to move participants towards work.
- Support our VCSE to develop specialist support that will engage residents on a local footing which may include preparatory intensive work to then move them onto appropriate work and skills support.
- Test intensive cohort programmes with small groups. We want to test this in sport venues such as Bury Football Club, Radcliffe Football Club, other community settings that residents are familiar with.

Test a sector led approach with job opportunities at the end e.g., construction, manufacturing, leisure and hospitality, Health and Social Care building upon the learning from Sector Based Work Academy Programmes (SWAPs).

Cohorts

- Young people
- Those with a disability and long-term health condition including mental health and MSK,
 - 50 plus,
- Offenders, ex-offenders,
- Bame including our South Asian population and our Orthodox Jewish population.

We want to apply a larger targeted % to reducing unemployment in our 18 - 24-year-olds.
YP = 60%
BAME/others = 40%

Manchester

Project

Project Strand 1 – Community

Project Strand 2 – Manchester Foundation Trust

Summary

Community Based organisations such as VCSE providers / Work Clubs would identify, engage and support residents who are not engaging with DWP but are engaging with non statutory services. The model would include a multi disciplinary approach with ESOL, Mental Health and Physio available to the Community Based organisation to support residents progress to economic activity. Delivered via mini-competitions to award funding

Clinicians in Manchester University Foundation Trust (MUFT) will identify economically inactive patients in clinical pathways. The Growth Company would provide Work and Health Coaches to support the identified patients towards economic activity. The departments we would engage include Paediatrics, Rheumatology, Chronic Pain, Cancer, Surgical waits (Orthopaedic), Diabetes, Respiratory, Gynaecology

Cohorts

65% from Priority Group (A): Long term sick or disabled. Age: 35 – 64 years.
Gender: Male/female. Ethnicity: English (UK), Pakistani, African, Caribbean, White & Black Caribbean, Irish.

35% from Priority Group (B): Looking after home/family. Age: 36 – 49 years.
Gender: Female. Ethnicity: English, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Asian, African

Economically Inactive are not a primary cohort for the low intensity, light touch WorkWell service. The EITB will support more complex participants in a wider range of hospital services and conditions.

Project	Summary	Cohorts
Volunteering Into Employment	Volunteering Pathway project that places a volunteering adviser (with lived experience of volunteering into employment) into JCP. Work coaches connect residents to the volunteering adviser, and they develop a plan together, residents are supported to connect with a range of VCFSE groups and organisations who develop meaningful volunteering roles (based around the individuals' strengths and interests) and provide wrap around support for people with significant challenges.	Economically inactive residents
Community-Led Employment Support	Two-way training for employability providers and community engagement groups to better support residents more seamlessly. Building capacity within the VCFSE sector to offer volunteering opportunities. Build capacity to develop and deliver activity which supports progression into work in a culturally literate and strengths-based way.	
One Front Door	Expanding our key worker base within the Single Point of Access model supporting residents to engage in social prescribing activities that will progress them towards an employment pathway.	

Oldham Continued

Project

Making Employment
Accessible

Get Oldham Healthy

Summary

- Develop an intervention or supported employment for disabled residents that provides the time and high level of support that adults with learning and physical disabilities need to enter the workforce and maintain employment including employer support.
- Develop an intervention that will target residents that have looked after the home for a long period of time. This will be delivered in local community and VCSFE organisations, working closely with private and public sector businesses to create meaningful work placements that will lead to potential employment.

- Capacity, resource and funding to offer placement opportunities to therapy students (with strict guidelines) to expand and support existing mental health offer and reduce pressure on mainstream services.
- Offer wider physical health interventions (walking groups, OCL activity) to support reduce pressure on mainstream physical health services.

Cohorts

Adults with SEND and those who
have looked after home

Residents with low level mental and
physical health issues that is a barrier
to them accessing an employment
pathway.

Project	Summary	Cohorts
Single Access Point	This project would expand provision and specifically target those who are economically inactive due to health or caring.	Economically Inactive residents
New Pioneers Programme	Work alongside New Pioneers Programme, which was designed to provide stability, confidence, hope and support to people to change their lives. This will be funded so it can expand and build provision in Heywood.	
Wellbeing Support	This project will be embedded within the mental health Living Well model. The trailblazer will allow us to work with those who need interventions prior to considering work, building on confidence, social isolation, life skills. This will also include Heywood's Integrated Neighbourhood huddle and Family Hub with access to a wellbeing worker or a welfare worker on a 1:1 basis.	

Project	Summary	Cohorts
Elevate	The Elevate Salford programme provides a range of services to support, train and prepare people furthest from the labour market, to gain skills, training and employment via the strong charity sector in Salford. Work will be augmented by the spot-purchase of specialist provision and a small ILM. In addition, there will also be a small grant fund for charities and VCSE organisations.	• Aged 50+ • Carers • Offenders • Homeless • BAME and/or • from most disadvantaged LSOAs
Salford Employment Hub	Focusing exclusively on supporting people who are economically inactive providing intensive Keyworker support operating out of community 'Live Well' centres, co-located with Primary Care, Welfare Rights, Libraries, Jobcentre Plus and others. The additional resource will also support people who have been referred into WorkWell but don't meet its eligibility criteria and will link in with established social prescribing and health pathways.	
Salford Futures	An ILM for NEET young people, offering paid placements within the council. This will look to trial a small-scale ILM for economically inactive residents, including with local VCSFE organisations. It is proposed that they would be supported by a Keyworker from the Salford Employment Hub.	

Stockport

Project	Summary	Cohorts
VCFSE small grant funding pot	-A pot of small grants funding for Sector 3 (as the lead VCSFE co-ordinating body) to commission engagement/confidence building /first step activities towards work for specific groups. -A training and support programme on addressing Work & Skills issues locally, including sharing of experiences, challenges and best practice would also be developed for participating VCFSE organisations.	Universal offer for the key cohorts across Stockport including people with disabilities / SEND, Veterans, Carers, Residents aged 50.
Work and Skills Navigators	Developing the Work & Skills Navigators model by having 4 Work & Skills Navigators who would have a neighbourhood work and skills 'triage' focus, and a more ongoing 'Key Worker' support for participants including delivery of local support workshops, peer support sessions, work clubs. The intention would be to embed this offer within existing community engagement teams, the Family Hubs and Libraries.	Longer term unemployed
Review of existing social prescribing / wellbeing services	This would include a review of existing wellbeing / social prescribing services and current levels of need by residents accessing Work and Skills support, and how local organisations are responding to this demand. It would also involve a review of capacity in existing local Wellbeing services.	
Testing Paid Work Placement models	Small cohort of priority groups to access this test offer. Focused on 6 months paid work placements with employers for people with SEND needs, Care Experienced, longer term unemployed.	SEND, Care Experienced and longer term unemployed

Tameside

Project

Community Engagement Programme

Routes to Work - Job Start Fund

Routes to Work - Additional Staff Capacity

Single Point of Access

Community Mental Health Support

Summary

Community groups within the locality identified would be supported to create engagement activities for economically inactive residents, based on their knowledge of the demographic and building on existing delivery.

This will support businesses in hiring local residents (anyone using routes to work with a disability is eligible for this scheme). This initiative will offer both financial and practical support during a 13-week trial period, with the aim of transitioning the employee into a permanent role.

Hiring 2 additional staff members which will significantly enhance capacity to engage and support economically inactive residents with disabilities and health conditions. This will expand outreach, offer more tailored guidance, and strengthen relationships with local partners and employers.

Knowledgeable key workers who can embed within local services such as Family Hubs and schools (or other satellite centres) would expand on the single point of contact approach being developed.

Rebuilding of low-level mental health support would be well utilised and work hand in hand with the Community Engagement Programme as a step into / from offers.

Cohorts

St Peters Ward (Ashton-under-Lyne)
- which has a high BAME community and high levels of economic inactivity which will be targeted through this provision

Project

Increasing capacity in VCFSE Organisations

Job Clubs

Social Prescribing

Co-design of interventions

Summary

Increasing the capacity of key VCFSE organisations who support residents into employment but providing access to wider mechanisms – such as clothes for interviews, reducing social isolation etc. Some of these organisations may also triage into employment/job support depending on the first interaction a resident undertakes within the system.

Expand and extend existing 7 Job Clubs. Expansion will look to provide enhanced services to ensure other barriers to work can be addressed by services who are co-located with the job clubs. Job Clubs will be embedded into community hubs and other community settings, especially alongside the Advice Hub model and primary care where appropriate.

Additional social prescribing resource will be embedded to identify people through primary care to support them to develop the skills and access the resources required to help them into employment. This would work in existing networks to support individuals presenting at GPs who are out of employment but with the right level of support could build confidence and skills to successfully find employment.

A trial of co-designing interventions for job/employment support and community settings with lived experience groups. This would have an economic inactivity specific focus linked to and wrapped around advice hub partners to influence how employment support and wider support to tackle barriers is challenged/addressed.

Cohorts

- Priority cohorts will include:
- Over 50s with health conditions
 - People suffering with mental health conditions

Project

Locality Key Workers

Community mental health offer

Work Well expansion

Further VCSFE Commissioning

Summary

Appoint a VCFSE lead provider to work alongside the sector to contract provision in neighbourhoods to invest capacity in VCFSE providers. This will provide ‘key working’ delivery to engage residents who are furthest away from the labour market, working alongside residents to build confidence and breakdown the barriers and challenges that they may be experiencing.

Developing an approach to neighbourhood led holistic mental health support alongside communities. Recognising that as the first step into support, and residents accessing help, would be better navigated in the communities in which they live, alongside trusted VCFSE organisations.

Additional post in the Work Well Hub to support with the connections out from community to the broader eco-system.

Where gaps in provision are identified, commissioning bespoke or new provision alongside VCFSE providers. This could also include community-based employment support. This will help to build trust with partners in the broader eco-system and will ensure that broader services are easier to reach.

Cohorts

Economically inactive residents

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