



Social Value Annual Summary 2023

Key Highlights



£312,051

of Social Value funding was received from contractors to support 75 organisations or projects.

Great Places supply chain created **£664,992** of Social Value in 2022/23



£352,941

of Social Value was delivered directly by contractors. 29 Supply Chain Partners supported 72 Projects.



£664,653

of Social Value was procured across future contracts.



The Contractors who have delivered Social Value throughout 2022/23

 AA PROJECTS



AMRIN RESOURCES LTD

Anthony Collins
solicitors



BOWKER
SADLER

Brabners
we make the difference

connolly^{ltd}



Countryside
Partnerships



forbessolicitors.



Pell Frischmann
Excellence through innovation



Rowlinson



WRIGHT | HASSALL

Introduction

This report celebrates the Social Value created by Great Places' Supply Chain throughout 2022/23. Outlining the social impact the supply chain have delivered over the last year, bolstering support available to customers in midst of the Cost-of-Living Crisis. Demonstrating the variety of ways Social Value can be procured and delivered, providing flexibility for the supply chain to deliver what is best suited to them and Great Places' communities.

Great Places Social Value Aims

- Developing Community Wealth through supply chain specialist support, volunteering and donations.
- Utilising supply chain employment support and opportunities for Great Places' customers.
- Working with local organisations that incorporate ethical and responsible practice to further the social impact of Great Places' spend.
- Considering environmental impact when procuring goods and services, influencing the supply chain to transition to becoming Net Zero.

The report will reveal the successes achieved by contractors to deliver positive social impact through engagement from colleagues. By showcasing these outcomes to celebrate the hard work and dedication of those involved and to encourage others to take the same approach. Moreover, we aim to demonstrate how Great Places' commitment to Social Value is translating into tangible, meaningful impact in the communities where we operate.

Great Places' Approach to Social Value

The approach to delivering Social Value is built on a foundation of collaboration, transparency, and accountability. Early in the procurement process the supply chain and contract managers are engaged to consider what a realistic Social Value ask is alongside contract delivery. By understanding the capabilities and experience of potential suppliers, we can better match them with opportunities to deliver optimal social impact, stopping suppliers from getting Social Value wrong. Also working closely with our Community Investment Team to identify commitments needed within our communities.

The procurement documents create trackable and realistic commitments, with a clearly defined ask. This involves creating numerical and measurable Social Value targets that are suitable for the size of each contract. Excessive commitments are queried to ensure outcomes are delivered throughout the lifetime of a contract.

When a contract begins a Social Value Plan is developed with the contractor to outline how and when Social Value will be delivered throughout a contract. Contract managers play a critical role in holding the supply chain accountable for delivering on their Social Value commitments. By regularly monitoring and reporting on progress, we ensure that commitments are turned into tangible outcomes that create lasting social impact. Engaging with Community Investment to identify active projects and customers the supply chain are able to support. Overall, the approach is designed to foster a collaborative and sustainable outcomes that benefits everyone involved.



Social Value Delivered by Contractors creating £352,941 delivered across 72 Projects by 29 suppliers.

The following sub-headings are supported by examples of some of the projects delivered

£42,093 (£ / in-kind) Donated directly to community partners or projects

- Markhams donated £3,000 to The Welcome, a key community partner based in Longridge. The donation will support the continuation of their services i.e. food provision, community groups and furniture support.
- AA Projects and Lantei donated school uniform and equipment to Brightmet Community Locker, Bolton to support families struggling to cover school costs.
- Sure Maintenance sourced and funded a brand new commercial fridge to Crescent Food Bank. The support will extend the offer to the community as they will be able to acquire more fresh produce.



£7,226 of specialist advice for community partners

- Frischmann completed a Land Survey on a communal green space to outline how Great Places can maximise the space for local customers.
- LK Group assessed St John's Wood to provide an Environmental Survey to understand the viability of their plans to develop projects within the space.
- Sure Maintenance Joinery advice for Youth Elements community outreach van. The van required internal fittings to optimise the space, the support allowed Youth Elements to identify how to proceed with the plans, resulting in the van launching to the public in August.



Case Study One - Cost of Living



Lyreco, LK Group, CPC Project Services and Rowlinson donated £4,173 of items to create winter warmer packs in response to the Cost-of-Living crisis. Their support facilitated the distribution of 137 winter warm packs to customers.

The packs have been distributed to customers through Community Centres and home visits. Great Places' Neighbourhood Services Managers distributed some packs so that they can provide some low-level energy advice and offer the pack as a means of reducing energy consumption within the customers' home. The packs were also being distributed through 8 different community centres across the North West alongside events to engage with customers experiencing financial difficulty.



The support has complemented a variety of existing projects, furthering support available to customers. In Knutsford customers are isolated and struggling financially. A mobile food delivery initiative is active in their area through our partnership, and we will be complementing this offer with winter warmer packs directly to residents. Those receiving the packs have been able to link in with other services offered by Great Places such as Employability Coaches who can support customers to access employment or improve their job prospects or the Financial Resilience Service that provides customers with advice regarding debts and welfare benefits. Overall, the donations were well received, providing the opportunity to offer further support to those who need it most.

154 hours volunteered

- A team at Identity Consult volunteered a day to support Stockport Food Bank to setup a new local service.
- Sure Maintenance provided improvement works to community spaces within Northmoor.
- EQUANS Sheffield site team provided an afternoon to complete a community litter pick with local partners.



16 people employed including 6 Apprenticeships, Working with local partners and the Employability Team to identify candidates

- Beluga Group supported 2 unemployed people into work on their London Road site, Sheffield working with local partners to identify candidates.
- Lantei hired an Admin Apprentice to support the delivery of their Gas Compliance contract.



Case Study Two

Esh Construction are the contractor working on Fir View Gardens, a Great Places development in Sheffield where 20 properties will be built. As part of their work, a variety of Social Value commitments were made through the ICN Framework. Esh have been working closely with Great Places to deliver the following:

- Created 2 apprentice opportunities working directly on-site. As part of their focus on increasing opportunities for women within the construction sector, 1 of these roles has been filled by a woman.
- Donated £7,500 to Great Places' communal orchard development in our Wybourn neighbourhood. Going forward, once further work starts and where suitable donations of materials are to be made to support the improvement work along with volunteering hours to be provided.
- Provided a week of work experience to an individual interested in working within the construction sector.
- Attended and supported the delivery of Better Learners Better Workers, an event attended by 140 students from 11 different schools. The programme is employer-led to provide young people with the skills and attitudes they will need to be successful in the world of work. Esh Construction represented the Construction Industry, delivering 5 sessions each highlighting the various routes into the multitude of careers within the sector. One group presented their findings from the session at the end of the day to the entire audience. Here are a few words from the students in the group;

“At the start, I thought construction was just building and wasn't so interested. When Esh spoke about the other roles in construction, especially media and law that was really interesting and fascinating to me”.



174 hours of careers support

- Reed Recruitment visited a Supported Living scheme to deliver a session on the pathways into employment and skill development.
- A 'Meet the Builder' event was held at a local Primary School by developer, Eric Wright who are currently working on the Ancoats Dispensary, Manchester.
- Esh Construction attended a Women in Construction event in Sheffield, to encourage women to enter the sector by working to reduce barriers.



62 weeks of work experience

- Lantei work experience of 3 days a week for 6 months supporting a customer on their pathway to working within the Electric trade.
- Paddock Johnson arranged a week of work placement.
- Sutcliffe 16 weeks of work placements



Case Study Three - Manor Park Employability

Colleagues across Great Places alongside three suppliers, VPS Site Security, Sure Maintenance and Poole Dick hosted an engaging learning event for Year 5/6 children from Manor Park Primary School, Knutsford, based in one of our anchor neighbourhoods. As part of the school's 'Raising Aspirations' project, which Great Places is involved with, the students came along to our Head Office for us to introduce them to the variety of job opportunities within housing.

On the day, teams from across the business had a 'station' each, with an activity prepared for groups of three to understand the variety of types of working before moving along to the next station. These activities ranged from seeing gas maintenance equipment first hand to filming their very own podcasts.

The day was a huge success and the groups got stuck into every station enthusiastically. We visited the Head Office today with over 60 Year 5 and Year 6 children as part of our raising aspirations project. There were so many different trades and professionals in attendance with every pupil feeling so welcome and very supported.". Not Great Places words, the words of Manor Park Head Teacher, Simon Cotterill.



Social Value Funding

Social Value funding is provided by organisations receiving work through Great Places' Investment and Legal Services Frameworks. The funding is then distributed to a variety of projects within our communities.

£312,051
has been
allocated to
64 projects:

- Digital training and equipment for 21 customers living on Great Places' Housing First programme. These customers are ex-homeless and this support helps reduce their barriers so they can access support services.
- Cooking on a budget sessions at Sarah Lodge Independence and Wellbeing scheme.
- Bluebell Court wellbeing sessions with 12 customers to support them struggling with their emotions.

Greater Together Foundation Case Study

£200,000 of funding supported 32 projects across Great Places neighbourhoods in response to the Cost-of-Living Crisis. Grants from £1k to £25K available to organisations that can support to alleviate poverty and improve employment skills for those facing financial hardship. The £200,000 is made up of contributions by 7 suppliers from Great Places' Legal and Investment Framework.

A huge influx of applications were received, providing the opportunity to build relationships with new community partners. The support of Great Places goes further than just the money, Community Partnership Managers are able to advise on how to get the most impact out of a service and can identify other routes of funding.

See below some examples of projects the funding has supported:

£11,000 - Billy Project's Community Fridge, Blackburn

The project provides food, healthy eating tips and budgeting advice to vulnerable and disadvantaged women. Alongside this offer the centre provides women a safe space to exercise and access other services around health, wellbeing and more specialised trauma-informed services.

Leanne Proctor, Director, said: *"We have a large clientele and see us as a safe place to come and help themselves and build relationships with other people. It's been a vital resource for the community and we are delighted that Great Places can see the valuable work we are doing with a group who need our help."*



£5,000 - Mancunian Way, Salford

Working to engage disenfranchised young people who are at risk of becoming involved in crime, anti-social behaviour and putting themselves at risk by making poor choices. The funding supports to deliver detached youth work on the streets of Salford.

The service operates from two vans equipped with Wi-Fi, media and food and drinks offering flexible support, responding to need. There is a promotion of personal responsibility for the benefit of the whole community.



£11,000 - Women's CHAI Project, Oldham

Women's project runs across Oldham from seven different venues, with the aim to project is to empower and support women's wellbeing, ensuring mothers are better equipped to make a difference to their children, themselves and the community.

The funding has supported the development of a digital project to bridge the digital divide, assisting with digital poverty and allowing women to be more independent. This will support women to access essential services with ease, such as benefit information, employment support and medical records while utilising digital skills to reduce social isolation.



Women's CHAI Project
Care, Help & Inspire

