

GM Housing Providers sign up to new anti-poverty pledges



Greater Manchester Housing Providers (GMHP) members have already made a significant contribution to the fight against poverty. Last year they helped 7700 residents towards work, supported 600 apprenticeships, and secured 230 kickstart placements for young people at risk of long-term unemployment.

They helped tenants secure over £22m in unclaimed benefits and grants and in the last 3 years they've developed 5000 new homes in GM, over half of which were for social and affordable rent and they have helped over 800 rough sleepers and homeless households into secure homes.

Their new anti-poverty pledges are aimed at alleviating poverty amongst their customers and tackling the root causes of poverty in our communities. The housing providers have pledged to support, promote and implement activities and initiatives that help to address these priorities, and to work individually and collectively to meet the commitments made in the pledges.

This is not the full list of pledges. You can read them [here](#), but these are some of the commitments GMHP have made.

Reducing Inequalities:

- co-ordinate an approach to reduce the inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage, in line with Section 1 of the Equality Act 2010 and [adopt the principles of the socio-economic duty](#) by assessing the socio-economic impact of our policy decisions;
- extend the successful Black, Asian and minority ethnic Leadership Programme to make leadership pathways within the organisations fair;
- carry out an annual survey of member organisations to measure approaches to managing and promoting equality, diversity and inclusion, and to share good practice.

Social Inclusion:

- provide and promote money advice services along with advice on energy use and fuel providers;
- work with GMCA, local councils and VCSE partners to ensure that there is access to emergency food aid for those who need it, and identify longer term, more sustainable ways to support access to healthy and affordable food for all;
- reduce the digital divide through the provision of training, funding, and support for digital inclusion measures to maximise the opportunities available for tenants and residents;
- reduce the financial burden on new tenants by offering a range of ways to access free or affordable furniture, white goods and carpets and access support with decorating.

Employment and Skills:

- work collaboratively to identify and deliver accessible pathways for tenants and residents to access jobs in the growth sectors;
- work collaboratively to support underrepresented groups into our construction vacancies and supply chains;
- create job opportunities for all ages, with an emphasis on supporting those from vulnerable and diverse backgrounds who have been significantly disadvantaged;
- embed employment support work across all activities;
- Deliver pathways into entry level jobs for tenants and residents.



Continued on the following page.

Housing and Homelessness:

- provide safe, warm, dry homes that meet or exceed the decent homes standard and by improving the energy efficiency help residents reduce their outgoings and to support health inequalities;
- work collaboratively on development sites and schemes to maximise impact and reduce costs and develop ways to accelerate delivery of good quality new homes and continue to prioritise the delivery of low-cost rented housing;
- use LetUs, the GM Ethical Lettings Agency, to reduce homelessness by increasing the number of good quality private sector homes available to rent;
- provide housing with support for rough sleepers and homeless people through a variety of programmes;
- adopt an ethical policy to ensure that social rented homes remain in the sector wherever possible.

Social Value:

- maximise the value of the procurement and supply chain by adopting and implementing the principles in the GMCA Social Value Policy;
- build capacity and sustainability in the VCSE sector through the provision of grant funding and access to training opportunities for tenants and residents.



Fair Employment:

- pay the real Living Wage and seek accreditation with the Living Wage Foundation as Living Wage Employers;
- sign up to the GM Good Employment Charter.

You can read the full list of pledges and other related articles on the GMHP website [here](#)

Greater Manchester Real Living Wage Campaign Update



Since the previous GM Living Wage Campaign update I have been supporting the development of the GM Real Living Wage City Region Action Plan in time for a launch in November. I have also attended meetings of the Action Plan Steering Group and the first planning meeting of the Campaign sub-group. At a more local level I was present at the Salford City Real Living Wage Steering Group where excellent progress towards the real Living Wage targets in Salford was reported on and discussed.

Preparations with the Living Wage Foundation, GM Citizens and other partners continue for Living Wage Week, November 15 - 20, 2021. We will publish a full programme of events across GM in the next newsletter. In the meantime look out for information about Living Wage Week across our social media platforms detailed below. If you have an idea for an event or want to know more about Living Wage Week please [contact me](#).

A new report published by the Living Wage Foundation and the Smith Institute states that if just a quarter of those on low incomes saw their pay raised to the real Living Wage, the subsequent increase in wages, productivity and spending could deliver a £1.5bn economic boost to the UK economy and support a more equitable recovery from the Covid pandemic. In GM the economic boost would be almost £56m if 244,000 low paid workers in the city region were paid at least the real Living Wage. The report is entitled [The Living Wage Dividend](#).

A key area of focus for GMLWC is the care sector and the [Living Wage Foundation](#) have recently published a [Social Care Toolkit](#) providing guidance for adult social care providers and local authorities commissioning care who wish to pay their workers the real Living Wage. We will look to use this tool to increase the number of real Living Wage employers in the social care sector in GM in the coming months.

[John Hacking](#),

Greater Manchester Living Wage Campaign Co-ordinator

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The Greater Manchester Living Wage Campaign is a Greater Manchester Poverty Action programme.

Green Homes Grants

The GMCA has secured a further £5.6 million of funding to run the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery scheme in partnership with E.ON. The scheme aims to:

- Tackle fuel poverty by increasing low-income homes' energy efficiency rating while reducing their energy bills.
- Deliver cost effective carbon savings to carbon budgets and progress towards the UK's target for net zero by 2050.
- Support clean growth and ensure homes are thermally comfortable, efficient and well adapted to climate change.
- Support economic resilience and a green recovery in response to the economic impacts of Covid-19.



Who can apply: You're eligible if your home has an EPC energy efficiency rating of D¹, E, F or G and your household income is less than £30,000 or someone in your home receives benefits such as Universal Credit, Income Support, or Disability Allowance. The grant can be used for low carbon heating measures such as air source heat pumps as well as different types of insulation.

The scheme lasts until December, with a target of approximately 340 homes to have improvements by this date.

[More info](#) or [email](#) GMCA.

Fully funded line management training

A flexible development programme for managers/managers in adult social care in Greater Manchester.



MMU are offering a series of fully funded online sessions to support line managers to develop their people management skills, motivate their team and improve work quality and productivity within their organisation.

The programme includes a selection of:

Masterclasses - an opportunity to learn through structured teaching alongside interactive discussions and practical case studies with fellow line managers.

"I really enjoyed the experience. The facilitators used a good approach to teaching and getting us all involved and when we had to deliver, I felt supported and encouraged to work on the issues I had raised..." Adult Social Care programme participant

Peer learning opportunities - an opportunity to discuss, reflect, and develop actions on your management challenges with a small group of managers from different organisations, drawing on the experience and insight of others.

1-2-1 specialist coaching - a confidential space where individuals can discuss their management challenges and develop goals and action plans.

Further information and dates for the programme are available [here](#)

justfair

Job Opportunity: Administrator

Part time (1 day per week: 7.5 hrs) to be worked flexibly. Home-based.
Closing date: Tuesday November 2nd, 2021 at 9am.

Just Fair exists to realise a fairer and more just society in the UK, bringing social justice and human rights together. They work to ensure that UK law, policy and practice complies with domestic and international human rights obligations.

Are you an experienced administrator, a proactive self-starter, highly organised and able to work on your own initiative? Just Fair are looking for a person with strong IT skills, who can support the organisation's administration and financial processing.

[Application Pack – Administrator](#)

Changing Futures Job Opportunities with GMCA and 10GM

The Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) is made up of a number of key Greater Manchester strategic functions and service providers. 10GM is a joint venture to support the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector in the city region.



Changing Futures is a new GM programme led by GMCA and working in partnership with 10GM, and other organisations across the VCSE and statutory sector to improve the way that local systems and services work for adults experiencing multiple disadvantage. The programme will bring partners together from across GM – from people with lived experience, to the NHS, the VCSE sector to local government, to use the learning to influence wider systems change, both locally and nationally. These are new job opportunities with Changing Futures:

GMCA: Involvement and Co-production Manager (Multiple Disadvantage) Salary range: £36,922- £40,876
Full time. Fixed Term to March 31st, 2024. Based in Greater Manchester with frequent travel across the city region, especially to the 4 Innovation Sites (Wigan, Manchester, Rochdale, Oldham) Closing date: 24th October 2021 [More info](#)

10GM: Partnerships and Development Manager (VCSE and Changing Futures) Salary range: £35,745- £37,890
Full Time. Fixed Term to March 31st, 2024. A hybrid office and home working role with frequent travel across GM. The main office base will be at GMCA's offices in Manchester. Closing date: October 31st, 2021 [More info](#)

GMCA: Data Fusion and Human Insight (Multiple Disadvantage) Salary range: £41,881 – £45,859
Full time. Fixed Term to March 31st, 2024. Based in Greater Manchester. There will be frequent travel across Greater Manchester, especially to the 4 Innovation Sites. Closing date: 24th October 2021 [More info](#)



The Booth Centre

Sharing their latest [Annual Report](#), the Booth Centre celebrates everything their community was able to achieve from April 2020 to March 2021; a year in which they stayed open throughout the pandemic, redesigned their service with people at the Centre three times and celebrated their 25th Anniversary in lockdown. This report celebrates the fantastic achievements that their community was able to realise despite the difficulties.

The Booth Centre believes that there are opportunities to influence strategic change and ensure that we have a post-pandemic world with less, rather than more, homelessness. Increased Government expenditure during the first lockdown showed that we can end rough sleeping in Greater Manchester if there is enough funding and everyone works together.

Booth Centre Sleepout

On Friday November 12th, 2021 the Booth Centre is holding their annual sleep out to raise vital funds and awareness of people who are homeless in our community and you are invited to take on a fundraising challenge to show your support.



What? - Sleep out for one night only, to support others who have to sleep out night after night

Where? - Your Sleepout location of choice - home, garden, balcony, workplace, community setting

Who? - You and your fellow Sleepout Challengers!

You will be part of a network of remote Sleepout Challengers, and the Booth Centre will bring you together with a virtual online platform on the night, powered by PixelMax. More information and register [here](#)

For more information about Greater Manchester Poverty Action

please visit our [website](#), follow us on [Twitter](#) or visit our [Facebook](#) page.

We want to find new ways of working together, share the network's successes and provide a voice for the people living in poverty in our region but we can only do this with your help and support.

Copies of previous newsletters are available on our [website](#) If you would like to submit an article please [get in touch](#) For more information please contact us by [email](#).



NB GMPA does not have full-time dedicated administrative support so please do not expect an immediate response.

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