



# Your GMLPN Member Pack

September 2022



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*GMLPN membership provides insight into the ever changing landscape of the sector. The greatest benefit is knowing that peers in the sector are facing the same challenges and are open about how they address these challenges to the benefit of others.*

”

Established in 2006, the Greater Manchester Learning Provider Network (GMLPN) is a network of over 100 Independent Training Providers, Colleges of Further Education, Schools and Universities.

## Be sure to follow us on...








# Vision, Values and Priorities

### Our vision

*Working with our members and partners, our vision is to help Greater Manchester reach its economic and social potential by supporting and influencing the skills system through the delivery of vocational skills to enable people to fulfil their aspirations and businesses to achieve sustainable growth.*

## Developed our values and priorities...

### Our values

 <p>Promoting Equality of Opportunity</p>	 <p>Responding Positively to Change</p>	 <p>Representing our Members Fairly</p>	 <p>Collaboration between our Members and Partners</p>	 <p>Commitment to the vocational skills system</p>
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### Our priorities

 <p>Influencing and Informing</p>	 <p>Demonstrating the impact of vocational skills</p>	 <p>Facilitating response to employer need</p>	 <p>Capacity Building</p>
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# Benefits of membership

- Networking** and **collaborating** with over 100 other Skills and Apprenticeship Training Providers – click here to view the list of [our members](#).
- Opportunity to be involved in **influencing** and **informing** the skills sector both within Greater Manchester, across the North and nationally. If there's anything you have to raise get in touch!
- Influence** the direction of the Network through surveys, **voting** at the AGM and providing feedback on the membership service – we are always looking to improve the service.
- Access to **expert support** and **guidance** facilitated by the GMLPN team.
- Regular **Network Meetings** with **updates** from **key stakeholders** including ESFA, Ofsted, GMCA and more.
- Weekly bulletins** direct to your inbox with the latest sector news, business development opportunities and upcoming events – also available on the app.
- Updates on **GMLPN projects**, with potential to **collaborate** where relevant – [click here to see our current projects](#).
- Potential **discounts and free resources** through our Partners and Consultants who offer a range of services.
- Free** access to **sector update webinars** through the Provider Support Programme (PSP).
- Discounted rates** (up to 40%) on paid for **webinars** included in the GMLPN Provider Support Programme events (PSP).
- Access to our **Professional Exchange** events where colleagues are given a platform to share **good practice, resources** and discuss **challenges** (PSP).
- Access to the **GMLPN Mobile App** providing members with a new way to **connect** including, **notifications** and **updates** straight to their phones, booking onto upcoming GMLPN events and access to our **member forums**.
- Promoting** your **Good News**, Press Releases and events through our well **established channels** including bulletins to Schools, Colleges and NEET Organisations.
- Feature** your **apprenticeship provision** for **free** on [our Find an Apprenticeship Provider search](#) function used by schools, colleges and employers (price for non-members is £250 per annum).
- Access** to our **online resources** including toolkits such as our [Mental Health & Wellbeing Toolkit for Training Providers](#).

# GMLPN Member App

The app provides GMLPN members with a new way to connect allowing you to:

- Receive direct notifications of important updates directly to your phones
- Online Forums - [Download the forum guide](#)
- Book on to upcoming GMLPN events
- Have access to our member directory, partners and consultants
- Plus more to come including online forums!

To download search "Engagefully" in the App Store or Google Play Store and click here for [further download instructions](#).



# Strategic Partners

We work with several strategic partners to influence the skills system and its impact across Greater Manchester and the North, in particular, to engage in levelling up agenda. These strategic partners include:



# Provider Support Programme

[View our upcoming events here](#)

Our Provider Support Programme (PSP) aims to support you to successfully adapt to the changes and challenges affecting your organisation. We work with a range of experts to deliver to you a high quality training and consultancy offer. We also work with our members to facilitate peer-to-peer learning through our Professional Exchanges.

## Workshops/Webinars

All of our workshops and webinars are suitable for organisations not currently a member of GMLPN but as a GMLPN member you can save up to 40% on tickets. Some of the PSP webinar topics have included: Audit & Compliance, RoATP Application Support, Safeguarding Learners Online, Improving Success Rates in English & Maths, Claiming Additional Learning Support with Confidence, Governance, Using Deep Dives to ensure High Quality Provision and lots more!

“  
*The support from GMLPN is beyond words, we attended the session which was eye opening to see the amount of work/thought and evidence you need to express in this RoATP application compared to those of previous years.*  
”

“  
*The session allowed everyone the opportunity to comment, the session was hosted/managed very well, all points/questions were valid which made the session more interactive.*  
”

## Professional Exchanges

Professional Exchanges, sponsored by NCFE, gives members the opportunity to work collaboratively, discussing key challenges, sharing best practice and learning from one another. Recent Professional Exchanges have focused on the following themes: Adapting Future Delivery, Mental Health & Wellbeing, Online Safeguarding and Supporting Autistic Individuals.

Sponsored by:



“  
*A really good session giving some 'food for thought' that I've certainly taken away to act on*  
”

## Sector Updates

We have a range of different sector updates which are free for members. These often take place at our regular Network Meetings or at dedicated sessions. Some recent sector updates have included input from IfATE with an EPA update, Ofsted – Embedding Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, Pearson – Essential Digital Skills, Safety First – Risk Assessment in the Workplace.

“  
*Very informative and relevant. I will be able to use the information given to underpin our processes*  
”

# Consultancy

We have partnerships in place with a number of high quality consultants. Each consultant is able to offer 1-1 support and can be delivered either face-to-face or virtual. **GMLPN members can receive up to 40% discount on consultancy services, with a standard rate available for non-members.**



Alex has worked in the FE sector for over 18 years and is incredibly passionate about the sector & the organisations she supports & represents. Alex delivers a range of consultancy support to training organisations nationally covering areas including **leadership & management, audit & compliance, Governance & oversight, expert challenge and critical friend support plus quality improvement.**

Anmarie is an experienced national/international trainer, coach, mentor and consultant. She is an associate for the ETF and a professional development lead for the National Centre for Excellence in Teaching Maths. She has developed and delivered a wealth of national professional development training for teachers, assessors and managers across the **post 16 sector as well as bespoke CPD, particularly focused on Maths, Coaching and Mentoring etc.**



Andy is a highly experienced education specialist, having worked in the sector for over 30 years including senior leadership roles with Training and Enterprise Councils, LSC and the Skills Funding Agency. Andy's specialist areas are **skills research & policy, public procurement, regional development funding, and quality standards**, having been involved in multiple Ofsted inspections.

Marina has 23 years' experience of inspecting all aspects of the Further Education and Skills and is a current Ofsted Inspector. Marina has specialised in **supporting further education and skills leaders to rapidly improve their provision and improve people's life chances through learning.**



Phil is the Director of the Safe and Equal Partnership (established in 2012) which specialises in providing Safeguarding training and consultancy to the learning and skills sector. As a Strategic Associate of the now closed Centre for Excellence in Leadership and the Learning and Skills Improvement Service Phil pioneered **safeguarding training for the sector and led the development of staff training materials on sexual orientation equality.**

Paul has over 20 years experience of leading and designing administrative processes for the FE Sector, specifically for Apprenticeships and Study Programme. His expert knowledge of many FE Systems, particularly PICS, means **you can be supported with improving processes or documentation, or even if you need an ESFA Style assurance review for Compliance.**



# Partnerships

We work with a range of partners who offer products and services to you. These include End Point Assessment Organisations, education technology platforms, stationery suppliers, HR and accountancy.

## Awarding Bodies & EPAOS



**NCFE** - Awarding organisation, EPAO and charity with a particular emphasis on supporting social mobility and prosperity



**Pearson**

**Pearson** - Awarding organisation and EPAO providing high quality content, opportunities and learning experiences, as well as assessments and qualifications



**Cognassist** - Identify hidden learning needs, personalise support and transform learner attainment



**Bluestone Leasing** - Specialise in providing asset finance solutions

## Other Partners



**HURST** - Accountancy, audit, and tax specialists



**ZEN** - Business Supplies, Print & Promotion, Mail & Fulfilment, Signage & Exhibition, Workwear & PPE and Business Interiors



**Onefile** - E-portfolio and learning software



**Peninsula** - Employment law and health and safety support



**Sisra Observe** - The Quality Development Tool designed around staff ownership of their own development



# Projects

## Apprenticeship Support and Knowledge in Schools (ASK)



GMLPN offer a range of inspirational and engaging **impartial Apprenticeship information and support to all schools, colleges and NEET providers in Greater Manchester** for students in years 10, 11, 12 and 13. The aim of the Apprenticeship Support and Knowledge for Schools (ASK) programme is to support educational establishments to deliver high-quality information, advice and guidance (IAG) to their **students on apprenticeships and traineeships**.

GMLPN created a search function that enables young people, parents, careers advisors and teachers to find out which providers deliver which standards in Greater Manchester. Users can search by sector, levels of apprenticeships and by provider. **Listings on the search function are free as part of membership.**

## Supporting Autistic Individuals into Apprenticeships

In partnership with:



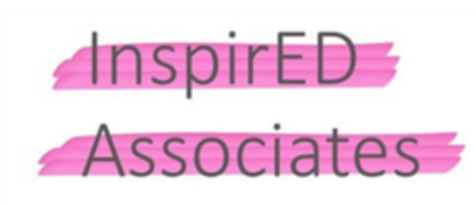
The purpose of this project, delivered in partnership with NCFE, is to **equip autistic individuals with technical and employability skills to progress into Apprenticeships** or other vocational education and training. It aims to improve links between schools/colleges, training providers, referral agencies and employers to **improve progression routes between education and employment.**

Using our local knowledge of Training Providers in Greater Manchester, we are able to identify a provider to support the autistic individual who then can deliver a bespoke package of support. We are also working to support providers, referral agencies and employers via our Autism & Apprenticeships online community. **Get in touch for more information!**

## TRANSFORM Programme

We have worked alongside InspirED Associates to **support their delivery** of the TRANSFORM Programme. TRANSFORM is a unique, innovative programme that created a virtuous circle of engaging individuals who will **shape the development and skills of the workforce of the future**, acting as ambassadors for their sectors, whilst enhancing workforce development of the local FE providers. **Find out more here.**

In partnership with:



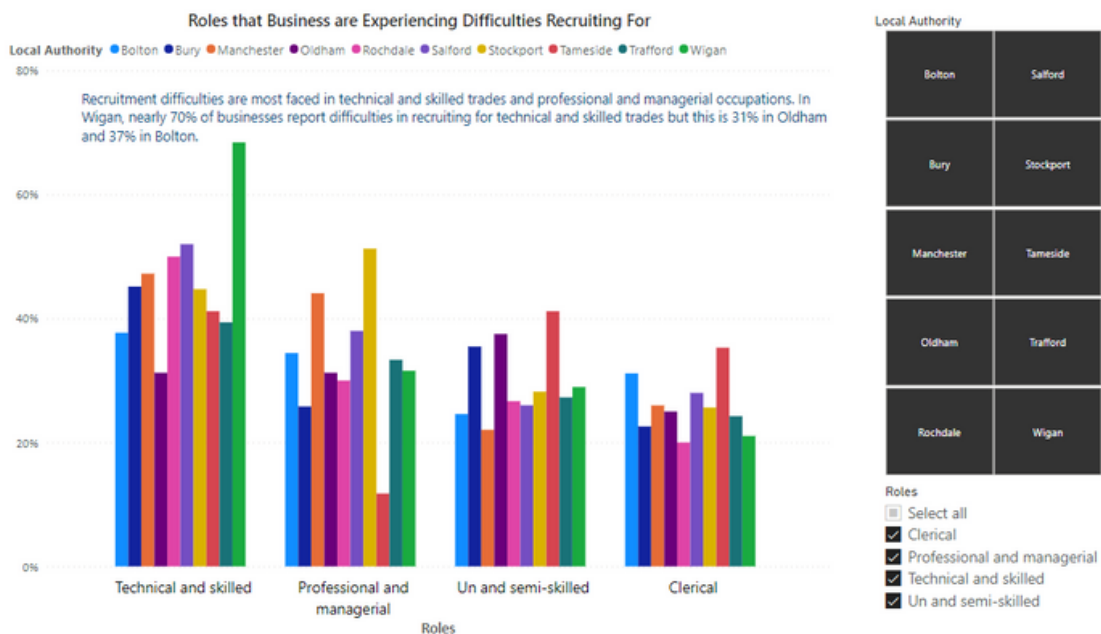
# GM BEST



To develop a better understanding of skills related constraints, GMLPN has partnered with Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce (GMCC) to develop the **GM Business, Employment, Skills and Training Monitor** (GM BEST).

Data has been **collected through surveys** of c.1,100 business across Greater Manchester and **Focus Group** meetings with learning providers.

Initial GM BEST data has been broken down into interactive Dashboards ([click here to access](#)) which can be filtered by Local Authority and Sector. You can find an example image here:



# Our Team



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Our Team is supported by the [GMLPN Board](#) & [Advisory Board](#)