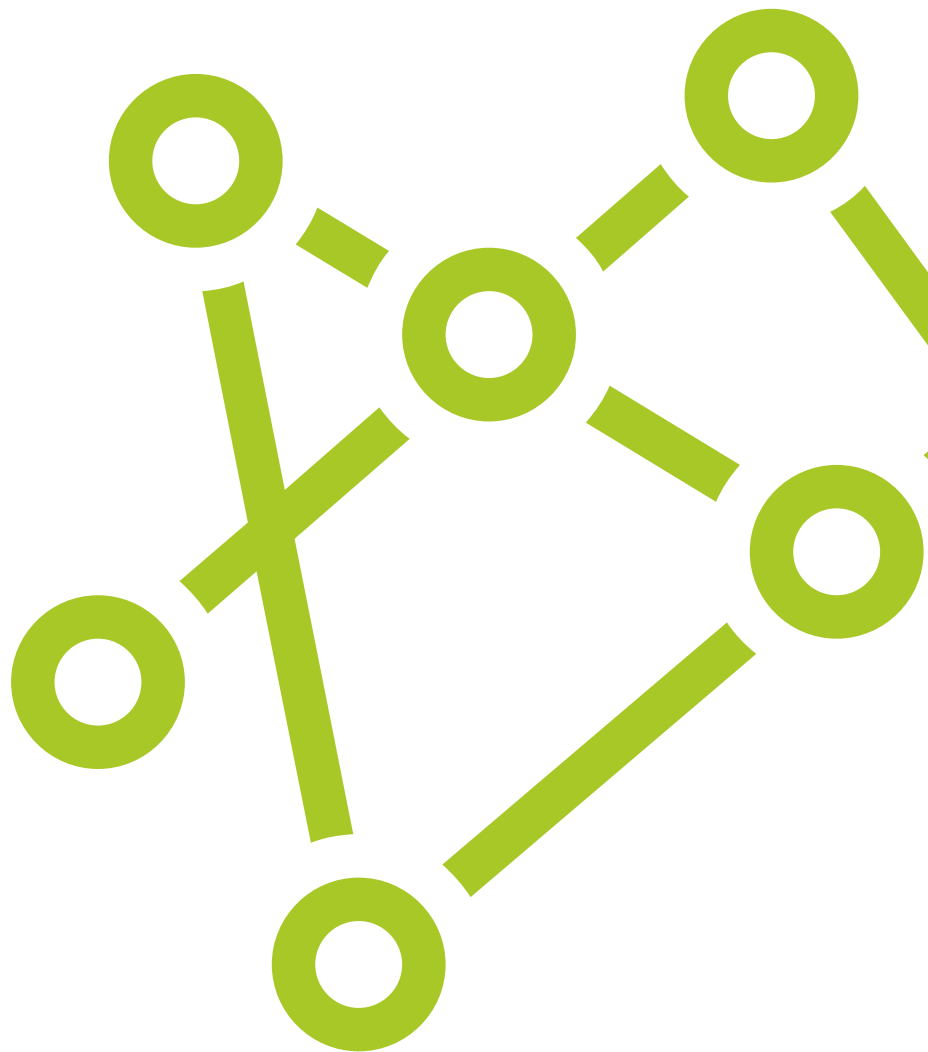


Annual Report 2022-2023



CONTENTS

3.	Introduction
4-6.	Foreword
7.	Comments from the GMLPN Board
8-9.	Influencing and Informing
10-11.	Demonstrating the Impact of Vocational Skills <i>ASK Programme</i> <i>SDF – Progression Pathways in Construction</i>
12.	Facilitating Response to Employer Skills Needs <i>Apprenticeship Support for SMEs</i>
13-18.	Capacity Building <i>Provider Support Programme Overview</i> <i>Inclusive Pathways – Autism Support</i> <i>Mental Health & Wellbeing Project</i> <i>Green and Sustainable Development (GSD)</i> <i>Multiply Provider Support Programme</i>
19-21.	The Network <i>Member Benefits</i> <i>Our Members</i>
22.	Northern Skills Network
23-24.	Our Partners <i>Strategic Partners</i> <i>Partnerships</i>
25.	Consultancy
26.	The Board, Advisory Board
27.	Our successes
28.	GMLPN Team

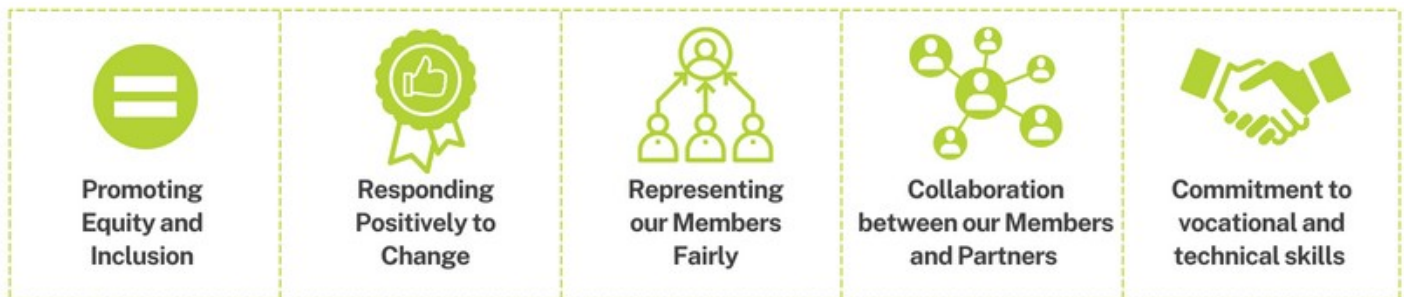
INTRODUCTION

Established in 2006, the Greater Manchester Learning Provider Network (GMLPN) is a network of over 100 Independent Training Providers, Further Education Colleges, Local Authorities, Universities, employer providers and Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprises as well as other stakeholders in the skills sector.

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 and technical skills to enable people to fulfil their aspirations and businesses to achieve sustainable growth.

Our Values



Our Priorities



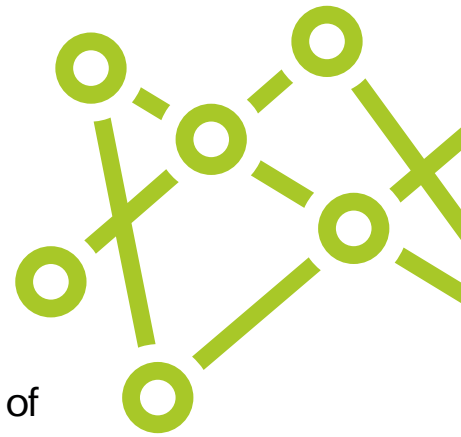
We have worked alongside members to realise our vision and values and deliver on priorities.

Be sure to follow us on...



FOREWORD

Mark Currie | Chair of GMLPN



Over the last year GMLPN have continued to develop our strategic relationships with partners including GM Chamber of Commerce, JCP, GMCA, GMCG, AoC, ESFA, Ofsted and other stakeholders.

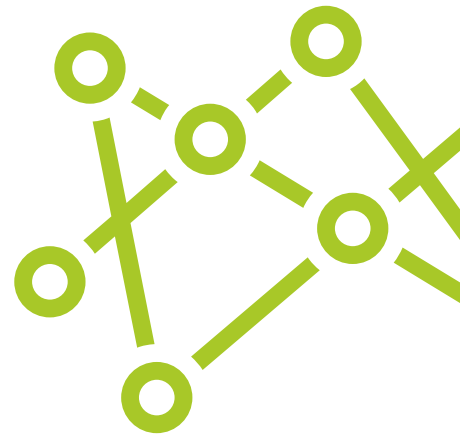
There are exciting developments underway in Greater Manchester surrounding the Mayor's vision for an 'Integrated Technical and Vocational Skills system'. GMLPN are working alongside GMCA to support the vision and ensure the inclusion of all access and progression routes for learners.

There are several key issues affecting the FE Sector in this period including:

- Apprenticeship Funding rates – the current funding model of apprenticeship standards is unsustainable for providers if it continues. GMLPN have worked to inform DfE of the impact of funding rates on apprentices, employers and providers' bottom lines. Some change has happened but much more is needed.
- FE Recruitment and retention – GMLPN continues to work with key stakeholders to attract new entrants to our sector. We have launched an FE Jobs Board in partnership with DWP to make it easy for Job Coaches to guide potential applicants to retrain, reskill and begin a new career.
- EPA – there is an ongoing issue with waiting times, lack of assessors and rising costs which have made EPA a pressing concern for providers.
- Functional Skills – continues to be a problem for apprentices and negatively impacts upon achievement rates. We actively support a review of functional skills to make them more vocationally relevant to the workplaces of our learners.
- Levy – the straitjacket of the current levy system and the pace at which IfATE is able to make changes has improved but this pace needs to accelerate and recognise that one size and shape does not fit all levels and job roles. GMLPN are working with partners in the Northern Skills Network to drive this change.

Mark Currie | Chair of GMLPN

continued...



GMLPN will continue to work with members to gather evidence of the impact of policy on learners, employers and providers. It is vital that members continue to support our surveys, polls and research pieces so that we can work together to achieve change.

I would like to thank my colleagues on the GMLPN Board and the Advisory Board who have shared their knowledge to support the development of GMLPN and our members.

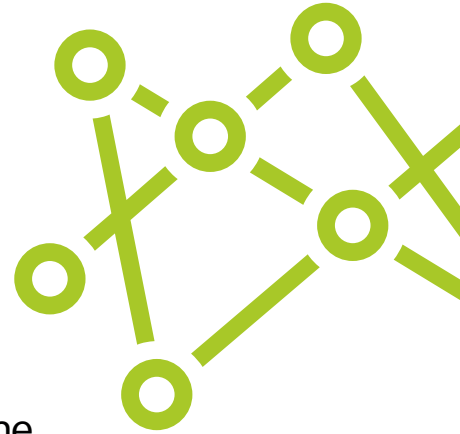
Sadly, Anne Gornall will be retiring at the end of December. Good news for Anne and she deserves it having being devoted to the sector for over 20 years. Anne worked at the LSC/ SFA 2002-2014 and joined GMLPN in 2014. She has helped change the network beyond recognition from where we were in 2014. During that time Anne has ensured that GMLPN has significantly improved its profile in the GM theatre of FE and its financial sustainability. It is now a trusted partner to carry out work and add strategic thought for both the Combined Authority, GM Chamber of Commerce and schools and colleges across GM.

She has coached and developed the GMLPN team to the point where they are successfully engaging with stakeholders across GM and instigating their own initiatives.

Anne, you will be missed. Good luck and best wishes from us all in your retirement - thank you.

Finally, a big thank you to all of the GMLPN team who have worked hard over the past year to support members and advance the priority and values of GMLPN.

**Anne Gornall | Executive Director
of GMLPN**



As this is my last GMLPN Annual Report I wanted to have the opportunity to thank all the members, partners, stakeholders, people and friends I have worked with since 2014 to grow and develop the network and its activities and the team members that have been part of that journey. Special thanks to Andy Fawcett, my partner Executive Director for several of those years.

It is a cliché but this is genuine...I have been privileged to be in a position to lead this organisation with Board and Advisory Board members to support. With the GMLPN team together we have been able to be creative, work hard and have some fun.

I leave GMLPN in a strong position. And leave with sadness, all those I have worked with through the ups and downs of the skills system and the delivery of further education.

Thank you all for your partnership, deliberation, dedication, challenge... to achieve results for learners in this vital education sector.

COMMENTS FROM THE GMLPN BOARD

"I cannot think of a time when it has been more important to be a member of the GMLPN. Alone, even the largest provider has limited influence over the policy agenda. As a grouping of well over 100 like-minded education and skills providers with a significant national as well as regional footprint we are, rightly, listened to. Given the current and future pace of change – not least an upcoming general election and further skills devolution, the combined voice and expertise of the network are crucial."

Jonathan Bourne

Managing Director | Damar Training

"This year has seen the team grow from strength to strength. Our advocacy of Apprenticeships doesn't just come from the amazing impact of the ASK programme, but also comes in the form of our very own degree apprentice, Charlotte and our digital marketing apprentice Sumayya who was recently nominated for the Multicultural Apprenticeship awards. True cause for celebration and definitely development we'll continue to support in the future.

As national and local priorities continue to change course, GMLPN remains at the forefront of policy, influencing, informing and negotiating on behalf of our members. With the planned introduction of an Employer Integration Board in GM, employers will be front, and centre of the decisions being made for our skills system, and we need to make sure these decisions are right for our members too. This ultimately means that our collective voices have never been more critical and we can confidently say GMLPN will remain firmly at the table ensuring our views are heard and given the consideration they deserve."

Nikki Bardsley

Head of Client Solutions & Quality | Kaplan

"Building on the many years of collaboration between Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce (GMCC) and Greater Manchester Learning Provider Network (GMLPN), the two organisations worked closely together in engaging with relevant stakeholders in identifying key priorities for the GM Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP). We have established strong organisational level links with Chamber's Deputy Director of Research being a member of GMLPN's Board as a non-executive director and GMLPN's Chair appointed a non-executive director in GMCC's Board. This partnership will only strengthen as GMCC works on the implementation phase of the LSIP."

Subrahmaniam Krishnan-Harihara

Deputy Director – Research & Information Systems | Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce

"It's been another fantastic year connecting & collaborating with colleagues at GMLPN, and I am looking forward to what 2024 will bring. GMLPN has supported us with all manner of things from the recurring safeguarding, staff development, English & maths, and then even looking forward at how we can successfully leverage AI in apprenticeships & training, for the benefit of all stakeholders."

Daniel Wells

Operations Director | NowSkills

INFLUENCING AND INFORMING

We have collaborated with key strategic organisations across Greater Manchester, the North and nationally on a several key issues by supplying evidence of impact of policy and practice on learners, employers and providers. Below are some of the highlights over the past year:



Locally- Greater Manchester

- GMLPN have a very constructive interface with the GMCA team and collaborate on funded programmes and emerging policy
- We have worked with GM Chamber of Commerce to support the development of the Local Skills Improvement Plan.
- We also work in partnership with GM Chamber of Commerce to deliver the Apprenticeship Support for SMEs Project.
- GMLPN work alongside Ofsted to ensure any change of policy and findings from inspections inform our members to achieve ever better quality.
- We work with GMCG to facilitate collaboration between FE Colleges and Independent Training Providers.
- We continue to work with Local Authorities across Greater Manchester to support our work on the ASK Programme and the Apprenticeship Support for SME Project.
- To support our members with the current FE Recruitment and Retention challenges they are facing, we have been working with members and DWP through our FE Recruitment Project.
- We were represented on ESAP by our Chair Mark Currie.
- We continue to work with partners including Positive Steps, Career Connect and the Princes Trust to engage with schools and NEET young people on the ASK Programme.

Regionally - North

- Co-chaired the Northern Skills Network (NSN)
- Supported the development of the NSN. Manifesto 2023 - [Northern Skills Network](#)
- We have worked with NSN on a range of issues including:
 - EPA – developed a paper on the issues providers and learners face with Reasonable Adjustments: [EPA/ Reasonable Adjustments report - for NSN](#)
 - Traineeships – informed DfE of the consequences of removing traineeships and promoted pre-apprenticeship activity and access routes - [NSN Traineeship Position Statement](#).
 - Green and Sustainable Development – supported members with information and sharing of best practice.
- Employer Roundtables – facilitated employer roundtables to find out what skills needs industry has .
- Levy – through analysis of research across Northern providers NSN have identified the following perspectives on changes to the levy system including:
 - More local control
 - More flexibility in levy spend – including modular training.
- Facilitated the Skills Across the North Conference and the NSN Green Conference.
- We have represented NSN with a range of stakeholders including e.g., Northern Powerhouse Partnership, DfE, Ofsted.
- Continued to work in collaboration with AELP and AoC.

Nationally

- Health & Social Care – we worked with members delivering Health & Social Care apprenticeships to gather information on their current challenges.
 - This report was shared with a range of stakeholders e.g. DfE, GMCA, IfATE etc. DfE reported that this evidence base was considered in the decision to raise funding bands.
 - Click here to see the report: [Health & Social Care Apprenticeship Provision Survey – April 2023](#)
- T Levels – we have worked with ITPs to gather intelligence on their ability to deliver T Level programmes. This information has been shared with GMCA.
- Apprenticeship Survey 2023 – we surveyed members to gather information on their current challenges with funding, functional skills, EPA, etc. We shared this information with DfE.
- Worked alongside AELP to promote the perception of ITPs in the skills sector.
- Facilitated meetings for DfE/ESFA to provide updates on policy changes.

DEMONSTRATING THE IMPACT OF VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL SKILLS

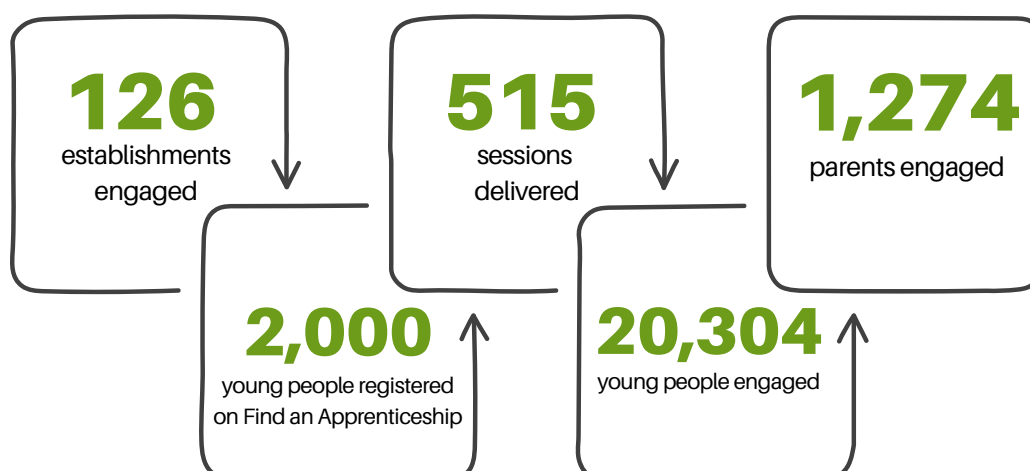
Vocational and Technical Skills are becoming recognised as a route to success in parallel with academic achievement. Ensuring information of progression routes through vocational opportunities is key.

ASK Programme



The Apprenticeship Support & Knowledge for schools Programme (ASK) is funded by the Department for Education and aims to support schools and colleges across England to increase awareness of apprenticeships and T Levels. GMLPN have an important role to play to ensure that young people and their key influencers understand the breadth of Apprenticeships and T Levels opportunities, and the progression routes available.

During the 2022-23 academic year the ASK Programme achieved:



SDF - Progression Pathways in Construction

GMLPN, in partnership with the Greater Manchester Colleges Group (GMCG), has successfully developed an innovative resource as part of the Greater Manchester Strategic Development Fund. This resource showcases nine innovative new courses in the construction sector, providing valuable insights into the progression pathways available.

In partnership with:



Our conceptual resource goes beyond the confines of this project, with the potential to expand across other sectors. The resource focuses on the innovative courses, the entry points to those courses and the possible destinations.

 To access the Progression Pathways Tool, [please click here.](#)

We have also provided [clear instructions on how to use this resource.](#) It has been shared with over 350 careers advisors in schools, colleges, and careers organisations across Greater Manchester, ensuring its wide reach and impact.



[GMLPN SDF Case Study Video - Progression Pathways in Construction - YouTube](#)

FACILITATING RESPONSE TO EMPLOYER NEED

Efforts to reach employers and support them have been stepped up this year, including:

Engaging SMEs in Apprenticeship Market



Apprenticeship
Support for SMEs
In collaboration with the DfE



Engaging SMEs in Apprenticeship Market

Working in partnership with Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce (GMCC), East Lancashire Chamber of Commerce and Lancashire Work-Based Learning Forum we deliver a DfE funded programme that supports SMEs to navigate the apprenticeship system.

The Programme has been supported by GMLPN members by enabling the project to reach their dormant SMEs and also receiving referred SMEs looking for an apprenticeship start.

GMLPN co-hosted an SME Breakfast meeting on behalf of the NSN. The roundtable discussion focused on embedding soft skills and green skills into apprenticeships.

Engaged with
129
SME's

Local Skills Improvement Plan

GMLPN have continued to work with partners at GMCC to support the development and implementation phases of the GM LSIP. To find out more about the GM LSIP and to see relevant findings please look here:

[GM - LSIP](#)



CAPACITY BUILDING

GMLPN's Provider Support Programme (PSP) aims to support members to successfully adapt to the changes and challenges affecting their organisations.

GMLPN work with a range of sector experts to deliver a high quality, responsive training and consultancy offer. Professional Exchanges give members the opportunity to discuss challenges, share best practice and collaborate.

PSP Stats & Overview

Type of Event	Total Attendees	No. of events
Network Meetings	403	5
Workshops/Webinars	331	12
Professional Exchanges	89	4
Sector Updates e.g. Cognassist, GetMyFirstJob, OneFile	710	8
Totals	1533	29

Member Feedback

"A very good day that gave food for thought and some ideas for improvements within the organisation."

"The speaker gave a great presentation, full of helpful tips and engaging."

"Good range of content, topics explained well. Knowledgeable & experienced speakers."

"The facilitator was passionate and knowledgeable. She provided key tips throughout the session."

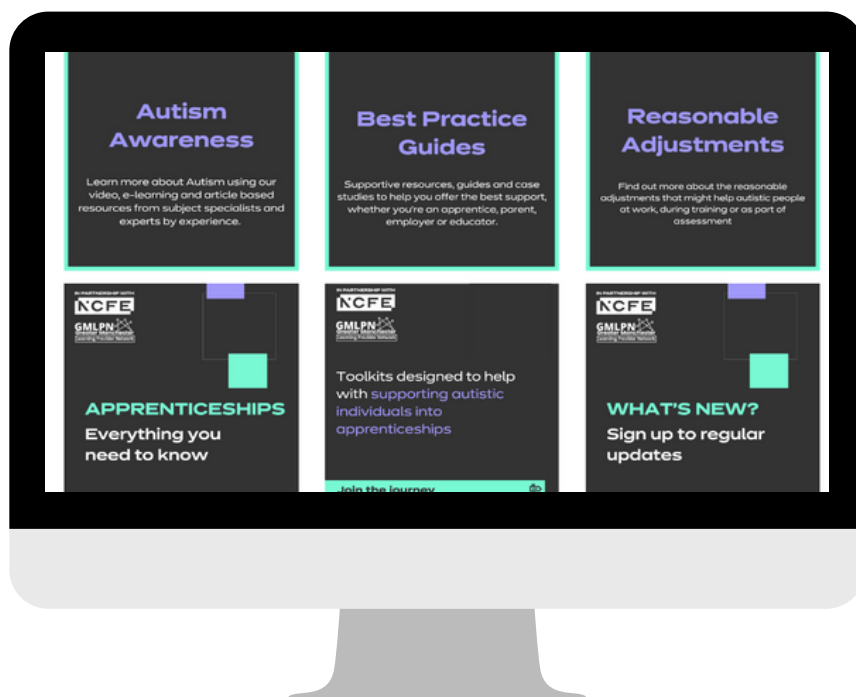
"I enjoyed the workshop and the points covered were relevant and very well explained."



INCLUSIVE PATHWAYS - AUTISM SUPPORT

The aim of the Inclusive Pathways - Autism Support Project (formerly the Supporting Autistic Individuals into Apprenticeships Project) in its third year has been to collate the lessons learned, best practice, case studies and resources.

In partnership with:



The collation of this will inform a capacity building activity that GMLPN have been working on and continue to work on into 23/24. The capacity building will be aimed at Training Providers to support them in understanding autism, supporting their autistic learners and apprentices and, how they can work with and collaborate with other key stakeholders e.g. Employers. The CPD tool will be launched in 2024, in partnership with NCFE.



MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING PROJECT



GMLPN have been involved in the ETF Mental Health for Leaders Project Steering Group for a second year, managed by the Association of Colleges. The main aim is for GMLPN to represent the Independent Training Provider voice and views through the resources, blogs, webinars and podcasts being created.

The project has created a number of resources which can be found:

[**Mental Health and Wellbeing - The Education and Training Foundation**](#)

A number of members have been involved in the project including:

- **Michaeljohn Training Blog** - [**Why I provided my teaching staff with subsidised counselling support - The Education and Training Foundation**](#)
- **Apprentify** - Webinar focused on Staff Mental Health
- **DH Associates** - Webinar focused on Leading Through Crises
- **Alliance Learning** - Webinar focused on Managing Trauma

We recognise the importance of FE leaders and staff's mental health and wellbeing and will continue to represent GMLPN on the ETF project, as well as look at other ways we can support our members!

With more planned!

GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (GSD)

GMLPN built upon the NSN Communities of Practice (COPs) by facilitating two Professional Exchanges for members. The exchanges enabled us to disseminate information and resources from the COPs and to discuss GM challenges and opportunities.

The first session focused on existing practice in attendees' own organisations including:

- Embedding into apprenticeship delivery
- Learner led projects
- Nominating a champion
- Engaging employers

For the second session we invited a guest speaker – Christine Edwards to provide an introductory session to “What Sustainability means for businesses” which covered:

- Business perspective
- Embedding sustainability into apprenticeships



We have created the Green and Sustainability Toolkit to support apprenticeship providers at the start of their journey. The toolkit focuses on both embedding sustainability into delivery and how to respond as business to the sustainability challenge.

Follow the link below to access the toolkit:
[Green and Sustainability Toolkit](#)

MULTIPLY PROVIDER SUPPORT PROGRAMME



GMLPN have been commissioned by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) to support the Further Education sector with capacity building through the GM Multiply scheme. The Multiply Provider Support Programme aims to support Further Education (FE) Providers to deliver high quality and appropriate maths skills across Greater Manchester.

We have facilitated the following:

- 9 webinars
- 4 in house sessions
- 3 promotional events
- 1 workshop
- 1 Professional Exchange

158 individuals have attended events

100% good or excellent feedback

66 organisations have attended Multiply PSP events including:

- 32 Independent Training Providers
- 9 stakeholders
- 7 Local Authorities
- 7 FE Colleges
- 5 Community Providers
- 2 others
- 2 Housing Associations
- 1 school
- 1 Employer Provider

CPD Opportunities Include...



Online Webinars



Face to Face Workshops



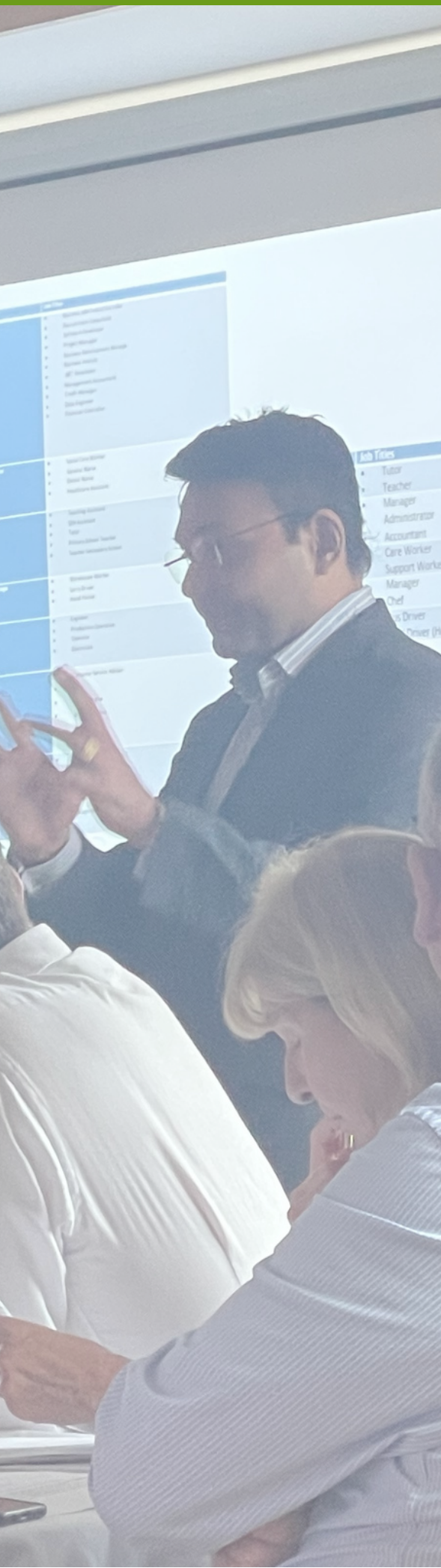
Professional Exchanges



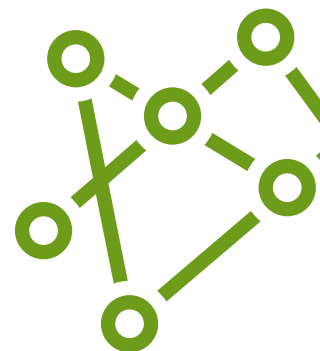
In House Consultancy



Maths Champions Network



THE NETWORK



Throughout the year, we have worked hard to keep members up to date with changes to the FE sector through our network meetings, sector updates and weekly member bulletins. We have continued to provide a membership service that is value for money, high quality and is responsive to members' needs.

104

Total Members:

72

Independent
Training Providers

10

Further Education
Colleges

8

Voluntary,
Community and
Social Enterprise

5

Local Authorities

4

Universities

2

Representative
Bodies

2

Employer
Providers

2

Awarding
Organisations

This year we have:

Facilitated **5 Network Meetings** -
a mixture of face-to-face and virtual

Sent out **50 Member Bulletins**

Gained **18 New Members**

Benefits of being a member

- **Networking and collaborating** with over 100 other Skills and Apprenticeship Training Providers
- Opportunity to be involved in **influencing and informing the skills sector** both within Greater Manchester, across the North and nationally
- 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
- **Regular bulletins** direct to your inbox with the latest sector news, business development opportunities and upcoming events



[The full range of membership benefits can be found here](#)



Member Feedback

"Information, guidance, sharing of good practice and a singular voice to challenge."

"Networking opportunities, sharing best practice and the opportunity to learn from specialists."

"An opportunity to hear from and engage with key influencers both nationally and on a GM basis."

"Access to timely and supportive information and collaboration."



OUR MEMBERS

Acorn Training
AIM2LEARN Ltd
Alliance Learning
ANS Group
Apprentify
Back 2 Work Training Complete Training
Beau Associates
Bolton College
Bright Direction Training Limited
Brighter Beginnings Day Nursery
Burnley College
Bury College
Bury Council - Bury Adult Learning Service
Cogent Skills
Competence Development
Complete Skills Solutions
Construction Skills People
Damar Training
Dentrain Professionals
DH Associates
Digital Advantage
DMR Training & Consultancy
Ecta Training
Elevated Knowledge Limited
Elysium Training & Consultancy
Evolve Academy
Expanse Group
FLM Training
ForViva
Gateway Qualifications
Get Set Academy
GMCVO
Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce
Groundwork Greater Manchester

Healthy Me Healthy Communities
Hopwood Hall
Independent Training and Education Consultancy
Ingeus
Inspired Associates
Instep UK
Jarvis Training Management Limited
JTL
Juniper Training Limited
Kaplan Professional UK
Kids Planet Day Nurseries
Learning Curve Group
LearnTech
Lite Ltd
Manchester Adult Education Service
Manchester Metropolitan University
Mantra Learning
Michael John Training
Mile College
Nacro
North Lancs Training Group
North of England Training
NowSkills
Oldham College
Oldham Council
OTC (Oldham Engineering Group Training Association)
Oxford Professional Education Group
ParteoLaw
Pathway First Limited
Pearson Work Based Learning

Plato Training UK Ltd
Positive Steps Oldham
Realise Training
Resolve ASB
Rochdale MBC Skills Team
Rochdale Training Association
Salford City College
SB Skills Solutions
Seetec
Serco Group PLC
Simian Risk Management
SR Supply Chain Consultants
Standguide Ltd
STEGTA
Tameside Adult and Community Education
Tameside College
The Apprentice Academy
The Blair Project
The Growth Company - GC Education & Skills
The Manchester College
The Northern Care Alliance
The Training Brokers
Think Employment Limited
TMP College
Total People Limited
Trafford College Group
Train'd Up Railway
Resourcing Limited
Training 2000
Transport Training Academy
University of Bolton
University of Law
University of Manchester
University of Salford

NORTHERN SKILLS NETWORK



GMLPN have been a members of the Northern Skills Network since inception, and previously a member of the North West Provider Network. Since January 2021, Anne Gornall has been one of the Co-Chairs alongside Alex Miles. The Co-Chair role saw the launch of the NSN Manifesto at the beginning of 2023, focused on four key priorities:

- Future Skills Landscape - Challenges & Opportunities
- Recruitment & Staffing Crisis in FE
- Demand for Skills Across North
- Advocate, Exchange and Meet

You can view the [NSN Manifesto 2023 here](#).

NSN held their annual conference on the 14th October 2023 sponsored by NCFE, which focused on vocational education, training and skills in the North. Speakers included Robert Halfon MP, David Gallagher (NCFE), Henri Murison (Northern Powerhouse Partnership), Tracy Brabin (Mayor of West Yorkshire), Rachel Angus (Ofsted), Julie Liddell (Still Human). There were also panel discussions: LSIPs in the North panel discussion and learner and apprentice panel.



Going into 2024, GMLPN will continue as a key member of NSN through Network representation at meetings and Mark Currie & Nikki Bardsley continuing as NSN Directors.

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

We continue to work with a range of strategic partners to influence the skills system and its impact across Greater Manchester, the North and Nationally. These strategic partners include:



PARTNERS

GMLPN work with a range of partners who offer products and services to our members. These include End Point Assessment Organisations, education technology platforms, stationery suppliers and more.



Cognassist - Identify hidden learning needs, personalise support and transform learner attainment. For more information contact Matt Leigh at matthew.l@gmlpn.co.uk or 07530 075650



Onfile - E-portfolio and learning software
info@onfile.co.uk
0161 638 3876



Pearson

Pearson - Awarding organisation and EPAO providing high quality content, opportunities & learning experiences, as well as assessments and qualifications
Training Providers and Employers:
wblcentresupport@pearson.com
FE Colleges
fecentresupport@pearson.com



NCFE - Awarding organisation, EPAO and charity with a particular emphasis on supporting social mobility and prosperity. The company is an End-Point Assessment Organisation at the cutting edge of apprenticeships, whilst also offering leading e-assessment and digital education services through Skills Forward and Peer Tutor.

0191 239 8000



Peninsula - Employment law and health and safety support. For more information contact Matt Leigh at matthew.l@gmlpn.co.uk or 07530 075650



Protos Networks – cyber security support. GMLPN members receive 10% discount.
0333 370 1353

GMLPN members- get in touch with the team for more information on products and services.

CONSULTANCY

GMLPN have partnerships in place with a number of high-quality consultants, details of which can be found below. Each consultant is able to offer 1-1 support and can be delivered either face-to-face or virtual.

Alex Miles - Audit & Compliance

Alex delivers a range of consultancy support to training organisations nationally covering areas including leadership & management, audit & compliance, Governance & oversight and quality improvement and much more.

Andy Fawcett - Bidding

Andy has worked in the sector for over 30 years including senior leadership roles with Training and Enterprise Councils, LSC and the Skills Funding Agency. He currently holds board and advisory panel positions with leading FE and HE organisations.

Annmarie Higgins - English & Maths

Annmarie is an experienced national/international trainer, coach and mentor. She has worked over the past 20 years with the post 16 Education sector supporting quality improvement in Maths and English.

Dr Barbara Van der Eecken - Quality

An education and skills consultant with 30 years' experience in the Further Education and Skills sector, holding leadership positions covering programmes including apprenticeships, traineeships and skills bootcamps.

Bev Barlow - Curriculum & Quality

Bev works with providers to improve the quality of their provision for apprentices and learners. Bev has worked in the FE sector for over 30 years. Until Spring 2022, Bev was a senior manager at Ofsted responsible for the quality of inspections across the Northwest. She continues to work as an Ofsted inspector.

Kerry Sharman - Bidding

Kerry is an APMP qualified bid writer with a proven ability to develop successful responses to a range of competitive procurement opportunities, including: EOIs, ITTs, DPS Frameworks, RoATP applications.

Marina Gaze - Quality

Marina has 23 years' experience of inspecting all aspects of the Further Education and Skills and is a current Ofsted Inspector.

Rachael Bishop - Safeguarding

Rachael Bishop has worked across a variety of sectors over the past 19 years including social care, charity organisations, primary, higher and further education, Public Services and many corporate commercial industries such as construction and engineering.

Sheila Willis - Quality

Sheila has worked in the further education sector for around 35 years. She has worked as a full-time Ofsted inspector, where she held a senior role managing and quality assuring inspections in the Northeast, Yorkshire and Humber region. She has worked as a consultant supporting leaders, governors and teachers/trainers to improve their provision and practice. She continues to work as an Ofsted inspector.

GMLPN members receive up to 40% discount on consultancy services, with a standard rate available for non-members. Find out more about [**GMLPN Membership here**](#).

If you are interested in finding out more about our consultancy offer, or need additional support that isn't covered by one of our current consultants, [**please contact us**](#).

BOARD & ADVISORY BOARD

We'd like to thank our Board and Advisory Board for their continued contribution of support, time and direction.

GMLPN Board

Anne Gornall

Executive Director | GMLPN

Daniel Wells

Operations Director | NowSkills

Debra Woodruff

Deputy Principal | Oldham College

Mark Currie

GMLPN Chair | Managing Director |
Mantra Learning

Jonathan Bourne

Managing Director | Damar Training

Nikki Bardsley

Head of Client Solutions & Quality |
Kaplan

Subrahmaniam Krishnan-Harihar

Head of Research | GMCC

Board/Advisory Board Activity

The GMLPN Board/Advisory Board have supported the activity of the network over the past year in many valuable ways. Below are some highlights:

- Health & Social Care Survey - support from Jill Nagy to develop
- Answering surveys/consultations
- Facilitating and engaging in Professional Exchanges
- Engaging in GMLPN's project activity

GMLPN Advisory Board

The GMLPN Board also sit on the Advisory Board in addition to:

Allan Milne

Salford City College

Andy Turner

Rochdale Council

Donna Graham

Positive Steps

Jill Nagy

Rochdale Training

John Whitby

STEGTA

Jonathan Lawson

Manchester Metropolitan
University

Jon-Paul Rimmington

GC Education and Skills

Kathryn Johnston (honorary
member)

Job Centre Plus | DWP

Kelly Perkin

Alliance Learning

Melanie Nicholson

LTE Group

Tracey Wood

Trafford College Group

OUR SUCCESSES

Anne Gornall, Executive Director at Greater Manchester Learning Provider Network (GMLPN), received an MBE in the 2022/2023 New Year's Honours list for services to Further Education and Skills.

Anne joined GMLPN in 2014 after twelve years working with the Skills Funding Agency, with a long and rewarding career in the education and skills sector spanning over thirty years. Throughout her career, Anne has managed teams, supported providers through economic and policy change and helped those disadvantaged in education.



GMLPN won "SME Employer of the Year" at the inaugural North West Apprenticeship Awards in February 2023. The judges highlighted GMLPN's dedication to promoting apprenticeships and the benefits they can bring to learners and employers, the work GMLPN do to increase inclusivity.

Additionally, Charlotte was highly commended in the Apprentice of the Year – Public Services and Education category.

In July 2023, Charlotte has completed her Chartered Manager Degree Apprenticeship with a first class BA (Hons) Business Management Professional degree. She has also gained Chartered Manager (CMgr) status after completing her EPA with a Merit.



GMLPN's Digital Marketing Apprentice, Sumayya was shortlisted for the Creative, Media & Marketing category at 2023 Multi Cultural Apprenticeship Awards in October 2023.

GMLPN TEAM

Anne Gornall | Executive Director

anne.g@gmlpn.co.uk | 07909 612946

Charlotte Jones | Operations / Project Manager

charlotte.j@gmlpn.co.uk | 07738 621735

James Lees | Project Coordinator / Research Support

james.l@gmlpn.co.uk | 07540 464062

Lauren Greig-Williams | School and Engagement Partnership Officer

lauren.g@gmlpn.co.uk | 07519257847

Matt Leigh | Programme Manager

matthew.l@gmlpn.co.uk | 07530 075650

Sumayya Ali | Digital Marketing and Admin Apprentice

sumayya.a@gmlpn.co.uk



c/o Mantra Learning,
Greengate,
Middleton,
M24 1RU

gmlpn.co.uk

info@gmlpn.co.uk



[Follow us on X](#)

[Connect with us on](#) [LinkedIn](#)

