

Partnership Manager (Secondment – Maternity Cover)

Location: Greater Manchester (Hybrid)

Duration: Fixed-term secondment from October, for a 12-month period

Salary: £30,000-£38,000. Salary costs reimbursed to the substantive employer in line with the agreed secondment arrangement.

Although this role is intended as a 12-month secondment opportunity, we recognise that not all candidates will be able to apply on this basis. We would therefore also consider applications from exceptional candidates seeking a 12-month fixed-term employment contract.

Help shape the future of skills in Greater Manchester

Greater Manchester Learning Provider Network (GMLPN) is seeking an enthusiastic and relationship-focused Partnership Manager to join our small, ambitious team on a fixed-term maternity cover secondment.

This is an exciting opportunity for someone looking to broaden their experience, expand their professional network and play a key role in supporting one of the UK's most established provider networks.

Working closely with learning providers, employers, strategic partners and stakeholders across Greater Manchester, you'll help grow and strengthen our membership, develop new partnerships, support business development opportunities and deliver some of the region's leading skills events and programmes.

About GMLPN

GMLPN is a membership network of over 140 members including, independent training providers, colleges, universities, community learning providers, local authorities and awarding organisations across Greater Manchester.

For 25 years we've championed collaboration across the skills sector, providing a collective voice for our members while delivering high-quality events, projects and opportunities that improve outcomes for learners, employers, communities, and the GM Skills Awards!

The Role

As Partnership Manager, you will:

- Build and maintain strong relationships with existing and prospective members.
- Support the growth and retention of GMLPN's membership.
- Develop strategic partnerships with employers, providers and key stakeholders.
- Identify and support business development and funding opportunities.
- Lead on sponsorship opportunities for flagship events, including the GM Skills Awards.
- Support delivery of the Provider Support Programme, Network Meetings and member events.
- Represent GMLPN at external meetings and events across Greater Manchester.
- Contribute to marketing and communications activities that promote GMLPN and its work.

About You

We're looking for someone who:

- Is an excellent relationship builder with outstanding communication skills.
- Has experience of partnership working, stakeholder engagement or business development.
- Is organised, proactive and able to manage multiple priorities.
- Enjoys working collaboratively within a small, supportive team.
- Has an understanding and experience in the further education, skills, employability or apprenticeship landscape.
- Is passionate about making a positive difference to the skills system across Greater Manchester.

Why Join Us?

This secondment offers an excellent professional development opportunity to:

- Develop strategic partnership and stakeholder management experience.
- Build your profile across Greater Manchester's skills and employment sector.
- Gain experience delivering high-profile regional projects and events.
- Work alongside influential partners across education, skills, employers and local government.
- Be part of a collaborative, values-driven organisation making a real impact.

At the end of your secondment, you'll return to your substantive organisation with new knowledge, networks and experience that will benefit both your organisation and the wider skills system.

Interested?

If you're looking for a rewarding opportunity to broaden your experience and help shape the future of skills in Greater Manchester, we'd love to hear from you.

Important Information

This role is offered as a secondment opportunity. Applicants should discuss the opportunity with their current employer before applying and have agreement in principle that they would be supported to undertake the secondment if successful.

Any appointment will be subject to a formal secondment agreement between GMLPN and the successful candidate's substantive employer.

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Closing Date: 5pm, 21st August 2026

Interviews: w/c 7th September 2026

To Apply: Please send your CV and a covering letter explaining how your experience meets the requirements of the role to hr@gmlpn.co.uk.