



**BigLife**

**Enterprises**

**impact report**

**April 2013 - March 2014**

# introduction


**Big Life Enterprises** provides advice, employment and training opportunities for people who face barriers to work.

**skills2build** employs apprentices who learn a range of skills - cleaning, house and garden maintenance, fencing, painting and decorating. Our Partington Job Shop has an IT suite for local people to conduct job searches and hosts regular advice drop-in sessions.

We are commissioned by our partners Your Housing Trust, Cruden Property Services and, Pinnacle Property Services.

Skills2Build also delivers a number of commercial contracts including grounds maintenance, communal cleaning of blocks of flats, house and flat clearances and general cleaning.

**Big Life Enterprises** has secured the contract to deliver **Working Well** – a service which supports people with health needs to progress towards employment by helping them access a range of services. Working Well is an innovative pilot commissioned by the Department for Work and Pensions and the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) for people who have reached the end of their two years on the work programme and are not in employment. The service will be developed throughout 2014.





## **Skills2Build Trainees at The Big Life group staff awards**

Between April 2013 and March 2014 Skills2Build started **3** new apprentices, providing them with the opportunity to get work experience, develop their skills and get a qualification. This year saw Skills2Build secure a new Facilities Management contract following the expansion of another of The Big Life group's businesses – Big Life Nurseries.

In the four years from January 2009 to 2013, Skills2Build worked with **35** trainees.

**24** finished their traineeship.

**20** found employment within 6 months of finishing.

**78%** of trainees got a qualification before they left.

All trainees had been unemployed for at least a year before starting with Skills2Build and **16** had criminal convictions.

***“...it's changed my life, going from troublesome young lad to them putting me in a job, keeping me out of trouble. Fair enough, I've been in prison, it's not something I'm proud of, but I've changed my life. From having a criminal background, I now have a job. I've been in it eight months now, I've done my English, my maths, it has given me things that I need in life.”*** Callum, Skills2Build Trainee



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**The  
BigLife  
group**  
business changing lives

Big Life Enterprises is part of The Big Life group of social businesses and charities