



BigLife
Enterprises
impact report
April 2012 - March 2013

introduction

BigLifeEnterprises provides advice, employment and training opportunities for people who face barriers to work.

In 2012 – 2013 **BigLifeEnterprises** managed a Community Payback contract, helping offenders contribute to and reconnect with their communities. Our Community Payback team worked with up to **20** offenders a day, five days a week, assisting them to complete their sentence and providing meaningful activities to help them develop new skills. Projects included gardening, painting and tidying public areas.

“I was having problems at home, financial difficulties, I know it’s not an excuse but I fell back and went into shoplifting. My mind wasn’t in the right place with everything going on. It’s definitely done me some good coming here; it’s definitely changed my prospects. I’m proud to be here because I’m not working at the moment and it’s about helping the community. It’s something to put on my CV as well and it might help me get other jobs.”





Skills2Build

Skills2Build runs in Trafford and Tameside; it is commissioned by Cruden, Pinnacle, and Your housing. We take on trainees who are taught a number 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.

“After I left school I thought I’d never get a job. I’m dyslexic and struggle to read and write. I’ve got a bad past and I couldn’t really speak to people and never used to like being in groups, I’d get paranoid and think people were going to want to knock me out or fight me so I’d always be watching my back. I felt like everyone was against me.

At Skills2Build nobody judges you, whatever you’ve had going on doesn’t matter to them. They just want to get you working. If it weren’t for these I’d be sleeping all day and smoking weed. Now I get up every morning and come here to work. I used to look around Partington and just be reminded of my past but it’s changing now. Walking around the estate you can see fences that you’ve built and houses you’ve made look a bit better. Some of the people whose houses we’ve gone into might have thought we were all thugs and vandals but now they can see that we’re working and they see that we’re helpful. It shows respect, I feel like I’m giving back.” Luke – Skills2Build



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www.biglifeemployment.com

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