



Inspiring Communities Together
Annual report
April 2019 – March 2020

Our Vision

A place where everyone has the opportunity to achieve their full potential and participate in making a positive difference to their neighbourhood.

Mission

We will achieve positive outcomes for local people based on the knowledge understanding and information that the community have about their area, through empowering individuals and groups to release their potential to develop their own solutions.

Values

- We will be accountable to and representative of the local community
- We will be innovative and provide value for money in our approach to deliver of everything we do
- We will value all volunteers, staff and members of the organisation

Charitable objectives of Inspiring Communities Together

To develop the capacity and skills of those who are socially and economically disadvantaged by working with individuals and groups who live or work within the neighbourhood of Charlestown, Lower Kersal, Seedley and Langworthy and neighbouring districts.

To work with individuals and groups within these neighbourhoods to help them to make a difference locally.

The difference we want to make

VOICE



STRENGTHENING
LOCAL VOICES

PEOPLE



IMPROVING
PEOPLES LIVES

PLACE



CREATING BETTER
PLACES TO LIVE

Message from the Chair

As I write this message my first full term of office as Chair of Inspiring Communities Together comes to an end – I can't believe I have served for three years already.

We end the year in a very different environment to how we started and as always, I am proud to be able to say our staff team have adapted to new ways of working and continued to provide valuable support to people in the communities in which we delivery.

With each year we grow as an organisation, whilst continuing to maintain that local collaborative way of working – supporting individuals to build on their own strengths to improve their lives and the community they live in.

We started this year by developing a membership offer for families in Charlestown and Lower Kersal ensuring our neighbourhood funding provides a resource for local people. Over **6,500 free or reduced cost child care places** have been provided by Yogurt Pots ensuring local children have the best start in life. During Covid-19 although Salford Community Leisure closed all their buildings, they agree to allow us to operate and we have remained open offering places for key workers and vulnerable families.

Our programme of learning has continued through our partnership with KeepMoat Homes supporting: **78 people to gain a qualification, 6 people to secure employment, 2 were able to progress onto Build Salford, 1 started an apprenticeship and 1 secured a place at Salford university.**

At our last Annual General Meeting we sought views of our members regarding a merger with Seedley and Langworthy Trust (SALT). The members fully supported the approach and this year we have fully integrated the two organisations and now deliver across Central Salford. Through the merger the aspirations to develop community led housing has continued (SALT already own five properties) and work with Salford City Council and Salix Homes will enable a further 30 homes to be secured.

The Trustees agreed to set up a Community Led housing Vehicle and **Inspiring Housing** was established as a Community Land Trust in March with Inspiring Communities Together acting as the Parent Organisation. This latest development will in the future enable us to continue the neighbourhood delivery whilst providing quality homes for local people to live in.

Looking forward to 2020-2021 we have secured funding to enable us to continue to deliver our neighbourhood offer which is currently being provided mainly online, however we continue to review how we connect with people and as lock down starts to ease we will start to deliver more activity out in the community.

Our big community project over the next year is to develop an outside class room for the childcare and secure resources to refurbish Riverbank Park – recognising the value of nature and health and wellbeing.

I hope you can take some time to read about the work we have delivered on the past year and will take the opportunity to check out our website, become a member or link with us through social media – we would love to hear from you.

Finally I would like to offer my thanks to all our funders, partners and Trustees who without their support the staff team would not be able to achieve the positive outcomes we share with you in this report – Please stay safe and thank you for taking the time to read this report.

Yours faithfully

Mike Duddy – Chair

To receive regular updates via our e-newsletter send us an email to office@inspiringcommunitiestogether.co.uk

Impact of Covid-19

As you will be aware the world changed in March as the impact of the coronavirus pandemic started to be felt which meant that by the middle of the month, most of our work was suspended as the government issued advice on social distancing and limiting non-essential travel. By 23rd March our staff (with the exception of our childcare staff) were working from home.

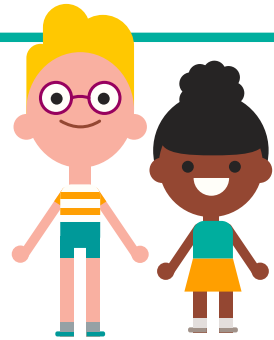
From mid-March the Annuity funding was re-allocated to:

- Providing childcare for key workers
- Providing emergency shopping
- Establishing a welfare support telephone offer

“ You are the only people I have contact with. I have received a daily phone call from Andrea or Lynn without fail. Without these phone calls I worry that I would have relapsed and become ill again. ”

OUR COVID RESPONSE

23rd - 31st March 2020



- 14 Childcare places for key workers
- 10 Support phone calls to vulnerable families at home



- Shopping delivered to 5 older and vulnerable residents



- 80 welfare calls to older and vulnerable residents
- 15 Phone calls offering advice and guidance to people in need



Voice

STRENGTHENING LOCAL VOICES

Priorities identified by the Forums	What we did
Environmental concerns Litter and fly tipping across the neighbourhoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapped the prevalence of fly tipping in the community • Worked closely with members of the community, and the Neighbourhood and Environmental Services Teams at the council to report and remove rubbish • Continued to engage schools and local people in litter picks and community clean ups • Established a new post to start in April, to deliver on the environmental priorities
Housing Private landlords and tenant management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapped the number and locations of private rented properties in Charlestown and Lower Kersal and Seedley and Langworthy • Worked with Landlord Licencing, Neighbourhood Management and Environmental Services Teams to address housing management concerns
Housing Houses of Multiple occupancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked with the community and partners to develop two neighbourhood pilots in Charlestown and Lower Kersal and Seedley and Langworthy

5

forums

100

people attended

8

new projects

46%* of local residents surveyed told us they have active or ongoing involvement in their community (*up from 43% in 2018-2019)



Place

Improving access to good quality green space

- 4 family activities in Riverbank Park
- 4 family activities on the Wetlands
- 8 activities for older people on the Wetlands

72% of local residents surveyed told us they are making greener choices
(*down from 75% in 2018-2019)

"We've been on the Wetlands again and I'm not so worried about being outdoors if the weather isn't great. The kids still have a great time."
(Parent)

Partnership working

One of our key priorities is always to work in partnership where ever this is possible and once again we have ensured that positive relationships have been built with a number of key partners including:

- 4Housing
- Age UK Salford
- Centre for Ageing Better
- Corinth Training
- GM Sport
- Great Places
- Keepmoat Homes
- MadLabs
- Oasis Academy Community Hub
- Orchard Community Hub
- People's Voice Media
- Pulse Regeneration
- Salford 3rd Sector Consortium
- Salford CCG
- Salford City Council
- Salford Community Leisure
- Salford CVS
- Salford University
- Salix Homes
- St Sebastian's Community Centre
- WEA

Improving Access to Good Quality Housing

- Worked with the Board of Trustees to develop a community led housing model and establish the governance to manage the process – **Inspiring Housing** is now registered as a Community Benefit Society
- Worked with Salford City Council to develop plans to create new homes for local people
- Worked with Salix Homes to secure the allocation of five properties as part of the Kara Street development



63

grot spots cleared

178

bags of litter collected

197

environmental volunteering hours



People

67% of local people surveyed told us they are interested in building healthy lifestyles (*down from 69% in 2018-2019)

Supporting families to give their children the best start in life

- Over 6500 childcare places provided
- 467 children and parents/carers took part in our free holiday activities (April 2019 – February 2020)

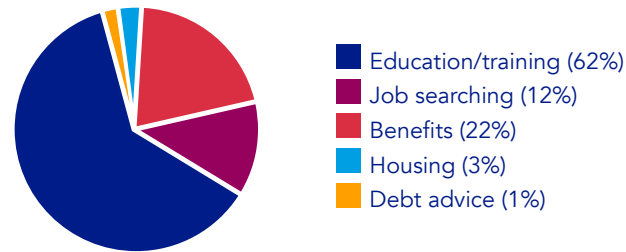
"We're new to the area, so it's been nice for my daughter to meet other children" (Parent)

- 345 free lunches for children provided over the school holidays
- 312 prepared family meals to take home provided over the summer holidays

Supporting more people into work

Our **Live Well** programme of learning has helped people improve their skills, knowledge and confidence and to encourage first steps towards further learning or employment.

IAG Case Types



Improving individual health and wellbeing

- **108** Eating Well lunches provided to older residents in the community
- Over **100** hours of one-to-one support provided to service users at the Orchard Community Hub (Achieve Salford Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Recovery Service)
- Green and Grow older people's group based at Salford Sports Village
- **4 week** engagement programme with residents at Muirhead Court

Improving access to free advice and guidance

"Now the kids are a bit older, I'd love to get back into work, but it's been 10 years and I've lost all my confidence. I am so pleased I made this step; it was easy to enrol and the tutors were so friendly and helpful. I've learnt so much and even made some new friends. I'm really proud of myself!" (Learner, Employability Plus course)

49% of local people surveyed told us they are trying new activities or learning new skills (*down from 60% in 2018-2019)

88

people received advice and guidance support

Over £2,000

of secured for clients

106

people attended a course

1,588

learning hours delivered

294

volunteering hours recorded

78

people gained a qualification

Learner case study Aneta

Aneta has been working as a cleaner in a nursery for the last few years, but was starting to feel the strain of the 5am starts, **“it was very tiring and I was thinking about a change”** she said.

Aneta saw a poster advertising the Employability Foodwise course at the nursery where she worked. She thought she would enjoy working in catering and was keen to learn some new skills and gain some different experience, **“I enjoy cooking so I thought, why not?”**

After signing up online, Aneta received a phone call from Jo, our food development worker. She explained that it was a small group, meeting at the library and would help her gain skills, experience and increase her confidence. Over the next six weeks, Aneta attended the classroom sessions where she learnt about how to apply for jobs and where to find advice and guidance; Aneta found out where she could do an ESOL course to help her improve her English. As the sessions ran from 10am – 1pm they fit well with her cleaning job and she could still take and pick up her youngest child from primary school.

Jo was able to schedule the individual practical skills sessions around Aneta’s availability, **“I learnt how to use a knife properly and the importance of maintaining correct temperatures, I now have my food hygiene certificate which I completed as part of this course.”**

As a result of the having this qualification, Aneta was able to pick up some extra hours at the nursery helping in the kitchen. With support from Jo and Tina, our IAG worker, she then successfully applied for a catering assistant job working in schools. She is particular happy as she will be moving from her previous job paying the minimum wage to one paying the living wage. **“I am really looking forward to this new job, I want to have a career in food, to do more training and progress.”**

I would say to anyone thinking about doing this course, do it. It’s interesting, you will meet great tutors and you’ll learn new things. You might even find yourself a new job like me!



Aneta and Jo, food development worker

Who have we engaged with?

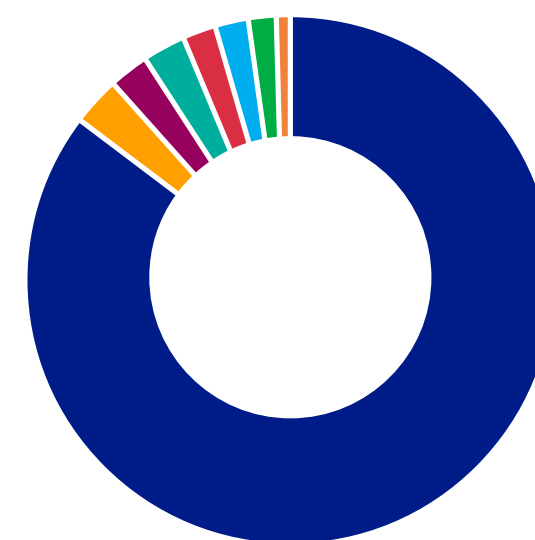
People

During 2019 – 2020 our work has seen nearly 7,500¹ engagements either through Yogurt Pots, people attending events and courses, volunteering or participating in one or more of our neighbourhood activities.

85% of participants completed an equality monitoring form:

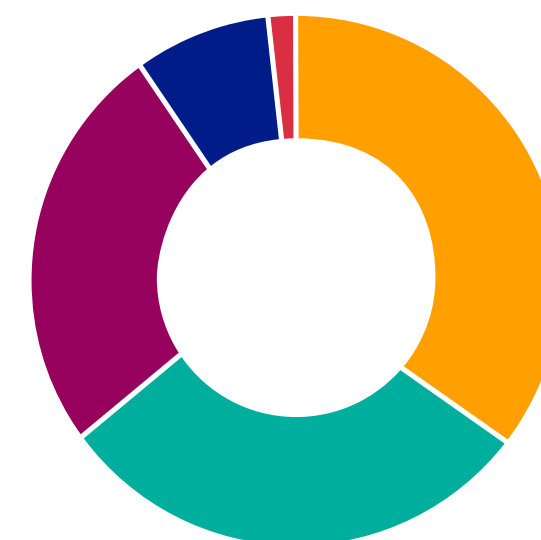
- 70% were female, 29% were male, 1% identified as other
- 1.5% identified as LGBT
- 15% considered they had a disability
- 86% identified as White British

Ethnicity



- Asian / Asian British
- Black / Black British (African)
- Black / Black British (Caribbean)
- Mixed ethnic background
- Other ethnic background
- Prefer not to say
- White: British

Age range



- 17 and under
- 18–30
- 31–60
- 61–89
- Over 90

¹Last year = 4,500 engagements

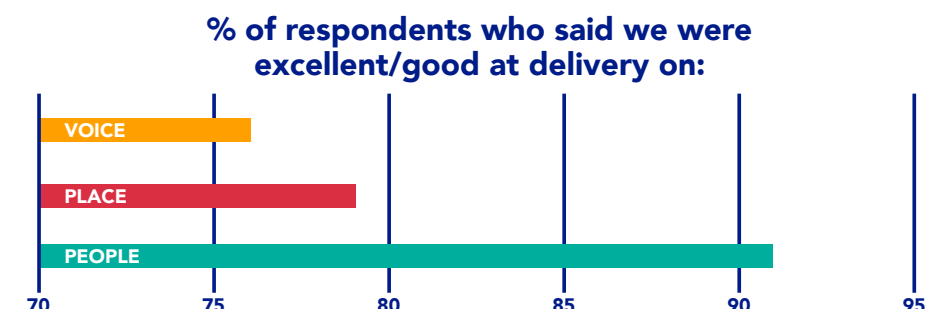
What our stakeholders say about us

80% thought we were focused on the right areas

Having been a member of ICT for a few years, I have witnessed the innovative and creative ways that have been used to support older people. The dedication and enthusiasm of ICT has made a difference to older people's lives. *(Member)*

91% said we value volunteers, staff and members

Enjoyed the support they offer and hope they can continue once the pandemic is over. *(Community member)*



87% said we are accountable to and representative of the local community

81% said we are innovative and provide value for money

ICT is one the best organisations where they are all singing from the same song sheet. They all are focused on supporting the community, empowering individuals and helping to build an environment of cohesiveness! They do what it says on the tin. Well done and all the best for the future. *(External stakeholder)*

What we have spent and earned

INCOME	
Annuity	£81,000
Rent (Innovation Forum)	£9,000
Unrestricted income	£238,510
Restricted income	£339,893
Total income	£668,403
EXPENDITURE	
Staff costs	£292,424
Community activities	£66,017
Community training	£56,705
Premises (Innovation Forum and Sports Village)	£16,352
Operational costs	£95,132
Total expenditure	£526,630

What we plan to do in 2020–2021

PEOPLE

- Continue to build on our childcare offer including development of an outside classroom
- Continue to build on our relationship with local primary schools and support after school programmes and environmental awareness activity
- Implement our learning offer with a focus on learning for work and learning for life
- Support a volunteer model which includes opportunities for placements and informal volunteering

PLACE

- Support a programme of environmental projects within neighbourhoods
- Increase environmental volunteering through litter picks and community clean ups

VOICE

- Continue to work with partners to find solutions to housing management within neighbourhoods with high levels of homes of multiple occupation
- Ensure local people have opportunities to engage with strategic partners to address neighbourhood priorities

²55 external stakeholders (11% return rate) contributed to our annual stakeholder survey, 229 local residents were consulted during our community consultation exercise and 11 staff contributed to the annual staff survey.

Special thanks to Board of Trustees, staff and volunteers

Board of Trustees during 2019–20

Mike Duddy – Chair
February 2017 – present

Lynne Marsland – Vice Chair
Re-elected July 2019 – present

James Eagle – Treasurer
reappointed May 2018

Ruth Potts – Secretary
reappointed February 2017

Ann-Marie Pickup MBE
Re-elected July 2019

Gerry Stone
Elected February 2017
– stood down October 2019

Cllr Jane Hamilton
Nominated February 2017

James Kariuki
Elected May 2018

Staff Team as at March 2020

Operational and Governance

Bernadette Elder
CEO (35 hours)

Antonia Dunn
Operations manager (21 hours)

Gerry Stone
Operations manager
(21 hours from November 2019)

Eduardo Gonzalez-Morera
Finance Manager
(12 hours from September 2019)

Start Well

Nadine Murray
Early years childcare manager (35 hours)

Gillian Green
Deputy childcare manager (35 hours)

Dawn Moore
Janine Wallace
Early years workers x 2 (35 hours each)

Claire Clayton
Early years worker (30 hours term time only)

Natalie Burgin
After school worker
(Resigned September 2019)

Live Well

Lynn Holden
Development worker - Neighbourhoods (21 hours)

Tina Tudor
Development worker - Training and Advice and Guidance
(16 hours)

Joanne Inglis
Development worker - Food Matters (28 hours)

Nicola Johns
Project assistant (20 hours)

Rita Kershaw
Project Assistant (7 hours) Resigned June 2019

Age Well

Andrea Whelan
Development worker - Older people (35 hours)

Sam Smith
Development worker - Irwell Urban Oasis
(Resigned September 2019)

Lisa Berry
Development worker - Active Ageing
(21 hours)

Nicola O'Neill
Community Connector - Swinton (35 hours)

Sean Massey
Project assistant (Resigned August 2019)

Media and social media



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Visit our website at:
www.inspiringcommunitiestogether.co.uk





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