

Big Ideas Fund Impact Report 2022 - 2023

Salford CVS

Supported by Salford ICP



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About the fund



The Big Ideas Fund distributed grants of up to £25,000 to voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector organisations for transformative projects designed to create **lasting change in Salford**.

The fund offered the VCSE sector an opportunity to invest in resources that would continue to benefit their organisation and community for many years to come or to pilot an innovative project linked to Salford's Great Eight. **Social, economic and environmental sustainability** had to be at the heart of their big idea.

The 20 funded projects ran from April 2022 to March 2023 and focused on the **following three priorities:**

HEALTHIER Addressing health and wellbeing in line with Salford's Locality Plan.

FAIRER Tackling poverty and inequality in Salford.

GREENER Improvements to energy, transport, water, waste, biodiversity to benefit our local (and global) environment.

The Big Ideas Fund was administered by Salford CVS and funded by Salford Integrated Care Partnership (ICP).

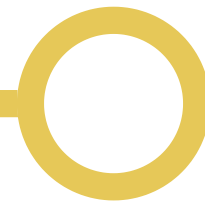
Grants in numbers

45



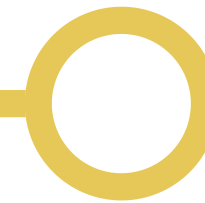
Groups
applied

20



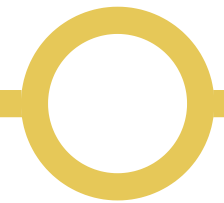
Grants
awarded

£462k



Funding
awarded

4292



People
benefitted*

*Reported to date- actual figure likely to be higher

Big Ideas Fund 2021/22 Funded Projects

Organisation Name	Project Name	Amount Awarded
The Ability Cooperative	We are Green; We are Healthy; We are Fair	£24,986.00
Helping Hands Community Business Salford	Helping Hands: Peer Support for Improved Health/Mental Health	£24,894.00
Salford Foundation	The Shed Workshop	£24,232.00
Incredible Education CIC	Forest Garden Workshop	£24,672.00
Community Little Hulton	Peel Park Pavilion let's get this project started	£23,604.00
Salford Deaf Community Gathering	d/Deaf Community Liaison Officer	£25,000.00
Blackleach Allotment Association	Growing with the Community @ Blackleach Allotments	£25,000.00
Islington Mill Foundation	Bee Corner	£10,000.00
Growing Togetherness CIC	The new Seedley Pavillion Community Café and Gardens Greenhouse	£25,000.00
Patricroft Community Group CIC	The Castle Youth & Community Centre refurbishment & retrofit	£25,000.00
Unlimited Potential	Meaningful Employment of Autistic People	£19,992.56
Visit from the Stork CIC	Stork Store & Stork Support	£24,610.60
Humans MCR	Community Grocers On Wheels	£23,799.00
START	START's Green Dream	£25,000.00
Community Doosti CIC	Salford Easy Weaving Carpets/Rugs Project	£25,000.00
Lingua GM	Revive	£25,000.00
Majic Sport & H&H Family Centre	A place to be	£20,746.19
Take Action Together CIC	The Well-being Atelier	£15,485.00
BASIC	Equal Access Minibus	£25,000.00
Green Teach	Chat Moss Market Garden and Community Food Hub	£25,000.00
	TOTAL:	£462,021.35

Examples of activity



takeactiontogether • Follow

takeactiontogether BACK IN BUSINESS Join is tomorrow at Little Hulton family hub from 10.30 till 11.30. Explore colour and sustainable play with us! £1 donation

Princes Park Garden Centre
20 April

With thanks to funding provided by Salford CVS we have been able to upgrade our polytunnels to improve plant production and the service we provide to the Lancashire Wildlife trust, enabling them to continue their fantastic regeneration work up at Little Woolden Moss hence reducing the carbon footprint both locally and globally. We think you'll agree that they now not only function effectively but they look fantastic!! Thank you Salford CVS

Community Doosti - friendship CIC
10 December 2022

Salford Community Doosti (friendship)

SALFORD EASY WEAVING CARPETS / RUGS PROJECT

SO MUCH FUN ACTIVITIES!

- Fun environment
- Many friends
- Materials/Equipment provided.
- Childcare Available

FOR WOMEN IN SALFORD

Tuesdays: 10 - 12 a.m
Thursdays: 13 - 15 p.m

Beech Court Community Room
Belvedere Rd
Salford M6 5FJ

This is a free course

CALL NOW 07445335447
Email us: doosti2.salford@gmail.com

NHS Salford Clinical Commissioning Group



Bee Corner
12 July 2022

Epic peak Bee Season over at Bee Corner- we're almost as busy as the bees at the moment!

SalfordMayor
Orangerie Community Greenhouse is looking great in Bulle Hill

...ne Growing Togetherness, @MarkFrith2020 and all involved in g the funding to make this happen, I know how valued an asset ll be.

Mark Frith @MarkFrith2020 · 30 Apr

Orangerie community greenhouse build at Bulle Hill Park With thanks to nded by NHS Salford CCG with support from Salford CVS: salfordCVS @SalfordCCG salford_mayor CEOsalfordCVS facebook.com/groups/growing...

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5:38 pm · 30 Apr 2023 · 1,840 Views

Salford CVS
@SalfordCVS

The Shed project offers support for men living in Salford and Manchester to help them reach their potential.

Learn more about what's available and how you can help The Shed make a difference light.ly/ktidm8o

@SalfordFDN

The Shed Project

2:30 pm · 1 Aug 2022

2 Likes

Improving transport for disabled people

Local

In April 2022 the **Brain and Spinal Injury Centre (BASIC)** were awarded a Big Ideas Fund grant by Salford CVS (supported by NHS Salford ICP) to purchase a wheelchair accessible electric vehicle to provide low-cost transport for their clients. This proved to be a great success in enabling local people to access therapeutic services at BASIC, hospital appointments and social activities.

An opportunity for further investment came about in 2022/23 through the Director of Public Health, Dr Muna Abdel Aziz and securing of public health monies. In early 2023, further discussions were held with BASIC along with **Being There** and **Headway** to identify ways in which these public health monies might boost their capacity to improve access to health services for people with physical disabilities. All three organisations identified transport access as a barrier for disabled people. This led to a joint investment in a second electric vehicle, based at BASIC, and made both vehicles available for use by clients of all three organisations.

With volunteer driver support (recruited via Salford CVS) this new scheme provides valuable transport services to disabled people who have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19 and are affected by wider health inequalities. In summer 2023 the project was selected as an example of delivering 'Fairer Health for All' and funding was secured via 10GM to bring in Carbon Creative to produce a great video case study (see below).

Selected outcomes



Healthier

- A number of grant recipients reported improvements in people's fitness, diets, and understanding of what constitutes a healthy lifestyle.
- Many grant recipients reported improvements in people's emotional wellbeing, confidence, and friendships/social connections.
- Take Action Together reported improvements in beneficiaries' resilience and connection to nature.
- Visit from the Stork reported improvements in parent-child relationships and parents' peer support networks.
- BASIC improved health outcomes for patients by providing free transport to appointments in a new low-vibration electric vehicle.
- Salford Deaf Community Gathering worked with Community Connectors to provide advice and guidance to d/Deaf people and supported them to access health and welfare resources and appointments.
- Green Teach increased people's understanding of the link between diet and health and what constitutes a nutritious diet.
- Helping Hands supported people to re-engage with the community following the COVID-19 pandemic, including accessing health appointments and community activities.

Selected outcomes



Fairer

- Two organisations reported improvements in beneficiaries' employability skills and knowledge of how to access employment.
- Salford Foundation reported 50% of their beneficiaries achieved a new educational qualification as a result of participating on the project.
- Two organisations supported beneficiaries to secure paid work.
- BASIC increased access to vital health services for clients with a brain or spinal injury by providing free transport to the centre in an electric vehicle.
- Lingua GM broke down barriers to accessing mental health support by providing tiered, culturally appropriate mental health support in a range of community languages.
- Islington Mill Foundation increased access to education about, and experience of, beekeeping.
- Unlimited Potential broke down barriers to the meaningful employment of autistic people by producing a guide for autistic job seekers and a guide for employers looking to improve their hiring practices.
- Humans MCR and Visit from the Stork increased access to nutritious food at well below the market value through their Community Grocers and Stork Store voucher scheme services (respectively).
- Salford d/Deaf Community Gathering supported d/Deaf people to voice their ideas and concerns to make Salford a fairer place for d/Deaf people.

Selected outcomes



Greener

- BASIC reduced the carbon footprint of patients attending health appointments by providing transport in an electric vehicle.
- At least nine organisations conducted infrastructure work that will increase capacity to deliver green and growing projects in Salford. Blackleach Allotments Association, for example, laid the foundations for a community plot, and have now secured further funding to allow them to start hosting green social prescribing activities.
- Many organisations increased the biodiversity at their sites by planting a wide range of plants and flowers.
- Ability Cooperative supported the regeneration of Chat Moss and Little Woollen Moss by growing over 50,000 plants and replanting over 5,000 plants, including Cotton Grass and Bog Myrtle.
- Humans Mcr's food delivery service, Community Grocers, diverted approximately 40 tonnes of waste from going to landfill.
- Green Teach increased people's understanding of climate change and small changes they can make to be more sustainable.

Selected outcomes



Other

- More capacity to deliver health and wellbeing and green and growing programmes at community venues across Salford.
- New volunteers recruited and provided with opportunities to give back to their community.
- Most organisations built new partnerships or strengthened existing ones while delivering their projects, for example BASIC's partnership with Being There and Headway.
- A number of organisations improved their long-term sustainability through strategic investment in infrastructure work.
- Green Teach was invited to give a talk at a national conference, widening their reach and supporting their broader mission.
- Many grant recipients were able to generate new income streams through renting out their new space.
- Some organisations increased their fundraising income through the additional interest generated in their organisation.
- Some organisations were able to hire new staff and/or upskill existing staff members.

Case study 1 - Bee Corner

We converted a container unit in our garden and apiary site into a classroom, enabling us to offer activities during bad weather and the off season, expand our calendar of events, engage with more people more meaningfully, and become a hub for beekeeping experience and education in Salford.

With this grant we were able to pay for a labourer, materials, and furniture to turn an old container unit into a comfortable, welcoming classroom. Thanks to a supplementary grant from The National Lottery, we have been able to procure and install excellent quality materials for the build, which will be less costly to maintain in future than cheaper alternatives. We have also been able to build a sheltered decking area outside the container.

The result has surpassed all expectation – both with the actual build and the way it has positively impacted the site and our activities.

The Container Classroom is now a permanent fixture at Bee Corner. It has improved the health and wellbeing of visitors and volunteers alike and will continue to do so for years to come.



**Islington
Mill**





The project aimed to engage some of the hardest to reach men, boost their confidence, develop enterprise and employability skills, test new ways of working and reconnect them with their local community.

We provided emotional and wellbeing support, as well as referrals and signposting to specialist services; primary care providers; and therapeutic/counselling services.



Case study 2 - The Shed

In total we helped 80 men on the project aged 18+. Our key impacts included the following:

- Reduced social isolation
- Improved confidence and self-esteem
- Increased physical activity
- Improved emotional and mental health
- Increased connectivity to the local community
- Improved peer support networks
- Increased awareness of environmental sustainability
- Improved partnership working with public, private and VCSE sectors
- Increased volunteering opportunities and take-up of volunteering



Case study 3 - Community Grocers

Over the course of
the project,
1,725
people across all
wards in Salford
were supported with
food deliveries.

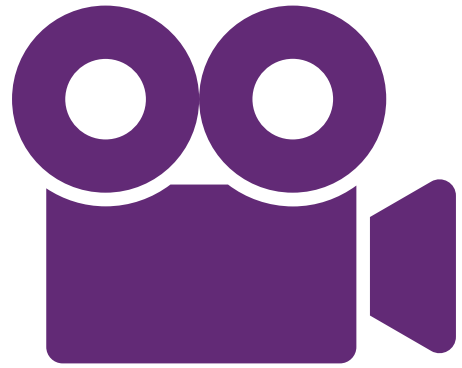
Clients paid a nominal fee for a week's worth of groceries of their choice, using food otherwise destined for landfill. Prices started at £6.75 for a single adult (plus a £5 annual membership fee, which we waived for Salford residents). This meant clients were able to stay afloat and pay their bills through the fraught economic situation, without compromising on food quality. Packages were delivered to clients' homes on the same day every week, in a temperature-controlled, unbranded delivery van.

The cost-of-living crisis has hit our family hard, and we were worried we would have to make the choice between heating the house or eating three meals a day. Thankfully, the grocers came along at just the right time.

The reliance on foodbanks amongst our Grocers clients reduced.

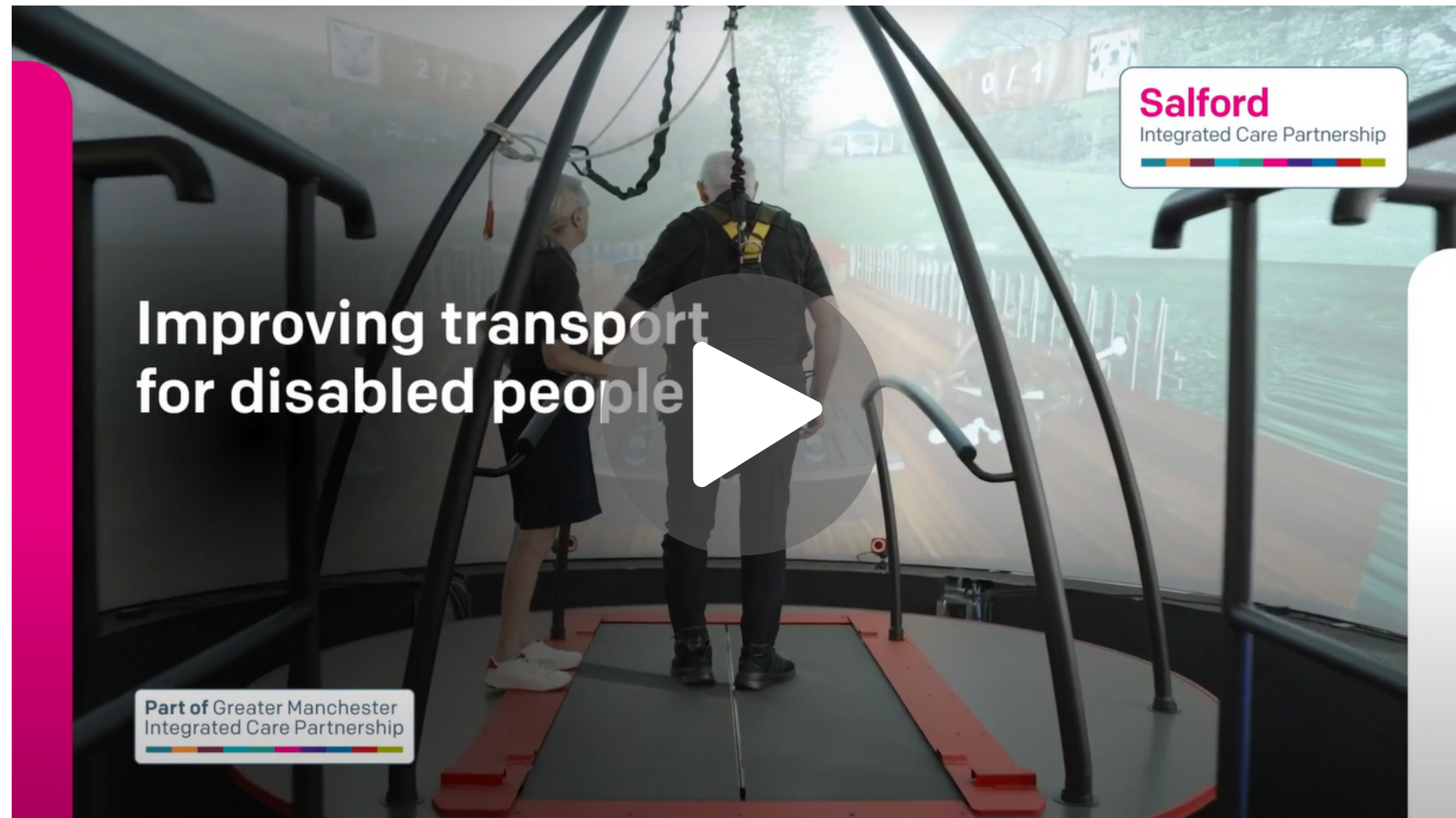
The number of Foodbank visits did not reduce (and actually increased due to the cost of living crisis) however these were new clients. Grocers clients tended to stay with the Grocers once they were signed up rather than returning to the Foodbank.

Video Case Study



Brain and Spinal Injury Centre (BASIC), Being There and Headway

Improving Transport for Disabled People project



Learning

Themes identified

- Volunteers were hard to recruit and retain across multiple projects
- Dedicated (funded) staff are key e.g. project manager or coordinator
- Communication between stakeholders is very important
- Forward planning in terms of costs, venues, and locations is key
- Capital funding can support organisations to achieve tangible short term outcomes and important strategic goals

Across the groups, various elements of more specialist learning were identified, including autism, local interest in green and growing, men's mental health, and Salford's diversity.

Patricroft CIC: *Building new interest groups in the community takes time so if you need a quick outcome and participation you need to meet with the community at the groups and meetings people are already involved and taking part of.*

Humans MCR: *Volunteering uptake did not increase and we had to increase our paid offering; we largely believe this to be down to the cost-of-living crisis. Volunteering tapered off as the months rolled on, particularly in winter 2022 – as people could no longer afford to give their time for free.*

Ability Cooperative: *We have realised that even though we have operated on a flat organisational structure for many years, our organisational structure makes it challenging to take on new projects. This project was quite self-contained so predominantly fell to the horticulture lead at PPGC, but we needed to have better coordination and communication throughout the (small) organisation to ensure things happened in the most timely way.*



**Beneficiary at Princes Park
Garden Centre/Ability
Cooperative**

Words from funded groups



“This award will create a community allotment space within our self-managed allotment site, which will also improve the facilities and access for all tenants of Blackleach Allotments at the same time. Allow us to encourage local people, community groups and those on our waiting list to engage with the site and benefit from the positive effects of growing.”

Blackleach Allotments Association

“We are over the moon to receive support from Salford CVS. This grant will enable us to reach out to more people and engage more meaningfully with them for years to come. We are especially excited that we will be able to work with local primary school children for the first time and facilitate empowering opportunities for them. The grant is a massive boost to our innovative social prescription offer; we will be able to build on current activities and safeguard our future work to improve the physical and mental health, and wellbeing of Salford people.”

Islington Mill Foundation

“This funding to transform our site will not only allow us to increase our environmental capacity but will ensure we can provide improved learning and growing spaces for the adults with Learning Disabilities, who come to ‘work’ at Princes Park Garden Centre each day, to improve their health and equity of access to meaningful activities.”

Ability Cooperative

“START are absolutely delighted to have received this funding - it will be used to create two outdoor spaces within the garden at Brunswick House to not only provide more capacity for our charity’s members, but to allow our partners the opportunity to offer non-clinical therapeutic environments from where to meet with people.”

START in Salford

“This grant from the Big Ideas Fund will help Unlimited Potential develop its work towards improving meaningful employment opportunities for autistic people, opening up their skills and talents to more local employers. This will be another step in creating an economy for all.”

Unlimited Potential



Making a difference in Salford

Ella Bulbeck and Niamh Meehan

Salford CVS

September 2023