

# North West Network & Working Links



<h2>What is North West Network</h2>	<p>North West Network was established by a consortium of Voluntary and Community Sector organisations in 1993 as a direct response to the ever-increasing demand for clear, professional advice and information on how to access and manage funds from the European Union. North West Network is the regional Third (Voluntary and Community) Sector partner for the North West European Structural Fund Programmes: European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and European Social Fund (ESF). Building on this experience we seek to develop and maintain a strategic position of knowledge and influence over funding programmes that affect the Third Sector in the region. We promote and support access to an array of funding opportunities and particularly those that offer opportunities to match with or develop projects supported by Structural Funds as a priority.</p>
<h2>What is Working Links?</h2>	<p>Working Links is a national organisation delivering services to tackle social exclusion and poverty. Their aim is to help people not only to move away from welfare dependency, but to experience sustained social mobility. Since Working Links was launched in 2000, their role has steadily developed and many programmes of support have helped make a difference to thousands of people across England, Scotland and Wales. Through their belief that work is the best route out of poverty, Working Links have changed the lives of more than 85,000 people by helping them to find work. In May 2008 Working Links were awarded a European Social Fund contract by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) which aims through a range of targeted interventions to address the needs of those facing barriers to work and those furthest removed from local labour markets and/or provide work experience within a supportive environment. These interventions aim to provide the skills and support to move the individual into or closer to, sustainable employment.</p>
<h2>The partnership</h2>	<p>Working Links and North West Network have teamed up to ensure the full involvement of the Third Sector in delivering the ESF contract awarded to Working Links in Manchester, Salford and Trafford districts. North West Network is acting as a delivery partner in the Working Links contract in order to make sure that the contract includes the effective participation of the Third Sector in its delivery.</p>
<h2>What we do</h2>	<p>North West Network has recently appointed a Third Sector Liaison Project Manager to broker contracts between Working Links and the Third Sector. If your organisation helps and supports individuals move closer to the labour market please get in touch with us to see how you can engage with this project.</p>

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<h2>Project aims</h2>	<p>To ensure involvement of the Third Sector in delivering the contract awarded to Working Links To create practical partnerships between Working Links and the Third Sector.</p>	
<h2>Project Interventions</h2>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide outreach activity to engage customers from minority ethnic backgrounds.</li> <li>• Activity to support working lives by re-engaging with economically inactive older workers (50+).</li> <li>• A package of activities to help unemployed customers with specific disabilities to enter and remain in work.</li> <li>• To provide Basic Skills support to participants assessed as below Entry Level in literacy and numeracy and/or below entry level in basic skills ESOL.</li> <li>• To provide advice and guidance to produce a Curriculum Vitae (CV), provide support to address financial barriers to employment together with short term, basic job search advice and guidance.</li> <li>• A full-time Intermediate Labour Market (ILM), which will provide a temporary job for up to 26 weeks.</li> <li>• Rapid Response: service provision to local employers to satisfy their recruitment needs and provide any required training.</li> <li>• A part-time ILM specifically for Incapacity benefit customers to undertake real work activities within a social enterprise for up to 15 hours over 26 weeks.</li> </ul>	
<h2>Project Coverage</h2>	<p><b>Manchester</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Manchester</li> <li>• New East Manchester</li> <li>• South and Central Manchester</li> <li>• Wythenshawe</li> </ul> <p><b>Salford</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broughton</li> <li>• Little Hulton</li> <li>• Swinton</li> <li>• Charlestown and Lower Kersall (NDC)</li> </ul> <p><b>Trafford</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Old Trafford</li> </ul>	
<h2>Contact us</h2>	<p>North West Network 2nd Floor, Albert House 17 Bloom Street Manchester M1 3HZ</p>	<p>Tel: 0161 236 6493 Fax: 0161 228 6137 E-Mail: <a href="mailto:humza@nwnetwork.org.uk">humza@nwnetwork.org.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.nwnetwork.org.uk">www.nwnetwork.org.uk</a></p>

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