



VOLUNTEERING

Salford City Council

Health Improvement Service (HIS)

In a workforce of 86 people (on a mixture of full time and part time contracts), 67% (n=58) are local Salford residents. In addition, 8 members of staff within the service are active in a voluntary capacity within a range of organisations within Salford. These include football teams and other sports organisations, churches, festival committees, schools, support groups. It is estimated that staff working for the HIS contribute around 70 hours per week month, or **800 hours per year** from their voluntary roles.

But the HIS also contributes significantly to the economy of Salford through the creation of volunteering opportunities. There were almost 250 volunteers supporting HIS work during 2016/17. Some of these opportunities have led to paid posts within the service within a variety of different roles, including:

- Community Champion,
- General Health Improvement Volunteer,
- Specialist Peer Supporters,
- Befrienders,
- Running Independent Groups,
- Support to individuals wanting to find volunteer placements.

The volunteers receive differing levels of support from staff within the service in order for them to deliver their volunteering roles safely and effectively. This may include one to one supervision, in house training, external specialised training, and shadowing. Although this can prove to be a considerable time commitment for the staff in the service, it is possible to pick up most of this activity within existing day to day roles within the neighbourhood team infrastructure and forms part of the service's commissioned objectives.

To calculate an approximate monetary value for the work that volunteering within the Health Improvement Service contributes to the wider socio-economic environment:

248 (no. of volunteers) X £8.45 per hour (real Living Wage) X 12 (proxy measure at 1 hour per month) = **£25,147** in 2016/17

86 staff – 800 hours volunteered x £8.45 per hour = **£6,760** in 2016/17



As a direct result of supporting volunteers within the service, we have been able to support the creation of around 18 new independent community groups in Salford in 2016/17. These groups now operate without the need for paid staff, run entirely by volunteers, as an asset that can be accessed by the wider community.

For further information contact:

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