

Our Sale West Matters

Celebration Issue : Autumn 2024

It's Official! Everyone's a Winner in Sale West!

In 2015, residents of the Sale West estate were awarded £1,000,000 of Lottery Funding to be used over 10 years to make the area a better place to live in.

The Our Sale West Big Local team have worked very hard since then to listen to your needs and wishes and to support you through good and bad times. The project has been a big success as you will see from these pages!

Since 2015, we have increased the original £1m by over £600,000, making it possible to do even more for the community.

We have also built up great partnerships with the Council, NHS, Irwell Valley Homes, schools and faith groups as well as local clubs and organisations.



In October 2024, we received a Trafford Community Award *and* a High Sheriff's award for our work on your behalf. It has been an honour and privilege to serve you all.



Our Sale West Big Local has four main themes:

- ◆ **Youth**
- ◆ **Jobs and Training**
- ◆ **Environment**
- ◆ **Health and Wellbeing**

We have completed around **75** projects under these headings over the past 10 years.

Learn about some of them in the following pages

Since 2015, amongst other things, we have reintroduced Youth Club activities, improved park and play facilities, supported the Sunbeams Baby Group, facilitated a tutoring service and sponsored a local all-girls football team.



Youth



We have funded training for several residents to achieve a Level 1 Youth Leadership certificate and some of them plan to become qualified Youth Leaders, so that the Youth Club can have a sustainable future.



We have built up a great relationship with our local schools. Pupils have been involved in singing and serving at our annual Christmas lunch for elderly residents and by helping to create wildlife habitats, plant spring bulbs and sow a wildflower meadow in the park. They have also contributed to toy and clothes collections.

We have staged three school conferences in 2018, 2022 and 2024, giving local pupils a chance to showcase their talents and express their opinions.

Holiday activities have been provided for several years and there has been a yearly outing to a local Christmas children's show.



Jobs and Training



Early on, we set up a Community Information Hub to offer residents support with job seeking and CV writing. We commissioned Trafford College to run training in IT skills, First Aid, gardening and Food Hygiene. Those interested in jobs in the construction industry have been helped to acquire a CSCS card.

We have run a Jobs Fair in partnership with Trafford Council and a very successful Careers Fair attended by pupils from 11 different Trafford Secondary schools.

Local entrepreneurs have been supported through our partnership with UnLtd and our own Community Grant Scheme where local residents could apply for up to £2,000 to help them set up a small business. The 'Working Wardrobe' scheme supplied outfits for job interviews.

We have worked in partnership with Sale Sharks to provide a very successful course for pupils who have dropped out of mainstream education.

Environment



The Our Sale West team are delighted to have made some major improvements to the local environment over the past few years for residents to enjoy: new play areas for Infants and Juniors; the Phoenix Gardens where the Bechers pub used to be; a beautiful wildflower meadow; new lighting for the multi-use games area; and picnic benches in the park. An amphitheatre, information boards and wood carvings have also been commissioned.



Health and Wellbeing



Helping residents to look after mind and body is another main aim of Our Sale West and we have introduced a wide variety of activities to choose from, including **Keep Fit, Pilates, Sporting Memories and crafting activities.**

Our **subsidised day trips out** have proved to be highly popular, including places such as Southport, York, Llandudno and Blackpool. **Family Fun Days** are also well attended by local residents.

We have worked together with the local Health Centre to provide a **weekly drop-in advisory service with nurses; a smoking cessation programme and Diabetes advice.**

We have helped to establish a local **Junior Parkrun** and a trim trail to help improve fitness.

Twice-weekly lunches are provided for our elderly residents and our **Christmas party** has been

an annual treat!



Sale Community
Support Hub

Arising from the pandemic, **Our Sale West Big Local became one of the six Support Hubs in Trafford.** When Covid restrictions ended, there was still a need to continue due to the cost of living crisis. We met this by **providing support for residents with food, clothing, furniture and household goods.** We have set up **weekly sessions with Citizens Advice** so that residents can seek help and support.

Food is a vital necessity and we have been able to offer two schemes: **'The Bread and Butter Thing' (TBBT)** on Mondays where families pay a regular sum each week to receive pre-packed food and **Foodshare** on Friday mornings, where we collect and offer free food collected from supermarkets which would otherwise go to landfill.

It might amaze you to learn that, **since 2015, we have provided local people with the equivalent of 1.5 million meals!**

Volunteering

We would not have got very far without our **wonderful pool of volunteers!** Here are the details of two of them ...



Damian has been a resident of Sale West for over 30 years. He helps with TBBT, Foodshare and gardening. He has also recently trained to repair bikes and scooters for use by residents. He says, "After a period of unemployment, I was turning into a 'house hermit'. Our Sale West has helped tons to improve my life. I like to bring a smile to people's faces and helping everyone helps me too."

Becka has been a Sale West resident all her life and considers the community to be 'family'. She is now a member of the Our Sale West Board and has contributed to the Poverty Truth Commission project. Our Sale West provided her with a camera to help her pursue her dream of being a professional photographer. She is also a leader in the Youth Club.



Why does she volunteer? She says:
"Giving back in different ways gives me a sense of purpose.
Being a Board member is one of the best things I've been able to do for the community."

Many thanks to both and to *all* our lovely volunteers!



So - What's going to happen after 2025?

Well, one thing is for sure - Our Sale West will be with you for the foreseeable future!

No longer 'Big Local' but you can expect the same high level of service and support that you have become used to.



Let's Celebrate!

To celebrate the success of 10 years of Our Sale West Big Local, we are planning some family fun events to take place next summer.

Please come and join the party! More details to follow ...



Next Steps ...

We are currently in the process of becoming a Charitable Organisation (a CIO) which will be known as **Our Sale West**. Our office will still be based in the Youth Centre.

We are also in negotiation with Trafford Council to take on a 25-year tenancy lease which will allow us to apply for future funding to improve the look and management of the building.

We will be consulting residents and user groups at every stage so that we can base our decisions on what **you** want and need. Contact us at any time using the contact details on Page 1!

Please also consider volunteering to help us to build the future of Our Sale West - remember,

"Teamwork makes the dream work!"

