

Powerful Partnerships

The case for the need to address ways to improve outcomes for young people living in domains of deprivation

Part 1: The Where and Why

‘Because disadvantage comes in all shapes and sizes... If we all did a little bit, imagine the difference we could make’ – Di Vernon. December 2014

We believe now is exactly the right time for EmployabilityUK to take centre stage in leading thoughts and actions to change the way education business partnerships happen and place the real needs of our young people at the heart of this transformation.

LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR NATIONAL SUCCESS

EmployabilityUK is a charity with a track record of helping to transform outcomes for young people by providing bespoke programme-based interventions that address individual needs. By taking our work to cities and large towns across the country, we will identify place-specific issues and tailor our employability and life skills solutions to help improve prospects for 16-24 year olds. Introducing Powerful Partnerships (PP).

There is a post pandemic time-bomb ticking, that is young people’s confidence and resilience drastically reducing. We must act now to support young people and do everything we can to help them to navigate the uncertain world they and we are living in.

The Powerful Partnerships strategy aims to deliver bespoke programmes focusing on critical skills, raising aspirations and building the confidence of our young people.

This is a provisional list of the target cities for 2023-5:

EmployabilityUK	2023	2024	2025
	Coventry	Liverpool	Middlesborough
	Birmingham	Blackpool	Newcastle
	Wolverhampton	Preston	Manchester
	Stoke	Sheffield	Stockport
	Leicester	Blackburn	Oldham
	Derby	Peterborough	Hackney
	Nottingham	Tower Hamlets	Barking & Dagenham
	Stafford	Newham	Brent
			Leeds

The priority cities and large towns will be in the Midlands and the North of England, with the exception of certain parts of London. This list has been drawn up using a number of different factors, including EUK’s current reach and existing relationships. To accelerate the growth of the charity in a managed way, we need to focus our expansion and not try to spread ourselves too thinly. If we do, we risk losing impact and lowering quality levels.

As part of the rationale for PP we are keen to generate job creation and economic prosperity, as well as improved outcomes for young people. A lead manager will be appointed in each PP place to improve our understanding of the issues, so we are best positioned to tackle these and make the biggest difference. The manager will research the place and develop an effective strategy to ensure any funding secured is put to the best possible use, with tangible improvements in prospects for young people.

Holistic thinking means we will be able to identify complex issues and address what we can as a whole, through a channel of youth-related improvement. Using proven methods and our track record of successful outcomes, we aim to ensure that there is a clearly defined reason for our presence in any particular place. By getting a sound understanding of the barriers for young people, we can collaborate with others to at least 'ease the way' for some, especially the 'middle achievers' and those furthest from the labour market.

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is the official measure of relative deprivation in England and is part of a suite of outputs that form the Indices of Deprivation (IoD). It follows an established methodological framework in broadly defining deprivation to encompass a wide range of an individual's living conditions. People may be considered to be living in poverty if they lack the financial resources to meet their needs, whereas people can be regarded as deprived if they lack any kind of resources, not just income.

*Key Info: Index of Deprivation 2019 Domains. The IoD2019 is comprised of seven distinct domains of deprivation which, when combined and appropriately weighted, form the IMD2019.

*Source: .Gov.uk

They are:

- Income (22.5%)
- Employment (22.5%)
- Health Deprivation and Disability (13.5%)
- Education, Skills Training (13.5%)
- Crime (9.3%)
- Barriers to Housing and Services (9.3%)
- Living Environment (9.3%)

Most deprived local authorities based on Average Score:

1. Blackpool
2. Knowsley
3. Liverpool
4. Kingston upon Hull
5. Middlesbrough
6. Manchester
7. Birmingham
8. Burnley
9. Blackburn with Darwen
10. Hartlepool

(Rank of) Average Score - this measure summarises the average level of deprivation across an area, based on the scores of all the neighbourhoods contained within. Scores are calculated by taking the population weighted average of the combined scores for the neighbourhoods in a larger area. This measure also covers the whole area including both deprived and less-deprived neighbourhoods. The main difference from the average rank measure is that more deprived neighbourhoods tend to have more 'extreme' scores than ranks, so highly deprived areas will not tend to average out in the same way as when using ranks. With scores, highly polarised authorities will tend to score higher on the average score measure than on the average rank.

Youth unemployment and inactivity

Whether or not young people are in education, receiving training or working, has important implications for future economic growth, development and stability. Left unaddressed, youth unemployment has the potential to have significant and serious social repercussions. Youth unemployment can lead to social exclusion and unrest. Investing in decent job creation, as well as in education and training opportunities, especially for 18-

24 year olds, will help them imagine their future and contribute to more prosperous and stable societies.

As a priority, we aim to focus our activity on areas of lower than national average employment, higher than average unemployment and inactivity.

Summary of latest headline estimates and quarterly changes for the main EUK target regions of the UK, seasonally adjusted, June to August 2022

	Employment rate (%) aged 16 to 64 years	Unemployment rate (%) aged 16 years and over	Inactivity rate (%) aged 16 to 64 years
Great Britain	75.7	3.5	21.5
England	75.9	3.5	21.3
North East	71.2	4.4	25.5
North West	73.8	3.5	23.5
West Midlands	74.6	4.7	21.6
London	75.1	4.0	21.7

Factors used to develop this list include Free School Meals

Children living in cities in the North of England and the Midlands, are much more likely to be eligible for free school meals than those living in the Greater South East. All of the ten cities with the highest share of pupils eligible for free school meals, are located in these areas. Of the ten cities with the lowest shares of eligible pupils (46-55), nine are in the Greater South East.

Rank	City	Share of Students Eligible for FSM (%)	Rank	City	Share of Students Eligible for FSM (%)
1	Liverpool	26.6	46	Southend	11.6
2	Hull	22.7	47	Exeter	11.5
3	Birmingham	22.6	48	Oxford	11.1
4	Sunderland	22.2	49	Crawley	11.0
5	Blackpool	22.1	50	Slough	10.5
6	Newcastle	21.3	51	Worthing	9.9
7	Middlesbrough	20.9	52	Cambridge	9.5
8	Barnsley	20.3	53	Reading	8.8
9	Sheffield	20.3	54	Aldershot	8.4
10	Stoke	20.1	55	York	8.3

In Part 2 of this series of briefings, we will address Powerful Partnerships: The What and How