

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEVY MATCHMAKING SERVICE

## A DIGITAL SOLUTION SUPPORTING EMPLOYERS THROUGHOUT GREATER MANCHESTER

### WHY DEVELOP THE SERVICE?

Our ambition is that Greater Manchester will lead the way in apprenticeship employment, providing quality opportunities for learning and development. More of our employers than ever before will see the contribution that high quality, sustainable apprenticeships can make to their business and their workforce. Our residents will be inspired and supported to make decisions about how an apprenticeship can support their personal and professional development. In Greater Manchester apprenticeships will create more better quality opportunities for anyone looking to develop their career at any time.

With Levy paying organisations now able to transfer up to 25% of their funds to other employers, there was a need to create a simple a process for both parties to ensure maximum levy investment is retained in Greater Manchester,

To achieve this goal, Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) commissioned the Growth Company to develop and deliver a digital platform that connects levy payers with SMEs, to facilitate the transfer of any unspent funding, whilst also negating the need for SMEs to pay the 5% co-investment costs.

### WHAT DOES THE SERVICE DO?

The online service allows companies looking to donate unspent apprenticeship levy funds (maximum of 25%), to view details of opportunities created smaller organisations looking for funding. The platform allows organisations to specify their objectives from each organisation which then matches both parties by their specified criteria.

Once matched, an inbuilt messaging service allow both organisations to arrange the transfer of the levy funding.

### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO LARGE EMPLOYERS?

The service will allow large employers to utilise their levy to support smaller businesses, whether that be developing your supply chain, forming strategic partnerships or demonstrating corporate social responsibility. Large employers will have exposure to numerous opportunities that they wouldn't have known existed without the service.

### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO SMES?

By connecting with levy paying organisations you could benefit from fully funded apprenticeship training without the need for co investment (funding criteria apply). You will be able to showcase your opportunity to larger national audience, in a straight forward simple way.

### WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

If you are looking to transfer some of your unspent levy funding within Greater Manchester simply register online, set up your matching preferences and you will begin to see opportunities you can invest in.

If you are looking to receive a transfer to recruit an apprentice or upskill an existing member of staff using an apprenticeship, register on the site and then create an opportunity that showcases why donor employers should choose you. If you have selected a training provider, they will be able to support you with this, in addition to creating your digital apprenticeship service account.

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