

We are delighted to share our second NWLC Social Value Report. This report brings together and celebrates the collective social value effort of the NWLC Solicitor Framework Firms. Please note some figures are approximate and may have been affected due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

NWLC Social Value Report

2021 - 2022



SOCIAL



899

Trainees and Apprentices employed



9,359.45

Employee volunteer hours donated to the local community



ENVIRONMENTAL



820.44

Tons of waste recycled



ECONOMIC



£762,247

Fundraised for charity



165

Charities supported



For queries or to discuss any element of this report, please contact:

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SUPPORTING LOCAL CHARITABLE INITIATIVES



Addleshaw Goddard

Addleshaw Goddard's CSR strategy focuses on Unlocking Young Potential and underpins all of the charity and community work the firm undertakes. The strategy focuses on the following aims:

- **Access to education** - the firm has supported a number of initiatives, including Bookmark Paired Reading, which helps to reduce the gap in reading ability of young people during the Covid crisis.
- **Access to the profession** - ran a number of legal access weeks in conjunction with social mobility organisation PRIME, and support scholarship and mentoring programmes including the Lawscot Foundation and City Solicitors Horizon fund, which provide practical and financial support to over 30 young people each year.
- **Access to work** - regular employability skills sessions, an active schools programme, and working with Working Wardrobe and Smart Works to donate clothing, sponsor events and run skills sessions. The firm also supports rehabilitated offenders through a partnership with Redemption Roasters.



Bevan Brittan

Bevan Brittan's Leeds office has undertaken a number of fundraising initiatives in support of the firm's specified local charity, Maggie's Leeds. Maggie's offers free support to anyone with cancer and their families, from treatment side effects to money worries.

Our fundraising activities for **Maggie's Leeds** this year have included:

- Completing the Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge - 24.5 miles with 5,200 feet of ascent - in just under 12 hours, while another team ran the Leeds 10k.
- Sponsoring a table at a Ball in November 2021 to help raise money for Maggie's. The Ball raised over £70k.
- Participating in a Strictly Sweepstake and Bake-off.



Browne Jacobson

In mid-2021, Browne Jacobson implemented a new Community Action plan - the Manchester office's selected charity partner is Lifeshare, which has been running for 35 years in a bid to fight homelessness. The partnership with Lifeshare will run for a minimum of two years so we can provide support through fundraising, pro-bono work, and volunteering.

Charitable initiatives the firm has supported in Manchester this year also include:

- **Words for Work**, the flagship programme of the National Literacy Trust which gives young people from disadvantaged communities the literacy and communication skills they need to reach their potential. Browne Jacobson volunteers helped facilitate the sessions, supporting St Paul's Catholic School in Manchester.
- **Greater Manchester Youth Network**, a charity that delivers development programmes to help young people transition to adulthood feeling skilled, supported and positive, was awarded £1,000 towards the travel and food costs for an expedition to Snowden planned by the young people that the charity works with.
- **Dementia Disco**, an association established to use music to inspire memories, conversation and friendships between people living with dementia, was awarded £1,000 towards launching two new Dementia Disco events, one in Cheadle Hulme and one in Heaton Moor.
- **Smart Works** was awarded £500 to buy 1,000 interview packs which contain information and guidance on interviews and the process, as well as coaching and support to help the client build their confidence in preparation for their interview.



DAC Beachcroft

Lawyers from DAC Beachcroft Manchester partnered with Oasis Academy MediaCity UK for the third time to deliver **Young Citizen's Digital Legal Experts in Schools** programme, which comprises of six, 1-hour sessions in which students work in small groups and are guided through bespoke resources to learn about relevant, engaging areas of the law. The sessions are facilitated by teachers, with content delivered through quizzes, pre-recorded videos, student-led group discussions and live Q&A sessions with legal professionals.

Digital Legal Experts in Schools helps young people to understand the UK's legal system while developing key employability skills and boosting confidence.

The 26 students that took part identified that they had developed a range of skills, including ability to interact with adults; critical thinking; analytical skills; problem solving; confidence; public speaking; decision-making, and empathy."

Students chose 'Social Media & The Law' as their favourite unit and 93% stated the Q&As were either 'very helpful' or 'helpful' - 83% would recommend taking part in the programme. 77% said they had a better understanding of how the legal system works. 100% of volunteers to the programme would recommend other colleagues to take part.

DAC Beachcroft looks forward to working with Young Citizens again next year and developing this successful local charitable partnership.



Freeths

Freeths has a National Charity partnership with Macmillan Cancer Support. Highlights of this year's fundraising activities include 'Stride into Spring', a virtual race around Freeths' 12 offices which covered 29,444 miles and raised over £7,700, which translates to more than 234 hours of Macmillan nursing care, as well as 'Stride down the Slide', an abseil down the Custard Factory in Birmingham, which raised over £4,000.

Other local initiatives supported by Freeths include:

- **GROW Mentoring** programme, which support students to help reduce barriers to the legal profession
- **Enterprise4Education**, which supports disadvantaged students across Derby. Staff become mentors, run CV writing sessions, mock interviews and career talks.
- **Sixth Form Law Mentor** programme, working with students at sixth forms on the RARE list to encourage and support their interest in a future career in the law.
- Attending **Moat Community College**, where staff delivered a talk to the Year 10 year group.
- **Somali Parents Association**, where staff decorated a community centre.
- Mentoring with **Aleto Foundation**, a social mobility charity who focus on identifying and developing the next generation of leaders.



TLT

To coincide with International Volunteer Day, and to support our colleagues' wellbeing in the winter months, we teamed up with Business Volunteers to offer a host of volunteering opportunities across a number of our locations. Examples of charities we have volunteered for in the past year include **FareShare** (Manchester), as well as the **Woodland Trust** (Belfast) and **The Shettleston Community Growing Project** (Scotland) and **Brighter Opportunities for Special People** (London). TLT's volunteering policy provides colleagues to support the charities that mean something to them, by

providing up to five paid days' volunteering per year.

Testimonies from the FareShare initiative in Manchester included "Volunteering with FareShare was a fantastic experience and I'd do it again tomorrow. It was very rewarding and felt good to get involved alongside colleagues and give something back."

geldards

Geldards

- Despite an 3am Saturday morning start and horrific gales, our Commercial Property team raised over £3000 for Ty Hafan by completing the **Welsh 3 Peaks Challenge**. Ty Hafan is a hospice providing palliative care for children and supporting families through the most harrowing of circumstances.
- Led by our Medical Negligence and Education teams, we supported **Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month** by working with Cerebral Palsy Cymru to help share information and raise awareness about the condition, which culminated in a 'Going Green' campaign across our offices.
- Members of the firm were proud to take part in the Nottingham and Derby legal Walks where they raised funds for the **Access to Justice Foundation's** local branch - the Midland Legal Support Trust.
- The Medical Negligence team took on a challenge to walk 500miles for the **Child Brain Injury Trust**, who support children with brain injuries to improve their quality of life - they raised over £1300 in under 4 weeks.
- In May, Geldards' Dispute Resolution Partner Paul Southby was installed as the 458th High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire. Throughout his 12 months appointment, Paul has supported the charity **Switch Up**, a programme to empower children and young people in Nottingham to break the cycle of offending and reoffending.

PLEXUS

Plexus Law

Mustard Tree support people across Greater Manchester, tackling both the causes and consequences of poverty. Our mission is to combat poverty and prevent homelessness by:

- Helping people learn new skills, find work and secure accommodation
- Providing low-cost furniture, food and clothing needed to create a home through our community shops, processing donations and promoting reuse and recycling
- Welcoming people into our warm, safe, aspirational spaces for vocational training, work placements, job clubs, art clubs and creative activities

Colleagues from within our Manchester office have undertaken a range of different fund raising activities to support the work of the charity; these have included bake sales, "Tough Mudder" competition and the Manchester 10k.

SHARPE PRITCHARD

Sharpe Pritchard

Sharpe Pritchard has partnered with **Reach Out 2 Kids (ROK)** on a number of initiatives - namely, the donation of over 30 desktop PCs, 7 laptops and 19 monitors to St Ignatius College; running a work experience programme in partnership with ROK, Sutton Trust & Prime; Edmonton County School's virtual careers fair; and speaking at ROK's Career Carousel initiative and Q&A sessions.

In terms of impact, members of our CSR committee recently attended the launch of our charity partner ROK's new #ROK10000 fundraising campaign which has set a fundraising target of £10,000 to allow ROK to continue delivering career opportunities to those from traditionally under-represented backgrounds. The event was a great opportunity to see the impact ROK has had on young people trying to launch their careers.

At this event, one of the students who undertook our work experience programme gave a speech about how much she had enjoyed the programme and how it had given her the confidence to contact other firms seeking work experience placements for the summer.