Thrive

# YEAR ONE EVALUATION

## OCT 2020-OCT 2021



# RISE & THRIVE

Rise Construction Framework (Rise) is the UK's only pro-social procurement framework that tackles deprivation. Rise Provides the public-sector with a compliant route-way to procure construction works and services.

Born from purpose, Rise re-invests profits into community prevention and intervention initiatives to make communities safer, stronger, healthier and economically active.

In 2020 the **University of Liverpool, Liverpool John Moores University, City of Liverpool College** and **Liverpool City Council** chose Rise as their procurement partner of choice and as a result are changing the lives of care experienced young people across Liverpool City Region.

# ESTABLISHING THRIVE

Funded by Rise, Thrive exists to help care-experienced young people live happy, safe and fulfilling lives.

After liaising with support/ outreach workers who care for Liverpool City Region's looked after young people; Rise identified the need for a dedicated safe space where support/ outreach workers can meet the young people they care for.

Following a focus group with care experience young people the concept of Thrive coffee shop was born- a place dedicated to helping young people who are care experience, young offenders, asylum seekers or those who need additional support reach their full potential.

**We are pleased to share with you our year one evaluation report detailing project outcomes and performance achieved during October 2020 to October 2021.**

# HOW WE DO IT




## LISTEN

Thrive consistently listens to young people and the adults around them, developing programmes and experiences that are relevant and responsive to young peoples' needs and that don't duplicate what's already available in Liverpool City Region.

## CONNECT

Thrive creates welcoming physical and digital spaces that support young people, carers and employers to gain confidence, learn and grow together. We encourage local employers to 'take the lid' of the world of work and offer young people live experience, insights and new connections that will help them to thrive.

## INSPIRE

Thrive instigates real change by inspiring young people and professionals to think, feel and work differently together. We try to find creative solutions to complex challenges and to be great roles models in all that we do.

# OUR OBJECTIVES




- Provide a dedicated, safe space for support organisations, key workers and the young people they care for.
- Provide free access to Wi-Fi, and laptops to help tackle digital poverty.
- Provide free hot drinks and refreshments to break down financial barriers.
- Provide a timetable of weekly events which support the current wants and needs of both young people and support workers.
- Stream the delivery of our services across digital platforms, engaging with young people who cannot travel to the hub.
- Connect young people to employers and employment opportunities.
- Work with other partners and organisations to provide wrap-around services.
- Provides Job Centre services to DWP customers aged 18-24 as an alternative to their local Job Centre office.
- Register new claims to Universal Credit for care leavers.

# OUR VENUE

## COFFEE SHOP

Thrive's warm welcoming coffee shop is located in the heart of Liverpool city centre. Offering a safe, stigma free environment where support workers and young adults can meet and discuss what matters most to them.







## CAREERS HUB

In partnership with Department for Work and Pensions Thrive is a DWP Youth Hub providing 1-1 intensive job search support. Thrive offers a youth led approach to secure meaningful employment in careers that matter most to our young people.

# OUR SUCCESS

## ENGAGEMENT



### THRIVE VISITORS

753 overall visits
396 young people
184 support workers



### EMPLOYERS

Thrive engaged with **167** employers

## CHANGING LIVES




### JOB OUTCOMES

Thrive secured **23** job outcomes for young people who are now signed off and in work.



### JOB SEARCH

Thrive provided **747** intensive support sessions for **52** young people.

### ADDED VALUE

Thrive referred **106** young people to other service providers.



**65** referred to other careers services e.g. mock interviews, CV's



**12** referred to 1-1 **mentoring** with an industry expert.



**13** referred to education and training courses.



**7** referred to other Liverpool city region youth services.

# OUR EVENTS

## THRIVE CAREERS EVENTS

### THRIVE EVENTS

Thrives careers events were attended by **383** young people.

### YOUTUBE VIEWS

Thrives careers channel was viewed 4,585 times.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### ONLINE CAREERS SESSIONS

***Sessions delivered: 42***
***Young people attended: 357***

A 45 minute careers talk delivered by an influential employer or inspirational guest speaker over Zoom. Followed by a live Q&A led by the young people attending.

### CV WORKSHOPS

Interactive (individual or group) support sessions to help young people write a CV and cover letter to match their skill set and aspirations.

### CONSTRUCTION HUBS

An overview of a career in construction from an employer followed by a 1:1 discussion and interview. Young people with a CSCS card have the opportunity to secure a job.

# CASE STUDIES

## REECE




Care leaver Reece first attended Thrive in October 2020 on his 18th birthday.

Reece was looking for work as an Electrical Apprentice but had challenges due to financial circumstances and a lack of support following the breakdown of the family unit.

Thrive worked with Reece and identified a local employer to mentor him over a number of months.

The employer enjoyed mentoring Reece and felt he would be a good member of the team, offering him an apprenticeship which started on 10.05 2021.

**"KIND-HEARTED PEOPLE AND WILLING TO HELP OTHERS HAVE A BETTER START IN LIFE."**

REECE

# CASE STUDIES

## SAJ



Care leaver Saj began to attend Thrive in October 2020. He was passionate about working as a Lettings Agent and was adamant to fulfil this ambition.

During lockdown Thrive arranged mentoring sessions for Saj with an employer from the Real Estate Industry.

Working alongside a Kickstart Intermediary Thrive secured a Kickstart interview for Saj for the role of Lettings Agent.

Saj started his new job in March 2021. The employer committed to retaining Saj and has continued to work with Thrive for their recruitment needs.

**"THRIVE ARE EXTREMELY HELPFUL AND THEY ALWAYS KEEP IN TOUCH WITH ME, SO I KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON. THEY GO ABOVE AND BEYOND TO FIND THE RIGHT TYPE OF WORK THAT SUITS YOU."**

**SAJ**

# CASE STUDIES

## EMILY



Emily attended Thrive for the first time in June 2021 and was referred from Toxteth Job Centre.

Emily came to Thrive looking for voluntary work, during a support meeting she disclosed she could not accept paid work because she could not afford her rent.

Emily was living in temporary supported accommodation were her rent was £320 a week. Thrive supported Emily to move into safe affordable housing whilst securing her a career of her choice.

Emily is now working in the Hospitality sector and is thankful to Thrive for being so kind and welcoming during her 1-1 intensive job search support meetings.

**"THRIVE HELPED ME NOT ONLY FIND A JOB BUT HELPED WITH MY OWN PERSONAL ISSUES AS WELL".**

EMILY

# OUR FEEDBACK

"Thrive has an all-round great atmosphere and team of people who are all willing to help you find work. I was only at Thrive for a couple of weeks and already I am back to work! Thanks for all your help, I can't thank use enough". **- Young Person.**

"Just received great feedback from a young person who attended the Thrive Mentoring session with Merseyside Police last week. He has applied for a Police Apprenticeship and is waiting to hear if he has an interview. He said the session was very informative and gave hints and tips should he get an interview". **- Job Centre Plus Work Coach**

"I have been completely supported throughout my job search and was able to access resources and contacts that were invaluable to successfully landing a position in the NHS within two months of signing on to the programme. Everybody was so friendly and understanding, and I couldn't recommend this service enough to those looking for work." **- Young Person.**

"Thrive is amazing, they have helped my young person find a work placement and supported him with a CV and training. My young person has now been offered a job and is excited about the future." **- Support Worker.**

"I like this place it feels like home. It's much calmer than a job centre and you get offered a drink, I would rather come here". **- Young Person.**

"I have just attended the Thrive virtual mentoring session. Jake talked about his life and his own struggles with mental health, which was inspiring and helpful. I'm glad I participated in this event, and feel better for having done so," **- Young Person.**

# GOING THE EXTRA MILE




Thrive is committed to working in partnership and has provided additional support by:

- Referring 16 and 17 year olds attending Thrive with support workers to further education.
- Hosting Kickstart Intermediaries.
- Hosting industry focused open days.
- Delivering information sessions (ie advice on EU settlement) to partners and service users.
- Co-ordinating and hosting partner meetings to share best practice.
- Making all online Interactive Careers Sessions available to all Liverpool City Region youth hubs and Department for Work and Pension customers.
- Hosting young people working remotely with a safe space to work.
- Liaising with care organisations to support young people in finding alternative accomodation solutions.

# ACKOWLEDGMENTS

We would like to thank those who have worked tirelessly to lift the Thrive project off the ground and those who have contributed in supporting Thrive during the past year:

- Rise Construction Framework and its procurement partners.
- Department for Work and Pensions
- Team Rise and Thrive.
- Thrive partners and donors.
- Liverpool City Region support organisations and education providers working closely with Thrive.
- Liverpool City Region employers.

***Our Region***
***Our Young People***
***Our Chance to Make a Difference***

Thrive

## Contact Us

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