

IMPACT REPORT

Banana Enterprise Network

2015



Banana Enterprise Network is helping unemployed people to become self-employed. We do this by providing training and mentoring programmes that help improve confidence, build self-esteem and identify skills. We provide self-employment education, personal and business skills development and remove barriers to self-employment!

Trading since January 2015, **Banana Enterprise Network** has already established itself as the first choice of grass root level business startup support in Salford and Wigan. At the heart of what we do, lies our five key values; a positive and caring attitude to helping people interested in starting a business (or social enterprise), building confidence, having fun, growing the network and team work!. This report sets out what we have achieved so far and what we plan to achieve with the growth of our charity and expansion of our programmes. It also sets out **8** things you need to know about Banana Enterprise Network:

 **Banana Enterprise Network** chooses its partners carefully by engaging with other local agencies who work with mainly unemployed or disadvantaged people seeking employment. In the last year we have built referral relationships with Job centres, established community training programmes and started a grass roots level Business School with the Langworthy Cornerstone Association.

 Our 'First Steps to Enterprise' programme provides a comprehensive Business Advisor support service and training programmes. The service is tailored to each individual client's needs.

 Over the last 12 months, **Banana Enterprise Network** has provided over **800** hours of training and **1746** hours of mentoring for **291** people in Salford and Wigan.

 **90%** of our clients have shown an improvement in their confidence and self-esteem of at least 4 points on an accredited 10-point scale.

What our clients say about us:

"I sought help from **Banana Enterprise Network** when I discovered the great work they do. It can be frustratingly complicated and sometimes quite defeating while attempting to set up on your own two feet and run the gauntlet of potential obstacles, but the help on offer from Banana offers hope and expertise second to none, so I've been thankful for that! - Jamie from Xyst Design

 **98%** of clients said their business planning skills had increased from a low starting point of **2** up to a **10** after receiving support from us.

 **150** unemployed people have either started self-employment, progressed to the NEA programme, or accessed further training. **93** unemployed adults obtained a Level 2 SFEDI Accredited qualification in Creating and Starting a Business.

 Once our clients start their new business, they provide much needed services in the community in addition to creating an income for themselves and for many people, it's a route out of poverty.

What our partners say about us:

"**Banana Enterprise Network** has plugged a gap in the market for grass roots level business support. They offer a caring professional service which is client centred. We especially like the way they tailor the support to the specific needs of each client" - John Phillips, Chief Officer at Langworthy Cornerstone Centre

 We aim to grow our service to support **1000** people per year across Greater Manchester and already have a new training programme ready to roll out once funding is secured.

Banana Enterprise Network is looking for additional partners and investment to significantly expand and deliver the "First Steps to Enterprise" programme across Greater Manchester during 2016-17.

Banana Enterprise Network is a registered charity and Ltd Company by Guarantee established in July 2014 after our founder Jayne Allman spotted a gap whilst working as a Business Advisor on a Government business start-up programme (NEA).

For More information, please contact Jayne Allman **07775 066130** or email jayne@bananaenterprise.co.uk
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