

OCS and East London NHS Foundation Trust Collaboration Delivers £14.9m in Social and Economic Value

1 year ago



OCS has announced its successful collaboration with the East London NHS Foundation Trust (ELFT), which has generated an impressive £14.9 million in social and economic value since 2022. This partnership has made a tangible difference across communities, focusing on enhancing local employment, training, and community support initiatives.

Boosting Local Employment and Economy

One of the standout achievements of this collaboration is the increase in local employment, delivering over £10 million in social value. OCS employs a significant number of people within a 15-mile radius of its 76 sites. By prioritising local hiring, OCS ensures that economic benefits remain within the community, fostering a circular economy.

This approach not only provides jobs for local residents but also supports vibrant high streets and contributes to reduced crime rates. **Diverse Workforce and Training Opportunities** The workforce employed by OCS reflects the diversity of the communities it serves. OCS is committed to providing training and development opportunities, as evidenced through the mental health support, apprenticeship pathways, and career progression offered under the ELFT contract.

By investing in training and well-being, OCS ensures a skilled and motivated workforce that drives positive outcomes for the local economy. **Supporting Communities** OCS actively contributes to the community through initiatives such as the Hackney Quest Lunch Club, where over 60 residents were offered free

meals and a safe space to connect and build support networks.

These efforts help provide essential services to those facing economic challenges and loneliness, fostering a sense of belonging. Additionally, OCS has delivered employment support to health service users through masterclasses on body language and interview skills, helping individuals gain employment on contracts in Tower Hamlets, Hackney, and Newham.

Measuring Impact

The collaboration aligns with the government's social value framework, measured using the TOMS (Themes, Outcomes, and Measures) methodology. This ensures the social and economic impacts of the work are both quantifiable and transparent. The £14.9 million value reflects contributions from local employment, training, community support, and supply chain spending.

Success Stories

The partnership has produced some inspiring success stories. For instance, a Queen Mary University student, who had no family support, secured a summer contract with OCS, enabling her to continue her studies and sustain herself financially. Similarly, a former ELFT service user gained employment through a flexible contract, which later transitioned into a full-time position. These examples highlight how the collaboration is opening doors to meaningful employment opportunities.

Looking Ahead

The partnership between OCS and the East London NHS Foundation Trust demonstrates the transformative potential of strategic collaborations. By focusing on local employment, training, and community support, OCS is creating a positive ripple effect across communities. The organisation remains committed to continuing this impactful work and exploring new ways to support the people and places it serves.