

# Procure Plus supports 782 people into employment, invests £800k in communities, and tackles skills shortages through social value-led procurement

7 months ago



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A total of 782 people were supported into employment through Procure Plus's work during 2024/25, as the not-for-profit organisation continues to grow its social impact alongside delivering value for money for clients.

Of those helped into work, 93% came from priority groups and 87% remained in work for at least three months. A further 301 people completed training to support their journey into employment, with a strong focus on building green and construction skills.

Procure Plus also supported the upskilling of 208 individuals already working in the sector, helping to address long-standing skills shortages across housing and construction.

Re:vision, a subsidiary charity of Procure Plus, invested over £800,000 in 2024/25, backing 50 community and voluntary organisations in neighbourhoods where its clients work.

Breaking barriers for women in construction

Carrie, a 37-year-old woman working in the social housing maintenance sector, turned redundancy into

opportunity after joining the Women and Manual Trades (WaMT) 3:2 Programme – backed by Procure Plus.

With no prior experience, she struggled to secure work placements while studying for a maintenance qualification. But through the WaMT programme – which provides paid, on-site placements for women during college – she gained the hands-on experience and confidence she needed.

She's now a fully qualified maintenance operative at Jackson and Jackson, the contractor she was placed with. Carrie said: "My biggest achievement in life is completing my apprenticeship and End Point Assessment."

#### New paths for young people at risk of falling through the cracks

Ruby hadn't been in school since Year 8, struggling with anxiety in noisy, crowded environments. She became NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) until Flintshire Council referred her to the King's Academy post-16 programme, supported by Procure Plus funding.

With small class sizes and hands-on learning, Ruby has found a space where she can thrive. She said: "I can't express how much this opportunity has changed my life. I would never have gone to college and don't know what I would have done instead."

#### Rebuilding lives through housing and support

Embassy is a Manchester-based charity that provides homes and holistic support to people facing homelessness. Through Re:vision match funding, Embassy recruited two new Resettlement Workers, Pip and Kathy, enabling them to increase their capacity and support more people, including women.

In just three months, one person supported by Embassy has completed a college course, six are in training, and another has secured a CSCS card and is now working on the construction of Embassy Village – a purpose-built community set to open soon.

The extra staffing has also helped improve resident trust and engagement in essential life skills sessions, including budgeting and employment preparation.

Matt Jarratt, Operations Lead at Procure Plus, said: "The numbers are important – but what really matters is the difference this work makes in people's lives.

"From supporting women into careers in the trades, to helping people rebuild after homelessness, to creating real opportunities for young people who've disengaged from education – our frameworks are designed to deliver social value at every step.

"Through our partnerships with contractors, clients and community organisations, we're helping to build the skilled, diverse and inclusive workforce our sector needs – while strengthening the communities our clients serve."