

Liverpool City Region Careers Hub

To help every young person find their best next step



**LIVERPOOL
CITY REGION**
COMBINED AUTHORITY

METROMAYOR
LIVERPOOL CITY REGION

Liverpool City
Region
CAREERS HUB

THE CAREERS &
ENTERPRISE
COMPANY

LCR Careers Hub Annual Conference November 2023

Digital Inclusion Slides



**LIVERPOOL
CITY REGION
DIGITAL
INCLUSION
NETWORK**

Digital Inclusion LCR Careers Hub Annual Conference November 2023



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What is 'Digital Inclusion' and why is it important?



How do we enable individuals to lead a modern digital life?



Tackling issues of access, connectivity, skills and motivation



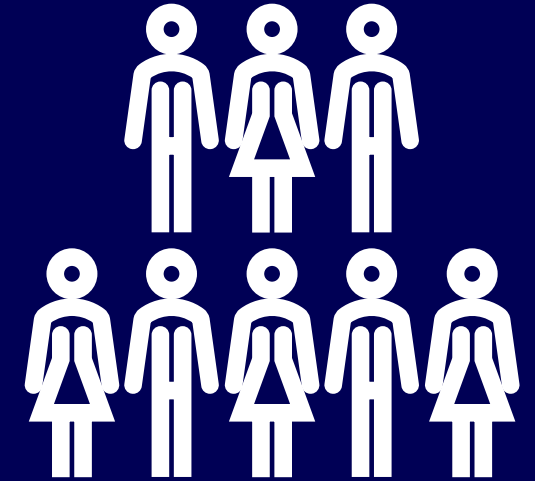
Affordability is a common factor – worsened by cost of living crisis



Digital Inclusion is everyone's responsibility, but no one has overall ownership

Who is impacted?

- Where you find deprivation, you'll find digital deprivation.
- At risk groups include:
 - 28,000 Unemployed
 - 233,000 Economically Inactive
 - 1,700 16 & 17 Year Old NEETs
 - 1,600 17-21 Year-Old Care Leavers
 - Over 1,500 individuals homeless or at risk of homelessness in LCR
 - 307,000 Individuals Aged 65+
 - 71,300 Food Parcels Distributed in 2021
 - 64,700 Pupils Eligible for Free School Meals
 - 181,000 individuals on in-work & out-of-work Universal Credit
 - 30% of young people in low income households nationally don't have access to a laptop or computer
 - 18% of national households with income below £11,500 do not have home internet access
 - 56% of non-users of the internet are disabled adults.
 - 150,000 individuals in LCR not used internet in preceding 3 months
 - 325,000 individuals 'non-users' or 'low-users' of the internet in LCR





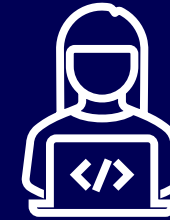
23% of FSM
Pupils have no
broadband
access at
home



2.3 Million
Young People
use Mobile
Data as their
Primary
Internet



30% of NEET
Young People
have no access
to a desktop or
laptop
computer



54% of Young
People state
they
themselves are
their primary
source of
learning digital
skills



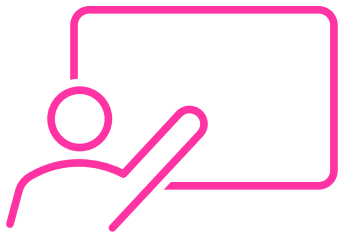
73% of Young
People agree
Digital Skills
are essential
for their future
career

What are we doing to tackle these issues?

- Launched LCR Digital Inclusion Network in June 2023
- Exists to bring organisations together to help tackle the digital divide and ensure no one is left behind.
- Membership of the network is free – 90+ members signed up since it launched. Sign up! www.bit.ly/inclusion-network
- Gain access to bi-monthly network meetings, learn more about current and upcoming digital inclusion activity across LCR
- Opportunities to take part in delivery initiatives
- Utilise network branding to showcase support and raise awareness of provision to the public



- ❖ Providing identified 'Digital Champions' training and signposting to a range of useful digital learning tools to help others make the most of being online.
- ❖ Building a network of Digital Champions across LCR.
- ❖ Showcasing good practice and case studies from across the city region to encourage others online.



90

Individuals Have
Received Digital
Champion Training



In a sample survey of 25 champions – those 25 went on to support a further **500+** individuals

- ❖ Increasing the uptake of 'Good Things Foundation Digital Inclusion Hubs' across LCR
- ❖ 'National Databank' Engagement – 105% increase in last 12 months. Once registered as a free Digital Inclusion Hub, you can receive free sim cards for participants – only requirement is age over 18 and struggling with connectivity at home. Households can be supported. Schools & Colleges can register for free.
- ❖ Combined Authority are delivering through our programmes (Households into Work & Housing First) – pairing recycled phones with sim cards, supported over 250 individuals over last few months.
- ❖ LCRCA first Local Government Organisation outside of London to donate into the Devicebank – we can help facilitate engagement with GTF and provide advice on legal/assurance process if you have devices to donate.



Register for Free

[www.goodthingsfoundation.org/
databank/](http://www.goodthingsfoundation.org/databank/)



Funding



HM Government



UK Shared Prosperity Fund Grants Programme (£1.485m) for Voluntary & Community Organisations

- Waves 1 & 2 supported 94 projects for residents to access digital support
- Wave 3 Launched on November 20th 2023 (Closing Date 15th December)
- volamerseyside.org.uk/ukspfgrants/

LCR Cares Digital Inclusion Grant (£140,000)

- £140,000 one-off fund providing grants to VCFSE orgs
- Focused on supporting practical digital skills engagement

Include IT Mersey Continuation Funding (£879K)

- Supporting award winning team deliver inclusion activities through partners across LCR

LCR Connect Community Hubs

- Providing free public wi-fi and broadband access to select community hubs in each local authority area



Our commitment

Making the Liverpool City Region one of the most digitally connected and inclusive regions in the UK is a key pledge for Metro Mayor Steve Rotherham. As a city region, we are committed to ensuring that our residents have access to the skills and support needed to fully participate in an ever-evolving digital world. Find out about the support that's on offer across LCR and the work we are undertaking to ensure nobody is left behind.

Learn more about our digital inclusion work by clicking on the links above – whether you're after help getting online, need support around digital skills, or want to learn more about our work streams – we've got you covered.



Support to Get Online

[MORE](#)



Digital Champions & Skills

[MORE](#)



Digital Inclusion Network

[MORE](#)



Digital Inclusion Taskforce

[MORE](#)



Get Online

Access free internet, in person support and digital equipment via our interactive map

[MORE](#)



Broadband

Struggling to afford your broadband? Access discounted rates

[MORE](#)



Mobile Data

Access free mobile data from the National Databank

[MORE](#)

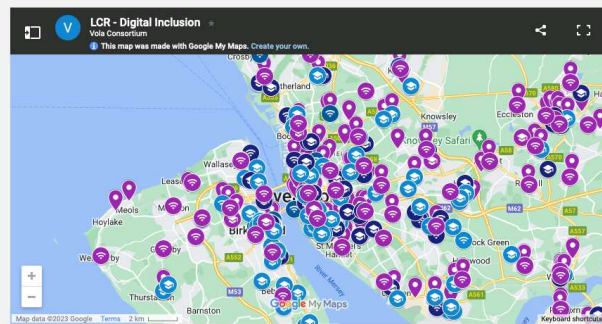


Digital Services

Access Local Authority Digital Services across the Liverpool City Region

[MORE](#)

Support in your area



Where can I access support?

Utilising the interactive map, you can view where local libraries, community groups and other organisations are offering free wi-fi, equipment and training. In addition, the learn more about the help that's available in each Local Authority area.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



How do I get involved?

Digital Champions come in all forms – from giving an hour to help a family member with a tech issue, to more official roles in organisations delivering training. You can access free training platforms below:

[LEARN MY WAY](#) | [BARCLAYS DIGITAL WINGS](#)

No matter which group you fall into we've got the resources to help.

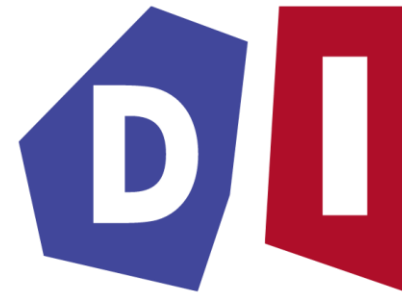


What resources are out there for Champions to help others?

- + Getting started
- + Building Your Digital Skills
- + Other Tools & Support
- + Additional resources

What is the Digital Inclusion Initiative?

- The Digital Inclusion Initiative (DII) is an industry-led programme to tackle digital exclusion
- Liverpool City Region Combined Authority are facilitating the rollout of over 4,500 free android tablets, accompanied by 6 months of free mobile connectivity and free in-person digital skills training.
- Devices provided by World Wide Tech Group, working with Lloyds Bank, Empaua Ventures and Vodafone.
- Working with Digital Inclusion Network members, we are supporting residents over the next year



Digital Inclusion Initiative



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NETWORK

Digital Inclusion Initiative



- Working closely with Careers Hub on programmes aligned to Digital Inclusion
- Engaging with internal initiatives and Young Person's Guarantee
- Examining other pilots & Interventions – codeveloping these with our partners (Social Housing/Social Tariffs/Market Engagement)
- Helping You Online Campaign – making the public aware of the wide array of provision they can access (targeting through offline methods), Promoting Social Tariff Uptake, PSTN Switchoff
- Growing the Digital Inclusion Network
- Future rounds of funding
- And more...



Get Involved



Rob Benson, Digital Inclusion Project Manager



Tara Jussa, Digital Inclusion Junior Project Manager



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- Become a National Databank to support your students struggling with connectivity at home
- Join the Digital Inclusion Network and hear about the range of support available to support residents
- Access support services and provision for public and partners at www.helpingyouonline.co.uk
- Keep us informed about the work you are doing on digital inclusion!
- Utilise us for support and queries on this issue!
- Contact us at digitalinclusion@liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk