



CyberFirst North West Schools & Colleges Programme

Social Impact Report 2023



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Executive Summary

Social Value Business (SVB) was commissioned by IN4 Group, the operator of HOST, the Home of Skills & Technology, to undertake a 'Social and Local Value' assessment of the first-year delivery of the CyberFirst Schools and Colleges programme across the North West on behalf of the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), a part of GCHQ.

The desired outcomes for year 1 focused on establishing a solid foundation and a route towards achieving CyberFirst aims. The programme deliverables set by the NCSC included the responsibility for identifying and engaging with key local stakeholders, industry partners, schools, colleges, teachers and students; providing events; forming an industry advisory group; and assisting with the process for educational establishments to become CyberFirst recognised, so they can then be assigned an industry partner to continue to reinforce and grow the scheme for years to come.

An evaluation of activities showed that each CyberFirst target had either been achieved or surpassed. The feedback from key stakeholders confirms that the programme has already begun to make a real difference and is seen as a truly strategic investment to ensure that there will be an appropriately skilled talent pool available to fill future opportunities in the cyber and tech sectors.

A Social Value Impact evaluation was undertaken, establishing that £1.57m of value has been created through IN4 and HOST's activity, giving a Social Return on Investment (SROI) of £2.57 for every £1 invested.

Apex Partner Contribution

948 volunteer hours
dedicated by
Apex Partners

Total Contribution

2213 Total hours dedicated
to CyberFirst in the
North West

From the
£610,895
invested into CyberFirst,
our work across the
North West
has created
£1.57m
Social Value
meaning that for
every £1 invested
there has been a
£2.57
Social Return on
Investment (SROI)

Partners

Outcomes and impact were driven by a unique collaboration between the private and public sectors.



Apex Partners



Strategic Partners



About CyberFirst



CyberFirst aims to help ensure the UK has a sustainable supply of diverse and high-quality individuals joining the cyber workforce in the future. Together with the UK government, it strives to equip young people with the digital awareness and skills they will need to enable them to pursue a career path in the sector.

"In a rapidly evolving online world, it is imperative that cyber security is a pillar of young people's education so that they can access the careers of the future and stay safe online."

National Cyber Security Centre

2018

NCSC piloted a Cyber Schools Hub (CSH) programme in Gloucestershire. With a collaborative aim of encouraging young people to engage with computer science and the application of cyber security in every day technology

2020

The pilot of the now CyberFirst Schools & Colleges scheme was extended within Gloucestershire and Wales

2021

The scheme was further extended to include secondary schools and colleges within Northern Ireland, South West of England & North East of England

2022

Began the rollout of the scheme in the North West, facilitated by IN4 Group through the Home of Skills and Technology (HOST)

About IN4 Group



IN4 Group is an award-winning technology group, driving prosperity for businesses and communities. It delivers a unique technology talent acquisition solution, unlocking the potential from within diverse and disadvantaged communities, this is mapped into organisations that are scaled through its innovation hubs and programmes. Ensuring fair access to technology futures for all.

The Group operates HOST, the Home of Skills & Technology, one of the North West's most established innovation hubs in MediaCity, Salford. It offers five floors of innovation services, training and facilities including the UK's first Multi-access Edge Compute (MEC) lab with Vodafone, and support for people and businesses alike, from start-ups and SMEs through to enterprises and the public sector.



CyberFirst Schools & Colleges Scheme



School or college express an interest in scheme



Invited to HOST to discover more about scheme



School or college supported to apply for CyberFirst recognition



Rigorous assessment process to gain bronze, silver or gold recognition



Once formally recognised, school or college can be assigned an industry partner



Industry partner works with recognised schools to create individual action plans



School or college progress and are given access to wider CyberFirst opportunities

Schools & Colleges Results

177 Schools and colleges engaged

698 Students attending CyberFirst Days

131 Expressions of interest received

35 Schools and colleges attended HOST

15 Recognition applications

12 Recognition awards

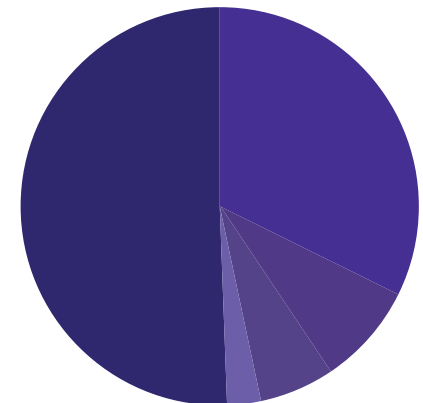


"Recognition for Kingsway Park High School is a great step forward for us and reinforces our motto of 'We co-operate - We Pioneer - We Belong.' We feel this recognition is part of our pioneering spirit. It allows us to give our students opportunities we would not be able to offer otherwise."

Kingsway Park High School

School & College Locations

- Greater Manchester ● 51%
- Lancashire ● 31%
- Cheshire ● 10%
- Merseyside ● 6%
- Cumbria ● 2%



Events

29 Events facilitated

1562 Students participated

95% Female representation

65% Ethnic minority backgrounds

33% Disadvantaged groups*

"The CyberFirst day at HOST was well received by the students who attended from Moor Park. I have noticed a much more engaged student body from those who attended, which shows their interest in computing improved after the visit. I would happily bring students back to HOST for another CyberFirst day."

Moor Park High School & Sixth Form

"Just wanted to say a massive thank you again for inviting us to HOST. The kids had a very eye-opening and educational experience, which I am sure they will remember for a long time to come."

Blackburn Central High School

*Based on number of pupil premium participants



Social Impact Summary

"We have spoken to a variety of key stakeholders through the evaluation process with a robust assessment of activities in line with the Social Value Quality Mark (SVQM) nationally recognised standards. We are confident in the results established through our independent evaluation, identifying over £1.57m of social value being created along with a social return on investment (SROI) of £2.55 against every £1 invested.

The main areas for the creation of Social Value revolved around education and skills development along with charitable activity from IN4 Group and industry partners.






This has enabled individuals from some of the most deprived areas of the country based upon the government's Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD2019), the chance to begin their journey to become trained and upskilled to take advantage of the future opportunities that will become available within the North West Cyber Corridor.

This strategic investment is invaluable to ensure demand can be met for those industry partners who will be offering those opportunities. It also helps schools and colleges to shape future provision, giving their students both an improved outlook and prospects with the goal of becoming part of the new workforce of the future in cyber and tech."

Dave McGuinness
Social Value Business



Appendix 1. NCSC Year 1 Key Targets & Outcomes

NCSC Key Year 1 Targets	Year 1 Target	Year 1 Output	Target Achieved
Number of schools/colleges applying for CyberFirst recognition	5	15	
Recognised schools paired with industry partners & continued engagement	5	12	
Industry advisory group engagement	12	12	
Provision of events that promote & encourage cyber security	4	29	
Number of CyberFirst Days held	12	24	



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

The English Indices of Deprivation 2019 (IoD2019)

The Indices relatively rank each small area in England from most deprived to least deprived

**1st
most
deprived
area**



There are 32,844 small areas (Lower-layer Super Output Areas) in England, with an average population of 1,500

**32,844th
least
deprived
area**

There are 7 domains of deprivation, which combine to create the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD2019):

<p>Income (22.5%)</p> <p>Measures the proportion of the population experiencing deprivation relating to low income</p> <p><i>Supplementary Indices</i></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div> <p>Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) measures the proportion of all children aged 0 to 15 living in income deprived families</p> </div> <div> <p>Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index (IDAOPI) measures the proportion of those aged 60+ who experience income deprivation</p> </div> </div>	<p>Employment (22.5%)</p> <p>Measures the proportion of the working age population in an area involuntarily excluded from the labour market</p>	<p>Education (13.5%)</p> <p>Measures the lack of attainment and skills in the local population</p>	<p>Health (13.5%)</p> <p>Measures the risk of premature death and the impairment of quality of life through poor physical or mental health</p>
<p>Crime (9.3%)</p> <p>Measures the risk of personal and material victimisation at local level</p>	<p>Barriers to Housing & Services (9.3%)</p> <p>Measures the physical and financial accessibility of housing and local services</p>	<p>Living Environment (9.3%)</p> <p>Measures the quality of both the 'indoor' and 'outdoor' local environment</p>	

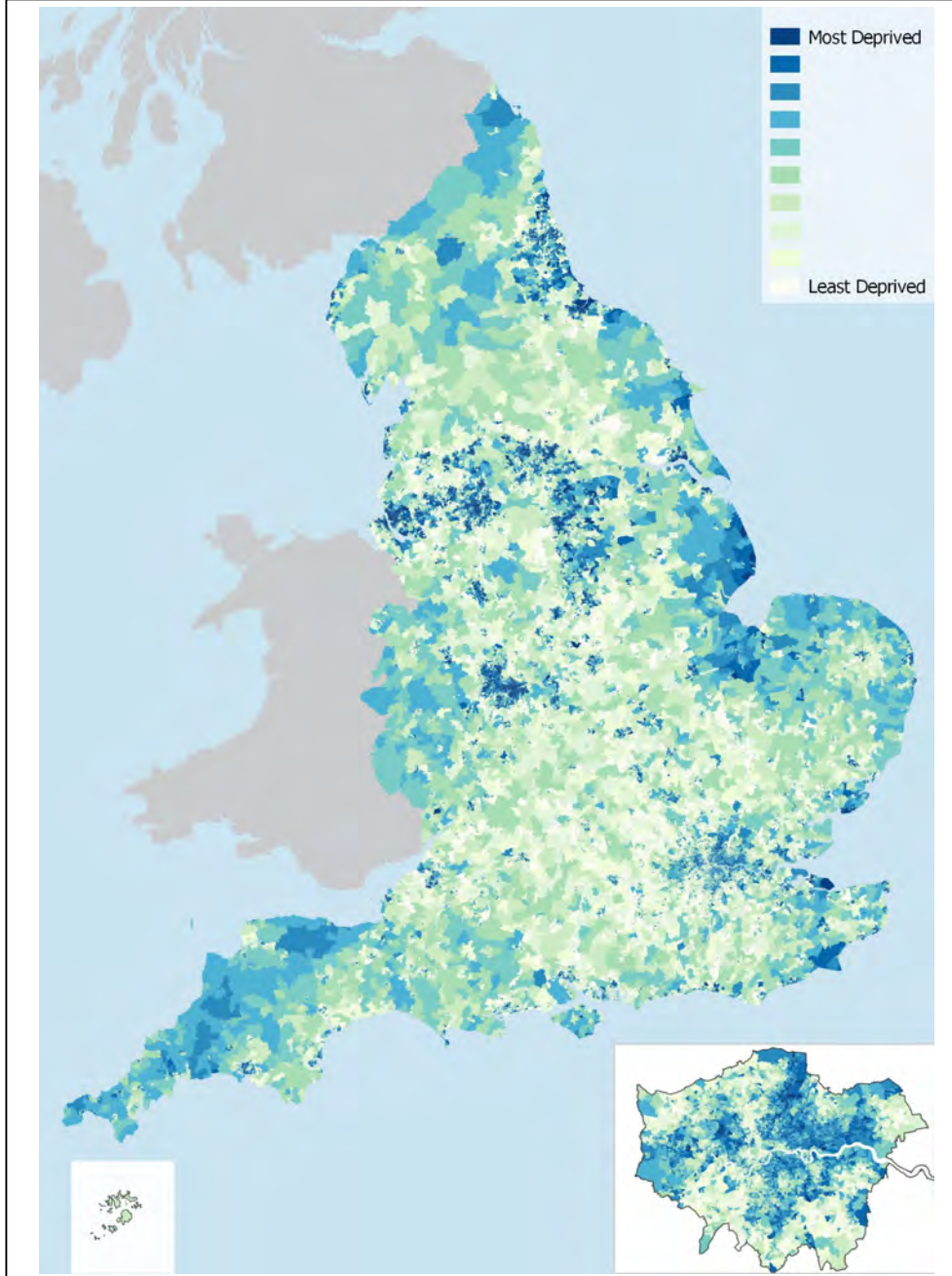


How can the IoD2019 be used?

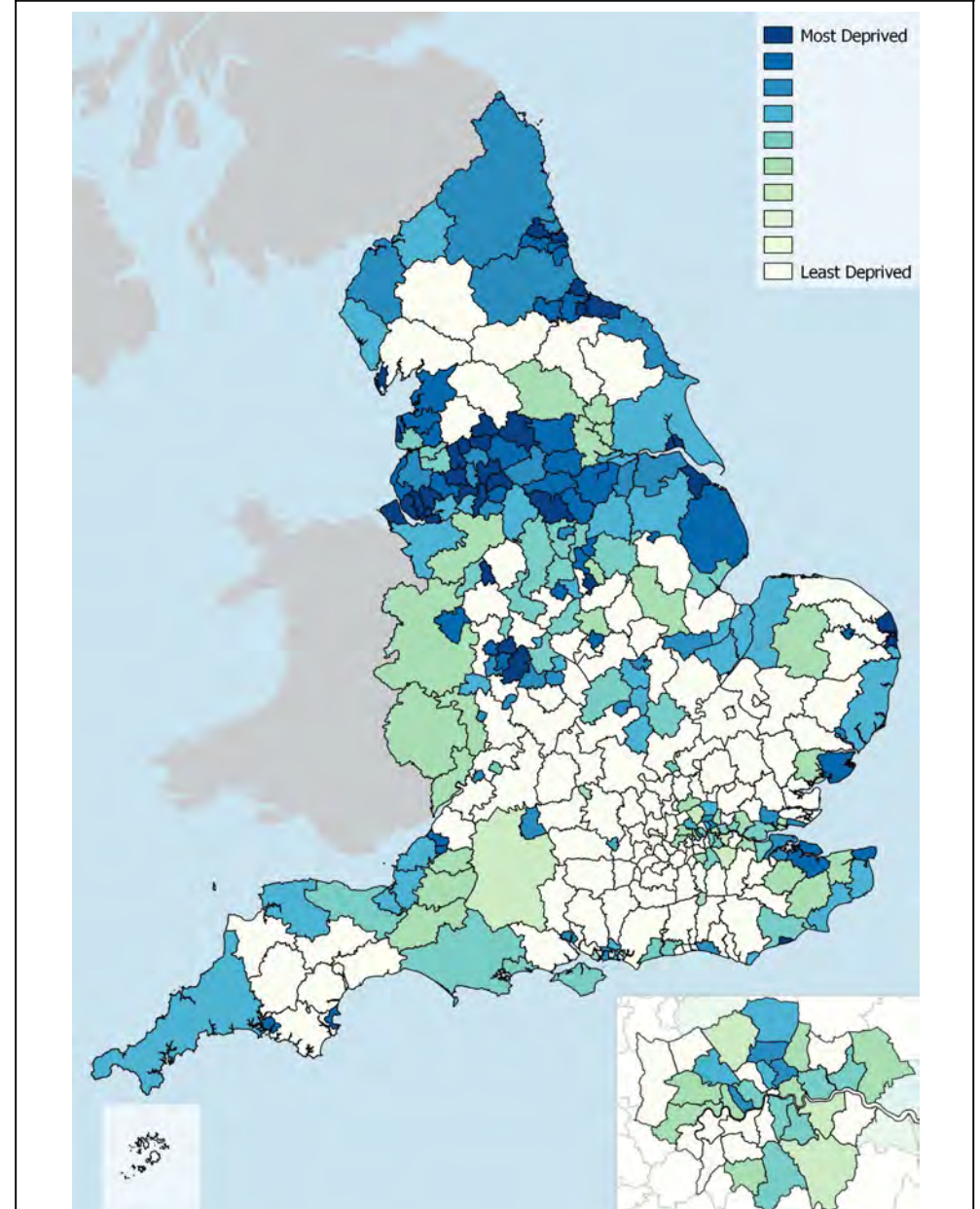


- ✓ comparing small areas across England
- ✓ identifying the most deprived small areas
- ✓ exploring the domains (or types) of deprivation
- ✓ comparing larger administrative areas e.g. local authorities
- ✓ looking at changes in relative deprivation between iterations (i.e. changes in ranks)
- ✗ quantifying how deprived a small area is
- ✗ identifying deprived people
- ✗ saying how affluent a place is
- ✗ comparing with small areas in other UK countries
- ✗ measuring absolute change in deprivation over time

Map 1: Distribution of the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 by LSOA in England



Map 2: Distribution of the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 by local authority based on the proportion of their neighbourhoods in the most deprived decile nationally



Note: there are 123 Districts with no Lower-layer Super Output Areas in the most deprived 10 per cent of areas. These areas score zero on this summary measure and are shown in the least deprived decile.



“Seeing everybody, seeing the number of females here, and just seeing the girls come to life outside of a classroom. You try and teach them as much as you can in the classroom but bringing them to an event like this, you can see that spark happen and even if only two or three of them go into a tech career then we've done our job.”

St Ambrose Barlow RC High School

“Gaining cyber college status will allow us to highlight our current work in this area to parents and future students but also create new links with industry partners to offer further experiences for our learners. Our students join us by wanting to work in cyber security, but will hopefully leave with an understanding of what is required, a skillset to begin that journey and knowing the next steps in their journey.”

Winstanley College



"To build a diverse cyber workforce, we have an ambition to see more than 200,000 young women pursue careers in STEM in the North West over the next 10 years. This is the start of long journey, and to achieve it, we are going to need industry professionals, academia and local communities to work together. This advisory group will play a vital role in facilitating that. It will help to coordinate the people and activities that can inspire and influence girls in our schools today.

"This is an opportunity for people working in the industry right now to leave a legacy – to inspire the next generation. If you can't see it, you can't be it and that's where the CyberFirst Schools & Colleges Advisory Group comes in. It's time to show girls what this industry's all about - make it feel relevant to them and help them see it as a path they can follow."

Mo Isap
IN4 Group





HOST Salford, MediaCity
Salford, Greater Manchester
M50 2ST



www.in4group.co.uk



info@in4group.co.uk



0161 686 5770



@IN4_Group



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