

Neighbourhood Learning and Work

The Multiply effect

Gloucestershire Gateway Trust is proud to partner with Adult Education in Gloucestershire to deliver courses which help adults improve their maths, as part of the Government's Multiply programme. Low numeracy confidence is common amongst people in the communities we work with, so we have worked with our community partners to embed important maths skills into interesting, practical courses.

Kelly joined a Multiply funded course to build her maths confidence at All Pulling Together (APT) in Stonehouse, one of our community partners. The learning focused on creating a traditional Paper Pieced quilt. She brushed up on her maths skills through practical measuring, cutting

and sewing to create and combine geometric shapes into a patchwork. Kelly also got to know the others in the group and was able to recognise her own skills and talents better. When a vacancy for a lunch time supervisor at a local school became available Jacky from APT and the rest of the group encouraged her to apply.

Kelly said: "I've been away from work for a while but this course got me thinking about how much I can do." Kelly applied for the role and was successful. She added: "I never would have applied for this job without the support I got from APT through Multiply."



Looking forward

"Times they are a changing" Bob Dylan sang, and that is certainly the case now. Nationally and locally political change is ongoing. Government structures are changing and in Gloucestershire the GFirst Local Economic Partnership has disappeared and the spectre of anticipated local government re-organisation hangs heavily over the county and the six district councils. Of course change isn't necessarily bad, it depends who decides what change happens and who they want to do it to.

More often than not when it comes to local communities decision makers from outside these patches want to impose change from the top down. At Gloucestershire Gateway Trust we want to see changes happen but the changes we want to happen are the ones that local residents decide are important and which they care enough about to get involved in. We want changes from the bottom up that motivate and connect residents, that help build more welcoming communities where everybody's potential contribution is valued.

This is why our work in 2023/24 building the Gloucestershire Gateway Partnership (GGP) involving over 40 community partners and schools has been so important. We have been assembling the critical mass that will help enable communities collectively identify the changes they want and work together to achieve these. The first steps on this journey have been to support GGP in successfully bidding to bring open access youth services and Children and Family Centres into community ownership. This success has been a great step forward and in 2024/25 we will start delivering youth services across Gloucester City and the Forest of Dean from October and later in the year we will begin mobilising for the Children and Family Centres provision across the same two districts which GGP and GGT will jointly manage from April 2025.

Alongside this, all our 'regular' work of building community capacity, investing in our community partners and encouraging community led planning continues to thrive.



Everyday we connect with new residents and organisations and we learn so much from their lived experience.

Ultimately all of our successes are built on our teamwork and partnerships which progress at the speed at which local trust is built. Nothing illustrates this better than the continuing and growing success of the Gloucester Services project. This is a project that came from the Matson community's own vision for regeneration, which GGT and the Westmorland Family brought to life, with both partners being shareholders in the business. Since Gloucester Services opened in 2014 our Trust has received over £4 million from our share of sales, hundreds of local jobs have been created and small businesses across the county have benefitted.

In the coming period whether it's neighbours helping neighbours or people coming together to drive strategic change like the Gloucester Services project or bringing youth services under community ownership, these are the types of changes GGT will continue to support. I urge you to get on board for our shared journey, it's a magical mystery tour and much of the joy is finding out where local residents want to go to and how we're going to get there. One thing is for sure - there will definitely be a great stop at a fantastic motorway services on the way!"

Mark Gale, Chief Executive, Gloucestershire Gateway Trust

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Gloucestershire Gateway Trust
community-driven development

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Gloucestershire Gateway Trust
community-driven development

10 YEARS



Annual Review
2023 - 2024

Anything is
POSSIBLE

Foreword

My first involvement with the, now, Gloucestershire Gateway Trust was in 2001 when I was asked to respond to a Government consultation on motorway service stations highlighting the role that social enterprises could make in delivering services and the benefits they could bring. A couple of years later I joined Mark on a trip to visit John Dunning at Tebay Services in Cumbria and the rest, as they say, is history.

Sitting at the heart of everything Gloucestershire Gateway Trust does is a combination of community, co-operation, innovation, and entrepreneurialism, the weaving together of those four elements is what makes it unique and gives it its strength. When I talk to communities up and down the country and tell them the story of Gloucestershire Gateway Trust and Gloucester Services, firstly, they are in awe of what has been achieved, and secondly, they are inspired to look at their communities and the opportunities they have in a new way.

It hasn't always been the most straightforward of journeys since that cup of tea in the Lake District but, as we celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the opening of Gloucester Services, there is no greater demonstration of the benefits that social enterprise can bring than Gloucestershire Gateway Trust.



Jo White,
Co-operative Futures
and GGT Trustee

Financial review of the year to 31 March 2024

Gloucestershire Gateway Trust receives two types of income: Restricted Income which can only be used for certain specified purposes, and Unrestricted Income which can be used for GGT's general charitable purposes and general running costs including identifying and obtaining new sources of income or can be added to reserves for use in future years.

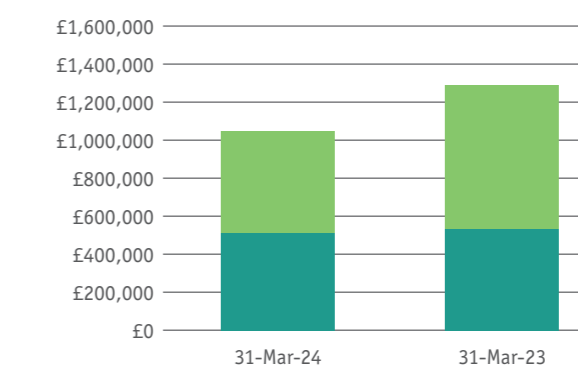
As with the previous financial year, 2023/24 has seen GGT receive reduced total income compared to the previous year, £1.1 million compared with £1.3 million. However, again increases in the Unrestricted element meant that GGT was less constrained on how income could be spent and was able to invest additional amounts in identifying new sources of future income.

Restricted Income fell from £600,000 in 2022/23 to £400,000 in 2023/24 primarily due to a decrease in the amount of funding received for Holiday Activity Funding (HAF) to support activities and food for families in receipt of free school meals.

Unrestricted Income increased slightly compared with the previous year. Sales levels at Gloucester Services have continued to recover from the worst economic impacts of COVID-19 and our Trust receives between 2p and 3p of every £ of non-fuel sales as Unrestricted Income to support our community work. Overall, Unrestricted Income increased from £660,000 to £710,000.

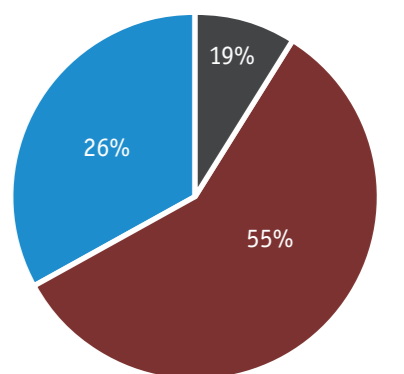
As a result of the increase in Unrestricted Income, charitable payment made increased from £570,000 to £670,000 together with a small amount being retained and added to reserves to support future charitable expenditure.

Split of Income between Restricted and Unrestricted



■ Unrestricted Income
■ Restricted Income

Charitable expenditure



■ Community development
■ Staff costs
■ Other charitable costs

New Limited Edition out now

Our third Limited Edition business skills course for aspiring local food entrepreneurs saw a group of Year 9 students from Gloucester Academy team up with local legend Tom Hughes of Tubby Tom's to create a brand new product.

During the course the students learnt about the whole process of bringing a new product to market, from research and development, to product costings, through to marketing and pitching their products to a panel. The Smokin' Beets sauce was crowned the winner and went straight into production at Tubby Tom's, and is now available in the Gloucester Services Farmshops.

"The impact is arguably immeasurable, from a shy group of students with seemingly nothing in common to now a supportive team who feel confident articulating their ideas to both peers and adult stakeholders alike. We as a community are so grateful for this opportunity."

Lucy Blick, Associate Assistant Head Teacher at Gloucester Academy





10 years of Gloucester Services



In 2014 Gloucester Services Northbound opened, brought to life by the unique partnership between Gloucestershire Gateway Trust and Westmorland Family. In 2024, we celebrated 10 years of this pioneering model of social investment, took a look back at what has been achieved during that time and celebrated with people that have been part of this incredible journey so far.



The income from our shareholding in Gloucester Services has enabled us at Gloucestershire Gateway Trust (GGT) to reinvest:

OVER £4M

into local community partners, projects and people over the last 10 years, including...

12 core-funded community partners currently receiving

£60K sustainable funding each over three years, and a further...

Plus, for every £1 received in royalties from Gloucester Services, we at GGT have attracted another £1 in other funding to support our communities

£200K... paid in one-off grants to other community organisations and schools

*figures as at May 2024

Our vision

We are working towards a world of welcoming communities, comprising of motivated and connected individuals, whose strengths are recognised and shared. Residents feel enabled to live and work well within their neighbourhoods and can influence decisions affecting their lives.

Our mission

To enable community-led transformation of local social, economic and environmental conditions, through encouragement, mutual respect and collaboration.

The communities we work alongside

Gloucestershire Gateway Trust primarily focuses on the areas of social housing within the neighbourhoods of Matson, Robinswood, White City, Podsmead, Tuffley and Stonehouse/GL10 area, and as our work grows, we are also working in partnerships to build capacity and develop other communities in the surrounding areas within Gloucestershire.



Community and Partnerships



“Working with Gloucester Services has been an incredible journey. The process of becoming a new producer was seamless, and the enthusiasm and care shown by the team has truly made a difference. Seeing my samosas become a hit at Gloucester Services has not only boosted my confidence but also opened doors for future possibilities.”
Shakera

Community producers

We're always looking for producers based in the communities we work alongside that could be sold at Gloucester Services. After tasting some of Shakera's incredible samosas, we knew they'd be perfect in the Farmshops, and on talking to Shakera we knew she was keen to expand.

We introduced Shakera to the buyers at Westmorland who loved her products too, so we supported her to get funding through our networks to put a commercial kitchen in place, and the buyers helped her to become market ready. Shakera's products hit the deli in December 2023, just in time for festive buffets and were immediately popular. So much so, new products have been introduced and we're expecting more coming soon!

Farm-to-fork journey with schools

Twice a year we take producers and colleagues from Gloucester Services out to meet some of our community partners and see first-hand what a difference the long-term investment of our community grants makes.

A brilliant by-product of this is often the producers feel so connected they want to do more. Wholly Gelato kindly hosted groups from two local schools at their farm in Elmore, where the children got to meet some of the free-range herd of cows, and follow the whole process from milking through to making gelato.

The children then headed back to Gloucester Services to see the products (and taste them) at the gelato bar, and also visited the deli counter and butchery onsite to learn about where other types of food come from, in a full farm-to-fork journey.



Recognition for Bridging the Gap colleagues

We are proud of every participant that takes part in our Bridging the Gap pre-employment skills course, but it's wonderful to see those that secure jobs thriving and happy, and being recognised for their hard work.

Ryan completed the course in 2022 and was voted 'Colleague of the Year' across the entire Westmorland business in 2024. Always incredibly positive and often described as a superstar, Ryan was also interviewed on BBC Points West and was a speaker alongside GGT in front of over 100 people at the Gloucestershire Employment, Health, Wellbeing & Inequalities Summit, where he shared his own experience, his roles and responsibilities and the impact it's had on him.

Colleague Jairo completed Bridging the Gap in early 2024 and after just a few months employed was voted 'Colleague of the month' for Gloucester Services. Jairo came to the UK following the difficult situation in his home country of Nicaragua, and was nominated by his manager for his hard work in the Cold Prep unit. He recently cut 100 tuna sandwiches in three minutes whilst at the same time maintaining exceptional quality!

“This place means a lot to me, it's like my home, I belong here.” **Ryan**



“Jairo is so caring and supportive to all colleagues and even goes to help in café potwash during his lunch break of his own free will. He comes in everyday with a smile and is happy to help anyone and anywhere in the company.”
Carol

