



VERSION 1



Social Value Report

Annual Report 2021

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VERSION 1



Social Value Report

Annual Report 2021



Social Value at Version 1

Social Value works alongside our public sector teams and across Version 1 to deliver community initiatives as part of our commitment to our public sector customers. With a small but fast-growing portfolio of initiatives written in partnership with our stakeholders, the Social Value Manager recruits members of the team at Version 1 to deliver programmes that respond to the needs of people in the UK.

As an essential part of our engagement with the public sector, Social Value ensures that Version 1 bring the same qualities of being empathetic, easy to do business with, and effective to our engagement with communities as we do to all our projects.

Social Value is driven by excellence in community practice, and we deliver by providing programmes that are:

- **Relevant** – content guided by accurate research carried out in the communities we deliver in
- **Excellent** – matching Version 1 experts with community need to create targeted initiatives that have meaningful impact for the people we deliver to
- **Sustainable** – creating legacy initiatives with lasting benefit through partnership working with organisations who can provide follow on support for the participants or the programmes

As we wrap up 2021 and look to 2022, Social Value will play an essential role in ensuring we are an organisation that is customer focused, consolidating the strength of our organisation through generating high quality initiatives that support our future engagement with the public sector and reaffirm our organisational commitment to excellence.

2021 in Review

Jan 2021: SEIDs bursary candidate already chosen and T levels recruitment initiated for 20/21 cohort Partnership with Harrow College Uxbridge College well established.

March 2021: Social Value Manager recruitment launched

April 2021: Social Value Manager starts. For the first time, the time and money Version 1 donate to their environmental and social governance are collated

May 2021: Digital Footprints initiated in partnership with ExtraCare Charitable Trust

June 2021: 4 students from Harrow College Uxbridge College begin their sustained industry placement and Insights programme launched by Orlaith Kelly with support from the Shadow Board. Digital Footprints pilot delivered by Margaret Zhao, bringing digital skills to people over 75.

July 2021: First funding initiative under Social Value is launched in partnership with Harrow Town Centre Business Improvement district.

August 2021: Social Value partners with New City College. A SEIDs bursary candidate is selected for 2021/22. The Version 1 Digital academy welcomes 20 people from any degree background to receive training and certifications in relevant technology skills.

September 2021: Delivery Partnership with Microsoft established for Social Value

October 2021: Insights in partnership with HCUC is delivered to 30 T level students. A new kind of work experience is launched in partnership with New City College, piloting a structured placement that is more accessible to people outside of traditional education. The Shadow Board at Version 1 are integral to the success of both initiatives.

November 2021: Insights Foundations is launched in partnership with New City College, with a focus on accessibility for people with additional support needs and different educational contexts.

December 2021: T levels recruitment is launched for 21/22 academic year. Social Value Partners with The Cedar Foundation.



Microsoft Digital Skills was delighted to be approached by Version 1 to help support Social Value. We look forward to another positive partner engagement with Version 1. Our portfolio of offerings complement perfectly the ambitions and activities of the Version 1 plan with their delivery and community partners.

- Lee Jones, Microsoft

2021 in Numbers

Key Performance Indicators	2021
Number of sessions delivered through Social Value	30
Number of people who took part in our programmes	109
Number of Community Partners	5
Number of Version 1 hours delivered through Social Value	304
Number of new initiatives launched	6
Total grants delivered	£6,500

These figures reflect the efforts not just of Social Value but of the whole team at Version 1 who have supported the department over 2021 to deliver excellence to communities for our public sector customers.



VERSION 1



The Social Value Menu

**Our 2021
Programmes**



Digital Academy NI

Through our engagement with our Northern Ireland public sector customers, we have launched our digital academy programme. This opportunity for people to enhance their degree skills or to change their career path has already welcomed 19 new members to our Northern Ireland team with plans for another 5 academies between now and 2025.

Joshua McRoberts shares his experiences as a successful academy graduate and starting his new role with Version 1

After University one of my key worries was that I didn't feel prepared to step into a job as an IT professional, university mostly covered the high-level concepts of areas within the IT sector. With the nature of university study there aren't really any opportunities to undertake projects that give you actual insight into what could be expected in an IT

job role. I was told about the Assured Skills academies by a friend and decided that their offer of four industry certified awards was too good to pass up.

The best part of the academy was working with a driven group of people from all walks of life. As a technology graduate, one of the highlights was the soft skills: presentation skills, building my personal brand and the project life-cycle simulation. Once I successfully completed the academy and was certified by Microsoft and Cisco, I took on another 4 weeks of training to support my new role. Now I am on a delivery team at Version 1, I am going deeper into Microsoft 365 so I am ready to support the rest of my team members.



Department for the
Economy

Insights and Insights Foundations

Designed to support the next generation of digital specialist excel in a career in technology, the Insights programme is an entirely adaptable range of employability support and insights into IT for young people 16-24.

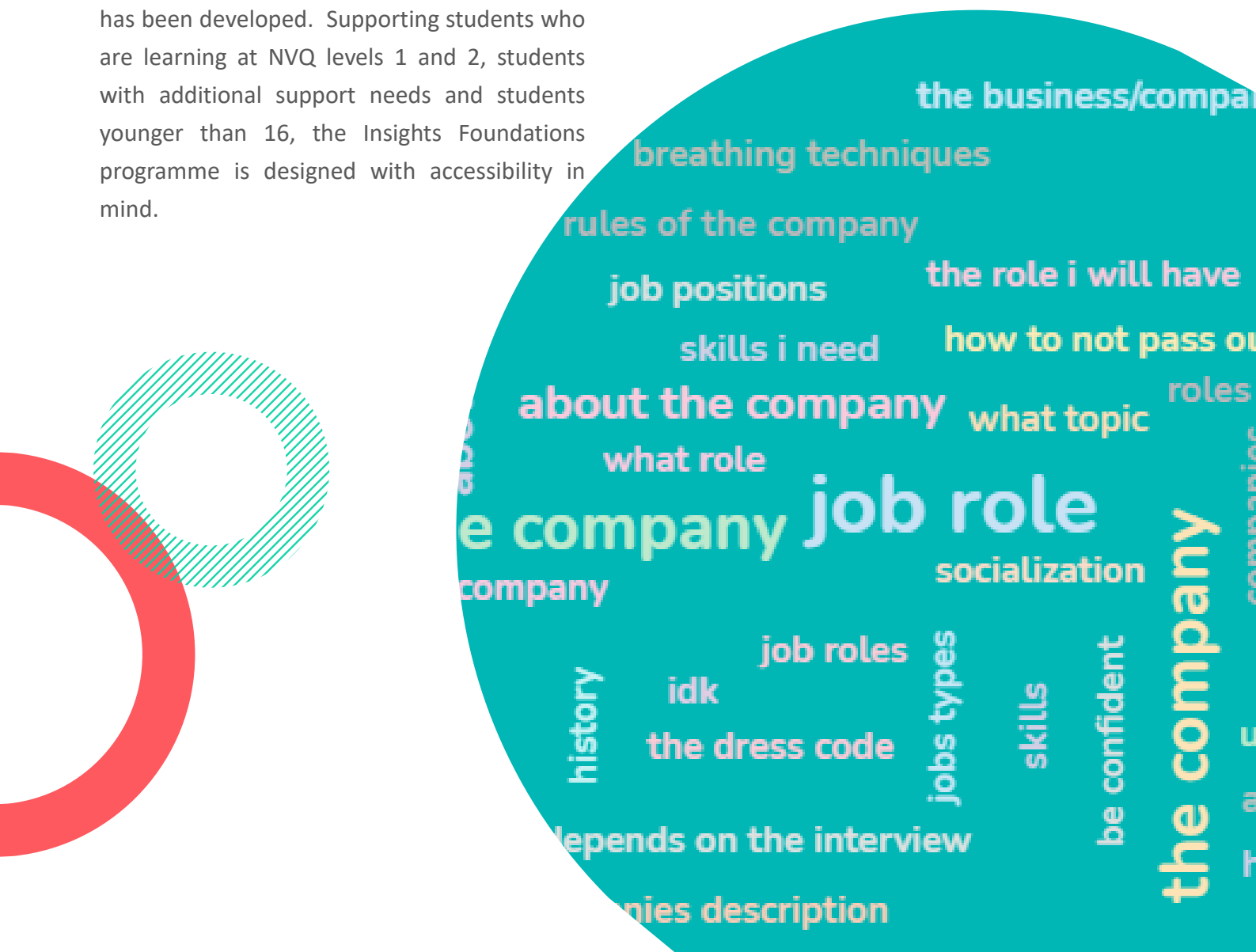
Version 1 partnered with Harrow College Uxbridge College over 2021 to both pilot and develop our Insights programme, donating over 120 hours to improving the employability and skills of our young Level 3 college students. Over the two iterations of the initiative, more than 25 members of the Version 1 team contributed to the success of the programme.

In response to a request from New City College, our Insights Foundation programme has been developed. Supporting students who are learning at NVQ levels 1 and 2, students with additional support needs and students younger than 16, the Insights Foundations programme is designed with accessibility in mind.

So far the programme has reached 38 students in partnership with New City College, and Social Value is seeking new opportunities to redevelop our initiative for our community partners and customers.



Both programmes are offered out as a menu of modules that is extensive but not exhaustive, allowing our partners to tailor the programme and request additional content to support the people they work with.



Digital Footprints

Digital Footprints was launched in June 2021 in partnership with ExtraCare Charitable Trust, an organisation that provide independent living accommodation to people aged 55+. Through internal surveys they had identified a need for service users over 75 with little to no experience with technology and the internet to get better connected, particularly in response to COVID. Version 1 were approached by ExtraCare to support in the delivery of a pilot programme to allow them to begin meeting the needs of their residents.

Version 1 worked with staff and volunteers at ExtraCare to draft a module outline, recruiting internally to provide technology experts to write and deliver the training and to support the volunteers from ExtraCare to repeat the content independently to create a legacy programme.

The programme was designed to be:

Fast – responding to immediate need for access

Relevant – content guided by accurate research

Excellent – matching Version1 experts with community need

Sustainable – a legacy initiative for ExtraCare to continue



Following successful delivery of the pilot, Version 1 were able to work with ExtraCare to adapt the training materials into three modules that ExtraCare will deliver in sites throughout their organisation. Through partnership working that brought the technological expertise of Version 1 to collaborate with the community specialism of ExtraCare a sustainable digital skills initiative was launched within 2 calendar months.

The primary aim of the Digital Footprints programme is to empower the organisations we partner with to continue the programme in house. It is through identifying the right community partners to support our Social Value initiatives at Version1 that we can bring excellence to communities by generating legacy impact. With initiatives like Digital Footprints, ensuring our community partner is supported to reiterate the programme is essential to creating a sustained impact.

With new community partners identified for 2022, Digital Footprints will be creating new content to support people who are isolated from technology due to ability and experience access an exciting digital future.



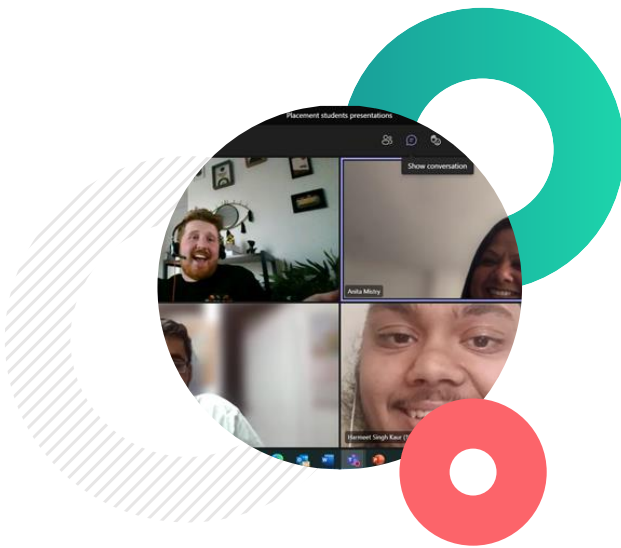
T-Level Placements

T-levels are a new qualification that is equivalent to three A-Levels in the UK system. Version 1 have partnered with Harrow College and Uxbridge College over 2021 to recruit 4 T-Level or NVQ level 3 students, who joined our team in June. Working in different departments across our organisation, the students were invited for a four week placement that contributed to the 315 hours of industry work experience required to complete the T-Level programme.

The second cohort of T-Level students are already being recruited. In partnership with New City College and Harrow College Uxbridge College, Version 1 will be inviting 4 more T-Level or NVQ Level 3 students to join us for a sustained industry placement from February 2022. This cohort of students will have the opportunity to work with our organisation over 18 weeks whilst continuing their studies, with roles created for students on Data Analysis and User Experience career paths as well as business.



Short-term Placements



The short-term placements scheme at Version 1 is a structured work experience programme that

Provides students with career skills, insights into IT Services and on the job shadowing. Working with New City College, Social Value piloted the scheme in October 2021 and are working with new colleges and community partners over 2022 to make the content more accessible to people who are outside of traditional education and people who are living with a disability. With a mixture of on the job learning, research and presentation tasks that promote independent working habits and structured modules to explore remote working, collaboration and security, the short-term placements programme is a comprehensive introduction to the core values at Version 1 through praxis.

“*There are so many opportunities to develop your skills during a placement at Version 1*
- Alessia Zudas, HCUC Student



Focus for 2022

Social Value is new for many of our customers and as it progresses, we expect their objectives to expand in line with the needs identified in their communities. Nearly 6% of young people in England between the age of 16-18 are currently outside of education, training or employment with that figure rising to over 12% for young people with additional support needs (source: Gov.uk NEET and Participation: Local Authority Figures). As a research led department, Social Value has discovered that through providing an emphasis on those outside of traditional education due to socioeconomic status or through living with a disability we can stay ahead of the objectives of our public sector customers.

Social Value will, over 2022, launch initiatives that directly address the needs of people isolated from technology. We will adapt our programmes to make them more accessible for people living with a disability as well as for young people who are not in education, training or employment. We will interrogate the impact of our programmes for the identified groups, listening to our community partners to ensure we are developing the right initiatives for our Public Sector customers and the people they work for and provide evidence of the impact of our programmes to our customers and our sales team to ensure the future growth of our Public Sector portfolio.



Harrow Youth Stop.

Social value at version 1 is launching 2 new partnerships in 2022 to ensure we are developing digital skills and employability initiatives that reach the whole community in the places we work in.

Applying this strategy to our Social Value offering to customers will not only benefit Version 1 as a go to organisation for excellent Social Value, it will provide our organisation a new avenue to discovering hidden talent by engaging with the innovative minds that struggle to attain traditional qualifications but who can excel

in an environment of support, independence, and trust. Social Value hopes that by adapting our short-term programmes to meet the identified needs of these two particular groups, we will create a conduit for discovering the hidden talent that will ensure the growth of Version 1 throughout 2022 and beyond. By specifically targeting hard to reach groups who are isolated from technology and opportunity, we will also be supporting social mobility, contributing to a more equal society.

Thank you

2021 has been a great year for Social Value at Version 1 and as Social Value Manager I would like to thank everyone on the team at Version 1 who have contributed to making something new and meaningful.

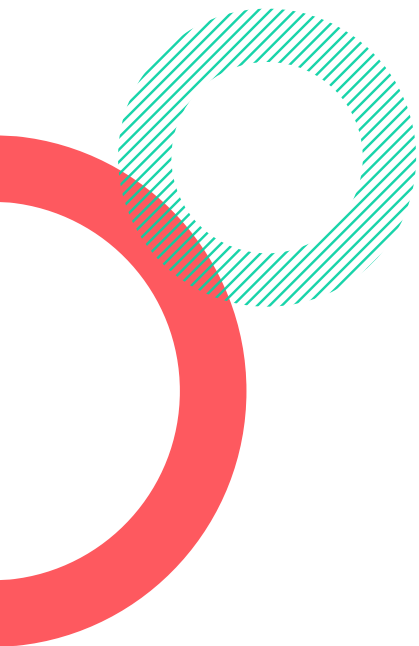
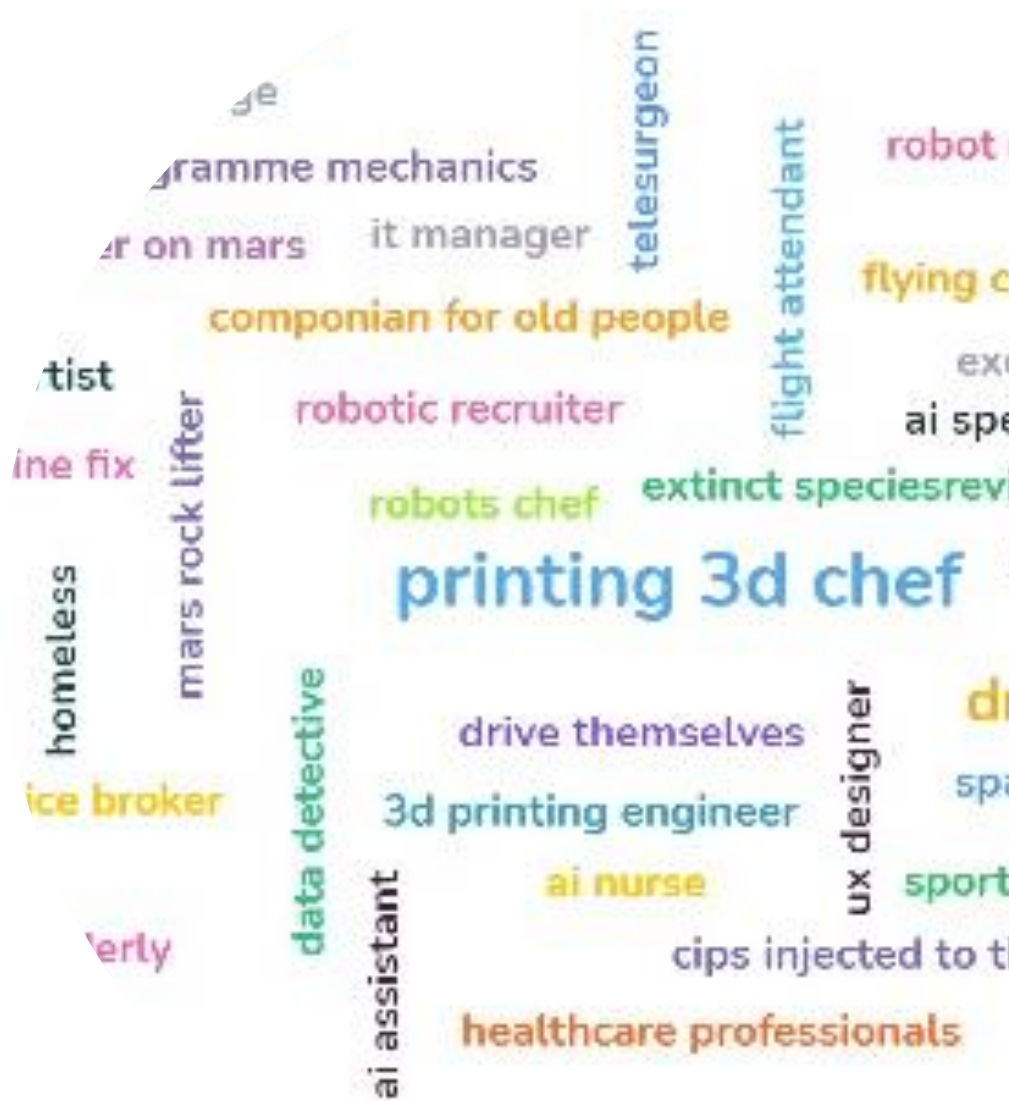
I'd like to thank the people in communities I have worked with over the year who have been so generous with their insight and experience to help Version 1 develop our programme.

I'd also like to thank, on behalf of the whole team, our customers who have worked with us in 2021 to navigate complicated restrictions and unusual requests to make sure we can still deliver to their communities.

London Borough of
Redbridge



The participants of one of our Insights Foundations programmes created this word cloud imagining the technology of the future and Social value at Version 1 is looking forward to working with our partners and our customers over 2022 to help make sure there's 'no-one left Behind.'





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Get in Touch

Visit Version1.com today to learn more about our CSR, Community First, and Social Value efforts.

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