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Salford Community Leisure

# IMPACT REPORT

2025-2026

ENHANCING  
PEOPLE'S LIVES

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**SOMETHING**  
*for everyone*

# WELCOME SALFORD COMMUNITY LEISURE'S (SCL'S) IMPACT REPORT 2025 - 26

As an organisation we are committed to enhancing and improving the physical and cultural wellbeing of the community and it is wonderful to see that our offer is ever expanding to fulfil the needs of those who live, work and visit Salford.

As I look back at the achievements for the 2025-2026 year it is a special one for me as this will be my **last full business year with SCL**. I will be leaving for my retirement in September 2026, so not only I am looking back at the last 12 months, I am **reminiscing about the last 23 years of SCL** and how far the organisation has come.

What started out as looking after sport and leisure in the City has evolved to what we have now with **7 service areas** and **around 500 employees**. I am so proud of what has been achieved, and this has been down to the hard work and dedication of our teams.

We have been **committed to enhancing and improving the physical and cultural wellbeing of the Salford community** and it is clear by the stories and videos within this report that we make a significant difference to the lives of so many people.

***SCL will always hold a special place in my heart and I can't wait to see what is achieved in the next 23 years!***

Stephen Hassall  
Chief Executive



**OPEN SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE**  
**HONEST CARING FOR OTHERS**



## SCL'S SNAPSHOT 2025 - 26

 **1,951,004**  
VISITS TO LEISURE CENTRES

 GYM ATTENDANCES  
**383,804**

### GROUP EXERCISE ATTENDANCES

**213,215** 

### ACTIVE LIFESTYLES REFERRALS

**3,683** 

### MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS ENGAGEMENT

 **51,955**

**4,160**   
LEARNING TO  
**SWIM**  
EACH MONTH

### ACTIVE COMMUNITIES ATTENDANCES

**81,513**

SALFORD MUSEUM &  
ART GALLERY VISITORS **133,118**

ORDSALL HALL  
VISITORS  **24,187**



LIBRARY  
VISITORS **873,135**

**283,564** BOOKS  
LOANED



### HOT DRINKS SERVED

**125,926**

**16,955**   
WATERSPORTS VISITORS

### COMMUNITY CENTRE ATTENDANCES

**143,764**



 WEB VISITORS  
**2,005,724**

SOCIAL MEDIA  
FOLLOWERS   
**84,033**

# An overview of achievements in 2025-2026



CAN-Move celebrates 10 years of supporting anyone living with or beyond cancer to become more physically active and improve their wellbeing. [Read story here](#)



CrossFit SCL introduces daily **Hyrox** classes.

[See story here](#)

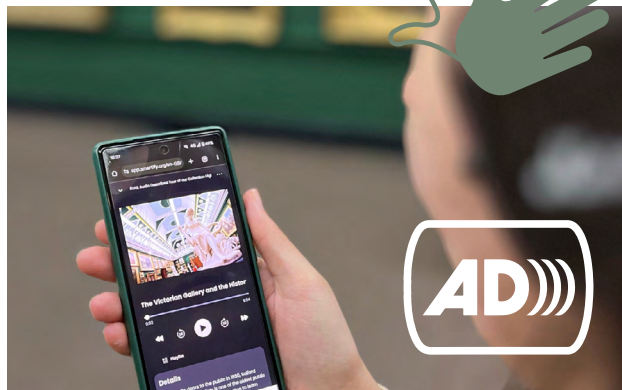


CROSSFIT SCL



British Sign language and Audio Described tours at Salford Museum & Art Gallery and Ordsall Hall. The work has been completed as part of a project named, '**Unlocking the Collection: Accessible Interpretation**' which was funded by Arts Council England.

[Find out more here](#)



On Saturday, 31st May 2025, our MAPAS Centre members will be lacing up their walking boots for a fun and challenging **10-mile fundraising walk!**

[Find out more here](#)



Team CrossFit SCL Dominates Local Competition with **First-Place Finish.**

[See story here](#)

Salford Swimming Club take home medals at North Multi-regional Novice & Combo Competition - 14th June 2025.

[Find out more here](#)



Salford swimmers lead the way at the 2025 National Combo Cup competition.

[Find out more here](#)



Salford Swimming Club & City of Salford Synchronised Swimming Club, brought home **Silver Awards** at the Swim England North West Awards 2025!

[Find out more here](#)



On 24th June 2025, the Schools Library Service held the **22nd annual Salford Children's Book Award**.

[Find out more here](#)



In July 2025, primary schools across Salford were filled with the sound of music, laughter, and applause thanks to **free Schoolabout concerts** thanks to MAPAS.



SALFORD COMMUNITY LEISURE'S

**SUMMER FESTIVAL**

In July 2025 we held the very first SCL Summer Festival. A chance to show off all services in one place offering a **free day out for local communities**.



On 13th July 2025, over **200 dancers** from Salford Community Leisure's **Street Dance programme** took to the stage in the prestigious Lowry Theatre, to **celebrate 20 years of SCL Dance**. One of the dancers performing that day, Ivy Rose, has faced more barriers than most in her journey from the studio to the stage.

[Read Ivy's story](#)





In October 2025 Parr Fold Park was brought to life with a unique **immersive experience**, **created with the young people of Salford**. Funding from The Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) Culture programme enabled Salford Community Leisure and Greater Manchester Arts (GM Arts) to commission Rochdale based Breaking Barriers to create a project that **empowered young people** to explore, express and shape their own narratives within society and understand the local creative and cultural opportunities in the City.

[Watch video here](#)



# Salford Museums

## MEMBERSHIP



Ordsall Hall



Salford  
Museum  
and Art  
Gallery

## ONE MEMBERSHIP

## TWO MUSEUMS

Ordsall Hall and Salford Museum & Art Gallery have launched a **brand-new Museums Membership scheme**, giving residents and visitors the chance to support local heritage while enjoying exclusive benefits throughout the year

[Find out more here](#)



**Active Lifestyles** hold Wellbeing Walk at RHS Garden Bridgewater to promote Strength & Balance as part of the **walking festival 2025**. As well as a gentle one-hour walk designed to help people increase their physical activity and improve mental wellbeing. The walk was interspersed with short breaks. Each break focused on a different strength or balance exercise. The participants were advised on how to complete the exercises safely and provided with modifications where necessary.

[Find out more here](#)



On 23rd October we had the privilege to attend the 2025 Salford Business Awards where we were **nominated as finalists under the category "Inspiring Young People"**.

We are pleased to have been selected as runner up in such a fantastic and inspiring category.

[Find out more here](#)



A group of Leisure employees achieved 4 distinctions and 2 passes in their Duty Manager Apprenticeships.

[Find out more here](#)



Swimmers from the City of Salford Synchronised Swimming Club and SCL Training Programme returned from the **Artistic Swimming National Age Groups Championships** in Gloucester with **3 National Titles and many more successes!**

[Find out more here](#)

As part of **Healthy Aging Month**, the **Active Lifestyles Team** held Hand Grip Strength Pop Ups at SCL centres to give people an insight into their overall **muscle strength** and what they can do to **improve** this.

[Find out more here](#)



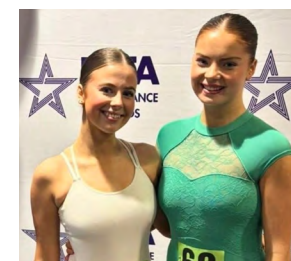
Your Salford 100  
in **Photographs**

14 June 2026 to 30 May 2027



In February 2026, Salford Museums launched a programme of exhibitions and events to celebrate the last **100 years of Salford**, its people, its artists and museum collections.

[Find out more here](#)



**SCL Dance Stars**  
Shine at IDTA  
International Theatre  
**Dance Awards.**

[Find out more here](#)

**Salford Libraries Launch the Story Garden at Irlam Library** - This special outdoor space brings stories and nature to life, encouraging children to move, explore and enjoy active play outside while building **confidence and nurturing imagination**.

Little explorers can go bug hunting, follow a treasure trail, or curl up with a story in our cosy Book Nook.

[Watch video here](#)



# Service top 3 achievements

Throughout 2025-2026 we saw many achievements, growth and successes throughout our services. The hard work of all our teams ensures that SCL continues to grow and provide meaningful activities and services for the Salford Community. Here our service leads breakdown their top 3 moments for the 25-26 year.

## Active Lifestyles

- Several services have been re-funded till March 27
- We have had nearly **4000 referrals** through in the last year.
- We have made a new partnership with Meadowbrook **Mental Health Unit**.

[>>> View Active Lifestyles Video](#)



## Community Facilities

- **Age Friendly Status** has been awarded to Clifton & Wardley Community Centres.
- **Bookings** at Cleavley Athletics Track **doubled** during 2025/26.
- We were pleased to work in partnership with key stakeholders to support the completion of the Wharton Playing Fields renovation project. The site now provides **significantly improved changing facilities** for local sports clubs and community users.

[>>> View Community Facilities Video](#)



## Active Communities

- The Den youth space in Walkden following its relocation. Thanks to Better Youth Spaces funding, The Den has been transformed into a **modern, multi-functional community hub designed to bring people together under one roof**.
- 302 IDTA examinations were completed with an **outstanding 96% pass rate**. We also supported 21 staff and young leaders to achieve nationally recognised dance qualifications.
- Launch of **8 new gymnastics sessions** at Beesley Green Community Centre, including a SEND class. Sessions are already **over 80% full**, with the SEND class fully booked and a growing waiting list.

[>>> View Active Communities Video](#)

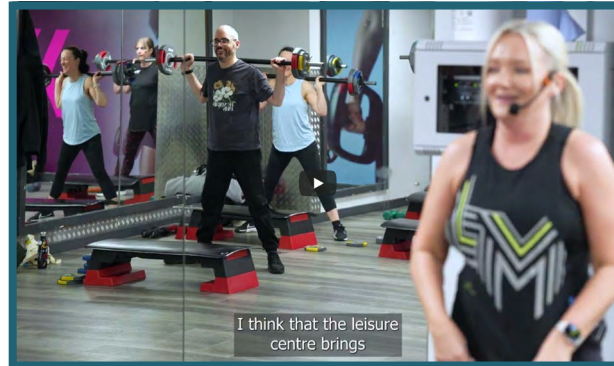
# Service top 3 achievements



## Health & Fitness

- Had a latent demand report created which projected penetration of approximately 11,000 members but we are already at **over 15,500**
- **Reached our highest ever class attendance of 213,263 attendances**
- Successful **refurbishment** of Salford Sports Village to provide updated cardio equipment

[>>> View our Crossfit Video](#)



## Aquatics

- Investment for additional swimming teachers to extend SCL's **Learn to Swim Programme**.
- Development of **SEND swimming lessons** increasing availability across the City
- Competitive Swim teams continue with their successes with many swimmers **achieving medals** in big National and International races

[>>> View our Leisure Video](#)

## MAPAS

- **38% increase** in instrumental learners, from **1148** in Q1 to **1590** in Q4
- Production of Elf in December 2025
- Celebrating **Salford's Centenary** with a specially commissioned song 'This is Our Salford', performed by **over 1000 children** at summer events.

[>>> View MAPAS Video](#)



# Service top 3 achievements



## Libraries

- Extension of Storynooks with Irlam **Storygarden opening**
- **12.5% increase in visitors to the libraries**
- **800** adult education, digital and employment support classes took place across the libraries with **over 6225 attendances.**

[>>> View libraries Video](#)

## Museums

- Your Salford 100 **community engagement** project and exhibition launch (SMAG).
- Breaking the ground for Ordsall Hall **community barn.**
- Embedding of the new **accessible tours** BSL films for Deaf visitors and Audio Described tours for visually impaired visitors.

[>>> View museums video](#)



**SOMETHING**  
*for everyone*