

NOVEMBER 25



Spark is a Multi-Award Winning not-for-profit Social Enterprise operating as the [Wirral Youth Employment Hub](#) in partnership with the DWP, as well as the [Youth Enterprise Hub](#) across LCR.

We're sparking a movement where every young person can ignite their potential and shape their future - no matter their background. Spark's headquarters are located at:

**Unit 5, Wirral Point, Claughton Road, CH41 6EY.**

## YOUTH JOBS FAIR TURNING POTENTIAL INTO PROGRESS

We welcomed **178 young people** from across Wirral to our Youth Jobs Fair. The event focused on opening doors, building confidence and helping each attendee move closer to their future goals. The day was officially opened by Mark Underhill OBE DL from the Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund, whose support helped make the event possible.

The atmosphere was vibrant, with stalls full of conversation, live job applications being completed and young people engaging with real determination. The impact was clear:

- **249** meaningful engagements took place
- **107** applications were submitted
- **28** CVs were reviewed and strengthened

We celebrated our partners, volunteers and employers by awarding prizes to recognise outstanding engagement. Thank you to everyone who helped create a day filled with opportunity, ambition and positive connections.



## BUSINESS EXPO TURNING IDEAS INTO IMPACT

Spark celebrated the incredible achievements of our Young Entrepreneurs and recognised the completion of our fifth Business Bootcamp cohort. It was a day filled with pride, creativity and a real sense of possibility.

Over the past six months, each participant has developed bold ideas, refined their business plans and grown in confidence. Their final pitches and market-style stalls showed just how much passion and hard work they have invested in their journey.

We were honoured to welcome the Lord-Lieutenant of Merseyside, Mr Mark Blundell, and the Mayor of Wirral, Cllr Brian Kenny. Both spent time with every young entrepreneur, listened to their stories and presented certificates to celebrate their achievements. Their support added something truly special to the day.

Our CEO opened the event with an inspiring message about the power of opportunity and the importance of nurturing young talent. His words set the tone for a celebration full of optimism.

Applications for Cohort Six are **NOW OPEN**, so if you know a young person (16-30) ready to bring their idea to life, now is the perfect time to get involved.



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 49



## EMPLOYMENT HUB: INSIDE DIRECT LINE MOTABILITY

This month, our members were blown away by a warm welcome at the impressive offices of Direct Line Motability (DLM) in Liverpool. The visit was designed to inspire, and it certainly delivered. Members explored the vibrant workspace, experiencing first hand what it's like to thrive in a professional and inclusive environment.

The day was full of energy, with interactive activities, a delicious lunch and insightful conversations with the DLM team. The highlight was hearing from Matthew, a former Spark member, who shared his inspiring journey to a full-time role at Direct Line. His story proves what is possible.

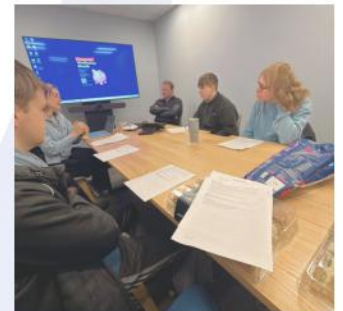
A huge thank you to the DLM team for a memorable and impactful day!



## EMPLOYMENT HUB: BEHIND THE SCENES AT NATWEST

This month our members visited NatWest's Liverpool City Branch for an insightful look at how modern banking works. The team greeted us warmly and delivered an engaging session on fraud and scams, which gave our members the chance to show their growing financial awareness. We then moved into the automation room to learn how cash is managed behind the scenes and met the banker responsible for keeping the cash and deposit machines operating smoothly. The morning finished with practical CV and interview advice that our members can put into action straight away.

After lunch, NatWest welcomed us to their Contact Centre in Wavertree, where our members heard from four apprentices. Each shared an honest account of beginning a career in banking and how the apprenticeship route helped them build confidence, develop soft skills and move into new roles. Our members left with stronger knowledge and a clearer understanding of the opportunities available. Thank you to NatWest for hosting an inspiring and informative day.



## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

After moving to Manchester to study Business Management, Ciaran found university life lonely and overwhelming. Without a support network, his confidence and mental health began to suffer.

Referred to Spark through the Jobcentre, he was unsure anyone could help. From the moment he joined, things started to change. Through workshops, employer connections and personalised support, Ciaran rebuilt his confidence and discovered new opportunities.

At Spark's Career Expo with Direct Line Group, he took a chance and secured a full-time role starting 10 November. Now thriving, he is joining Spark's Youth Voice group to help others, proving that the right support at the right moment can truly transform a journey.



### OPPORTUNITY ALERT

**Career Expo: 04.12.25**



Want to meet and engage with organisations that have live opportunities? Scan the QR code to secure your place - But be quick, there's limited places available!

**Festive Event: 12.12.25**



Come and join us for an afternoon of connection, celebration, challenge and cheer.

Open to all volunteers, supporters and sponsors.

### THANKS TO ALL OUR SPONSORS...

