

Matrix's Social Value team have been working closely with **ECC's Entry to Work team** to find creative ways to deliver social value. Matrix's work in Social Value has always focused on our business purpose - Connecting people to work. We aim to give local people the tools they need to access great quality work opportunities. This aligns with the work the Entry to Work team do to support Essex residents into roles in the council, via routes that work best for them.

The picture below shows Siobhan from our Social Value team alongside Jo, the Entry to Work Manager, during a Career Insight Day the council held for Care Leavers. Alongside some inspirational and empowering speakers, Siobhan was given the opportunity to present on imposter syndrome, resilience, and confidence. The day was a huge success with 100% of the Care Leavers saying they would recommend the event to others. Supporting these young people can be measured under ECC16/NT11 - hours dedicated to support young people into work.



In partnership with the ETW team we have also run a few onboarding sessions for new starters in the council. These sessions provide a safe space for ECC new starters to learn more about the organisation they are joining and ask plenty of questions. Our presentation shares information on; what it means to be an employee, getting your voice heard and goal setting & resilience.

Our most recent activity was an 'Interview Success' workshop designed specifically for the Return to Social Care Programme. The workshop aimed to give participants practical advice on how to prepare for their upcoming interviews as well as give them a confidence boost needed after taking some time out of work.

Separate to the work we have done with the ETW team, Matrix's Social Value team have also been delivering some workshops to Essex Young People's Network. So far this year we've delivered training on time management and interview success. These have been supported by volunteers from our supply chain, who are always happy to share their skills and expertise. Giving the recruitment experts on our supply chain the opportunity to help with these workshops is one way we demonstrate ECC35/NT23 - contracts with the supply chain on which Social Value commitments, measurement and monitoring are required.