Mentoring Futures: With Goal 17 and CHS Group.

Empowering Young People, Creating Business Impact

CHS GROUP

GOAL

Empowering Futures
Inspiring Change

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Building Futures Together: A Partnership Between CHS Group and Goal 17

At the heart of this partnership is a simple but powerful idea: **every young person deserves a trusted adult in their corner.**

CHS Group provides housing and support for young people aged 16–25 across Cambridgeshire who are experiencing some of life's toughest challenges — including homelessness, childhood trauma, and social isolation. Many of these young people have no family network to rely on, and face ongoing struggles with their mental health, education, and employment opportunities. While CHS's support teams do exceptional work, years of underfunding have limited the individual support they can offer.

That's where mentoring comes in.

Together, CHS Group and Goal 17 are launching a new volunteer mentoring programme to help bridge this gap. The programme will connect young people in supported housing with trained, compassionate mentors who can offer consistent, one-to-one support, guidance, and encouragement — building trust, confidence, and ambition over time.

Mentoring is more than a conversation. It's a lifeline.

Through this partnership, we aim to create life-changing relationships that equip young people with the confidence, skills, and stability they need to thrive. Each mentor will receive award-winning training, recognised by Oxford Brookes University and CPD-accredited, and will be supported throughout by Goal17's expert team and safeguarding technology.

We are now inviting **businesses across Cambridgeshire** to join us: by sponsoring mentoring places, offering up staff to become trained volunteer mentors, or both. This is an opportunity to make a measurable difference in the lives of local young people — while also offering meaningful development for your team, and creating lasting social value in your community.

Let's build something extraordinary — together.



The Vision

Empowering Young People Through Connection, Confidence and Opportunity

Too many young people in Cambridgeshire are growing up without the stable networks and opportunities that many of us take for granted. Whether they've been in care, faced homelessness, or experienced significant trauma, the absence of a consistent, supportive adult can have long-lasting effects on a young person's wellbeing, confidence, and future prospects.

CHS Group works every day to support young people facing complex challenges by not only offering them a safe place to live but the support and environment where they can grow and thrive. But this is just the beginning and these young people need additional meaningful relationships, emotional support and encouragement to build the futures they deserve.

That's why CHS are partnering with Goal17 to create a new, high-impact mentoring programme tailored to the needs of our residents.

Our vision is simple:

To ensure every young person in our supported housing services has access to a trusted adult who can help them unlock their potential and build a positive, independent future.

This mentoring programme isn't about ticking a CSR box. It's about transforming lives — one relationship at a time.

Now, we're inviting local employers, community leaders, and partners to help us bring this vision to life.



Why it Matters

The Human Case

Every young person deserves a champion.



Behind every closed door is a story — of trauma, loss, or simply a lack of someone to believe in them. Mentoring offers young people a trusted adult to listen, guide, and walk alongside them. For many, it's the first time someone has shown up just for them — and that can be life-changing.

The Local Case

Rooted in Cambridgeshire. Powered by community.



This programme is designed by and for Cambridgeshire. By supporting it, you're investing directly in local young people — building stronger futures, reducing isolation, and creating a more connected community. Your involvement has a ripple effect that lasts for generations.

The Business Case



Good for people. Great for business.

Mentoring isn't just the right thing to do — it's smart business. Staff gain CPD-accredited training, workplace-relevant skills, and renewed motivation. Companies boost their social value, strengthen supply chain relationships, and stand out in competitive bids.



How it works



Your organisation sponsors mentoring places, creating life-changing opportunities for young people.

You invite staff to volunteer as mentors; boosting engagement, CPD, and social value.





All mentors receive expert, CPD-certified training and ongoing support from Goall7.

We carefully match each mentor with a young person from CHS Group based on needs and fit.





Volunteers are supported throughout. We track impact and share measurable outcomes.



Training & Support

Exceptional preparation. Lasting professional value

Our mentors don't just volunteer — they grow.

All volunteers take part in a university-certificated mentoring course, co-designed with Oxford Brookes University, a global leader in mentoring and coaching. They also complete our CPD-accredited Level 2 Safeguarding training, ensuring they are fully prepared to build safe, effective, and respectful relationships with young people.





But the impact goes far beyond the mentoring role.

Transferable Skills. Measurable Growth. Volunteers gain:



Enhanced confidence and communication skills







Many organisations have funded the programme from their Learning & Development budgets, recognising that the skills developed are directly applicable to the workplace. In fact, several of our partners have seen tangible career progression among staff who have mentored — with new responsibilities, promotions, and improved team performance.

This isn't just volunteering. It's professional development with purpose.



Safety & Safeguarding

Gold-standard safeguarding. Tech-enabled. Human-led.

Safeguarding is central to everything we do. All mentors complete CPD-accredited Level 2 Safeguarding training, and every interaction is supported by our patent-pending technology, Wowment.

Our approach includes:

- CPD-certified Level 2 Safeguarding training for all mentors
- Wowment: a secure WhatsApp-based platform with AI oversight
- Real-time monitoring to detect risks and prevent data sharing
- Ongoing human-led safeguarding and support from our expert team

This innovative safeguarding model gives businesses, volunteers, and young people peace of mind — creating safe, trusted environments for mentoring to thrive.

wowment

Wowment is Goal17's patentpending safeguarding technology that enables mentors and young people to connect safely via WhatsApp — without exchanging personal contact details.

It uses AI to monitor conversations in real time, detect risks, and prevent sensitive information sharing. Designed with safeguarding at its core, Wowment creates a secure, user-friendly space for building meaningful mentoring relationships, supported by both technology and human oversight.

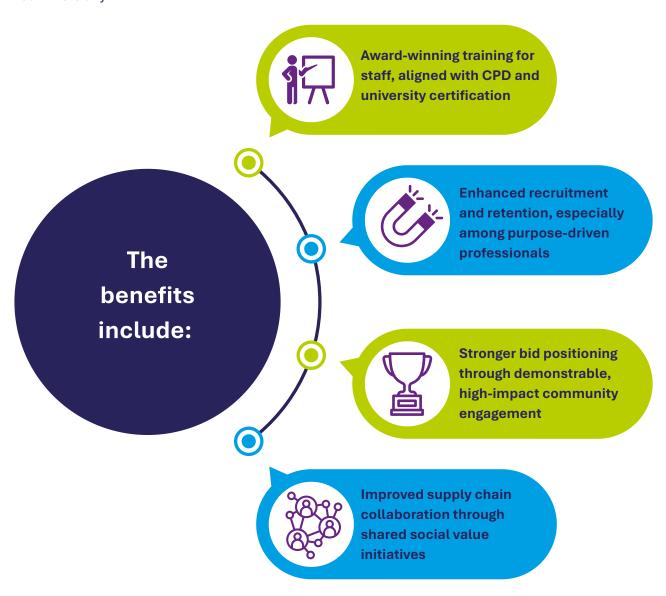


Social Value & Business Benefits

Meaningful impact. Measurable outcomes. Strategic value.

Partnering with Goal 17 and CHS Group doesn't just transform lives — it helps your business grow, connect, and lead.

Organisations who take part in our mentoring programmes consistently report higher levels of staff engagement, brand trust, and strategic impact. This is social value that delivers — both ethically and commercially.



Some of our clients have even invited their own clients and supply chain partners to co-fund programmes — using mentoring to deepen relationships, build local networks, and demonstrate shared values in action. This not only amplifies the impact for young people but also creates new business opportunities, trust, and long-term collaboration.

This is more than CSR / ESG — it's a chance to lead with purpose, create genuine change, and grow together.



Case Study Goal 17, Saints Foundation & Balfour Beatty



Partner: Saints Foundation (Southampton FC's charity)
Corporate Sponsor: Balfour Beatty
Supported By: Southampton City Council

The Challenge

Saints Foundation wanted to provide mentoring and employability support for young people who were not in education, employment, or training (NEET). They needed funding, corporate engagement, and expert programme management to make it happen.

The Solution

Goal 17 secured Balfour Beatty as a corporate sponsor, covering programme costs and making a charitable donation to Saints Foundation. They invited their supply chain and clients onto the programme with them. Goal 17 then:

- Designed and delivered a fully managed mentoring programme tailored to the needs of young people.
- Recruited, trained, and vetted mentors from Balfour Beatty, Southampton City Council, and their supply chain.
- Matched mentors with young people, providing structured, high-impact support.
- Launched the programme at St Mary's Stadium, bringing together funders, mentors, and local decision-makers.
- ☑ Integrated our Wowment platform, ensuring safe, structured communication and engagement.



Impact - Goal 17, Saints Foundation & Balfour Beatty

80%
of mentees transitioned into employment, training, or long-term education commitments.

Balfour Beatty and their supply chain directly employed several mentees, many of whom have since progressed in their careers.

Balfour Beatty used the programme in their tendering process, demonstrating authentic community engagement and social impact—helping them secure new contracts with Southampton City Council.

£250k

of Social Value was created in this first programme

The success led to immediate expansion, with a second cohort of

young people graduating soon after.

Programme featured on BBBC

NEVS

elevating awareness and

credibility.

Balfour Beatty has since committed to further programmes, forming a long-term relationship with Southampton City Council and continuing to support young people in Southampton.

The success of this programme continues to create lasting impact, with mentoring now embedded in Balfour Beatty's community engagement strategy. Their investment has not only transformed young lives but also strengthened their position as a leader in corporate social responsibility.





Working with Goal 17 has been such a positive experience. Their ability to bring together corporate partners and structure a programme that truly benefited our young people has been invaluable. Seeing people from the community and local workplaces engage with our young people, learn from their experiences and develop their confidence was fantastic. The structure, training, and support made sure this wasn't just another programme, but something that genuinely created long-term change. We've now seen young people gain employment, grow in confidence, and take real steps towards a better future. We're excited to continue working together.

Jamie Skinner
Head of Operations
Saints Foundation



Goal 17 have delivered 2 mentoring programmes to my team and I can definitely attest to the personal, professional and team benefits. On a personal note, I am a more inclusive and considered leader as a result of the training. I have a much greater understanding and awareness of the challenges other people may be facing and how my actions can bring positive results. I have become a real advocate of the power mentoring and look for opportunities to sue my skills in both my personal and professional life.



Brian Hammersley Director Balfour Beatty

Balfour Beatty



Next Steps

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