

Why work for **#TeamSalford?**

Our values, benefits, your
development and more



Why work for Salford?

Join us as we share all the great things about being a part of **#TeamSalford**.

Salford as a city has changed dramatically in recent years and now really is Salford's time! Salford is growing and it's an exciting time to join us.

More people than ever are choosing Salford as a place to live, work, invest and visit and we really are transforming into a modern, global city.

Salford is the home of MediaCityUK and the BBC and also the site of the fifth national RHS garden, Bridgewater. With a developing strong cultural and visitor offer, a rich heritage, waterside attractions and huge swathes of beautiful green spaces, the city truly has an impressive offer.

Here at Salford we are people centred and values based. Our people are at the heart of delivering our priorities for the city.

We are passionate about putting our people first and helping everyone gain the skills, experience and support they need to develop and succeed within our values based, diverse and inclusive organisation. The Spirit of Salford is tangible with our values of pride, passion, people and personal responsibility, capturing the spirit and expectations of the city and they also inform the way we operate.

We are a multi-award winning council, with our fantastic services regularly recognised locally and nationally, with some of our latest accolades honouring us as the 'Best Place to Work' and 'City of the Year'.

We have put together some information below which will give you a great overview of what we as an organisation offer; we hope you enjoy reading it.

Our vision and priorities

Although every day is different, we all come to work for the same thing, to achieve our vision to create 'a fairer, greener, healthier and more inclusive Salford' and provide the best possible quality of life for the people of the city.

Our Corporate Plan sets out our vision with a clear set of priorities. Whatever role we have, we're all here to make that vision a reality. This vision gives our people direction and a shared sense of purpose.

Salford is a place for everyone to thrive – a place where everyone cares, and everyone counts.



Our values and the Spirit of Salford

Here at Salford we are people centred and values based. The Spirit of Salford is tangible with our values of pride, passion, people and personal responsibility, capturing the spirit and expectations of the city and informing the way we operate. They influence our choices, behaviours, how we make decisions and how we do things.



Living the values day in and day out creates the supportive environment that allows us 'to be the best we can be' and achieve our vision.

The Spirit of Salford represents our culture, our social conscience and pride – our organisation is about people and the communities that we serve.



We live and breathe our values in everything we do and more importantly we say thank you! Whether that be a colleague sending a 'shout out' to recognise one of their peers or a manager recognising their team members for living our values, recognising our people is important to us.

Our annual Spirit of Salford employee awards recognise our people for living our values, we also recognise our managers, teams and an employee of the year—which is voted for by their peers.



We also take the opportunity to recognise the commitment of our people who have been with us for 25 and 40 years.

Our commitment

Our people are at the heart of delivering our vision for ‘a fairer, greener, healthier and more inclusive city for all’.

Salford is a place for everyone to grow, develop and thrive – a place where everyone cares, and everyone counts and we are committed to creating ‘a great place to work’. Salford City Council has been recognised nationally as the best place to work at the 2024 Local Government Chronicle Workforce Awards.



Diversity and inclusion

Every person is different but equal, and everyone’s unique talent is recognised and encouraged.

- ▶ We are committed to developing a culture which respects individuals, treats people fairly, values and welcomes diversity, appreciates difference and allows everyone regardless of background to reach their full potential.
- ▶ We work closely with our established employee ‘THIS IS ME’ groups (BAME, Carers Network, Equal in Salford and LGBTQ+ and Neurodiverse) to make positive changes.
- ▶ We are proud to be an accredited Disability Confident employer and are registered on the Stonewall Workforce Index. We are continuing on our journey to being recognised as a truly responsible, safe, caring and inclusive workplace.
- ▶ As contributors to the Greater Manchester public sector employers collaborative, we are committed to the People Inclusion Standards and Workforce Race Equality Standard, working together to tackle inequalities in the workplace, showcasing our commitment across the city-region in driving inclusivity and equity.

[My]Work...

MyWork and flexible working

Our MyWork programme is the council's approach to enabling people to work smarter, using the available digital tools and technologies to work from the most appropriate place. We embrace hybrid-working and recognise that work is no longer just somewhere you go, it's about what we do, what we achieve and the outcomes that we deliver.

Whilst delivering better outcomes is our main focus, this way of working also brings choice, flexibility and opportunities for us as a team and as individuals.

We have refurbished and redesigned our workspaces, to create an environment that promotes collaboration, productivity and hybrid working. Our principles for this programme have the wellbeing of our people at the heart of everything we do.

The key principles are to:

- ▶ Achieve our fairer, greener, healthier and more inclusive Salford vision and our priorities.
- ▶ Build on our values and the Spirit of Salford to maintain the sense of #TeamSalford .
- ▶ Improve our services to deliver better outcomes for our residents.
- ▶ Focus on what we achieve and deliver to support colleagues to work in a flexible and inclusive way.
- ▶ Maximise digital tools and technologies to work effectively and stay well connected.
- ▶ Make the best use of our agile workplaces and spaces.
- ▶ Reduce our environmental impact.
- ▶ Be healthy, safe, and well.
- ▶ Listen to people and co-design of future ways of working.

Offer flexible working depending on the role that you do, we understand the importance of flexing to meet the needs of our people who can't work a traditional nine to five for personal reasons. We are happy to talk flexible working with you and support you where we can.

Pay and benefits

Employment Standards Charter

We believe that as the city council we should set the standard as an exemplar employer and make sure that our pay and employment policies and practices reflect our City Mayor's Employment Standards Charter and the Greater Manchester Good Employment Charter.

Living wage

At Salford, we believe in paying not just the minimum wage but a fair wage. That's why we are proud to be an accredited living wage employer. We are also leading the way as the first city in England to announce ambitious plans to double the number of organisations in the city to accredit with the Living Wage and make Salford a Living Wage City.

As well as paying the foundation living wage, here at Salford we offer fair pay for all and a range of employee reward and benefits. All our jobs roles are graded based on the key outcomes and requirements of the role. Each grade has a number of pay points which you will move through until you reach the top.



Greater Manchester Good Employment Charter

We are very proud members of the Greater Manchester Good Employment Charter. The Charter provides assurance to Salford City Council's commitment to the pillars of good employment; secure work, pay, recruitment, health and wellbeing, flexible work, engagement and voice and people management. It also outlines a further commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.



Pension – secure, flexible and tax efficient

When we welcome you to Salford you will be enrolled into the Local Government Pension scheme with the Greater Manchester Pension Fund. The scheme has some great benefits including tax relief on the contributions you pay, the option to exchange part of your pension for a tax free cash lump sum at retirement, and immediate valuable lump sum life cover. The amount you pay into the scheme depends on how much you are paid.

If you are a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), you will also have access to a valuable staff benefit - Shared Cost Additional Voluntary Contribution (Shared Cost AVC) scheme. This is a tax-efficient way to save for retirement and provides an opportunity for you to supplement your pension to build up an additional retirement fund. They are available and beneficial to you, no matter how close or far you are away from retirement.



Through our MyRewards scheme you will have access to many exclusive employee benefits with a focus on your wellbeing. These include high street and online discounts, salary sacrifice schemes and much more.



New wheels

As part of our MyRewards scheme the council has teamed up with Tusker to give you the chance to drive a new, environmentally friendly, car as part of a salary sacrifice scheme at an affordable fixed monthly amount

To help the environment the council has capped the cars available through the scheme to a maximum CO2 level, this means that the car you get will be more climate friendly.

It's a great way for anyone to afford and run a new car and save some money at the same time. The car benefit scheme is all inclusive – the monthly amount you pay includes replacement tyres, car insurance, servicing, MOT, road tax, repair bills and breakdown cover, so there's absolutely nothing for you to worry about, other than adding fuel.



Cycle to work

At Salford, we want to do what we can to help reduce pollution. We also want our people to be happy and healthy. That's why we encourage cycling to work. You can use our salary sacrifice, cycle to work scheme to choose a bike or e-bike from a range of retailers nationwide, making big savings on the original cost. We have showers and drying cabinets for your clothes, lockers and covered bike racks.

Other benefits

Going green

As an environmentally responsible organisation we are a bronze carbon literate organisation and, through our carbon management programme, have made an overall CO2 reduction in our operations of 42% (2007-2017). We encourage all of our people to make green travel choices and are striving to transition all of our business travel over to sustainable travel options.



Business Travel

For posts designated as requiring business travel, we operate a single business user scheme which provides for an allowance of an enhanced mileage rate; this is paid at a rate of 62 pence per mile for the first 10,000 miles and 25 pence per mile thereafter.



In addition, as part of the council's commitment to sustainable travel and as a bronze carbon literate organisation, we provide a car club service as well as encouraging the use of public transport. Car Club vehicles can be booked online or through a smartphone and each has a fuel card, so you just get in and drive; this extends to cheap rates over weekends or evenings as you will also be automatically registered for personal use upon membership.



Leave

Up to 34 days holiday - plus bank holidays.

You can carry annual leave forward from one year to the next, or alternatively you can bank up to five days a year from your entitlement so you can save your holidays for that extra special trip.

Leave Plus

You can also buy additional leave and spread the costs throughout the financial year.

Family-related or emergency leave

To support you to deal with family related matters or emergencies we offer a whole range of support such as parental leave, maternity leave, paternity leave, adoption leave, carers leave and special leave.

Learning and development

We believe that learning and development is really important so we offer opportunities from as soon as you start your journey with us to support you to learn, grow and develop.

#Leading #Salford

#LeadingSalford

If you are joining us in a leadership role, we will support you to develop the skills, knowledge, and confidence to lead highly committed, motivated teams and be a values-based leader.

In Salford, we want all individuals and teams to benefit from excellent leadership. This is where our leadership behaviours and our #Leading Salford development programme comes into play. The framework sets out what great leadership looks like in Salford and the learning you can access to develop the skills and behaviours to successfully lead our people.

Your development

We are passionate about the development of our people and we are committed to supporting everyone to reach their goals.

We offer great masterclasses, training and professional development opportunities to enable continuous growth, with our values at the heart of everything.



Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships have changed a great deal over recent years they're now for people of any age and at any stage of their career who want to further develop their skills and knowledge and gain a qualification! These qualifications go all the way up to postgraduate qualifications.

An apprenticeship is a work-based learning programme which enables you to develop the valuable skills, knowledge and behaviours you need for a specific job role and to progress in your chosen career.



E-Learning

Our 'Me Learning' e-learning site contains over 180 topics, which are available to all Salford City Council employees. We have a number of e-learning modules new starters need to complete to ensure they have a great induction and operate safely and securely in their roles. It is easy to use, and you can access it anytime, anywhere; you can even complete it at home if you wish! The site also contains resources such as user guides and information sheets on a wider range of topics.



Volunteering

24 Hours to Make a Difference is our employer supported volunteering scheme which allows our people to take up to 24 hours out of work time to give something back to Salford through volunteering. You can take up to 24 hours paid time off a year during your normal working week to volunteer.

Our commitment is to increase volunteering in Salford, give you the opportunity to inspire, be inspired and learn, grow and develop as a result.

Our digital journey

Salford is aiming to become a Digital City, an ambition which forms part of our wider vision for a better, fairer Salford to improve resident's lives.



#DigitalSalford

We are strongly committed to digital inclusion and aim to create a workplace where everyone has the skills and capabilities to thrive.

Our internal digital skills program helps people develop and improve their digital skills, enabling colleagues and residents to operate safely and confidently online. This ensures they can make the most of new technology in both their work and personal lives. Building on our ongoing commitment to development, we will be launching a refreshed Digital Offer in 2025, which will enhance our offerings for those who live, work, and learn in our city.



Our digital initiatives are constantly evolving to stay current with new technologies and applications. We offer excellent hybrid working environments, and all new starters receive a comprehensive induction, including a digital skills assessment and learning opportunities to ensure they have everything they need to succeed at Salford. We collaborate with key partners and digital programs to develop a digital skills pathway for our entire workforce, helping them acquire essential workplace digital skills and advance to more comprehensive skill sets.





Digital Skills Academy

The Academy is bringing key partners and digital programmes together to develop a digital skills development pathway for our whole workforce to develop their essential workplace digital skills and then move beyond this to develop more comprehensive workplace skills.

Your voice

Trade unions

We recognise and positively support the principles of collective engagement, consultation and bargaining and promote trade union membership. We believe that a truly representative and effective trade union relationship supports employee engagement and enhances workforce employee relations. We enjoy a positive and constructive working relationship with the recognised trade unions, in which all parties are committed to working together and our trade union stewards are also part of our Salford 100!



There is an established framework within which council officers and trade unions can make a positive contribution and establish good working relationships to support good employee relations, encourage workforce development and facilitate local resolution of potential disagreements. Trade union support is also available to individual members including representation as required.

Our approach to change is built around the principles of co-design with our people and our local stewards are encouraged to be actively involved throughout all stages from planning through to implementation.

The council works with the trade unions on collective matters via a joint secretary arrangement; the current joint trade union side secretary is the UNISON branch secretary.



Salford 100

Our Salford 100 are a cross section of employees from our organisation helping to make Salford a great place to work. Their role is to be the voice of our employees and support our values and organisational culture. They engage others and support our internal communications and contribute to and support the development of key activities and projects.

They've contributed to the design and delivery of workforce initiatives. Working together to make positive changes to how we recognise people and ensure staff voices are the heart of everything we do. They help shape our internal communications processes, and represent their teams and networks, and offer a collective voice to our senior leaders.

They've been involved in the launch of our MyWork programme and hybrid working, including contributing to the look and feel of the workspaces, and now continue to be an integral part in embedding MyWork Principles.

Salford 100 have been responsible for shortlisting and choosing the winners for our Employee Awards since 2021, making this process fairer and more inclusive, and have contributed and given feedback on lots of activities taking place across Salford. The group are involved in our senior leadership team appointments, ensuring the voice of our colleagues are heard in the decisions around this.

Anyone from any role or level can join the Salford 100 and help to make Salford a great place to work.

Wellbeing

Here at Salford we're passionate about supporting our colleagues to look after their health and wellbeing. We create an environment which promotes positive physical and mental health in the workplace and encourage and support employees to develop a healthy lifestyle. We also create a management culture of openness and communication and support colleagues who have manageable physical and mental health conditions or disabilities to maintain access and return to work.

We offer support, activities and resources to support your mental, physical, social and financial wellbeing. Here's just a selection of what's on offer.



Vivup

We have partnered with Vivup to provide you with access to a 24/7 helpline, staffed by trained counsellors, who can help you tackle a wide range of challenges including anxiety, bereavement and stress management. The portal also contains number of self-help guides and workbooks, based on the principles of cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), and instant access to a range of discounts.



Ambassadors

We have a great team of volunteer Wellbeing Ambassadors who are here to lend an ear. They are trained mental health first aiders; which means they have been trained to listen and signpost to professional services where required.



Keeping active

We offer reduced membership at Salford Community Leisure centres.

Your health

- ▶ **Free physio** - You can access free physiotherapy sessions through our occupational health service.
- ▶ **Free counselling** - We offer free confidential counselling services, so you always have someone to talk to if you need to.
- ▶ **Hospital appointments and cancer screening**
- We offer up to two hours' time off for hospital appointments and in addition we support you with time off if you need to attend for cancer screening.
- ▶ **Disability leave** - We offer additional leave to support people who have a disability or long-term health condition who may need some time for treatment or rehabilitation or may just need a period off work to adjust to a change in personal and professional circumstances.

Health Improvement Connect is here to help you improve your health and wellbeing – Our fantastic team do lots of online activities to improve your health and wellbeing including help to stop smoking, weight management and how to get more active. The team also offer free health checks for council workers.



There are various opportunities for you to connect with colleagues on non-work matters such as our Salford City Council book club, album appreciation society, tai chi and mindfulness sessions and lunchtime dance sessions.



- ▶ Salford Credit Union exists to provide safe, competitive and fair financial services to anyone that lives or works in Salford
- ▶ BetterOff Salford aims to help residents become better off by helping them to help themselves
- ▶ Welfare Rights and Debt offers expert free, confidential and independent advice and representation on benefits and debts

