

GROUNDWORK
CHANGING PLACES
CHANGING LIVES



Weed 'em and reap *

Graham Parry - Director Youth
Employment & Skills

* Simon Brandon, Inside Housing, Jan 2011

Registered charity no. 1121105

GROUNDWORK



What is Groundwork?

- » **Our mission** is to transform lives and places in communities in need in the UK.

- A Federation of about 35 local Trusts in England, Wales and Northern Ireland with ca. 2000 staff

- » We help people and organisations in order to:
 - » **create better neighbourhoods** – last we Improved 2000 hectares of land and mobilised 500,000 days of active community involvement.
 - » **build skills and job prospects** - delivered 8000 qualifications and supported 5000 people into training, employment and volunteering.
 - » **live and work in a greener way** – supported 6500 businesses to be greener and saved 84,500 tonnes of Co2 emissions.



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» Our areas of work

YOUTH WORK

EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS

COMMUNITY

LANDSCAPE DESIGN



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» Unemployment – the context

- 2.5m unemployed – steady for nearly two years
- Over 1/3 of these people are classed long term unemployed
- Youth unemployment, UK average 18% - Lewisham 36%.

Coalition policy drives

- Single “Work Programme” – for everybody out of work for more than 6 months.
- Move to Universal Benefit – people being transferred from IB to Working Benefits.

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» Groundwork and NHF – A national case study

- Joint deliverers of the largest national Future Jobs Fund programme. - 6500 places.
- 6 months of waged employment for long term unemployed 18-24 year olds.
- 90 RSL and 30 Groundwork Trusts.
- > 800 people left into permanent employment. About 3000 are still on programme.

"I found a stepping stone with the Future Jobs Fund. It has inspired me to never give up with my ambitions; I have the right resources and motivation now to be capable of anything that I want to achieve."

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» The Quadron Green Team

LB Southwark

LB Hammersmith & Fulham

LB Kensington & Chelsea



- Sub contractor – delivering reactive site maintenance
- Training placements with Quadron teams
- Providing NVQ training to Gwk and Quadron staff

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» How does it work?

- Groundwork secure “Welfare To Work” contracts. New Deal, Future Jobs Fund etc.
- We employ our own supervisors – vehicles, tools etc.
- Trainees start within our teams – delivering reactive maintenance.
- Progress into placement with Quadron – still employed by Groundwork
- Progress into Quadron – temp, permanent, apprenticeships.
- Throughout:
 - Groundwork provide support, job search – progression into employment
 - Training towards NVQ Amenity Horticulture.

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» What have we achieved?

- Work on more than 300 sites – over 5000 person days of work.
- November 2008 - Jan 2011 over 60 clients have progressed through the programme.
- 50 trainees received Health and Safety qualifications and improved their basic skills.
- Over 40% of trainees (34 people) have progressed into employment.
- Quadron hosted 50 young people on six-month placements.
- Four people moved on to become employed by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea as a result of the Green Team training.
- Quadron has employed 16 Green Team graduates since working in partnership with Groundwork.

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» Win win win

"I love working in a high profile park. I am really looking forward to studying and continuing my career"

Robert Beale - Participant

"its an investment. It works for us: the guys learn how to do the job and we get the benefit of that at the end"

Iain McCready - Quadron

"I love what you are doing in partnership with Quadron – making a real commitment to tackling local long-term unemployment and getting people back into work at the same time as improving Hammersmith and Fulham's parks and housing estates."

Cllr Stephen Greenhalgh, Leader, London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham

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» Groundwork, Social Enterprise and the Housing Sector.

Further examples

- Blue Sky
- Energy Advice Services
- Recycling and reuse services



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