



Media release  
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## **THE NOTTINGHAM MAKES £50,000 CONTRIBUTION TO SUPPORT YOUNG PEOPLE'S CAREER GOALS**

The Nottingham Building Society is giving the career aspirations of young people a welcome boost by supporting the work of three inspirational organisations.

The Nottingham is donating a total of £50,000 to [ThinkForward](#), the [National Literacy Trust](#) and [Framework](#), and, just as importantly, providing access to the valuable experience and advice of its team members via virtual volunteering opportunities and other online resources.

Young people who take part in ThinkForward's five-year coaching programme in six secondary schools in Nottingham\* will benefit from a £30,000 donation by The Nottingham. The funds will pay for some of the charity's Ready For Work programme activities, including business mentoring and digital confidence sessions for 300 young people aged 13-18.

The money will also enable the charity to completely digitalise its Ready For Work Passport in the coming months.

The Ready For Work Passport enables young people to demonstrate readiness for work by undertaking employability activities such as preparing a CV, interview practice, opening a bank account and demonstrating email and telephone skills. Later this year the passport will also link to all content within The Nottingham's [Career Academy](#).

Anne Leivers, The Nottingham's Head of People and Development, said: "We are passionate about helping young people in our communities fulfil their career goals and aspirations, and that's why we successfully launched our online Career Academy hub in 2020.

"Now, more than ever, with the challenges around home schooling, exam result uncertainty and the many other difficulties of the Covid-19 pandemic, it's so important that we focus on supporting young people looking to start on a new career path.

"We're delighted that during 2021 when we are celebrating ten years of dedicated work in our communities, our donations together with the time, expertise and mentorship we are able to offer through our teams can make a really positive difference to young people across the country."

ThinkForward CEO Ashley McCaul added: "We're delighted to be launching a new partnership with The Nottingham and I would like to thank them for supporting ThinkForward.

"What's particularly special about the relationship is that in addition to providing funding, building society team members will be able to volunteer with us to work directly with our young people.

"Activities will focus on the development of employability skills and readiness for work and will benefit students at six schools in Nottingham. Opportunities like these are very rewarding for staff and have a hugely positive impact on preparing young people for their career journey.

“We’re proud to be partnering with an organisation which puts building relationships with the local community at the heart of its business and we’re looking forward to working closely with the team at The Nottingham to build better and brighter futures for every young person on our programme in the city.”

The Nottingham has also made donations of £10,000 to both the National Literacy Trust and homelessness charity Framework, money which in both cases will be used to positively support young people and guide them towards their career goals.

Support for the National Literacy Trust will help to deliver its flagship Words for Work literacy and employability programme that gives young people from disadvantaged communities the literacy and communication skills they need to reach their potential.

And, like its partnership with ThinkForward, The Nottingham is making much more than just a financial contribution. Over the coming months it will work with the charity to connect young people to positive role models throughout the building society to provide advice and inspiration.

The virtual masterclasses will give the young people chance to ask The Nottingham’s team members about their jobs and to receive advice on how to use literacy in the workplace.

Homelessness charity Framework have been supported by the building society since the inception of Doing Good Together a decade ago. So, it is extremely fitting that Framework will also receive a donation that will enable it to improve the career prospects of its younger service users.

More information as to how the donations will positively impact those in need in Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and South Yorkshire will follow later in 2021.

\*The Bulwell Academy, Bluecoat Beechdale Academy, Nottingham University Samworth Academy (NUSA), The Wells Academy, Nottingham Academy and Ellis Guilford.

***Photo caption:*** *The Nottingham’s Head of People and Development, Anne Leivers, and ThinkForward’s Ashley McCaul.*

## **ENDS**

### **Notes to editor**

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### **About The Nottingham**

Founded in 1849, The Nottingham is a mutual building society owned by its members with a long and proud history of doing the right thing and helping communities prosper. Today, The Nottingham is a top ten building society operating online and via a network of 40-plus branches across nine UK counties.

The society is well-known for providing a safe and secure place for people’s savings and helping its members into their own homes. In addition to mortgage and saving products, it offers a variety of additional services through expert partners including whole-of-market mortgage advice provided by Nottingham Mortgage Services, estate agency and lettings provided by Belvoir Group and much more including funeral planning, financial advice and home insurance. Its range of services, alongside its commitment to providing expert advice, support the society’s purpose to help its members save, plan for and protect their financial futures. [www.thenottingham.com](http://www.thenottingham.com)