Open Kitchen MCR CIC (in collaboration with GMCA) - Exploring the social, economic and cultural impact of Open Kitchen's community work

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

This project will explore how Open Kitchen impacts the community as a whole. This includes understanding its social, economic, and cultural contributions. We also aim to identify other organisations doing similar work and assess whether we are leaders in our field compared to others delivering comparable services and community initiatives.

Open Kitchen collects data on food interception and redistribution, the customers we serve, and the partners we work with. This information helps us measure our impact, understand community needs, strengthen collaborations, and evaluate how effectively we deliver our services compared to others in the sector.

We are looking for students who have strong data skills and a desire to work with a voluntary organisation that brings about real change.

This opportunity will be unique, as you will combine data analysis with first-hand experience working in a community-based organisation. You will deliver important research that can aid in tackling pressing issues across communities in Greater Manchester.

During your time with us, you will gain professional experience in data collection, analysis, and reporting, as well as using more complex software to visualise data. You will also gain valuable experience working in a voluntary sector organisation, developing non-data skills in the form of communication and presentation.

This promises to be a really rewarding and challenging opportunity this summer.

MORE ABOUT OPEN KITCHEN

Open Kitchen MCR CIC is a Manchester-based social enterprise that intercepts surplus food from suppliers and turns it into affordable, sustainable meals. It runs community kitchens, catering services, and training programs, reducing food waste while tackling food poverty, creating jobs, and promoting environmental awareness across Greater Manchester communities.

PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS

Organisation and Team
Research

Working Arrangement
In person

Selection Method
Interviews will be held online (via Teams)

SUPPORT AND TRAINING

- Alongside working with Open Kitchen, you will be supported by full-time researchers and data analysts based in Greater Manchester Combined Authority's research team. They are a dynamic team of researchers working across a variety of policy areas and with expertise in a wide range of research methods and tools.

APPLICATION CRITERIA

ESSENTIAL

- Knowledge and use of Microsoft Office applications (e.g., Excel, PowerPoint).
- Understanding of statistics and use of data, with an ability to undertake quantitative analysis.
- A strong social conscience, committed to supporting communities across Greater Manchester.
- Able to work in Greater Manchester during the summer 2026.

DESIRABLE

- Experienced in the use of Tableau or other data visualisation software for data analysis and presentation.
- Knowledge of, and interest in, the work of VCFSE organisations.
- An understanding of data from official and unofficial sources.

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