



Oswin  
Project

# Impact Report

2024 & 2025



# In Numbers

**6**

Enterprises operated by the Oswin Project

**4.9\***

Tripadvisor & Google Reviews for Cafe 16

**2**

New Enterprises opened

**412**

Prisoners and prison leavers supported

**<4%**

Reoffending rates among Oswinners

**15,320**

Hours of employment for Oswinners

**5,320**

Hours of Volunteering

**26**

Qualifications gained by prisoners in HMP Northumberland

**70%**

Of our staff have Criminal Records

**29,100**

Cups of Coffee served

**120kg**

Fresh produce grown by prisoners

**24,000**

Pies made in our Bakery



**“Being employed by  
the Oswin Project has  
given me the  
opportunity to provide  
financial support for  
my children, which is  
a massive bonus for  
me”**

An Oswinner



# Changing Perceptions

## UCL Center for Education & Justice

The Oswin Project co-organised “Building Hope: the future of education in the criminal justice system” at UCL’s Institute of Education in September 2024.

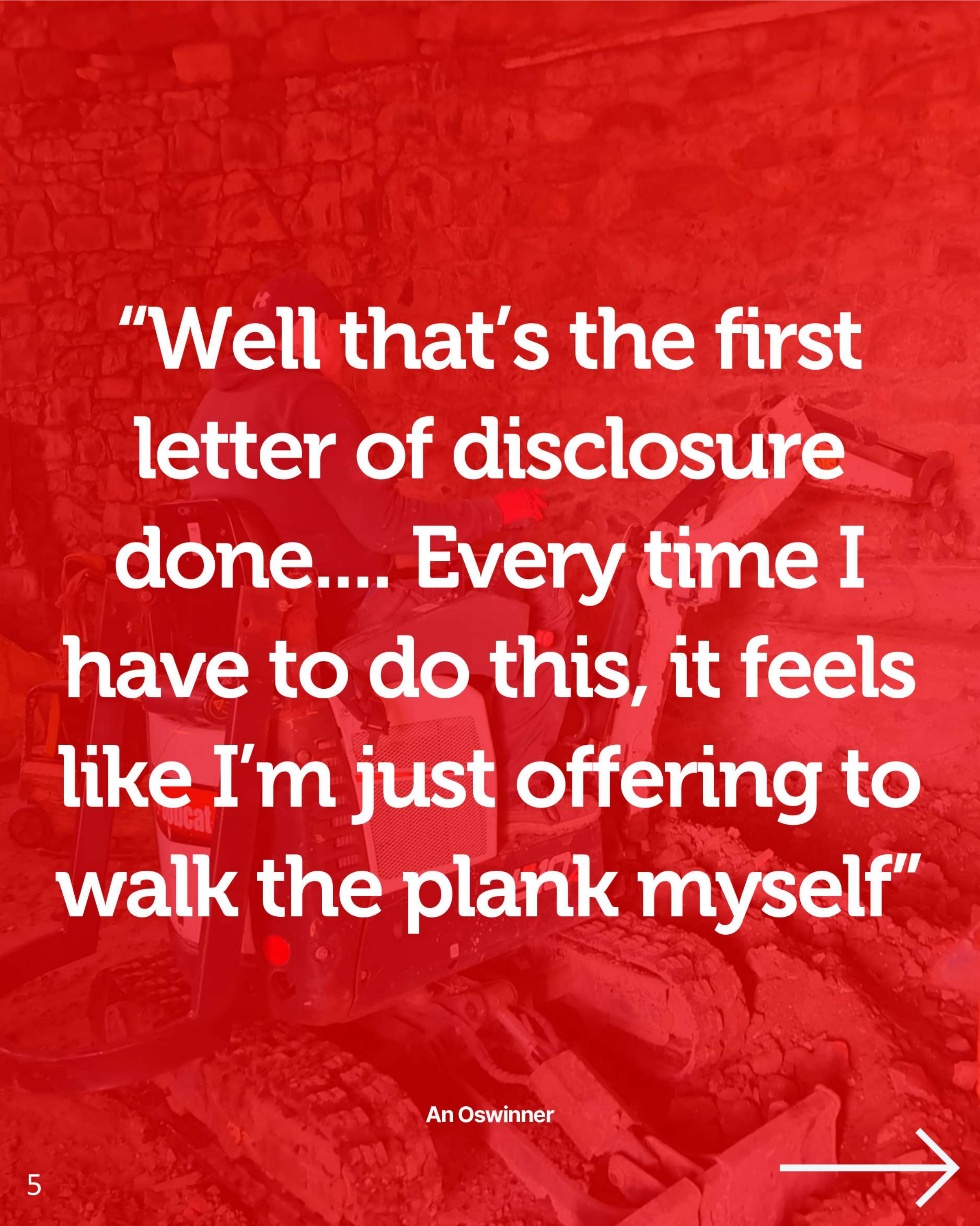
## University Partnerships

The Oswin Project hosts psychology students from Northumbria, Newcastle and Sunderland universities for placements. We have also supported researchers from Durham, Bath and Nottingham Trent.

## Volunteering

The Oswin Project provided 5,320 volunteer hours for people with criminal records, offering vital stepping stones between training and employment.





**“Well that’s the first letter of disclosure done.... Every time I have to do this, it feels like I’m just offering to walk the plank myself”**

An Oswinner



# Cafe 16

## HMP Northumberland

**36+**

People mentored, supported and trained over the last year

**14,600**

Estimated annual bread loaves produced

**8,500**

individual cakes baked annually

**500**

Pies produced per week

Cafe 16 in HMP Northumberland is a cafe-bakery run by prisoners, training 15 -20 Oswinners each year in commerical baking and food safety. It supplies the baked goods for Cafe 16 in Newcastle Cathedral, and the farm shop along with a growing list of local businesses.



# Cafe 16

## Newcastle Cathedral

**6,200**

Hours of paid employment

**500kg**

Coffee beans used

**91.3%**

Of customers rated service quality as “excellent”

**36**

Short term work placements provided

Cafe 16 in Newcastle Cathedral is our flagship hospitality venue, serving thousands of visitors annually while spanning the gap between prison training and community employment.





**“The Oswin Project has been a massive help getting over these hurdles and they have supported me into employment. Chris has been a massive support and has helped me with opening a bank account”**

An Oswinner



# Inside & Out

**5,200**

Hours of paid employment

**6**

Men employed in the team

**430**

Volunteer hours offered to  
prison leavers

**12**

Men volunteered with the  
team

Inside & Out provides year-round paid employment and training in rural crafts for men leaving prison, led by people with lived experience who understand the challenges of reintegration. The team works for landowners, estate management and companies across Northumberland.



# Growing Out Farm Shop

**1,296**

Customer visits throughout the year

**22**

Volunteers



**120kg**

Fresh produce grown by prisoners

**305**

Plants cultivated and sold

Growing Out Farm Shop gives people leaving prison the chance to develop practical skills in horticulture, food production and retail, working alongside staff with lived experience of the justice system. The shop sells fresh produce, plants and locally sourced goods to the public from its base in Northumberland.



A photograph of a construction site with scaffolding and workers, overlaid with a large white text quote. The background is a warm, orange-tinted image of a building under construction, showing wooden beams and scaffolding. Several workers wearing blue hard hats and dark clothing are visible on the site. The text is centered and reads: "Since achieving my Cytech technical two qualification, I can't wait to take it further and progress to technical three and e-bike training, it has really sparked my interest"

**"Since achieving my  
Cytech technical two  
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it has really sparked my  
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An Oswinner



# Changing the Cycle Bike Shop

**30**

Level 1 bicycles services completed

**40**

Bicycles restored, refurbished and sold

**8**

Qualifications gained by staff and volunteers

**5**

Volunteers

In our shop we employ an apprentice, supervised by Activate Cycle Academy. We provide volunteering opportunities to people, and they can complete qualifications through Cytech. The bikes that are refurbished by our Volunteers are donated to local charities, in partnership with Recirculate.



# Market Gardens HMP Northumberland

**38**

Oswinners engaged in growing produce and plants

**3**

Prisoners supported to start RHS Level 2 Horticulture courses

**40**

Items of garden and indoor furniture made in the workshop

**4**

Prisoners working in the woodworking workshop

Working with Sodexo at HMP Northumberland's Market Gardens, we engage 20 Oswinners in growing produce and plants that supply our farm shop and other enterprises. This hands on training teaches valuable horticultural skills.



# Direct Mentoring

**412**

Individuals directly supported by our team

**18**

Months is the average length of time that support is provided

**66**

People supported into employment or training

**65%**

Of Oswinners secured employment within 6 months

The Oswin Project provides one-to-one support with CVs, job searching, training and advice on disclosing criminal records. We partner with other organisations for housing and mental health support when needed.



# Partners

Newcastle Cathedral  
Sodexo  
Junction 42  
Northumbria County  
Council  
NEPACS  
Keir  
Optimum Skills  
Newcastle College  
Tyne Group  
Connected Voice

Northumberland CVA  
SSAFA  
Handcrafted  
Ingeus  
The Recruitment  
Junction  
Connected Voice  
High Sheriff of  
Northumberland  
North East Probation



# Funders

Swire Charitable Trust

Scottish Power

Foundation

Lloyds Bank Foundation

for England & Wales

Garfield Weston

Foundation

Bromley Trust

Northumberland Estates

Pease Charitable Trust

Centre for Social Justice

Fyrish Foundation

The Rank Foundation

Sir James Knott Trust

Community Foundation

for Tyne & Wear and

Northumberland

Horseman Trust

Barbour Foundation

Platton Family Trust

O'Flaherty Foundation

Tudor Trust

Weavers Company

Benevolent Fund

Hadrian Trust

Shears Foundation

Kelly Family Charity

Forrester Family Charity

Mercer's Company

Charles Hayward

Foundation

Reece Foundation

Finnis Scott Foundation

Joicey Trust

R W Mann Trust

St Hilda's Trust

Steve and Christine Convey

Fund