

What is IQL?

Our improving Quality of Life Project (IQL) is our newest local service, providing financial and emotional support for people with MS in Bolton, Manchester and Salford.

We are working in partnership with Citizens Advice Manchester and have developed a service to support around 520 people with MS.

Our objectives are to:

- improve emotional wellbeing
- improve access to dedicated advice
- improve support in relation to financial security, employment and housing issues.



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Improving
Quality of
Life



We are the MS Society

MS Society is a community of people that pool their experience, expertise and voices to drive change and help people live more positively with MS. By coming together, we can provide care, share support, collectively campaign and commission life-changing research – all of which help us face the future with more confidence.

What is MS

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a condition of the central nervous system. In MS, the body's immune system, attacks the nerves in the brain and spinal cord by mistake. The coating around nerve fibres (called myelin) is damaged.

We don't know the cause and we haven't yet found a cure, but research is progressing fast.

For more information visit mssociety.org.uk

Facts about MS



Over **2,300,000** people around the world have MS



100,000 of us in the UK have MS



MS affects almost **three** times as many women as men

Improving Quality of Life in Manchester, Bolton and Salford

MS is an unpredictable condition that affects more than 100,000 people in the UK. It's different for everyone, but can cause problems with how you walk, move, see, think and feel.

People with MS have told us that emotional support, social support and financial support are the 3 things that they most need help with and as a result of this we have developed the IQL service.

Funded by a grant from the National Lottery Community fund, the IQL service will support people with MS across Bolton, Manchester and Salford for 2 years.

Dedicated advisors from CAM will offer you a bespoke service including advice around benefits, debt, employment and housing. We will also help you access our grants as part of the service.

You will receive trained information and a dedicated support volunteer will be available to listen to you and understand your needs.



How can I get involved?

Do you live in Bolton, Manchester or Salford? Do you have MS? Would you like to receive support with your finances, want to improve your quality of life and how you feel? We are here for you. There are different ways you can get in touch:

- Contact Mark Pritchard or Mia Tamarin (contact at the back of the leaflet)
- Call our MS Society Helpline team. Our contact details are at the back of the leaflet.
- Visit our network of six groups or contact Citizens Advice Manchester.

Referrals will be made by MS Nurses, Therapy Centres, Manchester Health Referral Hub. People needing the project's support will be registered onto the pilot, or signposted to suitable external services.

You will then be contacted by one of our Information and Support Volunteers who will get to know you better, ask you questions so we agree what support you want from us. Our volunteers can then refer you to a specialist support from Citizens Advice Manchester, help you access one of our grants or join the activities provided by our local groups.