**Lines to take:**

1. MtW is a not-for-profit coalition of UK employers and civil society committed to reducing the UK youth unemployment rate and, more importantly, transforming the lives of young people.
2. Founded in 2013, MtW has focused on providing high-quality work experience placements and other job opportunities to 16-30 year olds who are NEET. This mechanism is a proven tool in breaking the vicious cycle of ‘no experience, no job, no experience’ that is hindering so many from stepping on to the career ladder.
3. To date, over 90,000 workplace opportunities have been delivered by MtW members across the UK. With 56% of those who completed the programme progressing into jobs and apprenticeships, or returning to education.
4. MtW recognises that employers are in a unique position to bring about lasting change – by creating opportunities that can unlock the potential of young people and mitigate against the economic cost of youth unemployment in the UK. As such, we’re looking to encourage likeminded employers to join the Movement. Current members represent a diverse mix of industry sectors, including engineering, retail, financial services, and hospitality.
5. The strategic direction and governance of MtW is overseen by a Steering Group, composing CEOs and senior leaders from Accenture, BAE Systems, Barclays, BT, CBI, Centrica, Diageo, Marks & Spencer, Marriott, The Civil Service, The Prince’s Trust, The TUC and Tesco. Their support ensures that the Movement is sustainably funded and resourced, meaning there is no cost attached to the wider membership.
6. Supporting young people into employment has a strong economic benefit, both in terms of taxes paid, lower benefit claims, a reduction in demand on the health system and correlation with a reduction in crime. When looking at that holistically, the placements and jobs delivered can be equated to over £1 billion of positive impact to the UK.
7. MtW can also act as an integral recruitment tool to build a sustainable and diverse talent pipeline. When sourced through the right partners the cohort participating in employability programmes will match the demographic of the communities in which an employer’s operations are based. The MtW stats from 2018 show that the young people we work with represent the NEET community on gender (52% female) , disability (18% disabled) and ethnicity (18% Black, Asian or minority ethnicity).
8. There is also a direct benefit to employers. Accenture’s study into the financial performance of the NHS employability programme, demonstrated a return of 2.5 times on every £1 spent and a breakeven threshold of 19 months. Specific benefits were listed in reduced turnover (9%), reduced absence (2%) and increased staff commitment. Also, 80% of hiring managers considered the initiative to have had a positive impact.
9. MtW provides a platform to meaningfully embed social purpose into the business model. Likewise, it actively demonstrates that an organisation is fostering social mobility by creating opportunities for young people who have encountered barriers to the world of work. There is also a positive impact for existing employees, as participating in the initiative develops their skills in line management, public speaking and mentoring.