Social Responsibility
Making for Change

■ **Vision**

We believe that fashion shapes lives. Through our Making for Change programme, we’re turning belief into action. And action into opportunity.

■ **Focus**

Making for Change helps people gain hands-on fashion manufacturing skills, industry recognised qualifications – and later, jobs in the manufacturing industry.

Making for Change shows that fashion has the power to change lives.

■ **Aims**

- Educate women with strong technical knowledge and high-quality manufacturing skills to enable them to become employable upon release and in so doing give them the confidence to change their futures.
- Develop the business model through unique partnerships with designers, charities and the social enterprise sector.
- Work in a flexible way to support new and emerging designers and entrepreneurs.
- Promote the “Made in the UK” campaign through the development of high-quality products.
Making for Change
Downview
Established by the Ministry of Justice and London College of Fashion, UAL in 2014, Making for Change is a vocational training and manufacturing initiative.

Working with local communities in east London and women in prison, we aim to break barriers to employment and challenge the way in which the industry designs and manufactures.

- Over 190 women have engaged with the unit since it opened in 2014
- The unit has completed over 80 commercial orders making over 10,000 products
- The project has awarded 54 women with Level 1 Fashion and Textiles and 15 women with Level 2.
Making for Change

Since leaving HMP:

**Participant A** has had two manufacturing related jobs having learnt these skills in Making for Change.

**Participant B** has been working freelance for customers.

**Participant C** has signed up to UAL Artstems which means she is able to be employed on a freelance basis. She has worked assisting the team in delivering community projects, has been employed by an LCF alumna designer, and is now temporarily employed on the technical team.

**Participant D** has been employed by LCF in the technical team and is in charge of one of the stockrooms on site. She has since returned to Downview as a motivational speaker, highlighting how MFC has benefitted her.

**Participant E** is studying Business at University whilst still working freelance as a machinist.

**Participant F** is setting up her own business.

**Participant G** has been employed by the technical team at LCF on ROTL.

They have since left HMP and will be employed in a permanent technical role at LCF.

LCF has employed 5 Release On Temporary Licence (ROTL) placements.
Supporting female ex-offenders

“Release on Temporary Licence (ROTL) built my confidence, gave me hope, improved my skills, which I am still building on. There are no downers on ROTL whatsoever. It is a gateway to rehabilitation and reducing re-offending”
Clients

LCF ALUMNI

- Bethany Williams
- Afterworks
- Kim Print
- Marmaduke
- Terracotta Row

INDUSTRY

- Savage is Salvation
- Capellino Designs
- Earthos
- Fara Enterprises Ltd
- Georgia Bosson
- Kimberley Westwood
- Rosehip and Wild
- Fuller Associates Ltd
- Heresy
- Ella Sharp
- Aerende
- Catherine Ellis
- Josephine and Joe
- Luna and Curious
- Loonigans
- Circle Collective
- Also the Bison
- Crisis
Making for Change: Downview and Poplar Works

Providing industry accredited training, employment opportunities and enterprise support programmes, predominantly for women in prison and un-employed women in the community

Training Programme – MFC Downview and Poplar Works

- Engagement activities, pre-training and skills assessment
- Industry engagement informing relevant training and education
- A flexible Training programme for both Level 1 and for Level 2 – funded by external delivery partner
- Participants undertake industry recognized qualifications alongside on-the-job training
- Employers engage with local talent pool
- Trained by a team of industry professionals able to offer expertise and technical knowledge in learning and product development
- Project set up - External funding to support team of industry experts

Garment & Homeware Production - MFC Downview and Poplar Works

- A training unit which also operates as an industry standard CMT manufacturing service for the fashion and homeware industry.
- Offering a product development service to support new and emerging designers and entrepreneurs
- Providing a production alternative that is both local and socially responsible
- Promoting the 'Made in the UK' campaign through the development of high quality products
- Increasing commercial contracts to build income - towards a five year sustainability plan
- Any profit will be re-invested within the social enterprise
- Supporting graduates of the programme into work either within the Poplar Works project or the wider industry

Release on Temporary Licence (ROTL)

- An opportunity for women in prison to undertake a voluntary placement period leading to paid work experience - London College of Fashion, Poplar Works, wider industry.
- A supportive environment increasing self-confidence
- Be part of a team
- Funding supports 2 long-term or 4 short-term placements per year at LCF

Employment and Enterprise – Poplar Works

- Participants will be recruited from the training programmes in Downview or Poplar Works.
- Engagement with local employers through industry liaison with United Kingdom Fashion and Textiles Body (UKFT) providing wider access to employment
- Access to enterprise workshops within wider Poplar Works
- Access to and engagement with a vibrant, creative academic community
- Also produces items for commercial customers, providing participants with real work experience as part of training

- Addresses the skills shortage within the UK fashion manufacturing industry

*Ally Capellino aprons made in the unit*
As well as producing garments from scratch, we also **UPCYCLE**, creating brand new clothes from old ones!

*Ragged Priest clothing made in the unit*
Aims

- Defining Poplar as a key component of the Fashion District
- Creating new opportunities for fashion industry workspace
- Improving the aspirations of the local community
- Supporting a culture and cycle of regeneration, innovation and growth
- Attracting new visitors and partnerships to the area, improving the local economy.
Poplar Works

Making for Change at Poplar Works
Poplar Works

Making for Change at Poplar Works
Social Enterprise

ENTERPRISE

- Innovating production methods
- Up-cycling, fabric consumption
- The Circular Economy
  - Production Management
  - Pattern-cutting
  - Design
  - Business
- Working with industry to co-create products
- Researching new technology and methods

CURRICULUM

- Making - Production - Innovation
- Creating an accessible ‘making’ space
- Encouraging students to innovate their practice
- Providing a space which evidences practice
Partnerships & Opportunities

- Collaborating, initiating & developing sustainable partnerships
  - UKFT
    Representative fashion industry body
  - Circle Collective
    A charity and social enterprise: Collaborative unit and production
  - Local Community
    Aberfeldy, Stitches in Time, Bromley-bow Centre,
  - San Patrignano
    Rehabilitation community in Italy
  - Ministry of Justice
    Collaborative Prison projects and ROTL support
  - Industry Partners
    Commercial clients and collaborative production

- Spearheading cutting edge research & Innovation
  - Rehabilitation and returning citizens
    Research to determine value of making for change and employment opportunities alongside aspirations.
  - Craft and Well-being
    The value of craft and building communities
  - The Circular Economy: Innovation in production
  - Technical Innovation
    Technology needed for up-cycling

- Transforming life chances, empowering local people
  - Traces
    Community embroidery project exploring migration history
  - 1000 Coats
    Developing skills, building local partnerships, skills sharing
  - Making for Change: Downview
    Skills development for women prisoners
  - Making for Change: Poplar Works
    Manufacturing hub, Traces, qualifications
  - Mending for Good
    Embroidery enterprise, up-cycling knitwear

- Driving local economic growth & prosperity
  - Fashion District
    Opening of first Fashion District hub as part of Waltham Forest Borough of Culture
  - Making for Change Waltham Forest
    Manufacturing, community, education
  - Poplar Works
    Upskilling, accredited qualifications, Employability, Accredited qualifications
IMPACT

- Increased opportunity for women to access industry accredited training and skills development
- Increased social connectedness and belonging to community
- Increased industry involvement in shaping training and manufacturing education
- Improved employment routes and improved industry and community relationships
- Increased recruitment of women into the fashion and manufacturing industry
- Increased employability opportunity for women through social enterprises, freelance and skills sharing
Please contact:

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