



'Making a Mark'

Mark Holder Social Impact Declaration

Cockpit Arts

Cockpit Arts is an award winning social enterprise and the only UK business incubator for craftspeople, housing up to 170 small businesses at our two centres in central and south London.

As a Social Enterprise, our services and studio spaces are offered to craftspeople at affordable rates. Any profit made is reinvested to support those most in need.



We support craft practitioners at the start of their careers, as well as those who are more established, to grow and build successful and thriving businesses both in the UK and internationally. We work with a wide range of talented individuals, including master craftspeople, artist-makers, batch producers and more scalable businesses.

The Social Enterprise Mark criteria includes a requirement for all applicants and renewing Mark Holders to provide 'social impact statements', which illustrate how they are striving to meet their social/environmental objectives. Below are examples of how **Cockpit Arts** is Making a Mark, striving to make a difference to society:

Social inputs – supporting independent craftspeople

Our business incubation services comprise workspace, on site business coaching and business support workshops, selling and promotional opportunities, as well as referral to specialist advisors and access to finance. We also work with hundreds of other craft businesses based in other parts of the UK and overseas through our training workshops and consultancy arm, as well as remotely via our online resources. Our activities focus on supporting independent craftspeople:

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- Recruiting talented craftspeople from all backgrounds
- Providing quality workspace combined with creative and business development support, enabling craftspeople to develop
- Measuring growth and development of craft maker practice and businesses, to evidence the impact of Cockpit's work
- Becoming a self-financing social enterprise, able to generate surpluses to be invested back into meeting our social mission

Social outputs – measures of support

During 2015, **19** makers were accepted into incubators, with **14** of these being awarded bursaries on a full or match fund basis provided by charitable trusts or corporate sponsors. Of these, **3 young people** were referred by The Prince's Trust onto the Creative Careers Programme, which provides a fast track entry route to a craft career.

We worked with **12** makers based in studios outside of Cockpit Arts, along with **64** in-house participants in the European Regional Development Fund-financed programme, New Creative Markets; a professional development programme designed to help artists, designers and designer makers increase the sales of their work and achieve greater sustainability.



Social outcomes of activities

- Our makers report average profits that are higher than the national average figures reported by the Craft Council
- A Social Return on Investment study on our Access to Finance scheme showed that for every £1 invested, we produce **£3.36 in social outcomes**
- During 2015, Cockpit Arts was in the top 5.4% of organisations in the NatWest SE100 index for measuring and demonstrating social impact
- Annual saving to the public purse as a result of our Creative Employment Programmes is around **£425k**

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