



'Making a Mark'

Mark Holder Social Impact Declaration

Hope Enterprises CIC

Hope Enterprises is a vibrant local social enterprise doing good in Northamptonshire, using business to improve society and the lives on vulnerable individuals.

We are part of the Hope Group, which is led by Northampton Hope Centre; a charity with more than 40 years' experience working with the town's homeless, poor and excluded.



We offer training and work opportunities to people affected by homelessness, drugs, alcohol, poverty, mental health and other disadvantage, in our range of small businesses. All profits are re-invested into the company or our parent charity.

The Social Enterprise Mark criteria includes a requirement for all applicants and renewing Mark Holders to answer a set of social impact questions, which illustrate how they are striving to meet their social/environmental objectives. Below are examples of how **Hope Enterprises** is Making a Mark, striving to create a positive impact on people and planet.

Helping people get back on their feet

We help disadvantaged people get back on their feet through training and work experience. We also provide affordable food, some of which we grow ourselves, some of which would otherwise go to landfill.

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Below are our key aims and objectives:

- We aim to improve the employability of people a long way from the job market, who are affected by serious barriers
- We aim to generate funds for re-circulation within the community we work in – i.e. money spent on food
- We aim to provide useful services to the community – e.g. cheap food for people in need, cheap, recycled tools to grow food
- We strive to have an environmental impact – reducing landfill, recycling, reducing food miles, reducing food waste
- We strive to improve health and reduce food poverty

Creating benefits for people and planet

People who attend our training, volunteering or work experience obtain skills, confidence and grow in self-esteem, which makes them more employable and have a greater sense of wellbeing. Some are also enabled to get jobs.

The local community also benefits by these people being moved away from dependency and towards work, which reduces health and offending issues and the associated burden to these services. Local people's disposable income is also improved by supplying food at lower prices.

The environment benefits from diversion from landfill of food and tools, and growing food locally.



Reinvesting income to deliver social value

Every penny raised by Hope is spent in Northampton or creates more services for its residents. It purely benefits our service users and customers.

The confidence gained by working in a supportive workplace, even as volunteers, is incalculable; the sense of being involved in a project that does good for the community is of considerable added value.

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