



# OUR SOCIAL IMPACT

2020-2021 A YEAR IN DATA

## WELCOME BY OUR CHAIR AND CEO

I'm proud to present to you our impact report for 2020/21. This year saw us to continue to adapt and respond to the ever changing circumstances that we find ourselves. Yet again the strength of vision that we have as an organisation and the amazing leadership of our CEO has seen the organisation, not only adapt, but flourish.

There are a number of things that I would like to highlight to you. This year has seen the recruitment of three new Board members. Andy, Mo and Sally have joined us not only to breathe new life into our Board and bring their own unique experiences and skills set, but also to help us to achieve our growth ambitions, both commercially and as an ethical employer. The new Board members have already got stuck in, leading on items such as a remuneration group where we committed to being a living wage employer and working towards staff working a maximum of 4 days a week. We've also committed that the highest earner in the organisation should earn no more than 4 x than the most junior staff.

The Life of Ply project continues to gain momentum and will be a valuable addition to the We Make Places portfolio, not only in terms of the commercial opportunities and also the progression routes and support for learners.

Finally, I'm really proud to say that we have made it onto this years year's NatWest SE100 Index highlighting the UK's most outstanding social enterprises. This is a real testament to the amazing work that the whole team does day in and day out.

Toria Buzza  
Chair



Well, it feels like 'that was a challenging year' may become the new normal for us all. As we entered July 2020 our entire team were still predominantly working at home – and some were still furloughed part-time. By the time we ended our financial year we were all back at work and the shape of our income looked very different from previous years. This means our social impact looks different too this year, as there are some activities that we have not been able to return to yet. I predict that next years impact will be very different too as we start to build up our community engagement work again.

We have been very fortunate that during this year we have been able to gain the support of some new and existing funders, with a large percentage of our income being generated this way. The year before we generated over 80% of our own income and I was so proud of that achievement, but there is no shame needing to change our model in these extraordinary times. The support of funders has meant we have been able to continue to work with vulnerable client groups as well as spending some vital time working on our business and our future income models.

I am extremely excited about the work we have begun to develop a new consumer facing brand *The Life of Ply* which will not only generate future income, but will offer our learners a progression route for their skills. I am also excited to say that after around 18 months of searching we have finally found new premises which will provide our team and our learners with space to grow and work together. Our funders and social investors have helped us immensely with this; we wouldn't be looking forward to our post Covid recovery in a new space without them. This is a significant development as it will see us relocating from 2 premise (and my kitchen) into one space.

Kate Stewart  
Co-founder and CEO



# COMPANY INFORMATION (FOR Y/E JUNE 2021)

Company Number 09100476

Directors (2020-21) Toria Buzza:  
Mark Bennett:  
Mo Gnanalingham  
Sally Griffiths-Parry  
Andy Minnis  
Kate Stewart  
Steven Stewart

CEO Kate Stewart

Registered Office Studio 4  
12 Jordan Street  
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Urban Workbench Workshop 90 Rose Place  
Liverpool  
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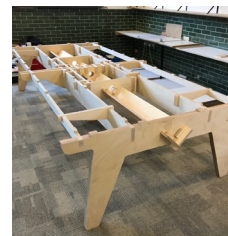
Bankers Santander

Accountants LCVS Community Accounting Services

Staffing CEO (0.8)  
UWB Creative Director (0.4)  
UWB Learning Programme Lead (0.6)  
Project Assistant (0.4)  
Plus some wonderful freelancers from creative and community backgrounds

Social Investment RBS Social & Community Capital  
KeyFund: Big Issue Invest

Grant Funding Arts Council England: City of Liverpool:  
RBS Social & Community Capital: UnLtd:  
Power to Change: European Social Fund



We Make Places is a Community Interest Company, based in Liverpool, UK which is writing, living and delivering a manifesto for change across the built environment in Merseyside and beyond

[www.wemakeplaces.org](http://www.wemakeplaces.org) [www.urbanworkbench.org](http://www.urbanworkbench.org) [www.themaverickcity.org](http://www.themaverickcity.org)

## THE ORGANISATION

**REFERRAL PARTNERSHIPS**

2

**29 SOCIAL MEDIA MENTIONS**

**8 PRESENTATIONS ABOUT OUR WORK AT SEMINARS OR CONFERENCES**

**2 FREELANCER STAFF MEMBERS**

**VISITING EXPERT WORKSHOPS & LECTURES DELIVERED AS A TEAM**

2

**14 STUDENTS SUPPORTED**

**The NatWest SE100 Index and Social Business Awards 2020**

**30 STAFF TRAINING DAYS**

**emmacookewrites @emmacookewrites · Nov 26, 2020**

Replying to @stxwelsh and @TSOTArts

No worries at all! I met the lovely @kateagogo while working on my dissertation about cultural regeneration in Liverpool a couple of years ago! She does some incredible work over at @wemakeplaces to reach communities outside the city centre - well worth a follow!

**FREELANCER DAYS**

267

**Social & Community Capital @SocComCap · Dec 23, 2020**

Day 23 & big day is nearly here!! Let me introduce you to the fantastic @kateagogo of @wemakeplaces who engages her clients with their #communities through a wide variety of activities. We know all about #CNCmachines & have event see one operate #purpose #purpose driven #socent

**ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN NETWORKS**

13

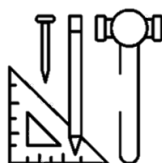
**159 HOURS RE-INVESTED INTO COMMUNITY PROJECTS**

## URBAN WORKBENCH



100% PARTICIPANTS SAID ART & MAKING SKILLS IMPROVED

AVERAGE 32% IMPROVEMENT

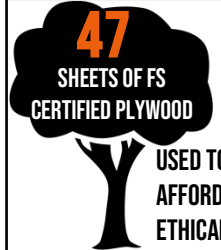


75% PARTICIPANTS SAID SELF CONFIDENCE IMPROVED

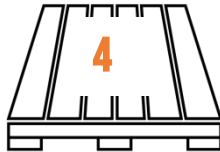
AV. 28% IMPROVEMENT



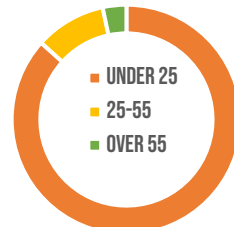
WASTE TIMBER DIVERTED FROM LANDFILL



USED TO MAKE AFFORDABLE ETHICAL FURNITURE



PALLETS REPURPOSED FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS



UWB PARTICIPANTS AGE SPLIT



VALUE OF COMMUNITY BUILDS

- 11 URBAN WORKBENCH SESSIONS
- 30 URBAN WORKBENCH PARTICIPANTS
- 2 COMMUNITY BUILDS
- 6 PEOPLE INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY BUILDS



8 LOCAL BUSINESSES SUPPORTED WITH DIGITAL MANUFACTURING



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**6**

COMMUNITIES SUPPORTED

**8**

NEIGHBOURHOOD REPORTS



COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED IN CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THEIR NEIGHBOURHOOD

**5**

LOCAL BUSINESSES SUPPORTED THROUGH THE PURCHASE OF MATERIALS

**13**

**622**

RESIDENTS INVOLVED IN CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THEIR NEIGHBOURHOOD

BOOKS SWAPPED

**125**

**8**

SPACES & PLACES IMPROVED BY OR FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS

SESSIONS HELD WITH COUNCILLORS TO LOBBY FOR NEIGHBOURHOODS

**4**

People are more connected

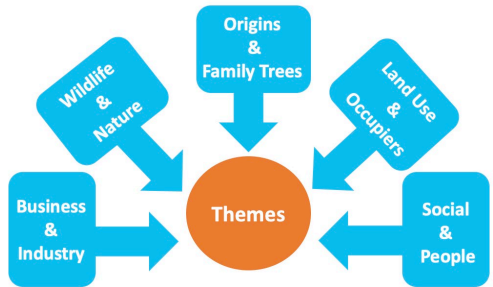
**6**

ART RELATED PROJECTS

**10**

PUBLIC EVENTS OR TEMPORARY SPACE INTERVENTIONS

**28** INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS & ACTIVISTS SUPPORTED





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