

THE SEWING ROOMS

Wow! It's been a whirlwind start to the year, and we couldn't be more excited. We've started some fantastic new projects, expanded our partnerships and have grown so much that we've moved into new premises (more details on our website)! We've also had the opportunity to meet and work with more of you and our extended community than ever before - we're incredibly appreciative!

The Skelmersdale Sew Fab Extravaganza



We're in the midst of running a series of road show events that will culminate in the creation of a magnificent tapestry community banner. Handmade by hundreds of individuals contributing ideas, colours and stitches, the

finished banner will celebrate all that makes Skelmersdale great! It will be unveiled at a community event and will be hung for public display in a local venue. We'll let you know when the locations for both are set.

***Sew Fab International
Women's Project***



Working with the [Skelmersdale Outreach Trust](#), Skem International and [West Lancs Council for Voluntary Service](#), the Sewing Rooms is delivering this mindful sewing project. Participants are upcycling clothing and creating a community patchwork banner and are a mix of long-time local residents and asylum seekers.

Changing Futures by Building Better Opportunities

A new Big Lottery Fund programme, Building Better Opportunities is matching European Social Fund

investment to promote social inclusion, drive local growth and tackle root causes of poverty. The Sewing Rooms is proud to have been chosen as one of 60 local delivery partners working with [Selnet](#) to improve our communities. We will have more information on this project as it develops.

Most Effective Collaboration

The [award](#) we recently won recognises our partnership with Panaz Fabrics, IKEA and John Lewis. Panaz donates roll end fabrics, which, when combined with John Lewis' debit stock, are worked into unique, upcycled creations. The Sewing Rooms also makes and alters curtains for IKEA Warrington and runs regular in-store craft and sewing sessions. We could not have done this without the support of our fantastic partners! Thank you!

Talent Match participants find employment

We are proud that eight of the young people that have completed our Talent Match program have already found employment. Our course combines hands-on education with more introspective wellbeing training that helps students progress towards employment, whether that is finding a job or creating their own small business. [Watch](#) what our tutors have to say about the amazing progress they saw in the students.



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