



# THE SMART WORKS LEEDS COLLECTIVE

Investing in the Women of Yorkshire

**Join our network of supporters**



## ABOUT SMART WORKS :

Smart Works Leeds is a charity based in LS9 which provides high quality interview clothing and coaching to women across Yorkshire, to prepare them for job interview success. Our mission is to give women the confidence they need to get the job, secure financial independence, and change the trajectory of their lives. We believe in the power of clothes and coaching to transform a woman's confidence.

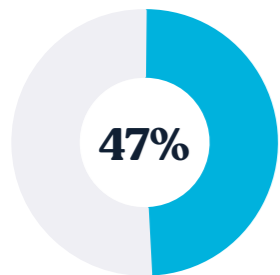
The women who come to Smart Works Leeds are referred by partners such as job centres, charities, community groups and prisons..

**It is our vision that any woman in Yorkshire that needs our support should be able to find her way to Smart Works Leeds.**

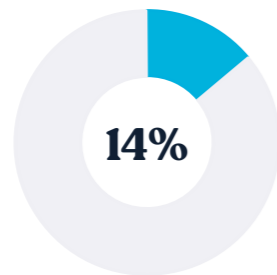


- 2013**  
North London,  
West London
- 2014**  
Edinburgh
- 2015**  
Manchester,  
Reading
- 2016**  
Birmingham
- 2018**  
Newcastle
- 2019**  
Leeds
- 2022**  
Glasgow
- 2023**  
South London,  
Manchester  
City Centre
- Target City**  
Liverpool,  
Bristol, Cardiff

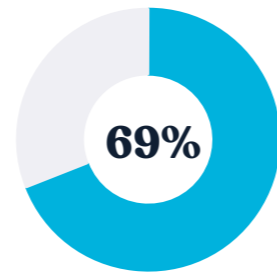
## OUR CLIENTS



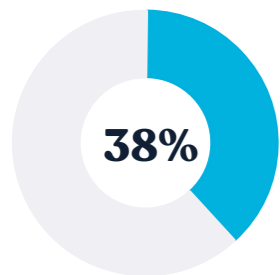
have been unemployed over 1 year



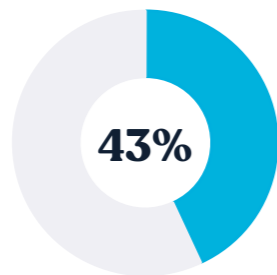
have applied for over 50 jobs



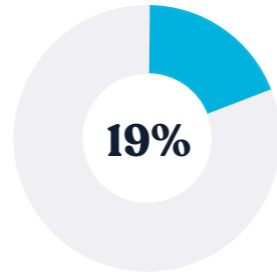
get the job within one month of their appointment



are lone parents



are from an ethnic minority



are disabled

# THE SMART WORKS LEEDS COLLECTIVE

The Smart Works Leeds Collective is a network of forward-thinking, dynamic and supportive Yorkshire individuals and businesses who have pledged to help our charity support unemployed women across the county into work. Collective members stand for equality and inclusivity. They believe that employment is key to transforming women's lives, that of their families, and communities.

Members of The Collective donate either £150pcm or £1500pa, vital contributions needed to run our services. In 2022 we helped 630 women find work. This year we aim to support 1,000 women. By joining The Collective, you can ensure we reach more of the women who need us.

## AS A MEMBER OF THE COLLECTIVE YOU WILL:

**1** Help us reach more clients and ensure more women who need us can access our service

**2** Raise awareness of our life-changing service

**3** Develop our network of supporters across Yorkshire



## IN RETURN YOU WILL RECEIVE :



**Spotlight feature within our newsletter that goes out to all our subscribers and corporate database**



**Access to a Smart Works spokesperson for an event**



**Regular networking events with other Collective members and Smart Works Leeds stakeholders**



**A dedicated corporate volunteering session for up to 8 people in the Leeds centre**



**A social media post signposting your organisation's support**



**Your logo on the Smart Works Leeds website on The Collective page**



**A personalised Thank You certificate for display in your office**



**A discount on event tickets or pre-access options**

**“My experience was amazing. Lovely staff, so positive and helpful. It’s a really good and empowering experience”**

Smart Works Client



## Meet Nicola

Nicola is a 44-year-old mum from Bradford. She was referred to Smart Works by Maximus, a local employment provision, after being a stay-at-home mum for more than 5 years. Nicola is a fantastic parent and feels incredibly passionate about caring for others thus her dream was to work as a nurse.

Smart Works helped her prepare for an interview as a Healthcare Assistant in a local hospital. Nicola had a bespoke interview coaching session, with a coach who had worked in the NHS, tailored to healthcare employment. Nicola was successful at that interview, and we welcomed her back for a second dressing where she picked out enough clothes to support her through to her first pay cheque

Six months later Nicola's employer paid for her to start a nursing qualification alongside work, and she is now on track to progress into her dream job! .

Nicola has become a client champion for us in Leeds and told us that starting work changed the trajectory of her life and the lives of her children. Nicola said **'I want to do something with my life, and Smart Works helped the confidence inside of me break out so that I could do that'**. Keep up the good work and don't let anything stop you, because there are plenty of people out there who want the opportunity to go out and get a job, but they don't know where to go or they don't have anything to wear to get a job. Smart Works are an awesome, really brilliant set of people. I am truly blessed to have had Smart Works help me in such a wonderful and marvellous way. Fantastic job.'

*Nicola*

Smart Works Client Champion

## Meet Fran

Fran is a 43-year-old single parent from Leeds, with a passion for supporting others and getting involved in community work. She had been out of work for quite some time when she was introduced to Smart Works by Women's Health Matters, a local women's organisation where she completed a course focussed on freedom after domestic violence.

Fran left everything when she fled an abusive relationship and has done tremendous work to change her life in the aftermath. We helped Fran pick a beautiful outfit ready for her interview with a local addiction charity as well as a dedicated coaching session tailored to the role. Fran was successful at interview so we invited her back to the centre for a second dressing, where she picked out a capsule wardrobe to support her through her first weeks at work. She is now working with Forward Leeds with whom she was a previous service user.

'I didn't know what to expect, but it was just brilliant. Smart Works really helped me. Coming out of a domestic violent relationship, I didn't have many choices and I had a low opinion of myself. Hearing that I looked good, and getting input from my dressers made me feel so much better. I was able to present myself in a professional manner at the interview which helped me secure the role. My dresser just got me! It completely changed my perception of myself. My coach was so knowledgeable. She put questions to me that I was actually asked in the interview. I got loads of tips and invaluable advice. I was able to talk about my fears and this resolved a lot of my anxiety. **Smart Works is empowering, life changing and a huge confidence builder.** It's an amazing, amazing service.'



*Fran*

Smart Works Client

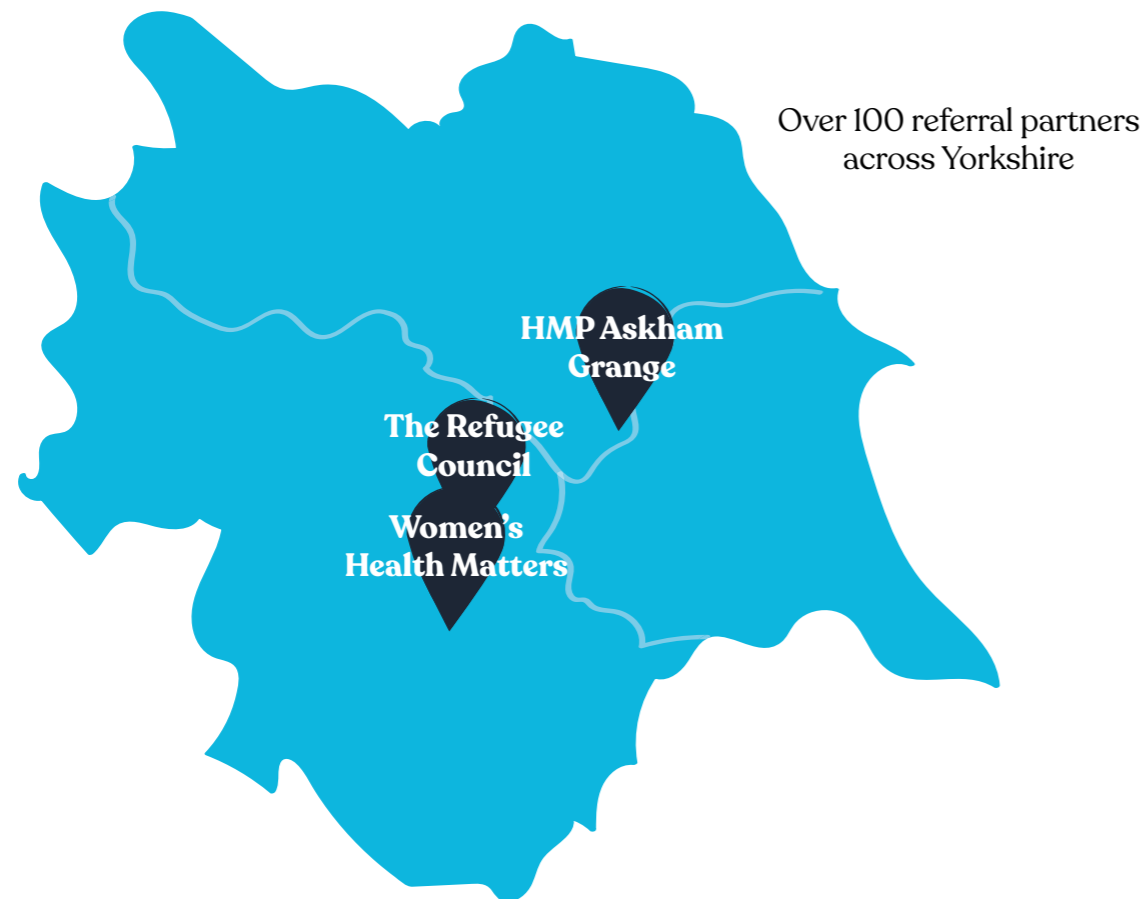
## OUTREACH AT SMART WORKS LEEDS

At Smart Works Leeds we work with a network of 100+ referral partners across Leeds, Bradford, Huddersfield, Dewsbury, York, Harrogate, Skipton and beyond. Every woman that attends an appointment is referred by an organisation that is supporting them. Our referral partners include both the women's prisons in Yorkshire, a variety of women's groups and charities, jobcentres, training providers and community centres.

Our outreach team attend team meetings to promote the service to advisors. They also run group sessions on confidence, job search and interview preparation, and provide one-to-one career coaching appointments to women in the community. Outreach staff attend jobs fairs and networking events with clients and staff from a variety of organisations, and they run outreach events to welcome clients into the Smart Works service. Without our outreach efforts, many women wouldn't be able to access Smart Works.

We are focussed on expanding our outreach activities so that any woman in Yorkshire can find her way to our centre.

- Women's Health Matters champions freedom for disadvantaged women and girls so they may have a fair chance at a better life.
- HMP Askham Grange is an open prison and young offender institution in York.
- The Refugee Council is a leading charity working with refugees and people seeking asylum in the UK.



*Smart Works clients who got the job and came back to the centre for a second dressing*



# Join today

"We chose Smart Works Leeds as our charity of the year because of the amazing work the charity does in helping women across the city achieve their employment goals and change their lives. What really stood out for Gordons was how the charity helped women restore the confidence they needed to either start their employment journey or get back into employment. The charity provides an incredible service kitting women out for an interview but they also really **dedicate time and effort into helping women feel confident when walking into an interview, which is invaluable.** We look forward to continuing to build the special relationship we have formed with Smart Works Leeds." *Rebecca D'Arcy from Gordons LLP*

**YOUR INVESTMENT: £150pcm or £1500p.a.**

### Make your donation today:

You can make a one-off donation by sending a cheque to Smart Works Leeds and posting it to Mill 5, Mabgate Mills, Macaulay Street, Leeds, LS9 7DZ. Alternatively, you can call us on 0113 234 6503 or email us at [Leeds.Fundraising@smartworks.org.uk](mailto:Leeds.Fundraising@smartworks.org.uk) to get our bank details.

### Thank you for your support






**SMART  
WORKS**  
LEEDS

**TELEPHONE: 0113 234 6503**

**EMAIL: LEEDS.FUNDRAISING@SMARTWORKS.ORG.UK**

CHARITY NUMBER: 1184676

MILL 5, MABGATE MILLS, MACAULAY STREET, LEEDS, LS9 7DZ

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