



HM Prison &
Probation Service

New Futures
Network

Commercial Partnerships



Who we are

—

New Futures Network is the specialist employment team within HM Prison & Probation Service. We connect businesses with prisons to create training, work and employment opportunities for serving prisoners and people leaving prison. Our role is to help employers access skilled, motivated workers while supporting rehabilitation and reducing reoffending.

Introduction

—

Prison workshops are not just about production they’re about people, skills and untapped potential. By partnering with New Futures Network, your business can access a motivated workforce to strengthen your supply chain and create real social value by helping to reduce reoffending.

This brochure sets out what prison workshops can offer your business, the different partnership models available, and the practical steps.

We are offering businesses the opportunity to expand their production inside secure facilities with our workshops. Designed for efficiency and reliability, these spaces provide a cost-effective solution for businesses seeking scalable operations.

What’s inside

03
The potential:
A workforce you need to consider

—

Discover a motivated talent pool operating to commercial standards, trusted by leading brands.

06
The Opportunity:
Skills, and social value =
commercial sense

—

What prison workshops already produce, the facilities available, the commercial benefit and social value of partnering with us.

09
Why it works:
For business

—

How workshops guarantee quality, reliability, and commercial benefits from recruitment pipelines to environmental, social, and governance value.

11
Partnership models:
Flexible ways to work together

—

Flexible options: Host workshops, Production outsourcing, or Public sector contracts.

14
Proven track record:
Partners making it work

—

Case studies of successful partnerships

15
Your next step:
From first call to first production

—

Practical details: Managing the process from start to finish.

17
Frequently asked questions

—

Short answers to the most common questions businesses ask.

The potential —

A workforce you need to consider

Across England and Wales, a highly skilled and reliable workforce is delivering quality goods and services every day — but it's a talent pool many businesses are not aware of.

Over 400 businesses and government departments are providing employment opportunities to serving prisoners within industries workshops. They also provide Release on Temporary Licence (ROTL) placements and jobs for prison leavers.

From precision manufacturing and assembly, to agriculture, textiles, and service-based roles, these workshops play an active role in national supply chains.

They supply cost-effective solutions for major household brands, public sector government departments, and specialist producers, helping to meet tight deadlines while upholding quality standards.

Working together is more than just outsourcing. It's a chance to expand your capacity while supporting social impact and economic growth.





The Opportunity —

Skills and social value = commercial sense

Our prison workshops already produce millions of items such as:

Assembly & packing — High-volume fulfilment and kitting work.	Precision-engineered metal components — Used in manufacturing, construction, or transport.	High-quality printed materials — Brochures, packaging, and promotional items.
Fashion & textiles — Garments and design pieces for retail and fashion.	Bespoke joinery — Retail fixtures, shopfitting elements, and display units.	Agricultural output — Milk, dairy, forestry, and tree planting.
Call centre services — Customer support, data entry, and admin tasks.	Laundry & catering — Large-scale cleaning and food preparation.	Custom-built office furniture — Desks, shelving, and workstations for business and kitting work.

And our clients span government departments, multinational corporations and local manufacturers.

Our partnership means, your business can:

Access trained talent

—

People develop trade skills directly relevant to your industry, ready to contribute from day one.

Achieve commercial goals

—

This is an opportunity to meet commercial goals and deliver measurable social value.

Use industry-standard facilities

—

We operate with commercial-grade machinery, tools, and processes.

Contribute to positive change

—

Every contract supports rehabilitation, reducing reoffending and building safer communities.

Meet your production needs

—

From short runs to large-scale contracts, we can flex to your requirements.

Cost effective and scalable

—

Existing customers often grow to operate over multiple sites because the model works for their business.





Why it works —
For business

Every workshop is run by experienced, qualified instructors who ensure that quality, safety, and deadlines are met. Our structured environment means we can guarantee output that is consistent, dependable, and ready to integrate seamlessly into your supply chain.

Businesses consistently report additional benefits:

		
Stronger recruitment pipelines	Reduced recruitment costs	Enhanced Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) credentials
—	—	—
Early engagement allows you to spot motivated, skilled individuals who could join your workforce upon release.	Hiring people you've already worked with lowers turnover and training expenses.	Demonstrating social impact can strengthen bids, tenders, and customer relationships.

It's a commercial solution that works on the balance sheet.

Partnership models —

Flexible ways to work together

We offer several models to fit your operational needs:

Host Workshops

—

Your business funds and manages a dedicated workshop inside a prison. You control production while often offsetting costs.

Production Outsourcing

—

HMPPS manages production on your behalf in our existing facilities, delivering goods or services to your specifications.

Public Sector
Government Contracts

—

Dedicated production lines for government contract needs, such as camouflage nets for the armed forces or sandbags for emergency services.

—

Whichever model you choose, you'll have access to secure facilities, motivated labour, and a supportive project team from start to finish. We have a wide range of workshops delivered by dedicated teams, ensuring top-quality experiences.

—

These opportunities are in high demand – secure your place today and register now on the New Futures Network.

newfuturesnetwork.gov.uk

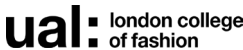




Proven track record —

Partners making it work

Our partnerships demonstrate the diversity and quality of what can be achieved:



Employer Voices: Testimonials on hiring with New Futures Network

“LMB Supplies Ltd has been partnering NFN and prison industries for around 30 years, utilising their vast range of industrial facilities and workshops to support production for our textile recycling business.

“Our relationship is founded on the benefits for both parties and more recently, the opportunity to create social impact by helping some prison leavers into great jobs on release”.

—

Ross Barry

Director LMB Supplies Ltd

“Our partnership with New Futures Network is a testament to what can be achieved when organisations come together with a shared purpose and goals.

“By working with New Futures Network, we’re not only offering prison leavers a genuine opportunity to rebuild their lives through meaningful employment, but we’re also helping to strengthen our communities and the wider hospitality workforce.”

—

Nick Mackenzie

CEO Greene King

Your next step —

From first call to first production

Setting up a prison-based workshop is straightforward and usually takes 2–3 months, depending on your equipment requirements. Our dedicated team will support you through every stage:

- Conducting credit and compliance checks to meet legal and security requirements.
- Recruiting and training your in-prison team for the roles you need.
- Preparing facilities, installing equipment, and managing a smooth operational launch.

Workshop space is in high demand. If you have an opportunity and would like to find out more.

Register your interest today at newfuturesnetwork.gov.uk



Frequently asked questions

1. Will working with prisons affect my brand reputation?	4. What support will my business receive from New Futures Network and prisons?
—	—
No, many leading businesses already partner with prisons from Wates to Timpson and Muller. Far from being a reputational risk, involvement demonstrates strong corporate social responsibility, commitment to sustainability, and tangible social value.	You won't be left to figure things out alone. New Futures Network provides a Business Account Manager to guide you through each step, from scoping requirements to setting up workshops. Inside prisons, industry instructors and HMPPS staff oversee training, quality assurance, and day-to-day operations. This support ensures your investment runs smoothly.
2. Why should my business get involved?	5. What are the costs to my business?
—	—
Commercial benefit. You gain access to a motivated and skilled workforce, expand your supply chain capacity, and demonstrate clear social impact by reducing reoffending. Evidence shows that prisoners who secure work within a year of release are significantly less likely to reoffend.	In a host workshop, businesses cover wages for staff and prisoners plus some overheads, in return for goods/services produced. In a production model, you pay for outsourced work as you would with any supplier. New Futures Network ensures arrangements are commercially sustainable.
3. What kind of work can be done in prison workshops?	6. How is it quality assured?
—	—
Workshops cover a wide range: packing, assembly, manufacturing, textiles, print, call centres, recycling, farming, and more. Businesses can run dedicated host workshops inside prisons or outsource specific production tasks.	Prison industries are overseen by experienced instructors. Many workshops already meet industry standards. Businesses often provide specialist tools and training to ensure outputs meet their specifications.

Contact details

7. Are there security or compliance requirements?	Visit New Futures Network website to register your interest, outline your needs, and arrange a site visit.
—	newfuturesnetwork.gov.uk
Yes. Any external supervisors/instructors must complete vetting. All workshop activity is subject to prison security procedures. Contracts also require businesses to pass standard credit checks.	Already working with prisons?
8. Can prisoners work for us after release?	Contact your prison lead to discuss expansion or new opportunities.
—	
We hope so. Employers are encouraged to offer jobs or work placements to prisoners they've trained inside. Release on Temporary Licence (ROTL) may also allow prisoners to work outside prison before release, helping smooth transition into full employment.	



HM Prison &
Probation Service

New Futures
Network