



Sarah Miller is Chief Executive of The Millin Charity, a progressive community development organisation which provides services to a culturally diverse local population. The charity has been supporting people living in the lowest 10% areas of deprivation, and experiencing high levels of social and economic isolation, in the West End of Newcastle since 1999, and more recently in neighbouring Gateshead.

Sarah has led the transformation of the charity's delivery approach in response to the changing needs of the local community. In 2014, following a successful 2 year pilot and extensive consultation with local women, the charity's flagship project [Local Women Local Enterprise](#) was launched to respond to increasing demand from local women, and a recognition that women face the most significant barriers to economic independence.



Through Local Women Local Enterprise, enterprise is becoming recognised as an accessible route for women who have been isolated, under-represented or marginalised in some way to learn, to grow confidence in their own skills and talents, and to work together to achieve real and sustainable progression and ultimately economic independence. LWLE engages women in a series of enterprise-based training taster sessions, workshops and training courses, most of which are now accredited to Level 1 and 2, and provides access to trial trading opportunities through community markets and pop-up stalls. Personal progression is reinforced through actively enabling women to develop social capital, to share knowledge and resources, and to support their peers.

Having worked for a local Charity that supported families and children with healthy eating and exercise, Sarah joined The Millin Charity in 2009. Since then she has led the Charity's transformation to become a service that has the backing of the local community, a wide range of sponsors, a committed staff team and a supportive Board of Trustees.

During 2016 the charity changed its name to more effectively represent its work, relocated to a more fit-for purpose community venue, and developed a new business model for the future. Sarah is now planning the next phase of evolution of the organisation, to further its expansion across the North East, and developing strategic plans to further deepen local impact whilst also working towards long-term sustainability.



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