

The Whole Point.

Impact report

2025-2026



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The UK's female leaders are proving that determination outperforms the odds.

Only 2% of equity funding goes to women-led businesses, and more than half of that never leaves London.

Despite this, women-led businesses outperform other businesses in average turnover growth, revenue per pound invested, job creation, social responsibility, and more.

As leaders, women are showing us that they can do more with less.

Successful women-led businesses exist across the UK, but the funding system doesn't serve them — yet. Imagine what these leaders could achieve if more funding flowed their way.

£310 billion could be added to the UK economy if women-led businesses were supported to scale.

When you back women, the whole economy grows. Everyone wins.

That's The Whole Point.



The Whole Point

is a UK-wide, data-driven initiative to increase funding to women-led businesses, sponsored by Lloyds.

We measure impact across dimensions that reflect real barriers faced by high-growth women-led businesses seeking to scale:

- **Visibility** - We identify and celebrate high-growth women-led businesses as role models for other female leaders.
- **Access to funds** - We help connect female leaders to funds with a high-growth women-led focus.
- **Investment share** - We aim to increase the total funds invested in high-growth women-led businesses outside of London.
- **Strategic networks** - We build mission-aligned communities and launch new initiatives to support high-growth women-led businesses in our regions.

2025 was the year we turned ambition into infrastructure, building the foundation for systemic change.

2025: the building blocks of systemic, nationwide change

We established:

- Five regional boards in Birmingham, Leeds, Liverpool, Newcastle, and Edinburgh
- A regional accelerator for high-growth women-led businesses
- Ways of making high-growth women-led businesses more visible (our 'role models')
- A community of high-growth women business leaders supported with thousands of hours of targeted guidance.

And working with the Invest in Women Taskforce, we supported and helped shape the national data taxonomy.

78

139% of our target

role models identified

8

new initiatives launched

27

180% of our target

events delivered

76

active board members

11

275% of our target

funds engaged

334

women-led businesses supported

Regional spotlights

The Whole Point operates through five regional boards to ensure that funding, data, and decision-making for high-growth women-led businesses reaches beyond London.

Each board has delivered tailored programming responsive to its local ecosystem.



“**Leeds** delivered exceptional outcomes in 2025, 13 high-impact events, spotlighting 25 exceptional high-growth women leaders as role models, and launching three flagship initiatives. These achievements mark a decisive step toward unlocking Leeds’ vast, untapped potential.”

Lisa Lister, Chair, Leeds Board.



“**Scotland** started with a focus on the City of Edinburgh, delivering four events and engaging four funds through its roundtable series. The board hosted roundtables focused on women leading growth in majority-male industries, seed-stage investment, and Series A — producing a comprehensive report on findings and proposed next steps.”

Carolyn Currie, Co-Chair, Edinburgh Board.



“**Liverpool** identified 17 high-growth women business leaders and delivered four events. The Growth Summit was a standout moment, convening regional business leaders and funders in a format designed to generate real connections rather than surface-level introductions.”

Lorna Green, Chair, Liverpool Board.

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“**Birmingham** was a standout for fund engagement, attracting five new funds to the region including Alma Angels, Borski Fund, and Cornerstone VC. The board showcased at Birmingham Tech Week, putting Midlands scaleups in front of national investors.”

Tara Atfield-Tomes, Chair, Birmingham Board.



“**Newcastle** launched the Elevate Series blog showcasing high-growth women business leaders from around the region, and delivered the Funding Her Future programme. Three new events are planned for 2026 around wealth and well-being.”

Debra Leeves, Chair, Newcastle Board.

Our 2026 priorities

2025 proved that the model works. 2026 is the year we scale it.

Our goals are:

- To increase the number of high-growth women-led enterprises supported by 50%
- To expand capital flow into women-led businesses in each region by 5%
- and to double the visibility of high-growth women business leaders as role models.

“The UK’s high-growth women-led businesses represent one of the most significant untapped economic opportunities in the country. We’re proud of what 2025 delivered, and we’re clear-eyed about what 2026 demands.”

— Zandra Moore, MBE, Co-founder, The Whole Point.

Thank you to all the regional board members, our sponsors, Lloyds, and data partners, The Data City, for their continued support.



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