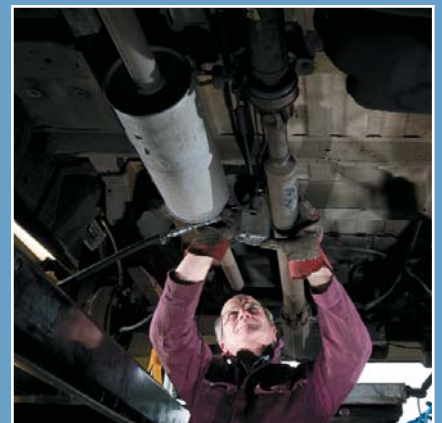


Business support for pre-start and start up social enterprises in Yorkshire



HELP FOR PRE-START AND START UP SOCIAL ENTERPRISES THROUGH A RANGE OF SPECIALIST ADVICE AND SUPPORT PACKAGES

What do we mean by social enterprise?

A social enterprise is a business with primarily social objectives whose surpluses are reinvested for that purpose rather than being driven by the need to deliver profit to shareholders or owners (DTI, Social Enterprise Strategy 2002)

When looking at eligibility for our services we look at four key areas:-

- Social aims
- Social ownership
- Trading activities
- Profit distribution

We are here to help you start and grow your social enterprise into a sustainable business by generating income through trading or contracting and delivering social impact.

Whilst help from Business Link is available to all pre-start and start up social enterprises (up to three years old) through this programme, intensive support will be provided to social enterprises with growth potential

What help do we offer?

Our **team of experienced social enterprise start-up advisers** are based throughout the region and have extensive knowledge of local markets.

They will help you to identify the key areas of your business where the application of targeted support will enable you to develop and grow your social enterprise so that you can deliver more economic, social and environmental impact.



Our advisers will help you to implement your plans and provide you with encouragement and support throughout your journey.

Through our **social enterprise workshop programme**, you can learn about the key issues that will support the development of your enterprise and acquire important skills which can be applied to the development of your business. Our team of specialist presenters will deliver information on a wide range of subjects from an introduction to the social enterprise business model to winning contracts and producing a set of social accounts.

In certain cases Business Link may make a contribution to the cost of that specialist expertise through a Business Development Voucher. This financial support could range from a few hundred to several thousand pounds depending on the identified needs, opportunities and growth potential.

Business Link advisers will help the customer to find the best external providers of specialist support and expertise that will enable your aspirations to be realised. Wherever possible, support will be tailored to meet the needs of the customer.

Mentoring is available to start up social enterprises with growth potential. Our mentors are social entrepreneurs, leaders and managers of successful, established social enterprises and who have experience of starting a social enterprise. Support will be delivered through regular one to one meetings and on an ongoing basis via e-mail and the telephone as required.

What do I do now?

For an initial discussion or for more information please contact your local adviser or our Customer Information Centre on 08456 048 048, alternatively you can visit our website www.businesslinkyorkshire.co.uk



CabinetOffice
Office of the **Third Sector**

