

Support for Social Enterprises



Business support for social enterprises
in Yorkshire and the Humber



FOR **FREE** EXPERT BUSINESS ADVICE THINK BUSINESS LINK

HELP FOR 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 re-invested 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 develop 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 social enterprises 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 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 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 business goals to be realised. Wherever possible, support will be tailored to meet the needs of the customer.

Mentoring is also available to social enterprises with growth potential. Our mentors are social entrepreneurs, leaders and managers of successful social enterprises who also have experience of starting and running 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/socialenterprise

Call: 08456 048 048

Email: info@businesslinkyorkshire.co.uk

Visit: www.businesslinkyorkshire.co.uk/socialenterprise



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