

senSCOT

**“Leading edge lessons from the social enterprise
sector in Scotland”**

**Wednesday 10th February 2010
Auckland, New Zealand**

Social Enterprise – What do we mean?

- **Social enterprises are businesses with a social purpose. They have social aims, trade in competitive markets and reinvest their profits for community benefit.**
- **The sector is diverse and includes cooperatives, credit unions, housing associations, community development trusts, social firms and community businesses.**
- **Social enterprises also operate across a wide range of industries including growth sectors such as recycling, renewable energy and social care.**
(See Slides 9 + 10)
- **No single legal form used by social enterprises. Some incorporate as companies – that may or may not also take charitable status or as Industrial and Provident Societies (IPS). In 2005, a new legal form - a Community Interest Company - came in to being. This is a bespoke company form designed for social enterprises with a built-in asset lock.**

Scottish Context 10 years ago

Opportunities

- **New Govt at Westminster – 1997 – new approaches**
- **Establishment of new Scottish Govt – 1999**
- **New confidence in Scotland, open to new approaches**
- **Groundbreaking New Legislation (e.g.community land act, Free care for the elderly)**
- **New Administration (2007)**

Challenges

- **Relationship with public sector**
- **Relationship wider Third Sector**
- **low public awareness**

Senscot

What we do

- **Connecting and informing social entrepreneurs:**
 - weekly Bulletin since 2001 (510 editions)
 - over 4,000 recipients
 - 50 new subscribers each month.
- **Facilitating Networks:**
 - 16 Local Social Enterprise Networks (LSEs).
 - 14 are geographically based and 4 are thematic.
 - 240 plus social enterprises active Networks.
- **Developing the Sector:**
 - Scotland UnLtd
 - Social Enterprise Academy
 - Firstport
 - DTA Scotland
 - Local People Leading.
 - Scottish Soc. Ent. Coalition
- **New services in development:**
 - Ready for Business
 - Sport and Social Enterprise
 - Social Enterprise Mark (SEM)
 - Senscot Legal Services

Achievements/progress

- **Raised awareness**
- **Establishment of infrastructure**
- **Positive working relationship with Govt**
 - £43m (\$100m) investment over 3 yrs
 - Procurement practices being adapted
 - Measuring impact
- **3,000 social enterprises in Scotland, employing 30,000 people and adding £1.25bn to the national economy**
- **Demonstrating impact: SROI - Vital Stats**

Achievement/Progress cont....

Vital Stats

Aberdeen Social Enterprise Network:

- 11 members
- 269 employees
- £20m turnover (\$50m)
- £12.4m trading (62%) (\$31m)

Dundee Social Enterprise Network

- 10 members
- 136 employees
- £64m turnover (\$160m)
- £44.8m trading (\$112m)

Challenges ahead

- **Many not very robust/current economic climate**
- **Role/relationship with Third Sector**
- **Infrastructure – cluttered landscape?**
- **Role/relationship with public sector**
- **Role/relationship with private sector**
- **Public awareness has grown but still low**
- **Forget the hype – it`s time to deliver**

Support Orgs

- **Senscot**
- **Scottish Social Enterprise Coalition**
- **Social Firms Scotland**
- **DTA Scotland**
- **Firstport**
- **Social Enterprise Academy**
- **Forth Sector Development**
- **Community Enterprise in Scotland (CEiS)**
- **Community Enterprise Ltd (CEL)**
- **Highlands and Islands Social Enterprise Zone (HISEZ)**
- **Community Recycling Network Scotland (CRNS)**
- **Scottish Federation of Housing Associations (SFHA)**

Main Sectors

- Health/Social Care
- Sports/Leisure
- Cultural
- Food/Retail
- Specialist Services – With People?
- Support/Advice
- <http://www.senscot.net/networks1st/shownotice.php?articleid=65>
- IT/Design
- Recycling
- Renewables
- Training
- Housing/Finance
- Miscellaneous - Cleaning
- <http://senscot.net/research.php>

Case Studies

Large

<http://www.aberdeenfoyer.com/>

<http://www.factoryskatepark.com/>

<http://www.transition-extreme.com/>

<http://www.recycleit.org.uk/>

<http://www.waspsstudios.org.uk/>

<http://www.engineshed.org.uk/>

Small

<http://www.thebreadmaker.org.uk/>

<http://www.recyclefife.org.uk/>

<http://www.re-union.org.uk/>

<http://www.withpeople.co.uk/>

<http://www.sprucecarpet.org.uk/>

<http://www.crisiscounselling.co.uk/>

Contact Details

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