



Gerry Higgins

Chief Executive

Community Enterprise in Scotland
(CEiS)





Social enterprise is about changing the world through business. The Social Enterprise Ambassadors are leaders of some of the country's most successful social enterprises. Learn more about these exceptional people, their businesses, and how you can get involved.



Sophi Tranchell



Business: Divine

Role: Managing Director

Location: London

John Bird



Business: The Big Issue

Age: 64

Role: Founder and editor-in-chief

Location: London

BIG ISSUE INVEST

FINANCING SOCIAL ENTERPRISES

“ When investing in Turning Point's Connected Care, Big Issue Invest demonstrated a risk aware approach that is creating new ways of delivering health and social care. ”

Lord Victor Adebawale, CEO Turning Point

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ISSUE**

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FINANCING SOCIAL ENTERPRISES

Big Issue Invest is a specialised provider of finance to social enterprises or trading arms of charities that are finding business solutions that create social and environmental transformation.

Part of The Big Issue group of companies, it is led by social entrepreneurs and experienced social financiers. As a social enterprise itself, Big Issue Invest pays any dividends generated up to its parent, The Big Issue, also a social enterprise with a charitable arm, The Big Issue Foundation.

Providing Finance

We provide finance for social enterprises in the form of loans, participation loans (where repayment is linked to the future performance of the enterprise) and equity. We work closely with social enterprises to tailor our finance to fit with their growth needs and repayment capability. We can offer finance between £50,000 and £500,000. BII can also arrange financing in partnership with other social finance institutions for amounts over £500,000. We do not provide grants.

LATEST NEWS

Private Equity News Feature

The financial crisis and economic recession have led many to ask whether investors will seize the opportunity to think differently.

[Read full story >](#)

Acknowledging the vision and imagination of the Big Issue Invest

By Andy Winter, Chief Executive of Brighton Housing Trust

Over the last week I have been asked on several occasions how BHT first got in touch with Blue Rocket, the PR company that we bought a couple of weeks ago.

[Read full story >](#)

Our aim is simple:
to create greater value for charities

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Venturesome

Venturesome is a social investment fund - a CAF initiative launched in 2002.



We provide capital investment to charities and other social purpose organisations. We recognise that capital investment is necessary - for growth, covering cash flow difficulties or weathering difficult periods - but difficult to access. Such financial needs may fall outside the criteria of a grant maker, but be too risky for a bank loan.

Venturesome fills this funding gap, providing capital investment (in the form of underwriting, loans and equity-like investment) tailored to suit the needs of individual organisations.

We are only able to invest in organisations that:

- are registered in the UK
- can clearly articulate their charitable purpose and social impact (organisations do not have to be registered charities but do need to be of charitable purpose)
- have at least one year's history of trading and/or income
- are looking for between £20,000 and £350,000
- have a legal structure which allows them to take on debt / equity funding

We learn from our practical work with charities and capture that learning, sharing it with the emerging social market in order to encourage greater access to capital investment.

Find out more

- Also see...**
- [About us](#)
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 - [Community Land Trust Fund](#)

Contact us

T: 03000 123 300

[Online enquiry form >>](#)

What is social investment?

Social investment is the use of money to achieve both a social and financial return.

Social investment can range from making loans to charities to buying shares in companies with a social mission, such as Cafe Direct.

Social investment does not usually include giving grants or donations, nor mainstream commercial loans.

Case study

Find out how 



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Social enterprises are businesses trading for social and environmental purposes.

[Learn more about social enterprise](#) ▶



Election 2010 Campaign

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Conference debates the future of social enterprise in health and social care

Health and social care policy-makers, professionals and practitioners came together in London yesterday (16th March) to discuss how social enterprise can help shape the future of health care.

[Read more](#) ▶



Nick Clegg becomes the latest party leader to sign up to the Social Enterprise Charter

Nick Clegg has today become the latest MP to sign the Social Enterprise Charter 2010, adding his name to a growing list that includes Labour, Conservative and Liberal Democrat politicians.

[Read more](#) ▶

 **Twitter - follow us**

40 current & prospective MPs have signed the Social Enterprise Charter-newly on board are Lembit Opik & Phillipa Stroud <http://bit.ly/bRIFnU>

RT @SEAmbassadors: Engaging corporates & sharing knowledge on an international scene-read Ambassadors latest news <http://bit.ly/9CM3Gw> #seamb

RT @SEAmbassadors: Great piece about ambassadors working with health & justice depts on the SEA site: <http://bit.ly/bDZND9> #seamb #socent

In yday's Observer a feature on Faisal Rahman-founder of #socent Fair Finance offering microloans to ppl in east london <http://bit.ly/bW0JtV>



Social Enterprise Business Support Programme

The Coalition is bringing together the work of two existing business support projects in order to promote sharing and maximise the benefit for social enterprise.

[Read more](#) ▶



Apply for the Social Enterprise Mark

The Social Enterprise Mark has now launched. Find out more and apply to receive the Mark for your business here.

[Read more](#) ▶

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



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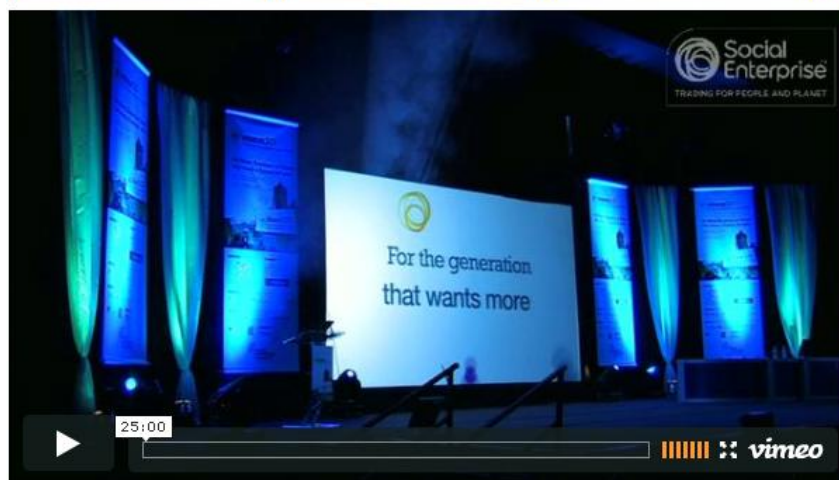
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TRADING FOR PEOPLE AND PLANET

Social Enterprise Works

working for social enterprise every step of the journey

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The Social Enterprise Mark is the brand for social enterprises.

The Mark identifies businesses that meet defined criteria for social enterprise.

The Mark offers consumers an instantly recognisable logo that **represents enterprises working for social and environmental aims**, trading to benefit people and the planet.

But the Mark is more than just a logo. It is also access to a network of social enterprises across the UK.

[Social Enterprise Mark Blog](#)

Apply

Do you qualify for the Mark?

- Does your company have social and/or environmental aims? ✓
- Does your company have its own constitution and governing body? ✓
- Are at least 50% of the company profits spent on socially beneficial purposes? ✓
- Does the company earn at least 50% of its income from trading? ✓
- Can your company demonstrate that social/environmental aims are being achieved? ✓
- If your company ceased trading would remaining assets be distributed for social/environmental purposes? ✓

Answer **'Yes'** to these questions and your business could be well on the way to achieving the **Social Enterprise Mark**.

Apply for the Social Enterprise Mark

ONLY £99 + VAT PER YEAR
(price fixed for the first 2 years)



ENTERPRISING THIRD SECTOR

Action Plan 2008-2011





Ready for Business

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE PROCUREMENT SUPPORT

The Ready for Business project is a public social partnership (psp) pilot project which aims to support social enterprises to increase their trading through delivery of goods and services with commercial businesses. Public contracts are increasingly adopting community benefit clauses and social enterprises produce a range of social and environmental benefits while delivering commercial contracts to a high standard and at competitive rates.

<http://www.glasgow2014.com>



**National Indoor Sports Arena (NISA) & Sir Chris Hoy
Velodrome Precinct**

Tender Writing Training

This workshop programme is funded by the Scottish Government and is **free of charge** to eligible Third Sector organisations

Delivery of services to the public sector is an important market for enterprising Third Sector organisations.

How do you find out about these opportunities and how do you write a successful tender document?

CEIS, the Supplier Development Programme, and partners, are running a series of free of charge tender writing workshops across Scotland. Designed specifically for managers and staff of Third Sector organisations, who have responsibility for business development and tender writing, the workshops will offer practical guidance for organisations wishing to compete for public sector contracts.

For more information and a link to the online booking form go to www.ceis.org.uk and click on Tender Writing Training, or call 0141 425 2946







This workshop programme is funded by the Scottish Government and is free of charge to eligible Third Sector organisations

Financial Management Training

for Senior Staff and Board Members of Third Sector Organisations

CEIS, and partners, are running free of charge financial management training workshops across Scotland, to address the varying needs of:

- Senior managers, trustees and board members of Third Sector organisations with little or no finance training
- Senior staff working in Third Sector organisations who may manage budgets but have limited financial training
- Those within Third Sector organisations who have significant financial responsibilities

The aim of the training is to significantly improve the capacity of Third Sector organisations to control finances and engage in high quality financial planning.

For more information and a link to the online booking form go to www.ceis.org.uk and click on Financial Management Training, or call 0141 425 2945

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



Scottish Investment Fund

Welcome!

The Scottish Investment Fund is a £30million fund provided by the Scottish Government to be delivered over the period from 2008-2011. The fund's overall aim is to build capacity, capability and financial sustainability in the the Third Sector to help it fulfill it's potential and contribute to the overall national outcomes of the Scottish Government.

How will this be achieved?

Social Investment Scotland (SIS) have been appointed by the Scottish Government to be the lead delivery partner of the Scottish Investment Fund. SIS have many years of experience working with the Third Sector, and in managing the Scottish Investment Fund, seeks to help Third Sector organisations make a transformational step change in capacity, capability and financial sustainability. The fund provides a mix of both strategic investment and loan funding to organisations that are considered to be "Investment Ready".

Is my organisation eligible?

Update on New Applications to the Scottish Investment Fund

The Scottish Investment Fund is now entering it's final year for initial investment allocations and to date almost £14m has been approved to a range of Third Sector organisations across Scotland. [more](#)

Scottish Investment Fund nears £10m mark

Progress on delivering the Scottish Investment Fund continues to be buoyant with just under £10m now approved. [more](#)

SIF breaks £6m investment barrier

Announcement of the largest ever SIF investment takes total investments beyond the £6m barrier. [more](#)

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IT jobs 'for people with autism'

A project in Scotland to train up to 60 people with autistic spectrum disorder (ASD) for IT jobs has been awarded £407,036 from the Big Lottery Fund.

Community Enterprise in Scotland will use the funding for its Specialisterne UK initiative in Glasgow over the next five years.

The project is based on a Danish model which employs people with ASD as software testers.

ASD is thought to affect about 1% of the population across Europe.

Community Enterprise in Scotland said it planned "an intensive six-month screening programme" to identify people who could benefit.

'Mainstream work'

Participants would then be paid market rates and work in specially adapted settings.

Chief executive Gerry Higgins said: "Only 13% of adults with an autism spectrum disorder are in full-time employment.

"We look forward to creating a new, sustainable social enterprise which will employ people with an ASD, at a market-rate wage in a mainstream work environment.

"We know that Specialisterne has the potential to transform attitudes, lives and business practices.

He added: "We look forward to assisting business in the UK to understand the competitive advantages that people with autism



Up to 60 people with ASD will be employed as software testers

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What is Determined to Succeed?

What is DtS?

Scotland's future depends on young people with positive attitudes and good core skills. Who understand about business and entrepreneurship. Who are eager to benefit from lifelong learning.

It depends on young people who know how to take sensible risks in business. Who learn to see failure as a platform for future success.

DtS goes to the heart of the vision for a smart, successful Scotland. It is a long term drive to build an enterprise culture in Scotland. To give young people a better chance of realising their full potential. To give the economy of Scotland the skills, new ventures and entrepreneurs it needs for growth.

DtS starts in the classroom. Across Scotland, it is generating energy, enthusiasm and creativity in pupils and teachers. DtS in action means confident young people building thriving companies. But DtS is a joined-up project. It also involves parents, business communities, local authorities and the Scottish Executive.

Ministers in the Scottish Executive have made personal commitments to delivering the programme. DtS has won support from business people and council leaders across Scotland. It has attracted investment totalling more than £40m over 3 years to help in creating a dynamic, prosperous Scotland.

For more information on DTS then logon to the Scottish Executives Dts Site
www.determinedtosucceed.co.uk

Inaugural Social Enterprise World Forum Edinburgh 2008



