

### Building Britain's Future

the Government has released its plan for the next 12 months called Building Britain's Future. See what are the major themes and commitments for social enterprise.

### Social Enterprise Coalition Council Meeting 2nd July

The Social Enterprise Coalition's Council, part of its new governance arrangements, met on the 2nd July. We outline the ongoing themes for discussion.

### Meet The Council

See who is on the Social Enterprise Coalition Council under the different categories

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## Building Britain's Future

On the 30th June, the Prime Minister Gordon Brown published the Government's plan for a fairer, stronger, and more prosperous Britain. The Building Britain's Future report sets out the Government's aims in terms of legislation and projects covering the next 12 months of this parliament – and beyond should the Labour Party be re-elected. Therefore what is in the strategy is essential to understanding the opportunities for social enterprise to develop and addressing the opportunities and barriers facing the movement.

Laying out the developments of the previous 10 years, including reductions in poverty and crime figures, the plan outlines its 5 core principles:

- A commitment to social justice and a fairer society;
- the belief that each of us has a responsibility to play by the rules and make a contribution to our communities;
- the recognition that we have an obligation to protect the planet for future generations;
- the understanding that only people acting together can solve the most difficult challenges facing our country, and make the most of the opportunities; and
- the only guarantee of security, opportunity and prosperity is that the institutions of market and state are efficient and properly accountable.

From these 5 principles the Government makes 12 commitments 'to the people of Britain'. You can see these in the summary document, as well as the wider strategy. These commitments range from cleaning up and rebuilding trust in politics, through developing jobs and skills, empowering citizens in delivering health and education, to environmental commitments around stimulating low carbon economies. Some of these announcements will be already familiar to you but others give some focus to the future activities we should concentrate on over the next 12 months.

The most relevant for social enterprise are around the provision of jobs and skills in this period of economic uncertainty, investing in young people and green low carbon industries. The plan commits under the Young Persons Guarantee that every person under 25 will have a job, training place or work experience place from 2010; and adults out of work for 6 months will be supported in setting up a business, skills training or volunteering. The previously announced Future Jobs Fund of £1 billion will provide 100,000 jobs for young people and a further 50,000 in areas of high unemployment. The Coalition will continue to gather information and disseminate how social enterprise can support these commitments and provide these places, and is monitoring the implementation of the Future Jobs Fund to address issues for social enterprises.

In the commitments on more Power for Patients the development of individual budgets for those with long term or chronic conditions will be piloted and the findings will effect how social enterprises in health and social care distribute their services. Under Investing in Young People the commitment to refurbish or create new youth centres or other facilities in every constituency offers promise for those wanting to set up community based enterprises in their areas.

On environmental issues the government says it is investing in energy efficiency with £1.5 billion invested in energy efficient affordable homes by the end of 2011 and the next generation of renewable energies including up to 1,000 on and offshore wind farms. The possibility of using cooperative, mutual and social enterprise models for delivering clean energy and community energy efficiency measures is another strong opportunity for social Enterprise. The Coalition will promote those models already in existence and tackle any barriers there are to their development.

On top of this, to support the sector through the recession, the strategy reasserts the £42.5 million to support volunteers, charities and social enterprises including the £16.7 million hardship fund. Further details can be found in our previous newsletter editions and on the Office for Third Sector website.

The Coalition continues to ask Government to ensure that social enterprises are included and considered as vehicles for delivering these plans, tackling the in-depth social and environmental problems facing the UK.

## Social Enterprise Coalition Council

The Social Enterprise Coalition's new council, part of our new governance arrangements, met for the first time on 2nd July 2009.

The council is made up of 46 council members, who represent 23 social enterprises as well as regional and umbrella social enterprise bodies and partner organisations, and were elected by the Coalition's membership in a recent vote.

During the meeting, the discussion centred on priorities for the social enterprise movement in the coming months.

These included a continuing need for raising awareness of social enterprise, particularly amongst young people and prospective entrepreneurs, as well as discussion on the ongoing work on 'identity'. Council members were also keen to stress the importance of clearly articulating what social enterprises have to offer in the current economic climate, as well as in tackling climate change.

Finally, it was recognised that the Coalition's ongoing manifesto work is a priority for the coming year as we build up to the next general election. The Council is keen to support the Coalition in ensuring that the needs of the social enterprise movement, as well as its potential for delivering change are recognised across the main political parties.

The Council agreed to have group based discussions on the following issues for the next meeting in the autumn. Coalition staff will provide information on activities up to date.

- Manifesto
- Branding and identity
- Campaigning for public awareness
- Building the Council
- Business Support
- Finance
- Commissioning

For more information on the council, please contact the Coalition's membership and stakeholder manager, Richard Startari at [richard.startari@socialenterprise.org.uk](mailto:richard.startari@socialenterprise.org.uk).

## Social Enterprise in the recession

The Government, Coalition and partners continues to analyse the effects of the recession on social enterprise help to develop policy and support the sector during the economic downturn.

Take the 'social enterprise in the recession' survey  
The survey will close on Monday the 13th of July.

To continue to inform action that will support social enterprises we need to know how the economic changes affect you. Please let us know your experiences by responding to our survey. If you haven't already done so, please take the survey [here](#)

# PUBLICATIONS

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In this section we list the publications that have been released by think tanks and government departments that may be interesting to members of the social enterprise movement.

## **Towards a popular, preventative youth justice system - June 21 2009**

IPPR's report argues that Labour's youth justice policy from 1998 has not worked and the current youth justice system does not reduce offending. The report proposes ways in which it could, as well as ways of creating public confidence in the system. It includes proposals for early intervention for preventative purposes, as well as for the extension of the system to some of those in the 18-21 age group.

## **Expectations & Aspirations: Public attitudes towards social care - May 28 2009**

As part of the IPPR-PWC social care programme, this briefing seeks to generate public debate about the future of social care and considers how the social contract between the state, organisations, communities, families and individuals may need to fundamentally change to ensure that the future of social care is based on principles of fairness and sustainability.

## **Tools for you: Approaches to proving and improving for third sector organisations - June 1 2009**

With the economic crisis creating an increasingly challenging funding environment for third sector organisations, being able to prove and improve the value of their work is more important than ever. This update of nef's Prove and Improve toolkit provides detailed summaries of the main approaches, while the accompanying tool decider and comparison chart enable organisations to choose the tool that best suits their needs.

## **A guide to Social Return on Investment (SROI) - May 12 2009**

Backed by the Cabinet Office, SROI UK network has launched a new guide to Social Return on Investment (SROI), aiming to help organisations and institutions demonstrate their social, economic and environmental impact. This guide offers a framework for measuring and accounting for a much broader concept of value; it seeks to reduce inequality and environmental degradation and improve wellbeing by incorporating social, environmental and economic costs and benefits.

## **Citizen involvement in local governance - June 11 2009**

This summary outlines the challenges and dilemmas that local partners, central government, councillors,

staff and communities must resolve if citizens are to have more power and influence over local services and their neighbourhoods. It looks at how citizens are involved, how they influence decisions and how diversity and population change affect citizen and community involvement.

## **'Then we will do it ourselves' – A report on Community Land Trusts**

This report by the Carnegie Trust covers the key issues for rural CLTs and demonstrates what is possible when the ingenuity and hard work of local communities is matched by a progressive approach from local authorities and funders. Seven inspirational case studies are included, which are the pilot projects highlighted in the Housing Green Paper of 2007.

## **Youth Tracker (newsletter) - June 25 2009**

Youth Tracker is a quarterly newsletter looking at how Britain's young people are faring in the recession, and what can be done to support them. The aim of this newsletter series is to focus on what the recession – and the recovery when it comes – means for the most disadvantaged young people, particularly those not in employment, education or training. IPPR has gathered insights and opinions from key academics and policy experts, and provided a round-up of new research, statistics and news about what is happening on the ground.

# COALITION CONSULTATIONS

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In this section we provide details on consultation responses the Coalition will be submitting. If you are interested in any of these consultations please contact the relevant policy contact to feed into our response.

## **Review of the Children, Young People and Families (CYPF) Grant Programme - DCSF**

The Children, Young People and Families (CYPF) Grant Programme provides funding to third sector organisations for activities which support delivery of the Every Child Matters agenda and the Department's Children's Plan. This consultation seeks the views of the third sector and any other interested parties on the future approach and shape of the grant programme. The Social Enterprise Coalition has fed in its views on this consultation through the DCSF Third Sector Group. The closing date for responses is October 5 2009.

# OTHER CONSULTATIONS

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In this section we identify any consultations which your organisation or your members might be interested in responding to.

## **Urban Development Corporations' Quinquennial Review - DCLG**

The principal purpose of this consultation is to determine whether the UDCs continue to be needed, if so what aspects of their operation could be improved, and if not what alternative arrangements should be put in place. The closing date for responses is September 18 2009.

## **Consultation on the Implementation of the Market Surveillance and Enforcement Requirements of the Eco-design of Energy Using Products and Energy Labeling Framework Directives - DEFRA**

The Eco-design of Energy Using Products and Energy Labeling Framework Directives require manufacturers to ensure that the products they place on the market perform above the minimum standard set by EUP, and within the claimed performance declared on the energy label. This consultation seeks your views on: who should carry out the Market Surveillance and Enforcement activities moving forward; expansion of

the enforcement options available to the enforcement body; and draft Government guidance documents for the first five implementing measures recently agreed in Europe under the EUP.

## **Consultation on draft guidance on how to measure and report your greenhouse gas emissions – DEFRA/DECC**

This is a joint Defra and DECC public consultation on draft guidance for how UK organisations should measure and report their greenhouse gas emissions required by the Climate Change Act. The closing date for responses is August 7 2009.

This section gives a summary of events the Coalition has been involved in since the previous edition and tell you about upcoming events that may interest you.

## What we have been up to...

### CIC Forum - 3rd July

The Coalition organised a consultation with the CIC regulator and CICs from all over the country on the 3rd June 2009. Kindly hosted at the CAN Mezzanine, Old Street and focused specifically on the consultation on Dividend and Performance Related Interest Caps. The discussion raised several issues that had previously not been discussed and identified significant lines of enquiry which were included in the response to the consultation put forward by the Coalition. Many thanks to all those attended and contributed their views.

### Health and Social Care Forum - 30th June

The Coalition held another Health and Social Care Forum which brought together social enterprise practitioners in the Health field to discuss their issues of the day. Alongside updates from the Executive and the Department of Health there was information

on the evaluation of the Departments of Health's Pathfinder Programmes.

### ESRC, Social Enterprise Coalition and LARCI Public Policy Seminar 'Social Enterprise and Community Empowerment' – 10th June

This seminar examined issues around the role of individuals and communities in developing empowerment in the UK, and the role that social enterprise can play in developing empowerment. Involving academics, policy makers and social enterprises it discussed several themes in this issue. You can continue to contribute to the discussion on a forum by registering at [www.esrcsociety.ac.uk](http://www.esrcsociety.ac.uk)

### ESRC and Social Enterprise Coalition Public Policy Seminar 'Social Enterprise and the Environment' – 23rd June

This seminar examined issues surrounding the role of social enterprises in addressing some of the growing environmental problems in the world, what solutions these offer and how they can be encouraged. Involving academics, policy makers and social enterprises it discussed several themes in this issue. You can see more details of the seminar here. You can continue to contribute to the discussion on a forum by registering at [www.esrcsociety.ac.uk](http://www.esrcsociety.ac.uk).

## What we are going to be up to...

### **ACEVO Roundtable on personalisation 9th July.**

The Coalition will be attending this roundtable discussion organised by the Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations. We will be discussing the implications of the personalisation agenda for social enterprise.

### **'Conflicting environmental goods' talk with Caroline Lucas MEP, hosted by the Campaign to Protect Rural England, 9th July**

Staff from the Coalition will be attending this talk by the leader of the Green Party Caroline Lucas to hear about the future of the green party and their ways of addressing the future issues facing the UK

# PROFILES

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## Social Enterprise Coalition Council

### Regions

Anne Graham	Social Economy Network
Antonia Swinson	Scottish Social Enterprise Coalition
Kevin Maton	Social Enterprise West Midlands
Lucy Findlay	RISE
Simon Harris	Wales Cooperative Centre
Dave Kelly	Social Enterprise East Midlands
Michele Rigby	Social Enterprise East Midlands
Allison Ogden-Newton	Social Enterprise London
Karen Wood	NESEP
Alex Sobel	Social Enterprise Yorkshire and Humber
Val Jones	North West
Thea Allison	SE2 Partnership

### Social Enterprises

Nigel Lothrop	Hill Holt Wood
Clive Hirst	Blackpool Enterprise CIC
Nigel Kershaw	The Big Issue
Brian Lloyd Strevens	SCA Group
Verity Timmins	FRC
Sue Fry	Midwest Rural Enterprise
Stan Crawford	Sherwood Energy Village
Lord Victor Adebowale	Turning-Point
David Dawes	Entrepreneurses
June Burrough	The Pierian Centre
Caroline Mason	Investing for Good CIC
Gareth Gault	St Luke's Healthy Living Centre
Craig McAteer	Link4Life - Rochedale
Peter Bunday	Boroughwide Cultural Trust
John Montague	GLL
Naomi Kingsley	Trees
Mick Taylor	London Rebuilding Society
Dai Powell	The Phone Co-op
Claudine Reid	HCT
Emma Wilson	PJ's Community Services
June O'Sullivan	Local Care Direct
Roland Sewell	Westminster Children's Society (WCS)
Shirely McGreal	The Salvation Army Employment Plus
	Black UK Publications

### Umbrella Bodies

Steve Wyler	DTA
Sally Reynolds	Social Firms
Andrew Croft	CAN
Mark Sesnan	Sporta
John Goodman	Cooperatives

### Partners

Dr Stephen Spratt	NEF
Peter Couchman	Plunkett
Zulfiqar Ahmed	Unltd
Alastair Wilson	School for Social Entrepreneurs



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