

POLICY INSIGHT

Social enterprise and business summit

Liam Byrne announced at Voice 09 that he will be holding a summit to promote social enterprise within the business agenda of BERR.

nef proposals for the financial sector

nef has produced an analysis of the financial system in the uk and proposes recommendations to ensure support for communities and small businesses.

Progressive conservative thinker

We have profiled the academic Phillip Blond who is taking the lead in defining the progressive conservatism at the think tank Demos and for the Conservative Party.

THIS ISSUE IN BRIEF...

Policy News

- Social enterprise summit
- The SEC Council
- Voice 09
- DCSF Co-location fund

Publications

- nef analysis of the financial sector
- Compassionate economics
- Future of the universal postal service
- Real Help for Communities from OTS
- An analysis of gang culture

Coalition Consultations

- Proposed amendments to CIC regulations
- Community energy saving programme

Other Consultations

- Common assessment framework for adults
- Fairer Charging guidance in relation to personal budgets
- UK Dormant Account Scheme
- Business rate supplements
- Heat and Energy Saving Strategy

Events

- DCSF 3rd Sector Group
- Health and Social Care Forum
- Small Business Forum
- DECC Low Carbon Summit
- European Conference on social enterprise

Upcoming

- Social enterprise event for BAME communities

Profiles

- Phillip Blond - Progressive conservative thinker
- Peter Alcock - Third sector academic

An economic summit for social enterprise

The last edition of Policy Insight identified some of the pressing issues facing the social enterprise movement. These included addressing public service reform so that markets in criminal justice, children and young people services and health are suitable for social enterprises; working on the need for support and finance mechanisms for social enterprises; and adapting business support facilities through the recession so they meet the needs of social enterprises.

While continuing to lobby government on these diverse issues one of the key needs is to ensure support for business through the recession is accessible to social enterprises. At Voice 09 a summit was announced by Liam Byrne Minister of State for [Cabinet Office](#) to be co-hosted with Business Secretary Peter Mandelson.

The summit will be an opportunity to examine the role of social enterprise in the British economy. Attendees will include delegates from government, academia, and the social enterprise movement. The primary aims will be to ensure that social enterprise's role is firmly established in the business agenda for economic growth and continues delivering social and environmental objectives.

The Coalition will be engaging with members to understand the views of the movement and identify the key objectives for government to achieve over the next few months to ensure that these views are represented at the summit.

We are also re-running our web based survey on the economy and how it is affecting you. This data is essential to evidence our recommendations to government, and to understand how current economic conditions are affecting you. Please take some time to fill out the survey by clicking [here](#).

The new Board and Council

Following unanimous agreement at the annual general meeting, the Coalition is establishing its new governance arrangements. There will be an executive board of 12 partially appointed and partially elected by the social enterprise Council.

The Council itself will be elected and made up of 46 seats and will include the chair of the Social Enterprise Coalition, 23 members from social enterprises, 12 members from the regions and devolved nations, 6 members from umbrella

organisations and 4 members from partner organisations. Council members will have a time limited period of office.

The Council's role is to inform and advise the Board on issues effecting the strategic approach and vision of the Coalition, and contribute to the development of policy positions for the movement. It will also play a role in reviewing the activities and financial reports of the Coalition.

Voice 09

Voice 09, the landmark national conference for social enterprise in the UK, was held in Birmingham on the 10th & 11th February. Keynote speakers included David Cameron MP, Leader of the Conservative Party, and Liam Byrne MP, Minister of State for the Cabinet Office.

David Cameron MP restated his support for social enterprise and outlined his plans should the Conservative Party win the next election. These included their intention to develop 'incubators' of green technology to encourage environmental entrepreneurship. He discussed the party's plans to develop a framework to encourage social enterprise through a social investment bank and the establishment of social enterprise zones where the work of social enterprises is needed most. Mr Cameron also stated that he wanted to encourage social enterprise training providers as part of the party's response to the new economic conditions the UK is facing

While we welcome the level of support that the Conservative Party is proposing the usefulness of social enterprise zones is yet to be seen. The Coalition is addressing this in our work influencing the policy agenda of the Conservative Party.

Liam Byrne MP identified what the Government had previously done to support social enterprise, increasing investment and supporting infrastructure development but also the provisions of the Real Help for Communities: Volunteers, Charities and Social Enterprise, including the modernisation fund, the community resilience fund, investment for the School of Social Entrepreneurs and the volunteer brokerage scheme. He announced a summit to be co-hosted by the Business Secretary Peter Mandelson, a commitment to see 25,000 jobs created in the social enterprise sector in roles providing public services, and the future development of an 'online capital market' where contracts, funding, advice providers and social enterprise will be able to share information and opportunities to help develop the sector.

Elsewhere a plethora of exhibitions, workshops and delegates meetings brought the movement together with partners and developed ideas for taking social enterprise forward.

DCSF Launches £200m Co-location Fund

The Department for Children, Schools and Families has just launched a new £200 million cross-Government fund to support projects that enable the co-location of local services.

The department is particularly seeking applications from third sector organisations. Unfortunately applications must be returned to DCSF by 6 April.

For more details see www.teachernet.gov.uk/colocationfund or email info@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk

PUBLICATIONS

04

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.

IOUK: Banking failure and how to build a fit financial sector – New Economics Foundation

nef has published an analysis of the economic crisis and a set of recommendations to refocus the financial sector and bring it back to health. These will help banking services to prioritise investment in communities and support.

Compassionate economics by Jesse Norman - Policy Exchange

After the present spending binge, how should we seek to rebuild the British economy; what should our core economic principles be; and should we be aiming for a new kind of capitalism, or finding a new model altogether? This article investigates these questions from a centre right viewpoint.

The Future of the Universal Postal Service – Department of Business Enterprises and Regulatory Reform

This report analyses the condition of Royal Mail and the universal postal services in the UK. It proposes a number of changes to regulation and market access to

address the financial difficulties faced by Royal Mail, while preserving the universal service.

Real Help for Communities: Volunteers, Charities, and Social Enterprises – Office for the Third Sector

This outlines the actions which the Government will take to help support the third sector to keep delivering services through the economic downturn. It includes helping to provide volunteering opportunities to the unemployed, providing financial support to organisations where it is most needed, and promoting the modernisation of third sector organisations.

Pathways to Work from Incapacity Benefits: A study of experience and use of Return to Work Credit – Department of Work and Pensions

This report is based on findings from a study of people's experience and use of Return to Work Credit (RTWC). The discussion explores people's knowledge and awareness of RTWC in making decisions about work, experiences of using RTWC and the impact it made, and expectations and experiences of the end of RTWC.

Differential pricing in contracted out employment programmes: Review of international evidence – Department of Work and Pensions

The study reviewed four countries which make extensive use of job outcome performance-based contracting. It assessed how the hardest to help were identified and variations in the use of differential payments and considered how such systems sought to reduce 'creaming' and 'parking'.

Dying to belong: an in-depth Review of Street Gangs in Britain – Centre for Social Justice

This report from Iain-Duncan-Smith's think tank analyses the nature and scale of gang culture in Britain. It proposes tough new measures aimed at breaking up teenage gangs whilst accusing local and national governments of a lack of urgency in tackling this issue.

COALITION CONSULTATIONS

05

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.

Consultative Document - Proposed Amendments to the Community Interest Companies Regulations 2005

BERR is asking for views on proposed amendments to the Community Interest Company Regulations 2005. The proposed amendments are intended to clarify and update the regulations in light of experience to date and more recent legislative changes. The proposals do not change the Government's policy approach to CICs or impose new burdens, so this is a short informal consultation only

Views are welcome from CICs and other individuals or organisations working in or with the third sector that may have experience of or interest in the operation of CICs. Submissions by 30th March 2009. If you are interested in feeding in a response please contact Ewan Kennedy on ewan.kennedy@socialenterprise.org.uk

Community Energy Saving Programme - Department Energy and Climate Change

This is a consultation on proposals to target additional obligations from energy suppliers and generators in the poorest neighbourhoods in the UK, encouraging partnership working with local authorities and the third sector to deliver a suite of energy savings to those least able to buy them.

Submissions by 29th April 2009. If you are interested in feeding in a response please contact Daniel Shah on daniel.shah@socialenterprise.org.uk

OTHER CONSULTATIONS

06

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

Common Assessment Framework for Adults - Department Of Health

This is a consultation on proposals to improve information sharing around multi-disciplinary assessment and care planning. Submissions by 17th April 2009

Consultation on the Fairer Charging Guidance in relation to personal budgets - Department of Health

The Department of Health is undertaking a review in relation to personal budgets as part of the work to help local authorities transform their social care systems. This is a national consultation on a proposed way of calculating a person's contribution to their personal budget. Submissions by 19th April 2009.

A UK dormant accounts scheme: a consultation on secondary legislation – Her Majesty's Treasury

This consultation sets out the Government's proposed secondary legislation to take forward the implementation of a dormant accounts scheme in the UK that is effective, fair and transparent. Submission by 4th May 2009.

Business rate supplements: a consultation on draft guidance to local authorities – HM Treasury

The Business Rate Supplements Bill makes provision for county councils, unitary district councils and the Greater London Authority to levy a supplement on the National Non-Domestic Rate (or business rate). Authorities will be able to use the proceeds to fund additional investment aimed at promoting the economic development of local areas. This consultation presents draft guidance on the use of Business Rate Supplements for the consideration of local authorities, businesses and business representatives, and others. Submissions by 17th April 2009

Heat and Energy Saving Strategy consultation

This document sets out the Government's vision up to 2020 and beyond, and seeks views on a range of policies which could help to decarbonise the way we heat our homes and businesses, helping us to reduce the UK's CO₂ emissions and to contribute to the target of obtaining 20% of all EU energy from renewables by 2020. Submissions by 8th May 2009.

EVENTS

07

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...

Meeting of the Department of Children, Schools and Families Third Sector Group - 4th February 2009

The Coalition sits on the Department for Children, Schools and Families' Third Sector Group, which met on the 4th February to discuss issues including third sector representation on Children's Trusts. For more information on our work on children and young people's services, please contact Olof Jonsdottir at olof.jonsdottir@socialenterprise.org.uk

Health and Social Care Forum - 10th February 2009

The Coalition held the 6th Health and Social Care Forum in Birmingham. 50 attendees from social enterprises, the Department of Health, PCTs and Foundation Trusts discussed and shared information on a variety of issues, especially around the right to request process.

Small Business Finance Forum @ BERR - 20th February 2009

The Coalition attended alongside representatives of small businesses and banks. The Enterprise Finance Guarantee scheme and how banks are operating were discussed, as was requests for greater amounts of data. The problems facing CDFI's with this scheme were raised. The Coalition has a small survey on your experiences of the recession here so please take some time to complete it.

Meet the Buyer Event 26th February 2009 – Department for Communities and Local Government

The Department of Communities and Local Government held an event for social enterprise and other small businesses to meet the procurement officers of all their services. The event gave an opportunity for social enterprises to showcase their benefits and compete for contracts with this large government department. The Coalition identified lots of social enterprises for invitation. We will provide feedback on the events success and how the model can be replicated by other government departments.

Roundtable on youth crime - National Council Voluntary Youth Service 26th February 2009

On 26th February, the Coalition's policy team attended a roundtable hosted by the National Council

for Voluntary Youth Services to discuss the role of the third sector in helping to prevent youth crime, as well as supporting young people who have been in contact with the criminal justice system with resettlement. A presentation was also made by Joe Murphy from the government's Joint Youth Justice Unit on the Youth Crime Action Plan.

Remaking the Economy through Social and Community Enterprise – 5th March 2009

The Coalition and the ESRC held a seminar examining social enterprise's role in the new economic conditions. Speakers included the Director of the OTS Campbell Robb, Helen Haugh of Cambridge Judge Business School, and Rod Schwartz CEO of Catalyst. The need to capture data on successes and failures during the recession was identified as a key evidence need.

Small Business Forum @ BERR – 6th March 2009

The Coalition attended the DBERR Small Business Forum, chaired by Business Secretary Lord Mandelson. This discussed issues facing small business including government procurement and the Glover review. Requests to government included increased capitalisation of social enterprise lending and potential tax relief for the social enterprise sector.

EVENTS

08

**Scottish Social Enterprise Coalition
Parliamentary Event 12/03/2009**

The Scottish Social Enterprise Coalition hosted an event in parliament on 12th March to discuss the challenges and opportunities the movement faces as it makes an increasingly strong contribution to Scotland's civic and business life. Keynote speakers included Antonia Swinson, Chief Executive, Scottish Social Enterprise Coalition, Laurie Russell, Chief Executive, The Wise Group and Gerry Higgins, Chief Executive, CEiS.

**Building Low Carbon Britain - Department of
Energy and Climate Change – 6th march 2009**

Jonathan Bland attended this high level summit alongside industry leaders, the TUC, Business Secretary Lord Mandelson and Secretary of State Ed Miliband MP. Jonathan stressed the importance of social enterprises in delivering the green jobs that are forming a large part of proposed recovery from the economic recession.

**European conference on social enterprise,
European Commission, Brussels– 6th March
2009**

The Coalition attended a recent conference hosted

by the European Commission to discuss the Commission's 2007 comparative study on "Practices and Policies in the Social Enterprise Sector in Europe". Representatives from across Europe attended, and Katherine Purser from the Office of the Third Sector delivered a presentation on social enterprise in the UK. For more information, please contact Olof Jonsdottir e: olof.jonsdottir@socialenterprise.org.uk

What we are going to be up to...**How social enterprise is an inspiration for
the private, public and not for profit sectors
- 19th march 2009**

Social Enterprise Coalition CEO Jonathan Bland is hosting a round table discussion at Investec Bank, London.

**Empower your business and your community:
Social enterprise event for Black Asian and
Ethnic Minority social enterprises , Auction
House, Luton - on 24th March, 2009.**

The Social Enterprise Coalition is hosting an all-day event designed to inspire, empower and promote Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) social enterprises. Aimed at both experienced BAME

social entrepreneurs and those new to the sector it will provide constructive workshops, diverse and inspirational speakers and the chance to network and exchange ideas.

PROFILES

09

Phillip Blond - Progressive conservative thinker

Phillip Blond is a political thinker, theologian and philosopher. He has gained attention with a [cover story](#) in Prospect magazine's February 2009 edition on Red Toryism and is director of the [Progressive Conservatism Project](#) at the [Demos](#) think-tank. The Progressive Conservatism Project aims to be the centre of contemporary conservative thinking in the UK.

Phillip Blond describes himself as a radical tory or a 'Red Tory'. He has proposed a form of capitalism which respects traditional values and local communities, and allows the populace to successfully participate and share in the benefits of the modern trading economy. Blond believes this is the philosophy to underpin the future of conservative thinking. He delivers a critique of neoliberalism, or "free-market fundamentalism", based on its mistaken belief that it ensures competition where in fact it develops "private-sector monopolies" (such as supermarkets and high street chains). He does not promote unlimited state institutions as he sees them as equally damaging to the institutions of community life. Blond calls for a "new communitarian settlement", involving what he terms the "relocalisation of the economy" and the "recapitalisation of the poor".

A progressive conservatism under his description seeks to re-engage non-state institutions such as families, charities, guilds and cooperatives in the process of building a fairer society. The Progressive Conservatism

Project wants to address the gaps in a comprehensive political economy and how public services would be delivered under this consensus, and develop views on what there should be for political institutions role in social issues such as family policy or marriage.

Blond studied philosophy and politics at the University of Hull, attained a Masters in Continental Philosophy at the University of Warwick and a doctorate in theology at Peterhouse College at the University of Cambridge. He held posts as Senior Lecturer in Christian theology at the University of Cumbria and lecturer in the Department of Theology at the University of Exeter. He has previously been awarded a prize research fellowship in philosophy at the New School for Social Research in New York.

Peter Alcock - Third Sector Academic

Pete has taught and researched social policy for over 20 years. In 1998 he went to Birmingham University, where between January 2000 and June 2003 he was Head of the Department of Social Policy and Social Work, becoming Head of the School of Social Sciences from 2003-2008.

From 1 September 2008 Pete Alcock became the Director of the [Third Sector Research Centre \(TSRC\)](#). The TSRC is a national research initiative co-funded for five

years initially by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the Office of the Third Sector (OTS) and the Barrow Cadbury Trust. It is a collaborative venture between the Universities of Birmingham and Southampton, with additional contributions from Kent and Middlesex Universities.

Middlesex University will host the [Capacity Building Cluster \(CBC\)](#) for social enterprise. Headed by Professor Fergus Lyon the cluster will be responsible for the TSRC programme of research on social enterprise. It will also provide training for researchers and develop links between universities and social enterprises through placements, vouchers and Knowledge Transfer Partnerships.

Peter Alcock is the author and editor of a number of major textbooks in the social policy field and has also written numerous articles and papers about social policy, the voluntary sector, social security, poverty and social exclusion and anti-poverty policy.