

Further information, advice and contacts

This pack provides basic information introducing you to social enterprise and business planning. The following is a list of some useful sources of further information, advice and support.

Sources of advice and information in alphabetical order:

Association of British Credit Unions Limited (ABCUL)

Information on and support for credit unions in the UK.

Web: www.abcul.org

Tel: 0161 832 3694

Business Link

Business Link provides the following services to businesses including social enterprise:

- Information and advice on all issues relating to starting and running a business
- training in the practicalities of setting up and running your own business
- one to one advice sessions with professional business advisers and ongoing support

Web: www.businesslink.gov.uk

Tel: 0845 058 6644 (East Midlands)

Charity Commission

The Charity Commission is the regulator and registrar for charities in England and Wales and provides information for new and existing charities.

Web: www.charity-commission.gov.uk

Tel: 0845 3000 218

Community Action Network

CAN's portal aims to bring social entrepreneurs together to share knowledge and to provide solutions to pertinent problems facing the sector.

Web: www.can-online.org.uk

Tel: 0845 456 2537

Community Matters

Community Matters offers resources to community associations and similar organisations.

Web: www.communitymatters.org.uk

Tel: 0207 837 7887

Companies House

Companies House incorporates and dissolves limited companies and stores company information. They provide information and guidance on registering and providing returns for companies.

Web: www.companieshouse.gov.uk

Tel: 0303 1234 500

Co-operatives UK

Co-operatives UK promotes co-operative and mutual solutions and works in partnership with members to build a strong and successful co-operative movement.

Web: www.cooperatives-uk.coop

Tel: 0161 246 2900

Development Trusts Association (DTA)

The Development Trusts Association is the national body supporting development trusts.

Web: www.dta.org.uk

Tel: 0845 458 8336

Enterprise Solutions Northamptonshire (ESN)

ESN provides the following services:

- Information on social enterprises
- One to one support to start and develop social enterprises including advice on legal structures, business planning and governance
- Training
- Social Enterprise Network

Web: www.enterprise-solutions.org.uk

Tel: 01604 259700

Financial Services Authority (FSA)

Registers and regulates Industrial and Provident Societies and Credit Unions

Web: www.fsa.gov.uk

Tel: 0845 606 9966

HM Revenue & Customs

HMRC ensures that everyone understands and receives what they are entitled to and understands and pays what they owe, so that everyone contributes to the UK's needs

Web: www.hmrc.gov.uk/index.htm

Tel: 0845 60 70 143 (Small Employers Helpline)

Learndirect

A database of nationwide courses, as well as specially designed learndirect courses offering business training.

Web: www.learndirect.co.uk/

Tel: 0800 101 901

National Council for Voluntary Organisations

NCVO is a lobbying organisation, representing the views of its members and the wider voluntary sector. The website provides a useful A-Z guide to the voluntary sector.

Web: www.ncvo-vol.org.uk

Tel: 0800 2 798 798

Northamptonshire ACRE

ACRE provides advice on the development of services in rural areas such as community owned transport or retail services.

Web: www.northantsacre.org

Tel: 01604 765888

Office of the Third Sector

Government strategy and action on social enterprise

Web:

www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector.aspx

Tel: 0207 276 6400

School for Social Entrepreneurs (SSE)

The School for Social Entrepreneurs exists to provide training and opportunities to enable people to use their creative and entrepreneurial abilities more fully for social benefit.

Web: www.sse.org.uk

Tel: 0208 981 0300

Social Enterprise Coalition

The Social Enterprise Coalition (SEC) was established in July 2002 to provide a co-ordinated voice for social enterprise and enable stakeholders to work together to develop the sector.

Web: www.socialenterprise.org.uk

Tel: 020 7793 2323

Social Enterprise East Midlands

SEEM was created by the social enterprise sector and key partners in the East Midlands to make sure that social enterprise in the region flourishes and grows. They provide information and signposting.

Web: www.seem.uk.net

Tel: 0115 8714760

Social Enterprise Magazine

Social Enterprise is a monthly magazine devoted to developing and supporting social enterprises.

Web: www.socialenterprisemag.co.uk

Social Firms UK

Social Firms UK is the national support agency for social firms. They provide access to a range of resources and materials about social firm development.

Web: www.socialfirms.co.uk

Tel: 01737 764 021

The Plunkett Foundation

The Plunkett Foundation is an educational charity which supports the development of rural enterprise and social enterprise.

Web: www.plunkett.co.uk

Tel: 01993 810730

UnLtd –The Foundation for Social Entrepreneurs

UnLtd support people who have the ideas and commitment to make a really positive difference in their communities and have initiatives including awards and an UnLtd Ideas Bank

Web: www.unltd.org.uk

Tel: 0207 566 1100

All information was correct at the time of going to print and consequently Enterprise Solutions Northamptonshire cannot be held accountable for any losses sustained from the use of this pack. February 2009

