



## Social Enterprise Network Bulletin March 2015

Welcome to the Social Enterprise Network Bulletin – every month I will be producing a quick round up of news, resources, funding and other useful bits and pieces for social enterprises.

### Useful Information

**The Social Enterprise Mark**: Businesses displaying the Mark give assurance to customers that they are driven by social or environmental objectives and are trading to benefit people and planet, rather than making profits for shareholders or owners.

**i-genius**: World Community of Social Entrepreneurs promotes social entrepreneurship to a network in over 200 countries. Founded by Tommy Hutchinson (CEO and Founder), i-genius is based in London and began trading in 2008. They organise networking events and provide platforms for news and sharing information, support and an academy.

**Looking for a book on Business Start-Up?** For those of you at the early stages of business startup, the [Financial Times Business Start Up](#) book is very well written and easy to read, as well as covering all the main topics you need when setting up. Have you read any books that you can recommend?

**Venue Space** – [James Wilson Coffee Shop](#) in Norwood is a social enterprise with reasonable room hire prices starting from £15 per hour. New customers booking a 6 week block receive 1 week for free.

**Wage Incentive Scheme for SMEs** – Southwark Council has launched a [wage incentive scheme](#) to encourage employers in Southwark to create jobs for young people. A limited number of voluntary and community sector employers will be offered mentoring and financial support to grow their workforce whilst supporting young local people who are finding it the hardest to get and keep work.

**Review of the Social Value Act** - On the 13th February the Government published their review of the Social Value Act. The Act came into force two years ago and requires public service commissioners to consider the social value offered by bidders when awarding contracts. The review, conducted by Lord Young, the Prime Minister's adviser on Enterprise, rejected the idea of amending the legislation but recommended improvements in three areas; awareness, understanding & measurement.

## Events

**How to Crowdfund Your Business with [Crowdcube](#) Tuesday 31st March, 10.30am – 12pm**  
Crowdcube the world's leading investment based crowdfunding platform will be running a free event which covers how to raise funding for your business idea, gauging the stage you should be at to raise on Crowdcube, and understanding crowdfunding pitfalls and best practice.

Address: London South Bank University, Clarence Centre for Enterprise & Innovation, 6 St Georges Circus, London, SE1 6FE (10am Registration)

**RSVP:** [nadineb@prevista.co.uk](mailto:nadineb@prevista.co.uk) or call The Enterprise Team 020 7609 4198

**[Spring Volunteer Fare](#) – Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March, 1 – 4.30pm**

Looking for Volunteers? The Southwark Volunteer Centre is running an event where you can promote your volunteering opportunities to the public, at Blackfriars Settlement. This is a great FREE opportunity to promote your volunteering opportunities to the public! As well as stalls for organisations, there will be a Volunteer Management Advice Surgery running throughout the day. It's also a great opportunity to network with other organisations like yourself.

**[First Thursday](#) with Urban Catalysts CIC: Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 6 – 8pm**

First Thursday is a monthly event which takes place on the first Thursday of every month and is open to anyone from the private sector, social enterprises, local authorities and charities that want to use entrepreneurial means to make a social or environmental difference.

**Free Event Management Training** - Southwark Council are running [Revealed](#) which is a two day event management course offered free to Southwark-based individuals or groups or anyone planning to run an event in Southwark.

**[Southwark Forum](#): Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2 – 5pm**

An opportunity to find out about major developments and opportunities affecting the sector from local policymakers and commissioners raise the issues and challenges you are facing with voluntary sector reps and policymakers and network, share information and connect with other organisations and groups in Southwark.

**[Business Start Up Show](#), Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th May**

Free business event which offers seminars, speakers, mentoring, speed networking, master classes and much more. Venue: Excel Centre

The next Social Enterprise Network will take place on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2015**, 5.45 – 7.45pm

## Support for Enterprise

[BITC - ProHelp](#) provides free professional advice and support to local community groups and voluntary organisations.

[CAF Bank](#): a bank specifically designed for charities and not-for-profit organisations..

[Constant Contact](#): connect with donors and increase your reach online with a great looking e-newsletter and social media tools. Constant Contact offers a complete e-marketing package for non-profits, starting at just 14 per month.

[Cranfield Trust - Free management consultancy projects](#) provide one-to-one consultancy to charities local to them through volunteers. To qualify for their help, charities, social enterprise or community interest companies must be working to address issues of poverty, disability or social exclusion.

[Giving World Online](#) is a charity that encourages businesses to donate their surplus (mainly new) into deprived communities and to those most in need.

[In Kind Direct](#): Have you ever thought how much it would help if you could find a cheaper source of the goods you use in the course of your work? Try here for ideas.

[Technology Strategy Board - Innovation Vouchers](#): TBS has launched a new national innovation voucher scheme to encourage smaller businesses to work with external experts, gaining new knowledge to help their business innovate, develop and grow.

[The Big Give website](#) is designed to help donors of all sizes find and support charitable causes in their field of interest. The Big Give is free to all users, and any registered UK charity may register and post their projects on the site.

## Income and Funding

The [Santander's Social Enterprise Development Awards](#) (of up to £10,000) aim to support social enterprises and charities with trading activities looking to grow their business and improve their local community. **Open: 2nd March to 10th April 2015**

The [Elephant and Castle Fund](#) aims to build on the strengths of local people, celebrate the rich cultural diversity of the area, and support the people who are most at need in this time of change. Projects must be of benefit to residents of the fund Opportunity Area. Grants of up to £5,000 per year for projects lasting up to two years. **Deadline: 9am on Monday 13th April 2015**

PowerUP: The SSE, Lloyds Bank and The Cabinet Office are partnering on a new scheme that will support budding social entrepreneurs to create positive social change across London and Liverpool. It is for young people (18-30) years old who have been affected by gang culture and/or social entrepreneurs of all ages who are leading social businesses that support young people affected by gang culture. **Deadline: 30th April**

[Active Communities](#) is a funding programme for community groups and not-for-profit organisations, with an income of less than £350,000 a year or an average of £350,000 over two years.

[The High Street Challenge Round 3](#) is looking to fund individuals or organisations which aim to diversify the offer of town centres and high streets to attract more people throughout the day and meet changing demands; or transform spaces to attract new customers to the high street and engage people for longer; or improve connections between businesses, residents and community groups in ways that build local capacity to help high streets and town centres to thrive. **Deadline: 29<sup>th</sup> May**

[UnLtd - Do-It Awards - England](#) You've got an idea: You want to create social change; you have an idea for how to do it. You'd like some support to start working on it and learning what works.

[The Mayors High Street Fund](#) will help London's high streets to become even better places to visit, to live in and to do business in, a vision set out in the Mayor's Action for High Streets.

[Big Society Capital](#) has invested 8,000,000 to provide a range of finance for social ventures that use technology and innovation.

[Bridges Ventures - Social Impact Bond Fund](#) provides investment and support to charities and social enterprises to deliver programmes designed to improve social outcomes in areas such as education, employment, housing and care for vulnerable young people.

[Charity Bank](#) operates within and as part of the voluntary sector. Charity Bank has arranged over 1,000 loans to charities, community organisations and social enterprises.

[Community Investment Fund](#) invests between 250,000 and 1m in community based, locally led organisations which are providing essential support and services to improve the well-being of local residents, developing the local economy and creating positive social change for all individuals in the community.

[Pure Community Energy Fund](#) for renewable technologies can help reduce energy bills, generate income and reduce carbon emissions as well as being a great educational resource. As a result, many charities, community groups and not-for-profit organisations are interested in installing renewable energy systems on their premises.

[The Big Issue Invest](#) provides Loan Finance from 50,000 to 200,000 at competitive rates of interest. BII can also arrange financing for more than 200,000, with other social finance institutions. Typically our partners are social enterprises or trading arms of charities that have been trading for three years and have a turnover of over 250,000.

[TSELF Social Enterprise Loan Fund](#) provides loans to charities and social enterprises that are unable to secure sufficient funding from mainstream sources. The aim is to help organisations that have a social impact, especially those working in disadvantaged communities. There is a network of regional managers who work closely with their clients to ensure that their loans meet their needs and help them become more sustainable enterprises.

[WRAP - Waste Prevention Loan Fund](#) will support organisations to develop innovative, more resource-efficient ways of doing business in England.

\*\*\*For more funding see the [CAS Income Generation-bulletin](#)\*\*\*

## Show Case

Thank you to Winsome Duncan from Mployme for your Show Case at the network event on 26<sup>th</sup> March.

Here are some amazing social enterprising happening in Southwark:

- [Be Active](#): a Community Interest Company (CIC) that aims to promote tennis and healthy recreation in the local area;
- [Young Mums Support Network](#): Community Interest Company (CIC) set up by Emma from Lambeth and Fiona from Southwark after they completed a youth work training course with L&Q funding;
- [Unity Kitchen](#): The Camden Society's Unity Kitchen model offers partners multiple benefits far beyond good food and drink. They currently work in partnership with Southwark Council in the Tooley St premises;
- [Brigade](#): bar and restaurant that helps homeless individuals develop skills and motivation to find employment through apprenticeships in the restaurant.

*If you would like to share anything through the newsletter, please contact [Deborah@casouthwark.org.uk](mailto:Deborah@casouthwark.org.uk)*

*If you would like any support for your group in developing your activities, applying for funding or strengthening your structure please feel free to contact the Development Team at CAS. [development@casouthwark.org.uk](mailto:development@casouthwark.org.uk)*