

Background:

The Social Enterprise Task and Finish Group have come together to develop a vision and action plan for the social enterprise sector in Wales. (It would include social enterprises as well as co-operative and mutual organisations but social enterprise is used as shorthand in this paper).

The purpose of the group is to lead the development of a vision and action plan for the Welsh social enterprise sector, to advocate for the sector and to facilitate good communications between organisations working in the social enterprise sector.

Current membership of the group includes:

- Matt Brown (WCVA)
- San Leonard (Social Firms Wales)
- Carys Roberts (Welsh Government)
- Jane Ryall (Unltd); Derek Walker (Wales Co-operative Centre)
- Peter Williams (DTA Wales)
- Menna Jones (Antur Waunfawr)
- Alun Taylor, Coalfields Regeneration Trust

To date, the group have developed:

- Broad messages about the overall aims of the vision and action plan
- Questions to take out to the wider sector for consultation to stimulate discussion so that we can build the vision together

We held an initial workshop in November to gather ideas from a range of stakeholders on the areas which should be covered in a wider consultation. We will work with the wider social enterprise sector in Wales to develop the vision and action plan.

Aims of the vision and action plan:

We want the vision and action plan to help make Wales one of the best places to start and grow a social enterprise and to help build a movement for change.

Our aims are:

- for social enterprise to be the business model of choice in delivering solutions to social, economic and environmental challenges across Wales.
- to bring people together to make the social enterprise sector much more recognised and valued, an integral part of everyday life in Wales.
- to know the social enterprise sector's priorities, for growing sector in Wales and how we can work together to create a movement for change.

As a result of our consultation, we aim to produce:



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our collective ambition for the sector in Wales
I activities to achieve this and who would do what.

Next steps – consultation:

The process will be a shared endeavour, involving people and organisations throughout Wales, and culminating in a vision that we can all share and actions that we can all play a role in delivering.

Our inclusive consultation process will include:

- Regional events
- One to one meetings with our stakeholders and social enterprise clients
- Online consultation document
- Social media campaign outreach.

The questions will focus on topics including:

- Enterprise with a social purpose, as the preferred business model.
- Self reliant and empowered communities
- Building a movement for social change.

2. Questions from the sector:

We would appreciate updates from the Minister on the following:

- The proposal for a Social Entrepreneur in residence at Welsh Government
- Steps being taken by Welsh Government to support the Foundational Economy
- The review of business support arrangements post 2021.