

FAQS and Feedback



Social Enterprise Places Scotland



The Scottish
Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

**SCOTLAND'S
SOCIAL ENTERPRISE
STRATEGY**

Supporting Scotland's Social
Enterprise Strategy 2016-26



**SOCIAL
ENTERPRISE
SCOTLAND**

 **Royal Bank
of Scotland**

FAQs

What are the benefits in being a Social Enterprise Place? Is there a 'prize'/cash reward? What resources are available for groups as part of the Places programme?

- There is currently no cash/financial award associated with being a Social Enterprise Place though given this has been raised at a number of our events we are looking into this for the future.
- To date groups will get the 'badge' of recognition, associated press and publicity and we will work through our own team and appropriate contacts to look at the development plans each Place wishes to develop and work with them on this. This would all be discussed with the Place before announcements are made.

How will we measure impact?

- We anticipate a light touch approach with the Places that are awarded but in order that we can see the difference the Places programme has had we will look at 6 and 12 monthly catch up calls/visits. We are keen to understand how much publicity the Place has had, what this has meant/the difference it has made and their progress against their development/future plans.

How is Social Enterprise being defined?

- We will follow the definition of Social Enterprise in accordance with the Scottish Government.

What will happen beyond the pilot?

- We plan to continue to build on the pilot initiative to build the number of Social Enterprise Places on the map in Scotland.

If multiple groups from one place apply will you connect them?

- We will not do this automatically and would speak to groups about this individually first.

What impact will being a Social Enterprise Place have?

- Having spoken with previous Places we know it has aided their collaboration and communication locally, has increased visitors/service users and given them more confidence in applying for funds.

Who is on the panel?

- We are currently contacting potential panel members and so names are not public at this stage. Our focus on bringing a panel together is having a good knowledge of a broad geography of Scotland in relation to Social Enterprise and a berth that covers both urban and rural environments.

How does this work fit with the Social Enterprise Census?

- The Census data lists hotspots based on the number of social enterprises that exist in that area. We are also focused on understanding the impact this has made NOT just the numerical data.

What links are there with local authorities and other external stakeholders?

- At this stage we have linked with local authorities to let them know about the programme and therefore highlight in their areas and we are asking for stakeholder support letters as part of the application.

Reasons for attending the Places event

- Learn more about the Places programme
- Learn more about sharing local success of SEs in their area
- Find out more about social enterprises in their area (meet others at the event)
- Find out if places is relevant to our group?
- To see what outcomes people in the room are working towards and whether there are ways to link up
- Hear how the sector is developing

Feedback

Comment	Response (if applicable)
Some felt it would have been more appropriate to consult with the sector about the programme	This is part of a pilot and we are collecting feedback to inform next steps.
Promotion already falls in the SEN remit	SES are also committed to promoting Social Enterprise in Scotland. Where there is a network we will work with these organisations and we anticipate these relationships will develop further post pilot when time pressures allow for further engagement. We are also keen that areas where there are not existing networks are able to be recognised too.
Timing is tight for developing and receiving applications	We are aware this is a challenging deadline but were keen to use this initial phase as a pilot. We are asking groups who are interested but unable to meet the application deadline to register an interest so we can build up information for promoting further opportunities.
The programme should be about promotion not network support.	The programme is about promotion but we will look to ensure applicants are supported in their future plans though we envisage this is a balance of indirect and direct engagement working with

	other infrastructure organisations as appropriate.
It would be good to learn from other Places that apply.	As the programme develops we envisage that learning and potential collaboration/idea sharing between Places will increase. We know this has happened in the SEUK programme which has been going for c. 5 years.
The sector needs to look outside of just to the Social Enterprise scene and build other connections. Are there links re the Chamber of Commerce for eg?	We agree and hope this work will also build on promoting the sector to external stakeholders. Where Places applying feel these are key links for their Place they can demonstrate this through their stakeholder support letter.
Do groups have the outsources to apply?	We can help groups look through applications and have worked to design a process that is as straightforward as we can while collecting enough information for a panel decision.
The recognition is useful – Is Places like a kitemark?	We are not calling it a kitemark but do see it as a ‘badge’ that Places can use as they see of most benefit to them. A kitemark is often a more formal process.
Are there links with Visit Scotland?	We have been talking with the Tourism SEN and trying to ensure we are linked up in our approaches.
Will a focus on a tourism link make some groups feel the programme is not suited to them? Need to make this clear.	It was suggested that we make this more explicit as part of our pilot and we will review all aspects of the pilot as we move forwards.
It would be good if there were more resources for groups/Places – can make the programme more strategic.	We are keen to ensure the programme is strategic and itself has an impact.
Need to look at how the programme adds value to what is already there – recognize existing infrastructure and don’t duplicate	We have been working to look at how the programme fits with other initiatives and will continue to do this as we move forwards.
Don’t just copy the SEUK programme. Scotland is different.	We have looked at what works and have adapted the programme to the Scotland context.

Need evidence of the programme	As this is a new programme for Scotland we will be collecting information and reviewing the programme as it develops.
Make more use of the SENS to promote the programme	We are keen to work with a variety of partners to help promote the Places scheme throughout Scotland.
Can see the benefit of the programme in helping to kick start things in given areas	We hope that the programme encourages and supports the sector to grow in Scotland too.