

The Better Project Social Enterprise Social Impact Assessment Pilot Selection Criteria

Background

The Better Project is looking for leading champions to participate in a new exciting social impact assessment project.

Project Aim:

To make clear and consistent social impact information available to procurers, commissioners and support organisations in Sussex.

What's Involved:

Working with experts at the top of the field, a social impact assessment tool will be embedded within pilot social enterprises across Sussex. This tool will measure and quantify multiple outcomes, clearly identify monetary and added value and in doing so will demonstrate social impact in an accountable way. These pilots will “road test” the tools, obtaining real data, expertise and awareness which will then be rolled out across the South East.

Following the application process, the selected social enterprises will be supported in considering the social impact resulting from their day to day activities. Representatives from the enterprises will be given the opportunity to undertake a training programme looking at tools and techniques to assist in the measurement of social impact. This knowledge will then inform process and practice so that impact measurement becomes embedded into the enterprise.

Furthermore the ability of the enterprise to more thoroughly tell the story of its activities and impact will be useful when building relationships with procurement teams and commissioners seeking to let contracts, thereby improving the business opportunities for the social enterprise and building the capacity of the sector to deliver public services.

Project Outcomes:

- 1) Improved support infrastructure for social accounting in Sussex so social enterprises are able to measure and quantify their social impact consistently to demonstrate to public procurers, commissioners and investors the benefits of contracting with local social enterprise organisations.
- 2) Public procurers and commissioners understand the impact and value of social enterprises in the local economy, community and environment so they facilitate policies and procedures for purchasing that encourage social enterprises to bid for contracts and explore new business opportunities.

3) Social enterprise support infrastructure organisations hold expertise in social accounting tools as well as better understanding of public procurement and commissioning

Our Expectations:

- The social enterprise will be fully committed and engaged to the project with full support of the board.
- If selected, your organisation appoints an individual to champion the social reporting process
- The champion and/or other employees are willing to take part in project activities e.g. seminars, share knowledge and expertise, provide information for case studies

If you are interested, please complete the expression of interest form by June 3rd and return to Kate@bhbc.org.uk, demonstrate how your organisation meets the criteria outlined below:

ESSENTIAL

1. Established social enterprise with a keen interest in public procurement or is already delivering services and/or is contract ready
2. Delivers a good or service for which there is a market in terms of public service delivery
3. Commitment to the project outcomes
4. Enthusiasm for the project and motivated to measure social impact
5. Capacity to be involved
6. Board level agreement to participate in pilot (trustee signature required on form)

DESIRABLE

7. Established links with procurers and commissioners
8. Established links with social enterprise infrastructure organisation e.g. More Than Profit Network, ESSEN, WSSSEN, 1066 Enterprise
9. Skills exist within the organisation to ensure the tool can be implemented
10. Your organisation is already monitoring social impact but you aspire to improve

