Social Enterprise Resources & Support


Business Links ([www.businesslink.gov.uk](http://www.businesslink.gov.uk) 0845 6000 787) not specifically for Social Enterprise, but advice for small businesses. Run a telephone advice service.


Community Catalysts ([http://www.communitycatalysts.co.uk/](http://www.communitycatalysts.co.uk/)) support for social businesses, entrepreneurs, community groups etc. that wish to work in health and social care


Co-operatives UK ([http://www.uk.coop/](http://www.uk.coop/)) The network for Britain’s thousands of co-operatives, Co-operatives UK works to promote, develop and unite member-owned businesses worth £37 billion to the economy

CrowdingIn ([http://crowdingin.com/](http://crowdingin.com/)) Find a crowdfunding website that suits your fundraising needs. You can filter by the type of funding you can raise and the sectors platforms specialise in.


Global Social Entrepreneur Network ([http://www.gsen.global/](http://www.gsen.global/)) global network for organisations supporting early stage social entrepreneurs
Guardian Sustainable Business (http://www.theguardian.com/uk/sustainable-business) The Guardian’s area for sustainable businesses often has interesting and useful articles for social enterprise

Have I Got Social Enterprise News For You (http://sse.us2.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=7ac8b50df4ea6f2704128ddfd&id=37ebc0341a&utm_source=SSE+newsletter&utm_campaign=643558e2df-Having_its_cake_and_eating_it&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_37ebc0341a-643558e2df-325415221) Sign up to receive this bulletin from SSE full of useful training, funding and case studies

Impact Hub Brixton (http://brixton.impacthub.net/) shared workspace, peer-to-peer learning and a wide-range of events, Impact Hub Brixton is home to a creative space where meaningful conversations and tangible impact go hand in hand

Locality (http://locality.org.uk/) Locality is the national network of ambitious and enterprising community-led organisations, working together to help neighbourhoods

Olmec (www.olmec-ec.org.uk) support BAMER (Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic and Refugee communities) social enterprises both start-ups and those wanting to develop

One Planet Ventures (http://www.oneplanetventures.org/) incubator hub for young entrepreneurs plus other support including the HATCH incubator programme for young entrepreneurs: http://hatch-incubator.org/

Power To Change (http://www.thepowertochange.org.uk/) funding and support for community businesses

Praxis Community Projects (http://www.praxis.org.uk/) provides advice, support and a welcome meeting place for vulnerable migrants and refugees in London including but not exclusively on social enterprise

Red Ochre (http://redochre.org.uk/) practical, appropriate and flexible support for individuals, organisations and businesses that deliver social change

Sandy Adirondack’s legal update (www.sandy-a.co.uk) has loads of information for anyone running a voluntary sector organisation. In particular look at Chapter 51: Trading and Social Enterprise

School of Social Entrepreneurs (www.sse.org.uk  020 8981 0300) hold useful training, send out newsletters and provide support to social entrepreneurs and organisations

Small Good Stuff (http://www.smallgoodstuff.co.uk/) web directory for very small groups to show what they do as well as providing resources, information and support

Social Enterprise Coalition (www.socialenterprise.org.uk) the national body for social enterprise; runs events and has online support

Social Enterprise UK (http://www.socialenterprise.org.uk/) the national body for social enterprise - business with a social or environmental mission. Provide networking opportunities Free guides Social enterprise badge Discounts & offers.
Social Investment from Know How Non-Profit (https://knowhownonprofit.org/funding/social-investment-1) online resources all about social investment.

Trust Law (Thomas Reuters Foundation) (http://www.trust.org/trustlaw/) support pro bono legal services by connecting NGOs and social enterprises with legal teams offering free legal assistance in over 170 countries

UnLtd (www.unltd.org.uk) 0207 566 1100) offer some funding to social enterprises, and the website has useful links for further support

UK Crowdfunding Association (http://www.ukcfa.org.uk/) promoting Crowdfunding and provide a code of practice etc.

Crowdfunding Websites

There are many crowdfunding websites available – some are more appropriate for social businesses than others. Make sure you do your research and pick a site that work for you and your idea. Always check to see if they take a cut and what you have to offer people in return etc.

Abundance Generation (https://www.abundanceinvestment.com/) offers peer-to-peer investments that create something good for the environment and society, without compromising on your financial return.

Bank to the Future (https://bnktothefuture.com/) Bnk To The Future is a global online investment platform that allows qualifying investors to invest in financial innovation including FinTech (Financial Technology) companies, funds and other new alternative financial products.

Bloom Venture Catalyst (http://bloomvc.com/) independently owned and operated in the UK, funded by a small group of the UK’s most successful entrepreneurs and investors.

BuzzBnk (https://www.buzzbnk.org/) on-line crowd-funding platform bringing social ventures looking for start-up or growth capital together with like-minded people keen to participate in a new way of funding social change.

Crowd Cube (https://www.crowdcube.com/#) world’s leading investment crowdfunding platform. We enable anyone to invest alongside professional investors in start-up, early stage and growth businesses through equity, debt and investment fund options. Join the 200,000-strong crowd looking for more interesting investments - it’s free, quick and has no obligations

Crowdfunder (http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/) If you are a community group, a business, a charity, a social enterprise, a sports club, or a person with the spark of an idea that you want to turn into reality, then we want to help you fund it

Funding Circle (https://www.fundingcircle.com/uk/) marketplace exclusively focused on small businesses

Funding Tree (https://www.fundingtree.co.uk/) regulated crowdfunding UK platform is designed to help investors make good returns on investments and businesses raise money to grow. Businesses raise finance using one of two ways: through equity crowdfunding or peer-to-peer lending

GlobalGiving (https://www.globalgiving.org/) first and largest global crowdfunding community that connects nonprofits, donors, and companies in nearly every country around the world. We make it
possible for local organisations to access the funding, tools, training, and support they need to become more effective and make our world a better place

**Indiegogo** ([https://www.indiegogo.com/#/picks_for_you](https://www.indiegogo.com/#/picks_for_you)) launchpad for creative and entrepreneurial ideas of every shape and size

**Investing Zone** ([https://www.investingzone.com/](https://www.investingzone.com/)) Provide equity crowdfunding. Equity crowdfunding is the process whereby a large number of people provide money to a business in return for shares in the company

**JustGiving Projects** ([https://crowdfunding.justgiving.com/](https://crowdfunding.justgiving.com/)) tech-for-good company. We charge a fee, all of which is re-invested into building innovative new tools to make giving better for everyone

**Kickstarter** ([https://www.kickstarter.com/](https://www.kickstarter.com/)) helps artists, musicians, filmmakers, designers, and other creators find the resources and support they need to make their ideas a reality through crowdfunding

**PeerBackers** ([http://peerbackers.com/index.html](http://peerbackers.com/index.html)) Earn a return from your peers. Not the bank. Crowdfunding plus media presence and other support through consultancy

**RocketHub** ([https://www.rockethub.com/](https://www.rockethub.com/)) Based in New York - an international, pioneering, open community that has helped thousands of artists, scientists, entrepreneurs, and social leaders raise millions.

**Seedrs** ([https://www.seedrs.com/](https://www.seedrs.com/)) social investment in businesses: Businesses throughout Europe—from idea-stage start-ups to publicly-listed companies have raised funds through Seedrs. Our flexible processes mean that any business can efficiently raise capital

**Spacehive** ([https://www.spacehive.com/](https://www.spacehive.com/)) crowdfund projects that bring civic spaces to life. Spacehive helps local people, companies and councils fund everything from spruced up playgrounds to giant water slides in the middle of the high street

**Syndicate Room** ([https://www.syndicateroom.com/](https://www.syndicateroom.com/)) Equity crowdfunding. High fees involved and aimed more at businesses focussing on the City rather than social businesses

**The Funding Network** ([http://www.thefundingnetwork.org.uk/](http://www.thefundingnetwork.org.uk/)) live crowdfunding events are like a friendly Dragons’ Den, giving people the chance to come together with a philanthropic purpose to support causes they care about. It gives people the opportunity to pool their time and resources to fund charitable projects that catalyse social change. Crowdfunding events can vary in size and structure, ranging from a group of friends in a local bar, to large scale events hosted by corporate organisations.

**Trillion Fund** ([https://www.trillionfund.com/](https://www.trillionfund.com/)) Environmental crowdfunding. *Trillion is not issuing new renewable loans for the foreseeable future. In these uncertain times, the company will instead focus on offering technology and crowdfunding services to other businesses across all sectors. We will publish more details of these services shortly. Meanwhile, Buzzbnk.org will continue to operate as a rewards based platform for charities and social enterprises.*

**Unbound** ([https://unbound.co.uk/](https://unbound.co.uk/)) Unbound is a new way to connect authors and readers. Authors present a pitch, you pledge, and when the goal is reached the book is written. It’s really that simple.