

IMPACT HUB INVERNESS

Who, What, When, Why and How?
And what impact?

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- A quick tour of the Highlands and Islands
- A bit of history about us
- What is social enterprise?
- The Impact Hub journey
- Our Impact



HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS IN SCOTLAND - I



HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS IN SCOTLAND - 2

















HISEZ



- A social enterprise – a Community Interest Company (CIC)
- Provide business support to social enterprises in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland
- 16 years old, first as a project with grant funding, and for last 11 years totally funded by contracts
- Worked with well over 300 organisations over that time
- Small team of 6 staff (plus freelance consultants)
- A property owner – 140 sqm of office space in the centre of Inverness
- Open to new ideas and ways of doing business

WHAT IS A SOCIAL ENTERPRISE?

- A business like any other
- Needs to make a profit to survive
- But it invests that profit in its social purpose rather than distributing to shareholders

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE ACTIVITY BY REGION

	Number of Social Enterprises	% of All Social Enterprises	Net Change (2015-19)
Aberdeen City and Shire	443	7%	+21%
East of Scotland	1,662	28%	+16%
Highlands and Islands	1,272	21%	+14%
South of Scotland	481	8%	+25%
Tayside	449	8%	+22%
West of Scotland	1,718	29%	+14%
ALL REGIONS	6,025	100%	+16%



Highlands
and Islands

21%



South of
Scotland

8%



Tayside

8%

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE RESPONSES TO LOCAL CIRCUMSTANCES



- **Community ownership**
 - Land
 - Resources (power generation, forests)
 - Services (shops, petrol stations etc.)
- **Filling the gaps in service delivery**
 - For vulnerable groups (elderly, children, unemployed, homeless)
 - Transport
 - Broadband
- **Health, care and wellbeing**
 - Food
 - Activities
 - Care

THE IMPACT HUB JOURNEY THE TIMELINE



- Visit to Tokyo in 2015
- Purchase of a building in 2015
- Visit to Impact Hubs in June 2016
- Decide to become an Impact Hub in September 2016
- Approval from the Impact Hub network to join in April 2017
- Acquire regional license instead of city license
- Official opening June 1 2017



**IMPACT
HUB**

Inverness

Serving the Highlands and Islands

THE IMPACT HUB JOURNEY – WHAT IS IMPACT HUB?



- Network of independent but connected, hosted, co-working spaces
- Globally connected, locally rooted
- About achieving social impact, and facilitating others to do so
- Three core components
 - space,
 - community, and
 - content (business mentoring, programmes, workshops, events etc)



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OUR SOCIAL PURPOSE



Reduce the social isolation of the
individual and the region

IMPACT HUB INVERNESS



- **THE SPACE** - Co-working space - Fixed office - Meetings rooms – Private space. Flexible and multi-purpose, easy access, welcoming, varied
- **THE COMMUNITY** - around 40 members, random hot-deskers, meeting space, 'The Home of Social Enterprise'
- **THE CONTENT** - business support contracts, unofficial business mentoring, peer-to-peer support, events, B2B contracting

IMPACT HUB INVERNESS



- 6 staff
- £250,000 turnover
- 3 big contracts for business support to social enterprises and SMEs
- Many smaller contracts with community groups
- Own our own space – 140sqm

IMPACT HUB INVERNESS



- 40 members – mainly Connect members
- One fixed office – an entire room rented to around 10 project staff of a social enterprise
- 3-4 member-only events a year
- Series of monthly networking events on various topics
- Collaboration group – looking at opportunities for jointly bidding for work amongst members
- Intra-member contracting and joint working

IMPACT – GLOBAL REPORT



WHAT IMPACT - FOR US?



- Increased sustainability of the organisation
- Increased status amongst stakeholders and agencies
- Increased confidence
- Increased connections
- Increased contracting opportunities
- Increased opportunities
- Job creation
- Global connection

WHAT IMPACT - FOR MEMBERS?



- Improved mental and physical health
- Increased connections and wider network
- Increased contracting opportunities
- Collaboration opportunities
- Connection to the global community
- Reduced social isolation
- Opportunity to share ideas, resources and knowledge

WHAT IMPACT - FOR THE REGION?



- Warm dry place to drop into
- A physical presence for social enterprise as a business model
- Business support to wider community
- Networks developed from open events

WHAT IS IMPACT?



Is it about SGDs or something much simpler?

