

A Missed Opportunity:

So, what next?

Dr Sarah Evans

cwmpas.coop



Cwmpas

- Social Business Wales (SBW)
- Consultancy Work
- S16 role
- Digital Communities Wales



Overview of presentation

- Key findings from the report
- The latest sector data
- The vision and action plan for social enterprise in Wales
- Who can offer sector support
- Buy local Buy Social Project
- S16 social care
- So, what next?

Key Findings from the Report

- Our overall conclusion is that local authorities are not effectively working with Social Enterprises to maximise their impact, make better use of resources and improve services for people and communities.
- Most local authorities have adopted a passive leadership role, often responding to Social Enterprises that approach them but not proactively seeking to work with Social Enterprises or help stimulate new ones. This leadership vacuum has resulted in Social Enterprises often being at the fringes of local authority business.
- Most local authorities are not delivering their responsibilities under the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 and effectively promoting Social Enterprises.



Latest SBW Mapping Data (April 2023)

- High levels of new entrepreneurial activity. There are now approximately 2,828 businesses in the sector, an increase of 22% from 2020.
- A quarter of businesses surveyed are 'start ups' that have been trading for 2 years or less.
- Social businesses now account for 2.6% of the total business stock in Wales, up from 2.2% in 2020.
- Total turnover for the sector is calculated as £4.8bn, an increase of 26% from 2020.
- Total employment for the sector is calculated as 65,299, an increase of 16% from 2020.



Business Practice and Trading

Encouraging responses

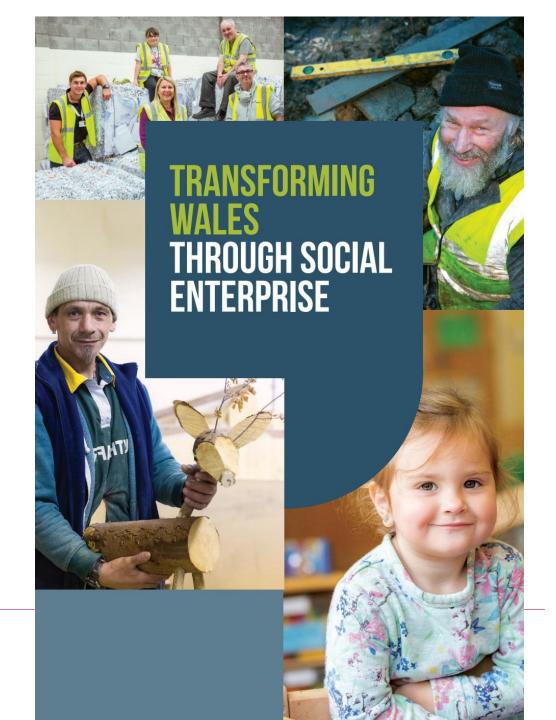
- New services
- New products
- New customers
- New geographical areas
- Plans to grow further through trading activities

But

- Need to access capital to support growth
- Accessibility of commissioning and procurement opportunities

Ten Year Vision and Action Plan

 Co-produced by social enterprises and social enterprise support agencies with the support of Welsh Government, 'Transforming Wales through social enterprise' outlined an ambitious vision which will see social enterprise become the business model of choice in Wales by 2030





The range and value of finance options tailored to the needs of social enterprises will multiply

Social enterprises will be better able to exploit digital technology for social good

Social enterprises will adopt Fair Work practices, pay the Living Wage and increase diversity amongst their employees and volunteers

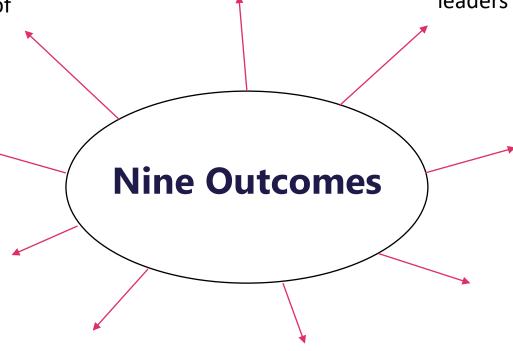
> Social enterprises will play a greater role in tackling the climate emergency and protecting the environment

Good quality specialist business support More people will choose to engage tailored to the needs of the sector will be available to everyone who needs it

with social enterprises – as customers, employees, volunteers or leaders

> More people will choose a social enterprise model to start a new business

Policymakers will prioritise social enterprise solutions when considering how to address problems and will create conditions which help social enterprises to rebuild and thrive



Social enterprises will be better connected to each other and will speak with a more unified voice



OUTCOME 1:

MORE PEOPLE WILL CHOOSE TO ENGAGE WITH SOCIAL ENTERPRISES — AS CUSTOMERS, EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS OR LEADERS



Actions

- Encourage local authorities and other public bodies to include social enterprises in their supply chains
- Lobby public bodies to ensure their procurement processes are appropriate to social enterprises



Social Business Support

- Post 1st July 2023
- Social Enterprise Sector Group (SESG)
- Cwmpas: delivering Social Business Wales (SBW)
- DTA; mentoring, via SBW
- WCVA: Social Investment Cymru
- Social Firms Wales
- UnLtd



Buy Local, Buy Social

- Corporate plans
- Foundational economy
- Focus on Local Spend
- Local supply chain
- Procurement levers
- Social value
- LAs; wanting to get to know local social businesses
- Implementation gap
- Good practice examples

S16

- Social value models of delivery
- S16 forums (formerly social value forums)
- National Commissioning sub-group
- Guidance and advice on our website, including social value in social care commissioning.
- Market Stability Reports

Also

The 20% allocation of the Regional Integration Fund for the social value sector, managed via Regional Partnership Boards provides a real opportunity for working with Social Enterprises to invest in new ways of delivering services.



What next?

- Checklist for local authorities for effectively engaging and working with Social Enterprises
- Where to start?
- Need to know who is out there
- Capacity
- Appetite for growth, development and diversification
- Where are the opportunities

What next?

- Setting the vision and strategy
- Document review: What are Corporate and Strategic plans saying already?
- Raising Awareness (staff and elected members)
- Shared Prosperity Funding (W26)
 - What are the opportunities
 - Grant funding (Will social businesses be able to secure match funding?)

Reports and contacts

- SBW Mapping
- 10-year Vision and Action Plan
- Social Value in Social Care
- Social Business Wales
- Social Value Report
- Cwmpas Consultancy Services

Contact

Sarah.evans@cwmpas.coop

