

# Social Enterprise

A social enterprise is a business with a heart. Use your profits from your socially-motivated product or service to expand your reach and help more of your community.

Here's some useful guidance on how to make it work...

## 1. Fundraising vs Social Enterprise

The key difference between running these two types of activities is that a social enterprise has a longer-term ambition. By reinvesting some of your profits you can build your audience and enhance your offer.

## 2. Where is the need?

Make sure you set yourself clear goals from the start. What do you want to change? Who do you want to support? Why is the issue happening? What can be done about it? Who will pay for it? Why will they buy into your idea? Remember: a social enterprise is about more than just profit—it needs to have a real benefit to others.

## 3. Market research

Does anyone else have a similar business model? Are they a competitor or do you want to set up a social enterprise project that compliments their goals? What do they charge for a similar service? What are your target audience willing to pay?



Challenge yourselves to come up with a really unique idea. Struggling for inspiration? Check out our [ideas generator](#)!



## 4. Develop your USP

Having a USP (Unique Selling Point) helps you stand out from the crowd. Imagine two businesses that supply identical products, however one of them is carbon neutral, using environmentally-friendly manufacturing methods. Which one would you buy from?

## 5. Share your enthusiasm

People are more likely to support your enterprise if they understand exactly what benefits it brings. So make sure you always share how their support delivers impact back to the local or global community. Local media can help.

## 6. Keep in touch

Don't forget to thank all your customers for their support. Ideally keep them informed of your impact as they'll want to hear how they contributed to your project aims. Remember, Giving Nation is only the beginning – you might need these people again one day!

## 7. Commit to success!

This is a real opportunity to make a difference and develop skills ready for employment. We've all heard the saying, 'failing to prepare is preparing to fail'! Setting up a successful social enterprise project takes commitment, so start by focusing on that issue you are determined to change!

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