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Social Enterprise Coalition Activity

New BME network specialist

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The Coalition is delighted to announce that a new member of staff, Tamina Mir, has joined us as our BME Enterprise Network Development Manager. Tamina's work will include integrating existing BME networks into the social enterprise movement to improve inter-practitioner support, as well as establishing a BME social enterprise network forum to support the sharing of best practice. If you would like to contact Tamina, please email her at tamina.mir@socialenterprise.org.uk

Coalition attends party conferences

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The Coalition attended the Labour Party Conference in Bournemouth last week. At the conference the Coalition held a number of productive meetings with key government ministers.

This week, the Coalition is attending the Conservative Party Conference in Blackpool.

News

Report shows value of social enterprise to environment

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A new report has demonstrated the vital role social enterprise can play in helping local authorities deliver on corporate environmental targets.

Saving Money, Saving the Planet from the Scottish Social Enterprise Coalition and Triodos Bank, demonstrates that social enterprises are not only saving the environment, but in doing so are making money.

The report emphasises the need for strong co-planning relationships between local authorities and the business sector in tailoring recycling and energy efficiency services in order to capitalise on these strengths. A greater role for local authorities must mean greater engagement with social enterprises.

[Further information](#)

Capacitybuilders re-tender their National Support Services

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Capacitybuilders, the body which improves support for third sector organisations, has made a call for expression of interests for organisations to run the next round of their National Support Services (NSS).

As recently announced the NSS will be split over nine priority work streams.

The deadline for applications is November 7, 2007.

[Further information](#)

Hazel Blears calls for community involvement

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Hazel Blears

Hazel Blears, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, has called for the increased involvement of communities in government during a speech to the Development Trust Association annual conference.

She identified five mechanisms which her department will pursue to achieve this diffusion of power: Asset Transfer, Participatory Budgeting, Petitions, Community Land Trusts and Community Anchors.

[Further information](#)

BME entrepreneurs needed for documentary

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BME social entrepreneurs are being invited to take part in pioneering new TV documentary. The programme makers are searching for successful people who arrived in the UK as children with little or no knowledge of their place of birth, and would like to take these entrepreneurs back to their country of origin to tell the story of what they have achieved in the UK and find out about life back home.

If you are interested in taking part, please email david.barrett1@gmail.com by Friday 12 October 2007.

Acorn House wins award

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Acorn House restaurant, which opened in November last year, has won Social Enterprise of the Year at the Regeneration and Renewal Awards.

The judges described it as "a fantastic example of a social enterprise" and praised its "attention to detail in minimising environmental impact and great food."

The restaurant was created by the Shoreditch Trust. Giles Coren from The Times called it: "The most important restaurant to open in London in the past 200 years."

www.acornhouserestaurant.com

Councils dump 10 million re-usable items of furniture every year

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Over 10 million reusable items of furniture are sent to landfill by local authorities every year - almost 30,000 items every day - according to a study by The Furniture Re-use Network (FRN).

Paul Smith, Chief Executive of the FRN said: "Some Councils have shown the way by introducing bulky re-use collections or setting up charity shops and workshops on civic amenity sites. We are calling upon all local authorities and their waste management partners to adopt this approach."

Over half a million tonnes of 'waste' could be diverted from landfill. Smith added: "Coupled with a proper implementation of the WEEE Directive we could save 17 million items for re-use each year."

New study praises London mayors energy policies

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An independent study by London South Bank University has reported that Ken Livingstone's energy policies have resulted in a 26% saving of CO2.

The study looked at reductions in energy use and carbon savings resulting from the application of London Plan energy policies and concluded: "In general, the Mayor's policies have been highly successful in reducing expected energy consumption and CO2 emissions in new developments representing around a 26% saving of CO2."

[Read the report](#)

C o n s u l t a t i o n s

Social enterprise and the Compact

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The Coalition is seeking the views of its members on their experiences of the Compact and how they feel it relates to social enterprise.

The Compact is a framework of good practice set out to create a mutually beneficial, effective working relationship between government and the voluntary and community sector.

The Coalition is hoping to use this information to inform our activity in influencing this agenda.

[To complete a short survey on the Compact, click here.](#)

E v e n t s

Enterprising Solutions Awards 2007 - two weeks to go

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October 17

London

The winners of this year's Enterprising Solutions Award will be announced on the evening of Wednesday October 17 at a lavish ceremony in London.

This annual national award for social enterprise is a must attend event for the movement. For more details and to book your place please email award@socialenterprise.org.uk.

www.enterprisingsolutions.org

Social enterprise start-up workshop

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Starting a Social Enterprise and Legal Structures for the Social Economy

October 4

British Library

This workshop run by Red Ochre will help improve your understanding of social enterprise and will look at the large number of potential structures that you can adopt for your project or organisation within the social sector.

[Further information](#)

Social Enterprise London conference

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Social Enterprise is the Business: Creating New Markets in London

October 9

British Museum, London

Bringing together key policy-makers, private businesses and social entrepreneurs, this conference will consider how to grow and develop London's leadership status in social enterprise. Speakers include Ken Livingstone and Phil Hope.

[Further information](#)

Training for social enterprise advisors

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Professional Development for Social Enterprise Advisors

October 31

Bristol

This is the SFEDI-endorsed RISE training designed to extend and enhance knowledge of the social enterprise business model for those that give advice to social enterprises.

[Further information](#)

Equal closure events

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Several of the Development Partnerships involved in the Equal programme will be holding final showcasing events through the coming months as the programme draws to a close. The events are free and open to everyone, and provide a fantastic opportunity to learn about the work that has been carried out.

Forthcoming events include:

BEST Procurement Final Conference

November 15

The Peepul Centre, Leicester

more information on this event is available [here](#)

Cultural Shift Conference: Multiplying the social enterprise effect

November 16

The Ark Centre, Basingstoke

more information on this event is available [here](#)

VSO social enterprise volunteering opportunity

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Information Day

October 20

London

VSO, the non-governmental organisation that works through volunteers, is urgently seeking social enterprise professionals who can work as small business advisers to capacity build local staff working on community projects in Africa and Asia.

VSO provides volunteers with flights, accommodation, a local wage - and a life changing experience. This event allows you to find out more and speak to returned volunteers.

More details of the programme can be found [here](#).

[Further information on the event](#)

Member profile

Eden Project

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Eden project

Eden, Cornwall's domed botanic gardens, is a testament to what innovative social entrepreneurs with vision can accomplish.

The gardens, which opened in 2001, are now a symbol of sustainability, offering living space to endangered plants and animals, breathing space to nearly seven million tourists and space to learn for the children who go to Eden to study ecology and conservation.

Job of the Week

Press Office Intern

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Press Office Intern

Location: London

Salary: Unpaid internship (travel expenses covered)

Contract: Three months

Closing Date: October 20 (extended)

The Social Enterprise Coalition is rapidly expanding and is looking for a highly-skilled intern who wants to gain experience working in a busy press office. This is a great opportunity to fine tune your copywriting skills, make contacts and learn more about the inner workings of the media and Government. Please send a cv and cover letter to katy.duke@socialenterprise.org.uk

[Further information](#)

Website of the week

Climate Change College

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Climate Change College

The Climate Change College consists of a nine month business mentoring programme and a £5000 grant for each successful candidate to launch an entrepreneurial project to tackle climate change.

www.climatechangecollege.co.uk

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