

Social Justice and Regeneration Committee

SJR(2)-14-06(p.8) Annex

Date: Thursday, 19th October 2006

Venue: Committee Room 3, Senedd, National Assembly for Wales

Title: Social Enterprise Strategy for Wales

Actions to achieve Strategy Objectives

Key

1) Coalfields

2) Social Firms Wales

3) Groundwork

4) Merthyr SEN

5) Neath PT

6) Planed

7) WCVA

8) Wales Co-operative centre

Action	Appendix 3.1 Creating and Enabling Environment	Responses Received
3.1a	Annual review of Social Enterprise Strategy for Wales, in consultation with the sector	-1 Each application to Coalfields Social Enterprise Development Scheme (CSEDS) is assessed in relation to the Social Enterprise Strategy for Wales objectives and targets.. 8) The Wales Co-operative Centre and SEN are keen to contribute as required and requested.

3.1b Strengthening links within Assembly around the social enterprise agenda including housing, childcare, regeneration, education, economic development and health and in policy areas of Spatial Plan, Communities First, Heads of the Valleys and the Sustainable Development Scheme

1) CSEDS covers Objective 1, p3 former Coalfields areas. It works closely in support of policy areas including Wales Spatial Plan, Communities 1st, Heads of the Valleys and Sustainable Development.

5) Neath Port Talbot Local Social Enterprise Network now has a place on the National Social Enterprise Network and will be in a position to feed in local information.

7) Social enterprise highlighted in WCVA responses to Making the Connections and Beecham Review of Local Services. Beecham recommendations including calling for a mixed economy of service provision and a greater role for third sector. WCVA is also represented on most of the national and regional service planning groups.

8) The WCC, Menter a Busnes and Chwarae Teg have helped set up and now services an All Party Group on New Opportunities in Economic Development. Through our GSB contract we have worked jointly with DELLS and DEIN to discuss cross department referrals and joint working.

3.1c Continuing research and intelligence to inform policy, marketing, networking

1) CSEDS has a representative on the SEN; Community Investment Fund; Communities @ One; Boards of CVC's, Credit Unions, 14 Communities First partnerships, LA Economic Development Partnerships as well as grass roots development organizations etc

3) Groundwork Wales is developing a proposal for a study of the green social economy which will be submitted to the WAG New Ideas Fund late August/ early September. This submission is being developed in collaboration with BRASS.

5) The Voluntary Organisation Support Unit (VOSU) within Neath Port Talbot CVS collect data in relation to the type of assistance provided to the sector, including the potential, emerging and existing social enterprise sector. This data can then be analysed to provide information and guidance into the key areas of assistance required by the sector.

		<p>The Unit has begun to identify gaps in service provision and are undertaking research into these areas. These could potentially become social enterprises.</p> <p>7) WCVA has:</p> <p>Contributed to North Wales research on the social economy (WDA funded).</p> <p>Conducted research into health and social care service provision by voluntary and community organisations (WAG funded)</p> <p>Conducted research into voluntary sector involvement in European structural funds (June-Dec 2006).</p> <p>8) Data on numbers and size co-op and social enterprise sector maintained on Centres central client database updated daily.</p>
3.1d	<p>Raising awareness of the sector and its needs through the Social Justice and Regeneration Committee, the Business Partnership Council and the Social Justice and Regeneration Policy Group</p>	<p>1) CSEDS provided 4 workshops for over 200 attendees within or working with the Social Economy sector.</p> <p>Qualitative data was collected at these workshops assessing the status quo of the sector as perceived by the sector. This data was used to produce "report on the consultation with the social economy sector."</p> <p>Report sent to all attendees</p>

and widely circulated including AM's, MP's and relevant organizations.

2) Social Firms Wales is working with several emerging and full Social Firms nationwide. Exemplar practices are being explored for sharing across the sector.

8) The WCC has arranged a national conference on business succession in September. It undertook a PR campaign in Newport and Powys recently raising awareness of co-operatives in these areas. We presented at the SJ&R Committee recently and we represent the sector on the Business Partnership Council – will be presenting short paper on social enterprise at the next meeting in November. Publishes quarterly newsletter circulated to 1000 plus contacts. The Centre's marketing team regularly secure features in New Start, Social Enterprise and Regenerate magazines and its broad member of New Sector magazine.

7) WCVA contributed to presentation to SJR Committee

3.1e Support best practice exchanges by social enterprises, investors and support networks

1) CSEDS has supported three organizations worth £4267 from the small grants for good practice visits.

In addition £95,000 consultancy support has been provided to 29 organisations for pieces of work to improve business practice. These have included business plans;

feasibility studies; research and governance training.

3) In Sept/Oct 06, Groundwork Wales will stage a Growing Together workshop in collaboration with AmCan. This will bring social entrepreneurs together to exchange ideas. This exchange will be facilitated by mentors from leading social enterprises in Wales

4) MTSEN recently organised 'Best Practice' visit on 14th July 06 to Crumlin's Art & Craft Exhibition in Caerphilly for its members.

5) VOSU arrange monthly seminars for the sector on legal topics. This is helping to build the capacity of the sector locally. In February a multi agency consultation event was held to establish if a local SEN was required and if so what it would 'look like'. As a result the local SEN was launched in April. These events allow for regular networking of the local SE sector.

6) Support Best Practice exchanges

This is ongoing work of the social enterprise officers of PAVS, PBI and PLANED, who report to the Pembrokeshire Enterprise Network and also works with them to organise Pembrokeshire Social Enterprise Network events which demonstrate case studies and best practice.

Officers will identify

exemplars as it moves on in order to disseminate best practice to other organisations and clients.

In addition, officers have been represented at seminars and events outside the county, ensuring that information in the sector is being updated regularly.

Currently a Pembrokeshire Social Enterprise Network Event is held each November to update on changes within the sector, pass on relevant information such as funding opportunities and to showcase successful projects taking place within the county and further a field. This is the main networking event for the Pembrokeshire social enterprise network.

8) All centre clients are subject to prepared case studies which are circulated in the newsletter and through separately prepared and distributed marketing materials. Regular contact with local media and regular coverage provided. WCC is a Board member of the Social Enterprise Coalition and regularly submits examples of best practice and updates them on Welsh based activities and initiatives.

7) WCVA is supporting social

entrepreneurship through environment grant schemes development and the promotion of networking between successful projects. It will also be sharing good practice from the Community Investment, Environment Wales, and other grant schemes.

3.1f Communication of case studies

1) Workshop report sent to all attendees of workshops. Plus report sent to all AM's and MP's. Copy bi-lingually on website. This report was endorsed by the Deputy Minister Huw Lewis AM

2) Social Firms Wales has invited a small number of emerging and full Social Firms from across Wales to submit case studies for display on the Social Firms Wales Website. This particular web page is currently under construction. The Website can be viewed at: <http://www.socialfirmswales.co.uk>

3) Case study information is being collected as part of the social enterprise support work being done under Groundwork Wales' PPP2 project

5) There have been occasions through the VOSU seminars to have presentations from organisations outside of NPT to provide case studies.

6) Case Studies & PR

To date officers have had one case study published in the Western Mail Community Enterprise Supplement. A developing project has also achieved exposure on BBC2W and local and national radio. This has primarily offered exposure to the project (Tidylike Records, a Community Record Label) but at the same time communicated the value of Social Enterprise and the support mechanism available in Pembrokeshire.

Other case studies are being drafted as projects progress.

7) WCVA has supported social enterprise through the dissemination of good practice case studies in the Communities First Support Network e-bulletin, circulated to all C1st co-ordinators, and in Partner, CFSN's newsletter for C1st partnership members

<p>3.1g</p>	<p>Supporting training and best practise case studies, piloting procurement policy and practise,</p>	<p>1)Supported three groups on best practice exchange visits</p> <p>Supported one group with Sage training and purchase of sage software.</p> <p>Research on direct payments to be provided free on website.</p> <p>Supported one group with IT equipment that provide training to all sectors on best practice.</p> <p>5) The July VOSU seminar is providing information to the sector regarding NPTCBC procurement procedures and contract law. The September seminar is planned to be delivered by Contract Shop on ‘How to Tender’</p> <p>7) WCVA is working with Value Wales, Voluntary Sector Partnership Council, WAG and others, to develop good procurement practice and skills for not-for-profits</p> <p>8) Not clear as to what this action was.</p>
<p>3.1h</p>	<p>Support training and best practise, case studies, piloting State Aid policy and practise.</p>	<p>1)Provided session at 4 workshops on State Aid and its implications.</p> <p>Provide information on state aid to all applicants.</p> <p>5) All developments relating to State Aid, for example the recent consultation documents, are dealt with by the Voluntary Sector Economic Prosperity Forum. The Sectors views are then fed into the consultation process. The Forum</p>

allows for an exchange of information.

6) PLANED has been involved in supporting this sector for a number of years both through the RCA programme with officer support and likewise through LEADER+. PLANED officers whose roles extend from simply identifying ideas with community members, capacity building, providing support, information and sign posting to relevant advisers.

In November 2004 PLANED organised a major event engaging the expertise of a wide range of practitioners and case studies. This event, chaired by the Chief executive of the Plunkett Foundation was the launch of the Pembrokeshire Social Enterprise Network.

Following the Launch by Edwina Hart of the Social Enterprise Strategy on 27th June 2005, a further event was held to inform the Network of the contents of the strategy. The data base of social enterprises has gradually increased and a second network event was held in November 2005 chaired by Steve Cranston, addressed by Tamsin Dunwoody AM (title) and Charles Middleton of Tridos Bank and a number of good practice case studies from throughout the UK., including childcare and a community owned shop. A further event is planned for this autumn where on this occasion a number of local case studies will feature.

7) WCVA is addressing and resolving a range of complex state aid issues arising from the SRS scheme, and will be able to

share lessons learnt with both grant providers and applicants/recipients. WCVA has a member of staff who advises on state aid issues.

8) The Centre has been closely involved with the Assembly re Credit Unions.

Appendix: 3.2 Making Social Enterprises Better Businesses

3.2a Increase turnover of larger social enterprises in Wales

1) CSEDS forecast an increase in turnover of £363,362 over 18 months for both existing and emerging enterprises supported.

4) Social Economy Mapping Exercise on Social Enterprises in Merthyr Tydfil (January 06) indicated that £3,096,700 is derived from Turnover

5) The VOSU team provide guidance to the local social enterprises. This can include advice in funding, trading, governance, accounts, business planning and feasibility studies

8) As at June 30th 2006, the Centre reported a £2.3 million increase in turnover from its clients from January 2004.

3.2b	Establish a Mentoring programme for leaders of social enterprises plus emerging successors/ leaders	<p>1) CSEDS has provided 30 organisations with consultancy support to strengthen volunteer and employee skills in business planning, feasibility and good governance.</p> <p>7) WCVA's Magic of Mentoring programme matches mentors with managers in a range of organisations, including social enterprises. It is currently negotiating funding for an accredited Certificate in Mentoring training programme.</p> <p>8) Wales Co-operative Centre has delivered an internal mentoring programme for staff, partners and clients (social enterprise businesses) and aims to work with the existing programmes operated by SEN members.</p>
3.2c	Funding the dissemination of information and best practise in asset development/transfer	<p>1) CSEDS has provided £200,000 in asset refurbishment</p> <p>CSEDS workshops included sessions on asset transfer/ development</p> <p>8) Through co-op client purchasing assets and work with Land for People – the Centre is currently advising three potential Community Land Trusts.</p>

3.2d	Continue to develop proposals for an all-Wales CDFI currently with DTI/Finance Wales	<p>1)CSEDS has referred organizations to Community Investment Fund.</p> <p>8) Contributed to working group ‘round table’ discussion on this. The Wales Co-operative Centre is a trustee of Co-operative and Community Finance (formally ICOF)– the only registered CDFI operating in Wales.</p>
3.2e	Mapping source of public and private sector financial support and business support for social enterprises.	<p>1)CSEDS has referred and supported organizations to contact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1 Wales Co-op Centre -2 Community Enterprise Wales -3 Venture Wales -4 Business in Focus -5 Business in the Community -6 Menter a Busnes -7 Antur Teifi -8 Foothold -9 Social Economy departments of LA <p>1)CSEDS has also provided funding for 3 credit unions</p> <p>2) Social Firms Wales in partnership with Equal Shares for All (Innovate Trust, Cardiff) has developed a small funding data-base. The data-base lists potential funding sources for sustainable social business development.</p>

		<p>Mainstream investment opportunities are currently being explored.</p> <p>3) PPP2 provides "handholding" business support, fund finding assistance and signposting to other organisations. Project officers are constantly mapping the sector for new and existing sources</p> <p>4) Social Economy Mapping Exercise on Social Enterprises in Merthyr Tydfil January 06.</p> <p>8) Business support for new start social enterprises is provided through a contract with DEIN delivered by the Wales Co-operative Centre (however, resources are being cut within this contract in the future). Existing Business support for social enterprises in South East Wales is provided through a DEIN contract with the Wales Co-operative Centre and with Menter Mon for North West Wales.</p> <p>Finance available is being analysed in a paper produced by the Wales Co-operative Centre for the Coalfields Regeneration Trust working group on finance</p>
3.2f	Work with partners to engage private sector, including banks, to identify opportunities for social enterprises	<p>1)CSEDS has successfully received £34,000 in-kind funding from private sector consultants using the associate fund.</p> <p>One consultation has identified a potential private sector/social economy partnership for a future enterprise.</p> <p>Working in partnership with business in the community to access private sector support for organisations</p>

		<p>8) The Centre has arranged to meet with BITC to get links with the larger private sector organisations for funds and mentoring.</p>
3.2g	<p>Developing the Business Eye to ensure all types of social enterprise are signposted to the relevant business support services</p>	<p>1) Business support agencies that CSEDS has referred work include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1 Community Enterprise Wales -2 Wales Co-operative Centre -3 Business in Focus -4 Venture Wales -5 Business Eye -6 Menter a Busnes -7 Antur Teifi -8 Foothold -9 Social Economy departments of LA <p>4) Merthyr Tydfil Business Eye is instrumental in establishing (a) The Merthyr Tydfil Social Economy Network (MTSEN); and (b) The Merthyr Tydfil Social Economy Managers Account Group (MTSENMAG). Its Manager currently chairs the MTSEN and the MAG</p> <p>5) The VOSU team have developed a good link locally with Business Eye, who direct potential social enterprises to the team</p> <p>6) Business Eye.</p> <p>Business Eye and the Wales Co-op Centre are members of PEN and officers have met with their officers to inform them of the project.</p>

		<p>8) Business Eye have been advised of Wales Co-operative Centre DEIN contracts and should be referring to Wales Co-operative Centre. Ongoing process to ensure their information is up to date and their new staff are fully aware of services of SEN members and CFSN members.</p>
3.2h	<p>Training of business advisors working with social enterprises and introduction of qualifications</p>	<p>1) CSEDS attended SFEDI guideline workshop on good practice guide for social enterprise.</p> <p>2) The Development Officer attended "Reviewing National Standard for Social Enterprises and Social Enterprise Advisors at Cardiff University in June 2005.</p> <p>As Social Firms are a very specific model of Social Enterprise, promotion should be in a clean format and should not become confused with other types of Social Enterprises. Emphasis should be placed on the niche area that provides the extra element of training for a business to achieve double bottom line outcomes (economic and social).</p> <p>3) Groundwork Wales is looking at the options available for acquiring formal qualifications for its social enterprise advisers. One has already attended a RISE course for advanced-level social enterprise advisers.</p> <p>4) Legal Structure & Equity & Advocacy</p>

		<p>Grant Programme Training</p> <p>8) We would want to ensure business advisors ‘want’ to work with social enterprise</p> <p>and are able to empathise with them. The SFEDI guidelines are being developed but there exists some concern from within the SEN members. Not seen as a top priority.</p>
3.2i	<p>Training programme for the sector to include capacity building on: legal structures, business planning and financial awareness</p>	<p>1) CSEDS has been instrumental in establishing 13 new social enterprises, supporting these enterprises with consultants, business advisory services or helped by CSEDS staff in registration.</p> <p>5) NPTCVS delivers a core training programme that covers all of the areas stated. NPTCVS also facilitates the EYDCP training programme and training delivery via Communities First for Co-ordinators, Partnerships and the community. In addition, the development team can provide guidance within various areas in relation to building the capacity of local groups.</p> <p>7) WCVA is establishing a three year Sustainable Funding project, commencing October 2006, that will appoint two sustainable funding advisors, and develop and deliver a training programme encompassing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business and strategic planning; • grants; • giving and public fundraising; • loans and assets;

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trading; • procurement, contracts and tendering; • public service delivery. <p>8) Wales Co-operative Centre are already delivering training programmes and have currently researched what is already going on in the wider sector. Legal Structures, Business Planning and Financial Management are delivered along with other business skills training for the sector. Both bespoke and diaried training is delivered. At June 30th the Centre had delivered to 1900 trainees. Wales Co-operative Centre has also produced an interactive CD Rom training programme for managers of Social Enterprises.</p>
3.2j	Delivery of specialist support to enable social enterprises to gear-up to tender and deliver public sector contracts	<p>2) Social Firms Wales is working with a number of independent organisations and local authorities who are exploring the Social Firm model, with a view to either establish new clean business models or to externalise existing trading projects/ businesses. By externalising local authority initiatives an opportunity exists for substantial business growth and real employment opportunities for people with disabilities and mental health issues. As these businesses develop it is of prime importance that they are equipped to tender for contracts either as an individual company or as part of a wider partnership.</p> <p>1)£95,000 support provided toward specialist support</p>

including business plans, feasibility study's etc.

This support also included research on direct payments.

Under small grants, 5 organisations supported for over £9000 with equipment to increase their ability to procure contracts such as website, IT presentation equipment, and marketing.

Using larger grants, £327,802 was provided to 7 organisations that will use this funding to increase turnover with tenders and SLA's in training, re-cycling, apprenticeships, and youth provision contracts

5) through the VOSU seminars the July theme is contract law and NPTCBC procurement; in September a preparatory session on 'How to Tender'. If sufficient interest the Contract Shop have agreed to put on the all day intense training session on 'How to Tender'.

7) WCVA is developing a series of procurement workshops and seminars for launch later this year

VSPC organising two seminars (S Wales and N Wales) with WCVA/Value Wales

8) The Wales Co-operative Centre is a board member of the Social Enterprise Coalition and Co-ops UK, both of which have produced essential guides to procurement for social enterprises and co-ops– these guides should be used in Wales. Centre staff can provide advice to co-ops wishing to pursue public sector contract work and have done on numerous

		occasions.
3.2k	Promote asset development mechanisms – principally through transfers and funds enabling purchase and refurbishment	<p>1) CSEDS provided £200,000 to social enterprise for refurbishment of premises.</p> <p>5) NPTCVS provides guidance to groups undertaking property projects – feasibility, business planning, funding, project development etc.</p> <p>7) £3.4m Community Investment Fund (managed by WCVA in partnership with DTA and Wales Cooperative Centre on behalf of CFSN) now launched. Presentations being rolled out and promotional articles in circulation. Several propositions already under review by CIF team.</p>
3.2i	Develop ‘community right to buy’ proposals	8) Wales Co-operative Centre have developed a joint working arrangement with Land for People and are planning a joint event in the Autumn with a Welsh CLT handbook to be published. The Joint working allows for practical business advice to be provided where community groups wish to set up a CLT in Wales.

Appendix: 3.3 Establishing the Value

3.3a	Supporting an Annual Conference on social enterprise in Wales	<p>2) Social Firms Wales is very keen to promote this very specific model and willing to work in partnership with the Social Enterprise Sector / SEN to deliver a wide picture of Social Enterprise opportunities with presentations and workshops.</p> <p>4) In Progress</p> <p>8) The proposed new structure of SEN suggests an annual conference and SEN would wish to be fully involved with contributions to agenda, workshop and invitations.</p>
3.3b	Introducing and publishing a quarterly Social Enterprise Newsletter	<p>2) Social Firms Wales will submit to all Social Enterprise newsletters across Wales. The organisation also produces a newsletter specific to Social Firms.</p> <p>4) MTSEN circulated its first Newsletter to its members – this will be one of many on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>5) Provided details relating to the launch of the NPT local SEN.</p> <p>8) Where we can, Wales Co-operative Centre will input news items, examples of best practice and notices to ensure the newsletter is as informative as possible.</p>
3.3c	Considering a contract to implement a communications plan to build awareness in key target audiences	<p>8) As mentioned above, we would be keen for a marketing plan, which can be expanded to included wider communications to widely inform the sector and others of activities.</p>

3.3d	Encouraging the participation of social enterprises in relevant award schemes	<p>2) Social Firms UK is in the process of developing a Social Firm accreditation scheme based on the three core values – Enterprise – Employment – Empowerment. Currently there are three Social Firms in Wales that would receive this award. A visit is planned in the near future to evaluate an emerging Social Firm in the Valleys that may have attained to this status.</p> <p>8) No involvement here</p>
3.3e	Ensuring the interests of the sector are represented and promoted across Europe; identifying opportunities for learning and sharing best practice	<p>2) Social Firms Wales working in partnership with Equal Share for All (Innovate Trust, Cardiff) is sharing lessons learned as part of a much wider European Transnational Partnership. Several visits have already taken place throughout Europe; the next joint event will be held in France in December 2006.</p> <p>6) WCVA is starting to work with a range of organisations to develop projects to maximise the involvement of not-for-profit organisations in the new Convergence programme for West Wales and the Valleys.</p> <p>WCVA has been to Brussels to showcase Welsh ILMs during Employment week</p> <p>8) There remains an opportunity to both represent and inform the rest of Europe and for us to learn from activities across Europe of which we could benefit. SEN can assist through feedback from and to the Social Enterprise Coalition which SEN is represented on by the Wales Co-operative Centre.</p>

3.3f	<p>Developing and maintaining accurate information on the sector in Wales, and a possible database for Wales on size, employment and economic contribution of the sector</p>	<p>2) This is an area Social Firms Wales is keen to see developed and willing to share information of its own developing membership of full and emerging Social Firms. This will help enormously to widen opportunity for social businesses and to recognise and appreciate the true value to the wider economy as the sector develops.</p> <p>3) PPP2 is constantly gathering data and/or sources of data through client visits and on-going client support. It is not currently being shared/exchanged with other support organisations.</p> <p>4) Mapping Exercise of Social Enterprise activities in Merthyr Tydfil County Borough was carried out on January 06.</p> <p>5) The VOSU team have completed a baseline survey of the voluntary sector to establish the level of social enterprise activity within NPT. The survey utilised the DTI 3 test rule and despite this being considered a stringent measure of activity, NPT has 9 social enterprises, 27 emerging and 31 potential. The emerging and potential social enterprises are now being contacted to see what assistance is required, if any, to progress. The survey information also provides information into the current trading areas and those that the organisation wishes to go into.</p> <p>6) WCVA maintains the All Wales database of voluntary and community organisations. Reports published on the size, nature, employment and economic contribution of voluntary organisations by local authority areas.</p> <p>8) Wales Co-operative Centre currently holds a working database of co-ops and other social enterprises in Wales which is up to date and maintained on a daily basis.</p>
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		<p>It is the largest database of social enterprise activity in Wales.</p>
<p>3.3g</p>	<p>Establishing a representative structure for the sector in Wales by looking at best practice at local, regional and national levels</p>	<p>3) Groundwork Merthyr RCT is closely associated with the Merthyr Social Economy Network. Groundwork Caerphilly and Groundwork Wales are also part of a Caerphilly B.C. working group (various SE support organisations) set up to develop a strategy to grow the sector in Caerphilly</p> <p>5) In establishing a local SEN, NPT now has a place on the National SEN and will be represented at the next meeting in September. The aim of the local SEN is to link also into the NPT Community Plan targets and the SE Strategy.</p> <p>6) PEN (Pembrokeshire Enterprise Network) supports the work of the Pembrokeshire Social Enterprise Network. PEN is a mutually supporting network formed by PLANED of business advice and support agencies who work throughout the county whether Pembrokeshire based or otherwise.</p> <p>The ultimate aim of the Pembrokeshire Social Enterprise Network, supported by PEN is to encourage a strong network of advice and mutual support for and by local social and community enterprises which can communicate pan Wales. Although still at an early stage, various processes are already being undertaken towards this. A draft</p> <p>The role of the Network is to</p> <p>facilitate the sustainable development of social enterprises in Pembrokeshire by building a network of social enterprises, in order to :</p> <p>Share learning and best practice;</p>

		<p>Link with specialist support services;</p> <p>Encourage collaborative working;</p> <p>Raise awareness and promote a culture of social enterprise;</p> <p>Provide opportunities to be inspired by examples of social enterprise.</p> <p>8) SEN already prepared a paper for the last SEJWG meeting in June 05. SEN is chaired by the Wales Co-operative Centre.</p>
3.3h	Continue developing social accounting in Wales from the DTAW/CFSN pilot project and establish Wales Social Accounting Network	<p>3) Groundwork Wales is currently looking at strengthening its internal capacity to provide social accounting and auditing support to both commercial and social economy sector businesses</p> <p>8) DTA, Wales Co-operative Centre, Clyth and other SEN Partners are keen to help take this forward from DTA's pilot project for Communities First and through social auditing being promoted to Wales Co-operative Centre's clients. Should make use of national social auditing guidance available widely. There could be an opportunity to create a Social Accounting Wales Network.</p>

	Appendix: Develop New Opportunities	

<p>3.4a Use existing networks and support emerging ones in areas such as Social Firms, recycling, childcare, housing transfer and renewable energy</p>	<p>2) As a Wales wide organisation Social Firms Wales works in partnership with all organisations to deliver the Objectives of both its own organisation and the Social Enterprise Strategy for Wales.³</p> <p>4) Groundwork Wales is trying to concentrate on supporting and creating "green" social enterprises under PPP2. The Groundwork Trusts are also developing green projects - the Community Furniture Enterprise in Caerphilly is one example of this. Other green social enterprise projects are being developed by Bridgend Neath Port Talbot.</p> <p>4) Merthyr Tydfil Social Economy Network was established in 2005.</p> <p>5) NPTCVS facilitates a number of Voluntary Sector forums that deals with each of the areas listed, for example Environment Forum, Children's and Young Persons Forum etc</p> <p>6) WCVA in partnership with Cylch, WLGA, WAG and the Environment Agency, will complete the £2.76m grant to community recycling enterprises through the Cleanstream Scheme by the end of 2006. A recent report by the Wales Audit Office on Newport Wastesavers indicates that best practice community kerbside recycling now betters the cost of waste disposal to landfill in some areas.</p> <p>WCVA has also allocated £13.76m through the Strategic Recycling Scheme to ten major projects within the Objective 1 area and a further £1.91m two projects in Objective 2/3 areas. The significant scale and impact of the programme has led to a review of State Aid issues within the recycling movement in Wales: an indicator of its growing importance.</p>
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WCVA is assisting Sustainable Energy Wales and other NGOs with an interest in renewable energy to establish the capacity of the sector to contribute to a community renewables strategy and the planned microgeneration strategy. Existing activity by the community renewables sector is being mapped, and proposals are being prepared for increased activity. These documents should be ready by the end of the year.

PEN (Pembrokeshire Enterprise Network) supports the work of the Pembrokeshire Social Enterprise Network. PEN is a mutually supporting network formed by PLANED of business advice and support agencies who work throughout the county whether Pembrokeshire based or otherwise.

The ultimate aim of the Pembrokeshire Social Enterprise Network, supported by PEN is to encourage a strong network of advice and mutual support for and by local social and community enterprises which can communicate pan Wales. Although still at an early stage, various processes are already being undertaken towards this. A draft

The role of the Network is to

facilitate the sustainable development of social enterprises in Pembrokeshire by building a network of social enterprises, in order to :

Share learning and best practice;

Link with specialist support services;

Encourage collaborative working;

Raise awareness and promote a culture of social enterprise;

Provide opportunities to be inspired by examples of social enterprise.

Under its RCA programme PLANED employs a Community Social Enterprise Officer to help communities to identify any social enterprise opportunities in their local action plans. To ensure co-ordinated support to existing and potential social enterprises PLANED recommended to key PEN partners a more focused partnership of Social Enterprise Business Support Services involving PAVS and PBI in order to bid for EU Objective 1 funds

The individual parties have introduced a specialist integrated service in Pembrokeshire, holding support in business development to social and community enterprise. The support ranges from encouraging new enterprises to start, through to assistance for established social enterprises with long term commitments to become better businesses for the community. The project is funded primarily through EU Objective 1, Pathway To Prosperity and also by the partners involved. The project has been in place since last December, and has been working to full capacity from May 2006. To date it has received 41 enquiries, and currently is working with 21 different social enterprises within the county.

PLANED 's role

Developing innovative tools to identify community opportunities linked to the local economy;

Assisting communities to develop ideas for social enterprises arising out of Area

Development Plans;

Participate in local and regional networks associated with Social Enterprise and member of DTA;CEW;WRDN;

Raise awareness and promotion of Social enterprise under leader+ and RCA programmes;

Facilitate and develop the Pembrokeshire Enterprise Network/Social Enterprise network as a means of fostering closer working relationships between the agencies that support Social Enterprise and to establish a mechanism for feeding into other regional and national networks e.g. SEN

PAVS role:

Contributing to the range of local and regional networks concerned with the development of Social Enterprise;

Building the capacity of the Association through training to deliver development support to voluntary organisations at all stages of their development in ways that will highlight the potential of the Social Enterprise model in sustaining the sector;

Contributing to the steering group to ensure that the project delivers a joined up approach based on the real needs of voluntary organisations;

Building awareness raising of Social Enterprise into all aspects of the Associations service delivery;

Providing information and signposting to the sources of Social Enterprise support available to voluntary organisations;

Developing a Social Enterprise as a model for the sector.

PBI role:

Develop new businesses within the Social Economy through working with potential clients up to and through the business planning process and beyond;

Encourage sustainable growth in employment and income amongst businesses that operate within the social economy provide specialist business advice for social economy organisations that increase employment or provide economic benefits by assisting social enterprises to grow and improve through the development of focused business plans and mentoring from personnel with knowledge to ensure social enterprise clients can run viable businesses which are sustainable in the long term.

Officers have been active in encouraging new and potential enterprises to make contact with other practitioners with relevant experience, and facilitated visits where appropriate, to allow the exchange of information and best practise. This will be developed through the practitioner based Pembrokeshire Social Enterprise Network.

Use existing networks and support emerging ones

The partners already have clients in these areas, with renewable energy being of particular interest. In these cases we also work with Pembrokeshire Coastal National

Parks who offer a Sustainable Development Grant to social and community enterprises within the National Parks. All three partners sit on the SDF Panel

Officers are currently involved with a community looking at childcare needs and helping them develop a strategy through which childcare facilities may be established. This again is following a network approach with Clubiau Plant Cymru and other childcare support involved.

8) The Wales Co-operative Centre has developed a partnership with TPAS, CIH, WFHA that will provide a service to new stock transfers and advice LA's and shadow boards on community regeneration issues. It also can advice on suitable models for stock transfers. The Centre also promotes a childcare co-ops service and has assisted with the creation of a number of new childcare co-ops.

In partnership with Energy4All the Centre helped create a Welsh based wind power promotion project delivered through a part time placement.

Other new opportunities are being pursued by the Centre in ICT, co-operative consortia, healthy food and health and social care.

3.4b Investigating social enterprise opportunities through the Heads of the Valleys strategy

1) CSEDS has supported the establishment of three new social enterprises in heads of the Valleys areas including a focus on youth provision, skills training.

Provided small grants to 10 organisations based in HoV areas worth over £16,000

Supplied specialist support for developing the business acumen of 15 social enterprises in HoV areas e.g. business plans.

CSEDS exploratory meeting with HOV Team and partners to develop new social enterprise opportunities in the HOV in early 2007

2) Social Firms Wales is currently working with a number of organisations to develop Social Firms in the valleys area.

Examples: RCT, Caerphilly, Blaenau Gwent, Merthyr Tydfil.

6) WCVA is represented on HOV programme board and is undertaking further work, together with the relevant County Voluntary Councils and Communities First Support Network, to promote voluntary / community sector engagement, including social enterprises.

		<p>8) Met with Patrick Lewis and received presentation from him at CFSN event in July. Will prepare project outlines for taking forward in HOV areas.</p>
<p>3.4c</p>	<p>Identifying opportunities to open up public procurement to social enterprise via Wales Programme for Improvement (WPI)</p>	<p>2) This is an area Social Firms Wales is keen to see grow. As more Social Firms emerge, opportunities to work together at all levels will develop.</p> <p>6) WCVA and WLGA are reviewing their joint publication on local compacts, A Future Together, including guidance on social enterprises and procurement policy</p> <p>WCVA submitted paper on addressing barriers to procurement to Voluntary Sector Partnership Council in February 2006, and is maintaining dialogue with WAG to secure a Ministerial response to the issues raised. WAG is planning two seminars and it is hoped to develop a joint programme for the future.</p> <p>8) The Social Enterprise Coalition and Co-ops UK have developed guides on making</p>

this happen within the sector and the Centre is a member of the SEJWG sub group on this.

3.4d Investigating opportunities for supporting clustering, inter-trading, spin-off enterprises and intermediate labour market initiatives

1) Grant support includes 5 organisations establishing spin off enterprises from main organisation.

CSEDS investigating and supporting Social Enterprise Incubation Development in RCT for SE Wales

Investigating Social Enterprise Business development spin of from ILM Build IT programme

3) Groundwork Wales should be trying to identify green social enterprise clusters. If the proposal to the New Ideas Fund for a study of the green social economy, this work can be accelerated.

4) Green Horizons Merthyr Ltd (Recycling & Re-useable) was established in March 06 - ILM opportunities

6) WCVA establishing one year project supported by MTC Improvement Fund to identify potential for efficiency savings for voluntary sector public service providers through joint working, shared services, outsourced back-office services, etc. Commencing October 2006.

WCVA supports and services the North Wales Labour Market Initiative partnership, which comprises of the four local authorities, and all appropriate agencies. It manages and administers a £11 million project that supports and develop a range of Intermediate Labour Market initiatives.

		8) Wales Co-operative Centre is developing a programme of co-op consortia in areas such as women in business, the construction industry.
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