

Social Enterprise in the Highlands and Islands

A research study for Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE)

HAVE YOUR SAY!

Date: **20th OR 27th
January 2012**

Time: **11.30 - 12.30**

Venue:

**Highlands and Islands
Enterprise
Cowan House
Inverness Retail and
Business Park
Inverness
IV2 7GF**

How you can help us....

If you would like to take part or need any further information about the research, please get in touch with us:

Laura Thorpe
GEN
0845 644 5407
laura.thorpe@ekosgen.co.uk

About the research

Highlands and Islands Enterprise commissioned GEN to undertake a sector profiling exercise and supporting research looking at the social enterprise sector in the Highlands and Islands. The research will explore the size and nature of the sector, future growth opportunities, constraints to growth and the support needs of businesses operating in the sector.

The information will assist HIE to provide the best support for the sector, ensuring it continues to grow and play a key role in the local economy.

How you can help?

The participation of local organisations is crucial to the success of the study. We are engaging with social enterprises in several ways; you may already have been asked to take part in an online or telephone survey.

We are now looking to bring Social Enterprise's together. This will add depth to the survey findings and allow you to have your say!

We are holding a series of **focus groups**. These will involve discussion of:

- ◆ The research findings (to date)
- ◆ The support needs of your organisation
- ◆ Different options for supporting Social Enterprises - types of support and the delivery mechanisms that may be most beneficial in future

The meeting will also offer you a chance to meet other organisations working in your sector or in your local area.

What you need to know — questions and answers

Q. How will the information be used?

A. Findings from the discussion will be used in a report for HIE focusing on key sector opportunities, barriers and support needs.

Q. Will my organisation be identified in the research?

A. No. All information will be presented anonymously in the final report.

Q. If I say 'Yes' now am I obliged to take part?

A. No. Your participation is entirely voluntary and you can withdraw at any time



Highlands and Islands Enterprise
Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd's nan Eilean



