

Mayor's Parlour

PSEN

plymouth
social enterprise
network

Coronavirus/Covid-19 Response and recovery

April 2020



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Plymouth Social Enterprise Network is a registered Community Interest Company (number: 09130295)

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About Plymouth Social Enterprise Network

Plymouth Social Enterprise Network (PSEN) was set up in 2011 and became a Community Interest Company in 2014. It is owned by its constituent social enterprise members and is managed by an executive committee which is elected at an Annual General Meeting. PSEN is set up to:

- Run a network which supports the development of social enterprise activity
- Raise awareness of social enterprise as a way of doing business.

You can find out more about the network at: www.plymsocent.org.uk

PSEN ensures that the needs and issues of Plymouth's social enterprises are heard in key policy and strategic settings; locally, regionally and nationally: e.g. Plymouth Growth Board, Inclusive Growth Flagship, Local Enterprise Partnership, Social Enterprise UK, etc. Our impact for members:

- We've led the Plymouth Social Enterprise City initiative which has seen over £6 million of investment and support for local social enterprises
- We've raised awareness of social enterprise as a way of business in the city - social enterprise is no longer fringe or 'alternative'. It is acknowledged and recognised as a serious business sector in the city. We are represented at the highest levels in economic strategy making
- We've worked with the City Council to improve procurement for social value
- We've brought more money to and built markets for social enterprises.

We are a valued strategic partner to Plymouth City Council, all three city universities, the Local Enterprise Partnership and national organizations like SEUK, Power to Change and the Social Enterprise Mark.

PSEN vision in this crisis

Response

- Our members/social enterprises in Plymouth come out of this crisis in a healthy position.

Recovery

- A more pro-social, more inclusive and regenerative economy emerges post-crisis. We think social enterprises need to be at the heart of this new economy.

PSEN mission during this crisis

Response

Generally, our immediate mission is to support our members through the crisis. Specifically, we aim to:

- Facilitate the exchange of advice and business support
- Signpost to resources and information that support our members
- Gather information about the impact of Coronavirus/Covid-19 on our members and advocate for their needs to relevant organizations such as national and local government
- Work with and support SEUK and other social enterprise places on the national response.

Recovery

- To advocate for a more pro-social, inclusive and regenerative economy post crisis. We think social enterprises should be at the heart of plans to recover post-Coronavirus/Covid-19.

PSEN actions during this crisis

Response

Immediate and specific actions we are taking during this crisis:

1. Proactively contact all our members to find out what the impact on them is and what their needs are
2. Run or signpost to business support events online relevant to their needs
3. Run online networking events to facilitate the ongoing sharing of ideas and solutions between members
4. Keep news and information flowing via newsletter, social media, etc
5. Work with, and support, partners like Plymouth City Council, POP+, other social enterprise networks, etc
6. Provide funded one-to-one business support delivered by and for members
7. Liaise with and support SEUK and the social enterprise places network around developing the best response nationally.

Recovery

1. Bring members together to collaboratively inform how we work together as a sector
2. Advocate for a more pro-social, inclusive and regenerative economy through online events, blogs and content.
3. Advocate for social enterprises to be supported and firmly embedded in the recovery with economic policy makers such as Local Enterprise Partnership, City Council, Plymouth Growth Board, University of Plymouth and relevant others.