

POLICY INSIGHT

Social investment strategy

The Government has published its vision for growing the social investment market - see our policy news section for details.

Voice 11 at the O2

SEC's annual conference Voice will be taking place at the O2 on the 29th and 30th March 2011. See our policy news and profiles sections for more details.

Department of Health consultations

Wide-ranging reforms are taking place in the health sector - see our consultations section for details of proposed changes and how to feed in to our consultation responses.

Policy News

- Voice11
- Social investment strategy
- Localism Bill

Publications

- IPPR publications on innovation and community enterprise
- Demos publications on tackling disability poverty and the value of economic theory
- NESTA publications on innovation and social investment

Coalition Consultations

- DH 3-part consultation on commissioning; outcomes frameworks; and public health strategies
- DH consultation on developing the workforce
- CLG consultations on community right to challenge and community right to buy

Other Consultations

- Cabinet Office consultation on society's attitude to giving

Events

- Upcoming events
- Voice11 at the O2
 - Social Enterprise Emerging Leaders Programme
 - Effective PR
- Past events
- Social Enterprise Day events 18th November

Profiles

- Voice11 speakers: Ali Parsa of Circle Health, Lucy Siegle of the BBC's The One Show, and Matthew Taylor of the RSA

Gearing up for Voice11

Voice11, the UK's biggest social enterprise event, is now just four weeks away. With a practical programme of 60 minute how-to sessions as well as topical live debates on the main stage, speakers will include Matthew Taylor of the RSA, Ali Parsa of Circle Health, Lucy Siegle of the BBC's The One Show and Nick Hurd MP, Minister for Civil Society. The programme also includes the chance to have a go at pitching in a dragon's den complete with real investors!

The event will happen across zones offering advice to people who are starting, growing or moving into social enterprise. Amongst the practical workshops on offer are:

- How to survive your first year
- Winning new business
- Leadership for social enterprise
- Spun out, what next? Getting the culture right

Voice11 will happen on the 30th March 2011 at the prestigious London venue, The O2 and will be a vibrant, energising place where you can learn, get on-the spot business advice, meet the journalists who are writing about social enterprise and the politicians

who are creating policy for it, find out about new and existing

funding opportunities, and see what's going on across this thriving, diverse movement. There will also be a reception for attendees on the evening of 29th March, which will be opened by the Rt Hon Francis Maude MP, Minister for the Cabinet Office.

Tickets are on sale now and prices start from £75 with substantial discounts for SEC members. We are offering a special discounted rate for Policy Insight readers of 10% off. Please enter the code PRM10 on your registration form to receive the discount. Multi-buy offers are also available for purchases of four or more tickets.

The programme for the day is also available to download from the SEC website.

Government social investment strategy

The Government published its vision and strategy for growing the social investment market in February 2011. The vision defines social ventures as including community organisations, social enterprises, charities

and social firms and outlines Government plans to open up provision of public services to a wide range of new providers, make it easier to set up and run civil society organisations, and increase social ventures' access to people, time and money.

For individual social enterprises, this means that they could have access to a larger pool of social investment as well as more investment-readiness support, and that they could access investment products tailored to all stages of growth. This strategy states that government does not intend to privatise the social sector or to bring it into the public sector.

The strategy outlines plans for the Big Society Bank. The Bank will not directly invest in social enterprises but will invest in products delivered by intermediaries, encouraging the growth of capital available to social enterprises. This could play a key role in developing the social investment market.

The strategy document can be found on the Cabinet Office website. The Social Enterprise Coalition has produced a two-page summary of the strategy document, which can be found on our website.

Localism Bill

The aim of the Decentralisation and Localism Bill, introduced by the Department for Communities and Local Government in December 2010, is to shift power from central government back into the hands of individuals, communities and councils.

The Bill aims to return power to the people by removing bureaucracy, empowering communities, increasing control of public finance, creating more choice of public service providers, opening government up to scrutiny and strengthening accountability to local people. It will institutionalise the right of community-led organisations to deliver public services but makes no special allowances for social enterprises.

The parts of the Localism Bill of greatest relevance to social enterprise are the community right to challenge, community right to buy, community infrastructure levy and the community right to build.

The community right to challenge is the right to express an interest in taking over the running of a public service, which may lead to a procurement exercise for that service. Under the right to challenge, a local authority will have to consider an expression of interest (EOI) to provide a service on behalf of that author

ity in relation to one or more of its powers and duties. That EOI must be made by a relevant body, which will include a voluntary or community body, a charity, a parish council, two or more members of that authority, or any other group specified by the secretary of state.

The community right to buy is the right to take over community assets. The Government has made key concessions to third sector organisations on the community infrastructure levy, a tax on development land, but stops short of a blanket exemption. The community right to build aims to give groups of local people the power to deliver the development that their local community wants with minimal bureaucracy.

Our pick of recently released publications from think tanks and government departments that may be of interest to the social enterprise movement.

Open Economics: "Economics must be exposed, challenged and invigorated through participation and public engagement..." – February 2011, Demos

Following the financial crisis, economists are no longer treated with reverence: economics is recognised as contested and competing sets of ideas rather than established, neutral fact. This pamphlet is a first step to rebalancing the power of economic expertise in public life.

Growing Social Ventures: The role of intermediaries and investors: who they are, what they do, and what they could become – February 2011, NESTA

This report is the first comprehensive survey of social venture intermediaries, which play a vital role in supporting social ventures to operate more efficiently and commercially at scale. This report portrays a dynamic

and diverse set of well over a hundred organisations helping to grow social enterprises, charities and other ventures.

Counting the Cost: "the most effective way to tackle disability poverty is by reducing costs..." – December 2010, Demos

The link between disability and poverty is well established. Increased unemployment and a range of welfare and public service cuts following the economic downturn has only exacerbated the situation, with disability benefit claimants set to lose £9 billion in benefits over the course of the next Parliament.

A Good Practice Guide for Practitioners: Supporting community and social enterprise in deprived communities – December 2010, ippr

In spring 2010, ippr north carried out new research exploring the critical success factors for community and social enterprise in deprived communities in the North West of England. This Good Practice Guide summarises the findings and recommendations of the

research in a format aimed at practitioners, particularly those working in local authorities.

Creative Destruction: Placing Innovation at the Heart of Progressive Economics – December 2010, ippr

This pamphlet, the first output of ippr's New Era Economics programme, argues that in light of new economic thinking and the mistakes of the past, contemporary economic policy needs to be centred on three core principles: it must be innovation-centred, pragmatic and aware.

Annual innovation report – January 2011, NESTA

This report is a comprehensive review of the key elements for innovation in the UK, including its contribution to economic growth, the UK research base and the activities taken by business to build competitive advantage.

COALITION CONSULTATIONS

Consultations the Coalition will be responding to. If you are interested in any of these consultations, please contact the relevant policy team member to feed into our response.

Department of Health consultation on Healthy lives, healthy people: Consultation on the funding and commissioning routes for public health

Closing date: 31 March 2011

This consultation explores the proposed funding and commissioning routes for public health. The purpose of this consultation document is to describe in more detail the proposed key public health functions and to set out the proposed commissioning and funding arrangements for delivery of public health services. To feed your views in to SEC's response, please contact [Ceri Jones](#).

Department of Health consultation on Healthy lives, healthy people: Transparency in outcomes, proposals for a public health outcomes framework.

Closing date: 31 March 2011

This consultation explores the proposed public health outcomes framework. One of the aims of the Public Health Outcomes Framework will be to promote joint

working where local organisations share common goals. This consultation document seeks views on the proposed approach and asks how we can improve it. To feed your views in to SEC's response, please contact [Ceri Jones](#).

Department of Health consultation on Healthy lives, healthy people: Our strategy for public health in England – White Paper consultation

Closing date: 31 March 2011

The public health White Paper, published 30 November 2010, includes consultation questions about the new public health service – Public Health England – and the overall changes to the public health system. To feed your views in to SEC's response, please contact [Ceri Jones](#).

Department of Health consultation on Liberating the NHS: developing the healthcare workforce

Closing date: 31 March 2011

This consultation document sets out proposals to establish a new framework for developing the healthcare workforce and seeks views on the systems and processes that will be needed to support it. To feed your views in to SEC's response, please contact [Ceri Jones](#).

Department of Communities and Local Government consultation on Proposals to introduce a Community Right to Challenge: Consultation paper

Closing date: 3 May 2011

This document sets out the provisions being made by Government in the Localism Bill to introduce a Community Right to Challenge. It seeks views on the detail of how the Right will work in practice, which will be set out in regulations. It also invites views on what type of support and guidance should be provided. To feed your views in to SEC's response, please contact [Olof Jonsdottir](#).

Department of Communities and Local Government consultation on Proposals to introduce a Community Right to Buy - assets of community value: Consultation paper

Closing date: 3 May 2011

This document sets out the provisions being made by Government in the Localism Bill to assist community organisations who wish to purchase assets of community value. It seeks views on the detail of how the scheme should be delivered and invites views on what type of support and guidance should be provided. To feed your views in to SEC's response, please contact [Olof Jonsdottir](#).

Consultations your organisation or your members might be interested in responding to.

[Cabinet Office consultation on Giving Green Paper](#)

Closing date: 9th March 2011

The Giving Green Paper sets out the Government's initial ideas for building a stronger culture of giving time and money to start a national debate on our society's attitude to giving. The Government wants this Green Paper to embody a collective approach to building culture change so it is written from a variety of perspectives.

In addition to their proposals and announcements, they have highlighted many ideas from outside of government. Taken together, the ideas and examples in this paper highlight the huge amount of innovative and creative activity going on across the country to stimulate social action.

What we have been up to...

HIA Conference 2010: Local Markets, New Responses: A Sea Change for Services – 10 and 11 November, Birmingham

This conference explored the potential for housing support services to respond to the new government strategies and lead local communities to meet the challenges of the future.

The Guardian Social Enterprise Conference 2010 – 16 November 2010, London

This conference from the Guardian, in association with SEC, gave an in-depth analysis of Big Society policy and what it means for you. Speakers included Peter Holbrook, CEO of SEC and Ceri Jones, our Head of Policy and Research.

Social Enterprise Day – 18 November

On Social Enterprise Day, SEC organised a series of events in parliament to build support for the Social Enterprise Bill. These included a mass lobby, which was open to all social enterprises, and a seminar hosted by the All Party Parliamentary Group on Social Enterprise.

LA Connecting Conference 2010 – 24 November, London

This conference brought together key representatives from local authorities and social enterprises across London to discuss and debate how the role of social enterprise can be developed as a way of both achieving greater investment efficiency and improving outcomes for statutory bodies.

Social Enterprise Coalition AGM – 30th November, London

The 2010 SEC Annual General Meeting took place at the Lumen Cafe, a social enterprise housed in a RIBA award winning building at the heart of Central London.

Health and Social Care Forum – 18th February, London

Hosted by SEC, the Health and Social Care forum saw existing and aspiring social enterprises come together to share good practice, provide mutual support and hear about the latest developments in policy and practice.

Spinning out Public Services: ‘The Right to Run’ – 24th February, London

This one day event, organised by SEC, was designed to provide practical support to public sector employees looking to create social enterprises and mutuals through spinning out existing services.

What we are going to be up to...

SEC annual conference Voice 11 - 29th and 30th March 2011, the O2, London

Voice11 will take place on the 30th March 2011, with an evening reception on the 29th for those who would like to join us the night before.

The winners of the 2010 Social Enterprise Awards will be announced on 30th March and an evening reception will take place at The O2 as part of Voice11.

For more information, visit [SEC's website](#).

'Funding the Future' conference – 8th March, London

This conference is aimed at chief executives of the leading statutory, lottery and grant-making trust funders and the key Government Ministers responsible for the sector. Peter Holbrook, CEO of SEC, will be speaking on how to generate earned income.

Social Enterprise Emerging Leaders Programme – 17th March to 21st April, Milton Keynes

SEC is running this Social Enterprise Emerging Leaders Programme consisting of three development days, two social enterprise visits, and some self-directed learning, finishing with a Peer to Peer event. Peter Holbrook, CEO of SEC, will open the first day, and speakers throughout the course will include successful and inspirational social enterprise practitioners.

Applications for the programme are now closed. For more information, visit [SEC's website](#).

Social Enterprise Hub at the Public Sector Efficiency Expo 2011 – 16th March 2011, Business Design Centre, London

This event features a Social Enterprise Hub where SEC will have a presence alongside leading and award winning social enterprises including HCT Group, London Early Years Foundation, Cool2Care and P3.

Redesigning local services conference – 23rd March 2011, London

This event will look carefully at governance, management, design and the implications of a radical change in how local services are delivered. Speakers include Ceri Jones, our Head of Policy and Research.

Effective PR, Media Trust – 5th May 2011, London

Celia Richardson, our Director of Policy and Communications will be chairing this one-day event run by Media Trust. The event is designed to provide an overview of the tools, techniques, principles and best practice in working with the media.

In this edition, we profile a selection of key speakers at Voice11, SEC's annual conference

Ali Parsa, Circle Health

Ali Parsa is a social entrepreneur who founded Circle Health to deliver the best possible patient care, in both the public and private sectors of healthcare. His personal belief is that employees should own the companies they work for, and he has pioneered a new model in healthcare.

Prior to working as Managing Director of Circle Health, Ali was an Executive Director of Goldman Sachs' European Technology Investment banking team. He has also worked at Merrill Lynch and Credit Suisse First Boston.

He was the founder of Victoria and Gilan, a media company, and a recipient of the Royal Award for UK Young Entrepreneur of the Year. Ali has a PhD in Engineering Physics from the University of London.

Lucy Siegle, Journalist

Lucy Siegle is a journalist, author and presenter who specialises in ecological and ethical lifestyle matters. She writes a weekly ethical living column for the Observer and is author of 'Green Living in the Urban Jungle' and co-author of 'A Good Life'.

A regular presenter on the BBC's 'The One Show' covering current affairs, consumer and environmental issues, Lucy Siegle is also a regular expert host for television including The Money Programme for BBC News 24 and Tonight with Trevor McDonald.

Lucy is also known as a provocative and fearless panellist and chair, with opinions underscored by years of serious research and reporting and a belief in Gandhi's view that we should 'be the change you want to see in the world'.

Matthew Taylor, RSA

Matthew Taylor became Chief Executive of the RSA in November 2006. Prior to this, he was Chief Adviser on Political Strategy to the Prime Minister, having also worked as the Labour Party's Director of Policy and a member of the Party's election strategy team in 1997.

Prior to working for the Labour Party, Matthew was involved in politics and policy as a county councillor, a parliamentary candidate, a university research fellow and the director of a unit monitoring policy in the health service. He was the Director of the Institute for Public Policy Research between 1999 and 2003.

Matthew is a frequent media commentator on policy and political issues, and has written for publications including The Guardian, The Observer, New Statesman and Prospect.