

## **South East Social Enterprise Network (SESEN)**

### **(Working Group to SELEP)**

#### **Terms of Reference**

**February 2018**

#### **Scope**

As a partnership SELEP recognises and values the major contribution and the economic impact of the work of the **Social Enterprise** sector. The sector is a major provider of local employment for local people, a deliverer of key local and strategic services, and an important sector to leverage in additional external resources. In recognition of this, this working group will work towards supporting the sector, to increase its size and diversity by enabling more social enterprises to start, sustain and scale.

#### **Aims & Objectives**

- To improve information and communication between social enterprises and their networks within the South East region
- To raise the profile and strengthen the collective lobbying voice of social enterprises in the South East
- To improve opportunities for social enterprises to access contracts by influencing public bodies and the private sector, to promote social value weighting in purchasing goods and services
- To provide consortia building and ensure that there is a strong regional voice for the sector (which is to be represented at the SELEP Board by the Social Enterprise Board Champion), and to exchange best practice, ideas and collaborations (inc EU funding)
- To align with SELEP Skills Group to ensure that skills and employability for the most disadvantaged are addressed and understood, and that social enterprises are able to access opportunities to tender for funds (particularly ESF)
- To provide capacity building through improved access to business support, training and finance, linking closely with local Growth Hubs
- To identify post-brexit opportunities for the sector and issue relevant guidance / support across sector networks
- To measure success and monitor the impact on the sector

**Operation:**

Members of the group will:

- Attend each meeting, or if unable to attend, endeavour to send a representative
- Inform the organisation they represent of progress made by the Working Group and consult them on key issues and recommendations
- Treat any information received and discussed with sensitivity and where appropriate in confidence

**Meeting Arrangements:**

- The group will meet quarterly (subject to change as deemed necessary or review).
- Tasks from each meeting will be agreed by the SESEN and will be reviewed at each meeting.
- Members agreeing to undertake tasks will liaise with the group where necessary and feedback progress.

**Membership:**

- SESEN to have majority Social Enterprise membership, drawn from organisations in the SELEP area
- Regional / National network representatives
- Local Authority Officers
- Chair (Also will be SELEP Board Champion) and Vice Chair
- Open Invite to SELEP Director, Chair and VC's

**Support:**

- SELEP will offer support in terms of administrative duties, advice or endorsement of projects undertaken by the group.
- SELEP will provide a Board Champion for the group.

**Secretariat:**

- SELEP – Lucy Spencer-Lawrence

**Review of TOR:**

- These Terms of Reference are to be reviewed on an annual basis (next review February 2019)