

**Social Enterprise Stakeholder Group Chair**

The Social Enterprise Stakeholder Group (SESG) believes that the social enterprise sector in Wales can play a key role in helping to build a fairer, more inclusive, and more sustainable economy. Our members are:

* **Development Trusts Association Wales**The Development Trusts Association Wales (DTA Wales) is an independent practitioner-based membership organisation supporting and promoting the work of the growing network of development trusts in Wales.
* **Social Firms Wales**Social Firms Wales is the National Support Agency that supports social enterprises that want to adopt Social Firms principles and values to create places of work that are inclusive, supportive, enabling and progressive.
* **UnLtd**UnLtd is the Foundation for Social Entrepreneurs, a UK registered charity set up in 2002. UnLtd finds, funds and supports social entrepreneurs - enterprising people with solutions that change our society for the better.
* **Cwmpas**Cwmpas is a development agency working for positive change in Wales. We are a co-operative, and our focus is on building a fairer, greener economy and a more equal society, where people and planet come first.
* **WCVA**As the national membership body for voluntary organisations in Wales, WCVA exists to enable voluntary organisations to make a bigger difference together.

In 2020, the SESG joined together to publish *Transforming Wales through Social Enterprise: Ten Year Vision and Action Plan.* Co-produced by social enterprises and social enterprise support agencies with the support of Welsh Government, the action plan sets out an ambitious vision which will see social enterprise become the business model of choice in Wales by 2030 for people and communities delivering solutions to social, economic and environmental challenges.

The latest research mapping the social enterprise sector in Wales has shown that post-Covid, the sector is going from strength to strength with high levels of entrepreneurial activity. Research revealed that there are now approximately 2,828 businesses in the sector, an increase of 22% from 2020 (2,309). Social businesses now account for 2.6% of the total business stock in Wales, up from 2.2% in 2020. Total turnover for the sector is calculated as £4.8bn, an increase of 26% from 2020 (£3.8bn) and total employment for the sector is calculated as 65,299, an increase of 16% from 2020 (56,000).

This year, the SESG has joined together as a consortium to deliver the new Social Business Wales programme on behalf of the Welsh Government. The maintenance and development of specialist support to the social enterprise sector is crucial to its continued growth. However, this is just one part of the SESG’s work, and we continue to meet regularly to ensure that future opportunities are explored and developed.