
Coventry University

Contact Details

Robin Underhay : (Programme Lead)
Senior Project Manager and Business Advisor
Institute of Applied Entrepreneurship Coventry
University
Email: runderhay@cad.coventry.ac.uk



Sue Hatton : Hatton (SE Strategic Event Planner)
Business Development Consultant
Coventry University
Email: sue.hatton@coventry.ac.uk

Model

Find, Fund and Support

Delivery Approach

The programme has been delivered through Coventry University's Institute for Applied Entrepreneurship and has dovetailed in with a range of enterprise opportunities being offered. They were awarded the Times Higher Education Award of 'Enterprising University of the Year 2011/12' and have a well-developed portfolio of support and mentoring. Funding opportunities for entrepreneurs range from proof of concept funds through to significant investment opportunities. It considers itself to be fairly new to funding and supporting businesses in the social sector. However, there are pockets of excellence across the University, and the social enterprise movement at Coventry is gaining some senior level leadership

Partnerships

Social enterprise is seen as part of a partnership strategy to enhance social and economic development of the region. During the Programme, a strategic partnership event hosted by the Vice Chancellor, Madeleine Atkins, attracted in excess of 90 delegates. These included all senior management members, staff from across all faculties, members of the City Council, police and local support agencies. It offered opportunities to enhance social leadership capacity through raising awareness of social enterprise approaches, impacts and access to investment. It also provided the space to consider how the University can lead in the area of Social Entrepreneurship for the benefit of young people and ultimately for the City itself. Guest participants included UnLtd, Can Invest, Baker Tilly and Bates Wells Braithwaites LLP. This strategic approach has resulted in a strengthened strategic plan for embedding social enterprise activity within the HEI and an evolving partnership

to enable place-based initiatives to thrive externally as new national frameworks for driving regeneration activity through Local Economic and Enterprise Partnerships start to take shape.

Results

Coventry has delivered a successful HE Support Programme with an overall awards pot of £30,000 being awarded to 10 social entrepreneurs.