



Social Firms Scotland

SEN SCOT



7th October 2011

Dear Interface Colleagues,

Social Enterprise and Third Sector Interface Engagement

Voluntary Action Scotland along with SenScot, Scottish Social Enterprise Coalition (SSEC) and Social Firms Scotland (SFS), are all keen to maximise support to emerging and existing social enterprises, in all their forms, at local level. This may range from brokering/signposting support at start up to wider development support, general information, and sharing good practice and practitioner forums or networks.

We all recognise the key role of Third Sector Interfaces across the country in contributing to that support, as well as their engagement in the Community Planning process. At national and local level we believe that positive collaboration will enhance successful delivery of mutual goals as well as help inform policy discussion. Where they are established and are not already an integral part of the Interface, Social Enterprise Networks (SENs) need to be meaningfully engaged in Interface planning and activities. We would like to emphasise that facilitating the active involvement of social enterprises is a requirement for every Third Sector Interface.

SenScot, SFS and SSEC are jointly funded by Scottish Government to `support social enterprise` across Scotland. Together, they have a range of expertise, knowledge and contacts across the social enterprise and community sectors which will be a key component of our shared agenda and collaboration. We would strongly encourage these be drawn upon. Support for, and input from, the social enterprise sector is vital in creating a thriving third sector across Scotland that benefits everyone.

At national level, we will be working over the coming period to identify areas where collaboration can best be taken forward. We look forward to sharing that with you as well as hearing how similar progress may be made at local level.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Murphy".

On behalf of Voluntary Action Scotland, SenScot, SFS and SSEC