



Highlands and Islands Enterprise
Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd's nan Eilean

HELPING TO BUILD A SUCCESSFUL REGION

SINCE 1965

We are the economic and community development agency for the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. We've been working with organisations and communities for over 50 years to ensure the region remains successful and competitive.





LIVE



WORK



STUDY



INVEST



VISIT

About us:

We work in a diverse region which extends from Shetland to Argyll, and from the Outer Hebrides to Moray, covering more than half of Scotland's land mass. We have teams across the region helping communities and businesses to develop and grow. We help people across half of Scotland to build a stronger economy and a better future.

Our vision:

We want the Highlands and Islands to be a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable region, attracting more people to live, work, study, invest and visit.

Our priorities:

- Build successful, productive and resilient businesses;
- Enable strong, capable and resourceful communities; and
- Create the conditions for growth and a green recovery.

Who we work with



BUSINESSES

We offer a range of support including advice, events, funding and property to help develop and grow your business.



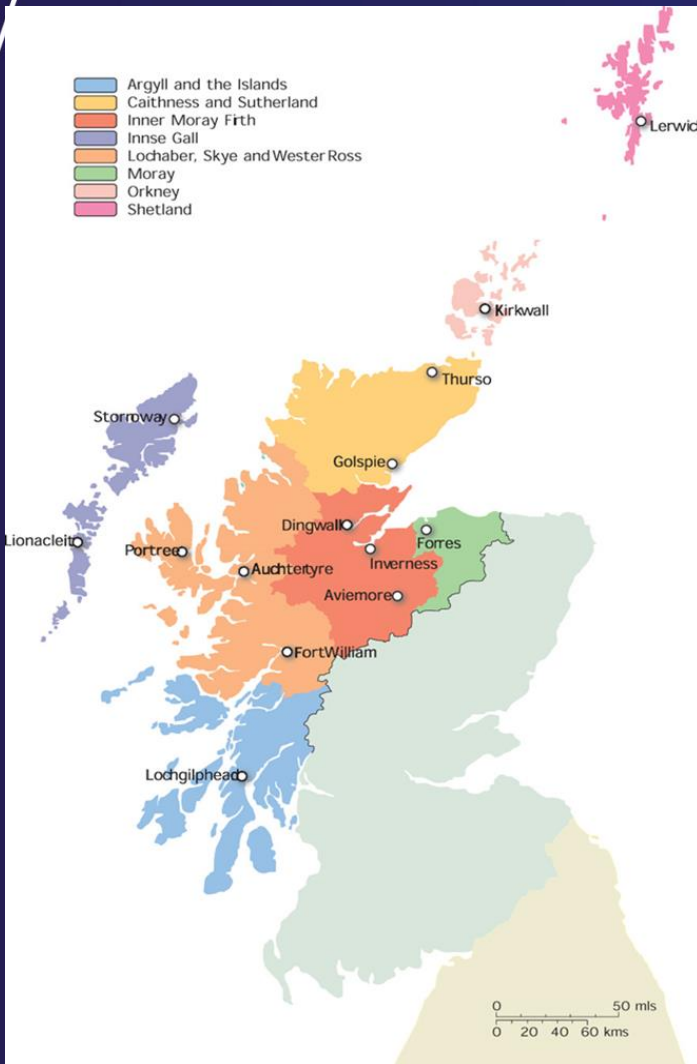
COMMUNITIES

We support communities across our dispersed region, recognising the pivotal role that strong, resilient and capable communities play in the overall success of our economy.



SOCIAL ENTERPRISES

We have a close working relationship with around 150 social enterprises across the Highlands and Islands through our account management approach.



- Population circa @493K of Scotland's 5.4M
- Inverness is the main town for the region but many key centres of pop'n across the region.
- High levels of self-employment and well qualified working age population.

We enable communities to contribute to the social and economic wellbeing and growth of the region.

Social enterprise in Highlands and Islands (2021): key facts



1,277

Number of social enterprises



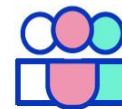
7,228

Full time equivalent (FTE) employees



£197m

GVA added to Highlands and Islands economy



68%

Are led by women



72%

Are located in rural Scotland



55%

Identify their organisation as a social enterprise



6%

Have exported within the last 12 months



87%

Sell to direct consumers

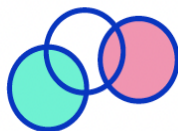
Social enterprise in Highlands and Islands (2021): key

f:



87%

Pay at least the Real Living Wage to all employees



70%

Are incorporated



12%

Won a public contract within the last 12 months



£348m

Total annual income of Highlands and Islands SEs



£189m

Earned income from trading activities



53%

Self-sufficiency as a proportion of income converted by trading



£46m

In financial surplus generated by the sector



£677m

Net worth of Highlands and Islands' social enterprises

OUR VISION

We want the Highlands and Islands to be a highly successful, inclusive and prosperous region in which increasing numbers of people choose to live, work, study and invest.

OUR PRIORITIES



Strengthening Communities and Social Entities



Empower communities to acquire, manage and exploit assets for community benefit

- Scottish Land Fund
- Community Renewable Energy

Invest in building community capacity and confidence

- Work with Social Enterprise and Communities

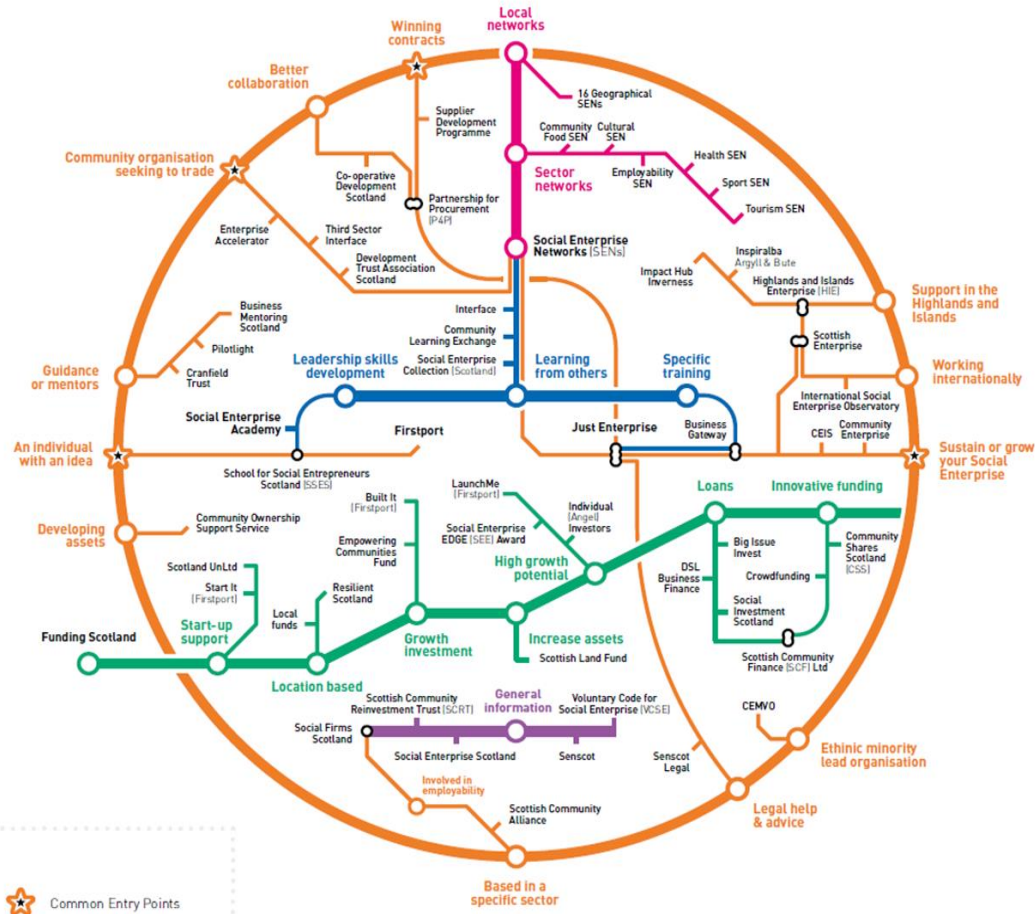
Enable sustainable growth in the social economy through social enterprise

- @ 154 managed clients
- Of which @49 are whole communities
- Also support one off interventions

How does HIE support social and community enterprise activity?

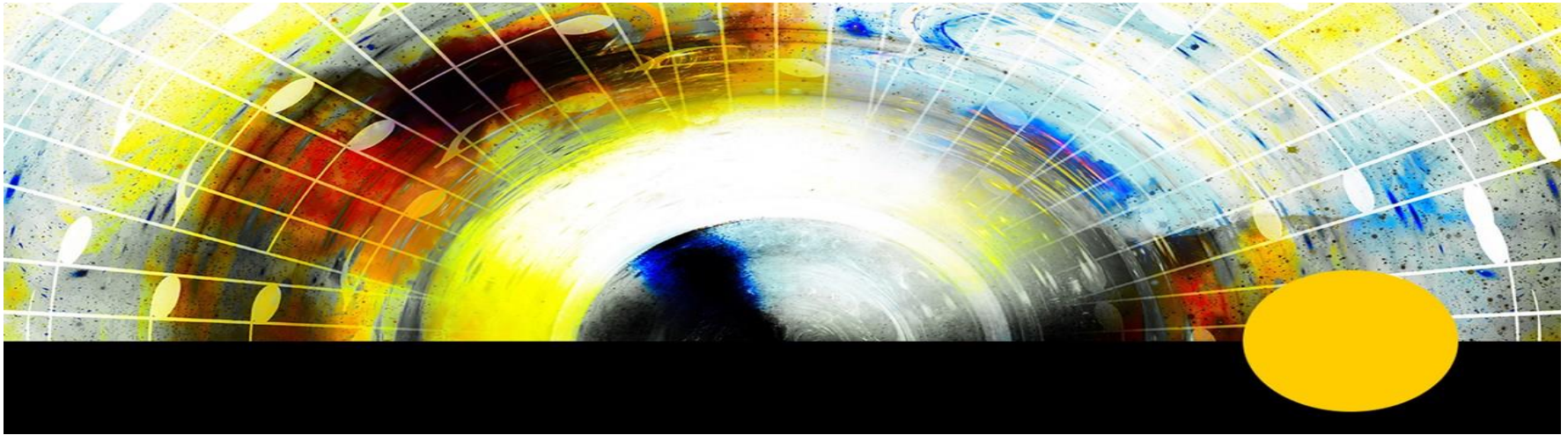
- Client Engagement / one-off interventions;
- Innovation in social enterprise development;
- Range of products and services, e.g. specialist advice, graduate placements;
- Board development and capacity building;
- Working with partners - SEA: Leadership and Learning programmes, TSIs, LaunchMe, Interface;
- Cultural and Gaelic development;
- Investment in people resource, e.g. Delivery Resource;
- Support for Communities Framework – practical support;
- Succession planning (Employee Ownership/Co-ops/ Private purchase);
- Funding / networks / sign-posting. i.e. Asset purchase

Scottish Social Enterprise EcoSystem



Rural Food Tourism places





CUPIDO - Culture Power: Inspire to Develop Rural Areas

CUPIDO intends to strengthen a viable and sustainable future economy, based on the social historic role and core qualities and values of the involved regions, cities and local communities.

CUPIDO is co-funded by the North Sea Region Programme 2014-2020.

Inclusive Ownership – Community Development



<https://www.hie.co.uk/knowledge-library/case-studies/papay-development-trust/>

We enable communities to contribute to the social and economic wellbeing and growth of the region.

Inclusive Ownership – Community Land Ownership Enterprise



<https://www.hie.co.uk/knowledge-library/case-studies/westharristrust/>

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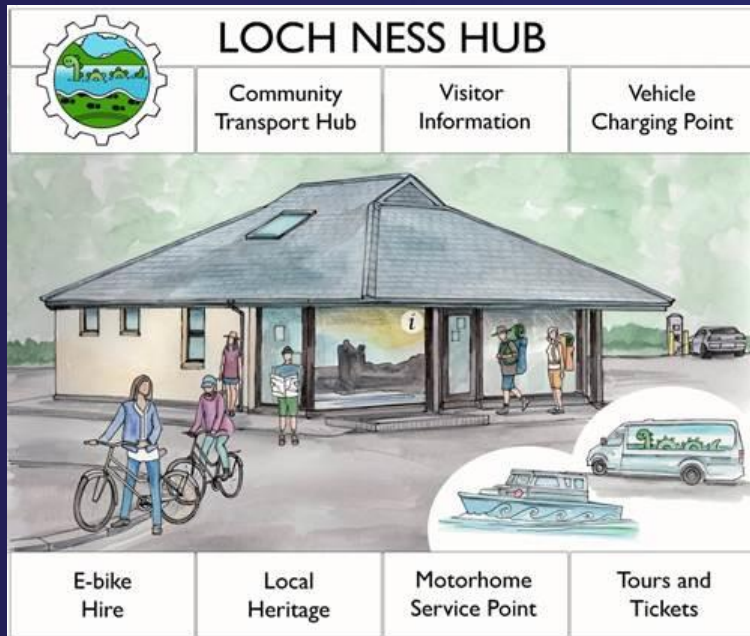
Inclusive Ownership – Community Co-operative



https://www.harriscommunityshop.co.uk/index.php/about_us/about_us

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Inclusive Ownership – Social Enterprise



<https://www.hie.co.uk/knowledge-library/case-studies/lochnesshub/>

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Thank you

Links to further information:

[HIE About Us](#)

[HIE Knowledge Base Case Studies](#)

[Scotland Find Business Support](#)

