

Annual Community Interest Company Directors' Report on Creating Space For You (CIC)'s Community Benefit November 2011 – November 2012

Creating Space For You (CIC) completed its second year of trading at the end of November 2012. Here are the details of the community benefit that was delivered during that year:

Support to City of York Council to develop its procurement procedures, making them more accessible to social enterprises (October 2011 – May 2012)

Worked with City of York Council to review and update their procedures in order to be able to make procurement activities more accessible to smaller local social enterprises. This included development of a pilot project, using the new council offices as a test for the procurement of café services.

- Support with the development and dissemination of proposal to social enterprises and small businesses in the local area
- Design and facilitation of several open sessions, providing an opportunity for local social enterprises to consider collaborative approaches to the café services, and discuss the development of the plans with the council
- Follow up on sessions to find out how the process had gone for the organisations involved

Outcome: a local social enterprise won the contract to deliver the café services in the new council office building

CS4U contribution to project: 10 days a standard day rate @ £500 per day = £5,000

Community Climate Change Project 'LEAF' (October – February 2011)

Contract through LEAF funding and the Energy Saving Trust, in partnership with an environmental charity in York called Friends of St Nicholas Fields. Designed and delivered bespoke workshops aimed to encourage and support local VCS organisations to reduce their energy consumption by working with a small number of organisations doing more intensive work. Participants were able to identify changes they could make within their organisation that could save both energy and

money, and created a plan of action to help them inspire others to take action.

Community benefit:

- There was a community awareness raising event which 20 volunteers attended for free (usual price would have been £50 per place giving a total contribution of £1,000)

York Social Enterprise Network (Ongoing)

Facilitated the development of the York Social Enterprise Network (YSEN) in association with York Council for Voluntary Service, enabling social enterprises to network, develop trade and opportunities for peer learning. Facilitation has included organising and chairing first and following meetings, organising guest speakers, delivering training, typing up minutes and developing an online directory of social enterprises in York where social enterprises can publicise their work:

<http://yorksocialeternetwork.wordpress.com/>

Community benefit:

- Social enterprises got together to develop a pop-up shop in York called Your Emporium, involving a number of members of York Social Enterprise Network
- CS4U have given 1 day a month of time over 12 months = 12 days @ standard day rate of £500 per day = £6,000

Successful and stress-free networking (Ongoing) opportunity for Voluntary and Community Sector organisations to network with the private sector

Events in Harrogate and York have attracted a diverse range of businesses, charities, social enterprises, and volunteers. A number of Third Sector staff and volunteers have accessed free places. On average, 96% of participants felt more confident about networking as a result of the session.

Community benefits:

- Outcomes for Voluntary and Community Sector: Developed partnership working between Third Sector and private businesses
- 15 volunteers have taken part for free (usual price would have been £100 per place giving a total contribution of £1,500) and a further 12 organisations have taken advantage of the bursary to take part (bursary of £32 per participant giving a total contribution of £384)

Various bespoke workshops and events (ongoing) including organisational development, world café style events and open sessions

- 1 half-day session organised through a specialist trainer who given their time for free, usual cost of their time: £500
- Disability Awareness and Equal Opportunities workshops were attended by 43 Third Sector staff and volunteers for free (usual cost £50 per participant giving a total contribution of £2,150)

One to one leadership coaching (ongoing) with senior staff in Voluntary and Community Sector organisations, helping them to develop their skills and build resilience in order to respond effectively to the current quickly changing environment.

Community benefit:

- Total of 32 sessions given @ £100 per session = £3,200

Beginning the development of Training4Good (June 2012 – ongoing)

Starting the research into the concept, review of our community benefit through offering courses at a reduced rate, project planning and development.

- Total time spent 15 days @ £500 per day = £7,500

There has been significant community benefit from the work Creating Space For You has done that cannot be quantified financially, such as the benefits to people's self-esteem, the relationships that have developed as a result of taking part in training with a diverse range of participants and the aspirations that have been raised.

Directors have also given time to York Council for Voluntary Service and Social Enterprise Yorkshire and Humber, through governance roles (as Trustee / Director) to use our skills to support the development of these organisations.

However, it is also impressive to note that Creating Space For You (CIC) have contributed £27,324 to upskilling the voluntary, community and social enterprise sectors around York and North Yorkshire in just one year.