



MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: 12/08/19
DATE FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE
TITLE: SWINDON SOCIAL ENTERPRISE NETWORK FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE
LOCATION: SWINDON, WILTS, UK
CONTACT: NAME: Andrew Hill EMAIL: ahill2@swindon.gov.uk (not for publication)

A promotional poster for the SSE Conference. The poster has a blue and black geometric pattern border. In the center, the Swindon Social Enterprise logo is on the left, and 'SSE CONFERENCE 23.10.2019' is on the right. Below the logo, it says '£10 TICKET'. Below the conference text, it says 'LINK CENTRE WHITEHALL WAY SWINDON, SN5 7DL 9am-4.30pm'. On the right side, it says 'Hosted & Sponsored by BETTER the feel good place'.

SUMMARY: The Swindon Social Enterprise Network (SSEN) is pleased to announce its first annual conference entitled, “PROFIT: Putting People and the Environment First”. The event is an all-day event hosted and sponsored by one of the UK’s largest social enterprises, Greenwich Leisure Limited at their “BETTER”, Link Centre facility in West Swindon on Wednesday 23rd October 2019. The opening key-note presentation will be given by Keith Carby founder of one of the quickest businesses to ever make it into the FTSE 100 entitled: “Building a highly successful business on social foundations”. A series of workshops will be ran throughout the day including, “Business Planning for Not for Profits”.

Registration will commence from 9.00 am with a prompt start at 9.30 am. Other speakers include:

- Natalia Fernandez from The Big Issue Invest: “What Difference Can Social Investment Make to Voluntary, Community, and Social Enterprises?”
- Peter Bunday from Greenwich Leisure Limited: “Growing the UKs largest Social Enterprise”.

- Jane Butler from Wiltshire Community Foundation: “Understanding Your Social Impact”.

Along with a “networking session” to get attendees to get to know each other workshops include:

- The National Lottery Community Fund: Availability, Priorities & Support.
- Creating an income for your not for profit organisation: Panel discussion.
- Employing People & Managing Volunteers.
- Making your governance structure work for you.

There will also be a “community fair” with up to 40 stands representing the charity and not for profit sector working in the local area.

Places are limited to 200 at a cost of £10 which includes refreshments and lunch. Further details and to book click on: www.swinconf.com

NOTES TO THE EDITOR

The Swindon Social Enterprise Network (SSEN): www.swindonsocialenterprise.com is an unincorporated community voluntary interest group, launched in November 2018, ran and sponsored by individuals and organisations that appreciate the value that the growth of Social Enterprise (SE) will offer Swindon. It brings together a diverse group of people and organisations who share a common passion: To support the growth of SE initiatives within Swindon via collaboration, and the sharing of skills, resources, knowledge & experience.

SSEN is a membership organisation. Membership of the network is open to SE’s in the surrounding areas, individuals and Public and Private sector organisations with an interest in, or who are actively promoting or supporting Social Enterprises.

The SSEN aspires to offer a vehicle for promoting social change through joined up thinking and working via:

- An online searchable membership directory that will enable existing/aspiring SE’s to log their support needs, partners to log the resources they are willing to offer and ultimately the ability to match the two together.
- Monthly networking events with guest speakers of direct relevance to SE.
- Business start-up support for those wanting to know how to go about starting up an SE.
- Business modules: Such as funding, finance/accounting, sales & marketing, human resources, health & safety etc.
- Advice on the most appropriate legal entity to establish an SE as.
- Working with the colleges and sixth forms to introduce students to the idea of SE.
- Interaction with organisations and community groups representing those furthest from employment.

Greenwich Leisure Limited: www.gll.org was founded in 1993, when Greenwich Council needed to find a new way to run its leisure centres because of public spending cuts and together, they came up with a new model. The first of its kind in UK leisure: GLL was born.

Seven centres were transferred to GLL, and success quickly followed. GLL created jobs and added new services to existing leisure centres. In 1996, GLL began expanding outside Greenwich and now run all kinds of community services and spaces across the UK.

GLL are a charitable social enterprise, working for the benefit of everyone: the public, the communities they operate in, the environment, their staff and partners. As a result, they’re proud to be the first leisure operator in the UK to be awarded both the Social Enterprise Mark (which they held from 2010 until 2013) and the Prime Minister’s Big Society Award.

GGL operates to make community services and spaces better for everyone. That means providing access to quality community leisure and fitness facilities - and more - at a price everyone can afford. GLL already manage more than 250 public sport and leisure centres, 57 libraries in partnership with more than 30 local councils, public agencies and sporting

organisations, and they're adding more all the time. They've built lots of new facilities in the UK and their membership has gone from about 7,000 to more than 650,000 with 40 million facilities visitors a year.

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