

## Leadership Group updates – June 2020

The GM Social Enterprise Network (GMSEN) is open to social enterprises and networks across GM. It exists to showcase social enterprise across GM and to connect social enterprises with each other, with the networks and organisations who can support them and with opportunities for business and growth.

GMSEN is led by the GMSEN Leadership Group who meet monthly to discuss current social enterprise issues, share knowledge, opportunities and offer peer support.

### How do I get involved?

- If you are interested in attending a Leadership Group meeting or raising an issue for a meeting, please email Owen Hewson at [info@gmsen.net](mailto:info@gmsen.net) who would love to hear from you.
- You can stay in touch with GMSEN on Twitter ([@GMSE\\_Network](https://twitter.com/GMSE_Network)) and keep up to date via the [News section on our website](#)
- Register your social enterprise for free on the [GMSEN social enterprise directory](#) – a growing online resource showcasing Greater Manchester's social enterprise movement.

The GMSEN Leadership Group last met on **May 21<sup>st</sup> 2020**:

### Leadership Group – May meeting updates for sharing

- The GM BAME Social Enterprise Network continues to grow. The network has partnered with the School for Social Entrepreneurs as part of their 'Building Sustainable Enterprises' programme. If you are a BAME social entrepreneur, there are a variety of ways you can get involved [via their webpage](#)
- On the theme of Build Back Better, the GM Co-operative Commission have published a principle's piece, *Building Back Better – a Cooperative Recovery*, which [you can view here](#).
- GMCVO have secured an additional £500k to invest over the next 12 months (until July 2021) through their social investment fund, [GM Social Investment](#). Please spread the word for any social enterprises considering social investment as their next step
- Flourish CIC are running [peer-learning and networking events online](#) and continue to build their [social enterprise-themed podcast library](#).

### Key things to share since the meeting on May...

#### Flourishing beyond Covid – new support toolkit

Working with Manchester City Council, Flourish CIC have recently published their 'Flourishing beyond Covid' support directory for social enterprises – 'a directory aimed at supporting people starting, sustaining and surviving in a new operating environment where covid-19 has impacted on the way we run our organisations'. It's full of info and guidance on funding, support and opportunities currently available. You can access it [via this link](#).

## **GMCVO – new online support directory for social enterprises**

GMCVO have published a new online support directory for social enterprises. It is easy-to-use and brings together a range of social enterprise support together in one easy-to-use directory:

- Filter by the type of support required
- Digestible summary of each support provider's offer
- Up-to-date contact details for contacting support providers directly

You can [access it here](#).

## **#SaveOurSocEnts campaign update**

Thanks to all who supported the #SaveOurSocEnts campaign, adding your name to the campaign letter to the Chancellor, written by social enterprise sector bodies to urge Government to do more to support social enterprises and co-operatives.

The campaign, led by Social Enterprise UK, Locality, Co-operatives UK, the School for Social Entrepreneurs and others, with your support helped to secure extra support for social enterprises, announced by the government at the end of May.

£150 million worth of support has been promised for civil society funding through dormant bank accounts. £75 million of this will be put into social investment for social enterprises, and £30 million in the form of blended finance to be distributed by the Access Foundation.

For the full press release on the Department for Culture Media and Sport website, [click here](#).

Good Finance have also published a downloadable guide for navigating funding during covid-19, [available here](#).

The GMCVO covid-19 Funding info page is also a helpful reference, [available here](#).