

SOCIAL FINANCE OPPORTUNITIES

A WORKSHOP HOSTED BY UNIVERSITY OF WORCESTER AND WORCESTERSHIRE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Friday 30 May 2014

9.30 – 12.40

Charles Hastings Building, University of Worcester City Campus

PROGRAMME

Welcome and Introductions

Rob Sykes, Director for Ethical Leadership, University of Worcester

The Westminster Perspective

Mark Garnier MP

Social Finance – a working definition

Roger Britton, Worcestershire Community Foundation

Keynote Address

Antony Ross, Partner and Head of Social Funds, Bridges



Antony has over 20 years of private equity and venture capital investment experience in a wide range of businesses from early stage development opportunities to later stage management buy outs. He leads the Bridges Social Entrepreneurs Fund and Bridges Social Impact Bond Fund, is a member of the Bridges Ventures investment committee and is also actively involved in the portfolio management of investments. Antony is a Teaching Fellow at London Business School and lectures on financing entrepreneurial business in London, Dubai and India. He is also Director of the North East based seed fund, NorthStar Ventures, and was previously a director of two other early stage technology spin out funds and a founder director of the Cambridge Network. He studied Mechanical Engineering at Bristol University and has an MBA from London Business School

Making Social Finance Work, The Midlands Together Experience

Richard Nicol, Chief Executive, Midlands Together CIC



Midlands Together is a community interest company that invests in creating employment opportunities in the construction industry for people who have been in prison. The result being restored lives and a reduction in crime. This is achieved through a commercially sustainable business model, buying empty and sub-standard homes, working with social enterprise partners to employ and train ex-offenders in property repair, refurbishment and restoration. Once the properties are fully restored they are re-sold and the original capital, plus the profit generated, is re-invested back into the business to finance the operating costs and the purchase of more property and on to further job creation.

Exploring and delivering opportunities through Social Finance

Nick Parker, Executive Manager, Vestia Community Trust



Nick's experience in Local Government, Housing Associations and in the private sector, including managing the Oldington & Foley Park Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder and as a member of the Department for Communities and Local Government Working Group looking at Neighbourhood Management; gives him a powerful perspective on the opportunities to make a real difference through focused social investment. In his role leading the Vestia Community Trust he has pioneered the use of targeted family intervention work and is exploring the dynamics of the changing nature of commissioning. He is currently looking at the local opportunities provided by Social Finance initiatives.

Group discussion

Where can social finance make a significant difference in Worcestershire and how do we work collaboratively to create the greatest impact?

Plenary

A light lunch will be available at the end of the workshop.

Directions

Our Workshop is located in Room 1003 on the University City Campus (the old WRI Hospital). There is no parking on the site itself but plenty nearby on Pitchcroft or The Butts car parks. Once parked please proceed through the main entrance and into the reception area and from there follow the directions to our meeting room.

