

SINK OR SWIM?

The future for Community-Owned Swimming Pools & Leisure Centres

A National Social Enterprise Seminar
Oban, Argyll Thursday 11th & Friday 12th March

An increasing number of social enterprises (trusts/community business etc) are running swimming pools and leisure centres; but with cutbacks in local authority spending, a squeeze on other funders and high energy costs, what does the future hold for these community based organisations?

Are you geared up for the challenges you are about to face? Are you taking full advantage of your social enterprise status? What should you be doing now to prepare for the challenges to come? Can you survive? How can you help yourselves? What can you learn from each other? What do you need to do to increase your profitability? Can you co-operate better with other similar operations for mutual benefit?

These questions (and some of the answers at least) will be examined at **the first-ever national conference for social enterprises that operate swimming pools and leisure centres** being held in **Oban on 11/12 March**. Sponsored by The Scottish Government Third Sector Division, Highlands and Islands Enterprises and Argyll and Bute Council, this event will include a range of top class speakers, training workshops, case-studies and a visit to Atlantis Leisure (a social enterprise of course) as well as exhibitions and displays from national agencies* who can help you in different ways to develop your social enterprise. Plus, of course, the chance to talk to, exchange ideas and network with others running similar ventures.

Who should attend?

- Chief Executives, Business Development Managers, Development staff and Directors from social enterprises
- Leisure and Recreation officers from local authorities
- Councillors interested in finding out more about the contribution these social enterprises already make to communities
- Funders and Third Sector Intermediaries



The Event Management is being undertaken by Argyll and Bute Social Enterprise Network (ABSSEN). For Further details or to register an interest in attending this event email mike.geraghty@absen.org.uk or phone 077673833

Did we Tell You?

- The Conference is **FREE** to social enterprises representatives, (£20 per day for local authority and publicly funded agency delegates)
- For those social enterprises that need some financial assistance **bursaries are available to cover, at least in part, travel/meals and accommodation.**
- The primary target is social enterprises from throughout Scotland – but visitors from other parts of the UK will be made welcome as long as there are fee paying places available.

Don't delay! Register your interest NOW! Email mike.geraghty@absen.org.uk to make sure that you are among the **FIRST** to receive the application form immediately they are available.
First come – first served.

ABSSEN is extremely grateful to the Scottish Government Third Sector Division, Argyll & Bute Council, and Highlands & Islands Enterprise for their financial assistance.

