



**Definition of a Social Enterprise:**

A Social Enterprise is an enterprise whose objective is to achieve a social, societal or environmental impact, rather than maximising profit for its owners or shareholders.

It pursues its objectives by trading on an ongoing basis through the provision of goods and/or services, and by reinvesting surpluses into achieving social objectives.

It is governed in a fully accountable and transparent manner and is independent of the public sector. If dissolved, it should transfer its assets to another organisation with a similar mission.

(National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland Definition)

**Check List:**

This category awards excellence in working with a partner social enterprise. The following check list should be included to help ensure that the business is partnering with a social enterprise in line with the above definition.

**Please answer each of the questions below in order to confirm that the partner is a social enterprise.**

Is an enterprise whose objective is to achieve a social, societal or environmental impact, rather than maximising profit for its owners or shareholders.	Please tick here to confirm _____
Pursues its objectives by trading on an ongoing basis through the provision of goods and/or services.	Please tick here to confirm _____
Reinvests any surpluses into achieving social objectives	Please tick here to confirm _____
Is governed in a fully accountable and transparent manner and is independent of the public sector.	Please tick here to confirm _____
If dissolved, it will transfer its assets to another organisation with a similar mission.	Please tick here to confirm _____