

SocialFirms UK

Annual Conference 2004 Enterprise Opportunities for Social Firms - working for job creation -

Content/overall comments		Organisation/		Site/location/ facilities		Speakers		Plenary/workshops	
Best conference so far Excellent event Well done all.	X6	Excellent organisation/Well organised event	X2	Very good venue Super/excellent : • accommodation • catering/staff • organisation Very good value	X3 X3	Most speakers easy to understand and inspiring. David Hall and Kevin Robbie very good - Need more speakers like this		Excellent workshops/great information	X2
Thoroughly enjoyed conference - great family atmosphere – shared goals & mutual support Wednesday excellent		Good conference programme facilities Universities aren't great venues but I suspect you can't do better for the price							
Overall very useful Very intensive – some sessions a little long/abundance of information – learnt a lot, invigorating/ interesting	X5 X2	Microphone set up in Lecture hall poor	X4	Accommodation average/poor/ very basic Rooms good but traffic noise prevented windows being opened		Excellent chairing Guy fantastic chair	X3	Some uncertainty about the plenary presentation on the Potential for Social Franchising led by Donald Findlay .Felt by some to be inappropriate for the day.	x3
Like the size, general format (not too many concurrent workshops) & opportunities to network Good balance of networking, conference and workshops		Handouts ; too reduced for some presentations – e.g. benefits Photos and colours resulted in poor reproductions	X2	Air conditioning in Nixon Hall very cold. Some rooms very cold – made concentration difficult	X6	All should have provided handouts		Workshops not necessarily best way to impart knowledge – extended discussions may be more effective.	

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Would like to see more focus on other businesses – presenting/showcasing successes from which we can learn.		Northumbria staff not aware of baggage storage arrangements – delayed delegates attendance at David Hall's session	X2	Very difficult venue and access very poor- especially for disabled people	X3			PowerPoint facilities in Breakout rooms are essential	
When showcasing involve some service users who will explain how being a part of a social firm has made a difference to their life. Would like greater attendance of social firm employees	X2	Some contact details not included in delegate list (request for speaker contact details?)	X3	Smaller user-friendlier venue needed. Campus confusing and irritating - signposting would have been helpful	X4			Rethink Workshop idea – they tend to be presentations by another name Too many presentations - results in information overload	
Request for copies of all papers to be sent out As above unless being put on website	X3	Tuesday too long Reduce day 2 and extend last day by 2 hours. Late afternoon session needs breaking up a little – but appreciate the need to avoid people leaving	X5	Felt unsafe at night as too dark going between locations	X2			Social Accounting very confusing/disorganised – did little to advance knowledge	

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Cannot understand why CAN and SFUK are not working together on franchising. Thought CAN's work less advanced.	X2	Provide opportunities for social firms or supporting services that are at the same level of development to meet.	X2	No access to water – should be provided in workshops Dinner 2 nd night – very poor Offer herbal teas and hot drinks at lunch time	X2 X3			Most presentations could have been better	
				Insufficient comfort breaks					
				Would like social night, disco, quiz,					
				Information on rooms to be used in delegate pack					