



Blackburne House Group



PRESS RELEASE

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**BLACKBURNE HOUSE
OPENS SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS IN LIVERPOOL**

Blackburne House – one of the countries leading social enterprises – is opening the School for Social Entrepreneurs in Liverpool. The school which invites applications from creative, imaginative and enthusiastic individuals of all ages and from all walks of life, will give the students the opportunity to work with some of the leading social entrepreneurs and set up businesses to help transform communities across Liverpool.

This innovative people powered learning programme is part of a growing national network of schools and will provide an invaluable insight into the social enterprise sector.

Claire Dove MBE, Chief Executive of Blackburne House, said:

“This is an excellent addition to the portfolio of schools across the city. It aims to create the social entrepreneurs of the future who will help to positively transform communities and impact upon the local economy.”

Councillor Flo Clucas, a passionate advocate for social enterprise said:

“It has been a dream of mine for the last 9 years that we should have a School for Social Entrepreneurs in the city and now it has happened! I am delighted and believe that this initiative will help social enterprise to grow and thrive, bringing new life to our communities and new opportunity to our citizens. I am delighted too that we are focussing on Granby Triangle, Walton, Village, Deysbrook/Dovecot and Netherley in the first instance with other areas of the city able to come in. It marks a turning point in the development of social enterprise in the city and I have every confidence that Blackbure House will do a wonderful job!”

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The programme particularly welcomes applications from individuals in the Granby Triangle, Walton Village, Dovecot / Deysbrook and Netherely with pre-recruitment workshops taking place in local venues in each of these areas. The full programme comprises of 38 day sessions, spread over 9 – 12 months, focusing on learning by doing.

The School for Social Entrepreneurs is backed by Liverpool City Council. Bursaries and financial support are available for the 10 successful applicants.

For more information about the School for Social Entrepreneurs in Liverpool please contact Sylvia Pearson on 0151 708 3938 or email sseliverpool@blackburnehouse.co.uk

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Notes to the Editor:

Pre-recruitment workshops will take place on the following dates:

- Thursday 26 April, 6.30 – 8.30 pm, Liverpool Lighthouse, Anfield
 - Friday 27th April, 10.00 – 12.00 noon, Liverpool Lighthouse, Anfield
 - Wednesday 2nd May, 6.30 to 8.30 pm. Dovecot MAC, L14
 - Thursday 3rd May, 10.00 to 12.00 noon, St Luke's Church, L14
 - Wednesday 9 May, 6:30 to 8.30 pm and Thursday 10 May, 10.00 to 12.00 noon at Lee Valley Millennium Centre, L25
 - Friday 11th May, 10.00 to 12.00 noon at St Bernard's RC Church, L8
 - Tuesday 15th May, 6.30 to 8.30 pm at Blackburne House, L8
 - Thursday 17th and Monday 21st May, 1.00 to 3.00 pm at Jet South Office, L24
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- The School for Social Entrepreneurs Liverpool is part of a growing, national network of schools, realising the vision of Michael Young, Britain's most prolific social entrepreneur. Michael set up the Consumers Association including Which Magazines, the Open University, Language Line and the Institute of Community Studies (now Young Foundation) and the first SSE was launched in London in 1997.
 - Blackburne House works towards Enterprise through Education. The organisation seeks to transform people's lives through the provision of training and opportunities of every kind in an environment of equality and inspiration.
 - Blackburne House has been offering educational opportunities for over 20 years. The organisation has been officially recognised as a centre of excellence having been awarded Grade 1 for education provision by the LSC. This grade was only achieved by the top 8% of external Adult Education Institutions in Britain. In addition, the centre is ranked in the top 10% of colleges and educational providers in the UK.

- Blackburne House Education has been awarded Learning and Skills Council Beacon status for the delivery of high quality, innovative teaching as well as being well led and managed. Beacons are expected to help improve the performance of other providers in the sector.

For more information about this press release contact:

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