

A GUIDE TO IGNITE

WHAT'S OUR PURPOSE?

WHAT'S OUR FOCUS?

WHAT'S THE PROCESS?



IGNITE IS THE UK'S FIRST IMPACT INVESTMENT FUND WITH A FOCUS ON ENERGY.

We believe that energy entrepreneurs have a vital role to play in building a better society and we're here to help them achieve their potential.

Thanks to our backing from Centrica, we're providing funding of £10 million over ten years, and will make investments in the UK of between £50k and £2m.

We aspire to be the first choice investment partner for entrepreneurs growing socially impactful enterprises in our chosen sectors and markets.



We aim to provide affordable credit and capabilities to enterprises in the energy and energy related sectors that are under-served by the mainstream financial services markets. This helps us support a wide range of social beneficiaries.



Delivering social impact with a sustainable financial return.

We have a strong sector focus, looking only at enterprises where our energy sector experience can help them grow. We are committed to being an active investor who provides a combination of investment and skills support.

We provide capital with flexible repayment terms and payment holidays to help enterprises grow.

We are agnostic about legal structure as long as the enterprise generates commercial revenues and has a core social impact.

1 SCREENING

- Investment leads are developed through referrals, events and social media
- We welcome direct applications through our website year-round
- The best applications are summarised and presented to the Investment Committee for approval to proceed to the next stage

2 DUE DILIGENCE

- The business and social impact plan is reviewed
- Internal team of financial, legal and commercial experts work with the enterprise to identify risks and develop mitigations, including potential post investment support
- Recommendation for investment and support presented to the Investment Committee

3 CONTRACTING

- Negotiation of terms and contract tailored to the enterprise
- Discussions about potential business support
- Agreement of social impact and financial reporting

4 PORTFOLIO

- Ongoing strategic review and commercial introductions where appropriate
- Monitoring and reporting on social impact and financial performance

brought to you by
centrica

We're looking for enterprises with a clear social mission, that want access to and support from Centrica's experts, and have a sustainable financial model.

If you want to know more please contact us by emailing: ignite@centrica.com

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SUPPORTING OUR INVESTMENTS

MENTORS & PRE-INVESTMENT SUPPORT

We provide mentors and training to around 10 enterprises each year to help prepare them for investment and long-term success

DUE DILIGENCE SUPPORT

Our legal, finance and commercial teams work together to evaluate our investments and to help develop strategies to mitigate against risks

SECONDMENTS

Centrica employees are placed within an enterprise on a full time basis for a period of time ranging from three to twelve months

NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Some enterprises receive non-executive directors who participate in Board meetings and offer their commercial expertise and networks

WHAT HAS IGNITE ACHIEVED SO FAR?

Since our launch in 2013, we've committed over £6m of investment to 10 enterprises

Over 10,000 people have benefited from the services of Ignite's investees

In 2014 Ignite supported nine enterprises with mentors and pre-investment services, four of which have gone on to receive investment

Through our current investments, we expect to create 44 new jobs in 2015 and provide training to 68 people to significantly enhance their employability skills

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www.ignitesocialenterprise.com

OUR INVESTMENTS

This is who we've invested in so far. Remember, we're always looking for new social entrepreneurs to support.

MIDLANDS TOGETHER



Midlands Together is up-skilling and employing ex-offenders to bring dilapidated houses back into use with improved energy efficiency. Once refurbished these houses are sold to fund more projects.

GROWUP URBAN FARMS



GrowUp Urban Farms uses new technology to grow food in a way that is energy and water efficient for urban communities that lack open spaces. The farms will train and employ local young people.

BRACKENBURN



Brackenburn has created new technology that processes local bracken into briquettes for wood burning stoves. Harvesting bracken, a nuisance crop, improves biodiversity. Brackenburn will provide farm-to-fuel education programmes for local children.

CO-WHEELS CAR CLUB



Co-wheels is the first registered social enterprise that focuses on making personal mobility accessible for lower income communities in rural and urban areas.

THE WARM AGE WOOD COMPANY



Warm Age sells wood briquettes as a commercial venture for public good. A proportion of each sale goes to fund free briquettes and befriending services for vulnerable members of its community.

GLOBAL ACTION PLAN



GAP is helping young people become more employable through on-the-job training in presenting, behaviour change and energy analysis. The best trainees are offered one-year contracts to advise GAP's clients on these subjects.

E-CAR CLUB



E-Car Club is bringing electric vehicles to council and company fleets using a community sharing model outside of working hours. Their aim is to provide affordable transport to under-served people, reduce pollution and promote electric vehicles.

