

## SEP TRAINING PROJECT UPDATE

**March 2005....SEP Training Project Update.** My name is Sheila Kelly and I have taken over from Heather Squires as the Training Development Manager. Many thanks to Heather for all her hard work with SEP and best wishes in her new post in Devon. It is a very exciting and stimulating time to join SEP training project with much of the training group plans coming to fruition over the next nine months producing social enterprise learning materials, qualifications, standards and much more. The following is an update on what is happening and a taster for some of what is planned. Some planning cannot take place till after evaluation of work in progress so watch this space for regular updates! The following is therefore an update on work in progress, information about an invitation to tender for production of a CD of social enterprise learning materials and an invitation to express interest in forthcoming events and training opportunities.

**SEP/SFEDI.** The joint SEP/SFEDI (Small Firms Enterprise Development Initiative) Endorsement Programme has got off to an excellent start with seven training providers' attending the London Workshop on 8<sup>th</sup> March to learn how to get their learning product(s) endorsed against the new National Occupational Standards in business support for social enterprise. Alongside the providers workshop SEP/SFEDI is running a workshop on 24<sup>th</sup> March to train individuals with a background in social enterprise to become SFEDI evaluators of learning materials. Seven social enterprise trainee evaluators will be evaluating the products that providers put up for endorsement and the two groups will complete the endorsement process and evaluator training by the end of May 2005. The evaluators will join the permanent roster of evaluators at SFEDI. The endorsement programme is being evaluated and the training group will discuss how to further disseminate the SFEDI endorsement process for social enterprise materials.

SFEDI have been commissioned to incorporate the Social Enterprise Manager units into the Business Development Standards and to produce a guide to enable social enterprise managers and advisors to use the National Occupational Standards in their social enterprises. To build on this work two workshops are being piloted to explain how to implement National Occupational Standards in social enterprises and to train trainers to deliver the workshop so that it can be rolled out nationally. The first workshop will be aimed at developing the materials and format, the second at training the potential trainers. The workshops will run in late May/June. In you are interested in being part of the pilot please email me with your details at [sheila.Kelly@sepgb.co.uk](mailto:sheila.Kelly@sepgb.co.uk).

**SEP/SEL(Social Enterprise London).** The Social Enterprise Knowledge Programme recently renamed "Understanding Social Enterprise Award" has started. The "Pilot Course" is based on the new national occupational standards in social enterprise business support developed by SEP and SFEDI. The training materials have been developed by Baker Brown Associates under contract to SEP. Joyce Francis at SEL is co-ordinating the development and piloting of the new award on behalf of SEP. The course is being piloted in London over March/Apri/May and SEP/SEL is working closely with the Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM) to get the qualification accredited at Level 4 by June 2005. It consists of a four-day classroom based programme, arranged as a series of one-day modules with a case study assignment. SEL have been successful at recruiting trainees for the course and there is interest in running it again in the Autumn. SEP plan to roll out this course nationally and will be developing a train the trainers workshop to teach the course in May/June. The next part of the plan for the qualification is to explore getting it accredited as a Vocationally Recognised Qualification (VRQ). Contact [joyce.francis@sel.org.uk](mailto:joyce.francis@sel.org.uk) for further information.

**Professional Development & NOS.** Two more courses are being developed by Baker Brown Associates in partnership with SEP, Social Firms South East with funding from South East England Development Agency and Social Enterprise East Midlands. The courses are for social enterprise managers and advisors and are to enable them to plan their own professional development in relation to National Occupational Standards and a "train the trainers" workshop to providers of professional development planning (PDP) services to social enterprise managers, including business advisors, trainers, mentors and senior managers.

**Invitation to tender:** SEP is preparing a specification for the production of a learning materials CD that can be used by a trainer (as opposed to being 'teach-yourself') as a resource for social enterprise training. It will bring together materials developed in the training project as follows: The new NOS standards incorporating the social enterprise units for managers, the new guide to NOS and social enterprise, materials on the topics of governance, legal structures, finance and participation for social enterprise. Sources for the materials will be the SFEDI, Co-operativesUK Governance & Participation project, the knowledge course being produced by Baker Brown Associates for SEP and other relevant material by negotiation e.g. the WISE material from Anglia Polytechnic University, finance pack from Project North East and possibly other social enterprise materials currently up for endorsement with SFEDI. The materials will be produced in pdf format files. If you are interested in this work and have a background in writing training materials and training please send your details to [sheila.kelly@sepgb.co.uk](mailto:sheila.kelly@sepgb.co.uk) to be put on the tender list.

As you can tell from the above there is a lot happening around social enterprise training at SEP and as the pilots are evaluated further events and workshops will be planned and rolled out over the next nine months. So remember keep checking the website for updates and invitations to join in.

**Sheila Kelly 23.3.05**