

# CAF VENTURESOME

## SE-Assist Fund Wales 2019



The **SE-Assist Fund** offers interest free loans which can be used to help you grow, become more sustainable or increase your business capacity. It also offers expert mentoring to focus your direction and growth plans. The SE-Assist Fund is launching in Wales for the fourth time in July 2019 and looks to provide support to up to six organisations. Applications are open from 1 July to 27 August 2019. Shortlisted organisations will be invited to present to our Social Investment Committee in October 2019 when a final decision regarding support will be made.

SE-Assist Wales is managed by CAF Venturesome, Legal and General and the Wales Co-operative Centre, with support from Welsh Government, Business in the Community and the Institute of Directors.

CAF Venturesome, is the social investment team at CAF (Charities Aid Foundation). We're dedicated to helping social enterprises, charities and community land trusts secure the affordable, flexible loans and other social investment they need to sustain and grow their social impact.

36

SOCIAL INVESTMENTS MADE

£800,000 COMMITTED

250,000 M<sup>2</sup> CARPET TILES RECYCLED

15,000 PIECES OF PACKAGING SAVED EVERY MONTH

The SE-Assist Fund has been making social investments in Croydon, Greater Brighton/Sussex and Wales since 2012. This table shows the impact that SE-Assist has had to date.

Figures as at April 2019

## WHAT WE OFFER

Successful applicants will receive a package of support including:

- An interest free loan from £10,000 - £30,000 (with the potential to borrow more at 6.5%)
- Access to professional advisory services to support good financial management
- Expert business mentoring support (optional)
- Expert support for organisational development (optional)
- Peer support from a network of ambitious local social enterprises

## WHO WE SUPPORT

- You must be based in Wales
- You should have, or be working towards, a sustainable business model evidenced by trading and/or funds raised
- Have a social impact that addresses a local social or environmental need
- Have a turnover less than £500,000 per annum
- SE-Assist uses charitable funds to invest in social enterprises. All social enterprises with legal structures other than registered charities can still apply but will be subject to CAF Venturesome's charitable validation process.

**It is important to note that social investment is not a grant or donation; it is a repayable loan.**

## HOW TO APPLY

To take advantage of this opportunity, register your interest at: <https://se-assist.co.uk/wales/>.

Applications are open until 27 August 2019. Once registered, we will send you helpful information on how to write a successful application and send you reminders of the closing date. We will also invite you to take part in the webinars that we'll be hosting during the application window, which will give you the opportunity to ask questions and help you to prepare your submission. Our pitch day will be held in Wales on 30 October 2019.

To access this information in Welsh and register your interest, visit the [SE-Assist website](#)

### SE-ASSIST IN ACTION



Elite Paper Solutions applied to the 2016 funding round of SE-Assist Wales and received an unsecured, interest free loan of £30,000 to help them scale up their fledgling social enterprise. It was used to pay salaries, buy more recycling bins and to get accreditation to help them win and take on larger contracts. Elite provides paper recycling, disposal, shredding and scanning services to organisations in Wales. It offers jobs to people who are disabled, long term unemployed and homeless.

Since receiving the loan from CAF Venturesome the social impact of Elite has been enormous and they have been able to increase turnover to be less reliant on grants than before. In the last 18 months 34 permanent jobs have been created.

*'Going through the application process was one of the most thorough things we had to do, yet on the very positive side of that process the reality is the loan.'* Andrea Wayman, CEO

**CAF Venturesome**

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