

**Member Agreement**

# **The Member Agreement forms the basis and expectation of all parties in working together, supporting each other, and developing the Social Enterprise movement in Lancashire.**

# **1. INTRODUCTION**

## Selnet stands for the ‘Social Enterprise Lancashire Network’.

## The network provides a trade association for social enterprises in Lancashire and operates as a representative body for social enterprise in Lancashire.

## Selnet provides a range of support services for its members. It has a key role at local, regional, and national level and actively works to bring in opportunities for its members.

## Members support the network through an annual membership fee that is based on the size of their business and due on receipt of Selnet’s invoice.

# **SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT**

This agreement is a fundamental element of the Membership package, and it is expected that all parties will adhere to the details within the agreement.

# **SELNET’S ACTIVITIES, AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

## SELNET aims to successfully represent and assist its members through the following activities:

## By promoting members as a viable business alternative, helping to raising their profile and ensure that the Social Impacts they create in the County is recognised.

## Actively bringing investment into Lancashire that creates opportunities for social enterprise delivery partnerships to provide huge social impact in Lancashire communities.

## We represent the interest of all social enterprises across Lancashire, especially Selnet members and supporters.

## We facilitate social enterprise partnerships delivery, mutual support, inter-trading, sharing best practice.

## We provide planning and development support to new initiatives, business development support to social enterprise starting-up and business growth development to established social enterprise.

## We promote ideas, training and development opportunities and create a platform for shared learning between members.

# **SELNET’S SERVICES TO MEMBERS**

## To become a **‘Full member’** of the network you must be an active, accountable social business driven and defined by social aims. Full membership will commence only when the annual membership fee has been paid.

## Membership is open to existing and emerging social enterprises whose business is based in or trading in Lancashire.

## The benefits we offer to full members of the network are listed in the table below:

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| **Member Benefits** |
| Become part of a group of likeminded people that reap the benefits of doing business for good |
| Networking opportunities through events, workshops, and network meetings |
| Your business will have a presence and a voice where you can feed in and contribute through the network raising issues and promoting successes with local, regional, and national policy and/or decision makers |
| Opportunity to nominate your representative to Selnet’s board of directors and be influential in the strategic direction of the Selnet business |
| Priority notification of opportunities, partnerships and funded programmes secured by the Selnet team |
| Platform for promotion with your own business page and profile on Selnet’s website, a bespoke listing in the Lancashire Social Enterprise Trade Directory and your business articles promoted in Selnet Informer |
| Key personnel within your organisation will receive our regular e-bulletin, the Selnet Informer with live opportunities, key member and sector news, events, and information relevant to your organisation |
| Selnet will follow and promote your business through social media channels, enabling you to access supporters, networks and key opportunities across the country |
| Selnet’s dedicated Membership Lead Officer is always on hand and your first point of contact should you need help.This is a unique support option that gives members peace of mind that we are on hand to listen, advise and assist with any questions or queries relating to your business |
| The network is wide and strong and can provide information and direction to other support for sustaining and developing your business.Can give you access to resources, information, tools, and templates if needed |
| Preferential access and/or reduce rates to workshops and seminars secured by and delivered in partnership with Selnet |
| Ability to utilise the whole team including Selnet’s Board of Directors to help answer your social enterprise questions and conundrums |

## Selnet is registered with the Information Commissioner Office, we are bound by the Data Protection Act 2018 and comply with the eight principles contained in it. We take the protection of your privacy and confidentiality seriously for more info please see our [Privacy Policy](https://selnet-uk.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/SELP-024-Privacy-Policy-v2-2022.pdf).

## Organisations that do not fit the criteria for ‘Full Membership’, wanting to support the aims and objectives of the network by paying a financial contribution.

# **WHAT WE EXPECT OF OUR MEMBERS’**

## To share Selnet’s aims and objectives in promoting the social enterprise sector.

## Encourage other likeminded organisations to join our network.

## Contribute to the information sharing network by way of (for example) sharing good practice and examples of their success that will help the profile of social enterprise in Lancashire.

## Engage with the staff team in particular the Membership Lead Officer to gain full benefit of the opportunities the network provides.

## Embrace and encourage mutual support across the network, develop the buy-social agenda and share training and development opportunities between members.

## Where an opportunity to work in partnership arises, either suggested by Selnet or a member organisation all parties will act in good faith and in a timely manner to assist in the submission of the bid or tender proposal.

## Prompt payment for the agreed annual membership fee. (you member benefits are dependent upon this). NB: Invoices for your annual membership renewal fee are sent to the main contact ahead of the membership renewal date.

# **SELNET OPERATING IN A COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT**

## Providing a high quality and sustainable service that is valued by its members cannot be sustained by income solely from membership and training fees. Whilst Selnet will focus its energies on bidding for grants and contracts that provide Lancashire wide social enterprise sector support there will be times that it may need to bid for work to provide income essential to support the offer it makes to members. Therefore:

## Selnet may bid for any form of grant or tender for sector support across Lancashire.

## Selnet may seek to procure activities outside of Lancashire if it supports the strategy, operational plans, and articles (rules) of the company.

## SELNET can seek to procure activities within a locality of Lancashire if it supports the strategy, operational plans and articles of the company.

# **CONTRACTING AND TENDERING**

## Selnet will endeavour to support its members with their trading activities, subject to resources being available. This may lead to potential conflict of interests and the following situations could arise:

## Two or more members of Selnet are competing for the same contract. In this case Selnet would be unable to become involved or support either of the competing members.

## Selnet leads a consortium of members for a contract and finds itself in competition with other members bidding separately for the contract. In this case, wherever possible, Selnet will inform its members of its intentions to bid and provide an opportunity for members to have dialogue with us.

## Selnet, in achieving its financial sustainability, is interested in an opportunity that a member is also considering applying for. In this case, wherever possible, Selnet will inform its members of its intentions to bid and provide an opportunity for members to have dialogue with us.

## A Director on the Board of Directors of Selnet may be in conflict with other Directors due to other commercial interests. In this case all Directors are referred to the Directors Statement and Registration of Interests.

### **8. THE AGREEMENT**

# 8.1 If any member has cause for concern with the implementation of this agreement and these concerns are not resolved through discussions with the staff team, then they can raise the issue with the Chair of Directors and through the complaint’s procedure.

# **9. ACCOUNTABILITY**

9.1 SELNET must be accountable to its members and will achieve this through general meetings and by making any board meeting or sub-committee minutes available to members on request.

# **10. MISCELLANEOUS**

10.1 The Agreement may be subject to amendments from time to time by a majority decision of the Board of Directors. These amendments will be available for comment at the next Annual General Meeting.