Growing the Social and Economic Potential of Social Enterprise

Portfolio: Community and Voluntary Sector

On 11 December 2013, the Cabinet Social Policy Committee:

1. noted that there is a growing movement of social enterprises that use business tools to tackle social and environmental issues;

2. noted that emerging social enterprises face a range of barriers, centred around the need for developmental advice and access to funding;

3. agreed that the government adopt a position statement on social enterprise, which is appended to the paper under SOC (13) 184, to encourage private sector and government agency responses to social enterprise development needs;

4. noted that the Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector will be supporting social enterprise development by providing grant funding for a social enterprise accelerator pilot in 2013/14 and a social enterprise incubation and development service in 2013/14 and 2014/15, with funding for outyears to be determined based on initial progress and funds available within baselines;

5. noted that this grant funding referred to in paragraph 4 above is from the Vote Internal Affairs’ Community Development Scheme, which is a category within the Community Funding Schemes multi-category appropriation;

6. invited the Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector to report back to the Cabinet Social Policy Committee by the end of 2014 on progress with the accelerator and incubator initiatives, and on cross-government activity that gives effect to the government position statement on social enterprise;

7. noted that the Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector will issue a press release announcing the government position statement and grant funding for the two social enterprise development initiatives;
noted that the Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector intends to publish the paper under SOC (13) 184 and related Cabinet decisions online, subject to consideration of any deletions that would be justified if the information had been requested under the Official Information Act 1982.