



## ABOUT US

The Thurso Community Benefit Society (TCBS) is a young, ambitious organisation with big dreams for its team and those who live, work and visit Thurso. TCBS operates as the trading organisation for Thurso Community Development Trust and aims to generate profits from its activities, which are then reinvested in the community in line with the priorities of the Trust. We run several 'micro businesses' and have ambitions to develop the breadth and scale of our activities, generating profits and providing sustainable employment. We are careful to ensure that our plans do not compete with local businesses, but provide new opportunities. At present, TCBS main activity is to operate and develop Sociably Growing, a social enterprise made up of two strands of activity;

- **THE SHOP**

Sociably Growing is a Zero Waste Refill Shop and Climate Hub in the centre of Thurso which has been operational since January 2021. It provides a variety of food, household and cleaning products.

- **THE GREENHOUSES**

Our Greenhouses commercially grow locally produced Mediterranean style vegetables and plug plants. These are then sold in the shop and to local businesses. We now have our newly refurbished event space located at the greenhouses and will be running workshops along with hiring the space to the community.

Both areas offer volunteering opportunities to those looking to help in the community and gain valuable skills.

As an ambitious organisation, we're looking for ambitious and driven people to join our board of directors to help shape and develop the Social Enterprise.

### **Our Mission:**

***"To generate a surplus for reinvestment in the community"***

### **Our Vision:**

***"To be recognised as a leading social enterprise, operating financially viable businesses which offer sustainable employment opportunities and provide community and environmental benefit."***



## THE BOARD

The role of the Board is to provide oversight of our organisation, ensuring that TCBS fulfils its duties and delivers on its vision, mission and strategic objectives. You'll be part of a hardworking team of staff and volunteers dedicated to making Socially Growing a thriving social enterprise which both decreases reliance on grant funding and also addresses the needs of the community.

The essential criteria is a commitment to positively contributing to the development of our community, and to adhere to the principles of honesty, integrity, objectivity and accountability. We want our Board to represent the diversity of people in the area, so age, gender or your area of experience is no barrier to involvement. We often work online so we are able to consider applications from Caithness or further afield.

If you've got experience of being part of a board of directors and in particular boast any of the following skills, Socially Growing would love to hear from you:

- **Business Development**
- **Commercial operations**
- **Marketing**
- **Retail**
- **Hospitality**
- **Agriculture/Commercial Growing**

The amount of time we would like you to commit varies but on average, we're looking for someone who can contribute 8/10 hours per month. Our board meetings take place monthly, but as we get more established, we plan to move these to quarterly. This is a voluntary role with no financial remuneration however it is an incredibly rewarding opportunity for the right people.

In addition to seeking people with the above skills, there is an open opportunity for a chairperson to join the team. This person, along with any new board members will be mentored and supported to allow for best results for the organization and the individual(s).

While our organisation needs a robust governance framework in place to guide its activities, being a member of the Board is not intended to be overly burdensome in either time or resource commitment.

If interested please contact Helen Allan (Chair) to arrange an informal chat and find out more.

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