

# Business Bulletin



2

Co-operative & Social  
Enterprise Development  
Agency

## Topics covered in this issue:

Edge Upstarts Social Enterprise Awards  
New Fire Safety Rules  
Community Interest Companies  
Community Newswire

*Welcome to the Business Bulletin from CaSEda, which gives you information on business related matters. Please contact us for further information, or follow the links provided.*

## Are you the Social Enterprise of the Year 2007?

2005 was a year of celebration for Shepshed Carers, not only was it their tenth birthday, but they also won the New Statesman Social Enterprise of the Year Award.

CaSEda have supported and advised Shepshed Carers from day one and this award was a well earned accolade to a fantastic team from Shepshed who bring dignity and peace of mind to many

elderly and disabled clients by caring for them in their own homes.

Now called Edge Upstarts, the award body are looking for more winners for 2007 and the closing date is 8 April 2007. Why not bring this prestigious award back to Leicestershire again?

The awards recognise excellence in all aspects of social enterprise, including providing a rich learning environment to the young and disadvantaged.

The awards began in 2001 to

encourage and award extraordinary vision, ethical business practice and social responsibility. They aim to showcase businesses that offer innovative and sustainable solutions to social issues.

Categories include: Social entrepreneur of the year, Social enterprise of the year, Young social entrepreneur of the year, Social enterprise mentor of the year and Social enterprise trainee of the year.

To enter:

[www.edgeupstarts.org](http://www.edgeupstarts.org)

## NEW FIRE SAFETY RULES

Since 1 October 2006 the law on fire safety in non-domestic premises has been significantly changed, with more emphasis on fire prevention and the duty to carry out a fire risk assessment.

A useful 51-point risk assessment checklist is on the Fire Protection Association website at [www.fpa-fireriskassessment.com/checklist.htm](http://www.fpa-fireriskassessment.com/checklist.htm)

In non-domestic premises that are not workplaces, the person or people in control of the premises are responsible. Where there is more than one responsible person, they must all take reasonable steps to work with each other.

Fire certificates have been abolished and local fire and rescue service authorities are responsible for enforcing the new rules. The regular inspections give highest priority to premises that pose most risk to the community.

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you work

94 New Walk Leicester LE1 7EA  
0116 222 5010 enquiries@case-da.co.uk  
[www.case-da.co.uk](http://www.case-da.co.uk)

# CaSEda

CaSEda is a trading name of LCCDA Management Co-operative Ltd Registered in England and Wales, Company number 1811633

## What is a Community Interest Company (CIC)?

A Community Interest Company is a type of company designed for enterprises that want to use their profits and assets for the public good.

CICs offer all the flexibility and certainty of the company format, but with some special features to ensure they work for the benefit of the community.

A CIC can be:

- a private company limited by shares
- a company limited by guarantee or
- a public limited company

Assets and profits must be used for the community interest, so there is a limit on the levels of distribution of profits or assets that may be made to members – this is known as the asset lock.

Registering a CIC is similar to registering any other company with the Registrar of Companies. One difference is the need to

apply to the regulator for confirmation that the company is eligible for CIC status.

A CIC's Memorandum and Articles of Association contains specific provisions provided for by regulations. The application to Companies House needs to be accompanied by a "Community Interest Statement" this has to be in a form prescribed by the regulator and signed by the first directors.

Community Interest Companies are required to use the initials "CIC", or the words "Community Interest Company" in their title, though in the case of PLCs, this should read "Community Interest Public Limited Company" or "Community Interest PLC".

Each year CICs are required to produce an annual Community Interest Report for delivery to Companies House alongside the annual accounts.

An organisation which is a CIC cannot also be a charity, but a charity can own a CIC.

Further Reading: [www.cicregulator.gov.uk](http://www.cicregulator.gov.uk)

CaSEda is supported by:



### Roll up! Read all about it...

*Do you need more media exposure?*

*Have you won an award or an achievement that you want to publicise?*

*Do you want to promote how your social enterprise makes a difference?*

Community Newswire is a joint initiative between The PA Group and Media Trust, funded by the Active Community Unit within the Home Office.

Newswire aims to make it as easy as possible for community and voluntary organisations, who currently have little contact with the media, to make their voices heard.

More than 3000 organisations use the service and around 30 stories go out each day direct to journalists around the country, with at least 15 percent of users getting their first ever media coverage through the service.

The service is free and the website guides you

through the process.

CaSEda often uses testimonials to support funding applications.

If you do submit a story, we would be grateful if you would include an acknowledgment of any help that the agency has given you.

This will go a long way to help us when obtaining contracts or accessing funding in order to offer continued support to current and new clients.

Further information: [www.communitynewswire.org](http://www.communitynewswire.org)