


SOCIAL ENTERPRISE MARK COMPARISON

	SOCIAL ENTERPRISE MARK	B CORP	SOCIAL ENTERPRISE UK – 'CERTIFIED SOCIAL ENTERPRISE' BADGE
CERTIFICATION	 <p>Social Enterprise Mark accreditation granted on approval of initial or renewal application.</p> <p>Licence renewable annually, subject to assessment</p>	<p>B Corp certification granted on achieving 40% of points in B Impact Assessment.</p> <p>Self-assessment verified by third party prior to certification.</p> <p>2 year certification term, after which company needs to recertify</p>	<p>Self-certification process – applicants need to agree to statement confirming organisation meets criteria</p> <p>Annual declaration that organisation continues to meet criteria is required, on renewal of membership</p>
ASSESSMENT	<p>All applications (initial and renewal) are assessed against the qualification criteria.</p> <p>Approval is not automatic - approx. 30% of organisations applying, or expressing an interest in applying, are assessed as ineligible</p>	<p>Applicants need to meet the B Impact assessment to become an approved B Corp</p> <p>Must receive minimum of 80/200 points (40%) in assessment</p>	<p>Self-certification – applicants need to agree to statement confirming organisation meets basic criteria</p>
RENEWAL ASSESSMENT	<p>Annual assessment to ensure social enterprise continues to meet qualification criteria</p>	<p>Reassessed every two years</p>	<p>Members required to declare annually that they continue to meet the criteria, when renewing membership</p>

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SOCIAL IMPACT	A social enterprise must submit 'social impact statements', which illustrate how they are striving to meet their social and environmental objectives	Organisation's benefit to community assessed using B Impact Assessment – 5 categories of business activity and must receive a minimum of 80/200 points (40%).	Primary aim is a social or environmental one and this must be explicit in the organisation's governing documents
MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS	NOT a membership scheme – approval is not automatic, subject to assessment process	Not a membership scheme – organisations required to take B Impact Assessment to become Approved B Corp	Must be a member of Social Enterprise UK to receive badge. Membership is renewable annually
LEGAL STRUCTURE	Not a distinct legal structure – can be CICs, companies limited by shares/guarantee etc		
BUSINESS MODEL	Social enterprise – typically will have distinct social objectives but at very least be trading in support of a social purpose, as determined by how it distributes at least 51% of its annual profits.	Can be focused on any activity Can be co-operative or commercial Charities and not-for-profit organisations are not eligible	Social enterprise
TRADING REQUIREMENTS	At least 50% of revenue must come from trading	Majority of revenue must come from trading in a competitive marketplace	Must aim to generate majority (over 50%) of income through trade

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CONSTITUTION	Must be independent, and have legally registered governing documents (e.g. articles of association) that confirm ownership and contain clauses confirming social purpose, profit distribution and distribution of assets on dissolution.	Must pass the B Corp UK 'legal test' – ensures that the company's Articles of Association stipulate that the directors of the company must consider the stakeholders' interests equally with those of shareholders.	Must be independent of state In order for the social mission of an organisation to be protected – the majority of the company should be owned in the interest of this social mission
PROFIT DISTRIBUTION CLAUSE	A principal proportion (at least 51%) of any profits must be reinvested towards the organisation's social and/or environmental purposes Emphasises social impact/value over dividends for owners and shareholders.	No specific requirements for distribution of profits	50% of profits dedicated to achieving the organisation's social purpose
DISSOLUTION CLAUSE	Asset lock or asset distribution clause required	No asset lock or asset distribution clause required	No specific asset lock or asset distribution clause required
COST	Annual licence fee from £350 to £7,500/year, based on turnover	B Lab annual certification fees from £500 to £50,000/year, based on turnover	Annual membership fee, from £75 to £4,750/year, based on turnover