













## SOCIAL ENTERPRISE MARK COMPARISON

	<b>SOCIAL ENTERPRISE MARK</b>	<b>B CORP CERTIFICATION</b>	<b>SOCIAL ENTERPRISE UK MEMBER BADGE</b>	<b>SEWF SOCIAL ENTERPRISE VERIFICATION</b>
				
<b>CERTIFICATION</b>	<p>Accreditation granted on approval of initial application or renewal assessment. Overseen by Social Enterprise Mark CIC (itself an accredited social enterprise)</p> <p>Licence renewable annually, with full re-assessment against criteria every 3 years.</p>	<p>Applicants must score a minimum of 80 points in the B Impact Assessment (BIA) to qualify to submit an application.</p> <p>Applicants also need to disclose any sensitive practices, fines or sanctions within a Disclosure Questionnaire.</p> <p>Self-assessment verified by a B Lab Standards Analyst prior to certification being awarded.</p> <p>3-year certification term, after which company needs to recertify.</p> <p>Certification/verification process overseen by B Lab UK.</p>	<p>Self-certification process overseen by SEUK– applicants need to agree to statement confirming organisation meets criteria and that their governing documents demonstrate this.</p>	<p>Self-certification process – applicants confirm which of the verification criteria their social enterprise meets and explain how they meet the criteria, uploading any evidence to prove claims overseen by SEWF.</p> <p>Uses the <a href="#">Good Market platform</a> for primary curation and information management.</p>





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	<b>SOCIAL ENTERPRISE MARK</b>  <small>THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE MARK TRADING FOR PEOPLE AND PLANET</small>	<b>B CORP CERTIFICATION</b>  <small>Certified B Corporation</small>	<b>SOCIAL ENTERPRISE UK MEMBER BADGE</b>  <small>CERTIFIED SOCIAL ENTERPRISE BUSINESS FOR GOOD</small>	<b>SEWF SOCIAL ENTERPRISE VERIFICATION</b>  <small>SEWF VERIFIED SOCIAL ENTERPRISE</small>
<b>ASSESSMENT</b>	<p>All applications are assessed against the qualification criteria.</p> <p>Pass or fail on each criterion, with supporting evidence required. Process overseen by an expert independent Assessment Panel.</p> <p>Approval is not automatic, and accreditation is removed if a company is found to no longer meet the criteria.</p>	<p>Self-assessment is reviewed/verified, and applicants are asked for supporting documents/ evidence.</p> <p>Must receive a minimum verified score of 80/200 points (40%) to achieve certification.</p>	<p>Governing documents are reviewed to verify social/environmental mission.</p>	<p>After being approved on the Good Market online platform, applicants are asked to confirm which of the verification criteria their social enterprise meets and upload governing and financial documents for review.</p>
<b>RENEWAL ASSESSMENT</b>	<p>At annual renewal, Mark holders must notify Social Enterprise Mark CIC of any changes that may affect their compliance with the criteria.</p>	<p>To maintain certification, B Corps update their B Impact Assessment and verify their updated score every three years.</p>	<p>Invitation to reaffirm commitment at annual renewal of membership. Members enter into an ongoing agreement to</p>	<p><i>No requirement for reassessment at annual renewal?</i></p>





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	<p>Full re-assessment against criteria every three years. Accreditation Panel performs regular spot-checks.</p>	<p>During the 3-year certification term, B Corps are required to publish an annual impact report.</p>	<p>continue to operate in line with the membership criteria.</p>	
<b>SOCIAL IMPACT</b>	<p>A social enterprise must submit evidence to illustrate how they are striving to meet their social and environmental objectives.</p> <p>This evidence is published in the Social Enterprise Mark CIC online directory.</p>	<p>Impact assessed using BIA, which measures social and environmental performance across five impact areas – governance, workers, community, environment and customers.</p> <p>All B Impact reports are published online.</p>	<p>Governing documents must set out a clear social or environmental mission.</p>	<p>Governing documents are reviewed for a clear social or environmental mission.</p>
<b>MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS</b>	<p>Not a membership scheme – approval is not automatic and is subject to an external assessment process.</p>	<p>Not a membership scheme – organisations required to take B Impact Assessment to become a Certified B Corp.</p>	<p>Must be a member of Social Enterprise UK to receive badge. Membership is renewable annually.</p>	<p>Not a membership scheme.</p>





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<b>LEGAL STRUCTURE</b>	Not a distinct legal structure – can be any legal form of company (e.g. CIC, company limited by shares/guarantee etc)			
<b>BUSINESS MODEL</b>	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.	Any ‘for-profit’ company - can be focused on any activity.  Charities and not-for-profit organisations are not eligible.	Social enterprise. Asset lock not mandatory.	No requirement for a particular business model, but applicants must use legal structures and financing that protect and lock in purpose for the long-term.
<b>TRADING REQUIREMENTS</b>	At least 50% of revenue must come from trading.	Majority of revenue must come from trading in a competitive marketplace.  Must have been trading for at least one year.	Must generate majority (over 50%) of income through trade.	No specific trading requirement but must have a self-sustaining revenue model.

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<b>CONSTITUTION</b>	<p>Must be independent.</p> <p>Must have legally registered governing documents that confirm ownership and contain clauses confirming:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- social purpose</li> <li>- profit distribution</li> <li>- distribution of assets on dissolution (asset lock)</li> </ul>	<p>Must pass the B Corp UK 'legal test' – a mandatory change to constitutional documents that commits the company to consider all stakeholder interests in decision making, not just shareholders.</p> <p>Shareholder value should not be the supreme consideration but one factor amongst other stakeholder interests. However, there is no stipulation requiring shareholder and stakeholder interests to be treated equally - particularly when it comes to how companies distribute and invest profits - so maximising shareholder value may still be the primary consideration.</p>	<p>Must be independent.</p> <p>Governing documents should show:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- social mission</li> <li>- the company is owned/controlled in the interest of its social mission</li> <li>- profit distribution</li> </ul> <p>All applicants are asked to provide evidence to verify their social or environmental mission is included in governing documents.</p>	<p>No specific requirements around constitution, but applicants must use legal structures and financing that protect and lock in purpose for the long-term.</p>

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<b>PROFIT DISTRIBUTION CLAUSE</b>	<p>At least 51% of any profits must be reinvested towards the organisation's social and/or environmental purposes.</p> <p>Emphasises social impact/value over dividends for owners and shareholders.</p>	<p>No specific requirements for distribution of profits.</p>	<p>Minimum of 50% of profits dedicated to achieving the organisation's social purpose.</p>	<p>Must be committed to reinvesting the majority of surplus towards purpose. Financial records must show more than 50% reinvestment or purpose-related disbursement.</p>
<b>DISSOLUTION CLAUSE</b>	<p>Asset lock or asset distribution clause required.</p>	<p>No asset lock or asset distribution clause required.</p>	<p>Asset lock or asset distribution clause not mandatory.</p>	<p>No specific asset lock or asset distribution clause required.</p>
<b>COST</b>	<p>Annual licence fee from £275 to £8,250/year, based on company turnover.</p>	<p>B Lab annual certification fees from £1,000 to &gt;£50,000/year, based on company turnover, plus one-off £250 submission fee.</p>	<p>Annual membership fee, from £195 to £6,995/year, based on company turnover. Free for organisations with turnover below £100,000.</p>	<p>£70 for the initial verification, £50 per subsequent year for renewal</p>