



The Social Enterprise Ambassadors are 30 of the most inspirational social entrepreneurs in the country, appointed by the Cabinet Office in 2007.

They are passionate about their work and keen to share that passion to inspire others to use business to tackle social and environmental issues.

All of the ambassadors are leaders of successful social enterprises, and illustrate the breadth and depth of businesses driven by a social or environmental mission. They operate in different markets and geographical areas across the country, in industries including IT, health and social care, retail, marketing, transport, recycling, the arts and education.

The ambassadors are independent business people and are free to speak their mind. They are working voluntarily to encourage people to start, work for, buy from and partner with social enterprise.

To enquire about booking an ambassador for your event, please email ambassadors@socialenterprise.org.uk or call 020 7793 2287.

www.socialenterpriseambassadors.org.uk



Craig Dearden-Phillips
Chief executive, Speaking Up

Craig Dearden-Phillips is founding CEO of Speaking Up, a social business and charity which empowers people with learning difficulties, mental ill-health or other disabilities to have a voice and control their own lives. Speaking Up delivers a range of services for disabled people including life-coaching and professional advocacy. It funds itself through advocacy contracts with local authorities and PCT's, grants and a consultancy, training and publications business.

In 2002, Speaking Up was a struggling local voluntary organisation with 20 staff and a turnover of just £500,000. The decision to start trading as a social enterprise allowed them to build up a successful advocacy services business, which now provides services to disabled people in a variety of settings via contracts with PCTs, local authorities and private hospitals across the UK. Under Craig's leadership, Speaking Up now has a £5.5 million turnover and helps more than 4,000 people a year. It has also won a host of major awards both within the 'Third Sector' and the wider business world, including the National Training Award.

Outside of his work with Speaking Up, Craig is a Non Executive member of the Investment Committee of Futurebuilders England and a Trustee of Impetus Trust. Craig Dearden-Phillips is set to deepen his impact on his local area after being elected as a Liberal Democrat County Councillor in Suffolk.

An experienced speaker and commentator Craig writes regularly for the Guardian and Third Sector magazine. He has also been profiled in a number of national publications, including the Financial Times.

Craig was awarded an MBE for services to social enterprise in the Queen's Birthday Honours 2009.