

Strictly embargoed: 00:01, Tuesday 19th May 2015

Big Society Capital: investments tripled in the last year

- **Amount of social investment finance available to charities and social enterprises increased to £359 million in 2014**
- **£104 million reaching charities and social enterprises with further increase of £32 million in Q1 2015**

Big Society Capital today published its 2014 Annual Report, outlining performance to-date, and its first ever Social Impact Report.

By the end of December 2014, £104 million had been drawn down by charities and social enterprises from Big Society Capital and its co-investors since the social investment bank's inception in 2012. Of that total, £36 million has come from Big Society Capital and £68 million from co-investors.

The amount of money signed and available to charities and social enterprises rose to £359 million across 36 different investments, compared to £104 million last year. £158 million of this total is from Big Society Capital and £201 million from co-investors.

Over the first quarter of 2015, the total drawn down by social sector organisations increased to £136 million. Of that total, £51 million has come from Big Society Capital.

Nick O'Donohoe, Chief Executive of Big Society Capital, said: "We're delighted to publish our third Annual Report which includes our first ever Social Impact Report. This shows how our capital is making a difference to some of the most vulnerable people in our communities. Over 130 charities and social enterprises are tackling some of the most entrenched social issues all over the UK with our investment and that of our co-investors.

"We look forward to working with the new Government to address some key areas outlined in their manifesto: youth unemployment, mental health and homelessness. There is now a real opportunity to bring greater scale and ambition to commissioning public services, actively employing social investment to address these issues and making sure charities and social enterprises have the right finance available to do so."

Harvey McGrath, Chair of Big Society Capital, said: "2014 has been a year of significant progress on many fronts. Access – the Foundation for Social Investment was established, responding to the market and providing finance for social sector organisations needing less than £150,000, while providing capacity-building support for the sector. The Business Impact Challenge was launched to engage corporates and we look forward to seeing that shortlist

very soon. And we are now seeing the first investments using Social Investment Tax Relief. Big Society Capital has developed from being a start-up to now having an emerging track record on which to build the next stage of the social investment market in the UK.”

As of December 2014, Big Society Capital had received £305 million in capital from the Reclaim Fund and four UK high street banks.

For more information and to download a full copy of the annual report, visit www.bigsocietycapital.com

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Contact Information:

For a copy of the Annual Report and Social Impact Report, or for more information, images and interviews, please contact:

David Dinnage
Senior Media Manager, Big Society Capital
e | ddinnage@bigsocietycapital.com t | 020 7186 2510 m | 07885 879500

Notes to editors

About Big Society Capital

Big Society Capital is a financial institution with a social mission, set up to build the social investment market in the UK, so that charities and social enterprises can access appropriate repayable finance to enable them to grow, become more sustainable and increase their impact on society. It is doing this by building a diverse social investment market: encouraging investors to lend or invest money to achieve a social as well as a financial return.

Since it was set up as an independent organisation in 2012, Big Society Capital has signed more than £160 million in investments to specialist organisations who lend to charities and social enterprises. Over five years Big Society Capital will be capitalised with approximately £600 million, from a combination of English dormant bank accounts and the four main UK high street banks.

www.bigsocietycapital.com

The breakdown of the draw down from Big Society Capital is as follows:

	2013	2014	Q1. 2015
Capital received from the Reclaim Fund and banks	£225m	£305m	£319m
Big Society Capital funds committed in principle	£149m	£180m	£180m
Big Society Capital's signed deals (cumulative)	£48m	£158m	£161m
Cumulative amount of	£104m	£359m	£374m

investment signed by Big Society Capital and our co-investors			
Drawn down from Big Society Capital	£13m	£36m	£51m
Drawn down from Big Society Capital and our co-investors	£29m	£104m	£136m

- 31% into property, mainly to help charitable service delivery. For example, Resonance's Real Lettings Property Fund has helped St Mungo's Broadway get more homeless people and families into suitable accommodation.
- 20% into critical social investment infrastructure such as ClearlySo and Charity Bank. These organisations have already lent or arranged approximately four times the amount of our original investment, and we expect this to keep increasing.
- 20% into loans and equity into asset-locked organisations, such as charities, community interest companies, community benefit companies, companies limited by guarantee and co-operatives.
- 9% is helping charities deliver services using Social Impact Bonds.
- 8% has been invested in profit with purpose enterprises.
- 12% is split between management fees paid to Social Investment Finance Intermediaries and cash balances remaining on their balance sheets.