

Mission-led Business:
Towards responsible capitalism?

Workshop, 22 November 2017, 1pm to 6pm

University of Bristol Law School, Lady Hale Moot Court Room, 8-10 Berkeley Square, Bristol BS8 1HH

Is more responsible capitalism possible? The aim of this workshop is to strengthen our understanding of recent initiatives to formulate an agenda for *Mission-led Businesses* in the UK that will shape a more responsible capitalism, whether as certified *B Corps* or other corporate formats and practices. Many welcome the agenda to promote responsible capitalism, that rejects corporate excess, short-termism and exploitation. But some have reacted cautiously to the idea of Mission-led Business, not least because it still leaves questions unanswered.

What is the character of Mission-led Business, and what are its possibilities and challenges? The University of Bristol Law School and leading public benefit law firm Bates Wells Braithwaite LLP (the first UK law firm to become a B Corp) invite participants to join a panel of specialists in the field to explore these questions.

1.00-1.30pm **Light refreshments and registration**

1.30-1.45pm **Welcome**

***Paddy Ireland**, Professor of Company Law and Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Law, University of Bristol*

1.45-2.00pm **Introduction**

***David Hunter**, Consultant Solicitor, Bates Wells Braithwaite LLP and Knowledge Exchange Research Fellow, University of Bristol Law School*

2.00-3.15pm **Panel session 1: Mission-led Business – character, context, challenges**

***Chair: Roseanne Russell**, Lecturer in Law, University of Bristol Law School*

***Charlotte Villiers**, Professor of Company Law and Corporate Governance, University of Bristol Law School*

***Nina Boeger**, Senior Lecturer in Law and Director of the Centre for Law and Enterprise, University of Bristol Law School*

***Dan Gregory**, Director of Policy, Social Enterprise UK*

3.15-3.30pm **Tea and Coffee**

3.30- 4.45pm **Panel Session 2: Walking the talk – Mission-led Business in practice and companies of the future**

***Chair: Nina Boeger**, Senior Lecturer in Law and Director of the Centre for Law and Enterprise, University of Bristol Law School*

***David Hunter**, Consultant Solicitor, Bates Wells Braithwaite LLP and Knowledge Exchange Research Fellow, University of Bristol Law School*

***Steven Fuller**, The House, Bath*

***Kate Elliot**, Senior Ethical Researcher, Rathbone Greenbank Investments, Bristol*

4.45-5.00pm **Conclusions**

5.00-6.00pm **Reception**