



Wild & Kind



Dechomai



Randori Judo



No.1 Befriending Agency



# LaunchMe

LaunchMe is an investment readiness programme  
delivered by Firstport - the first port of call for  
social entrepreneurs.

[Interested in LaunchMe?](#)  
[Click here to organise a chat](#)



# The LaunchMe Team



**Emily Macdonald** (She/her)

Investment Readiness  
Programme Manager

As an experienced credit risk analyst, Emily is well-placed to advise on what potential investors are interested in, what information is useful and how to present this compellingly. Emily manages the programme including our expert partners, financial management and reporting to the government. This includes ensuring the programme is impactful, accessible and relevant.



**Renae Bell** (she/her)

Social Investment  
Relationship Manager

As an experienced social enterprise founder, Renae is well placed to help you avoid common mistakes, access relevant resources and navigate the sector. She is your go to contact to get the support you need.



**Sinéad Reynolds**  
(She/her)

LaunchMe Programme  
Officer

With over 20 years experience in the third sector, Sinéad ensures the smooth running of the programme administration. She will let you know what is happening and when.

# Programme Phases

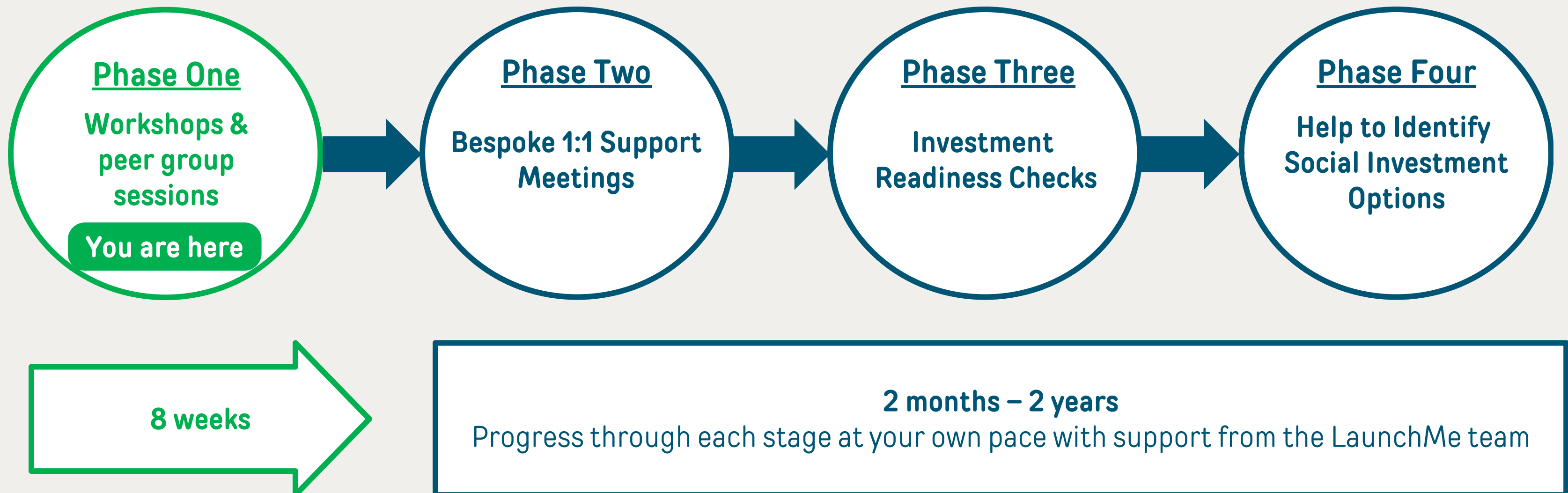
LaunchMe supports cohorts of ambitious social enterprises to become ready to secure social investment.

**Comprehensive Support:** The programme incorporates in-person kick-off and wrap up sessions, weekly online workshops and peer sessions designed to build your knowledge and confidence, and creates a support network of like-minded entrepreneurs.

**Expert-Led Sessions:** Delivered by the LaunchMe team and sector experts, these sessions focus on key investment readiness topics that you and your team need to know to successfully apply for investment.

**Investment Journey:** From understanding investment options to crafting a compelling pitch, LaunchMe equips you with the tools to succeed.

This is your opportunity to grow your social enterprise with expert guidance and within a supportive community.







# Workshops & Peer Sessions

We love creating spaces where everyone can get involved!

- We kick off and wrap up the programme with in-person peer social sessions.
- Our workshops and peer group sessions are hosted on Microsoft Teams.
- With breakout rooms and Q&A sessions, there are plenty of opportunities to share your ideas, ask questions, and connect with others.

## Bring Your Team Along

- Feel free to invite other members of your team to join any session. We believe the journey is more impactful when your whole team is involved!

## A Safe and Inclusive Space

- We aim to make these sessions open and welcoming for everyone. It's important to us that you feel comfortable sharing your thoughts and experiences. Rest assured, anything you share in 1:1 sessions will always stay confidential.

## Catch Up Anytime

- You have access to LaunchPad, our new learning management system, and can watch workshops and learn more about the topics that interest you at any time.

## Got Questions or Need Support?

- If you have any questions, concerns, or need accommodations, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Renae—we're here to help!



# Example Programme Overview

Wednesday	10:00 - 11:00 Q&A with the Expert	1:00-2:00pm Peer socials
Week 1	Welcome - LaunchMe Team Intro to Social Investment - Investment Team	Peer Social: What are your investment plans?
Week 2	Practical Finance	Peer Social: Alumni Success Story
Week 3	Governance	Peer Social: Practical governance
Week 4	Marketing	Peer Social: Alumni Success Story
Week 5	Storytelling/Pitching	Peer Social: Storytelling & Pitching
Week 6	Social Impact	Peer Social: Employment/HR
Week 7	Leadership - Lived Experience	Peer Social: Research data
Week 8	Business Planning	Peer Social: Meet the investor





# 1:1 Support

## 1:1 Support Overview


In addition to our live workshops and peer group sessions, the LaunchMe programme includes regular 1:1 meetings with the LaunchMe team and 1:1 support from sector experts. This personalised support is designed to address the specific knowledge gaps and challenges unique to your business.

## Firstport 1:1 Support

You can schedule regular check-ins and 1:1 meetings with the LaunchMe team to ask questions, share concerns, and receive support. As you progress, we assess your investment readiness and explore suitable investment options.

## External Expert 1:1 Support

The LaunchMe team creates a bespoke plan with each organisation to address specific challenges to being investment ready. This plan includes 1:1 support from our expert partners as necessary.





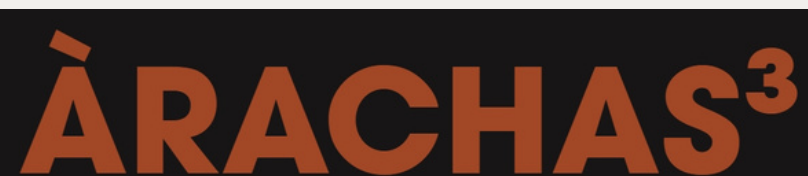
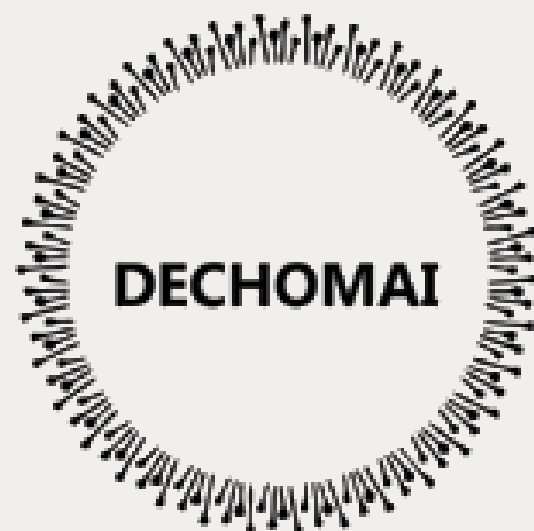


Daisy Ford-Downes  
Head of group investments  
and investment advisor



Lauren Scott  
Investment manager and legal  
consultant

# Experts & Partners





# Peer to Peer Support

## **In-Person Cohort Kick-Off Session**

Each programme starts with an in-person programme kick-off session so you can meet the social enterprises in your cohort as well as participants from previous programmes. Introduce yourself and your organisation, and start building a network of ongoing support.

## **Peer Group Sessions**

Our regular peer group sessions are a space to share experiences with the social enterprises in your cohort, offer advice, and build connections. These sessions foster collaboration, relatable guidance, and collective problem-solving.

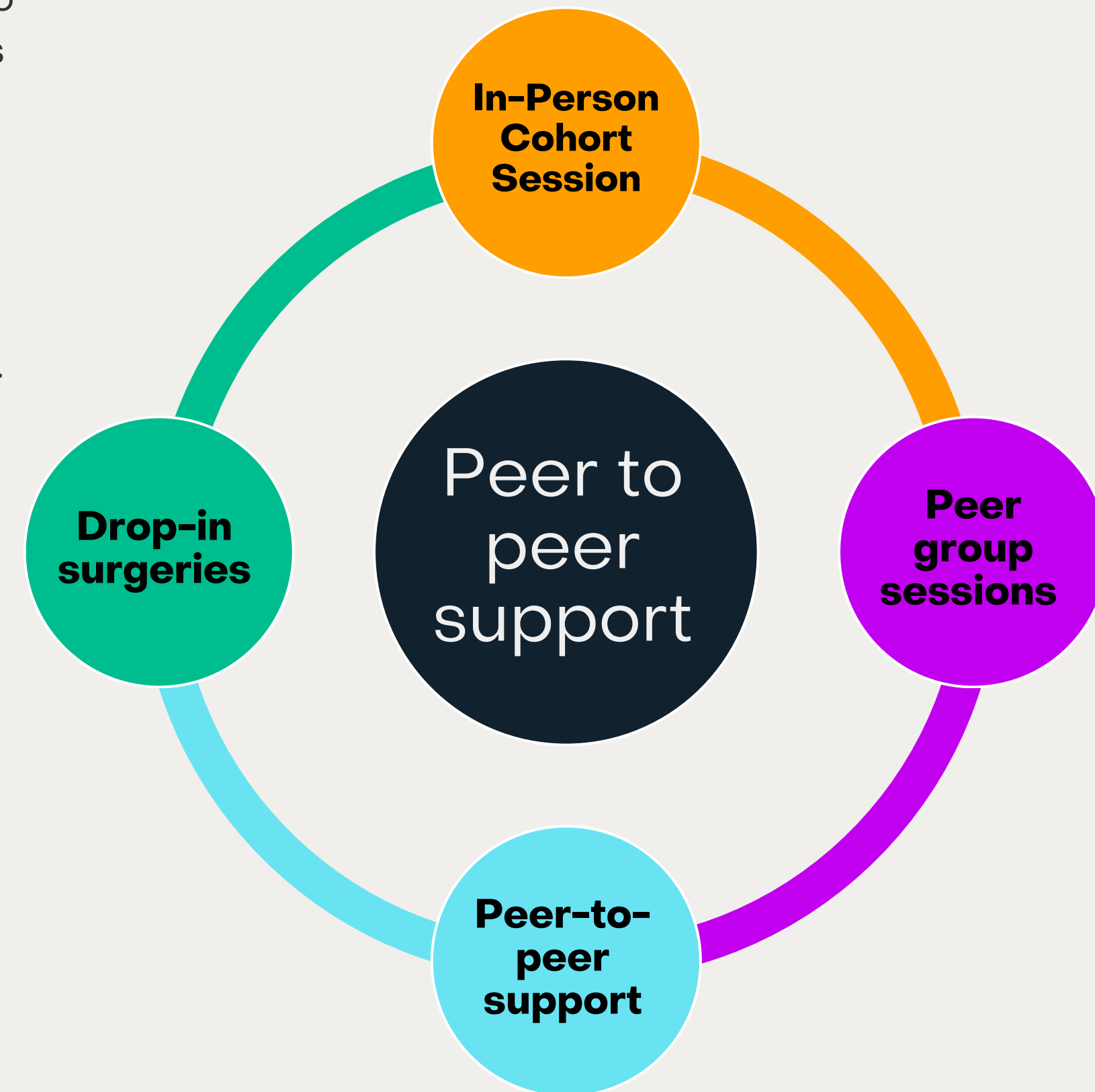
## **Peer-to-Peer Support**

During the programme you will build a support network of like-minded social entrepreneurs to help you as you go forward. We encourage you to share stories, exchange feedback, and support each other.

## **Drop-In Surgeries**

Monthly, informal sessions to drop into for advice, problem-solving, and support from LaunchMe alumni and the LaunchMe team.

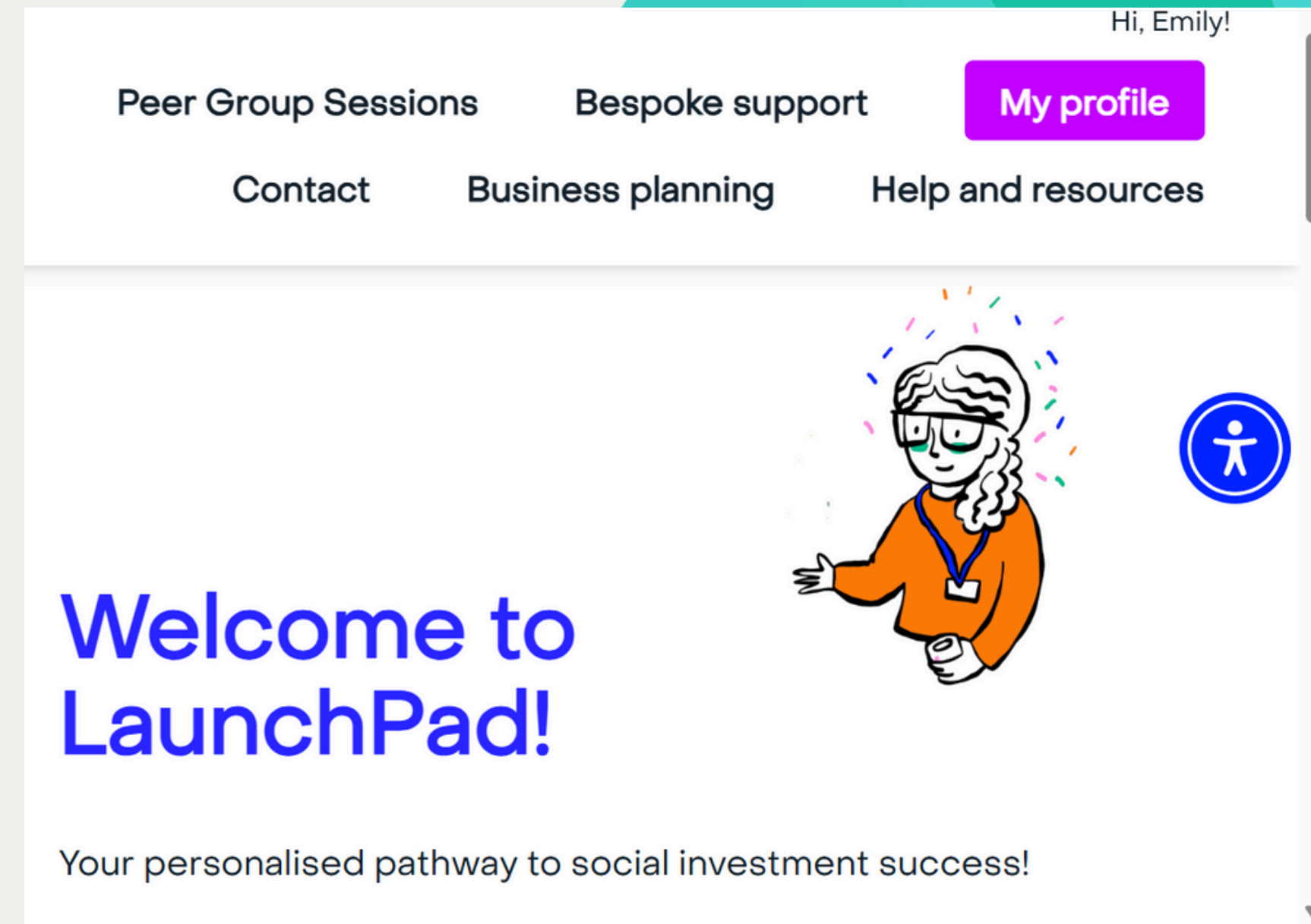
Together, these activities create a supportive community that drives growth, learning, and resilience for all participants.





# LaunchPad

- All participants can access LaunchPad, our innovative digital learning platform
- Access all learning resources on demand
- Multi-format resources
- Pre-recorded workshops
- Accessible to all
- Layers of learning
- Whole team approach
- Your feedback drives improvements
- Includes links to good quality resources from other social enterprise experts







**Are you  
investment ready?**

# **LaunchMe: Your Path to Investment Readiness**

LaunchMe is a unique programme designed to help your social enterprise prepare for investment.

## **Expert-Led Workshops**

Learn about key investment topics through interactive workshops designed to give you practical knowledge and skills.

## **1:1 Expert Support**

Personalised advice and guidance tailored to your business needs from experienced professionals.

## **Peer-to-Peer Learning & Networking**

Connect with like-minded entrepreneurs, share experiences, and grow together through peer support, networking opportunities, and events.

## **Refine & Perfect**

Work on refining your business plan, honing your pitch, and exploring the right investment options for your enterprise.

## **Flexible Progression**

With the LaunchMe team, you'll access the resources and support you need to move forward at a pace that suits you.

**If you have the ambition to grow, we're here to help you navigate the rest!**





# Thank You



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