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## **IMPETUS-PEF INVESTS £300,000 AND STRATEGIC SUPPORT IN CATCH22**

*New investment helps to tackle current failings in alternative  
education provision for 11 to 18 year olds*

**29 January 2015, London, UK:** Today, Impetus – The Private Equity Foundation (Impetus-PEF) announced it is providing a package of £300,000 and strategic and operational support to Catch22, a charity working with vulnerable young people and adults across England and Wales. This partnership will see Impetus-PEF working specifically with Catch22's Education Directorate to develop their alternative education provision model.

Impetus-PEF is the charity which brings funding and strategic resources to high-potential charities and social enterprises working to improve the lives and prospects of children and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

For too long education outcomes for young people excluded from school and in alternative education provision have been poor. Evidence shows that children and young people in this group consistently achieve results well below the national average<sup>i</sup>, which highlights the need for more innovative services to support them.

**Daniela Barone Soares, Chief Executive of Impetus-PEF, commented,** "Catch22 is a fantastic organisation that works with some 35,000 people each year and we are delighted to be working with them. Alternative provision in this country is often seen as a service that has historically failed to deliver outcomes of educational attainment or work readiness for young people aged 11-18<sup>ii</sup>. Catch22 has become a significant player in this very fragmented sector and is determined to drive improved outcomes for their young people."

**Chris Wright, Chief Executive of Catch22, said,** "We are delighted to be working with Impetus-PEF to develop a blueprint for the highest-quality alternative education provision. We welcome the strategic insight that Impetus-PEF will provide, which will build on our own vision to transform the lives of the most disadvantaged, vulnerable and/or challenging young people – wherever they learn – through personalised learning that provides real opportunities in education, employment or training. Our work with Impetus-PEF will focus on designing a model that really prepares learners for the world of work by ensuring positive education outcomes while also developing the right skills and mindset for successful and sustained employment."

The support package from Impetus-PEF will be used to develop a plan for high-quality alternative education provision to support excluded young people towards qualification and employment. This investment by Impetus-PEF provides both organisations with the opportunity to make a significant impact to the quality and reach of alternative education provision across the UK.

**ENDS**

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## Notes to editor

- **Impetus – The Private Equity Foundation (Impetus-PEF)** transforms the lives of 11-24 year olds from disadvantaged backgrounds by ensuring that they get the support they need to succeed in education and employment. It does this by finding the most promising youth charities and social enterprises in the UK and helping them (through a pioneering combination of management support, specialist expertise and funding) to become highly effective at delivering programmes proven to transform the lives of the young people they serve. For more information, please visit [impetus-pef.org.uk](http://impetus-pef.org.uk)
- **Catch22** is a forward-looking social business, with over two hundred years' experience providing services that help people in tough situations to turn their lives around. Catch22 is an alternative education provider that delivers personalised learning programmes to young people in schools, colleges, community centres, pupil referral units, young offender units and through its own network of registered schools. Catch22 is a well-established multi-service organisation that works with vulnerable people across the UK. It helps people improve their educational and employability skills, avoid crime and substance misuse and subsequently play an active role in family and community life. For more information visit [catch-22.org.uk](http://catch-22.org.uk)

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<sup>i</sup> The Prince's Trust report 'What's The Alternative? Effective support for young people disengaging from mainstream education.'

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