

About Locality

Locality is the national network of ambitious and enterprising community-led organisations, working together to help neighbourhoods thrive.

Community ownership of assets, community enterprise and service delivery are the key drivers of the sustainability of our members.

Our network therefore has huge strength, reach and influence. We use resources across the membership to influence positive change nationally and locally.

Why choose us?

Locality has a strong track record in working with Local Authorities across the country, connecting them to national innovation and supporting them to transform their practice. We have supported the development of cost effective, enterprising approaches, underpinned by an increasing role for communities in Local Authority Service delivery, particularly as a response to austerity. We have also been able to demonstrate significant added value for Local Authorities - leveraging significant investment into communities through our connections to national investment, grant funding and support programmes.

Despite being a national charity we are entirely local in our approach, with experienced staff based around the country, cultivating a detailed local knowledge of the areas in which they work. They already have established relationships with many Local Authority Officers and Councillors. Our approach is underpinned by an ambition to establish long term relationships with the Local Authorities we work with.

Our staff are highly trained – SFEDI accredited business advisors with strong track records in delivering consultancy work including training, project development, business planning, consultation, and impact measurement.

Our Expertise

- **Local Authority Service Transformation:** Locality supported the implementation of Localism, and has been developing the role of community organisations in public sector delivery and supporting the pilots of new multi-agency delivery partnerships. We have delivered national programmes in this area, most recently the Our Place programme, and have provided long term support to Local Authorities including Calderdale, Lambeth, Shropshire and Wigan.
- **Developing Social & Community Enterprise:** We support new 'community anchor' organisations to lever new investment into communities, and help develop new services in response to local needs. For several years we managed the national Community Organisers programme, which was the catalyst for the creation of wide range of new community activity and an increase in local volunteering.
- **Community Asset Transfer:** We support the transfer, development and management of a range of Local Authority assets including community centres, libraries, and open spaces. Locality is at the cutting edge of this increasingly important area of work, including developing approaches to Multiple Asset Transfer and the development of VCS Consortia. Locality has led on a number of national programmes in this area, most recently the Community Ownership and Management of Assets programme and prior to that the Community Rights programme.
- **Managing Transformational Grant and Investment Schemes:** Many Local Authorities are driving innovation at a local level through investment schemes – challenging communities to mobilise and innovate to fill service gaps that mainstream services can no longer afford to. Locality has supported the development of a number of these schemes across the country, providing business support and training to applicants and supporting programme design.

"Over the last four years, Locality have been a key partner for our Council. They have particularly added value in terms of our work with community asset transfers and supporting our strategic work on the Localism agenda. They are highly regarded by local statutory and third sector organisations in terms of their expertise and professionalism."

Sian Rogers, Third Sector Commissioner, Communities Directorate, Calderdale Council

The logo for Locality, featuring the word "locality" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font inside a teal speech bubble shape.