

Devon Community Foundation



Our Vision

To build integrated and passionate Devon communities which actively challenge disadvantage and bring about positive social change on a local level.

Our Mission

To connect the 'haves' and 'have-nots' within Devon communities in a way that empowers them to identify and tackle local issues together.

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What is Devon Community Foundation?

- Community Foundations started in the US around 150 years ago
- The model came to the UK around 30 years ago, now 57 across the Country covering 98% of the population. Allows us to attract large programmes.
- Devon CF been active for 12 years across Devon, Plymouth and Torbay – endowment grown by nearly £2m in two years.
- £7,000,000 in grants to over 2500 community led projects in last 7 years
- In West Devon – 141 grants worth £423,701 since 2002

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How do we work?



- We work with donors of all kinds
- Establish what donors are trying to achieve and the resources available
- Agree a panel of community members to advise and make decisions
- Research needs and promote programme
- Provide outreach support for those wishing to apply
- Assess applications
- Put projects forward to local panel for decisions
- Make payments and monitor/evaluate projects to measure impact and report
- Provide PR and media support to publicise programme and impact

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How do we handle the money?



- Follow strict Charity Commission Guidelines
- All named funds are accounted for separately in our Annual Audited Accounts – absolutely ring-fenced for use only for your criteria
- 12 Trustees scrutinising
- This would be flow through funding, but there is an opportunity to build a permanent endowed fund with the same criteria
- We charge a set up fee and then a standard 10% of funds as our administration fee (depending on what you want)

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Common misapprehensions



- We are giving control of our money to the DCF Trustees
- DCF will use our funds elsewhere in Devon
- DCF doesn't understand our needs – that's what you're there for!
- Others could handle the grant-making for free
- Local people won't be able to decide how to use their money
- We won't be able to change our minds or be spontaneous when a great project comes our way that doesn't immediately fit

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What's in it for Devon Community Foundation?



It's our mission and vision!

- Try to put all possible resources to best use in local Devon Communities
- The more 'pots' of funds we manage, the more likely we are to have something that will help someone – and be able to use the best fund for a particular purpose
- The more we do the more credible we become, attracting in more funds to Devon and being able to better advocate for the needs of Devon

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Why work with us?



This is what we do!

- Security – as much or as little involvement as you want over the full lifetime of the fund
- Professional grant-making which makes funds work harder to benefit communities
- Leverage of being able to use the right funds for the right purpose
- All the fun and none of the hassle
- Quality Assured, Charity Commission endorsed

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