

About Locality

Locality is the national membership network supporting local community organisations to be strong and successful. We believe in the power of community to transform lives and create a fairer society.

Our vision:

A fair society where every community thrives

Our mission:

Supporting local community organisations to be strong and successful



Main functions of community organisations

Making sure decisions about the local area reflect local people's views

Bringing money in to benefit the local area

Giving local people the services they need

Local people are involved in their community

Bringing local groups and organisations together to support the community

Community organisations support strong and healthy communities:

Addressing the social determinants of health

Supporting prevention and wellbeing

Community development, power and voice

Mobilising local assets

Innovative, flexible and people centered delivery models

We Were Built for This

How community organisations helped us through the coronavirus crisis – and how we can build a better future.



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[Read the report now](#)

1. Existing social infrastructure has been vital to the crisis response
2. Well-functioning local systems have emerged in the heat of the crisis
3. The role of community organisations as “cogs of connection” has been strengthened
4. Community organisations have adapted at pace – but need support to meet the challenges of the future

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3 issues identified in “We Were Built For This”:

- Unemployment – Jobs going to be the key policy focus for recovery. Community organisations create jobs, often in deprived areas, and have real expertise in employment and skills training
- Mental health – Experts warn lockdown is creating “tsunami of mental illness”. Community organisations play key role in keeping people well and addressing social determinants of health
- Social care – Crisis has brought urgency to long-term need for reform. Role of community organisations key focus of Keep it Local work

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Our Keep it Local Principles

1. Think about the whole system not individual service silos
2. Co-ordinate services at a neighbourhood level
3. Increase local spend to invest in the local economy
4. Focus on early intervention now to save costs tomorrow
5. Commit to your community and proactively support local organisations
6. Commission services simply and collaboratively so they are “local by default”

Opportunities and challenges

Support a community-powered economic recovery

Create collaborative public services that unlock community power

Turn community spirit into community power