

Enabling investment in communities *to transform people's lives*

Social change on this scale takes courage, long-term vision, imagination, ambition and patience. Our focus is always on the next generation as well as society's current needs.

Our mission

Our identity

We represent a network of 47 local funders, supporting grassroots community action across the UK

Collectively, we are a movement working for a more just future with a focus on equity, diversity and inclusion

Through our members, we have depth and breadth of place-based knowledge, relationships and expertise

Our goals

Through our members, understand and act on vital issues affecting communities across the UK

Increase funding to grassroots charities and community groups year on year

Provide sustainable and reliable support to communities for generations to come

Our 2025-30 strategic priorities

Amplify the community voice in UK policy making

- Influence policy and systems change through grassroots insights
- Advocate for long-term, relational approaches to communities
- Focus on health and wellbeing, social cohesion, climate change

Grow regional and place-based philanthropy

- Grow and diversify local giving to address systemic challenges
- Raise awareness of community foundations as place-based funders
- Develop profile with national partners and professional advisers

Transform grant making and convene effective local systems

- Support flexible, trust-based funding for long-term change
- Work towards network-wide adoption of IVAR* principles
- Strengthen the role of community foundations as civic infrastructure

Foster resilient communities in the face of challenges

- Coordinate community-led responses to major events
- Work with NET** and partners to strengthen support systems
- Strengthen focus on climate and environmental stewardship

Our enablers

We will work collaboratively with a wide range of strategic partners who share our goals and priorities, to maximise our impact in communities

We will foster a culture of active field building, including through Quality Accreditation for community foundations

We will develop community insights, qualitatively and quantitatively, supported by a shared data strategy and infrastructure

Our processes

Everything we do at UKCF will be underpinned by strong governance, financial management and sustainability

* Institute for Voluntary Action Research

** National Emergencies Trust