



UK Community Foundations Charter

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This charter sets out to clarify the roles and responsibilities of UKCF, and what our members can expect from us.

It also includes some responsibilities of Community Foundations. It is designed to strengthen our network and to demonstrate our shared commitment to the community foundation movement.

UKCF Vision

Local philanthropy will be the norm and communities will be able to help all those in need

Objectives

- Grow a stronger and more cohesive network of CFs
- Have influence in the places where it matters
- Be properly resourced to achieve our goals

Values

- Belief in communities and meeting local need
- Passionate about philanthropy
- Aspiring to excellence
- Committed to learning
- Adding value
- Demonstrating leadership
- Devoted to teamwork

What is UK Community Foundations?

UK Community Foundations represents all the fee paying accredited community foundations in the UK, providing a strong national voice for

local philanthropy, as well as managing UK-wide relationships on their behalf. We bring knowledge, expertise and a forum for co-ordinated action. Together we help direct funding to make communities better places to live and work. We recognise that collectively we are greater than the sum of our parts.

We are responsible for:

- Securing new partnerships with potential funders
- Raising the profile of the network and being perceived as a leader in philanthropy and civil society
- Facilitating idea sharing and the exchange of best practice across the network
- Delivering UK-wide grant-making programmes
- Delivering training, development and networking opportunities for our members
- Influencing a range of key stakeholders across sectors
- Setting standards for the membership and encouraging continuous improvement via quality accreditation
- Delivering cost-efficient ICT systems for the benefit of the network

We commit to:

- Giving direction on key policy issues
- Collaborating with partners to further common goals
- Providing a strong brand for the network
- Safeguarding the reputation of the network
- Consulting/informing the network when bidding for programmes
- Listening and responding to issues raised by the network

Key principles of our network

- Working together
- Mutual support
- Sharing information
- Equal voice regardless of size and location

Governance and decision making

- All accredited community foundations who have paid their

membership fees are full members and have a vote at AGMs and other network meetings

- The Board of UKCF is the overall decision making body for UKCF
- The UKCF committees have delegated authority over the areas defined in their terms of reference e.g. membership; finance, audit and operations; communications and marketing
- All members are encouraged to put their senior staff and trustees forward for positions on the Board and Committees when vacancies arise

Information sharing

- UKCF commits to producing a monthly members' newsletter including signposting best practice from across the network. This depends on best practice items being notified to UKCF by members
- UKCF will publish summary agendas and minutes of all formal meetings

Community Foundations

Community Foundations commit to:

- Inspiring philanthropy in local communities
- Leadership in local communities
- Share innovation and best practice
- Cooperating on UK-wide programmes
- Using a range of agreed professional tools in order to standardise working practices such as Digits 2 and Salesforce
- Using a variety of methods to research and understand their communities, in particular Vital Signs
- Cooperating with and responding to UKCF requests for surveys, information and stories
- Sharing good news stories and best practice examples regularly from their areas that UKCF can leverage at a UK-wide level
- Assisting other community foundations when they need assistance and helping to develop the UK-wide network

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Foundations**
for thriving communities