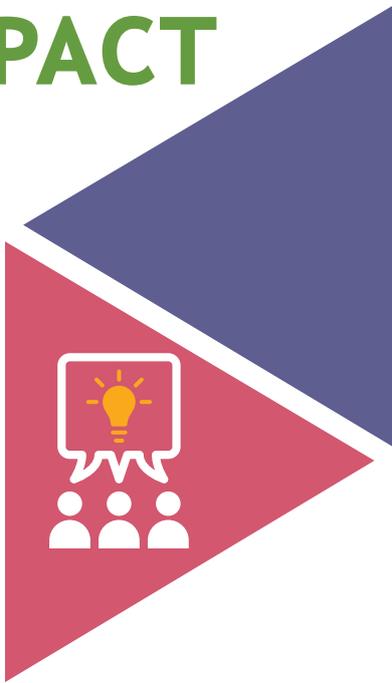


2017-2018  
ANNUAL REVIEW  
**LOOKING AT  
OUR IMPACT**



# KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

280 MEMBERS OF THE DEVON SOCIAL ENTERPRISE NETWORK



351 LOCAL COUNCILS SUPPORTED

3 RURAL COMMUNITIES WORKED WITH INTENSIVELY

4447 HOUSEHOLD HOUSING NEEDS SURVEYS



1 NEW SOCIAL PURPOSE COMPANY - CONSTRUCTING FUTURES DEVON LTD



2500 READERS OF LOVE DEVON

270 MEMBERS OF DCT



85 RURAL/ SOCIAL ENTERPRISES SUPPORTED



170 RURAL HOUSEHOLDS SAVED

£9500 ON OIL



SUPPORTED 152 COMMUNITY BUILDINGS



NEW AFFORDABLE HOMES

31 DALC TRAINING/ NETWORKING EVENTS



11 NEW RURAL PROJECTS SECURED FUNDING

118 COMMUNITIES ENGAGED WITH COMMUNITY RESILIENCE



500 PARTICIPANTS AT 44 TRAINING & NETWORKING EVENTS

29 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS SUPPORTED



ENERGY SAVINGS ADVICE TO 288 HOUSEHOLDS



£13,000 CONSUMER SAVINGS ON ENERGY



323 MEMBERS OF THE RURAL ENTERPRISE HUB



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## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Welcome to our first Impact Report. The information contained in this report has been collected over a twelve-month period and reflects both the diversity and impact of our work. Whilst it is not possible in a report of this size to report on all our activity I hope that it provides an insight into the difference we make to Devon's communities across a broad portfolio of projects and services.

The social objectives we have chosen to measure complement our business objective of supporting people and communities. They enable us to track our progress and they enable those who invest in our work to look beyond our day-to-day activity and recognise Devon Communities Together as a positive force for good within Devon.

One of the challenges of community development work is that our involvement with communities often takes place over several years. For example, from identifying a housing need to local people moving into new affordable housing can take anything from 3 to 10 years. This can present a particular challenge in measuring impact as we work at the pace of the community and progress can often be in small steps. However, our intention is always to build the skills, knowledge and confidence of communities throughout our relationship with them.

This is often an incremental process and there is enormous satisfaction in watching a community achieving a long-held ambition.

Our work has also developed to encompass supporting individuals, families and enterprises. We recognise a whole community approach can have positive impacts on health and wellbeing, household income, opportunities for learning new skills and employment, the local economy and the environment, enabling people to stay healthy, safe and independent.

Our plan going forward is to continue to work with partners on the areas described above and maintain contact with the communities, organisations and individuals we have worked with during 2017/18 to continue to report on their progress and assess the long-term legacy of our work.

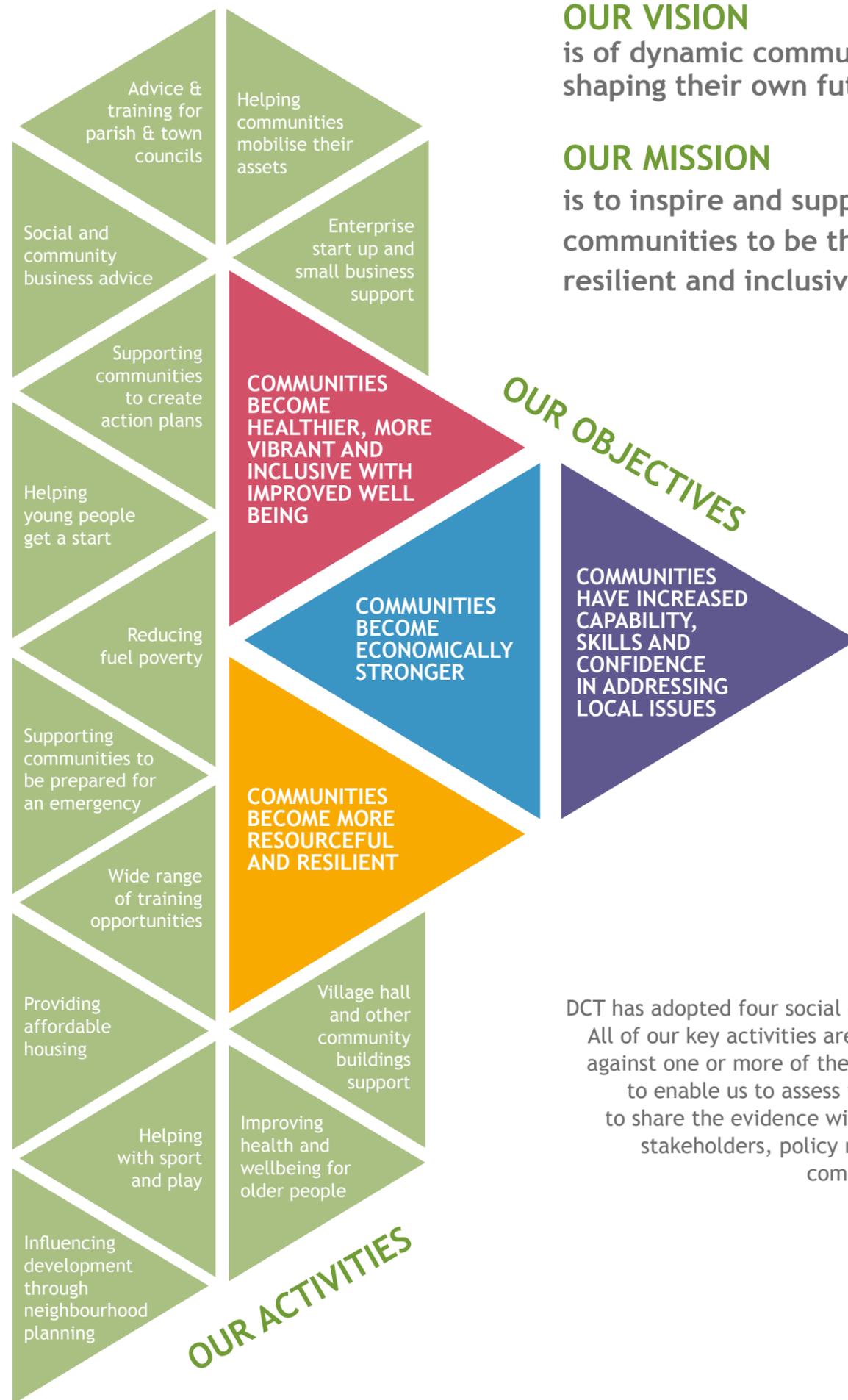
This first Impact Report would not be possible without the initial investment from the Impact Readiness Fund which provided us with a grant and Investing For Good whose team worked with us to identify our impact objectives and helped us develop our theory of change framework, for which we are most grateful.

I hope that you find the report helpful in understanding more about the work of DCT. If you would like more information on our impact or work please do not hesitate to contact me.

Elaine Cook



Chief Executive



DCT has adopted four social objectives. All of our key activities are measured against one or more of the objectives to enable us to assess impact and to share the evidence with funders, stakeholders, policy makers and commissioners.



## OBJECTIVE

COMMUNITIES HAVE INCREASED CAPABILITY, SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE IN ADDRESSING LOCAL ISSUES



**75**  
TRAINING & NETWORKING EVENTS

**29**  
COMMUNITIES SUPPORTED WITH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING



**7**  
COMMUNITIES SUPPORTED TO DEVELOP A LOCAL ACTION PLAN



**351**  
LOCAL COUNCILS SUPPORTED

## MAIN ACTIVITIES

### Wide range of training opportunities

Devon Communities Together manages a Training Hub. Working with a growing range of partners, the Training Hub provides a wide range of courses for a diverse target audience, all focused on increasing the skills and building the capacity of businesses, organisations & community groups.

### Influencing development through Neighbourhood Planning

Developing a Neighbourhood Plan is one way communities can have a say on planning decisions that affect their local environment. Devon Communities Together is able to advise on all the steps towards creating a Neighbourhood Plan.

### Supporting communities to create Action Plans

Devon Communities Together has over 20 years' experience which it brings to helping communities create local action plans such as Town Plans and Parish Plans. By supporting communities to implement their plans DCT helps them tackle the issues that are important to them.

### Advice & training for Parish & Town Councils

Under a long standing agreement with the Devon Association of Local Councils (DALC), Devon Communities Together provides experienced staff to deliver the DALC service to its member councils.

## OTHER CONTRIBUTING ACTIVITIES

Helping communities mobilise their assets

Providing affordable housing

Supporting communities to be prepared for an emergency

Social and community business advice



Workshop

## TRAINING HUB

Devon Communities Together's online Training Hub expanded significantly during 2017/18 both in terms of numbers of people accessing training and numbers of partner training providers. It will be rebranded in 2018 as the Devon Community Learning Academy. As well as delivering our own training programme we have this year collaborated with Citizens Advice Devon; Clarity CIC; Johnathan Whiffen; Triformis; Anthony Lovell de Souza; Living Options Devon, and the School for Social Entrepreneurs to provide a wide range of learning opportunities.

Through the Training Hub this year, 500 participants from communities across Devon were enabled to increase their skills, knowledge and confidence in the following areas through attending Training Hub learning events:

- Citizens Advice Devon Benefits Training
- Effective Project Management
- Sustainable Funding/ Crowdfunding
- Digital Marketing
- Neighbourhood Planning
- Governance
- First Aid
- Developing Effective Partnerships
- Community Development Skills
- Disability/Deaf Awareness
- Rural Enterprise Support

## IMPACT

Local people have the competence and confidence to tackle issues & challenges that arise in communities.



**500**  
PEOPLE WITH INCREASED SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND CONFIDENCE



Photo by Kevin Wooff of Splashdog Media



## INFLUENCING DEVELOPMENT THE PAYHEMBURY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Devon Communities Together has supported Payhembury Neighbourhood Plan group to bring together residents and create a shared vision for the future of their community.

Once complete the Neighbourhood Plan will ensure future development is considerate of the community's wishes, including:

- ensuring any new housing is small in size and located close to the village centre;
- that local employment is sustained by restricting change of use of existing buildings to residential uses;
- supporting community led renewable energy projects; and
- protecting the local open green space and play area from future development.

Through the work of Devon Communities Together 29 communities are developing Neighbourhood Plans which will enable them to influence future planning decisions.

*“Developing a Neighbourhood Plan has provided the parish council with evidence of parishioners views on a number of issues. Over the last few years, we have experienced large fluctuations in how local planning policy affects the parish. Given the strong evidence base, we are hopeful that our Neighbourhood Plan will allow greater stability in planning decisions, and for them to be in line with the wishes of the community.”*

Keith Williams (Chair, Payhembury Parish Council)

### IMPACT

Local spatial development issues are addressed by communities.

The natural environment, green/open spaces are protected.

Communities identify steps to promote economic development.



**13**  
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS PROGRESSED  
**4**  
SUCCESSFUL AT REFERENDUM AND ADOPTED



**ANNUAL REPORT** 2016/17



## ADVICE & TRAINING FOR PARISH & TOWN COUNCILS DALC TRAINING PROGRAMME 2017-2018

Under an annual Service Level Agreement, Devon Communities Together provides the secretariat function for the Devon Association of Local Councils (DALC). DCT staff provide telephone and email advice and support for the 351 DALC member councils as well as a wide range of training courses.

Transparency Code training - From April 2015 even small parish councils are required to adopt the Governments Transparency Code ensuring they are transparent and accountable to their local communities and up-to-speed in the digital age. The challenge for very small parish councils was to have the confidence and skills to move from paper to digital.

Councils that attended the Transparency Code training now understand the requirements of the Transparency Code, and were subsequently supported in applying for funding to help with their IT needs. As a result, more Parish and Town Councils are now digitally enabled and have websites accessible to their communities.

### IMPACT

Local people have the competence and confidence to tackle issues & challenges that arise in communities.

**472**  
DELEGATES FROM  
**201**  
LOCAL COUNCILS  
UPSKILLED



SMALLER PARISH COUNCILS ARE DIGITALLY ENABLED

**OBJECTIVE**  
COMMUNITIES  
BECOME MORE  
RESOURCEFUL  
AND RESILIENT

108

DELEGATES AT  
RESILIENCE  
EVENTS



11  
COMMUNITY  
TRAINING  
EVENTS FOR  
108  
PARTICIPANTS

152  
COMMUNITY  
BUILDINGS RECEIVED  
ADVICE AND SUPPORT



3  
ASSET MAPS  
CREATED



**MAIN ACTIVITIES**

**Village hall and other community buildings support**

Community Buildings, including Village Halls across Devon, are vital spaces supporting social activities and local services. Devon Communities Together provides advice and support for this essential network.

**Supporting communities to be prepared for an emergency**

Devon Communities Together is the delivery partner for the Devon Community Resilience Board. Our aim is to help communities prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies such as flooding or other severe weather.

**Helping communities mobilise their assets**

Under a pilot programme funded by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Devon Communities Together has worked with three communities to increase connectivity between local groups and encourage more local people to become volunteers.

**OTHER CONTRIBUTING ACTIVITIES**

- Supporting communities to create action plans
- Advice & training for parish & town councils
- Providing affordable housing
- Influencing development through neighbourhood planning
- Social and community business advice

A village event in the redeveloped Village Hall.



Bridgerule Village Hall (incorporating the Post Office)

**VILLAGE HALLS AND COMMUNITY BUILDINGS - BRIDGERULE**

Bridgerule is a deep-rural community, and a meeting space is important to maintaining its community cohesion. The existing village hall had served the community well for several generations but was now in need of redevelopment to meet 21st century village needs.

The village hall committee and the parish council consulted Devon Communities Together at a very early stage in their planning to understand the development options open to them. DCT guided them through a community led planning process to explore attitudes to redevelopment and aspirations for what the hall might deliver.

The feedback respected the efforts of previous generations and also kindled a community spirit to get the work done.

The result of DCT's involvement has been a transformed Village Hall, redeveloped to include Post Office facilities, with a growth in the use of the hall facilities.

*“Devon Communities Together have been extremely helpful over the last few years and their advice has been invaluable in helping us to get the project going. They are the experts on community buildings and members of their team have visited Bridgerule to advise us on various matters including comprehensive guidance on grant applications.*

*It seems that the DCT team have answers to all the questions we have and we are extremely grateful for their assistance. All this information is worth its weight in gold to us - Thanks again DCT!”*

(Adapted from the Bridgerule Village Hall website.)

**IMPACT**

People have access to community facilities, open to all and appropriate to the needs of the community.

2  
RURAL  
CHURCHES  
FUTURES  
PROTECTED



33  
COMMUNITY  
BUILDINGS  
ENABLED TO  
APPLY FOR  
FUNDING



## THE DEVON COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FORUM

Emergencies like flooding, severe weather or power failures can hurt communities - the Devon Community Resilience Forum was formed to help communities with advice and support in order to prepare, respond and recover. Devon Communities Together provides the front line focal point for a wider partnership of Local Authorities, Blue Light Services and the Environment Agency. By providing a support service, online resources and a series of networking and workshop events, DCT enables communities to develop their own Community Emergency Plan.



Peer learning is a very effective way of sharing information and experience. At the November 2017 Forum event Geoff Jung from the Woodbury Salterton Resilience Group gave a very informed presentation on how their community is preparing in case of further flooding incidents based on lessons learned from previous floods. As a result all the communities who attended were able to share this practical knowledge and experience

The response to the events is always very positive with participants inspired to follow up by creating their own Emergency Plan. After the November event one participant commented:

*“Thank you very much indeed for holding yesterday’s DCRF event, I really, really benefited from attending, it was incredibly helpful.”*

Councillor, South Tawton PC



## COMMUNITY UNITY

Community Unity is a pilot project, funded by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Devon Communities Together has worked with three communities in North Devon (South Molton, Holsworthy, and Lynton & Lynmouth), encouraging greater connectivity, resilience and increased levels of community volunteering.

An Asset Mapping exercise in each community followed up with Ideas Factory events resulted in 3 interactive maps being created and shared with the communities and 3 separate Action Plans.

The communities identified a range of training needs, which the project was able to deliver. Overall, 11 courses were provided which were attended by 108 local people.

Through Devon Community Together’s work 24 individuals and 5 local voluntary groups have signed up to the Community Unity Volunteer Bank.

*“Holsworthy Bowling Club believes the pooling of resources and skills is an obvious way of making the most of what we have and providing organisations with the capacity to function well with limited finance.*

*There are many organisations with willing volunteers but often cannot match the volunteers with the skill sets required. Providing willing volunteers with the required skill set is essential to building resilience and capacity within the community. The Community Unity Project has been successful in providing a wide range of training opportunities to many volunteers across all our local community organisations and as a bi-product has also increased the valuable interaction and cooperation between those organisations.*

*I am sure that we would not have achieved this level of training, confidence and reassurance without the impetus of the Community Unity Project. Our thanks goes to all those involved.”*

Mike Sutton, Chairman, Holsworthy Bowling Club

## IMPACT

Communities are better organised and able to mobilise quickly and respond to local incidents, events and needs.

Communities put in place an effective emergency plan.



**43**  
COMMUNITY  
EMERGENCY PLANS  
LOADED ON  
THE NATIONAL  
RESILIENCE  
DIRECT  
PORTAL

**14**  
FLOOD RESILIENCE  
GRANTS PROCESSED  
**£5700**  
IN GRANTS  
AWARDED

**118**  
COMMUNITIES  
ENGAGED IN  
THE COMMUNITY  
RESILIENCE  
FORUM

## IMPACT

Community-based volunteers with increased capacity, and capability.

Better connectivity between local services and between citizens and the local police service.

**206**  
COMMUNITY  
ORGANISATIONS  
BETTER  
CONNECTED



**5**  
COMMUNITY  
GROUPS AND  
**24**  
INDIVIDUALS SIGNED UP  
TO THE COMMUNITY  
UNITY VOLUNTEER  
DATABASE

**OBJECTIVE**  
COMMUNITIES  
BECOME  
ECONOMICALLY  
STRONGER

**45**  
SOCIAL AND  
COMMUNITY  
ENTERPRISES  
SUPPORTED

**200**  
PARTICIPANTS  
REACHED AT  
11 SOCIAL/RURAL  
ENTERPRISE  
TRAINING/  
NETWORKING  
EVENTS

**40**  
RURAL  
ENTERPRISES  
PROVIDED WITH 1 TO  
1 ADVICE SESSIONS



ENERGY  
SAVINGS  
ADVICE TO  
**288**  
HOUSEHOLDS



**MAIN ACTIVITIES**

**Social and community business advice**

In rural areas, gaps in services often create an opportunity for communities to develop a business to provide a vital service and also contribute to local society. Devon Communities Together helps such enterprises, eg community shops and community pubs, to start up and grow.

**Enterprise start up and small business support**

Funded by the Prince’s Countryside Fund, Devon Communities Together is providing a business start up and growth support package for individual entrepreneurs, community enterprises and developing rural businesses in order to encourage and stimulate rural enterprise

**Reducing fuel poverty**

12% of Devon households are in Fuel Poverty; our older, more remote, off gas properties are more expensive to heat. Devon Communities Together runs the Devon Oil Collective to ensure members benefit from lower oil prices. DCT also advises households on energy efficiency and switching tariff/supplier.

**OTHER CONTRIBUTING ACTIVITIES**

Influencing development through neighbourhood planning

Wide range of training opportunities

Providing affordable housing

**SUPPORT FOR SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE  
THE HATHERLEIGH SPACES ENTERPRISE**

The last bank in the small market town of Hatherleigh closed in 2016, leaving the modern building in a prime location vacant.

A local entrepreneur and philanthropist purchased the building with a view to it providing permanent rehearsal space for the Hatherleigh Silver Band and making the rest of the space available for community development. A Steering Group was established to investigate the feasibility of running the building as a community asset.

The steering group contacted DCT’s Social Enterprise advice service who provided support and guidance throughout their feasibility and development stages. We were delighted to receive the following feedback from the chairperson of the Steering Group:

*“Thank you so much for your help last year. Your workshop and advice provided a massive step forward for our group”*



In March 2018 the Steering Group were delighted to finally be given planning permission to develop the space as a community hub providing:

- A family friendly shared enterprise hub to support entrepreneurs and home-workers
- A meeting space and café to support all generations, especially young parents and the elderly
- A “repair hub” or Men’s Shed type intergenerational workshop
- Library of Things and skills share resource
- Pop up markets and shops selling local produce

**IMPACT**

Local services are protected and enhanced.

Communities are more sustainable / resilient.

**280**  
MEMBERS OF  
THE DEVON SOCIAL  
ENTERPRISE  
NETWORK



## ENTERPRISE START UP AND BUSINESS SUPPORT

The Rural Enterprise Solutions programme funded by the Prince's Countryside Fund has enabled Devon Communities Together to support existing enterprises within rural Devon to grow and develop whilst also encouraging and supporting start-ups to emerge. The support provided has been in the form of networking Launch Pad events, an online peer support network, one to one business support and a bespoke training programme. One participant from the programme, Helen, said: *"the various resources are REALLY helpful. This is exactly the type of recommendations and help we require."*



Devon Communities Together has created a new online resource hub and peer network with 323 participants. 22 Social Entrepreneurs have received free specialist training from the School for Social Entrepreneurs Dartington.

Rural Enterprise Solutions has been supporting Cefyn Jones who is looking to set up a business producing bagpipes using hemp to make the pipes. The idea is to support conservation in response to the short supply of materials traditionally used to make pipes. Cefyn has been interested in bagpiping since he was the Pipe Major at Gordon Boys School (patron HM the Queen). Cefyn says: *"I had a dream of wanting to be the Queen Mother's personal bagpiper, mainly because our birthdays are the same day but also because it sounded like a cool job. I became homeless in 1996 and was given a set of bagpipes by the Prince's Trust, this helped me survive what wasn't the greatest time of my life."*

Cefyn is currently sourcing companies who would be able to mould the pipes using this bio product.



## TACKLING FUEL POVERTY

Devon has a high level of fuel poverty and Devon Communities Together is taking a number of steps to reduce the financial impact on households. The Devon Oil Collective ensures that off-gas members can buy heating oil at the best market prices available regardless of their location and access issues.

Under the Big Energy Saving and Affordable Warmth initiatives, DCT's work involves providing energy savings advice and energy supplier switching advice.

### Case 1

The client was sure he was paying too much for his fuel but was not sure what to do about it. The client was disadvantaged as English is not his first language.

DCT was able to identify that the client was on a variable tariff and paying £112.00 per month direct debit. We conducted a price comparison which showed the consumer could save £383 a year by switching to a fixed term contract and a different provider. The client was also supported to use the Uswitch website so that he would be confident to switch in future.

### Case 2

The client contacted DCT and explained that he felt he was paying too much for his fuel bills. His tariff was coming to an end and he was struggling to understand what to do next. The client informed us that he had Aspergers, short term memory loss and suffered from anxiety. We visited him at home and enabled him to switch to a cheaper tariff that would save him £31 a year and was with a supplier he trusted who ran the Warm Home Discount.



## IMPACT

People are supported to start businesses / social enterprises which provide jobs and services in the community.

Peer support is available for people who are interested in developing a business enterprise.

22  
ENTREPRENEURS  
ATTENDING  
SPECIALIST RURAL  
ENTERPRISE  
TRAINING

323  
BUSINESSES  
SIGNED UP TO THE  
RURAL ENTERPRISE  
ONLINE HUB

## IMPACT

Fuel poverty is alleviated.

170

RURAL  
HOUSEHOLDS  
SAVED £9500  
ON OIL

80  
FRONT LINE  
WORKERS  
TRAINED TO  
GIVE ENERGY  
EFFICIENCY  
ADVICE

£13,000  
CONSUMER  
SAVINGS ON  
ENERGY

**OBJECTIVE**  
COMMUNITIES BECOME  
HEALTHIER, MORE  
VIBRANT AND INCLUSIVE  
WITH IMPROVED  
WELL BEING



**4447**  
HOUSEHOLD  
HOUSING NEEDS  
SURVEYS

**5**

AFFORDABLE  
HOUSING SITE  
APPRAISALS  
UNDERTAKEN

**200**

PEOPLE ATTENDED  
21 EVENTS FOCUSED  
ON OLDER PEOPLE'S  
HEALTH NEEDS



**9**

SPORT  
AND PLAY  
FACILITIES  
PROVIDED  
WITH ADVICE



**70**

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS  
ATTENDED LAUNCH OF  
INNOVATION BRIEFS

## MAIN ACTIVITIES

### Providing affordable housing

Devon Communities Together delivers a programme of Affordable Rural Housing Enabling for the Devon Rural Housing Partnership. Through liaison with local communities, undertaking surveys, site assessments and other enabling activities DCT contributes to the building of affordable housing for local people.

### Improving health and wellbeing for older people

Devon Communities Together is a delivery partner in a programme developed by the Design Council, aiming to find innovative solutions to the challenges facing an ageing population. DCT's role is to engage and mobilise local communities and social entrepreneurs.

### Helping young people get a start

Petroc College is leading on a European project, Empowering Enterprise 18-24, to support young people into employment. One DCT function is to identify businesses and community organisations willing to provide work experience or volunteering opportunities for young people furthest from the labour market.

### Helping with sport and play

It isn't just young people that want better opportunities to enjoy healthy exercise. Devon Communities Together advises and supports local groups in developing and maintaining sports and play facilities that can have health and social benefits for the whole community.

## OTHER CONTRIBUTING ACTIVITIES

Supporting communities to create action plans

Supporting communities to be prepared for an emergency

Social and community business advice

Influencing development through neighbourhood planning



Layne Fields Christow



Christow opening ceremony

## A COMMUNITY LAND TRUST IN CHRISTOW

In Christow local people came together to form a Community Land Trust (CLT) and create a range of new affordable houses for local people. They worked with Teignbridge District Council and Teign Housing on a scheme that is well designed, economical to run and has the support of the community. The scheme meets the Passivhaus standard giving heating costs of under £200 a year.

*"Teign Housing is proud of the quality of this rural housing scheme and considers it an excellent example of how effectively housing providers can work collaboratively with the local community to deliver high quality sustainable homes for local people where it is most needed."*

Tony Sharland, Teign Housing

The 18 new homes included 10 for affordable rent, 4 shared ownership and 4 owner occupied. The CLT worked hard to ensure that the homes were prioritised for local people.

*"It is a privilege to live in such a well-designed home. It is such a relief to know we can stay in Christow in a home we can afford"*

A new resident

## IMPACT

Affordable, well designed, and well insulated housing is available for local people within the community.



145

NEW  
AFFORDABLE  
HOMES



Funded by the European Social Fund and matched by the Big Lottery Fund

## TRANSFORM AGEING - A FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND INITIATIVE TO CHANGE THE WAY SOCIETY APPROACHES AND DESIGNS SERVICES FOR PEOPLE IN LATER LIFE

*“Combining social entrepreneurship with community action and world class design can drive positive change, responding to the challenges of our ageing society”*

Funded by the Big Lottery, Transform Ageing brought together UnLtd, the Design Council, Centre for Ageing Better and local delivery partners in 2017/18 to fund and support enterprising people with business ideas to help people in later life be healthier and happier.

DCT and the local volunteer network will be supporting these social entrepreneurs during 2018/19 to ensure that their innovations can have a real impact on the lives of local older people.

### IMPACT

Communities become healthier, more vibrant and inclusive with improved wellbeing.

**19**  
SOCIAL  
ENTREPRENEURS  
AWARDED  
ENTERPRISE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GRANTS

TRANSFORM  
AGEING DEVON  
NETWORK  
ESTABLISHED WITH  
**50**  
MEMBERS

## HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE GET A START EMPOWERING ENTERPRISE 18-24

Empowering Enterprise supports young people (18-24 year olds) with multiple barriers to make positive steps towards entering employment, training or education.

Devon Communities Together has contacted over 100 employer and community organisations in Devon to identify potential work experience or training opportunities, and will be supporting partner organisations to tailor appropriate opportunities for participants.

One of the businesses that has signed up is Hunters of Exeter (Estate Agents). Anthony Thomas, Director, commented: *“Young people are often not ready for the work place. By giving them a work experience placement we can help them understand the skills they need to make that transition; how to write a CV, prepare for an interview and make the switch from education to work life”*

### IMPACT

There are increased local employment and volunteering opportunities.

**30**  
BUSINESSES /  
ORGANISATIONS  
OFFERING  
PLACEMENTS  
FOR YOUNG  
PEOPLE





Jubilee Park, Kingswear - Caledonia Play

## THANKS TO OUR FUNDERS AND PARTNERS

## HELPING WITH SPORT AND PLAY KINGSWEAR, JUBILEE PARK

A group of local people in Kingwear wanted to create a new play area for the local children.

The project group asked Devon Communities Together to look at the proposed site of the new play area and give advice on the site design, sources of funding and community consultation processes.

Initially there was significant local opposition to the proposal for the location of the play area. DCT continued to advise the project group, the Parish Council and the District Councillor with the intention of ensuring a reasoned discussion between the opposing view points. This included contributing to a lively public meeting which sought to consider the needs of the young people of the community as well as putting some of the wider issues into perspective.

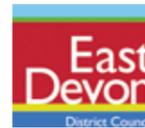
In the end the scheme was approved and the result is that Kingswear now has a play area that provides a very valuable and well used resource for local children in this remote coastal community.

Devon Communities Together are often asked about sources of funding to equip play areas. We take that opportunity to emphasise that play equipment isn't just swings, slides and climbing frames. Understanding 'play' is also about; the value of risks, challenges and learning; imagination and creativity; and places where good design brings together people of all ages.

## IMPACT

People have access to sport and play facilities appropriate to the needs of the community.

7  
SPORT & PLAY  
GROUPS ENABLED  
TO APPLY FOR  
FUNDING



# DO YOU NEED A CATALYST?

Catalyst is the in-house consultancy service provided by Devon Communities Together. Our customers can be confident that they are drawing upon the experience that our 57-year track record as a professional charity and leading specialist in rural and community development has given us.

## HOW WE CAN HELP?

We provide a range of support for local councils and community organisations, including:

- Neighbourhood planning & localism
- Business plans
- Funding bids
- Engagement & consultation
- Community owned assets
- Rural housing services
- Bespoke training
- Marketing strategy & support

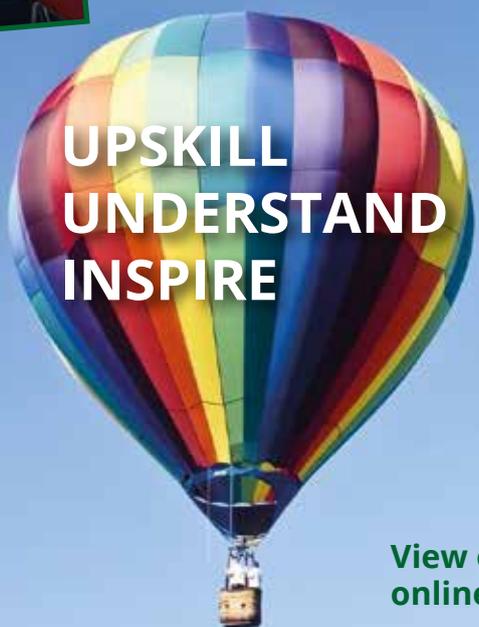


creating positive change in Devon

Interested in finding out more? Get in touch... Call: 01392 248919 Email: dawn@devoncommunities.org.uk  
Visit: [www.devoncommunities.org.uk/catalyst-consultancy](http://www.devoncommunities.org.uk/catalyst-consultancy)



**LOOKING FOR THE IDEAL LOCATION FOR YOUR NEXT MEETING OR EVENT, WITH EASY ACCESS AND FREE PARKING?**  
For EXETER VENUE HIRE contact our friendly team.



**UPSKILL  
UNDERSTAND  
INSPIRE**

## DEVON COMMUNITY LEARNING ACADEMY

Devon Communities Together's Training Hub is expanding. We're working together with Devon County Council and a wide range of training partners to deliver accessible, professional training for community organisations, businesses, charities, social enterprises and individuals.

Group learning events and online modules in a wide range of courses cover:

- health & wellbeing
- benefits & money advice
- social & community enterprise
- community development
- business & marketing

Courses can also be held at your location for groups of 6 or more.

**View our latest course schedule and book online at [www.devoncommunities.org.uk](http://www.devoncommunities.org.uk)**

Interested in promoting your training through the Academy?  
Contact us: 01392 248919 [info@devoncommunities.org.uk](mailto:info@devoncommunities.org.uk)

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For more information on any aspect of Devon Communities Together's work, please contact us:

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