

The Local Community Regeneration Event 2021

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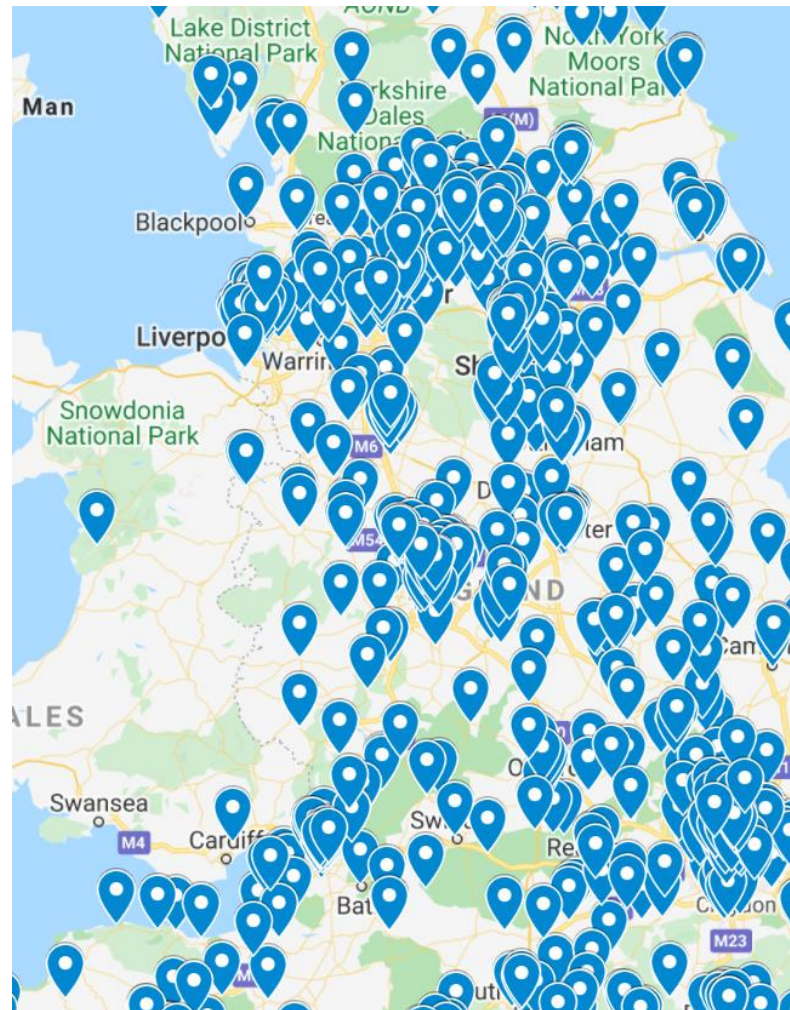


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Locality's asset experience:

- c.1,300 members
- Peer network
- Community anchors
- Asset owning
- Not for profit
- Social purpose



- Advancing Assets for Communities
- Community Assets Programme
- Asset Transfer Unit
- Meanwhile project
- Community Rights programme
- Community Ownership and Management of Assets (COMA) programme
- Places and Spaces
- The Great British Sell Off [REPORT \(locality.org.uk\)](https://locality.org.uk)
- In Community Hands [In community hands – Locality](https://locality.org.uk)
- The Sustainable Community Asset Ownership Programme



Key policies

Local Government Act 1972

- Enables disposal – for best value

General Disposal Consent 2003

- Basis for CAT – less than best

Quirk Review 2007

Localism Act 2011

- Right to Bid
- Right to Build
- Right to Challenge
- Neighbourhood Planning

Community Ownership Fund?

Accepted benefits

“6,325 assets in community ownership in England”

“...contribute nearly £220 million to the economy every year”

Our Assets, our future, Power to Change,

<https://www.powertochange.org.uk/research/assets-future-economics-outcomes-sustainability-assets-community-ownership/>

“...the spaces that bring us together and forge new relationships are precious to the wellbeing of our local communities and the fundamental health of our democracy”

In Community Hands, Locality and the Co-op,

<https://locality.org.uk/about/key-publications/in-community-hands-report/>

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“We were built for this”

[We-were-built-for-this-Locality-2020.06.13.pdf](#)

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Sustainable Community Asset Ownership programme - Overview

- Engage key stakeholders and raise the profile of the current issues and challenges in delivering sustainable community asset ownership. Insight in to future needs of sector and pipeline.
- Impact of C-19 on asset ownership and business models.
- 5 places: Gateshead, Birmingham, Leicester, West of England and South West England.
- 15 (online due to covid) workshops - engaged around 350 people (180 community orgs represented).
- 10 case studies for in depth perspective.
- Survey to identify operating environment of each place.
- Final output = report to Power to Change May 2021 likely report for wider circulation summer 2021.



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Findings

- Capacity and conditions for success are not distributed equitably across the country.
- Culture change - varying approach from Local Authorities: policy, process, support, strategy
- Equality, diversity and inclusion
- Funding – terms, LA powers, commissioning
- Capacity and skills – CBs and VCS infrastructure
- Impact of C-19:
 - all played a major role
 - increased demand
 - experience of partnership working
 - no huge shift in operating model
 - medium-long term concerns once emergency funding gone



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Pipeline

- Dwindling supply of 'traditional' community assets - new opportunities or challenges?
- High streets and commercial property – less reliance on CAT as route to ownership.
- Multiple and mixed ownership – is housing the golden goose?
- New build – development partnerships.
- Better access to finance and borrowing – access to same products as private sector.



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Sector needs

- Need for long-term support and funding specifically for helping community businesses to adapt, change and forward plan – to balance alongside reopening and maintaining operations.
- Continued support to strengthen the partnerships and understanding between communities and local government.
- Need for specialist community ownership support to community businesses, especially in racially minoritised communities, and specifically for new and innovative approaches to acquiring and managing assets.
- Relationship building



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