



COMMUNITY ACTION
Bradford & District
Making a Positive Change

Funding a Community Group

Where do community groups get their funding? It's a great question and the answer is that they usually have to work hard to get a mixture of resources including:

- Subs and membership fees
- Charges for attending activities
- Selling goods or services (trading)
- Fundraising activities e.g. coffee mornings, sponsored walks
- Donations of time [*take a look at our Getting Volunteers guide*], cash or goods and services
- Crowdfunding
- Community shares
- Loans and social investment
- Tax reliefs including gift aid
- Sponsorship
- Contracts
- Grants [*See our Getting Grant Funding guide*].

Even small groups will have a mixture of funding. They all have their different pros and cons.

The Resource Centre Online explores a number of different funding ideas as well as some of those pros and cons for each one. You should do some research and explore your constitution, policies and procedures before making a decision about how you would like to fund your group.



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Social Enterprise

Social Enterprise is an activity, the 'enterprise' part is trading - such as selling a service, charging people or organisations, getting contracts or investments. If you don't intend to do this, it's not an enterprise, it's just a charity.

Many charities are enterprising, they both trade and are funded by a mixture of different types of funding. This mixture of funding and increase in selling services or goods has been driven by a reduction in public funding and high competition for grants.

It is very unusual to find a community group of any kind that is 100% funded by grants and it isn't a realistic long-term ambition for a new organisation.



This resource was funded through the Here4BDCC contract.



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For more information, visit: www.cabad.org.uk