

Big Society - useful links

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Big Society advocates

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Central government

[The government's Big Society Programme](#)

[Big Society De-regulation Taskforce](#)

[The Charity Commission](#)

The independent regulator for charities in England and Wales.

[Department for Education - Free Schools](#)

Free Schools are all-ability state-funded schools set up in response to parental demand. The most important element of a great education is the quality of teaching and Free Schools will enable excellent teachers to create schools and improve standards for all children, regardless of their background.

Local government

[Barrier Busting - devoted to helping local people get things done for their community](#)

[Local Government Information Unit - Big Society Learning Network](#)

[Department for Communities and Local Government - Big Society](#)

Vanguard councils

[Eden Valley \(Cumbria\)](#)

[Windsor and Maidenhead](#)

[Sutton](#)

[Liverpool](#)

Communities

[Citizenship Foundation](#)

The Foundation encourage and enable individuals to engage effectively in their communities and in democratic society at large.

[Community Builders Fund](#)

The Fund supports organisations at the heart of communities with finance, training and resources

[National Federation of Community Organisations](#)

Volunteering and charities

[Association of Charitable Foundations](#)

[British Youth Council](#)

British Youth Council run training workshops, create volunteering opportunities and build inspiring campaigns which give everyone aged 25 and under a chance to make a positive contribution to society both in the UK and other countries.

[Capacity Builders](#) Capacity Builders invests in improving the quality of support and advice available to charities, voluntary and community groups and social enterprises.

[Catch 22](#)

Catch22 is a local charity with a national reach. They work in over 150 towns and cities, with tens of thousands of young people every year – supporting young people with tough lives who are facing difficult situations. They may have had tough upbringings or are living in difficult neighbourhoods.

[Charity Trustee Networks \(CTN\)](#)

A free membership organisation for trustees which offers, amongst other benefits, 'trusteefinder', the largest free national recruitment portal for trustees.

[Community Service Volunteers](#)

[Institute of Fundraising](#)

Professional membership body for UK fundraising. Its mission is to support fundraisers, through leadership, representation, standards-setting and education, and it champions and promotes fundraising as a career choice.

[KnowHow NonProfit](#)

Enables an online community of individuals and organisations in the voluntary sector to share knowledge and expertise, and inspire effective practice. It aims to improve the efficiency of non-profit organisations by increasing the knowledge and skills of people working in the sector-especially those new to training or who are 'hard to reach'.

[i-volunteer](#)

i-volunteer is a social action network connecting people that want to get involved in their community with others that share the same passion and interest and with charities and community groups that need help. The site includes useful networking tools plus facilities to blog, promote events and create groups to run projects and campaigns.

[NAVCA](#)

NAVCA is the national voice of local support and development organisations in England. We champion and strengthen voluntary and community action by supporting our members in their work with over 160,000 local charities and community groups.

[National Council for Voluntary Organisations](#)

[National Youth Agency](#) - We are an independent charity, and the partner of choice for local government, local authorities and third sector organisations, delivering with them, and advising and supporting them in the development of programmes and policies for young people. Increasingly, we also work in partnership with the private sector.

[Timebank](#)

TimeBank is a national volunteering charity that supports individuals and businesses to find rewarding volunteering. We also design our own projects that give volunteers the opportunity to have an impact in the community.

[Volunteering England](#)

[Youth Action Network](#) for all young people to have the opportunity to participate in youth action volunteering and develop their own solutions to community needs

[YouthNet](#) provide emotional support to young people through online advice and guidance, and help them give back by providing a fast, easy route to all types of volunteering.

Charitable giving

[Centre for Charitable Giving and Philanthropy](#)

[Donating to charity \[GOV.UK\]](#)

[Tax Effective Giving](#)

Comprehensive information about all forms of tax-efficient giving. Aimed at everyone involved in charitable giving: charities, fundraisers and donors.

Social enterprise

[Social Enterprise Ambassadors](#)

Social enterprise is about changing the world through business. The Social Enterprise Ambassadors are leaders of some of the country's most successful social enterprises. Learn more about these exceptional people, their businesses, and how you can get involved.

[Social Enterprise Coalition](#)

The Social Enterprise Coalition represents a wide range of social enterprises, regional and national support networks and other related organisations.

[Business Link - how to set up a social enterprise](#)

[Social Enterprise London](#)

We offer a world leading programme of events, training, research and consultancy, and run the largest network of social enterprises anywhere in the UK.

[UnLtd](#)

UnLtd is a charity which supports social entrepreneurs - people with vision, drive, commitment and passion who want to change the world for the better. We do this by providing a complete package of funding and support, to help these individuals make their ideas a reality.

Teaching resources

[Giving Nation Challenge](#)

The Giving Nation Challenge is a learning programme. It aims to boost learning about charities, social enterprises and individual giving. It does this by providing a unique new curriculum-based active learning resource and a grant to help schools get going.

[Go-Givers](#)

Go Givers is a leading national programme funded by the Cabinet Office to develop caring, concerned citizens with the confidence and skills to make a difference to their communities, both local and global.

[KnowHow NonProfit](#)

Enables an online community of individuals and organisations in the voluntary sector to share knowledge and expertise, and inspire effective practice. It aims to improve the efficiency of non-profit organisations by increasing the knowledge and skills of people working in the sector-especially those new to training or who are 'hard to reach'.

Think tanks

[Matthew Taylor - RSA](#)

[New Economics Foundation](#)

If you'd like to suggest a link to add to this page, email the [Digital Communications Team](#).