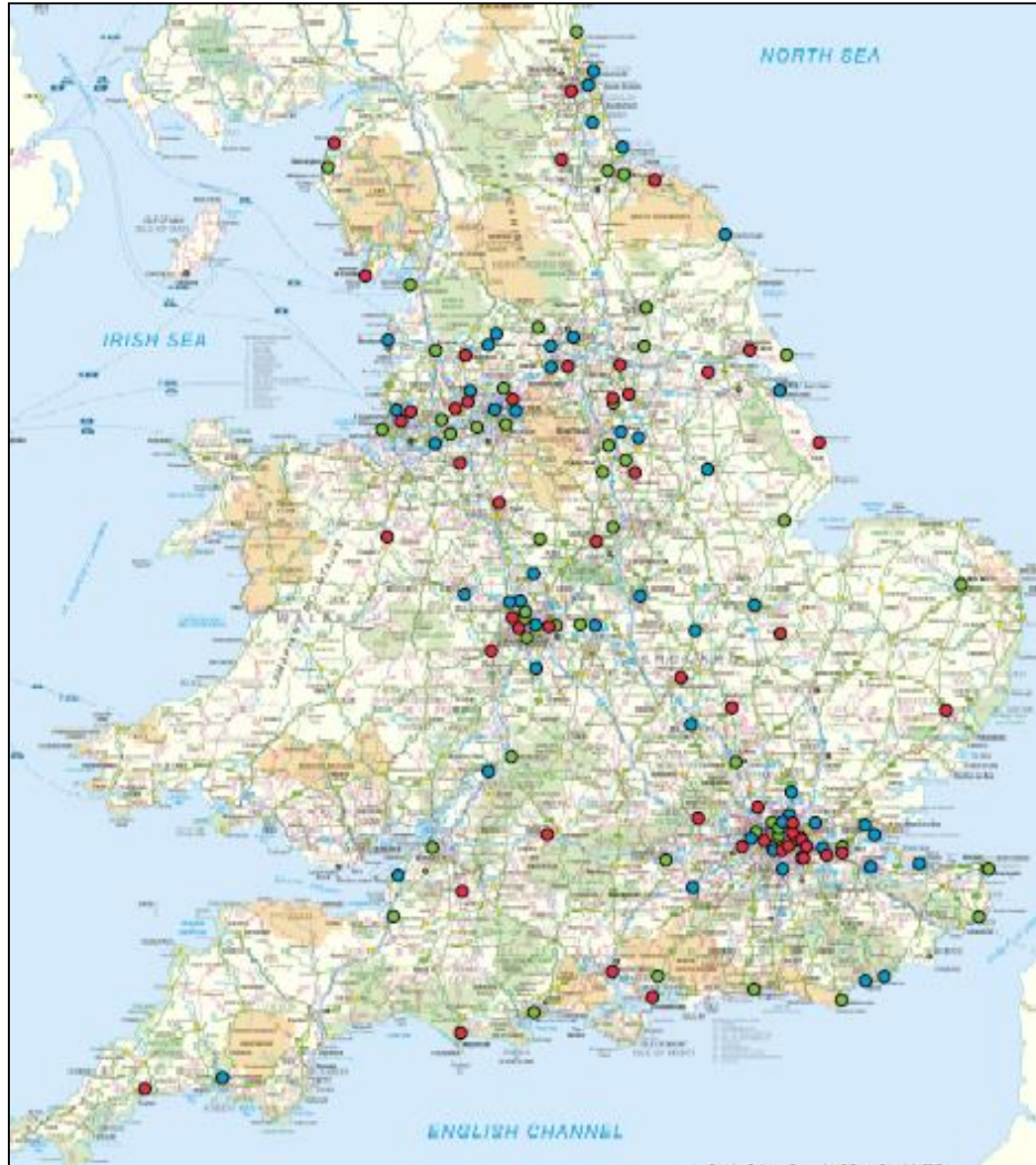# Local Trust | Big Local

creating lasting change

What is Big Local?

- 15 year, £220m resident-led programme with 150 areas across England

- managed by Local Trust and funded by the Big Lottery Fund

- builds on local talents and aspirations to create even better places to live now and in the future.

We encourage residents to have greater control over the things that matter most to them; supported by those they trust.

150
Big Local
areas

Big Local outcomes

- Communities will be better able to identify local needs and take action in response to them.

- People will have increased skills and confidence, so that they continue to identify and respond to needs in the future.

- The community will make a difference to the needs it prioritises.

- People will feel that their area is an even better place to live.

Big Local visions

Big Local priorities

Our approach

Informed by learning from past community based programmes which indicate that the things that matter most are:

- pace of development
- starting with assets not deficits
- willingness to take risks
- light touch support
- peer support and opportunities for reflection.

We believe that a **resident and community led approach** to creating lasting change:

- develops the skills and confidence of the people involved and enables them to work with others to the benefit of their community
- builds on the opportunities and assets available in each community
- creates lasting, long term solutions.

Getting the balance right

Barriers	Enablers
Time things take too long so people disengage	**Time** we have the time to get things right
Local freedoms leave us not knowing where to start and it's too easy to fall out when there's no rules	**Local freedoms** when it feels like we can make our own choices we're more engaged and creative
Lack of local organisations means we have hardly anyone to work with to help us move things forward	**Lack of local organisations** means there's no squabbling over who gets what and we can just get on with it

Observations

- People are passionate about their communities but not everyone agrees all of the time.

- In the long-run, just *the process* of defining what is needed and coming together to address what is needed (and/or seeing what is needed being addressed), may fundamentally matter perhaps as much as *what* is actually prioritised and acted on.

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